



**Meeting of the Heads of Drug Enforcement Agencies  
of the Indian Ocean Region  
28 - 29 October 2016  
Colombo, Sri Lanka**

**Presented by  
Khandakar Rakibur Rahman  
Director General  
Department of Narcotics Control (DNC)  
Bangladesh**

# BANGLADESH AT A GLANCE

- Global Location- Longitude  $20^{\circ} 34'$  &  $26^{\circ} 38'$  Latitude-  $88^{\circ} 01'$  &  $92^{\circ} 41'$
- Official Name: **The People's Republic of Bangladesh**
- Geographic location in south Asian region, connects South Asia and South East Asia.
- Population: **160 Million**
- Density of Population: **1084 per Sq.Km**
- Total Area: **147570 Sq. Km**
- Rural - Urban Distribution of Population Ratio- 76.74%: 23.26%
- Per Capita Income: \$ 1314, GDP Growth: 6.51%
- Labour Force: 73.87 Million (Agriculture-30%, Industry-25%, Service-45%)



# Organizational Background

- Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) is the nodal agency to conduct drug related issues in Bangladesh.
- DNC had been established in 1990 with a view to :
  - reduce supply of illicit drugs,
  - reduce harm i.e treatment and rehabilitation of drug addict and
  - reduce demand of drugs i.e prevention and education against illegal drugs.
- It is under Ministry of Home Affairs (Interior Ministry )
- Bangladesh Police along with Rapid Action Batallion (RAB), Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), Bangladesh Coast Guard (BCG), Bangladesh Customs and Drug administration also work with drug related issues.

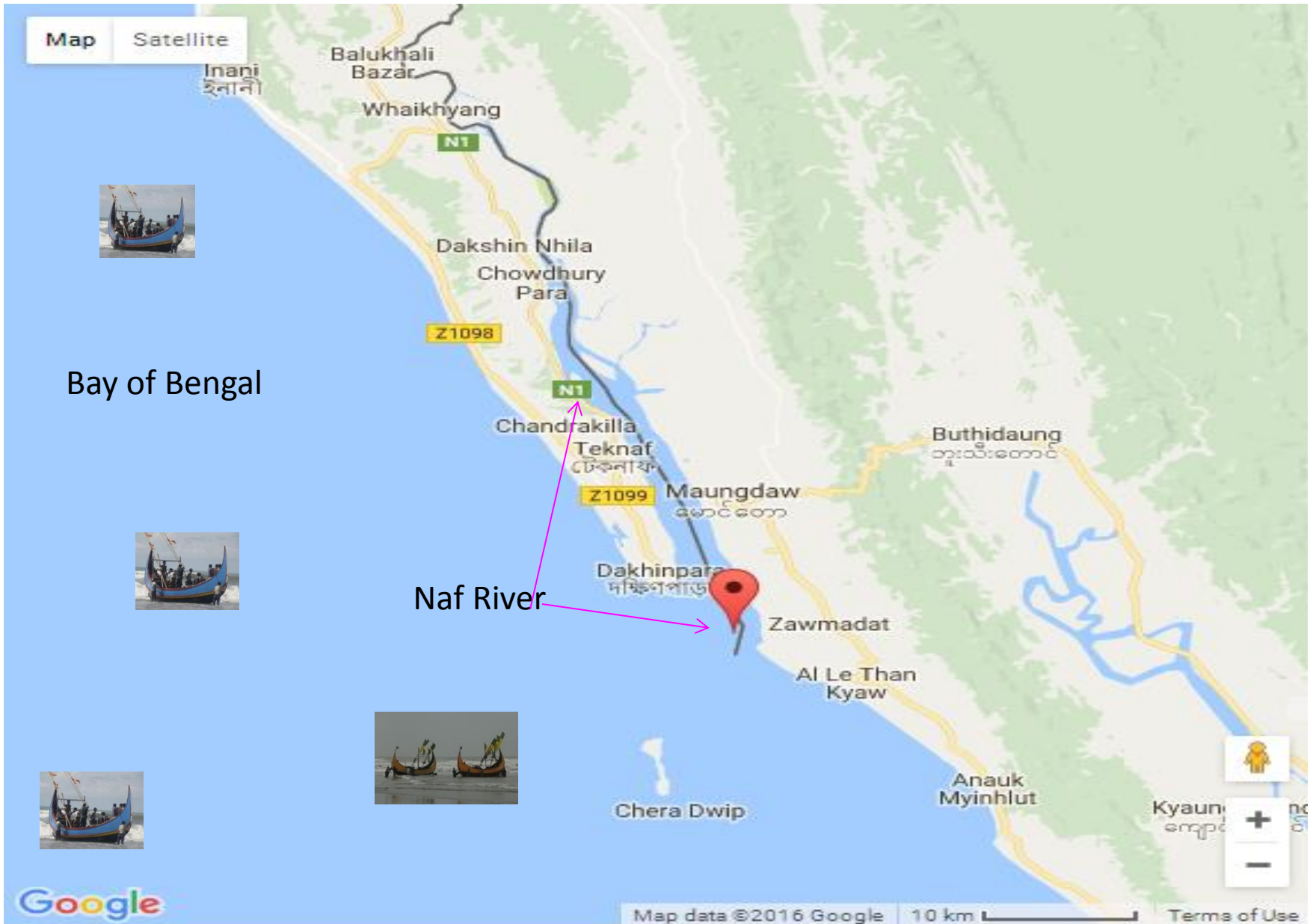
# Modus Operandi of Yaba Trafficking

- Among all the drugs Yaba, an Amphetamine type stimulant (ATS) originated in Myanmar has been the most abused drugs in Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh has 271 km border with Myanmar out of which 208 km is land border and 63 km is water boundary at the south-east corner.
- Mainly Yaba traffic through South-East boarder of Bangladesh using Naf river and Bay of Bengal.
- **Naf River** is a river marking the border of Bangladesh and Myanmar. It is an elongated estuary in the extreme southeast of Cox's Bazar district of Bangladesh dividing the district from Rakhaine of Myanmar. Teknaf upazila under Cox's Bazar district of Bangladesh is on the western bank and Mungdaw district of Myanmar is on the eastern bank of the river. Its width varies from 1.61 km to 3.22 km.

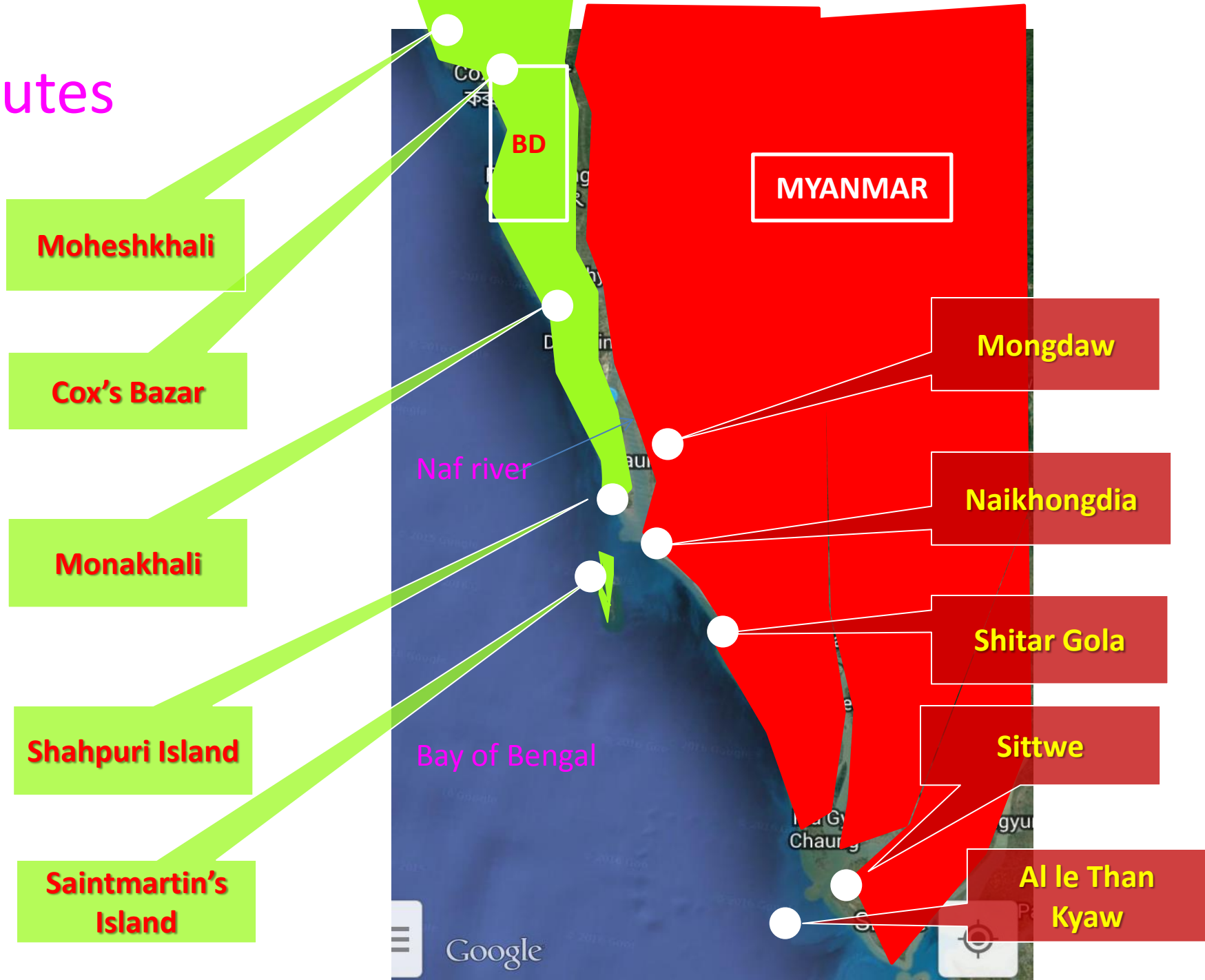
# Modus Operandi of Yaba (ATS) Trafficking

- Yaba traffickers use different types of engine boats, fishing trawlers rowing in Naf river and Bay of Bengal and spread to coastal areas of Bangladesh.
- According to Bangladesh-Myanmar Border Treaty -1980, citizen from either side can visit the other country with one/three day pass. Taking this advantage, Yaba is trafficked by carriers concealing inside their carried goods and human body.
- Yaba is also smuggled in hidden ways with imported goods like timber, food grain, dry fish, betel nuts etc from Myanmar.
- Around 60% to 70% Yaba is trafficked through water ways and 30% to 40% by road.

# View of Naf River and Bay of Bengal



# Routes



# Bangladesh Side

Myanmar side

- \* Mongdaw
- \* Naikhongdia
- \* Shitar Gola
- Sittwe
- Al le Than Kyaw

Cox's Bazar (Teknaf) ⇒ Chittagong

Coxb (Teknaf) ⇒ Chandpur ⇒ Narayanganj ⇒ Dhaka

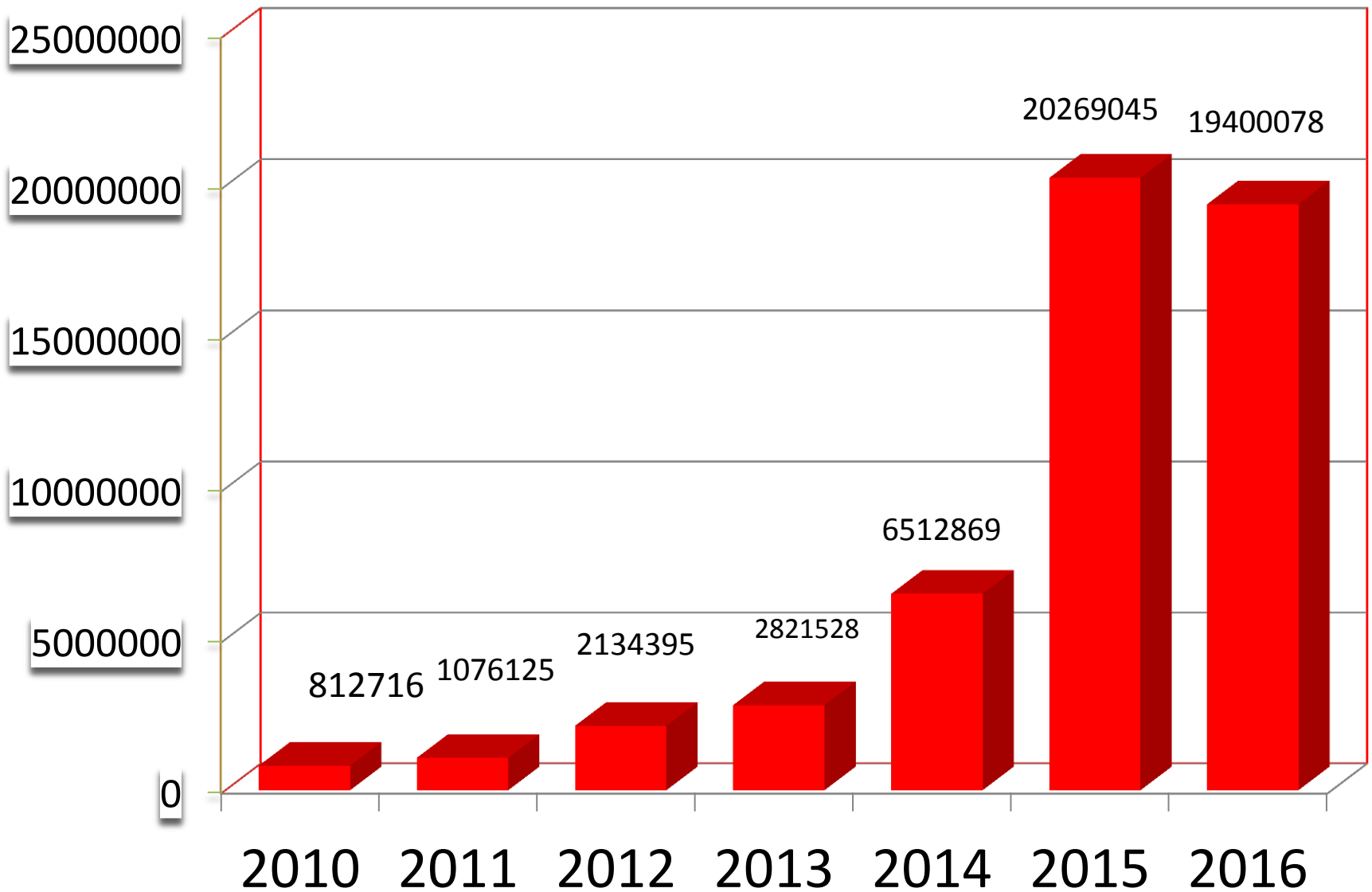
Cox's Bazar (Teknaf) ⇒ Patuakhali ⇒ Bhola ⇒ Barisal

Cox's Bazar (Teknaf) ⇒ Khulna ⇒ SatKhira

○ Myanmar  
○ Bangladesh



# Seizure of Yaba (ATS) 2011-2016 (Up to August)



# Joint Initiatives/Collaboration

- Bangladesh has signed bilateral agreement with Myanmar in 1994. The second meeting was held in Dhaka on May 2015.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is scheduled to be held in Yangon.
- During BIMSTEC meeting, Myanmar side told that the meeting would be held during November/December 2016.
- This is not possible for Bangladesh alone to stop Yaba trafficking. Sincere cooperation from Myanmar side is very essential.

## Challenges:

- Thousands of water crafts (country boats, engine boats, Fishing trawlers) are engaged in fishing at Naf river and Bay of Bengal. Traffickers may hide Yaba of any quantity in any place in the water crafts. Without prior information it is nearly impossible to detect it.
- Our maritime border is guarded mainly by the Bangladesh Coast Guard and also by Border Guard Bangladesh. They have inadequate number of water crafts, have lack of manpower and intercepting devices. It is needed to equipped them with modern water crafts for patrolling in the Naf river and Bay of Bengal as well as costal area.



680000 Yaba Tablets

Seized 680000 Yaba Tablets from Exterior Anchor of the Chittagong Sea Port on 14 October 2015 Trafficked from Myanmar.





Yaba Tablets 640000

Bangladesh Coast Guard Seized 640000 Yaba Tablets from Sea in Chittagong Area in 2015  
Trafficked from Myanmar.

Thank you!  
Jim

