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News Brief

The 74th founding anniversary of the Engineers Institution, Bangladesh (IEB) and the Engineers Day will be observed in the country today. On the occasion, President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages greeting the engineers yesterday. In his message, President Md. Abdul Hamid said, engineers have scopes to contribute to the implementation of the mega plans announced by the government. Greeting all the engineers on the occasion, the President said, the country's people expect that the engineers would contribute to the country's sustainable development applying their knowledge and skill. Recalling the contribution of engineers in national development, he said the role of engineers is significant in the country's technological and infrastructural development. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in her message, urged engineers to play more effective role in constructing infrastructures suitable to cope with adverse impacts of climate change. The Premier hoped that the engineers should play a leading role in building a prosperous and developed Sonar Bangla, dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, by 2041. She wished all the programmes taken on the occasion of Engineers' Day a success.

Today is the 18th death anniversary of the Independence award winning veteran freedom fighter, lawmaker and eminent labour leader Ahsan Ullah Master. On this occasion, elaborate programmes have been taken by Shaheed Ahsan Ullah Master Foundation and Shaheed Ahsan Ullah Master Smriti Parishad in different areas, including Dhaka and Gazipur maintaining the health rules. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave separate statements on the occasion, paying rich tribute to Ahsanullah Master, a pure soldier of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Happiness of the country's people makes BNP sad, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said this while talking to newsperson after inspecting the work to turn Narayanganj link road into six lanes in Sign Board area yesterday. The Minister expressed his satisfaction over the comparatively easy commuting of people to and from the capital marking the Eid as the condition of the highways was much better than any previous time. Terming Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as a crisis manager, he said, the Premier has tackled and still tackling any crisis through her far-sighted politics.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, the politics of BNP is to spread rumors and anti-state falsehood as they cannot see the unprecedented development in the country. The Minister said this while addressing a views exchange meeting with the district unit of Awami League in Cox's Bazar yesterday. This time people were able to go to their villages to celebrate the Eid with their loved ones smoothly, he added. He further said, the extraordinary development in the country is taking place only because of the magical leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Conventional trade in the digital era would become digital trade due to unavoidable reasons and it would be the time of cashless society, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Mustafa Jabbar said this while addressing an online post-Eid reunion of e- Commerce Association of Bangladesh (e-CAB) yesterday. The civilization of paper is on its way to extinction, the Minister added. In the near future there would be nothing called paper due to natural and technological reasons, he further added. The Minister in his speech further said, there is no alternative to attain digital efficiency and it is necessary to take integrated initiative to turn digital commerce into a proper trade sector.

State Minister for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Zunaid Ahmed Palak on Thursday visited Nokia Bell Labs in Murray Hill, New Jersey, USA. During the time, the State Minister visited various branches of the labs and exchanged views with its superiors. The authorities of the Nokia briefed the state minister about the lab's research activities through a Power Point presentation. On the occasion, he also discussed various areas of mutual cooperation with Bangladesh and the strategic sales and solutions of the company. He also briefed them on the various activities undertaken in tackling the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the overall progress of ICT sector in Bangladesh under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and under the supervision of ICT Advisor and Architect of Digital Bangladesh Sajeeb Wazed Joy.

The US Congress introduced a bipartisan resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of establishment of Bangladesh-US diplomatic relations. It highlighted that the United States and Bangladesh shared a rich and multifaceted relationship focused on cooperation on a range of issues, including economic, security, governance, and development, to advance a shared vision of a free, open, inclusive, peaceful, and secure Indo-Pacific region.

The historic John Gorton Building, Old Parliament House, and National Carillon in Canberra were illuminated in red and green from Friday evening, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of bilateral relations between Australia and Bangladesh. On behalf of the Australian government, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the National Capital Authority of Australia have shown this unique gesture of friendship. The buildings will remain illuminated like this till dawn on Saturday.

Bangladesh has moved up five notches to rank 5th out of 121 countries worldwide on Nikkei's Covid-19 Recovery Index. It is the best-performing country in South Asia with a score of 80 points, according to the latest edition of the rankings published on Thursday. The index, which is updated at the end of each month, assesses countries and regions on infection management, vaccine rollouts and social mobility. Bangladesh placed 13th on the index at the end of March.

Bangladesh yesterday reported zero death from COVID-19 for 24 days. With 19 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 19,52,766. The positivity rate stood at 0.55 per cent, testing 3,455 samples during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 18,97,046 DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday.

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