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Newsbrief

Bangladesh is being observed the "July Mass Uprising Day" today, marking two years of the fall of the Hasina-led fascist government amid a student-led mass uprising that changed the nation's political course. Acting President Hafiz Uddin Ahmed, Bir Bikram and Prime Minister Tarique Rahman have issued separate messages marking the day. In his message, the Acting President called for building a discrimination-free, democratic, accountable and justice-based Bangladesh in line with the sacrifices and aspirations of the martyrs and the injured of the July Mass Uprising. He extended his heartfelt greetings and congratulations to the valiant July Warriors and all patriotic citizens on the second anniversary of the uprising. In his message, the Prime Minister said, August 5 is a day of joy, a day of victory and a day of the restoration of democratic political rights. The heroic students and people of this country secured a historic victory by bringing to an end more than one and a half decades of fascist rule. The Premier paid tribute to the martyrs of the movement describing their sacrifices as a lasting source of inspiration for the nation's democratic struggle. The Prime Minister called for maintaining national unity forged during the July-August Mass Uprising and pledged to build a just, democratic and humane Bangladesh by ensuring the political and economic empowerment of the people. To commemorate the occasion, the government, political parties and socio-cultural organisations have taken various programmes to honour the sacrifices of those including students who took to the streets against misrule and autocracy.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will inaugurate the July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum today. Cultural Affairs Minister Nitai Roy Chowdhury disclosed the information at a press conference held in the conference room of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs at the Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday. He said, the museum will remain reserved for special guests and members of the families of the July martyrs on the inauguration day and will be opened to the general public from August 6. Following the inauguration, the Prime Minister will visit the museum's galleries and exhibitions and learn about the history of the July Mass Uprising by inspecting the preserved artefacts, photographs, documents and memorabilia.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman said, the July-August Movement became successful because the people wanted change, asserting that its success belonged to the country's people rather than any individual or political party. The Prime Minister said this while addressing a discussion at Krishibid Institution Bangladesh in the capital yesterday. Calling upon all political parties to focus on rebuilding the country, the Prime Minister said, enough discussions, movements, struggles and debates had taken place. Now is the time to move the nation forward and to remain patient and vigilant against those who seek to hatch conspiracies.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman directed the concerned authorities to prepare a comprehensive and transparent database of farmers by December this year to ensure that government support through 'Farmers Card' reaches genuine beneficiaries. The Prime Minister also instructed the authorities to complete the database through a proper verification process to safeguard farmers' rights. The directives came at a meeting on the Farmer Card programme held at the Prime Minister's Office at the Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman sought increased investment from Saudi Arabia in Bangladesh, particularly in the solar power sector, saying a favourable investment environment has been created in the country. The Prime Minister came up with the investment offer during a courtesy call by Saudi Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Eng Waleed Elkhoreji at the Prime Minister's Office in the Secretariat yesterday, according to PM's Assistant Press Secretary Gazi Shahriar Pamir. The Prime Minister invited Saudi companies to invest in Bangladesh's renewable energy sector, as both sides agreed to elevate bilateral relations through enhanced cooperation, investment and strategic partnership. At the end of the meeting, the Saudi Vice Minister invited Prime Minister to visit Saudi Arabia.

Commander of the United States Pacific Fleet Admiral Stephen T. Koehler yesterday paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and highly praised Bangladesh's contribution to the United Nations peacekeeping missions, particularly in Africa. The two sides, during the meeting at the Prime Minister's Office at the Secretariat, discussed humanitarian assistance, disaster management, bilateral naval cooperation and ways to further strengthen Bangladesh-US relations, said PM's Deputy Press Secretary Shahadat Shadhin.

LGRD Minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said, coordinated efforts among all the relevant ministries, agencies and local government institutions are essential to ensuring a sustainable solution to pollution control, effective waste management and environmental protection. The Minister made the remarks while chairing a ministerial-level meeting at the Local Government Division of his ministry at Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday. The Minister also said that government initiatives alone are

not sufficient to protect the environment. Raising public awareness and promoting environment friendly practices are equally important in this regard.

Chairman of the Parliamentary Special Committee on Constitutional Amendment and Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said, the constitution would be amended through consensus to meet the expectations of the people and advance the country's democratic reforms. The Minister said this to the journalists before the first meeting of the Parliamentary Special Committee on Constitutional Amendment at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in Dhaka yesterday. The Minister also said, the committee would remain open to receiving opinions from all opposition parties and members, both inside and outside parliament.

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said, the government is implementing integrated border management as a key strategy to prevent human trafficking, curb cross-border crimes and strengthen national security. The Minister made the remarks during a meeting with International Organization for Migration (IOM) Deputy Director General Ugochi Daniels at the UN House in Gulshan yesterday. The Minister also highlighted the government's initiatives to strengthen migration governance, protect migrants and enhance border security, while describing IOM as one of the Home Ministry's most trusted development partners for more than two decades.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapon yesterday called for building enduring state and social institutions inspired by the spirit of the July Mass Uprising. Addressing a memorial discussion marking the Great July Mass Uprising 2024 at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), the Minister said, the sacrifices of the uprising's martyrs should lead to a broad national consensus that ensures no future generation falls below minimum democratic and institutional standards. The Minister also stressed the need to reform structural weaknesses that have prevented the country from fully utilising its talented citizens and urged efforts to build a discrimination-free and humane Bangladesh for future generations.

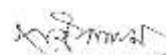
Prime Minister's Information and Broadcasting Adviser Dr. Zahed Ur Rahman said, the Malaysian labour market will reopen for Bangladeshi workers in the last week of August following a bilateral understanding between the two countries. The Adviser said this while speaking at a press conference at the Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday. The Adviser also said, the government is committed to ensuring that workers are sent to Malaysia through a transparent and accountable process by addressing the irregularities, excessive costs and harassment that occurred in the past.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaed Islam said, Saudi Arabia has expressed strong interest in investing in Bangladesh in a wide range of sectors and recruiting more skilled Bangladeshi workers. The State Minister made the remark after a meeting between visiting Saudi Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Eng. Waleed Abdul Karim Al-Khereiji and Foreign Minister Dr. Khalilur Rahman held at the state guest Padma in the capital yesterday. The State Minister also said, the visit was aimed at taking Bangladesh-Saudi Arabia relations to a new height. We had a very successful and fruitful discussion.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Yasser Khan Choudhury has called for regional coordination and cooperation of journalists to overcome the long-standing neglect and backwardness of Greater Mymensingh region. The State Minister made the call during a view-exchange meeting with the journalists of Greater Mymensingh working in Dhaka at Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday. The State Minister also said, coordinated efforts are crucial for infrastructural development of greater Mymensingh, improvement of medical services and solving other civic problems. He urged the journalists to play a vital role in ensuring patient services in hospitals and preventing irregularities.

Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Eng. Waleed Elkhoreji yesterday met Foreign Minister Dr. Khalilur Rahman and discussed issues of mutual interest. The meeting was held at the State Guest House Padma in Dhaka yesterday.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting yesterday urged all media outlets not to publish or broadcast statements of convicted accused persons, citing legal directives and national security concerns. In a press release, the ministry said, the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) had earlier prohibited the broadcast of statements by convicted accused and fugitive former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in connection with the July-August genocide case through mass media and social media platforms. It also noted that the National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA), citing relevant legal provisions and national security considerations, has separately requested media outlets to refrain from broadcasting statements of convicted accused persons.



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