

Bangladesh, US navies begin Carat exercise

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The navies of Bangladesh and the United States yesterday began an eight-day of maritime safety and security exercises in Chittagong.

This is the first-ever Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (Carat) Bangladesh 2011, said a press release of the US embassy in Dhaka.

The exercise formally began at BNS Issa Khan, marking the first time Bangladesh has participated in the 17-year old Carat exercise series, which the US Navy conducts with navies of seven other Southeast Asian nations.

Carat participants now include Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

There are four US Navy ships and approximately 500 US personnel participating in the exercise.

The ships include the guided missile destroyer, the frigate, mine countermeasures ship and the dive and salvage rescue ship.

Carat Bangladesh combines training events ashore and at sea, with shore events focused on dive training, riverine warfare, ship boarding training and medical and community service projects.

Training events are helicopter operations, ship-board communications, maneuvering drills, surface gunnery exercises and tactical free play.



Dhaka Cycling Club, Nirapad Development Foundation and WBB Trust organise a cycle rally from in front of National Museum in the city yesterday calling to ensure a bicycle-friendly environment and declaration of a national cycling day.

PHOTO: STAR

JS body to see Sadarghat expansion possibility

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday formed a three-member sub-committee to examine the possibility of expanding Sadarghat launch terminal, aimed at reducing suffering and harassment to passengers in the city's lone launch terminal.

Headed by Golam Kibria Tipu, the sub-committee is to submit its report to the parliamentary standing committee on shipping ministry within the next two months.

Two other members of the sub-committee are Nasrul Hamid Bipu and Nazrul Islam Babu, lawmakers of Awami

League.

"Passengers and the number of launches in Sadarghat launch terminal have increased significantly over recent years. Besides, passengers suffer as there is only one road to reach the terminal," said Noor-e-Alam Chowdhury Liton, chief of the committee.

Emerging from the meeting at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, Liton, also a ruling Awami League lawmaker, said the committee thinks expansion of the terminal is imperative to reduce harassment to passengers.

He said some of the committee members suggested building another launch terminal at Keraniganj, opposite to Sadarghat terminal.

Five climate projects okayed

UNB, Dhaka

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has approved five projects, involving Tk 44.42 crore, to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change.

The Climate Change Trust Board under the ministry approved these projects at its 13th meeting with State Minister for Environment and Forests Dr Hasan Mahmud in the chair.

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) will implement two projects in Cox's Bazar and Kishoreganj while the Rural Electrification Board and Rangamati Zila Parishad and Rangunia municipality will implement the remaining three projects respectively.

LADY TEACHER FOR CHILD CARE

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69 vie for one JU seat

JU CORRESPONDENT

Some 69 candidates will compete for each seat to gain admission at first year honours courses under 2011-12 academic sessions in Jahangirnagar University (JU).

The admission tests in eight units will begin on October 8 and continue till October 17. Last day to submit applications ended on Saturday, says a press release from JU Public Relations Office.

The total number of applicants this year is 166,000 for 2,400 available seats. Last year 121,918 aspirants competed for 1,606 seats.

JU Registrar Abu Bakr Siddique said good results in higher secondary level, nonexistence of session jams and introduction of a faculty, three departments and a new dormitory gave rise to applicant numbers.

The new faculty is Faculty of Law while the departments are Department of Law and Justice, Department of Journalism and Media Studies and Department of Public Health.

HINDU DESTITUTE Advice to open bank accounts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The destitute who have got grants from Hindu Religious Welfare Trust can open bank accounts by showing their National ID cards and certificates issued by the Trust depositing only Tk10.

There will be no binding for keeping minimum balance in these accounts.

Bangladesh Bank issued a circular to the banks advising to take necessary steps in this regard.

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Road crashes kill 5

METRO DESK

Five people were killed and three others injured in separate road accidents in Chandpur, Narsingdi and Khagrachhari yesterday.

Our Chandpur correspondent reports: At least two auto-rickshaw passengers were killed and three others injured when a Shahrasti-bound auto-rickshaw from Haziganj collided head-on with a passenger bus coming from opposite direction in Uaruk area of Shahrasti upazila yesterday.

The deceased are Kazi Abbul Awal, 45, and Abdul Khaleq, 65. They are from Dikchail area of Haziganj.

Our Narsingdi correspondent says: At least two people, including a motorcyclist, were killed in separate road accidents in Chaitabo and

Panchdona area of Sadar upazila yesterday.

Police said the first accident took place in Chaitabo area when a Narsingdi-bound rice-laden truck from Dhaka hit a stationed truck from behind, leaving its helper Sumon, 27, dead on the spot.

The second one in Panchdona area, a motorcyclist was killed when a Dhaka-bound bus hit him while he was going to Panchdona.

The deceased is Anisur Rahman, 28.

Our Khagrachhari correspondent adds: A minor boy was killed as a speedy Khagrachhari-bound bus of Shanti Paribahan from Chittagong crushed him while he was crossing the road in Bhuiyan para area of Matiranga upazila yesterday.

The deceased is Shakibul Hasan, 7, son of Md Iqbal, of the same area in the district. He was a student of local primary school.

শেলেটেক শরৎ মেলা ২০১১

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