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News Brief

The Maritime Safety Week-2022 is observing in the country from today with a view to creating awareness about safe shipping. The theme of this year's Maritime Safety Week is 'Proshikkhito Jonobol O Nirapod Jolojan, Nou Nirapottay Rakhbey Obodan' (trained manpower and safe vessels will contribute to naval safety). President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the occasion of the Maritime Safety Week yesterday. In his message on the eve of the week, the President said, launch owners, workers and passengers need to be more attentive to make shipping safe and modern. Prime the shipping system for the development of the maritime sector. Minister Sheikh Hasina, in her message, said the present government has taken a number of steps to preserve the waterways and develop

President Md. Abdul Hamid called upon the South Asian countries to work together for an equitable solution to climate change and food security. He said this while virtually opening the 'International Conference on Climate Change and Food Security in South Asia' on Dhaka University campus yesterday. Strict measures are needed to reduce the adverse effects of the global warming and these are needed right now, he added. Every nation has a role to play in reducing emissions and the developed countries must accelerate the process of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and provide adequate additional resources to address the problems caused by climate change, he further added.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, BNP has no right to speak about elections as they tainted the election process most during their tenures. The Premier made this remark while addressing a discussion meeting organised marking her homecoming day by Relief and Social Welfare Sub-committee of Awami League at its central party office in Dhaka yesterday. Joining virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban as chief guest, she said everybody can remember the election of Falu (Mosaddek Ali Falu) in Dhaka-10, and Magura election for which Khaleda Zia was ousted from power through movement.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked the authorities concerned to integrate the development of Cox's Bazar beach with nature, trees and environment unharmed. The PM said this while inaugurating the newly constructed multi-storied building of Cox's Bazar Development Authority in the seafront resort town. The programme was held at Bir Muktijodha Field in Cox's Bazar while she joined virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban yesterday.

Planning Minister MA Mannan said, the present government is very much sincere in handling the on-going economic issues arising out of the current global condition. He said this while addressing a roundtable discussion on national budget for the next fiscal year (FY23) organised by the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh held yesterday in Dhaka yesterday. Government are working to reduce the cruelty of the market economy as much as possible by accepting its reality, he added.

The Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase (CCGP) approved eight proposals, including 33.60 lakh MMBtu LNG import to meet the growing demand. The approval came from this year's 16th meeting of the CCGP held virtually with Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal in the chair yesterday. The meeting also approved a variation proposal of the Civil Aviation Authority under Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry to appoint Nippon Koei Co Ltd as a consultant of the 'Detailed Feasibility Study of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib International Airport Project (1st Revision).

The government is providing assistance to the vulnerable families in flooded parts of the district who have lost their homes or livelihoods. Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen and State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Dr Md. Enamur Rahman yesterday visited the flood-hit areas of Sylhet district. There will be no shortage of relief for flood victims in Sylhet, said both the ministers while distributing dry and cooked foods at two safety shelters.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud left Dhaka for France to attend the trailer launch of the film 'Mujib: The Making of a Nation' at the 75th Cannes Film Festival. The trailer launch will be held today at the commercial chapter of the March, du film at the Cannes Film Festival that began on May 17. Indian Information and Broadcasting and Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Sri Anurag Sing Thakur, director of the film Shyam Benegal, screenwriters Atul Tiwari and Shama Jayedi and main artists and officials will attend the function.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said, neighboring India has not stopped exporting wheat to Bangladesh. He said this after the second meeting of the task force committee on commodity price review at the commerce ministry yesterday. There have been widespread rumours that India imposed a ban on wheat export to Bangladesh, he added. Everyone should know that the government-to-government process of wheat import-export has not stopped, he further added.

Food Minister Sadhan Chandra Majumder said, the prices of rice will come down soon, as there is no supply crunch of the main staple in the country. He said this to the media at his Bangladesh Secretariat office yesterday. The auto rice-millers are purchasing paddy, he added. The country would not face any shortage of food, as the government has taken measures in this regard, he further added.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid said that Bangladesh and Singapore could work together in the areas of urbanisation, energy, education and technology in a planning way. The state-minister made the comment while Singapore's non-resident High Commissioner to Bangladesh Derek Loh met him at his office in the Secretariat of the capital on Wednesday. Nasrul Hamid said the two countries would be benefited if they work jointly.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Zahid Ahsan Russell handed over a cheque of Taka 10 crore to Mohila Krira Sangstha as special allocation from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Mahabub Ara Begum Gini, President of Mohila Krira Sangstha, also whip of Jatiya Sangsad (JS), received the cheque on behalf of the organisation at a function, yesterday. While addressing, Mr. Zahid Ahsan said, it is an unforgettable day for women's sports of the country as for the first time in the country's history, the Prime Minister is allocating such a big amount for women's sports.

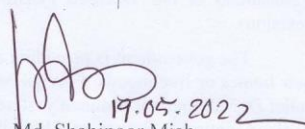
The Ministry of Religious Affairs has issued a special notice regarding the withdrawal of the deposit for this year's Hajj pilgrimage in case of death, illness, or expiry of age limit of the depositors. According to the notice issued yesterday, aspiring pilgrims who had already deposited their Hajj funds but are unable to attend this year due to death, illness, or age limit will be allowed to withdraw their deposited money. In these cases, the nominees would be able to withdraw the deposited money by applying to the registration refund system by logging on to www.hajj.gov.bd website.

Bangladesh Bank officials and employees will not be able to make any kind of foreign trips from now on except for some emergency purposes as part of the central bank's efforts to prevent the foreign currency reserves from sliding further. The central bank issued a circular to this effect yesterday. According to the notice, the officials and employees will refrain from participating in all types of exposure visits, study tours, workshops and seminars abroad under the partial or full finance of the BB.

Labour rights will be one of the key issues during the US-Bangladesh Economic Dialogue to be held in Washington on June 02. Foreign ministry officials said this yesterday. Bangladesh has made significant progress in addressing the concerns of both the US and the European Union (EU) over the issue, says foreign secretary Masud Bin Momen.

Bangladesh reported zero Covid-19 death in the past 24 hours while it recorded 22 coronavirus positive cases during the period. Bangladesh reported 0.44 percent Covid-19 positive cases as 5,001 samples were tested in the last 24 hours, Directorate General of Health Services sources said.

DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, lost 1.46 per cent, or 93.58 points, to close at 6,309.91 points yesterday.



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