

**BANGLADESH**  
**NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC REPORT**  
**FOR THE 12<sup>TH</sup> NIOHC MEETING**



**COLOMBO, SRI LANKA**  
**20-23 MARCH 2012**

## **CONTENTS**

1. Hydrographic Office
2. Surveys
3. New Charts & Updates
4. New Publications & Updates
5. Maritime Safety Information (MSI)
6. Capacity Building
7. Oceanographic Activities
8. Conduct of Hydrographic Course
9. Conclusion
10. Recommendation

1. **Hydrographic Office.** As per the allocation of business of the government of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Navy (BN) is responsible for all the hydrographic surveying activities at sea. Bangladesh Inland Water and Transport Authority (BIWTA) conducts the hydrographic survey for inland waters. All the hydrographic activities of BN are administrated from the Directorate of Hydrography at Naval Headquarters. Bangladesh Navy Hydrographic Department (BNHD) consists of following units:

- a. BN Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre (BNHOC) at Chittagong.
- b. Three offshore hydrographic survey ships, two small coastal hydrographic vessels and two survey motor boats.
- c. BN Hydrographic School at Chittagong.

2. **Surveys.**

a. **Coverage of New Surveys.** New surveys are being carried out in the coastal area to update charts INT 7425, INT 7426, INT 7428 and BN 7501, 7503, 7505, 3505, 3506, 3507, 3523, 3524, 3526, 3527, 3528.

b. **New Technologies or Equipment.** BNHD has included one Sub-Bottom profiler, one Multi-Beam Echo Sounder (MBES), 04 Current Profilers, 04 Sound Velocity Meters, 04 Auto Tide Gauges etc in her inventory in 2011. This year few more hydrographic and oceanographic equipment are expected to be purchased.

c. **New Ship.** Nil.

d. **Problems Encountered.** MBES is a new technology for BN. BNHD has inducted the equipment recently in her inventory. Still, BN could not develop enough skilled manpower to operate the equipment. So, problems are being encountered while operating the equipment and processing the data.

3. **New Charts & Updates:**

a. **ENCs.** The ENC cell of BNHD is not yet fully developed. BN is in the process of capacity building and software acquisition for ENC production. In this regard, we request the ENC producer nations to provide training and other support to Bangladesh.

b. **ENC Distribution Method.** Not Applicable.

c. **RNCs.** Nil.

d. **INT Charts.** BNHD has published all the three INT charts (INT 7425, 7426, 7428) for which BN is responsible. However, BN has proposed to

change the title and coverage of INT 7425. The matter was discussed several times in different NIOHC forums. During the last NIOHC meeting held at New Delhi, it was recommended that Bangladesh would send a formal proposal to the INT chart coordinator of NIOHC and the same was forwarded on 04 October 2011 from Bangladesh. Still, BN has not received any decision on that issue. Bangladesh would appreciate that Chairman NIOHC would give decision in this regard in this 12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting.

e. **National Paper Charts.**

(1) **Publication of New Charts.** Following new national paper charts were published during 2011-2012:

Ser	Chart No	Title
1.	7501	Hariabhangra River to Pussur River
2.	7505	Kuakata to Dhal Char
3.	7512	St. Martin's Island to Teknaf
4.	3521	Approaches to Rabnabad Channel
5.	3522	Approaches to Andarmanick River
6.	3525	Approaches to Bhangra River

(2) **Update.** Following charts have been updated during 2011-2012:

Ser	Chart No	Title
1.	3505	Approaches to Maishkhali Channel and Adjoining Area
2.	3527	Pussur River- Pavanga Shoal to Zafar Khal and Zafar Khal to Monkey point

f. **Problems Encountered.** Nil.

4. **New Publications & Updates.**

a. BN Catalogue of Charts and Publications (HP 001)

b. BN Tide table 2012 (HP 002)

c. **Problems Encountered.** Nil.

5. **Maritime Safety Information(MSI).** In Bangladesh Notices to Mariners are issued by Principal Officer of Mercantile Marine Department (POMMD) regularly. These notices are widely circulated among the national maritime agencies through different means. Written notice regarding MSI is also issued from Chittagong and Mongla port authorities.

6. **Capacity Building:**

a. **Training Received, Needed, Offered.**

(1) **Training Received.** Bangladesh highly appreciates the assistance of UKHO, IHO and NIPPON foundation for providing different training supports on hydrography and cartography. Following training assistance were received in 2011-2012:

Ser	Name of the Course	Organization/Country
1.	Port and Shallow Water Hydrographic Survey Work Shop	SAIHC
2.	Multi Beam Sonar Training Course	Australia
3.	Hydrographic data Processing and Marine Cartography including Specialism in Electronic Navigational Chart	UKHO
4.	Cat A Hydrographic Course	UKHO

(2) **Training Needed.** Bangladesh needs following courses/ training supports:

- (a) Cat A Hydrography course.
- (b) Cat B Cartography course.
- (c) Practical Training on MBES.
- (d) Courses on ENC production.
- (e) Courses on oceanography.

National Institute of Hydrography (NIH), India is considered as the regional training center for Hydrography. So, India may assist Bangladesh in this regard.

(3) **Training Offered.** BN has planned to conduct one Cat B Hydrography course at BN Hydrographic School from 08 April 2012 which has been offered to different Member States of IHO.

b. **Status of National, Bilateral, Multilateral or Regional Development.**

BN and UKHO have got a MOU regarding the production and distribution of nautical charts.

7. **Oceanographic Activities.** Nil

8. **Conduct of Hydrographic Course.** Last year following courses were conducted in BN hydrographic School:

- a. Cat B Hydrographic Course
- b. Survey Recorder I

- c. Survey Recorder II
- d. Survey Recorder III
- e. BRCC SD, (X), (Hydro)

9. **Conclusion.** Bangladesh recognizes the importance of Hydrography in promoting the regional cooperation as well as the prosperity of the nation. In spite of many constrains, BN is relentlessly working to provide updated nautical charts and other related information to the mariners. BN is putting her maximum efforts to develop her hydrographic surveying capabilities. Every year BN is trying to annex new equipment and technologies. However, BN still needs the assistance of friendly nations to develop human resources in this sector.

10. **Recommendations.** Following recommendations are made in respect of Bangladesh:

- a. The proposed title and coverage of INT 7425 may be approved in the forthcoming 12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting.
- b. Effective capacity building program may be undertaken within the umbrella of NIOHC to enhance the capability of Member States.
- c. India may provide Cat 'A' Hydrographic courses to Bangladesh as NIH, Goa is the regional training center for hydrography.
- d. ENC producing nations may support Bangladesh in producing her own ENC.