



WFP Bangladesh Report on

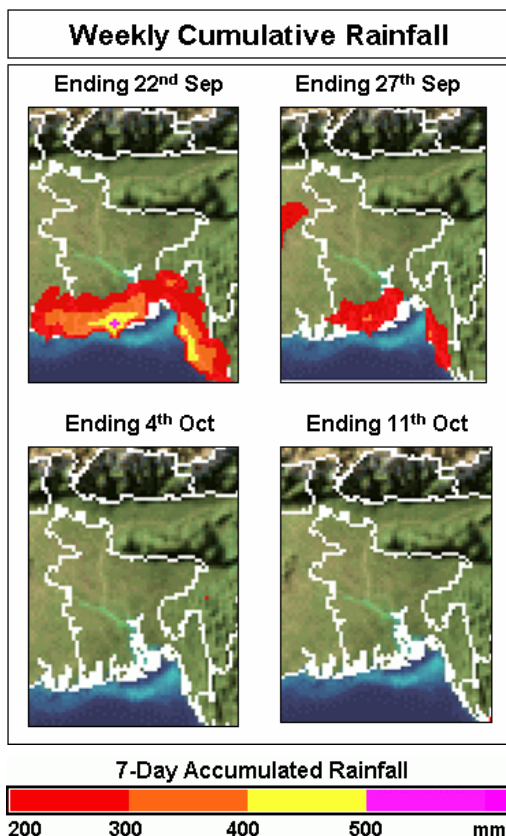
EARLY WARNING AND MONITORING

Issue 11

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The 2006 Monsoon has retreated; the probability of any additional heavy Monsoon rains this season is relatively low.
- Total area planted for the current Aman season rice crop is in line with Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) targets.
- Coastal communities affected by late September storms have resumed their fishing activities. Although full recovery from the disaster is a longer term process, income earning opportunities have improved.



2006 MONSOON RETREATS

The 2006 Monsoon has officially withdrawn from Bangladesh as of 11 October according to Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD).

The maps on the left were produced by the US space agency NASA, and highlight potential flood affected areas due to abnormally high rainfall. NASA uses "precipitation thresholds", for example 200 mms. of rain or more during a seven day period, to identify "hot spots".

Weekly cumulative rainfall was severe along the coast during the third week of September (map upper left). By late September the heavy Monsoon rains were less wide spread. During early mid October virtually no extreme rainfall events were recorded.

For more detailed information regarding the data and maps, readers should visit NASA's Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) website at:

http://trmm.gsfc.nasa.gov/publications_dir/potential_flood.html

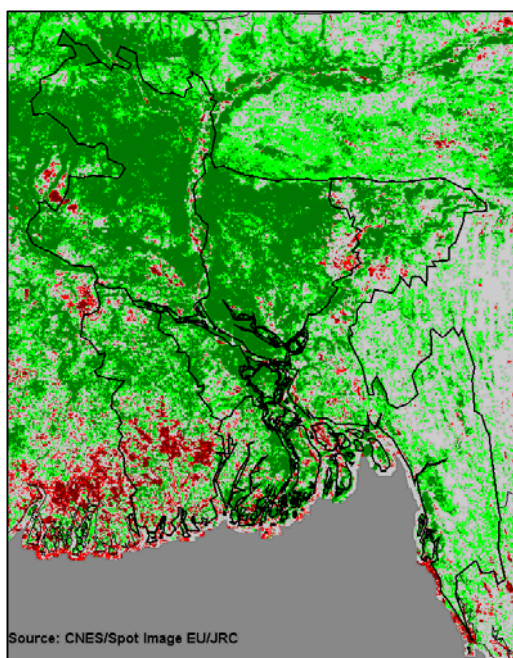
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AMAN RICE PROSPECTS IMPROVE

The outlook for the November/December Aman rice harvest continues to improve. Overall, the Aman crop accounts for approximately 43% of total annual rice production. The Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) recently confirmed that total area planted is approximately slightly higher than the target plan of 5.8 million hectares. Although there were earlier concerns regarding insufficient rain during July-August; many farmers compensated by relying more on ground water irrigation. Additionally Aman rice crops benefited from favorable sunlight exposure, a key ingredient for photosynthesis and plant growth.

Growing conditions for rice and other ground vegetation are shown on the map on the left. Green areas indicate favorable conditions during September 2006 as compared to a seven year average. Red areas indicate unfavorable growth conditions. The Southwest of the country, earlier affected by localized flooding and waterlogging is one of the few regions where red pixels are clustered. The data is generated from NDVI (Normalized Differenced Vegetative Index) satellite imagery.

More information regarding NDVI data can be found from the FAO Global Information and Early Warning System website at:
<http://metart.fao.org/~~/gbr/EWorld.htm>.



NDVI 2006 vs Average (1- 30 Sep) in mms

- Large Decrease
- Large Increase
- No Change
- Small Decrease
- Small Increase
- Water

WFP DELIVERS EMERGENCY FOOD TO 120,000 DISASTER VICTIMS

During early October WFP and its NGO partners distributed 71 MTs of high energy biscuits to over 120,000 waterlogged and storm affected disaster victims in the Southwest and coastal areas. The biscuits were targeted for poor households in Jessore, Satkhira and Patuakhali; three severely affected districts. The operation was successfully implemented by Islamic Relief, Save the Children-US, Concern, with oversight from WFP's Jessore Regional Office.

Note:

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This Report is also available on LCG DER website:
<http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/subGroup.php?q=1&s=1>

