



NATIONAL REPORT OF BANGLADESH

**15TH NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (NIOHC) CONFERENCE**

**Muscat, Oman
15-18 March 2015**

National Report of Bangladesh February 2015

1. Hydrographic Office/ Services

1.1. Bangladesh Navy (BN) is the focal point/ agency for the hydrographic activities of the country. Bangladesh Navy Hydrographic Department (BNHD) is headed by Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Operation) who is a two star Admiral. He is also the chairman of National Hydrographic Committee (NHC) of the country. Bangladesh Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center (BNHOC) at Chittagong is the pivotal point for Hydrography data management and production of charts and publication. Directorate of Hydrography in Naval Headquarters' functions as a co-ordinator among BNHOC, BN Hydrographic ships and other internal/external stake holders to accomplish the hydrographic missions. The directorate can be contacted through under mentioned address:

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BN Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre at Chittagong

1.2. Government of Bangladesh recently agreed in principle to appoint a Chief Hydrographer and to establish a full fledged organogram of Chief Hydrographer. It is expected that, very recently the office of the Chief Hydrographer will be acting as the governing and co-ordinating organ for hydrographic and oceanographic activities of the country.

2. **Surveys**

2.1. BN survey fleet carryout survey operations every year according to the annual survey programme. Directorate of hydrography promulgate annual survey programme considering the military and national requirements. Due to our unstable coastal area, BNHD has to continue regular updating of national and INT series charts to ensure safe navigation. In the survey season 2013-14 BN survey units were tasked to update one INT and ten national series charts. In addition a harbour survey was conducted in newly inaugurated Payra Port area.



Ships under BN Survey Fleet

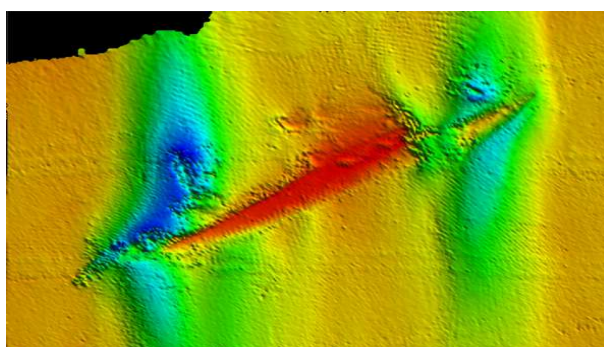
2.2. The old DGPS reference station has been replaced by a new one in Patenga, Chittagong area to improve the positional accuracy of our charts. Besides, last year BN procured good number of auto tide gauge for better perdition of tidal phenomenon. Presently we are confident in using SBES, SV profiler, Sub bottom profiler, total station, electronic theodolite etc. We use software like HYPACK, CARIS GIS, CARIS HIPS & SIPS etc for data acquisition and processing.



BN Survey Activities

2.3. Last year BN did not purchase any new survey ship/boat. But steps have been taken to build two new survey boats in upcoming year.

2.4. BNHD has been using MBES since 2010. But in this year for the first time we are going to incorporate the MBES data in our charts.



Wreck Detected by MBES

3. New Charts and Updates

3.1. Last year BNHD published 11 new edition charts. List of our new charts and new edition charts in the year 2014 is appended below:

Ser	Chart No	Title	Remarks
1.	3501	St. Martin's Island & adjoining area	New Eddition
2.	3503	South of Elephant Point- Monakhali to Inani	New Eddition
3.	3504	Elephant Point & Adjoining Area	New Eddition
4.	3526	Approaches to Pussur River	New Eddition
5.	3001	Chittagong Harbour	New Eddition
6.	7510	Approaches to Chittagong	New Eddition

Ser	Chart No	Title	Remarks
7.	3523	Approaches to Haringhata River	New Eddition
8.	3524	Supati to Buriswar River	New Eddition
9.	1251	Karnaphuli River Patenga Point to Shahamanat Bridge	New Eddition
10.	7503	Bhangra River to Buriswar River	New Eddition
11.	7513	Approaches to Hiran Point	New Eddition

3.2 Recently the Govt of Bangladesh has planned for different coastal projects, like new Sea Port along Rabnabad Channel, power plant project around Sonadia Island etc. As such national Chart scheme needs to be reviewed. In this connection a proposal is given to re-allocat few more INT Chart numbers for BD to publish relevant new INT Charts.

4. **New Publication & Updates**

4.1. In the year 2014 new publication and updates of our publication is given below:

S No	Publication No	Name of Publication	Remarks
1.	H 001	Catalogue of Bangladesh Navy Charts and Publications	Updated
2.	H 002	Bangladesh Navy Tide Tables-2015	New
3.	H 003	BN Paper Chart Maintenance Record	New

4.2. Presently all publication's are available in paper format only. We are also planning to make digital copy of our publication in forthcoming year.

5. **Maritime Safety Information (MSI)**

5.1. Department of Shipping (DG Shipping) is the focal point for maritime safety information in Bangladesh water. They issue Notices to Mariner's (NTM) regularly. These NTM are circulated by both paper and digital means. Radio Navigational Warnings are also transmitted twice daily. Beside this,

BNHOC, Chittagong and Mongla Port Authority also issue notices locally. Bangladesh Navy and Bangladesh Coast Guard maintain constant surveillance in our water to meet any maritime hazards at sea.

6. **C-55**

6.1. BNHD updated C-55 on last march 2014. An updated information table also attached with this report.

7. **Capacity Building**

7.1. The recognition of Basic Hydrographic Course (Cat 'B') for BN Hydrographic School by IBSC was renewed last year up to 2020. interested member states may send their officers to undergo Cat 'B' course in Bangladesh. BN also provide training to the personnel from other survey agencies of the country in her training programme. Till today BN Hydrographic school trained 10 Nigerian Officers in Cat 'B' hydro course. Besides, BN Hydrographic School conduct following professional courses to improve manpower skill of BNHD:

S No	Name of Course	Duration
1.	Survey Recorder I (For Petty Officer)	25 Weeks
2.	Survey Recorder II (For Leading Seaman)	23 Weeks
3.	Survey Recorder III (For Able Seaman)	23 Weeks
4.	BRCC SD, (X), (Hydro)	8 Weeks
5.	Cartography (For all ranks)	12 Weeks

7.2. Last year BNHD received number of offers to train BD personnel under IHO capacity building project. Following table shows the status of training received by CB project and other bilateral agreements between BN and other international hydrographic organization:

S No	Participation in Training / Course	Duration	Participant	Remarks
1.	Hydrography For Charting and Disaster Management (Cat B)	20 Weeks	01	JAPAN
2.	HM Advanced Survey Course (Cat A)	20 Weeks	01	UK
3.	Long Hydrography Course (Cat A)	42 Weeks	01	INDIA
4.	Basic Hydrography Course (Cat B)	22 Weeks	01	INDIA
5.	MSc in Hydrography under University of Southern Mississippi (Cat –A)	01 Year	01	USA
6.	Operations of Sea Level Station	07 Days	01	THAILAND
7.	Survey Recorder Basic Course	17 Week	01	INDIA
8.	Survey Recorder Advance Course	17 Week	01	INDIA
9.	CARIS GIS/GIS Pro to Paper Chart Composer & ENC	03 Week	10	BANGLA DESH
10.	MSI Course	03 Days	01	Qatar

7.3. On successful completion of training received under CB project, all our personnel employed in different hydrographic units to implement their theoretical knowledge in practical field.

8. Oceanographic Activities

8.1. After the settlement of our maritime boundary, the nation has given special emphasis on oceanographic survey activities. BN is planning to acquire a dedicated Oceanographic Research Vessel soon in co-ordination with other stake holders of the country. BN Officers are also undergoing higher study on Oceanography in various institutions of Bangladesh.

9. Other Activities

9.1. Celebration of World Hydrographic Day. BNHD celebrated “World Hydrography Day” on 21st June 2014 like every year. A seminar was arranged focussing the theme of the day – “Hydrography, Much more than just national charts”. High officials from different stake holders of the country presented their views in the seminar. Expanding working arena of

hydrography beyond traditional nautical charting was discussed in the seminar. Besides the seminar, a hardware display was also arranged and various hydrographic were displayed. Participants got knowledge on how hydrographic activities transformed from manual era to digital era. The occasion was well covered by the local media.



Celebration of World Hydrography Day

10. **Conclusion**

10.1. As a maritime nation, Bangladesh is fully aware of the importance of hydrography. Thereby, BNHD has been active to promote regional co-operation in the field of hydrography. We want to contribute in our national economy with the optimum utilizations of our sea resources. Thereby, we are constantly trying to improve our hydrographic capacity. We expect that regional countries and organizations in this part of the world will co-operate each other to make our water safe for navigation and free from environmental degradation. Besides, we are also ready to share our expertise and experience with other member states for mutual benefit. We are confident to make our hydrographic department resourceful and skilful with your support and co-operation.