

2,000 sacks of fertiliser seized in sea

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

The Coast Guards in a raid near the island of Hatiya on Tuesday seized 2,000 sacks of fertiliser while being smuggled to Myanmar on two trawlers.

According to the Coast Guards sources, acting on a tip off, the Coast Guards on routine patrol near the confluence of the river Meghna and the Bay of Bengal close to Dhalerchar under Hatiya of Noakhali intercepted

the trawlers with the sack-loads.

Sensing the arrival of the security forces, the fishermen on board fled jumping into the river leaving behind the trawlers, which contained, in one 1500 and in the other, 500 sacks full of fertiliser.

The chief of the Coast Guards under Bhola Zone, Shahidul Islam, told this correspondent that two trawlers with the fertilisers had left Lalkhan Bazar from Bhola and reached the deep sea.

The trawlers were later cruised to nearby Tamarddi ghat in Hatiya.

It is also learnt that notorious smuggler from Chittagong, Rashid Mia, is involved in the fertiliser smuggling. It is alleged that Bachuu Patwari, Shahidur and Rafiq Pramukh had helped in the smuggling plans.

When contacted, the Officer in Charge of Hatiya said he knew nothing about the incident.



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Chhatra League, Jagannath Hall unit, takes out a procession on Dhaka University campus yesterday protesting the killing of judge Jagannath Pandey. Pandey is the former student of the hall.

'Groom youths as future leaders'

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday emphasised the need for building up the youths capable of future leadership by giving them moral and practical training.

"The challenge of the youth community is to contribute to the development by making themselves well-educated and skilled," he said while he was addressing the President's Scout and President's Rover Scout Award giving ceremony at Bangabhaban.

He said the active role of Bangladesh Rover Scouts in making the children and youths as self-confident, honest, patriot and good citizen is praised both locally and internationally.

He congratulated the 47 recipients of President's Scout Award and five President's Rover Scout Award for their brilliant performances.

Acting president of Bangladesh Scouts Dr Mohammad Farid, Chief National Commissioner of Scouts M

Fazlur Rahman, national commissioners and deputy commissioners of Scouts and guardians also attended the programme.

'Howells' visit to strengthen ties'

SG Jilani, chief of the Mother Teresa Peace Mission in Bangladesh, in a statement yesterday said relations between Bangladesh and Britain would be strengthened further following the visit of British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Dr Kim Howells, says a press release.

The economic relations and development activities of the two friendly countries will get a boost further through cooperation, Jilani said.

He also thanked the British minister for his sentiment against terrorism.

ETPS AT INDUSTRIAL UNITS

Take stern action against violators

Minister asks DoE officials

BSS, Dhaka

Environment and Forest Minister Tariqul Islam yesterday expressed his utter dissatisfaction as Effluent

Sculpture exhibition ends in Khulna city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Five-day DUO solo sculpture exhibition of Tarana Halim, which began on November 12 at Khulna Press Club VIP auditorium, concluded yesterday.

The solo sculpture exhibition, inaugurated by City Mayor Shaikh Tayebur Rahman, drew a large number of viewers everyday.

In the exhibition, Tarana Halim, a young sculpture hailing from Daulatpur of Khulna city, has shown her wood works in various forms in different perspectives.

It was her second solo exhibition in Khulna, which created much interest among sculpture lovers.

DUO is my emotion, feeling and expression. They are compositions in simplified form represented in wood, Tarana told this correspondent while describing her concept.

Treatment Plants (ETPs) have not yet been installed in different industrial units.

Addressing a review meeting with officials of the Department of Environment (DoE) on the progress of implementation of previous decisions of the department, he asked the DoE officials to take stern action against the industries which are yet to set up ETPs.

Leaders of different trade bodies and industries, including the export-oriented units, at a meeting in July with the minister and high officials of the Environment Ministry, had assured of setting up ETPs in their units within four months, DoE sources said.

Tariqul at the meeting yesterday asked the owners of all industrial units, including the export-oriented ones, to take clearance certificates regarding installation of ETPs.

Otherwise, he said, the ministry will be bound to close down those

units for the sake of environment and in compliance with different obligations under international protocols.

State Minister for Environment and Forest Jafrul Islam Chowdhury, Environment and Forest Secretary Jafar Ahmed Chowdhury and DoE Director General Khan Ibrahim Hossain were present.

Tariqul said in the backdrop of the ministry action against the environment-polluting industries, the trade body leaders in July last had taken six-month's time to install ETPs.

"But, the outcome over the last six months is very frustrating," he said and urged the DoE officials to launch a drive against them like the anti-adulteration drive across the country.

He also asked the DoE officials to file cases against the persons responsible for pollution of the Gulshan Lake, which was declared as an Ecologically Critical Area (ECA) by the government.