

Fishing trawlers stay anchored for rough sea

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Following a ban on catching hilsa in the Bay of Bengal for 65 days, fishermen resumed their activities from July 23.

However, for around two weeks since then, the sea has been remaining rough, leaving them with a meagre catch.

Many fishermen, who went to the sea on trawlers from Patuakhali and Barguna, have been returning empty handed during this time.

Fish traders at Patuakhali's Alipur and Mahipur, and Barguna's Patharghata fish landing stations are largely disappointed.

Visiting the fish landing stations recently, this correspondent saw numerous trawlers were anchored at the ghats (docks). Some of those had returned from the sea after days while others were unable to leave due to turbulent sea.

"Our trawler FB Mayer Doa left Patuakhali two days back with 14 fishermen, but had to return empty handed as the sea has been very rough while there hardly any hilsa in the waters," said a fisherman Anisur Rahman.

Rasul Mia, owner of the trawler, said he had to take a loan on high interest from moneylenders to send the fishermen to the sea for fishing.

"As they could not manage to catch any fish, I am now concerned how I am going to pay back the loan," he added. Another fisherman, Nasir Uddin, echoed him, saying he wanted to stay longer in the sea but had to return as the sea has been becoming rough and unsafe.

"If the weather turns favourable soon, we might leave for the sea again and try our luck," he added.

Many trawler owners and fishermen said they will become destitute if such adverse weather conditions continue to persist longer and affect their livelihoods.



PHOTO: STAR

Fewer shops open as curfew lifted

Poor sales leave traders worried in Sylhet

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Even after curfew was lifted from 6:00am yesterday, very few shops and businesses opened in Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Sunamganj and Sylhet district towns following a prolonged period of unrest and uncertainty.

Visiting different areas including Central Road-Paschimbar, a major shopping hub in Moulvibazar town, this correspondent observed that many shops remained shuttered between 10:00am and 5:00pm yesterday, as shop owners feared vandalism and arson attacks by mobs.

The few shops that did open, witnessed a poor presence of customers and significantly low volume of sales, raising concerns.

Local traders said people are still hesitant to come out of their homes despite the curfew being lifted. People have been hardly venturing out unless it is absolutely necessary.

The lack of public transport on the roads also contributed to this poor turnout.

Since the end of July, many traders have been struggling to pay rent, utility bills, and salaries to their employees.

"After Sheikh Hasina resigned on Monday, a festive atmosphere sparked celebratory processions. However, things soon took a dark turn as numerous properties, businesses, and shops, including some owned by people from minority communities, were vandalised and looted in the town," said Sumesh Das Jisu, a shop owner at Manager Stall.

"Our traditional 76-year-old sweet shop at Manager Stall, as well as Radhika Stall on M Saifur Rahman Road in Moulvibazar town, were left severely damaged," he added.

Locals said the police outpost at Chaumohana Chatwar (Circle) was attacked, and Mamar Bari

Restaurant on Court Road also suffered vandalism. The wave of destruction caused widespread panic among the town's residents.

Atikur Rahman Akhoi, general secretary of Kulaura Traders Association, said, "Our businesses were already struggling due to recent flood. We were yet to recover before the student movement demanding quota reform turned violent and led to a curfew being imposed. This overall lack of business over the past month has left us in dire straits. People are still fearful, and most avoid leaving their homes, which is why there are so few customers."

Kamal Hossain, general secretary of Sreemangal Traders Association, said, "I personally appeal to all traders to remain steadfast and open their shops without succumbing to panic. We must all have the courage to continue our operations," he said.

No reservation over interim govt Says Fakhru

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

BNP will not show any reservation over the formation of the interim government.

It is seeing the process of formation of the interim government positively, said party leaders.

They said they would not have any differences of opinions with the coordinators of the student movement over the positions of chief adviser and other advisers.

But if the tenure of the interim government is longer then they will show their reservation as they want parliamentary elections at the earliest to keep the continuation of the constitution.

"If a new government is not formed dissolving the parliament, then there will be a political void," said Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir, the party's secretary general, at a press conference.

Within hours of his statement, the parliament was dissolved. The issues were discussed at the party's standing committee meeting with acting chairman Tarique Rahman.

At the meeting, the party decided to stage a huge showdown as the Awami League government had fallen.

The party will hold a rally in front of its Nayapalton headquarters at 2:00pm today where Tarique will be the chief guest and will be connected virtually.

Meeting sources said they will not make any negative comments on the position of advisers, whoever it is.

If there is a proposal on who can be recommended for the position of chief adviser, the party will hold a meeting with the leaders of the anti-quota student movement and the parties involved in the simultaneous movement, including Jamaat and then give their opinion.

When informed that the quota reform students want Muhammad Yunus as chief of the interim government, Fakhru said, "If the president wants a name from us, we will propose our nomination. It is the jurisdiction of the president but we have full confidence in the students. We expressed our solidarity with the students' movement."

Regarding the return of Tarique Rahman, the party leaders have already requested him to return to Bangladesh soon. "We have requested him to come back and he will soon," Fakhru said.



Members of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) brings out a "peace rally" in the capital's Jatiya Press Club area yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Students step up to ensure order

FROM PAGE 3
Science Lab, and New Market areas. In their absence, students were seen managing traffic flow.

In Shyamoli, students organised separate lanes for different types of vehicles to ensure smooth traffic movement. They made sure that vehicles, including rickshaws and motorcycles, followed proper routes and did not block intersections.

In addition, approximately 200 students took on security duties at various police stations, churches, and

temples in Mirpur. "We've been stationed at Mirpur Police Station and all churches and temples in Mirpur since 9:00am," said a student who along with others has been guarding the police station.

The police station had been set on fire by a mob the previous night, causing significant damage.

In the aftermath, students found an abandoned firearm, damaged firearms, ammunition, a grenade, and a walkie-talkie, and have requested that the army take custody of these items.

In response to the situation, the Ansar headquarters announced that members of Bangladesh Ansar and VDP will now oversee traffic management in and around the capital.

Meanwhile, a group of students were seen cleaning the premises of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, which was ransacked a mob on Monday following Hasina's resignation.

Several photos of students voluntarily cleaning the ground and cleaning open spaces of the important structure.

A number of volunteers were also seen collecting valuables that had been looted from Gono Bhaban

and the parliament. Some people, who looted the valuables, were seen handing over those to the volunteers, who then returned them to the authorities.

Maj Gen AKM Aminul Haque, director general of Bangladesh Ansar & VDP, said, "There are no police personnel at any police stations across the country, nor any Armed Police Battalion (APBn) at the airports. Following directions from the army chief and the air force chief, we have been tasked with deploying forces to ensure the security of police stations and airports."

He said forces are being deployed in phases across the country, with an initial focus on securing police stations and other critical establishments.

Torching an integral part

FROM PAGE 3
vandalism occurs here or in nearby buildings. We will close the site after 5:00pm and will not allow any visitors."

"We have rescued many books from the library, and the Bangladesh Army has brought a truck to send the books to the public library," he added.

Students and troops blocked several attempts to steal or loot from the site. At 5:00pm, while controlling the crowd, some people were caught loading construction materials onto a truck from an under-construction building.

When visitors reported this, soldiers and students quickly intervened.

The looters, identifying themselves as "contractors,"

were detained and taken inside the camp.

A student said, "We are protecting the site now. We will not allow any more looting or vandalism."

PMO AND JS

Like on Monday, a huge number of people gathered in front of the

Students and troops blocked several attempts to steal or loot from the site.

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) yesterday, but they could not enter as army personnel had taken complete control.

Soldiers guarded the main gate. Samiul Ahsan, along

with his wife Lutfa Sahana and their two children, came to the PMO. "I saw people enter the PMO yesterday, so I came, but I could not enter today [yesterday]," Samiul said.

Some people stood at the gate, asking the army personnel to take pictures. Various goods, including sofa sets, were seen lying scattered on the PMO lawn.

A similar crowd was spotted at the parliament building. Many people entered the premises by rickshaws, auto-rickshaws, and motorcycles via the VIP road to the Sangsad Bhaban from the side of Gono Bhaban.

However, the main parliament building was guarded by Army

personnel who were not allowing anyone inside. People walked in the open courtyard outside the building and by the lake.

Parul Akhtar, who arrived by rickshaw with her two children, said, "Yesterday, I saw on TV people inside the parliament building without any fear or obstruction. That's why I came today."

PRAYER TIMING
AUGUST 7
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
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e-Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of the following items :

Serial No.	Tender ID	Description of Works	Online (e-GP System) Tender Publication date & Time	Tender Document Last Selling Date and Time	Tender Document Closing and Opening date and time
1	1005323	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Split type Air-Conditioner Machine at Janata Bank PLC, Local Office, 1, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.	04.08.2024 17:00	28.08.2024 14:00	28.08.2024 15:00
2	1005324	Construction of Partition wall (Glass and board Partition) and door at different location of Janata Bank PLC, Local office, Dhaka (Re-tender).	04.08.2024 17:00	28.08.2024 14:00	28.08.2024 15:00

This is an Online Tender. Where only e-Tender will be accepted in national e-GP portal and no official hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, Registration in the national e-GP system Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fee for downloading the e-tender document from national e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP Help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Manzurul Alam
Deputy General Manager

Planning and Development Division
Khulna University, Khulna

Tender No : KU/PD-189/2017- Date : 06/08/2024

e-Tender Notice No. 01/2024-2025

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of the Work	Online Tender Closing and Opening date
1005997	KU/PD-382/2024	Procurement and Installation of 60 pcs Brand Computers for Khulna University	27-Aug-2024 11:15:00
1006277	KU/PD-386/2024	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for IISSE of Khulna University (Lot-02)	27-Aug-2024 12:00:00
1005572	KU/PD-383/2024	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for SWE Discipline of Khulna University	28-Aug-2024 11:30:00
1005586	KU/PD-384/2024	Procurement and Installation of Scientific Equipment for IISSE of Khulna University (Lot-01)	28-Aug-2024 11:00:00
1006300	KU/PD-385/2024	Procurement and Installation of Medical Equipment for Shahid Buddhi Jibi Dr. Alim Chowdhury Chikitsa Kendra (Medical Center) of Khulna University	27-Aug-2024 14:30:00

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Signed
(Md. Khairul Bashar)
Director (Current Charge)
Planning and Development Division
Khulna University, Khulna

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