

SUNKEN VESSEL AT CTG PORT CHANNEL

Large ships may be kept away for 2 more weeks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Salvation of lighter vessel MV Shah Badar1 that sunk at the entry point of Chittagong port channel on Wednesday may take at least one week.

The Marine Department of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) through newspaper advertisements has already declared the spot "dangerous for surface navigation" and advised mariners to move with caution and take permission from CPA Radio Control before entering or leaving the Karnaphuli Channel.

CPA is also thinking to take more precautionary measures including imposition of restriction on movement of vessels over 170 metre length for 15 days, sources said.

The steps are being considered since the sunken vessel could be causing around 0.5 metres of siltation around it a day, they said.

Large oil tankers or cargo vessels would not be allowed to enter the mooring or jetties if such restriction is imposed, the sources said.

Delay in salvation of the ves-

sel may cause emergence of a shoal near Naval Academy point of the port channel and create longstanding stalemate in vessel movement through the channel.

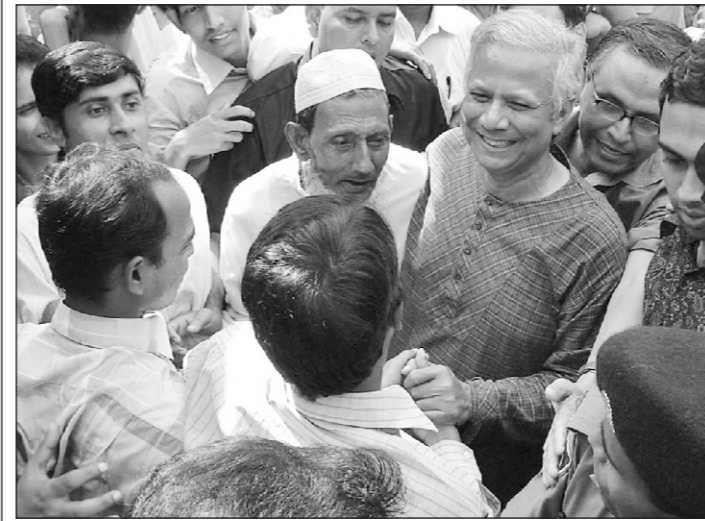
As the sunken vessel narrowed down the Disk and Diamond Line - the base line of vessel movement in Chittagong port channel--the port authorities on Friday rearranged positions of the Green Bar and the Inner Bar, changing route of vessel movement and allowed piloting vessels along a single line.

Meanwhile, Shipping Secretary Rafiqul Islam on

Friday visited the spot and held a meeting with the high officials of CPA, Marine Mercantile Department and others concerned at the port rest house.

At the meeting, experts observed that non-trimming of Shah Badar 1 after loading cargo might have caused the accident.

Trimming is vital to maintain balance of a vessel during movement and henceforth there should be provision for supervising the trimming, the experts said.



(Clockwise) Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus surrounded by jubilant people at his native Jobra village, with emotion charged former Chittagong University, approaching his father's grave at Miskin Shah Mazar graveyard and offering fateha at his mother's grave at Jamtala in Kapashgola in the port city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

BUS PLUNGE IN NEPAL
Student's body to reach today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The body of a final year student of Dhaka Textile Engineering College who was killed in a road accident in Nepal on Thursday night will reach Dhaka today.

Faisal Ahmed Imon, 23, son of Salahuddin Ahmed Belal of Ram Babu Road here went to Nepal on a study tour with a group of students when he met the tragic end of his life in a road accident.

Faisal was also Mymensingh District Correspondent of Bangladesh Today and Bhorer Dak.

A brilliant student, Faisal passed the SSC and HSC examinations from Mymensingh Zila School and Cantonment Public School and college with star marks in 2001 and 2003.

Mymensingh Press Club, Mymensingh Reporters' Unity, Sangbadik Samity and Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) expressed their deep shock at the premature death of Imon. They prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

BCL leader held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested Chhatra League leader

Mahbubur Rahman Uzzal from his house at South Chithipara village in Mithapukur Friday night and recovered firearms.

He is the president of upazila unit of Chhatra League.

Acting on a tip off Rab arrested him from near his house. On interrogation, he disclosed that he had firearms hidden under ground in the yard.

The law enforcers then dug a portion of the yard and recovered a shutter gun, one revolver, two pipe guns and some bullets.

Rab sources said Uzzal was a listed criminal facing several cases filed with Mithapukur police station.

He was later handed over to police.

Ctg Sangbadpatra
Hawkers' Samity executives

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Hossain Ahmed and Mokbul Hossain have been reelected president and general secretary (GS) of Chittagong Sangbadpatra Hawkercs' Bohumukhi Samabaya Samity Limited in an election held at its Cheragi hill office here recently, says a press release.

Other office-bearers are: vice-president- Jawharlal Nath and 3 directors-Manik Chandra Nath, MAMannan and Abdul Jalil.

The election was held during the triennial conference of the Samity. About 254 out of 272 voters exercised their franchise.

Hawkercs' Samity Election Conducting Committee president Journalist Helal Uddin Chowdhury conducted the election while Chittagong Sangbadik Union joint secretary Nirupam Das assisted him.

25 hurt in BCL
factional clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

At least 25 people were injured, six of them critically, in a clash between two rival factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at Shubhgachha in Kazipur upazila in the district yesterday.

The injured were admitted to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital and local clinics.

Police said the clash erupted over formation of BCL committee. They also damaged some shops during the clash.

On information, police from Kazipur police station quelled the violence.



PHOTO: STAR

Workers under the banner of Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) barricaded railway track at Sudanondapur station in Tangail as part of its countrywide programme yesterday to press their 8-point demand.

MURDER OF BRAC STAFF

Rally protesting arrest of indigenous men

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Joinshahi Adibasi Unnayan Parishad (Joinshahi Indigenous Development Association) brought out a procession and held a rally in Telki under Madhupur upazila in Tangail district yesterday protesting arrest of three indigenous people in connection with murder of a Brac employee.

With Ajoy-a-Mre in the chair, the rally was addressed by indigenous leaders Benedict Mang Sang, Onneshan Chiran, Pronath Mre, Garo student leader Bidyut Mang Sang, Bela (Bangladesh Environment Lawyers Association) official Somnath Lahiri, NGO official Abdus Samad, Shanti Atiara and Sanju Mankin.

After the rally, the indigenous people brought out a procession which paraded different villages in

the area.

Ajoy-a-Mre said Madhupur police recovered the body of Brac employee Fazlul Haque from Zangalia village on September 21.

Police arrested Keka Rema, Floren Chambugang and Thomas Sampan on October 11 in connection with the murder. They alleged that the three people were arrested to divert the case and save the killers. They demanded immediate release of the arrested persons.

Abdul Khaleq, sub-inspector (SI) at Madhupur Police Station and also investigation officer (IO) of the case, however told this correspondent over cellphone yesterday that the three indigenous men were arrested as per statement of Siraj Ali, a witness to the murder.

Adulterated food items seized in Rangpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Detective police yesterday recovered huge quantities of adulterated mastered oil, soybean oil, coconut oil, harmful cosmetics and mosquito coil mixed with toxic chemicals, illegal electronic goods and chemicals from a house at Sarderpara on the outskirts of Rangpur town.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of DB police led by the Inspector Arman Hosen raided the house at about 11:30 am and seized the googs. They include 23 drums of soybean oil, two drums of coconut oil, a huge quantity of mosquito coils, substandard electric bulbs and cosmetics worth about Tk 50 lak, police said.

Police also arrested five persons. They are Enamul Hossen, 50; Shahajahan, 23; Shamsul Huda, 27; Anisur Rahman, 30 and Rekha, 32 from the house.

House owner CM Sadek

escaped sensing police presence.

Rangpur Sadar thana Officer-in-Charge Arman said Sadek is a retired BDR personnel.

"None of these items is authorised. These are adulterated and substandard, harmful for humans", he said.

The arrested people are under the custody of BD police and are being interrogated, the OC told this correspondent yesterday evening.

The recovery of adulterated googs including food items sparked protest by people in the town.

School students under the banner of Concious Student Society formed a human chain in front of Rangpur Press Club yesterday protesting adulteration of food items and demanding punishment of the culprits.