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## **Newsbrief**

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday recalled the contribution of Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq to the economic emancipation of the peasants of Bengal. In separate messages, issued on the 62nd death anniversary of Sher-e-Bangla, they paid rich tributes to the memory of AK Fazlul Huq. In his message, the President said, Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq was an extraordinary, wise and prudent politician in the Indian subcontinent. In her message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul of Sher-e-Bangla. The Prime Minister said, because of his bold leadership, liberal and benevolent characteristics, the people dubbed him as Sher-e-Bangla or 'Banglar Bagh' (Tiger of Bengal).

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked the leaders and activists of Awami League to work for the development of the country and its people as well as spread the ideals of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Prime Minister made this call when a delegation of Thailand Awami League unit paid a courtesy call on her at her place of residence in Bangkok yesterday, PM's Speechwriter Md. Nazrul Islam briefed reporters after the call on.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, Bangladesh and Thailand have the opportunity to strengthen cooperation in trade and investment, food security, tourism, public health, energy and ICT. The Prime Minister said this while addressing the official luncheon meeting, hosted by Thai Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin at his office, the Government House in Bangkok yesterday.

Later, Bangladesh and Thailand struck five bilateral documents for visa exemption, cooperation on energy, tourism and custom matters and negotiation of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Thailand Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin were present at the signing ceremony in Bangkok yesterday. Two MoUs on energy cooperation and tourism cooperation were signed by Foreign Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud from the Bangladesh side while agreement on Visa Exemption by Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, LOI by State Minister for Commerce Ahasanul Islam Titu and another MoU on Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters was signed by National Board of Revenue (NBR) Chairman Abu Hena Md. Rahmatul Muneem.

Awami League General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, BNP always see darkness in the daylight and that's why they could not see the development of the country. The Minister made this comment while addressing a press briefing, organized at the Awami League president Sheikh Hasina's political office at Dhanmondi in Dhaka yesterday.

Foreign Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, Bangladesh and Thailand have expressed their keenness to work together on the Rohingya issue. "Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Thai Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin have expressed their interest in working together to solve the Rohingya crisis," the Minister said this in a media briefing in Bangkok yesterday after emerging from the bilateral meeting between Bangladesh and Thai Premiers. Both countries have been facing difficulties due to the forcibly displaced Myanmar national, Rohingya people, the Foreign Minister added.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Saber Hossain Chowdhury said, the decision taken earlier to double support for climate adaptation activities should be implemented. The Minister said this yesterday while addressing the Petersburg Climate Dialogue held in Berlin, Germany. The Minister also highlighted the views of least developed and developing countries, including Bangladesh, on important issues related to climate finance to be discussed at the upcoming COP 29.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat joined the First Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking and Substance Abuse in the Western Indian Ocean in Mauritius. The conference was held at Intercontinental Resort in Balaclava, Mauritius on Thursday. Ministers and delegation chiefs of different countries including Bangladesh State Minister discussed strategies to deal with drug trafficking and abuse of drugs. On the sideline of the conference, State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat discussed different issues with Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth. On behalf of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the State Minister invited the Mauritius Prime Minister to visit Bangladesh.

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