



BANGLADESH

**NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC REPORT
FOR THE 9TH NIOHC MEETING**

SEYCHELLES

25TH – 26TH FEBRUARY 2009

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1. **HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE.** BN Hydrographic Department (BNHD) is the National Hydrographic Authority of Bangladesh. It works under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Defense. BNHD is responsible for the survey of sea area and BIWTA (Bangladesh Inland Water and Transport Authority) is responsible for the survey of inland waters ways. The capacity of BNHD was enhanced with the promulgation of two consecutive project of French Govt in the year of 1996 & 2001. BN Hydrographic department has around 27 officers and 200 sailors. Besides there are numbers of civilian staffs working in BNHOC (Bangladesh Navy Hydrographic & Oceanographic Centre). BNHOC is the National Hydrographic Office of Bangladesh which deals with the quality control of data and production of nautical charts. It is the hub of all national hydrographic activities in the country. At Present BNHD consists of following units:

- a. Director of Hydrography at Naval Headquarters.
- b. BN Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre (BNHOC) at Chittagong Naval base. It is the hub of hydrographic data handling and production of navigational charts and publications.
- c. BN Hydrographic School at Chittagong Naval Base where Cat-B course for officers and all type of course for sailors are conducted.
- d. Two offshore hydrographic vessel and one small hydrographic coastal vessel.

2. **SURVEYS**

a. **Coverage of New Surveys**

- (1) Coastal belt area. Down Donamanik Island (1:25,000), East of Tiger Point (1:25,000)
- (2) Coast Lining. Sangu river mouth area.
- (3) Offshore area. West of St Martin Is. (1:25,000)
- (4) Check Survey. North Patch Area (1:25,000)

b. **Survey in Foreign Water.** A joint survey team is formed to conduct Hydrographic Survey in Seychelles. One survey recorder of Bangladesh is participated in that joint survey of Seychelles.

c. **New technologies or Equipment:**

- (1) Multibeam Echo Sounder (EM30002D). Procurement contract has been made with Kongsberg. Installation process is in progress.
- (2) Side Scan Sonar. Procurement process is in final stage.

d. **New Ships:** Procurement process of a purpose built Hydrographic ship for BNHD is ongoing. Any donor in this regard will be highly appreciated.

e. **Problem Encountered:** Difficulties faced during procurement of effective and worthy hydrographic instruments (fulfilling IHO specification) and while preparing the specification of purpose built hydrographic ship.

3. **NEW CHARTS & UPDATES:**

a. **New Charts.** (i) Chittagong Harbour (ii) Approaches to Chittagong INT 7428 (**Paper Chart**)

b. **Update.** **BN chart 3510 (Scale 1: 35,000):** Monkey Point to Mongla (Pussur River) and **BN Chart 3501(Scale 1: 35,000):** St. Martin's Island and Adjoining Area.

c. **ENCs:** All out efforts have been taken to produce **ENC of INT 7428.** Remarkable standard could not be achieved.

d. **RNCs:** Nil.

e. **INT Chart Printing:** At present only INT 7428 of INT Chart scheme is printed locally. However, for world wide circulation of INT Chart scheme related to Bangladesh water a contact will be signed soon with UKHO for printing and distribution.

d. **Problems Encountered:** Bangladesh Navy Hydrographic Department has no experience in ENC production. Limited knowledge of CARIS HOM ENC software was applied to produce ENC of INT 7428 which is not sufficient to meet IHO requirements (SP-65) of ENC charting scheme.

4. **NEW PUBLICATIONS & UPDATES**

a. **Updates**

(1) Local BN Tide table-2009.

(2) Notices to Mariners are issued regularly.

c. **Problems Encountered.** Nil.

5. **MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION (MSI)**

- a. **Existing infrastructure for transmission.** DG Shipping and POMMD have already introduced a MSI to all sea going vessel including warships.
- b. **GMDSS.** DG Shipping, POMMD, both the ports (Chittagong and Mongla Port) have taken step to procure the GMDSS equipment as per master plan.
- c. **Problems Encountered.** Nil.

6. **CAPACITY BUILDING:**

- a. **ENC.** A complete ENC production training package is badly needed for the up gradation of BNHD capabilities.
- b. **Cat-A Course.** Duly needed.

7. **OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES.** A seismic survey was conducted by MV OSPREY with the assistance of College de French to find out the sedimentary profile of Bengal Fan. The processed data will be used for our Extended Continental Shelf claim.

8. **Conduct of Hydrographic Course.** Sailor's hydrographic course, SR-III & SR-II, was conducted in BN Hydrographic School at Chittagong. Where 02 in numbers civilian Hydrographers of Chittagong Port Authority participated in this course. Cat-B course for officers of Bangladesh Navy and Port Authorities will start from 08 February 2009 under the arrangement of Hydrographic School, Chittagong.

9. **CONCLUSION.** With the assistance of friendly countries, Bangladesh Hydrographic Department is progressing well. Assistance of following countries/organizations in this regard is highly appreciated:

- a. UKHO for providing Cat-A and cartographic course.
- b. Nippon Foundation (USA) for Multibeam Bathymetric Data Processing and analysis course.
- c. IOC for Multibeam and GIS Inundation Mapping courses in Germany; Multibeam and DEM Inundation Mapping in India.
- d. Long Hydrographic Course (Cat-A) in India.

It is expected that confidence building efforts in the field of Hydrography will continue further. In addition a complete ENC production training is extremely essential for BNHD to fulfill the aim of worldwide ENC production program of IHO.