



**World Food Programme Bangladesh**  
**Weekly Flood Update #14**  
**30 September-6 October 2005**

**Summary of the present situation:**

The monsoon flood in Bangladesh is still regionally localised and within local coping capacity. Due to continuous downpour for the last four days, different parts of the country have started to face flash floods, riverbank erosion and severe water logging problems.

The heavy rains may continue for two three days in different parts of the country under the influence of a well marked low over the Bay. The prevailing situation in the districts of Kurigram, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Gaibandha, Bogra and Naogaon is likely to deteriorate. The flash flood situation in the district of Netrokona is also likely to aggravate.

**General:**

- According to the forecast of Bangladesh Meteorological Department, it is likely that in Rajshahi, the northern part of Bangladesh the average rainfall in October will be 20-25% higher than normal and there is likelihood of one or two monsoon low during the month, one of which might turn into a storm. It is expected that the southwest monsoon wind might leave Bangladesh by the second week of October. The Met Office has further indicated that during this month the water level of the major rivers will remain steady. As per the Bangladesh Met Office daily bulletin of 4 October, the monsoon is active over Bangladesh and moderate to strong over the North Bay. Light to moderate rain/thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty winds are likely to occur over limited regions of the country. The day temperature may remain nearly unchanged.
- According to the Bangladesh Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) daily bulletin on 5 October, major rivers (Brahmaputra-Jamuna and Ganges-Padma) registered a rise at all points. The rivers in the South Eastern Hill basin registered a fall. Out of 86 monitoring points, 4 points are flowing at a risky level.
- Late monsoon floods have been reported at Dinajpur and Nilphamari districts in northwestern parts of Bangladesh due to excessive rainfall. The rain-fed rivers had burst their banks causing a late monsoon flood in that region killing eight people due to a wall collapse. Electrocutation and drowning have also been reported and at least 80,000 have been left stranded. Thousands of people have been forced to leave their houses and are taking shelter at educational institutions and stadiums. The flood has paralysed the normal life across the district and inundated 40,000 hectares of standing crops. The districts are experiencing severe water logging with some parts reeling under waist-deep water. Localised flooding has also been reported on 5 October 2005 at Naogaon district in the northeastern part of Bangladesh affecting around 30,000 indigenous people. Due to excessive rainfall an embankment collapsed which has severely affected the people of that locality. Some NGOs are rushing to the affected area to monitor the situation.
- WFP Dhaka Regional office reported a slight rise in major rivers around the capital however most are still flowing below the risky level. Jessore Regional office reported downward river water level. Rangpur Regional Office reported that all the rivers in the Naogaon district are flowing above the risky level, due to excessive rainfall and water from the upstream.

- Flash floods and severe water logging have also been reported at central and southern parts of the country due to the continuous downpour for the last few days. Maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla had been asked on 2 October to hoist local cautionary signal number three and inland ports signal number two. All fishing boats and trawlers on the North Bay had been advised to keep close to the coast. In the capital some areas are experiencing severe water logging due to heavy downpour causing hardship to the dwellers. In Comilla district standing Aman paddy on 3,500 acres of land and vegetable gardens of about 2,000 acres went under water due to heavy rainfall. In the coastal district of Barisal the low-lying areas are inundated due to excessive rainfall and high tide. Damaged areas include transplanted Aman paddy fields, 1200 shrimp enclosures, and over 5000 ponds.
- Riverbank erosion in the central and eastern parts of Bangladesh has become serious and affecting the daily life of a large number of people. Agricultural land has been eroded and people have been forced to leave their houses and have taken shelter in the nearest higher lands.

**The GoB Action:**

- The District/Upazila (sub-district) Disaster Management Committees are maintaining a close watch over the situation as well as prioritising and coordinating Government responses at the local level.
- In six affected Upazilas under Noagaon district, 44 MT rice has been distributed to the flood affected people.

**Agencies Preparedness Measures/Actions taken:**

- The orientation sessions on the Rapid Initial Report (RIR) and Rapid Emergency Needs Assessment (RENA) forms have been completed in different locations around the country where 249 participants attended. These orientations are designed to familiarize participants from various agencies with the data collection instruments and procedures used for RIR and RENA assessments.

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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.