



Most Urgent
For: Bangladoot, All Missions
MSG: 60/2020-21
Date: Monday, 28 September 2020

From: PIO, PID, Dhaka
Fax: 9540553/9540026
E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.com
Web: www.pressinform.gov.bd

News Brief

Outgoing Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das called on President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday. The President said, India is the closest neighbor and friend of Bangladesh and now this friendship has reached a new height. He hoped that the two countries would expand multi-dimensional communications and take initiative to utilize every field of cooperation in the future.

The 74th birthday of Prime Minister and Bangladesh Awami League President Sheikh Hasina is being celebrated across the country today. AL and its affiliated organisations have been celebrating the day through various programmes. President Md. Abdul Hamid wished long life, good health, happiness and continued wellbeing of the Prime Minister and her family on the occasion of her birthday .

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a letter has extended heartiest congratulations to Bangladesh Premier Sheikh Hasina on her birthday saying that Sheikh Hasina's visionary leadership has helped Bangladesh achieve immense social and economic transformation. Outgoing Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das handed over the letter to the Prime Minister yesterday while making her farewell call on the Premier at Ganabhaban. During the call on, the Premier emphasised on the need for better cooperation with neighbouring countries for the development of the people of the sub-continent. The High Commissioner informed the Prime Minister that the Foreign Ministers of the two countries are likely to hold talks virtually tomorrow.

The Communist Party of China-CPC also extended its warm congratulations to Sheikh Hasina on the eve of her 74th birthday. "As a senior political leader of great stature, your contribution has been significant to both the national development of Bangladesh and the promotion of China-Bangladesh relations," CPC said.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader virtually addressing a discussion marking the 74th birthday of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the party's central Bangabandhu Avenue office yesterday said, the Premier's political philosophy is to make people's welfare through politics. The Minister also said, BNP's participation in the by-election was a part of its conspiracy. He said, BNP's old strategy of raising allegations to make an election questionable by not campaigning for polls, not giving polling agents and not staying in the field has been covered with rust as the people no longer believe in their falsehood.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque while reviewing the progress of project implementation of his ministry yesterday said, Covid-19 has already caused food shortages in many parts of the world but under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh has continued the trend of food production coping with the pandemic, cyclone Ampan and a prolonged flood.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has said, the conspirators chose the path of intrigues after failing to face Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman politically and killed him. Even now, the intriguers who have failed to face Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina politically and who cannot tolerate the progress and indomitable pace of development, are out to hatch conspiracies, he added. For this, secret meetings were held in the Middle East and different other places in Dhaka, the Minister said, addressing a book unveiling function at his ministry titled 'Sheikh Hasinar JibanKotha', authored by Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalist Secretary General Saban Mahmud.

Law Minister Anisul Huq while inaugurating the newly constructed eight-storey chief judicial magistrate court building in Munshiganj through videoconferencing yesterday said, the

government has taken an e-judiciary project involving Tk 2,800 crore aiming to speed up activities of the virtual courts in the country and thus reduce the 33 lakh pending cases.

Bangladesh has requested the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to increase flights between the two countries so that the expatriates stranded here can return to their workplaces smoothly. Bangladesh also urged the KSA to give permission to Biman Bangladesh Airlines to operate flights on Dhaka-Dammam route along with the current flights to Riyadh, Madinah and Jeddah. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen made the request to his Saudi counterpart Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud during a telephone conversation last evening. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabian Airlines says, it will operate two more weekly flights from Dhaka to the Gulf country from October 1. Biman and US-Bangla Airlines yesterday decided to resume their flights to Muscat, Oman from October 2 and 1 respectively. In another development, a chartered flight would bring back stranded Bangladeshis in Libya to home tomorrow.

Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun at a project review meeting yesterday said, the ministry has no plan to close state-owned sugar mills or lay off workers. Rather initiatives are being taken to make sugar mills profitable by modernizing them.

Environment, Forests and Climate Change Minister Md. Shahab Uddin has said, the work is underway to declare around 1,743 square km area adjacent to St. Martin's Island as a Marine Protected Area with a view to conserving its biodiversity. He was addressing a discussion on the occasion of World Tourism Day 2020 yesterday.

The parliamentary standing committee on the Ministry of Information in a meeting with Hasanul Haq Inu in the chair yesterday suggested developing separate wings for broadcasting radio and television under a neo-media. Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud was also present at the meeting.

The International Right to Information Day is being observed in the country today with the theme "Access to information in times of crisis". President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the eve of the day.

The country yesterday recorded 32 more fatalities from the COVID-19, in a daily count raising the death toll from the pandemic to 5,161. At the same time recovery count rose to 2,70,491 after another 1,714 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. The country also saw further rise in coronavirus cases with the detection of 1,275 new cases taking the total number of cases to 3,59,148. A total of 10,685 samples were tested across the country during the time.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam breathed his last yesterday as he was undergoing treatment for COVID-19 at Dhaka's Combined Military Hospital. He was 72. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in separate condolence messages expressed deep shock and sympathy at his death.

Minister for Youth and Sports Zahid Ahsan Russell while attending the prize distribution ceremony of Joytu Sheikh Hasina International Online Chess tournament yesterday in the capital said, his ministry has a plan to arrange an international chess tournament on occasion of 'Mujib Barsho', the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Two Additional Secretaries of the Ministry of Public Administration-Mohammad Salah Uddin and Wahida Akter have been appointed as Special Secretary to the Prime Minister.

The season's heaviest rains caused colossal water-logging inundating vast areas, including crop lands, and deteriorated the flood situation during the last 24 hours ending at 9 am yesterday in the Brahmaputra basin.



Surath Kumar Sarker
Principal Information Officer
Phone- 9546091