India had role in Bangladesh's progress **Hasan Mahmud tells Indian media**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

With Jatiya Sangsad elections due by early 2024. Information Minister Hasan Mahmud has said political stability in Bangladesh is



"very important" for regional stability and "there lies the importance of

Interacting with the Indian media at the Press Club of India in New Delhi yesterday evening, the minister said Bangladesh made robust economic progress under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as evidenced by the rise in GDP and per capita income.

"Bangladesh's economic progress would not have been possible without India's political support," he said in his opening remarks before a question-answer session.

The minister said the two neighbours should work together and enhance bilateral cooperation to overcome the adverse effects of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which was impacting the availability of commodities, especially food grains.

"Bangladesh imports many commodities, many of which are from India. So, if we work together and if India helps us, it will be better."

Replying to a question about the pending Teesta river water-sharing deal, the minister said Bangladesh-India ties does not depend only on this issue, rather it depends on much more diverse issues.

There is progress on the [Teesta] issue. There are some constitutional issues involved and once they are sorted out, there would be progress," he said making an apparent reference to the fact the consent of the Mamata Banerjee-led West Bengal government, which opposed the deal, is necessary to resolve the issue.

Asked about a question on

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With cars of a showroom parked right on the pavement, pedestrians can hardly access the footbridge in front of Willes Little Flower School and College in the capital's Kakrail. Built on the sidewalk, the footbridge itself obstructs the movement of pedestrians. Other parked vehicles have also narrowed the road. The photo was taken yesterday.

Power, water restored in Kyiv

Says mayor after missile strikes; grain exports from Ukraine continue despite Russian withdrawal from deal

AGENCIES

Water and power supplies were fully restored in Kyiv yesterday a day after Russian missile strikes, as grain exports from Ukraine continued despite Moscow pulling out of a deal to let ships through.

authorities meanwhile announced that tens of thousands more civilians would be "evacuated" from the Russian-occupied southern Ukrainian region of Kherson amid a counter-offensive

Ukrainian presidential adviser Oleksiy Arestovich said Monday's bombardment was "one of the most massive shellings of our territory by the army of the Russian Federation".

Following the strikes, aerial views showed Kyiv plunged in darkness overnight, with the only lights coming from cars driving

The shelling had left 80 percent of the

capital's consumers without water and civilian population", reports AFP. 350,000 homes without electricity. Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko yesterday said water and electricity supplies had been "fully restored" in the capital.

In the south, Kyiv's forces are preparing for fierce battles to recapture the city of Kherson and its surrounding region. Russian occupation authorities in Kherson said yesterday that tens of thousands more people would be "evacuated" from the region amid Kyiv's counter-offensive.

This comes after 70,000 people already left their homes in Kherson, Moscowinstalled local authorities said last week.

The Russian-installed leader of the Kherson region, Vladimir Saldo, said yesterday new resettlements were being carried out because of the risk of a "massive missile attack" by Ukrainian forces on a local

But Ukraine said that Russian "occupiers are carrying out forced displacement of the

Also yesterday, three more grain-loaded cargo ships left Ukrainian ports despite Russia's decision to suspend its participation in a deal to allow grain exports to cross the Black Sea.

Russia announced the move after accusing Kyiv of a "massive" drone attack on its fleet, which Ukraine labelled a "false

At least 10 ships sailed from Ukraine's ports on Monday along the maritime corridor. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said it was "risky" to continue with the exports without Russia's consent.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky spoke to his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron yesterday.

He thanked Macron for "specific decisions on strengthening Ukraine's defence capabilities. Specific initiatives to restore the destroyed energy infrastructure."

18 AL men sued for looting journo's house

OUR CORRESPONDENT, JAMALPUR

A case has been filed against 18 Awami League activists over vandalising and looting the house of a local journalist in Jamalpur's Sarishabari

Mizanur Raham, upazila correspondent of Bangla TV, lodged the case with Sarishabari Police Station on Monday night.

According to the case statement, some AL men carried out the attack as the journalist made a footage of a clash between two groups of the ruling party men over establishing supremacy at Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd on Sunday. Morshed Mia led the attack at night, the statement added.

Mahabbat Kabir, OC of Sarishabari Police Station, said they were investigating the incident and action would be taken against the accused.

Morshed is on the run, he said, adding that he was accused in another case filed over the clash.

Stabbed by rivals, college student dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A college student, who was stabbed by some youths on Monday over previous enmity, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, said

The victim, Rakibul Islam Ratul, 18, was a student of Madartek Abdul Aziz School and College in the capital.

His friend Parvez said Ratul's friend Sajib slapped another one Rabiul on Sunday in the capital's Mugda area after an altercation.

The next day, Rabiul and his associates stabbed Ratul in the back.

Jamal Uddin Mir, OC of Mugda Police Station, said Ratul's father filed a case accusing 12 people.

Witness threatened during Mohib Ullah murder trial

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

An accused in the Rohingya leader Mohib Ullah murder case made a hand gesture towards a witness, signalling the slitting of the throat, during a court hearing in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

The witness, Noor Alam, a Rohingya, was testifying before the court, said Public Prosecutor Faridul Alam. But he did not disclose the name of the accused,

The court was later informed of the matter,

Faridul added. On September 29 last year, criminals shot Mohib

Ullah dead at Kutupalong refugee camp in Ukhiya.

Unforgiven

Meanwhile, Gias Uddin, 60, was acquitted as the charges against him could not be proven.

Five other accused in the case passed away during the long trial

Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court-2 delivered the verdict.

"I was worried whether my mother could live to see justice being served. My mother and I are satisfied with the verdict," Mustafizur told The Daily

On the night of September 15, 1993, Sultan was stabbed and shot to death by his brother Mayen Uddin Bepary, 65, stepbrother Abul Kashem Bepary, and their cohorts over a landrelated family dispute in Beraider Chala village under Sreepur upazila of

The murder took place right in front of the victim's family members, including Mustafizur, while they were all kept hostage at gunpoint.

A general diary was lodged over the murder on August 31 and a case was filed later with Sreepur Police Station by the victim's brother Motahar

In 1995, the police submitted a charge sheet, accusing 13 people. The trial began in 1997.

After the verdict on Monday, Mustafizur said, "I could not forget the day when my father was ruthlessly killed right before my eyes.

"I decided to become a lawyer when I was a college student in 2005 after seeing the case was not making any

"It's a huge achievement for me that I have been able to secure justice in my father's murder case," Mustafizur said.

Greece searches for dozens of migrants in stormy seas: coastguard

AFP, Athens

Greece's coastguard said it was engaged in two separate rescue operations vesterday in search of dozens of migrants feared missing in

gale-force winds. A coastguard spokeswoman said nearly 60 people were believed to be missing near the island of Evia after their boat sank in winds of over 60

kilometres (37 miles) per hour. "One of our high-seas patrol boats rescued nine men from an islet." she told AFP. "They said there were around 68 people on board."

Dollar crisis to go by next June

excessive. They are too many downside risks," said Ahsan H Mansur, executive director of the Policy Research Institute.

The direction of the balance of what is assumed in the projections for the whole fiscal year, Hussain said.

From mid-September, remittances have moved down from a \$2 billion per month trajectory to the \$1.3-1.7 billion a month trajectory thanks to multiple exchange rate system.

"At this rate, it will be impossible to reach even close to the \$25 billion projected for the year," he added.

According to data released by the BB yesterday, inflows in October were 7.4 percent lower than a year earlier at

The base year of 2005-06 does not

capture the existing scenario, the

"I don't disagree with any of

these recommendations," Planning

Minister MA Mannan told The Daily

Star. The planning ministry oversees

from time to time, so it can be done as

discussing internally about switching

per the IMF's recommendation too.

The government has

The inflation base year is revised

been

mission told BBS officials.

hitting \$20 billion this fiscal year," said Mansur, a former economist of the IMF.

The outlook is heavily banking on the budget support to come through from the development partners.

support the imports," he added.

Despite the host of government

measures, imports are expected to swell to \$91.8 billion this fiscal year from \$82.5 billion in the central bank's projections. Project implementation capacity must also improve by leaps and

bounds for the projected foreign aid to come through, according to Hussain. But disbursements have been slow so far this fiscal year.

The projections look very ambitious even considering reforms that could "There are doubts of remittance happen if there is an IMF programme interest rate cap.

to quarterly reporting of GDP data,

last 3-4 months. I am interested in

timeframe for when quarterly GDP

so many stakeholders involved such

as the NBR, the finance division,

EPB and the business community,"

The IMF is providing technical

"We have had discussions in the

He, however, failed to give a

"This is hard to say as there are

IMF calls for quarterly GDP data

according to Mannan.

quarterly GDP data too.'

reporting would happen.

complemented by budgetary support from the WB, the Asian Development Bank and others, he said.

"Under the business-as-usual scenario, that is no significant reforms, "What if the agreements don't reducing a \$5.4 billion overall balance Judge Bahauddin Kazi of Gazipur's payment in the first two months of happen? That's where the problem of payments deficit in the previous the fiscal year has been opposite to is. In that case, it will be difficult to fiscal year to just \$150 million is pie in the sky

If all decisions are taken based on these projections, then there will be danger ahead, according to Hussain.

The hit then will feel more brutal as it would be unexpected by the authorities.

Subsequently, Hussain called for strong reforms in exchange rate management and the financial sector without further delay.

Reforms include, among others, moving to a uniform and flexible exchange rate and removal of the

support to BBS on how to conduct

quarterly GDP reporting, Md. Matiar

Rahman, the director-general of BBS,

BBS will then brief its data

But he also declined to give a

"We need to prepare ourselves first.

timeline of when quarterly GDP can

IMF has just started giving us training.

Besides, the other stakeholders have

to come on board with it," he added.

told reporters vesterday.

collection agents.

Boost food production from the Gono Bhaban.

She said different international organisations predicted that the worldwide famine might hit and many developed countries are also facing economic recession now. "To keep Bangladesh free from it

[the brunt of any global famine and economic recession], every inch of our land should be cultivated. Besides, more steps should be taken to produce food items and processed food," said

Noting that the youth is a very powerful force in Bangladesh, she said the soil of Bangladesh is very fertile and its biggest power is manpower. "We need to utilise this power," she added.

Zakir Hossain from Noakhali Sadar (1st position), Suraiya Farhana Reshma (2nd) from Sherpur of Bogura and Billal Miah (3rd) from Araihazar of Narayanganj received the National Youth Award under the successful self-employment category, while Rita Jasmine from Barishal Sadar (1st) and Abu Russell Huda (2nd) from Birol of Dinajpur received the award under the best youth organiser category.

Besides, successful self-employed youths and youth organisers received the award under divisional quota.

On behalf of the PM, State Minister for Youth and Sports Zahid Ahsan Russel handed over the award to the recipients. Every award winner was conferred with a crest, a certificate and a cheque of award money.

Youth and Sports Secretary Mesbah Uddin, and two award recipients Zakir Hossain and Rita Jasmine spoke on the

The prime minister said the country's young people and students

"We want to develop our youth as trained and skilled manpower making it fit for the fourth industrial revolution," she added. She said her government has been

establishing different institutions including, hi-tech parks, software parks, IT training and incubation centres, specialised labs and union digital centres so that the youths can get training there.

"I believe that our youth are very talented and they would be able to show their competence in every job,' she added.

Telescope captures

FROM PAGE 12

captured in detail with the VLT Survey Telescope, hosted at the European Southern Observatory's (ESO's) Paranal site in Chile. The new 554-million-pixel image

provides an extremely detailed view of the Vela supernova remnant, named after the southern constellation Vela (The Sails). Experts say nine full moons can

fit in this entire image, and the whole cloud is even larger. At only 800 light years away, this

supernova remnant is one of the closest known to Earth. the star exploded, its

outermost layers were ejected into the surrounding gas, producing the spectacular filaments. What remains of the star is an

ultra-dense ball in which the protons and electrons are forced together into neutrons – a neutron star.

The neutron star in the Vela remnant is a pulsar that spins on its own axis at will have to keep pace with new an incredible speed of more than 10 technology and new inventions in times per second.

21,932 cases, 86 deaths make October deadliest

their homes twice a day. Every citizen of the country, not only residents of Dhaka, must be cautious so that mosquitoes cannot bite them," he added.

Rain is still being witnessed. So, daily dengue infections may not decline until mid-November, he said. Entomologist Kabirul Bashar

said it was essential to conduct

crash programmes to control Aedes

mosquitoes across the country. Use of mosquito nets is crucial, no matter if it is day or night, he said, adding that children must wear longsleeved clothes.

A recent analysis of the patient data by the DGHS has revealed that the dengue infection rate is highest among people aged over 20 while the death rate is high among patients

aged between 40 and 80.

Mannan added.

It also showed that most of dengue patients who died at hospitals breathed their last within three days of their hospitalisation.

Talking to The Daily Star recently, Tahmina Shirin, director of the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), suggested taking sufficient fluids like oral saline, fruit juice, sorbet and coconut water if anyone gets fever, a major symptom of dengue.

"A patient with fever will continue taking fluids even after recovery as there is still a chance that their health would deteriorate."

Patients need to be hospitalised when they feel nauseous, suffer from abdominal pain, breathing problems or bleeding from any parts of their bodies, Tahmina added

HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, earlier said severity of dengue infections could be avoided if the cases are diagnosed at an early stage.

For diagnosing dengue, a person has to undergo an NS1 test on the first day of getting fever. High fever, body pain and headache are some common symptoms of dengue, he said.

A monsoon survey of the DGHS, conducted between August 11 and 23, found the presence of Aedes mosquitoes in 13.4 percent of homes in Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) and 11.75 percent of homes in Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC).

At least 1,319 households of 40 DNCC wards and 1,830 households of 58 DSCC wards were surveyed.

Can Tigers upset India?

defeat for the Tigers in Bengaluru in 2016. Bangladesh will be hoping to learn how to win close matches, especially against a limping India, who will be equally hungry for a win that will take them closer to a semifinal spot. They can also take heart from their last game at Adelaide, which saw them defeat England in the 2015 World Cup and

book a place in the quarterfinals. "In T20 matches, the result of the game is mostly decided in the last or second-last over. Since it's a fast-paced game and competition is high, there will be more close matches. So it's important to hold your nerve. We are learning how to reverse the situation compared to what happened previously and win. I'm not saying we have already achieved something, but there has definitely been improvement," Shakib told the media ahead of the game

India lost to South Africa in their last group-stage match by five wickets. With four points from three games, Rohit Sharma and his team will be desperate to catch up in the points table by sealing two points against Bangladesh.

On the other hand, Bangladesh may opt for a change in mindset and team combination after a dramatic win against Zimbabwe in their previous game as they aim to 'upset' a rather strong Indian outfit that boasts Virat Kohli in imperious mood.

"India are the favourites. They have come here to win the World Cup. We are not here to win the World Cup, Shakib said. "You can understand the situation. If we win against India, it will be an upset. And we will try our best to upset India," Shakib added.

Weather, however, may play spoilsport, with the forecast suggesting a possibility of rain.