

**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
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News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has asked the Anti-Corruption Commission to disseminate the warning message, corrupt individuals, whoever he or she may be, must get punishment. The President gave the directive when a three-member ACC delegation, led by its Chairman Iqbal Mahmood, submitted its Annual Report-2017 to him at Bangabhaban yesterday. The President also put emphasis upon the need of awareness campaigns and social resistance against corruption at all strata of life.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, Bangladesh has proved that it can, and nothing will be able to lag behind Bangladesh anymore. She said, the success is the achievement of all the people of Bangladesh. The Premier made the comment at the 20th session of the Parliament yesterday while she was greeted by the Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury as the country has successfully met all criteria for LDC graduation.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith has promised to examine scope for reducing corporate income tax for the coming fiscal 2018-19. He gave the assurance at a meeting with secretaries of various ministries yesterday. The meeting was organised by the Finance Ministry to hold consultations with senior public officials before going for formulating the next fiscal's budget.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Engineer Khandker Mosharraf Hossain said, the government has undertaken a plan to install 1,92,945 tube wells across the country to remove arsenic risk of water. The Minister told this while replying to a question at the Parliament yesterday. The present government has made various arrangements to supply arsenic-free safe water across the country, he added.

The government, for the first time, is going to build a monument at Ashuganj of Brahmanbaria district, in memory of the foreign friends, who were killed in the Liberation War of 1971. Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque revealed it to media yesterday.

Food Minister Advocate M Quamrul Islam has said, the government has set a target to collect 10 lakh metric tonnes of Boro rice in the current season in view of the bumper production this year. The Minister also said, the procurement price for per kg paddy has been fixed at Taka 26 and rice at Taka 38. The Minister informed the journalists at the Food Ministry yesterday.

State Minister for Power and Energy Nasrul Hamid has sought French cooperation in enhancing the capacity of the energy sector officials, especially in the operation of state-owned refinery being set up in Chattogram. He made the call when French Ambassador in Bangladesh Marie Annick Bourdin met him at his Ministry office yesterday.

Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay Keshav Gokhale arrived in Dhaka on a three-day official visit. Foreign Secretary M. Shahidul Haque received his Indian counterpart at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday.

Celebrated shooter Abdullah Hel Baki won silver medal for Bangladesh in the Men's 10m Air Rifle of the 21st Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, Australia yesterday.

DSEX, the core index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, settled yesterday at 5,865 points.

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