



**World Food Programme Bangladesh**  
**Weekly Flood Update #11**  
**9 - 15 September 2005**

**Summary of the present situation:**

The overall flood situation in Bangladesh remains normal for this time of the year although some areas are experiencing overflow of water from the upstream, rising level of river water, heavy rainfall, riverbank erosion and water logging.

**General:**

- According to the forecast of Bangladesh Meteorological Department, it is likely that the average rainfall in September will be 10-15% higher than normal and there is a probability of normal flooding in some areas of Brahmaputra and Ganges basins. As per BMD daily bulletin of 15 September, the monsoon is less active over Bangladesh and weak to moderate elsewhere over North Bay. Light to moderate rain/thunder shower is likely to occur at one or two places. The day temperature may fall slightly.
- The FFWC daily bulletin on 14 September reported light to moderate heavy rainfall at few places over the Ganges, the Meghna and the South Eastern Hill basins. The major rivers (Brahmaputra-Jamuna and Ganges-Padma) have continued to fall further at all points whereas the rivers in the Meghna and South Eastern Hill basins have registered rise and fall. Out of 86 monitoring points, 16 points observed rise, 61 observed fall and 3 remain steady. On 15 Sept. the situation further improved and 8 points observed rise, 71 points observed fall and 1 point remained steady.
- WFP Dhaka Regional office reported slight rise of major rivers but still flowing below the danger level. Jessore Regional office reported downward river water level. Rangpur Regional Office reported normal flood situation with rivers flowing below the danger level.
- Riverbank erosion in Northern and Central parts of Bangladesh has become serious and affecting the daily life of a large number of people. Agricultural land is being eroded and peoples are forced to leave their houses. Scarcity of food and pure drinking water is reported in the river erosion areas. The erosion-hit families are forced to have taken shelter on the embankment and railway lines and some of them move to the district town.
- In fresh floods affected areas under Kushtia district Government has allocated 75 MT of rice and 50,000 cash support for the flood victims.

**The GoB Action:**

- The District/Upazila (sub-district) Disaster Management Committees are maintaining close watch over the situation as well as prioritising and coordinating any Government responses at local level.
- The Government has announced measures to keep the market price of food grains down and to avert the impact of seasonal 'monga' on the extreme poor during October-November, i.e. the period of lean employment season. 40,000 army personnel will be deployed to ensure smooth distribution of these measures.
- The Govt. has planned to distribute some 105,000 MT of rice through the VGF channel. The VGF activity will benefit 1,000 families per union (4,100 unions) in each district except for five 'monga' districts. In case of the five 'monga' districts 2,000 families per union (465 unions) will be benefited.

- The Govt. has announced to launch another programme from the beginning of October to sell 45,000 MT of rice at subsidized rate among the poorest people who has a little to buy food grains. This particular intervention will benefit 450 families per union throughout the country.
- In addition the Govt. will channel some 300,000 MT through the open market sale (OMS) for two months beginning the last week of September 2005. About 12500 dealers have been appointed to implement the OMS intervention.

**Agencies Preparedness Measures/Actions taken:**

- The DER Group, as of date, has completed five orientation sessions participated by 120 participants on the Rapid Initial Report (RIR) and Rapid Emergency Needs Assessment (RENA) forms in different locations around the country. These orientations are to familiarize the two assessment forms to the participants from various agencies actively involved in disaster preparedness, response and recovery activities.
- The DER Secretariat has finalized the selection of District Information Focal Point (DIFP) for 64 districts, which are nominated by DER Group member organisations to help collecting ground level disaster information and filling in the RIR forms.

***Malik K. Kabir***

***Disaster Preparedness and Response (DPR) Section***

---

Bangladesh Flood Update of WFP is based on information received and gathered from various sources. Information received through international channels is verified in country. During the monsoon period and in other times of a threatening emergency situation WFP publish a weekly update, otherwise the frequency is reduced to a monthly issue for better information sharing, advance preparedness and to support improved coordination of response measures.