



Most Urgent  
For: Bangladoot, All Missions  
MSG: 248/2023-24  
Date: Friday, 08.03.2024

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## Newsbrief

President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in separate messages, yesterday greeted all women across the world on the occasion of International Women's Day, to be observed in the country today. The President, in his message, said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had taken necessary steps to ensure overall development and empowerment of women and to uphold dignity of men and women in the constitution formulated in 1972. In her message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, the greatest Bangalee of all time, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, formed the Women's Rehabilitation Board in 1972 with the aim of rehabilitating and empowering women affected by the Great War of Liberation.

Earlier, Prime Minister and Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina called upon the countrymen to remain alert as the BNP-Jamaat clique is out to destroy the country by creating an anarchic situation through arson violence and militancy. The Prime Minister made the remarks while presiding over a discussion marking the historic March 7 organised by the AL at Dhaka district AL office at Tejgaon office in the capital yesterday. Bangabandhu wanted to change the fate of the people by giving them developed and improved life, the Prime Minister added.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid rich tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the occasion of the historic March 7. The Prime Minister paid the homage by placing a wreath at the portrait of the Father of the Nation in front of the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi in the capital city at 7 in the morning. After laying the wreath, she stood in solemn silence for some time as a mark of profound respect to the memory of Bangabandhu, the architect of independence.

Earlier, Explaining the greatness of the historic 7 March Speech of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said that this speech not only inspired the people and prepared them for a guerilla war but also has brought independence for the nation. The Prime Minister made this remark while addressing a function organized by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs on the occasion of the "Historic 7 March-2024" at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in Dhaka yesterday. The Historical 7 March Speech of the Father of the Nation has now been recognized as the top speech of the world that encouraged people towards liberation, although the anti-liberation forces repeatedly tried to erase it from the history, the Prime Minister added.

Foreign Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud doubted whether the individuals and organizations like BNP that don't observe the historic March 7 really believe in independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh. The Foreign Minister made the remarks to journalists after the Awami League paid floral tributes to the portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Dhanmondi 32 marking the Historic March 7 yesterday. Bangabandhu in fact called for independence on March 7 in 1971 and he made the announcement, the Minister added.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq called upon people's representatives not to sell off their ideology. The Minister said these while addressing a views exchange virtually with the people's representatives at Kasba Upazilla Parishad Auditorium in Brahmanbaria yesterday.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Professor Dr. Samanta Lal Sen said, Bangladesh is a potential country for providing quality healthcare facilities as the country has developed world standard medical professionals. The Minister told a meeting at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical Education Conference room in Sylhet yesterday.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Saber Hossain Chowdhury said, Bangladesh and Nordic countries pledged to strengthen collaboration for a greener and more resilient future. The environment minister made the remarks while speaking as the chief guest at the Nordic Day commemoration function held at Hotel Radisson in Dhaka yesterday.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat highlighted the significance of Bangabandhu's 7 march speech in making the Bangalee nation indomitable and urged the students to go forward being imbued with the spirit of the speech. The State Minister said this while addressing the inaugural ceremony of the 50th annual sports competition of Banani Bidyaniketan School and College on the school premises yesterday.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Information and Broadcasting said, the historic 7 March speech of Bangabandhu simultaneously gave a clear message of independence to freedom-loving people and vagueness one to anti-liberation forces. The State Minister said this while addressing a discussion and documentary film screening ceremony on the

historic 7 March speech of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the chief guest at DFP auditorium at Taty Bhaban in Dhaka yesterday.

The Finance Ministry recently came up with a report on 10 state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and autonomous entities, rating their performances and gauging weaknesses saying the Bangladesh Overseas Employees and Services Ltd (BOESL) and Bangladesh Shipping Corporation were found to be highest scorers in the study. Spokesman for the Strengthening of State-owned Enterprises Governance Scheme under the SPFMS Tajul Islam, a finance division deputy secretary, told BSS.

The nation observed the historic March 7 in a befitting manner, commemorating the landmark speech of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, which was touted as an indirect declaration of the country's independence in 1971. Awami League and different social, cultural and political organizations yesterday paid homage to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing floral wreaths at his portrait in front of Bangabandhu Bhaban at Dhanmondi yesterday, marking the historic March 7.

Japanese Ambassador IWAMA Kiminori yesterday visited Friendship Primary HealthCare Center (FPHCC) at Bhasan Char Island to attend opening ceremony of a Japan funded project, a portable Dental X-ray, and others, said a press release.



08. 03. 2024

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