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News Brief

The nation yesterday celebrated the 50th Victory Day recalling moment when the country was liberated from the clutches of the Pakistani occupation forces after a nine-month bloodstained war under the charismatic leadership of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid rich tributes to Liberation War Martyrs. On their behalf, their Military Secretaries placed wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar in the early morning in view of the COVID 19 pandemic. However, several cabinet members, chiefs of three armed services, foreign diplomats and senior officials, leaders of various political, social and cultural organizations offered wreaths at the memorial in person. Earlier, the day ceremony heralded with 31 gun salutes in the National Parade Square in the capital.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has reiterated her call to the countrymen to stay firm on non-communal spirit of the War of Liberation, saying people of all religious faiths will live in the country with equal right. The Premier was virtually addressing a Victory Day discussion organized by Awami League at its central office in city's Bangabandhu Avenue. About UNESCO's international award to be given in honor of Bangabandhu, she said, the organization announced the prize in the name of the Father of the Nation although his name was tried to erase from the history by the defeated forces. "I think this is a great gift for the Bangali nation in the birth centenary of Bangabandhu," she added.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has greeted all Freedom Fighters of the country on the occasion of the 50th Victory Day. Like previous years, the Prime Minister yesterday sent flowers, fruits and sweetmeats to the Freedom Fighters at Martyred and War-wounded Freedom Fighters' Rehabilitation Centre on Gaznavi Road at Mohammadpur in the city as a mark of her good wishes for them.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina released separate commemorative postage stamps marking the Digital Bangladesh Day, the Martyred Intellectuals Day and the Victory Day. She released the commemorative postage materials at her official Ganabhaban residence yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi will hold a virtual Summit this morning as the two Leaders look for joint celebrations of mega events in 2021 and stronger collaboration in post-COVID era. The Summit will be preceded by the signing ceremony of the MoUs/Protocols on the same day. Chilahati-Haldibari rail link, a pre-1965 connectivity line, would be inaugurated along with some other projects during the virtual Summit. It may be mentioned that Bangladesh is celebrating birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The country will celebrate 50 years of War of Liberation and the establishment of India-Bangladesh bilateral diplomatic ties in year 2021.

Awami League General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, the communal forces must be resisted through the spirit of the 1971 Liberation War. "There is no compromise on the question of independence and the Liberation War. The root of communal forces must be uprooted," the Minister told reporters after paying homage to the martyrs of the Liberation War by placing wreaths at the National Memorial in Savar, on behalf of the party, marking the Victory Day.

Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud has said, Bangabandhu could not materialize his dream as he was assassinated only after three and a half years of independence, now the country is moving forward under the leadership of his worthy daughter. The Minister made the comments as he

was talking to media after paying rich tribute at the portrait of Bangabandhu by placing wreaths at Dhanmondi 32 No. in the city marking the Victory Day. Dr Hasan Mahmud said, the pledge of the Day of Victory is to eliminate the anti-liberation forces.

The 50th Victory Day was celebrated yesterday in Bangladesh missions abroad amid great festivity and fervor. The missions celebrated the day with elaborate programmes, including hoisting of the national flag, discussion meetings and cultural functions in which homage was paid to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the martyred freedom fighters.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdoğan has said, Bangladesh and Turkey hold enormous potentials in the arena of bilateral trade to explore and the target of US\$ 2 billion trade, which was mutually set earlier, could easily be achieved. The Turkish President said this when new Ambassador of Bangladesh to Turkey Mosud Mannan presented his credentials to the President of Turkey following a traditional and auspicious ceremony in Ankara on Tuesday. The President reiterated that Turkey would continue its unwavering support to the Rohingya issue in all forums.

Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jiming has said, Bangladesh still stands a wonder by becoming a role model of development under the great leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who like her father has been surprising the world through one after another national achievements. The envoy said this in a video message on the occasion of Victory Day of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh recorded 27 novel corona virus deaths and 1,632 fresh cases in the last 24 hours. The recovery count rose to 4,29,351 after another 2,622 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. With this, the total death toll rose to 7,156 from the pandemic in the country.



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