



WFP Bangladesh Bulletin

HAZARD EARLY WARNING & HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

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Rainfall Extremes and Forecast:

Rainfall was excessively heavy in the districts of Sylhet, Sunamganj, Hobiganj and Moulavibazar in the Northeast during the last 24 hours. Continuous rains during the last two days within the districts of Sylhet (377 mms), Sunamganj (480 mms), Hobiganj (186 mms) and Moulavibazar (205 mms) further worsen the existing flash flood condition in those areas.

The 3-day forecast (19th–21st June) indicates no area in Bangladesh expected to receive cumulative rainfall above 150 mms. Light to moderate rains are expected in the upstream catchment area including the neighboring Indian states of Asam and Meghalaya.

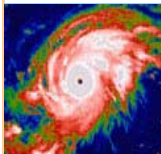
Note: Rainfall thresholds for potential localized flooding are 75 mms (24 hours) and 150 mms (72 hours).



Flood and River Levels:

Most of the major rivers in the Northeast are flowing above their respective danger levels. As of this morning, river Surma was above danger level by 123 cm in Sylhet, river Kushiyara by 106 cm in Sylhet, Manu by 145 cm in Moulavibazar, Khawai by 235 cm in Habiganj, Gumti by 20 cm in Comilla and Kangsha by 63 cm in Netrokona. Between the morning of the 17th and 18th June, water levels rose at 46 stations and fell at 10 with a total of 56 stations reporting.

Previously reported flash flood and waterlogging situation is deteriorating due to excessive rains within the country and onrush of upstream hilly water from across the bordering Indian regions. The condition is especially bad in the districts of Sylhet, Sunamganj, Hobiganj and Moulavibazar in the Northeast, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat and Bogra in the Northwest and Comilla and Feni in the Southeast. At least 60,000 families are affected. Most of them lost their mud houses and have taken shelter in high places and on embankments. According to Flood Forecasting and Warning Center, the flash flood situation in the Northeast is likely to deteriorate further due to continued rainfall inside and outside of the country.



Cyclone, Tornadoes, Wind Storms:

Tornados hit different places in the districts of Lalmonirhat, Sherpur, Bogra and Sirajganj on 16th June. Lightning strikes killed five people with injuries to 30. At least 150 tin-roofed/ mud houses were damaged and trees were uprooted. Power supply and traffic movement were disrupted.



Earthquake:

Since the last bulletin, no new earthquakes of magnitude 5 or higher were reported within Bangladesh or neighboring countries of India, Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan.

Note: Only earthquakes of magnitude 5 or higher on the Richter scale are reported.



Humanitarian Operations and Preparedness:

The relief operations by Government and NGOs due to landslides on 11th June triggered by heavy rains in Chittagong district are still ongoing. About 3,000 families in the city area were affected by these landslides. Around 8,000 families living close to hills or in foothill slums are at high risk and need to be relocated. In response to flash floods, the Government District Administration in relevant districts have initiated relief response.

Data Sources: Rainfall: BMD/ Bangladesh Meteorological Department
FFWC/ Flood Forecasting and Warning Center: <http://www.ffwc.gov.bd/>
TRMM/ Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission: <http://trmm.gsfc.nasa.gov/>
CPC/ Climate Prediction Center: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>
IMD/ Indian Meteorological Department: <http://www.imd.gov.in>
River Level: FFWC/ Flood Forecasting and Warning Center: <http://www.ffwc.gov.bd/>
Dartmouth Flood Observatory: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~floods/>
Cyclone: TSR/ Tropical Storm Risk: <http://tsr.mssl.ucl.ac.uk/>
Earthquake: USGS/ US Geological Survey: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/>
IMD/ Indian Meteorological Department: <http://www.imd.gov.in>
Localized Disaster: The Daily Star/ The Daily Ittefaq

Note: 1. This Bulletin is available at LCG DER Website at <http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/derweb/index.php> and WFP Bangladesh website at <http://bangladesh.wfp.org>
2. Comments on this bulletin should be sent to hewhr.bangladesh@wfp.org