

World Tourism Day today

UNB, Dhaka

The World Tourism Day will be observed in the country as elsewhere in the world today with the theme 'Tourism: A Driving Force for Poverty Alleviation, Job Creation and Social Harmony'.

Member countries of the World Tourism Organisation have been observing the day since 1980.

An elaborate programme has been drawn up to mark the day. National dailies will bring out special supplements and

Bangladesh Television will telecast special programme, highlighting the significance of the day.

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, Pata, Bangladesh Chapter, Bangladesh Hotel and Guesthouse Owners Association and Fantasy Kingdom will jointly organise a seminar at Hotel Sheraton at 4.00pm on Sunday.

Different hotels will also arrange food festival and social and cultural organisations will also celebrate the occasion.

President Iajuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Muhammad Nasir Uddin have given separate messages on the occasion.

Tourism industry can play a valuable role in protecting social and cultural tradition of the world, create a sense of brotherhood and solidarity between countries, the president said, adding that this fast expanding industry can also help alleviate poverty by creating scope of new employment.

The prime minister in her message said Bangladesh is a land of natural beauty, archaeological resources and bio-diversity with huge potential for tourism.

She said, "We can create employment, achieve progress by eradicating poverty, and consolidate our social solidarity if we can implement the potentials of this industry skillfully."

The PM said there is a great potential if we could combine government and private sector initiatives to develop the sector.



PHOTO: STAR

Two children take part in a drawing competition held at the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, yesterday.

