



13 bodies recovered from Meghna, Padma

Staff reporter

13 floating bodies of the victim passengers of Pinak-6 launch were recovered from the Meghna and Padma rivers in Chandpur, Bhola and Shariatpur districts on Wednesday.

Deputy Commissioner of Munshiganj Md Saiful Hasan told local correspondents that 13 bodies were recovered from different points of the Padma and Meghna rivers till Wednesday evening after the launch sank in the Padma River near Mawa Ghat in Lauhajang upazila on Monday with over 250 passengers on board.

However, the sunken launch could not be salvaged even after 55 hours of the accident due to strong currents in the mighty river.

Over a hundred passengers were rescued alive while over 120 others remained missing since the tragic incident.

Superintendent of police of Chandpur M Amir Zafar said locals recovered the bodies of three people from the Meghna on Wednesday.

Among them, one was identified as Jamal Hossain, hailing from Madaripur district.

In Bhola, the bodies of five launch capsized victims were recovered from separate points of the Meghna River.

Among them, the body of a college student, Faizul Karim Fahad, 23, son of Lutfar Rahman Akhand of Katalia in Jhalakati, was found floating in the Meghna in Sadar upazila in the morning.

Besides, the bodies of four unidentified people were recovered from separate places of the same river.

In Shariatpur, police recovered the bodies of two people from the Padma River.

The body of a woman was recovered from the Padma in Wapda area of Naria upazila around 10am, sources at the local administration said. The deceased was identified as Ima Akther, a student of Motijheel Ideal College.

Besides, the body of an unidentified man was recovered from Kachikata in the Padma River in Bhedarganj upazila.

Besides, the bodies of two other victims were recovered from the Padma River in Munshiganj district on Monday.

Munshiganj correspondent reports: the bodies of six launch capsized victims were handed over to their families till Wednesday.

Deputy Commissioner Md Saiful Hasan confirmed that so far 6 bodies have been handed over to their respective families.

The bodies of two women -- Hashi Begum, 50 and Nusrat Jahan Hira, 20--were handed over to their families on Tuesday.

Besides, the bodies of four people --Farhad,24, hailing from Kanthalia upazila of Jhalakati and recovered from Bhola, Mizanur Rahman,25, hailing from Madaripur and recovered from Shariatpur, Jannatul Maona Luck, hailing from Shariatpur and Rita Akther,25, recovered from Haimchar of Chandpur--were handed over to their families today.

Meanwhile, another salvage ship 'Kandari-2' having the capacity of locating underwater launch set out from Chittagong for the spot, the DC said.

Earlier, three rescue vessels -- 'Rustam' and 'Nirbhik' and 'Jarip-10' -- reached the spot but failed to locate the spot and salvage the launch till this afternoon due to strong currents in the turbulent river.

The accident took place when the overloaded launch with over 250 passengers on board from Kawrakandi capsized in the river 800 yards off Mawa Ghat (jetty) around 11:15 am Monday due to strong currents while it was heading towards the jetty.