



WFP Bangladesh Report on

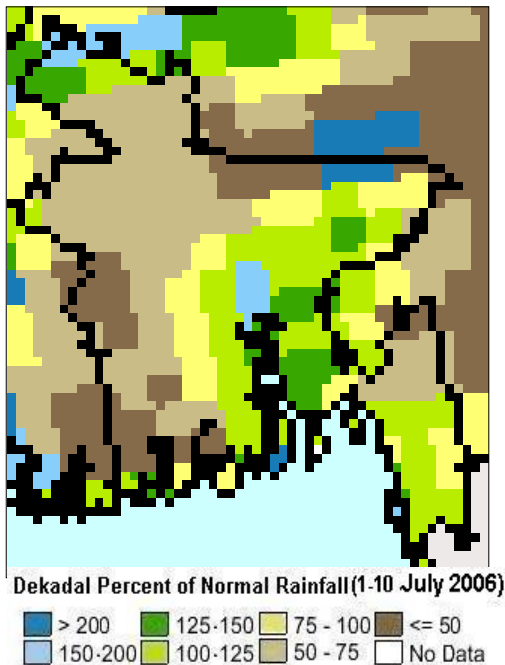
EARLY WARNING and MONITORING

Issue 6

17 July 2006

HIGHLIGHTS

- § Rainfall was below average for much of the country from the 1st thru 10th July; particularly in the West bordering India.
- § Recent heavy rains contributed to localized flooding in the Northern district of Netrokona. However, the most recent reports suggest the situation is likely to improve.
- § The rainfall forecast for the coming period (17th July thru 23rd July) shows that heavy rain is expected in the Southeast for Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Bandarban districts.



RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION/ MONSOON SEASON

Rainfall during the 1st ten days of July was generally below average for much of the country; particularly in the west bordering India. On the other hand, in the extreme Northeast near Sunamganj, significantly above average rainfall was estimated.

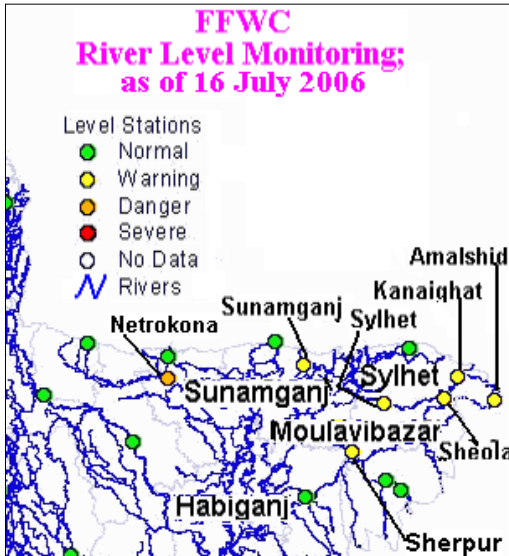
According to the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) and the Flood Forecasting and Warning Center (FFWC), Sunamganj station received highest rainfall of around 140 mms on the 13th July.

The map featured in this section is taken from the United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service website, where related and more detailed information is available:

<http://www.pecad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/imageview.cfm?regionid=sasia>.

Disclaimer: The data and views expressed in this report do not represent the official position of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, nor any other United Nations member state.

FLOOD SITUATION MONITORING

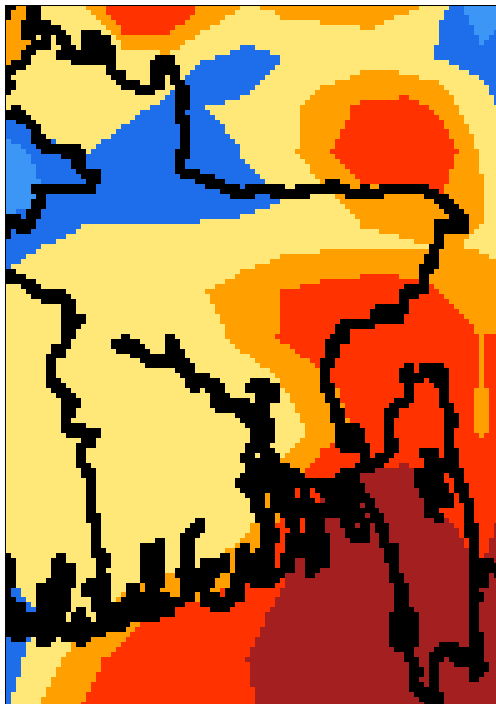


Based on the Flood Forecasting and Warning Center data as of 16th July, only one station in the country (near Netrokona) is flowing at danger level. Earlier heavy rain in the Indian upstream region of Meghalay contributed to the flooding in this area. The latest FFWC forecast suggests that the flooding is likely to diminish.

In the neighboring region of Sylhet river levels were flowing at “warning level” (see map on left). The situation merits continued monitoring. The WFP Dhaka Regional Office and local partners are closely monitoring the overall situation.

In the Southeast/Chittagong Hill Tracts, the flash flood situation reported in the previous WFP Early Warning and Monitoring report has improved according to the WFP CHT Regional office.

Additional river level and related information is available from the FFWC website at: <http://www.ffwc.gov.bd>

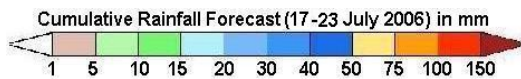


RAINFALL FORECAST

The cumulative rainfall forecast for the period 17th thru 23rd July is expected to be 75 mm or less for most of the country (see map on left). Rainfall is expected to be highest, more than 150 mms., in the Southeast near Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, and Bandarban districts.

Parts of the Northeastern Sylhet and Sunamganj districts are expected to have relatively moderate rainfall below 100 mms. On the other hand, heavier rainfall (between 100-150 mms) is expected upstream across the Indian border near Meghalay region. This could contribute to localized flooding in Sylhet and surrounding areas.

The data used to generate the rainfall map originates from the US based NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Climate Prediction Center (CPC). More detailed information is available from the CPC website at: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>



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