

‘Food, health and prosperity for all’

Hasina places 5 proposals to deal with Covid impacts on public health, nutrition

PROPOSALS



- » Work together to address Covid challenges
- » Enhance collaboration to advance research for growing high-yielding nutritious food
- » Build food banks at regional, global levels
- » Exchange best practices, expertise for increasing nutrient contents in food
- » Disburse committed climate adaptation fund

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed the need for taking urgent steps collectively to address the Covid-19 challenges and its impacts on public health and nutrition.

Hasina said this while addressing the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G), Japan virtually.

Prime Minister of Japan Kishoda Fumio also spoke at the summit -- “Food, Health and Prosperity for All”.

Hasina placed five proposals before the world for ensuring healthy and nutritious diets for the growing population.

The international community needs to work together to address the challenges of Covid-19, including its impact on nutrition

programs, the PM said in her first proposal.

She also called for enhancing collaboration to advance research for growing high-yielding nutritious food and building food banks at regional and global levels.

Hasina stressed the importance of exchanging best practices and expertise for increasing nutrient contents in food

Finally, she asked the developed nations to disburse the committed climate adaptation fund to adapt to the climate-led extreme events that hamper food production in the developing world.

Hasina said ensuring nutrition for all citizens is a daunting task. But, she said, investment in nutrition security generates high socio-economic returns

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Winter morning and a cup of steaming hot tea, a combination that seems to work for all. As winter settles with ease all over the city after the last few days’ rainfall, a tea-seller is seen to be enjoying a cup of tea himself at the start of the day. The photo was taken yesterday from the capital’s Central Shaheed Minar area.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

MORE NEWS

Dengue claims 2 more lives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two more dengue patients died in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday.

The total death toll rose to 100 this year.

Meanwhile, at least 119 dengue patients were hospitalised in the last 24 hours, of whom 91 are from outside Dhaka, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). With the new cases, the total number of dengue cases rose to 27,779.



The Indian army handed over a T-55 tank and a Mountain Howitzer gun used by them during the 1971 Liberation War to the Bangladesh army yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Teacher killed in road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A teacher was killed in a head-on collision between a motorbike and a truck in Panchagarh yesterday.

The accident occurred on Panchagarh-Banglabandha highway at Sardarpara village in Tentulia upazila. The victim -- Ershad Hossain (45) -- taught at a local kindergarten.

OC Jahangir Alam Khan of Tentulia highway police said a case was filed with Tentulia Police Station.

Monopolistic control prolonging pandemic

Speakers tell discussion about Covid vaccine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Western countries’ monopolistic control over the invention, production and distribution of Covid-19 vaccines will prolong the pandemic, said speakers at a discussion yesterday.

The government must be self-dependent by using local talent and resources to fight the pandemic, they said at the event, titled “Covid-19, Variant of Concern Delta-Omicron: Science, Ethics and Disparity”, held at Gonoshasthaya Kendra in Dhaka.

Bangladesh relied on western companies

or Oxford University to develop vaccines, and China and Germany for developing Covid-testing kits, said Prof Sayedur Rahman, chairperson of pharmacology department at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

He said the vaccine disparity is the reason behind the emergence of new Covid-19 variants, which prolonged the pandemic.

However, the global media “intentionally” blamed African countries instead of highlighting the strategy to tackle

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Bangladesh, India to drive future growth of S Asia

US high official tells event

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The US deeply values its partnerships with Bangladesh and India, which will drive future growth and prosperity of South Asia, said US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia, Ambassador Kelly Keiderling.

She made the remarks at a reception jointly organised by the embassies of Bangladesh and India in Washington DC on Monday to celebrate “Friendship Day”, marking 50 years of diplomatic relations between the countries.

The event was part of the celebrations jointly organised by the two countries in 18 capitals across the world, apart from Dhaka and Delhi.

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COURT CORNER

Submit list of Titas river grabbers in 90 days: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the National River Conservation Commission (NRCC) to prepare a list of the names of people, who grabbed the land of Titas River in Brahmanbaria, and to submit it to this court in 90 days.

Secretaries at the ministries of land and water resources; chairmen of BIWTA and NRCC; director generals of WDB and directorate of land survey, and DoE; deputy commissioner of Brahmanbaria have been made respondents to the rule.

Two remanded in Cumilla councillor murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

A Cumilla court yesterday placed two people on a 10-day remand each in a case filed for killing councillor Soheli.

The accused are Jail Soheli and Simon. Masked gunmen shot dead Syed Ahmed Soheli (48), councillor of ward-17 of Cumilla City Corporation and his associate Haripada Das (45) at his office in Pathuriapara area on November 22.

Arrest 14 former AB Bank officials, businessman: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the ACC to arrest 14 former officials of AB Bank Ltd and a businessman in seven days in connection with a Tk 176 crore embezzlement case.

The court asked the government to impose travel ban on the accused, who are now on the run. ACC filed the case on June 9 against 17 people.

Verdict in Abrar murder case today

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The judgment in a case filed over the murder of Buet student Abrar Fahad is set to be delivered today.



Judge Abu Zafar Md Kamruzzaman of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka is scheduled to read out the judgement around 12pm, said Special Public Prosecutor Abu Abdullah Bhuiyan.

In the early hours of October 7 of 2019, Abrar Fahad, a second-year

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A promise finally to be fulfilled?

Underpass in Airport road’s Kurmitola to open this month, say officials

HELEUM ALAM

After missing two deadlines, the government is going to inaugurate the long-awaited underpass at the capital’s Airport road this month.

The decision to construct the underpass was taken after two students were killed by a bus in the area in 2018.

“We have already completed works of the underpass, and it is expected to be inaugurated by this month,” said Mohammed Shamim Al Mamun, executive engineer of Roads and Highways Department (RHD).

All work of the structure was supposed to be completed by June 2020, but authorities missed the deadline and extended it till June 2021. However, it missed that deadline as well and took six more months to

TIMELINE

- » Bus rams into students, killing two on July 29, 2018
- » Deaths trigger nationwide student protest
- » Families of deceased, college principal meet PM on Aug 2
- » PM promises to construct underpass
- » Construction begins on Sept 26, 2018
- » Two deadlines, June 2020 and June 2021, missed
- » Authorities cite pandemic as reason

complete work.

“We missed the two deadlines due to the pandemic,” Mamun said.

On July 29, 2018, a bus rammed into Dia Khanam Mim and Abdul Karim Rajib, students of Shaheed

Ramiz Uddin Cantonment College, killing them and injuring 12 who were standing by the bus stop on Airport Road.

The deaths triggered a nationwide student protest, calling for safe roads, which eventually prompted the government to approve the long-delayed road transport law.

Amid the movement, families of the two students and the college’s principal met the prime minister on August 2 that year, and the PM promised to construct an underpass near the college.

But since the underpass is yet to be opened, pedestrians and students of Kurmitola area continue to cross the busy Airport Road risking their lives.

Recent road accidents in Dhaka

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1 killed, 4 hurt as train hits auto-rickshaw

OUR CORRESPONDENT, M’singh

A man was killed and four were injured after a train crashed into a battery-run auto-rickshaw in Moilakanda Rail Crossing area in Mymensingh’s Gouripur upazila yesterday noon.

The deceased is Rafiqul Islam (40) of the upazila’s Kunurilla village.

Rafiqul along with some others were returning home in an auto-rickshaw, locals said.

When the auto-rickshaw reached the area, a Dhaka-bound train hit the vehicle, injuring five around 12:45pm, said OC Mamun Rahman of Government Railway Police in Mymensingh.

There are no barriers at the crossing and no permanent gateman is appointed there, said the OC.

On information, locals rushed to the spot, rescued the injured and took them to the local health complex, where Rafiqul died.

Two of the injured were

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The walls outside of Eden Mohila College at Azimpur in the capital exhibit a mural in memory of the Language Movement martyrs. Even though a sign instructs all to not poster the wall, inset, it is still infested with numerous posters for numerous purposes. This photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

‘We demand neutral probe’

Say university teachers over death of Prof Selim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

University Teachers’ Network, a platform of teachers, yesterday demanded proper and neutral investigation into the death of Khulna University of Engineering and Technology [Kuet] Prof Selim Hossain.

They made the demand after allegations arose that Prof Selim died under constant psychological pressure from leaders and members of Chhatra League.

“We want to see Kuet authorities not bowing to any pressure and bringing those involved to book,” fifty-one teachers of different universities, said in a press statement.

Prof Md Selim Hossain, also provost of Lalon Shah Hall, was found dead at his residence on November 30.

Selim died hours after several BCL members confined him to his office and threatened him, alleged Kuet faculty members.

“It’s shameful that we, teachers, have become part of the heinous system laid out by the rulers throughout the years, instead of protesting against that system,” the statement read.

The signatories include teachers from Dhaka University -- Kamrul Hasan Mamun, Fahmidul Haq, Nayeem Sultana, Samina Lutfa, Rushad Faridi and Kajalie Shehreen Islam.

Anu Muhammad, Mirza Taslima Sultana, Sayeed Ferdous, K Md Ashrafur Munim, Rayhan Rhyne and Sayema Khatun from Jahangirnagar University were also among the signatories.

Teachers from Jagannath, Rajshahi, Chittagong and Khulna universities, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Science and Technology University and Patuakhali Science and Technology University also signed the statement.

The network will also stage protests at universities across the country today.

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