

**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT  
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**News Brief**

President Md. Abdul Hamid has said, there is no alternative to development of private sector to achieve the desired goal in industrialization of the country. The President made the remarks while delivering his speech at a ceremony for giving away 'President Awards for Industrial Development' at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in Dhaka yesterday.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council yesterday approved revision of the Padma Bridge Rail Link Project increasing the cost to Tk 39,246.80 crore. It also cleared 15 other projects including the 4th Primary Education Development Programme involving Tk 38,397.16 crore. The approval came from the regular weekly meeting of ECNEC with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves Dhaka for Kolkata on Friday to attend Visva Bharati Convocation Ceremony as the Guest of Honour and receive Degree of Doctor of Literature at Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol. The PM will also inaugurate Bangladesh Bhaban jointly with her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi at Visva Bharati.

United Nations Population Fund Executive Director and Under Secretary General Dr Natalia Kanem has assured that UNFPA would continue its cooperation to the socioeconomic development of Bangladesh. She came up with the assurance while paying a courtesy call on Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury at her office in Dhaka yesterday.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Mohammed Nasim has urged the international agencies, including World Bank to create pressure on Myanmar so that they take Rohingyas back to their country from Bangladesh. He made the appeal at a meeting with WB Director on Health, Nutrition and Population Affairs Fadia Saadah at Geneva, Switzerland yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has expressed the hope that sufferings of Eid holiday makers on roads and highways before and after the Eid-ul-Fitr will remain at tolerable level. The Minister expressed the hope at a views exchange meeting on Eid journey and toll plaza management with the stakeholders at Munshigonj yesterday.

Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Minister Mustafa Jabbar has said, Bangabandhu-1satellite is moving in its orbit and it would be in service within three months. He said this while talking to media after attending a parliamentary standing committee meeting at Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Law Minister Anisul Huq has said, the government would take into cognisance the eight points raised by the journalist community and redraft the Digital Security Bill specifying the definitions of terms and necessary addition or deletion. The Minister made the comments while talking to media after attending a meeting with the Journalist-leaders at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in Dhaka yesterday.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal has said, drugs are national human enemy and drug abuse should be eradicated from all levels of society. The Minister said this while briefing media over countrywide anti-drug drive at his office in Dhaka yesterday.

DSEX, the key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange lost 0.39 per cent or 21.39 points, to close at 5,391.90 points yesterday.

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