

'ONE HOUSE, ONE FARM' Project to infuse dynamism into rural economy: PM

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the main objective of her government's 'One House, One Farm' (Ekti Bari, Ekti Khamar) project is to infuse dynamism into the rural economy by making each family economically self-reliant.

"We have launched the project with an aim to add to the economic activities in the rural areas to alleviate poverty turning the huge population into human resources ensuring optimum use of land," she said.

The prime minister was addressing a function after power point presentation on the activities of the "Ekti Bari, Ekti Khamar" project at her office in the city.

Hasina who initiated the project during her previous tenure as the PM said the objective of her government is to make the common people self-reliant, providing them with health services and ensuring their shelter. She said her government is working relentlessly to this end.

She said under the project, small and medium sized agro-based industry can be flourished at union and village levels and non-government organisations can be involved in this process, if necessary.

Hasina said as Bangladesh is a home to huge population with its limited land boundary the government took this project to turn the population into human resources through ensuring maximum utilisation of land and inspiring the population to be hard working and production-oriented.

Keeping this in mind, she said her government during its previous tenure initiated the program to create self-

employment facilities through small and cottage industries in the rural areas and to prevent the rural people to migrate to the urban areas.

She directed the field level officials to motivate the people to produce vegetables and other food items on the fellow land of their homestead in order to change their fate.

The PM directed the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to facilitate marketing of their produce through cooperative societies as it would be cost effective for the small farmers to send their small produce to the town individually.

Under the system, workers of the cooperative society will collect the additional produce from the houses of the farmers and process the food items before marketing which could help increase our export basket, she said.

Hasina said her government has a plan to provide modern residential facilities for the village people building dwelling houses in some areas of the ensure maximum utilisation of arable land.

She called upon all concerned to take coordinated efforts to implement the "Ekti Bari- Ekti Khamar" programme for the economic benefit of the rural people. The PM said apart from this, her government has launched "Ashrayan" and "Ghore Phera" projects to provide shelter for the poor.

Referring to construction of the Union Parishad (UP) Complex, she said her previous government initiated the project to construct UP complex aiming at providing one stop service to reduce sufferings of people.

Mentioning various pro-people

programmes of her government for strengthening rural economy, she said it has given collateral-free loan to sharecroppers to boost production.

Besides, she said her government has introduced internet service in all post offices and provided computer for educational institutions to improve living standard of rural people. "The goal of our government is to bring economic solvency of the rural people," she added.

Hasina said her present government is working relentlessly to reach the fruits of independence to the people. She expressed the hope that celebration of the golden jubilee of independence of the country would take place in a hunger and poverty-free Bangladesh.

Finance Minister A M A Muhith, Planning Minister A K Khandakar, Chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives Advocate Rahmat Ali and State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak also addressed the function while Secretary of the Ministry Rokeya Sultana gave address of welcome.

Besides, Director General of Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) M Humayun Khaled made a power point presentation on the activities of the project at the function attended by district cooperative officers and Deputy Directors of BRDB across the country.

The Rural Development and Cooperatives Division has been implementing the project through BRDB, Cooperative Division, BARD, Comilla and RDA, Bogra. The project cost has been estimated at Tk 1,197.00 crore.



A woman runs risk to get down from the roof of the Silk City Express at Kamalapur Railway Station yesterday. People returning to the city after celebrating Eid embrace such risk every year.

Bangla-China-India-Myanmar car rally in 2011

UNB, Dhaka

A cross-country car rally among Bangladesh, India, Myanmar and China will be held next year with a view to establishing regional communication and strengthening mutual cooperation.

The route of the car rally has already been finalised starting from Kunming of China via Dhaka and Sylhet to Bangladesh and ended in Kolkata of India.

Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain disclosed this at a meeting at Rail Bhaban in the city yesterday.

A delegation from Yunnan Province of China, led by Mi Dongsheng, director general of Development and Reformed Commission of the Province, attended the meeting.

Speakers at the meeting emphasised development of regional communication, particularly on rail and road and discussed various strategic aspects of establishing rail and road communications between Bangladesh and China via Myanmar.

Syed Abul in his speech said the proposed car rally would strengthen the potential of the concerted efforts in various new sectors in the upcoming days, alongside establishing regional communications and mutual cooperation among the countries.

Describing China as a friendly country of Bangladesh, Syed Abul said there is ample scope to further strengthen the bilateral relations. Both countries would be benefited from communication between Kunming and Chittagong, he hoped.

INCOME TAX DAY TODAY Call to develop tax culture

METRO DESK

The National Income Tax Day will be observed in the country today with a call to develop tax culture.

The slogan of the Day is "Commitment to charter for change, let us be partner of it."

On the eve of the day, President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in separate messages urged the people to pay tax for development of the country.

BSS adds: Zillur Rahman yesterday urged the people to pay income tax regularly so the government can implement its agenda for development.

In a message, the president hoped that the observance of National Income Tax Day would help develop a culture of tax payment by inspiring the people to pay their due tax to the national exchequer.

He said there is no other option than paying taxes for infrastructure development, creating employment and achieving economic growth.

The president observed that the slogan of the Day, 'commitment to charter for change, let us be partner of it', is significant to develop a tax culture.

He advised effective initiatives for making people more aware about the easy process of tax assessment, payment and benefit of it.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has also called the people to develop a tax culture by paying taxes regularly, which is a prerequisite for economic and social development.

In a message, the prime minister said she is happy to know that the country is observing the Day on September 15 to encourage the people to pay income tax.

She said the country needs more money for economic and infrastructure development, creating jobs and eradicating poverty adding that there is no alternative to tax for reducing dependency on external assistance.

The prime minister said the present government has carried out automation, restructuring and expansion of the tax department to create a taxpayer-friendly atmosphere, which helped increase revenue collection last year.

She hoped that the observance of the Day would create more awareness on income tax matters to accelerate the development of tax culture for achieving goals of the 'charter for change' of the present government.

12 killed in road accidents

METRO DESK

At least 12 people were killed and 49 others injured in separate road accidents in Pabna, Dhaka, Gazipur, Comilla and Natore yesterday. Our correspondent from Pabna says: At least four people, including a union parishad chairman, were killed in a road accident on Char-Shahar intersection of Pabna-Jessor highway in Ishwardi upazila yesterday.

The accident occurred when a speedy truck hit a private car, police and the locals said.

The dead were identified as Md Akhter Hossain, 42, Ataikula UP Chairman of Pabna Sadar upazila, his associate Md Tipu, 40, Ali Hossain, 39, and Md Shamim, 38. Two others were also injured in the accident.

Pabna Police Superintendent Jamil Ahmed said the accident occurred when the victims were going to Ataikula of Pabna in a private car.

Police seized the truck but its driver managed to escape.

Akter and Tipu died on the spot while two others succumbed to their injuries in Ishwardi Health Complex.

Staff Correspondent adds: Three persons were killed and 10 others got injured in two road accidents at Rugganj and in the city yesterday.

A CNG-run auto-rickshaw collided head-on with a private car on the Sultana Kamal Bridge-

at Rugganj around 2:00pm killing two passengers.

The deceased are auto-rickshaw passenger Nasima Begum, 25 and private car passenger Minhaj, 30.

Local people recovered them from the spot and sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where the doctors declared them dead.

The injured are Nasima's elder sister Hasina, 29, her husband Monir Hossain, 35, their daughters Munni, 10, Fatema, 5, Nasima's daughter Sumona, 2 and the auto-rickshaw driver Julhas, 35. They were admitted to DMCH while the rest were treated at local hospitals for minor injuries.

Nasima and her relatives were going to Tarabo area of Rugganj from Khilgaon Trimohini on the auto-rickshaw while Minhaj and his four friends were on a pleasure trip to Jatrabari, said the accident victims.

Officer-in-Charge of Rugganj Police Station Forkan Shikder said police seized the vehicles involved in the accident.

In another mishap, an elderly man Badsha Hawlader, 60, was crushed under the wheels of a speeding bus while he was crossing the road in front of the Jatiya Press Club around 3:00pm yesterday.

His body was sent to DMCH morgue for autopsy.

A relative of Badsha said he came from Madaripur and was crossing the road to take a bus to Farmgate.

A correspondent from Gazipur reports: Three people were killed and 25 others injured in separate road accidents in Gazipur yesterday.

The dead were identified as Jamir Uddin, 38, Keramat Ali, 52, and Hidul Islam, 35.

Police and locals said an accident occurred on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway at Mauna Uttarpara under Shreepur Upazila when a Mymensingh-bound passenger bus from Dhaka turned upside down and fell into a ditch as the driver lost his control over the steering while trying to overtake a truck.

Keramat and Jamir died on the spot and Hidul succumbed to his injuries on the way to hospital. Local people rushed the injured to nearby Mauna Al-Hera Clinic and Shreepur Upazila Health Complex.

The dead were identified as Keramat, son of late Ahed Ali of Dhamlai village; Hidul, son of Sirajul Islam of Faridpur village and Jamir, son of Kitab Ali of Barashri village under Valuka Upazila.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka-bound bus of 'Jani-Juthi' Paribahan collided head-on with a Kaliakoir-bound bus of Super Service on Nabinagar-Kaliakoir highway in front of the Chakrabarti Police outpost under Sadar Upazila.

At least 15 passengers of both the buses were injured. Local people took the injured to nearby clinic and hospital.

A correspondent from Comilla says: One woman was killed and 12 others were injured in Taltoli area in Daudkandi upazila yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Asma Akhter, 65, of Shekerhat village of Daudkandi. The body was sent to Comilla Medical College morgue for autopsy.

The accident occurred when a Dhaka-bound passenger bus of Gonti Paribahan turned upside down on the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway at around 11:00am.

The seriously injured were sent to different hospitals in Daudkandi and Comilla.

A correspondent from Natore adds: An elderly woman was killed in a road accident near Lalpur police station in the district at about 7:00am yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Romezan Bibi, 65, wife of Hayat Ali of village Pakuria of Bagha upazila of Rajshahi district.

Police and locals said Romezan was going to Bagha from Lalpur on a human hauler, which turned turtle, leaving Romezan dead on the spot.

Police sent the body to Lalpur Health Complex for autopsy.



The entrance of Suhrawardi Medical College in the city goes into knee-deep water after an hour rain yesterday.

Industrial police from this month

BSS, Dhaka

The specialised Industrial Police Force with intelligence networks will start its journey towards new challenges to maintain law and order in the country's industrial sector at the end of this month, official sources said yesterday.

The specialised range would be manned by some 3,000 policemen led by an additional inspector general of police (Addl-IGP) while there will be a deputy inspector general (DIG), three additional DIGs, six superintendents of police (SPs), 10 additional SPs and 80 assistant superintendents of police (ASPs).

The police headquarters has already finalised its table of organogram and equipment (TONE) and sent it to the ministries concerned through the home ministry for its final approval, a senior officer of the police headquarters told the news agency.

The top policymakers of the government have already finalised the immediate raising of the most essential force for the country's industrial sector specially the biggest foreign currency earning readymade garment (RMG) sector, the official added.

When contacted, IGP Hassan Mahmud Khandakar said the proposal for raising the new specialised force for the industrial sector is at the final stage of approval. The force may start its journey towards new challenges at the end of

this month, he added.

A senior home ministry official who was familiar with the process said that the industrial police would be manned by 2,990 policemen to be led by an additional inspector general (Addl IG) but its strength would be increased gradually in future.

The headquarters of the force would be stationed in Dhaka where a deputy inspector general of police (DIG), three additional DIGs and two SPs will assist the chief of the force, the official said, adding that four SPs will also command and control four regions.

Dhaka City and Savar-Ashulia will be a region, Gazipur and its adjoining areas will be another region and Narayanganj and its adjoining areas will be the third region and the fourth region will cover the entire Chittagong areas.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Roads and Highway superintendent engineer Mohammad Monirul Islam passed away at his residence due to old age complications on September 10, says a press release.

Monirul, 77, is survived by his wife, three daughters and a son.

He was buried at Mirpur Martyred Intellectual Graveyard following Namaz-e-Janaza on September 11 at Dhanmondi Eidgah.

WEATHER

Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka, Chittagong, and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Rangpur in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:02pm today and rises at 5:45am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 32.7 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Ishwardi and lowest 24.4 degrees Celsius at Cox's Bazar.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.1	26.6	86	75
Chittagong	30.8	25.0	82	81
Rajshahi	31.5	25.5	94	91
Khulna	30.5	25.5	97	88
Barisal	29.0	25.6	88	93
Sylhet	29.7	24.8	98	89
Cox's Bazar	29.8	24.4	88	88