

# Schools, madrassahs to get books in 15 days: Nahid

*Braille, ethnic language books being printed this year*

**Staff Correspondent**

THE primary and secondary schools and madrassahs across the country will get textbooks in 15 days, said education minister Nurul Islam Nahid, on Sunday.

He said a total of more than 36 crore copies of textbooks are being printed this year for the students of 2017 academic year.

He said around 90 percent books had already been sent at different educational institutions in the meantime.

'All children surely will get new books at the first day of new year,' he said.

He was talking to the journalists after visiting different printing press at Matuail— on the outskirts of the capital— where the books are being printed.

He said a total of 2.85 crore more books are being

printed this year, in comparison with the last year.

While, responding to a question, Nahid said his ministry is closely monitoring and ensuring various qualities, such as quality of paper and printing. 'The qualities of printing and paper are better than previous years,' he said.

'Even if anyone tries to provide us inferior quality products, we will take action against him,' he said.

Since 2010, the government has been distributing textbooks among the primary and secondary students on the first day of January, each year.

'This is for the first time we are going to distribute Braille books among the visually impaired students, and books in five ethnic languages among ethnic students,' he said.

Those ethnic languages are Chakma, Marma, Garo, Tripura and Sadri, respec-

tively.

National Curriculum and Textbook Board officials said some 9,000 Braille books and 24,000 books in ethnic languages are being printed.

'I cannot guarantee you that all the ethnic students and visually impaired ones would get books, because we have no enough information about them,' said the minister.

The minister also admitted that the government did not have skilled teachers to teach students Braille and ethnic languages.

'Let us start, all will be set gradually,' he said.

Secretary to education ministry, Md Sohorab Hossain, NCTB chairman, professor Narayan Chandra Saha, its member (textbook), professor Mia Inamul Haque Siddiki, and secretary Imrul Hasan accompanied the minister.