

CANADA Daily News and Updates August 26th 2024

Ocean Updates

- Floods Swamp Highways in Bangladesh, Truckers Stranded in 40km Queue
- Cargo Ship Freed 2 Days After Running Aground on St. Lawrence Seaway Near Montreal

Rail Updates

- Federal Labour Board Orders Rail Workers Back on the Job, Imposes Binding Arbitration

Ocean Updates

Floods Swamp Highways in Bangladesh, Truckers Stranded in 40km Queue

Devastating flooding in Bangladesh, spread across 11 districts, affecting nearly 4.5 million people, is also hampering export-import activities. The flooding has swamped many parts of the Dhaka-Chittagong highway, the main cargo route.

Export-laden trucks from Dhaka and elsewhere have faced obstructions, diversions and delays in reaching depots in Chittagong, the prime seaport. In some places, the highway was reportedly waist-deep in water, creating a 40km traffic jam.

Ruhul Amin Sikder, secretary general of the Bangladesh Inland Container Depots Association, said during the past 24 hours [*article written on Friday*], the Chittagong inland depots had received 2,100 export cargo-carrying trucks – 1,000 fewer than on the previous day. “Usually we receive some 3,500 trucks a day,” he said.

He added that normally some 900 trucks would leave the depots every day carrying imported cargo, but in the past 24 hours only around 630 trucks had done so.

Read more in an [article from The Loadstar](#).

Cargo Ship Freed 2 Days After Running Aground on St. Lawrence Seaway Near Montreal

A once-stuck 138-metre cargo ship near Montreal was freed on Saturday.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada says two tugboats successfully towed the Dutch ship that had been blocking traffic in the St. Lawrence Seaway.

An engine problem led the ship to run aground late Thursday, obstructing traffic along the water system near the Mohawk territory of Kahnawake.

The Heemskerkgraacht, originally from the Netherlands, was on its way to a port city in Spain when it stalled.

The vessel was coming in to perform a U-turn when it lost power, causing an engine blackout, according to officials. Crews then dropped a bow anchor, leading the stern to hit the ground.

The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation says while ship traffic is resuming it could take up to three days to return to normal.

Read more in an [article from Global News](#).

Rail Updates

Federal Labour Board Orders Rail Workers Back on the Job, Imposes Binding Arbitration

Freight trains were required to start rolling again first thing this morning, the federal labour board ruled on Saturday as it ordered thousands of rail employees back to work to end a bitter contract dispute that shut down the country's two major railways.

The decision by the Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) imposes binding arbitration on the parties following an unprecedented dual work stoppage at Canadian National Railway (CN) and Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) that halted freight shipments and snarled commutes across the country.

But the matter may not be settled for good, since the Teamsters union representing workers with both companies is pledging to appeal the ruling in court.

Read more in an [article from CBC News](#)