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### News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has sought support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to implement the Delta Plan-2100, saying, 'it is very important for Bangladesh'. The Premier made the request when Vice President of ADB (Operations-1) Shixin Chen paid a courtesy call on her at her official Ganabhaban residence yesterday. The PM also sought ADB support to foster regional cooperation particularly in the areas of connectivity, trade and energy cooperation during the meeting. Mr. Chen assured of being with Bangladesh in its development efforts. He commended the dynamic leadership of Sheikh Hasina to keep rolling the wheels of Bangladesh's economy amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen has said, Bangladesh like to get diversified United States (US) investment along with the US energy sector. He said this to the media after holding a meeting with the delegation of 27 US businessmen of US-Bangladesh Business Council at Foreign Service academy in Dhaka yesterday. The global business leaders of the US from a cross sectors like digital, energy, financial services, insurance, and agriculture are part of the delegation that will stay here till May 11. The delegation is led by vice-president (business development) of Chevron Jay R Pryor.

Agricultural Minister Dr M Abdur Razzaque has said, only one crop, Aman paddy, is produced annually and the rest of the time throughout the year fallen idle in most of the lands of Barishal region. He said this on the occasion of Boro Paddy Harvesting Festival and Field Day at Bakerganj Upazila of Barisal district yesterday. The government is working relentlessly to bring this huge fallow land under cultivation, he added. In the meantime, the scientists of the country have developed improved varieties of rice, pulses, watermelon and other crops, he further added.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud has termed noted nuclear scientist Dr MA Wazed Miah as an example of humble, introvert and inimitable personality. He made the remark while speaking at a doa and milad mahfil at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque after johr prayers, marking the 13th death anniversary of Dr MA Wazed yesterday.

Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Mustafa Jabbar has said, the post office must come out of the conventional system. He said this at a programme on implementation of the action plan on digital post office in the joint venture of the Postal Department and A2I Program at Dak Bhaban Auditorium in Agargaon yesterday. Digital Service Design Lab (DSDL) proposal, designed to make the post office suitable for the digital age, was a historic milestone in the establishment of the digital post office, he added.

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Food Minister Sadhan Chandra Majumder has called for forging social movements against abuse of drugs along with its illicit trafficking and trading. He said this while addressing the district law and order committee meeting at Naogaon yesterday as the chief guest. He urged the district and police administrations to become careful about bringing the entire criminals in this field to book as soon as possible.

Prime Minister's Private Sector Industry and Investment Adviser Salman F Rahman has said, the visiting delegation of the US Bangladesh Business Council has expressed their keenness to invest in 'Smart Bangladesh'. The PM's adviser said this while talking to the media after meeting with the US Bangladesh Business Council at the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) headquarters in Dhaka yesterday. The visiting delegation informed that Bangladesh is the number one position in the list of their new investment countries, he added.

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State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam has hoped that BNP will surely take part in the next general elections for its survival as its boycotting decision in the 2014 polls was totally wrong. He said this while addressing the triennial council of Nimpara Union Awami League at Charghat Upazila in Rajshahi district yesterday as the chief guest. He urged the local Awami League (AL) leaders and workers to be united forgetting all the previous feuds for keeping the party's win spree in the next elections.

Muslim devotes, who got registered in 2020 for performing Hajj under different Hajj agencies, have been asked to transfer their registration from one lead agency to another by May 15 for performing the Hajj, this year. The Religious Affairs Ministry issued a notification in this regard yesterday.

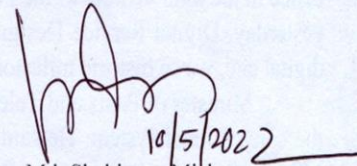
Indian climate activist, writer and social anthropologist Amitav Ghosh has said, Bangladesh has now become a global leader in disseminating information in creating climate change resilience programmes, reports the Times of India on May 9. There are so many innovations, said the Indian author. In collaboration with a Dutch team, he said, Bangladesh created oyster beds around their islands to absorb the impacts of sea-level rise.

As part of the Golden Jubilee of Liberation War 1971 and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Indian government is organizing a visit of 25-member Bangladesh delegation to the Indian State of Meghalaya from 9-12 May. This delegation comprises of 18 valiant Freedom Fighters (Muktijoddha) who had trained in Meghalaya and fought the Liberation War in Sector 11, an Indian High Commission press release said yesterday. During this visit, the Bangladesh delegation will interact with the leadership of Meghalaya government that includes governor and chief minister as well as other senior government officials.

A film titled 'Mujib Amar Pita' (Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is my father) was screened at Bombay Theatre Hall in Queens of New York City. The animated movie, based on the life and works of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the architect of the nation, was screened abroad for the first time on Sunday after its release in Bangladesh. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Division made the animation film to spread the heroic and successful story of Bangabandhu to the new generation across the globe. Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque was present at the programme as the chief guest while State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak was present as the special guest.

Bangladesh has reported zero Covid-19 death in the past 24 hours while it recorded 30 coronavirus positive cases during the same period. Bangladesh reported 0.40 percent Covid-19 positive cases as 7,413 samples were tested in the last 24 hours, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) sources said.

DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, increased by 0.42 per cent, or 28.66 points, to close at 6,698.08 points yesterday after gaining 26.25 points in the previous trading day.



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