



WFP Bangladesh Bulletin

HAZARD EARLY WARNING & HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Issue 18/ 2007

21 June 2007



Rainfall Extremes and Forecast:

Rainfall throughout Bangladesh was light or nil during the last 24 hours. According to Flood Forecasting and Warning Center, monsoon activities have decreased over the North and Northeast part of Bangladesh as well as the neighboring Indian states of Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura which drains rain water mostly through Bangladesh. The 3-day forecast (22nd-24th June) indicates no area within Bangladesh expected to receive cumulative rainfall above 150 mms. The same forecast applies for the neighboring regions within India, Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan.

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

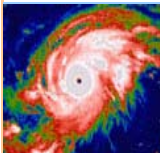


Flood and River Levels:

Most of the rivers within Bangladesh were flowing below their respective danger levels except three in the districts of Sylhet, Sunamganj and Netrokona as of this morning. Although flowing above danger levels, these three rivers are in the falling trend. River Surma in Sylhet has fallen by 20 cm and in Sunamganj by 16 cm, river Kushiara in Sylhet by 51 cm and river Kangsha in Netrokona by 13 cm. Between the morning of the 20th and 21st June, water levels rose at 39 stations and fell at 19 with a total of 58 stations reporting.

The flash flood and waterlogging situation due to heavy rains in the Northeast and elsewhere in the country as reported in the previous bulletins has improved during the last couple of days. According to FFWC, the flood situation in the Northeast is likely to continue improving. As flood water has started receding, affected people previously taken shelter on high lands are ready to return home but their mud houses have damaged. Many flood protection embankments have breached.

Flash flood triggered by heavy monsoon rains inundated 125 villages displacing nearly 150,000 people in the Northeast Indian state of Assam and displaced 400 people in three Southeast districts of Nepal.



Cyclone, Tornadoes, Wind Storms:

Since the last bulletin, no severe wind storms or cyclones were reported within Bangladesh.



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 the Government of Bangladesh along with some other humanitarian agencies are ongoing for the flash flood and landslide affected districts. So far the GoB has allocated local currency equivalent of cash US\$ 130,000 for 28 districts, US\$ 67,000 for 35 districts for house reconstruction and 3,450 MT rice for 28 districts. UN and Humanitarian agencies are closely monitoring the situation if further assistance is needed.

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