

# Grow up as worthy citizens

## PM asks young generation

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the young generation to grow up as worthy citizens to establish Bangladesh as a modern, non-communal, prosperous and prejudice-free open country.

She made the call while she was addressing a children's rally and independence parade at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the city.

Hasina said the children are the future leaders of the nation and they would have to groom themselves accordingly to take the helm of the country.

Referring to the declaration of 17th March as National Children's Day, she said the government is implementing necessary programmes so that children can flourish their latent talent by receiving proper education.

The PM said the nation will celebrate the golden jubilee of the War of Liberation in 2021.

The government, she said, is taking all possible steps so that the people can celebrate the 50th anniversary of independence in a science and technology-based Bangladesh free from poverty and hunger.

Expressing gratitude to Bhutan as the first country which recognised Bangladesh, Hasina thanked the Bhutanese King for attending the children's rally as the guest of honour.

She said Bangladesh had been freed from the clutches of the occupation forces in 1971 through a long struggle and at the cost of huge blood by the Bangalees under the leadership of great leader Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Hasina said the future generation must know the true history of the nation's hard-earned victory and the supreme sacrifices made by the patriotic countrymen for their motherland.



**Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuk inaugurate a children's rally and independence parade by releasing pigeons at Bangabandhu National Stadium in the city yesterday.**

PHOTO: STAR

Recalling the Bangabandhu's dream to present the people a happy life in a developed country, she called upon all to work together to materialise that dream.

Earlier, Hasina inaugurated the programme as the chief guest while King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuk was present on the occasion as the guest of honour.

On his arrival at the venue, the

Bhutanese King was received by the prime minister.

Students of different educational institutions as well as boy scouts, girls' guide, rover scouts and different juvenile organisations took part in the rally and presented physical display.

The prime minister took salute at the colourful march past presented by the young participants.

# President hosts Independence Day reception

UNB, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman hosted a grand reception at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday afternoon marking the 40th Independence and National Day.

Visiting Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuk and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina joined the reception.

War-wounded valiant freedom fighters and family members of the Birshreshtha gallantry awardees attended the reception.

Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque, former president HM Ershad, ministers, advisers to the prime minister, state ministers, diplomats, Supreme Court judges, MPs, political leaders, national professors, vice chancellors, chiefs of the three services, senior civil and military officers, academics, senior journalists, religious leaders, artistes and elite of the city attended the programme.

The president and the prime minister exchanged greetings with the wounded freedom fighters and other dignitaries.

Leading artistes presented patriotic songs and Armed Forces and Ansar and VDP bands played bands.

Later, the president, the Bhutanese king and the prime minister jointly cut the Independence Day cake.

# Blood donation

BSS, Dhaka

A blood donation programme was held on the premises of Ramna Model police station in the city yesterday.

Ramna Model Thana Community Policing Blood Donor Club organised the programme on the occasion of the Independence and National Day.

DMP Police Commissioner Benzir Ahmed inaugurated the programme.

# 'Declare Mar 25 as Int'l Genocide Day'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign branches of Ekatturer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee (forum for secular Bangladesh and trial of war criminals of 1971) called upon United Nations and international communities to declare March 25 as International Genocide Day.

As per decision from its central committee, members of the branches placed the demand on Friday before international communities seeking recognition of the night when the Pakistani occupational army massacred thousands of people in Dhaka.

The members in Sweden, France, Italy, the UK, Austria, Canada, USA, Australia and Saudi Arabia raised the demand after lighting candles and observing silence remembering genocides committed around the globe including Bangladesh, says a press release.

The committee's International Affairs Secretary Sabbir Khan told the press that they conducted publicity in this regard through facebook, blogs, websites and expatriate Bangladeshis, where many foreigners supported this demand.

# Labiq Kazi's 6th anniversary of death today

METRO DESK



Today is the sixth death anniversary of Labiq Kazi Moinuddin, son of Kazi Moinuddin and Rushnan Murtaza.

On this day in 2005, Labiq was killed in a tragic car accident in Cape Town South Africa at the age of 13. He was born on September 3, 1992.

Foods will be distributed among poor children on the occasion.

All are requested to pray for the eternal peace and salvation of his departed soul.

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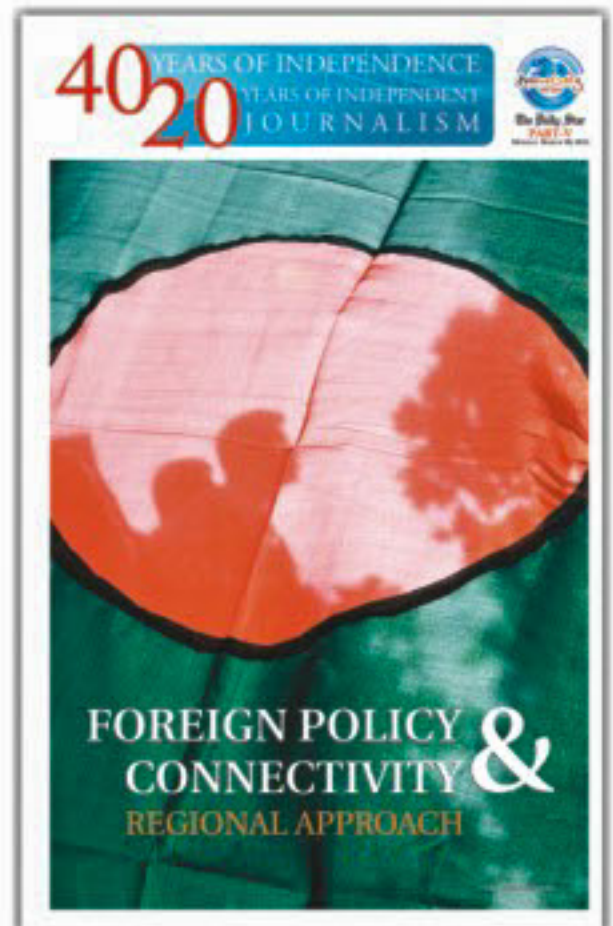
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