

MARINE SAFETY NEWS

SPONSORED BY



UK P&I CLUB

Calcium Hypochlorite (CH) is an oxidising agent, unstable and self reactive, designated Class 5.1 in the IMDG Code. Special Provision 314 of the IMDG Code applies to CH and states: These substances are liable to exothermic decomposition at elevated temperatures. Decomposition can be initiated by heat or by impurities (e.g. powdered metals *iron, manganese, cobalt, magnesium* and their compounds). When involved in a fire the CH decomposes without burning to release oxygen which will intensify the fire. Also, if CH is mixed with organic materials, such as sawdust or oil, it can result in a fire without the need for an external ignition source.

INMARSAT

CALL FAMILY & FRIENDS FOR LONGER

Inmarsat has reduced their pre-paid call prices, so you can now afford to talk more with your loved ones. These great new rates are available any time of day, 365 days a year, giving you the freedom to call home for longer.

For more on Inmarsat's low-cost calling options, visit inmarsat.com/crew

INFOTAINMENT DVD 46

● Learn about the latest 'Save Our Seafarers' campaign launched to tackle the menace of piracy. Interviews of leading maritime personalities are also available in DVD 46 as they speak at great length about the subject.

● Take a sneak peek into the 2011-2012 NBA Season in the Sports section of DVD 46. Also read about ways to cure sports injuries and learn about world's best ice-skating destinations.

● Don't be the odd one out. Learn new languages now available on DVD 46. Also go through the Language Tips Section to brush up on your English grammar. Our sample papers give you the opportunity to test your English-language skills.

● Tickle your funny bone with some tongue-in-cheek jokes and humorous signs now available on DVD 46.

● Make your loved ones feel special back home. Take advantage of our new flowers and gifts service provided exclusively to seafarers by Newslink Services and world-leading gift supplier Ferns and Petals. Contact us at gifts@newslinkservices.com or visit our website www.newslinkservices.com for more details.

Cabinet Approves SAARC Disaster Response Agreement

DHAKA: The Cabinet on Monday approved a proposal for signing South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) agreement on rapid response to natural disasters, aimed at creating a common ground for member states to combat calamities.

The approval was given at the regular meeting of the Cabinet held in Dhaka with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair, Abul Kalam Azad, press secretary to the PM, told journalists.

He said the SAARC agreement on rapid response to natural disasters, if signed, will help its member states better support each other in the event of any calamity.

Azad added that most of the SAARC countries

including Bangladesh incur huge losses due to frequent natural disasters as they are in a disaster-prone region.

The idea of establishing a mechanism for rapid response to natural disasters had reportedly been voiced at the 15th SAARC summit held in Sri Lanka in 2008.

The agreement is likely to be signed at the upcoming 17th summit of the regional body of eight South Asian nations, home to about 1.4 billion people, to be held in the Maldives from November 10-11. SAARC, established in 1985, includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka. (Xinhua)

Opposition In 3,000-Car Protest Rally

DHAKA: The main opposition launched a protest campaign on Monday in which 3,000 cars will drive en masse around the country to demand that the government resigns.

Opposition leader Khaleda Zia addressed supporters outside Dhaka at the first in a series of planned rallies, before the caravan set off towards the northeastern city of Sylhet, 200km away.

"She spoke at the rally briefly and then led a caravan of about 3,000 cars carrying 15,000 opposition supporters to Sylhet," Rugganj police chief Mojibur Rahman told AFP by phone.

Zia, the leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), is set to make a speech in Sylhet on Tuesday and then at other cities where the rally is heading over the next three weeks.

At Rugganj, Zia blamed the incumbent Awami League government for soaring food prices and rampant corruption, and reiterated her long-standing demand that elections should be held under a neutral caretaker administration.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina scrapped the caretaker system in June, saying it could be used to facilitate a military takeover. Bangladesh has a history of political instability and the BNP and its allies have recently held a series of strikes in a new wave of unrest. The next national election is due to be held by early 2014. (AFP)

PM, CM Secretly Gave Away Assam Land To B'desh: ULFA

GUWAHATI: ULFA anti-talk faction on Monday accused Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi of secretly giving away Assam's land to Bangladesh in the recent land swap agreement.

"Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi and non-genuine resident of Assam, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh happily gave away Assam's land to Bangladesh without informing the indigenous people of the state ... By secretly giving away Assam's land Gogoi and Singh have tarnished our history", alleged the Padesh Barua-headed ULFA wing's publicity chief Arunudoy Dehotia.

He said in an e-mail to the media in Guwahati that the indigenous people did not want to know how much land Assam received from Bangladesh.

Continuing his tirade, Dehotia claimed that a few 'power hungry' people had made Assam a 'sacrificial lamb' and dubbed those who protest such moves as ISI agents or Maoists and demanded that the government give proof of it.

"Else Gogoi also as the home minister must apologise to the people of the state," he said.

Accusing ruling Congress of being puppets in the hands of promoters of big dams, Dehotia said Gogoi and his ministers have launched a false propaganda that those agitating for halting the construction of big dam projects are ULFA or Maoists. "ULFA always supports any organisation that works for the interest of Assam", he added. (PTI)

BNP Should Join Parliament: Suranjit

DHAKA: Member of Advisory Council of the Awami League, Suranjit Sengupta, has said that if the main opposition BNP has any specific proposal on any issue, then it should join Parliament. He made the statement during a discussion on "There is no alternative to discussion to reach consensus on a free and fair election".

He added: "The countrymen had cast their votes in favour of BNP lawmakers to speak in Parliament. You should respect people's mandate."

The discussion was organised by Janater Patyasha at Photo Journalist Association auditorium in the city on Monday and was addressed by AL organising Secretary Ahmed Hossain, organising Secretary of Dhaka city unit Shahe Alam Murad and Assistant Attorney General Nurjahan Begum Mukta, among others.

Suranjit said that through discussion any problem could be solved and that the BNP is destroying the democracy by not joining Parliament.

Govt Extends Term Of NBR Chief

DHAKA: The term of the chairman of the National Board of Revenue, Nasiruddin Ahmed, has been extended for one more year, NBR public relations officer Sayed MA Mumen said on Monday. Nasiruddin, who was supposed to retire on October 29, 2011, will now retire on October 28, 2012. Earlier, his tenure was extended for two years.

REGIONAL NEWS

Court Bans Cameras In Beauty Salons

DHAKA: A local court has ordered all beauty parlours to remove security cameras from their premises after a top salon was caught filming when a woman was changing her clothes, a state prosecutor said.

The scandal at a Persona salon caused outcry in the country and police interviewed company owner Kaniz Almas Khan, a woman who runs a chain of successful beauty parlours in Bangladesh and Thailand.

Khan said close circuit camera televisions are stationed in all Persona rooms for security reasons, but a female doctor last week complained to police that she was filmed by a hidden camera in a dressing room.

Local police have since seized the camera and the recording to investigate the matter.

Following an outpouring of anger in local papers and online, the High Court "ordered all the country's beauty parlours to remove cameras from all their service rooms," Assistant Attorney General Samarendra Nath Biswas said.

MARINE NEWS SUMMARY

CONTAINER VESSELS: NEXT-GENERATION WILL BE LARGEST EVER

If the need is for greater efficiency for road and rail freight during an economic slowdown, standard operating procedures might be to downgrade to smaller and lighter means of overland transport. Shipping lines, however, have a different approach: they build bigger ships. The reason, they say, is better economies of scale, costing them less to send a string of three or four huge new ships across the oceans instead of a larger fleet of smaller vessels. These bigger and newer ships will also have more efficient engines and lower emissions, which also means lower fuel costs, as the company hopes an everlasting impression on its customers. One shipping giant is reportedly spending USD 1.9 billion on 10 new ships, each of which will carry 18,000 TEUs. The new Ultra Large Container Ships (ULCS) will be more than 1,312 feet long and more than 193 feet wide, and will outdo cargo capacity of the world's largest container vessel currently afloat, by 16%. The company's chief executive said that building ULCSs was not only a top priority for the firm but also for its customers, who are heavily dependent upon this in their supply chain. Five years ago, the world's largest container ship had a TEU capacity of 9,500. According to a Paris-based maritime research firm, the container carriers' answer to challenges of sustainable shipping and reduction of emissions is to build ever-larger ships, whose sizes have doubled over a decade.

The court also asked the government to formulate a policy on the use of CCTV in sensitive places such as beauty parlours, he said. Khan, who is a respected businesswoman, made headlines in 2009 when she organised beauty and personal grooming lessons for new police recruits. (PTI)

Saudi Embassy Issues Hajj Visas To 58,000 Bangladeshis

DHAKA: The Saudi embassy issued Hajj visas to 58,000 Bangladeshis, Ambassador Abdullah N Al Bussairy said at a news conference on Monday. More than 100,000 Bangladeshi had requested for Hajj visas and so far around 30,000 pilgrims reached Saudi Arabia for performing Hajj, Bussairy added.

The Saudi Arabian authorities have made all arrangements so that the pilgrims can smoothly perform Hajj, he further said.

When asked whether the Jeddah immigration authorities took several hours to issue the clearance for several hundred Bangladeshi Hajj pilgrims on September 29 as Bangladesh authorities failed to inform them that Saudi airlines NAS would carry 24,000 Bangladeshis, the envoy said that he was unaware of the incident.

Besides Biman Bangladesh Airlines and Saudi Arabian Airlines, this year Dhaka has allowed 14 airlines to carry 1,07,343 Bangladeshi pilgrims to Saudi Arabia and bring them back at a charge of USD 1465 per person.

Bangladeshi Book Fair Will Begin On Oct 12

KOLKATA: A five-day Bangladesh book fair will kick off on October 12 in Kolkata at Gagenendranath Art Pradharshala in Nandan area. The fair is being organised by Bangladesh Jan and Srijansil Prakashani Samity, and Raptani Unnayan Bureau in co-operation with the Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Kolkata.

Around 30 publishers are expected to join the fair, which is set to be inaugurated by West Bengal higher education minister on Wednesday, organisers said. They added that a seminar will also be organised, which will be attended by intellectuals, philosophers and educationists.

2 Bangladeshi Nationals Arrested

AGARTALA: Two Bangladeshi nationals were arrested from a park at Khowai in West Tripura district on Monday on charges of illegally entering Tripura, police said. They were identified as Dulal Miah (20) and Riazudeing (21) of Chunarughat and Basantapur villages of Haboganj district in Bangladesh.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided Subhash park and arrested the Bangladeshi nationals and recovered Tk 14000 Bangladeshi and two sharp knives. (PTI)

Markets

Top Gainers (Read the following data in order of **Trading Code, Close Price, High, Low, Yesterday's Closing Price and %Change**): **5THICB**, 1695.25, 1748.0, 1575.0, 1662.75, 1.9546; **ACIZCBOND**, 815.0, 818.5, 802.0, 813.0, 0.246; **4THICB** 2402.5, 2440.0, 2285.0, 2398.0, 0.1877; **BATASHOE**, 608.1, 615.0, 605.0, 607.5, 0.0988.

Top10 Losers (read the following data in order of **Trading Code, Close Price, High, Low, Yesterday's Closing Price** and **%Change**): **PREMIERLEA**, 330.25, 370.0, 325.0, 608.25, -45.7049; **GRAMEEN1**, 54.1, 60.0, 53.7, 59.6, -9.2282; **GREENDEL**, 155.3, 168.9, 153.6, 170.6, -8.9683; **TRUSTBANK**, 373.25, 397.0, 372.0, 406.0, -8.0665; **SALVOCHEM**, 40.6, 44.2, 40.2, 44.1, -7.9365; **RAHIMAFOD**, 431.5, 466.5, 430.75, 468.25, -7.8484; **SAFKOSPINN**, 426.5, 463.5, 425.25, 462.5, -7.7838; **MEGCONMILK**, 35.9, 39.9, 35.2, 38.9, -7.7121; **FAREASTLIF**, 170.9, 185.0, 170.3, 185.1, -7.6715; **MEGHNAPE**, 14.7, 14.7, 15.9, -7.5472.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India Probes 2nd Ex-Minister Over Corruption Claims

NEW DELHI: Indian police said on Monday they are formally investigating a second former telecoms minister over a hugely damaging scandal that has cost the country up to USD 39 billion and embarrassed the government.

One ex-telecoms minister is already in custody and a police spokeswoman said cases of corruption and conspiracy were registered against his predecessor, Dayanidhi Maran, and Maran's elder brother, the media baron Kalanithi Maran.

Police raids of premises belonging to the Marans were "conducted at Delhi and Chennai", Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) spokeswoman Dharini Mishra said in New Delhi.

The CBI also registered cases against Malaysian tycoon Ananda Krishnan, owner of the Malaysia-based Maxis group, among others.

Under Indian law, the registering of cases, known as a First Information Report (FIR), means that police will now investigate to see whether there is enough evidence to lay formal charges.

The CBI announcement is a fresh headache for Premier Manmohan Singh's government, which has been badly shaken by the alleged telecom licensing scam in 2008 that the national auditor said may have cost the country up to USD 39 billion in lost revenue. (AFP)

Myanmar To Free Thousands Of Prisoners: Media

YANGON: Myanmar will grant an amnesty to more than 6,300 prisoners, state media announced on Tuesday, without saying whether political detainees would be included.

The news came just hours after a government-appointed human rights panel called for a pardon for the country's "prisoners of conscience", who are estimated by rights groups to number about 2,000.

The National Human Rights Commission said freeing prisoners "who do not pose a threat to the stability of state" would allow them to participate in "nation-building", according to an official English-language newspaper.

According to state television, 6,359 prisoners will receive an amnesty starting from Wednesday.

On Monday a government official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told AFP that political prisoners were expected to be released within days.

The release of the country's estimated 2,000 political detainees, who include pro-democracy campaigners, journalists and lawyers, has long been a top demand of Western nations that have imposed sanctions on Myanmar. (AFP)

'Systematic' Torture In Afghan Custody: UN

KABUL: The UN says torture is practised systematically in some Afghan intelligence detention centres and that children are among those who have suffered, according to a report published on Monday.

Ill-treatment and lack of respect for due process have long helped foster mistrust in the government and fuelled the 10-year Taliban insurgency, with torture a crime under Afghan and international law, it said.

The UN mission in Afghanistan said it had "compelling evidence" that Afghan intelligence officials at five centres "systematically tortured detainees for the purpose of obtaining confessions and information."

There were credible allegations of torture at two other National Directorate of Security (NDS) centres, it added.

The UN noted that the use of torture was not NDS or government policy, and welcomed being given full access to detainees. In an annex to the report, the intelligence service said: "Torture methods such as electric shock, threat of rape, twisting of sexual organs etc. are methods that are absolutely non-existent in the NDS." (AFP)

Libya Forces Drive To Centre Of Gaddafi Hometown

SIRTE: Libya's new regime forces were battling block by block towards the centre of Sirte, eyeing the symbolic prize of finally capturing Muammar Gaddafi's hometown after a month-long siege.

On the diplomatic front, Libya's ruling National Transitional Council said it recognises the Syrian National Council grouping opponents of President Bashar al-Assad, becoming the first government, albeit an interim one, to do so. But Gaddafi diehards were putting up fierce resistance and in their other remaining bastion, Bani Walid, they mounted a fightback, killing 17 NTC fighters.

FINANCIAL NEWS

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

USD 1 = 75.5 BDT

GBP 1 = 117.9899 BDT

EUR 1 = 102.9631 BDT

PETROLEUM

Brent Spot: 107.88 per barrel

The interim ruling NTC has been waiting for Sirte's full capture to declare the liberation of the whole of Libya, clearing the way to draw up a timetable for elections.

A column of NTC troops thrust towards central Sirte from positions east along the Mediterranean coast, coming under heavy rocket and small arms fire as they inched forward house by house. They advanced about a kilometre into the city centre from the south and east by the afternoon, backed by heavy shelling and tanks. (AFP)

Egypt Probes Deadly Sectarian Clashes

CAIRO - Egypt's military rulers ordered a speedy probe into clashes which killed 25 people, mostly Coptic Christians, as the cabinet held crisis talks and thousands attended the funerals of 17 victims.

The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) "tasked the government with quickly forming a fact finding committee to determine what happened," in a statement read on state television on Monday as world leaders urged restraint.

It called for "all measures against all those proven to have been involved, either directly or by incitement".

Both the ruling military council and the cabinet held crisis talks, a day after the clashes in Cairo left 25 dead, most of them Copts, and more than 300 people injured, according to health ministry figures.

The SCAF, which took power when president Hosni Mubarak was ousted in February, stressed it "continues to bear national responsibility to protect the people" until it hands over to an elected civilian authority. Thousands of people attended a service at the Copt cathedral for the funerals of 17 demonstrators. (AFP)

SPORTS NEWS

I Am Learning To Adapt To Changes: Mushfiq

DHAKA: After taking over the captaincy of the national team, Mushfiqur Rahim said on Monday that he is learning to adapt to new life. Earlier, Mushfiq used to avoid media persons before any match, but on Monday he had to talk to reporters ahead of Tuesday's Twenty20 match against West Indies at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

 WEATHER

Dhaka: 28-34c Mostly sunny
 Chittagong: 26-32c Hazy
 Narayanganj: 28-33c Sunny
 Rangpur: 23-33c Mist

Talking to reporters at Mirpur, Mushfiq said: "I am learning to adapt to the change. Actually anyone's success depends on how he adapts to the changes. I got myself mentally prepared and knew that I have to talk to the media before the game so there is no problem now."

He further said: "I will make debut as the national captain today (Tuesday) in international cricket and I am really proud for that. I know I have got a lot of responsibility."

Mushfiq expressed hope that the team will perform well in the series as it is better prepared than during the Zimbabwe series, where the national side lost both the Test and one-day series.

"We played a lot of matches and the batsmen are among the runs and the bowlers are also bowling quite well. If we can be consistent then I hope we will do good things from today," the captain added.

He further said if the team fails to do well on the pitch, then no one would give value to their hard work and preparation.

When asked what does he expect from his team-mates, he said if everyone succeeds in fulfilling his role, then there is a chance that they will perform well in the series.

"All we need is a good start and if that happens I am confident that we can go a long way. If we can give the bowlers a target of 250 to 269 runs then I feel we will always have a chance to defend that in the one-day series." Mushfiq added.

PCB Concerned About Ongoing Trial Of 3 Banned Players

KARACHI: The PCB seems to be concerned with the ongoing trial in London of the three banned Pakistani players - Salman Butt, Mohd Asif and Mohd Aamir - and their London based agent Mazhar Majeed, as murkier picture emerges about the involvement of more Pakistanis in the fixing racket.

After the testimony given by Mazhar Mehmood, the undercover reporter of the now defunct tabloid News of the World, to the court and jury on Monday, it emerged that other Pakistani players were also allegedly involved in the fixing rackets as mentioned by Majeed in his conversations with the reporter that were secretly taped as part of sting operation.

In his testimony and in the audio recordings heard by the judge and the jury on Monday, Majeed also claimed to have met with PCB Chairman Ijaz Butt in connection with the proposed Pakistan Premier League.

"If anything it just shows the extent to which Mazhar Majeed was involved with Pakistan cricket although he was only an agent for some of the players in the team," one former player said.

Reliable sources said that the PCB, which has sent its legal advisor Tafazzul Rizvi to attend the hearings, is worried that if the trial continues the judge and the jury might issue summons to other Pakistani players also to give testimony before the court.

"It is a dicey situation because the names of so many Pakistani players are being mentioned in the fixing racket by Mazhar Majeed in his taped conversations with the undercover reporter," a source said.

A legal expert in Lahore said that as things stand, the court could well issue summons to the players whose names have been taken by Majeed to appear in court and give testimony.

On Monday, it emerged that Majeed, in one of his conversations, had also taken the names of former greats like Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Ejaz Ahmed, Moin Khan, alleging that they were also at sometime involved in the fixing racket. (PTI)

Cricket Australia Denies Match-Fixing Claims

SYDNEY: Cricket Australia on Tuesday said it was not aware of any evidence implicating Australian players in match-fixing and slammed the credibility of the man who made the claims in a London court.

The details emerged as Mazher Mahmood, the former investigations editor for Rupert Murdoch's now-defunct News of the World tabloid, gave evidence at the trial of ex-Pakistan cricket captain Salman Butt and fast bowler Mohammad Asif.

In recordings played to Southwark Crown Court, an agent, Mazhar Majeed, alleged that Australians, as well as some of the biggest names in Pakistani cricket, were prepared to fix parts of matches.

"We were very surprised to hear the report this morning," said Cricket Australia (CA) General Manager of Public Affairs Peter Young.

"We are aware that some very outlandish claims have been made by a person of very dubious repute and they've apparently been replayed to the court," he added.

He said CA was conscious of respecting the judicial process and not saying anything that might compromise the trial, but denied ever seeing any proof of match-fixing by Australian players. (AFP)

Brett Lee Ruled Out Of S Africa Tour

SYDNEY: Australian fast bowler Brett Lee has been ruled out of the team's Twenty20 and one-day series against South Africa after being diagnosed with appendicitis. The speedster was due to have an operation in Cape Town overnight which will sideline him from all cricket for six to eight weeks, a statement from Cricket Australia said on Tuesday.

NEWSLINK is the market-leading daily news service providing 70+ titles for seafarers as part of Headland Media's Satnews portfolio.

Address: 15 Nafpliou St., 1st Floor, P.O. Box 3627, 3317 Limassol, Cyprus.

Tel: +357 25340360

Email: Info@NewsLinkServices.com

Copyright © 2011 NewsLink Services Ltd is a Headland Media company. All rights reserved. Information appearing in NewsLink must not be reproduced in any medium without licence nor re-transmitted to any other non-subscribing vessel or individual.

Disclaimer: Your Company's regulations & procedures take precedence over all information in NewsLink including Exchange Rates, Safety & Loss Prevention Messages.

"Brett complained of some abdominal pain after arriving in Cape Town on Sunday," team physiotherapist Alex Kountouris said in the statement.

"After consulting specialists and having the relevant investigations he has been diagnosed with appendicitis and will be having surgery in Cape Town. He will obviously be ruled out of the Twenty20 and ODI series in South Africa and is likely to return to cricket in six to eight weeks," he added.

Australia open their tour against the Proteas with a T20 in Cape Town on Thursday, followed by another in Johannesburg on Sunday. (AFP)

Rooney To Learn UEFA Suspension On Thursday

NYON: England striker Wayne Rooney will discover the length of his Euro 2012 suspension on Thursday, European football governing body UEFA said on Monday. The 25-year-old Manchester United player will definitely miss England's first game in the tournament after kicking Miodrag Dzulovic in the 2-2 draw with Montenegro.

The governing body's disciplinary panel could decide to increase the punishment to three matches, but England remain hopeful it will only be a one-game ban after referee Wolfgang Stark admitted Rooney's acceptance of his red card could work in his favour.

England Coach Fabio Capello has warned Rooney that he cannot expect to stroll back into the Euro 2012 reckoning after serving his suspension.

"Yes," replied Capello, when asked if he was prepared to leave Rooney out of his team. With qualification assured, Capello will use the November 12 friendly against world champions Spain to examine the striking options available to him. (AFP)