



Most Urgent  
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## News Brief

The nation, for the first time, observed "Sheikh Russel Day" yesterday in a befitting manner, marking the 58<sup>th</sup> birthday of Shaheed Sheikh Russel, youngest son of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Sheikh Russel, also the youngest brother of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was brutally killed along with most of his family members, including his father on August 15, 1975. The government bodies, ruling Awami League-AL and its associate bodies, and different socio-cultural organizations observed the day through various programs. In the morning, on behalf of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader paid rich tribute to Shaheed Sheikh Russel, by placing floral wreaths on his grave at the Banani graveyard. A special doa and munajat were held there. Wreaths were also placed at the portrait of Father of the Nation in front of Bangabandhu Memorial Museum in the morning. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will join a discussion at AL central office in the city's Bangabandhu Avenue area at 3:30pm today, marking the day.

The "Sheikh Russel Day" was also observed at Bangladesh missions abroad while different dailies published special supplements highlighting the significance of the Day. Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Kolkata, Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Mumbai, the Embassy of Bangladesh in Ankara, Turkey observed the day through various programs. Bangladesh Embassy in Hanoi and Consulate General of Bangladesh in Kunming also celebrated the day.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina virtually opened the "Sheikh Russel Day" and distributed "Sheikh Russel Gold Medal" among the winners on the 58<sup>th</sup> birthday of Shaheed Sheikh Russel, joining from Ganabhaban yesterday. Sheikh Russel Jatiya Shishu-Kishore Parishad organized the function under the supervision of the ICT Division at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. In her address, the PM called upon the nation to remain alert against 1975 like killings, coups and conspiracies that could hinder the country's prosperity progress. Describing the children as "future of the coming days" she urged all to perform their duties accordingly to give the children security, love and a beautiful and meaningful life. The Premier also distributed the prizes among the winners of the sports and cultural competitions across the country arranged on the occasion. Besides, laptops were distributed among 4,000 freelancers out of 40,000 participants under the Learning and Earning Development Projects. The Premier also unveiled the cover of two books titled 'Sheikh Russell Jhore Jawa Phul' and 'Sheikh Russel Dipto Joyollash, Odommo Atmo-Bishwash'.

Earlier, the Prime Minister unveiled a commemorative postage stamp and an opening day cover released by Bangladesh Post Office on the occasion of "Sheikh Russel Day-2021". Minister for Post, Telecommunication and Information Technology Mustafa Jabbar was present at the moment.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury said, everyone will have to take pledge that they will not let any more children become victim of brutal killing and inhumane behavior like Bangabandhu's youngest son Sheikh Russel. Had he remained alive, he could have devoted himself for serving the nation and country keeping the family tradition, she said while addressing a discussion yesterday organized by Jatiya Sangsad Secretariat marking the Sheikh Russel Day.

BNP is fuelling to stage communal riots throughout the country to imperil democracy, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader made the allegation while talking to journalists after paying tribute at the grave of Shaheed Sheikh Russel at Banani graveyard last morning. Urging all to be more careful, the Minister alleged that the communal forces are carrying out propaganda on the facebook, adding the Rangpur firing incident was triggered from the propaganda.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque terming the killers of Sheikh Russel as animals and sewer worms, said that no human being can brutally kill an innocent baby like Sheikh Russel, as he was addressing a discussion marking the Sheikh Russel Day, organized by his ministry at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council - BARC Auditorium in the capital yesterday. He urged all to take oath and be united so that such killing can never take place in Bangladesh in the future. The Minister also urged all to remain alert about the propaganda and falsehood about religions.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal has promised tough punitive actions against perpetrators of the overnight arson attacks and lootings in Pirganj saying the culprits were identified by now and several of them were arrested and manhunt was underway for the rests. While talking to newsmen at his ministry yesterday, he further said, the government would rebuild soon the houses which were burnt or damaged. Meanwhile, Police has so far arrested 52 assumed suspects of the arson attack in Pirganj upazila, the National News Agency said.



Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, the children should be nurtured as good human beings by awakening them with merit, values, affection and patriotism with remembering the memory of Shaheed Sheikh Russel. The Minister was addressing a discussion organized by the Department of Films and Publications-DFP marking the Sheikh Russel Day. The kingpins who were behind the killing mission on August 15 should be tried, he said. State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Dr. Md. Murad Hasan, among others, addressed the discussion. Earlier, Dr. Hasan paid rich tribute to Shaheed Sheikh Russel marking his 58<sup>th</sup> birthday and other martyrs of August 15 carnage at Banani graveyard. The Minister also launched the teaser of the movie- 'Chiranjeeb Mujib', based on "Osomapto Atmajibani" of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, at his ministry yesterday. While talking to newsmen, the Minister said, the communal evil forces carried out the attacks at Pirganj with an intention of making the government questionable. The government is determined to crack down on the evil forces with iron hand, he said.

Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal urged the International Finance Corporation-IFC to support private sector development in Bangladesh through extending soft-term loans in sectors like onshore Taka bond and Public Private Partnership-PPP initiative. He also called upon the IFC to extend necessary technical assistance to attract more investment through PPP as Bangladesh aspires to become a middle-income country by 2031 and a developed country by 2041. He made the call at a virtual meeting between Bangladesh delegation led by him and the IFC delegation, led by IFC Managing Director Makhter Diop, on the sidelines of the World Bank IMF Annual Meetings 2021.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen urged all to play a part in building a better world for children with all the facilities and enjoyment they deserve. The Minister said that they do not want to see any innocent child face brutality. He was addressing a discussion marking the Sheikh Russel Day at the Foreign Service Academy Yesterday. State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam also spoke on the occasion.

President of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry-DCCI Rizwan Rahman has urged Spanish entrepreneurs to invest in the country's infrastructure, railways, health care, agro machineries and agro product processing, tourism, IT and ITES, automotive and API (Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient) sectors. He made the call at a meeting with Ambassador of Spain to Bangladesh Francisco de Asis Benites Salas at the DCCI in the city yesterday.

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Vikram K Doraiswami called on Chief of Naval Staff Admiral M Shaheen Iqbal yesterday. They discussed the Admiral's upcoming visit to India and increasing cooperation in the maritime realm.

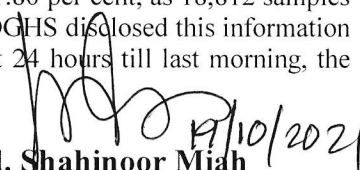
Bangladesh and India will jointly celebrate "Maitree Diwas" (Friendship Day) in 18 countries on December 6, marking 50 years of Bangladesh's independence and 50th anniversary of Bangladesh-India diplomatic relations. On December 06, 1971, India recognized an independent Bangladesh. As part of the celebration, the countries are hosting a "Maitree Diwas" logo and backdrop design competition, open to all citizens of India and Bangladesh, residents in their respective countries or anywhere in the world. The last date for accepting entries is 31 October 2021.

Bangladesh will receive a US\$300 million loan from the World Bank's soft loan window to improve the skill levels of its young population for the economic transformation required for further development. The government and the Washington-based lender reached a loan deal in this regard at the ERD in the capital yesterday.

The Primary Education Completion-PEC and Ebtedayee Education Completion-EEC examinations will not be held this year. Students will be assessed through their own educational institutions and promoted to the next class, DG of the Directorate of Primary Education, Alamgir Muhammad Mansurul Alam, confirmed this to media yesterday.

The country's maritime ports in Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Mongla, Pyra have been advised to hoist the cautionary signal three as steep pressure gradient lies over the North Bay and adjoining areas, as per a Met Office bulletin.

The country yesterday recorded 10 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the total death toll to 27,778. With 339 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,65,827. The positivity rate stood at 1.80 per cent, as 18,812 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,28,371, DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. Besides, 172 dengue patients got hospitalized in the last 24 hours till last morning, the DGHS informed.

  
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