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From: PIO, PID, Dhaka  
Fax: 55100553/55100026  
E-mail: [piddhaka@gmail.com](mailto:piddhaka@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.pressinform.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.gov.bd)

**Newsbrief**

The World Tourism Day is being celebrated in the country today like elsewhere in the world highlighting the potentials of tourism. The government and different organisations have chalked out various programmes to celebrate the day with the global theme 'Rethinking Tourism'. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the eve of the day wishing all-out success of the programmes marking the day. In his message, the President said, Bangladesh has enormous potential to develop tourism industry and urged all the public and private stakeholders to carry out development activities in the tourism industry maintaining and preserving the environmental balance and the cultural heritage of the country. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her message said, Bangladesh is a country with huge tourism potential. Magnificent natural beauty, rich history and diverse culture have made Bangladesh a unique tourist destination with multidimensional attractions, she added.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed profound shock and sorrow at the death of language veteran, one of the organisers of the Great Liberation War, Ekushey Padak winning noted journalist and columnist Ranesh Maitra. In a message of condolence, she said, he will be remembered through his works. The Premier also prayed for salvation of the departed soul and conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Speaker Dr. Shireen Sharmin Chowdhury said, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury is an important chapter in our history. She will be admired by the people of Bangladesh for her wisdom, talent, creativity and visionary political leadership. The Speaker said this in a Milad and Doa Mahfil, held in front of the Prime Minister's Office of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhawan to seek repose of the soul of the late Deputy Leader of the Parliament Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, the country's people have full confidence in President Sheikh Hasina. Responding to a statement of BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, the Minister said, Sheikh Hasina does not need to keep confidence in those, who held "Yes-No vote" and the voter-less polls of February 15 and created fake voters in the country. The Minister said this while speaking in a conference of Kadamtoli Thana unit of the A at Shaypur Balur Math yesterday.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said, everyone should come forward to curb demand of drugs. He said, the government has strengthened capacity of Narcotics Control department in every district and installed labs. The Minister added, the capacity and manpower of BGB and Coast Guard are being increased to reduce supply of drugs. He said this while speaking as the chief guest at CIRDAP Auditorium in the city yesterday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud said, Awami League is a party of staging movements on streets and no one will be found if the leaders and activists of the party have been asked to take to the streets across the country. In fact, the Minister said, BNP wants the politics of violence and their aim is to clash with police and people. And they want more dead bodies, he added. The Minister stated this while exchanging views with reporters at his Secretariat Office yesterday.

Health Minister Zahid Maleque expressed concern over the widespread over-the-counter sale of antibiotics amid call from the United Nations to regulate the drug's excessive use. "The UN has urged its member states to formulate policies and laws so that excessive uses of antibiotics can be prevented," He said, the issue of the use of antibiotics received special focus during the UNGA debate. He told this in New York yesterday.

State Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism Mahbub Ali said, due to the corona epidemic, the issuing of visas to foreigners wishing to come to Bangladesh was stopped for a long time. However, the restrictions on foreign tourists have been lifted now. They can plan to come to Bangladesh anytime they want. He said this at a press conference organized by Bangladesh Tourism Corporation on the occasion of the World Tourism Day celebrations at Agargaon Tourism Building in the capital yesterday.

The Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jiming assured that Beijing would communicate with Naypyidaw to raise the issue of violation of border rules as well as to maintain peace along Bangladesh-Myanmar border. The Chinese envoy made the assurance during a meeting at the Foreign Ministry yesterday.

The death toll from the boat capsized in the River Karatoa rose to 55 as nine more bodies were fished out in Boda upazila of Panchagarh yesterday. In the rescue operation, 26 bodies have been recovered till yesterday, Boda Police Station said.

The Bangladesh government has allocated 300 acres of land to Saudi companies in Bangabandhu EPZ. Saudi Ambassador to Bangladesh Essa bin Yousef Al Duhailan said this while addressing a function organised to observe the 92nd National Day of Saudi Arabia. Referring to the growing economic ties between the two countries, the envoy said that a number of Saudi companies are lined up to invest in several mega projects in Bangladesh.

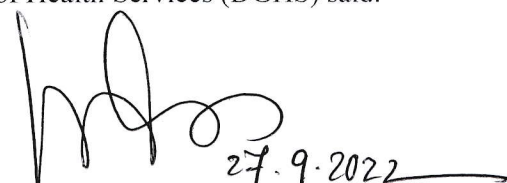
The by-election to Faridpur-2 constituency that fell vacant after the death of Awami League Presidium member Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury will be held on November 5 this year. The Election Commission announced the by-polls schedule date yesterday. Voting will take place using Electronic Voting Machine from 8am to 4pm.

The Directorate of Primary Education has issued 8-point guidelines for the use of social media by primary school teachers. A notification was issued in this regards on Sunday. Concern authorities have been asked to take necessary measures in this regard.

The Holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi, marking the anniversary of the birth and death of Prophet Muhammad, will be observed on October 9, Sunday. The decision was taken at a meeting of the National Moon Sighting Committee held at the conference room of the National Mosque Baitul Mukarram last evening.

Three dengue patients died while 482 patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country during the past 24 hours (till 8am yesterday), a press release of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) said.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh yesterday reported six Covid-19 deaths while it recorded 718 coronavirus positive cases during the same period, a daily statement of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) said.



Md. Shahinoor Miah  
Principal Information Officer (Acting)  
Phone- 55100811