

**World Food Programme Bangladesh**  
**Monsoon Flood SitRep #04**  
**22 - 28 July 2005**

**Summary of the present situation:**

The overall flood situation in the country remains normal and, for the most part, not alarming. While prospects for outside intervention remain plausible, they are less so than this time last year. Rainfall and river level patterns over the next two weeks will be critical in determining the impact of this year's floods. The Government, local aid agencies and communities are responding to isolated incidents of flooding using local coping capacity.

**General:**

The Government's daily weather bulletin of 27 July reported that the water level of the major rivers (Brahmaputra-Jamuna and Ganges-Padma) continues to fall at all points except at points in Dhaka division. Most of the rivers in the south-eastern hill basins registered similar trends.

Of the 86 monitoring points countrywide, 18 points observed a rise and 47 points a fall, while 5 points remained steady. Only 8 points are flowing above the danger level.

The flood situation in most north-eastern districts continues to improve.

Water inundation of low-lying areas in most central districts is expected to deteriorate slightly over the coming days as surrounding floodwaters settle in these low areas. Some low-lying cultivable lands are already submerged due to excessive rain.

A number of communities in the north-western districts have been marooned by floodwaters and therefore evacuated to the nearest high points.

**Government of Bangladesh Response:**

District-level Disaster Management Committees have started to meet with the related organisations to maintain close watch over the situation as well as coordinating and prioritising any GoB responses.

As a standby preparedness measure, MoFDM has sanctioned to each of 64 districts in Bangladesh an allocation of 50 tons of rice, US\$800 (in local currency) for general relief, and another US\$800 for infrastructure repair. Provision exists for additional allocation in case the need arises.

**Local NGOs Response:**

- The largest NGO in Bangladesh, BRAC, from its own resources, has distributed 625 kg of puffed rice and 250 kg molasses to the people in the flood affected Upazilas at Gaibandha.

**Disaster & Emergency Response (DER) Secretariat/UN Agencies/Donors/Others**

- DER / NGO mapping exercise is near to completion to identify NGO Focal Points in districts who will be assigned to facilitate rapid assessments and share initial ground level information.

- DER orientation of assessment team members about new rapid initial report has started on 28 July 2005.
- WFP has advertised for qualified personnel, including experienced retirees, for rapid assessment missions and emergency roster so as to be able to expedite emergency preparedness action plans for the Country Office and its field-based offices in the event of a sudden flood EMOP.
- UN agencies are jointly working to establish a list of pre-qualified NGOs, who may be called upon for emergency programme delivery based on their proven track record and transparency in financial reporting.

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