



**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT  
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**News Brief**

President Md. Abdul Hamid has urged lawyers to ensure legal aid to people at low cost. The President said this while speaking at a reception accorded to him by the Lawyers Association on the second day of a three day visit in Kishoreganj yesterday. He also cautioned them against favoritism and misuse of power.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has underscored the need for proper utilization of the maritime sector for massive socio-economic development of the people of this region. The PM said this in her inaugural speech on the occasion of the Second South Asia Maritime and Logistic Forum 2018 in Dhaka yesterday. The government is committed to improving navigability of the rivers and ensuring safe and secure river routes for transportation of people and goods, she added.

The ECNEC has approved a big project to set up a granular urea fertilizer factory at Ghorashal in Polash upazila of Narsingdi district, with an annual production capacity of 9.24 lakh metric tons, involving Taka 10,461 crore in a bid to meet the country's growing demand for this fertilizer. The approval came from the ECNEC meeting at the NEC conference room in Dhaka yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. A total of 20 projects were approved involving an overall estimated cost of Tk 32,524.90 crore.

The World Mental Health Day will be observed in the country as elsewhere of the globe today in a befitting manner with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have given separate messages on the occasion wishing success of the day.

Dhaka 1st Speedy Trial Tribunal is scheduled to deliver its much-awaited judgment today in the two cases lodged over the August 21, 2004 grisly grenade attack on an Awami League rally, bringing an end to more than 14 years of wait for justice.

Demanding exemplary punishment to the people involved in the August 21 grenade attack, Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader has said, his party wants justice as the verdict of grenade attack cases will be delivered today. The Minister said this while addressing a rally in Dhaka yesterday.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid has said, the government will distribute about 35 crore textbooks free of cost among primary and secondary level students next year. The Minister said this to the media after visiting different printing presses in Dhaka yesterday.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Muhammad Nasim has said, 10,000 doctors will be given appointment before the forthcoming national election. The Minister said this while addressing a views-sharing meeting in Rajshahi Medical College Hospital yesterday.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Narayan Chandra Chanda has stressed on research activities for development of the livestock sector as the country can ensure food security with the innovation of new technologies. The Minister said this while addressing a two-day 'Annual Research Review Workshop-2018' seminar at Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute in Dhaka yesterday.

State Minister for Information Tarana Halim has said, the social media rumour detection and monitoring cell will start working within the current month of October. She said this to the media at the conference room of Information Ministry after an inter-ministerial meeting yesterday. The government has formed a nine-member social media rumour detection and monitoring centre headed by the Deputy Principal Information Officer of Press Information Department, she added.

Bangladesh takes on Palestine in the semifinal of Bangabandhu Gold Cup Football Tournament in Cox's Bazar today.

DSEX, the key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, increased by 0.27 per cent, or 14.86 points, to close at 5,455.81 points yesterday.

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