## PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH DHAKA

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## **News Brief**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has announced to provide food assistance to the flood-affected families of the country for the next three months until the next crops are harvested. She also said the government will do everything possible to ensure their food, healthcare and other necessities. The Prime Minister made the announcement while addressing a rally arranged yesterday at Dinajpur Zila School Shelter Centre marking the distribution of relief materials among the flood victims of the region. The Prime Minister visited Dinajpur and Kurigram to see for herself the condition of the flood victims of the two northern districts and distributed relief goods among the flood-stricken people now in shelter centre. She said her government will give loans and seeds to farmers. The educational institutions damaged by the flood will be repaired. She also directed the NGOs working in the region not to oppress the poor people who had taken loans from them as they have badly been affected by the current devastating floods.

President Md. Abdul Hamid has said anti-liberation forces not only killed Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as an individual but also tried to eliminate his ideology from the soil of this country through the killing. "The vested quarter wanted to erase the ideals of Bangabandhu forever from the sacred soil of Bangladesh. Bangabandhu was killed to reestablish Rajakar and Al-badr forces in the country," he said. The President was addressing a discussion at Eden Mohila College in Dhaka yesterday, marking the National Mourning Day. Terming the immortal principles and ideals of Bangabandhu a source of all inspirations, the President asked the students to know about Bangabandhu and the real history of the country's Liberation War.

The nation is set to commemorate 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the heinous attack that was attempted to kill the then opposition leader and incumbent Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The day's programme will be observed with renewed call for holding trials of perpetrators of the carnage. On the 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2004, the gruesome grenade attack in broad day light on an anti-terrorism rally of the Awami League at Bangabandhu Avenue left 24 people dead and over 500 others injured and many of them became crippled for life. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina narrowly escaped the brutal grenade attack, but she suffered serious damage to her right ear. Meanwhile, President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the occasion.

A Dhaka court has sentenced 10 people to death in a case filed over murder attempt on the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Kotalipara of Gopalganj 17 years back. Dhaka's Second Speedy Trial Tribunal passed the verdict yesterday.

High officials of Bangladesh and India will meet in Dhaka on August 28 to give a push to complete the Akhaura-Agartala railway link, a project undertaken around seven years ago. Official sources in Dhaka confirmed that the high officials will sit together to facilitate expeditious completion of the US \$145 million project for entry into or exit from India and Bangladesh.

Five big global marine and inland terminal operators are queuing up for the contract to build Bangladesh's maiden specialised maritime terminal in Chittagong. A local company is also an aspirant for the terminal project to be implemented on public-private partnership (PPP) model at Laldiar Char of Chittagong Port Authority. The international port operators submitted their request for qualifications (RfQ) in an open bidding that was closed on Sunday.

The overall fish production in the country increased by 61 percent in the last decade. The year on year total fish production was 40.10 lakh metric tons in the fiscal year 2016-17 which was 24.90 lakh metric tons in 2006-07. According to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, freshwater fish production was 33.20 lakh metric tons against 6.97 lakh metric tons from seawater resources.

The seventh edition of Bangladesh Denim Expo will be held on November 8 and 9, this year in Dhaka focusing on supply chain of the apparels.

DSEX, the prime index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange went down by 41.84 points to settle at 5,819.