



Flood forecast and situation update

- The Bulletin of Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) of Bangladesh Water Board issued on July 12, 2020 indicates that the water level of the major rivers of Brahmaputra-Jamuna, Ganges and the upper basin of Meghna in North and Northeastern region of Bangladesh is increasing and flowing above danger level, which may continue to increase in the next 72 hours.
- The flood situation in Nilphamari, Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Natore, Sylhet, Sunamganj and Netrokona districts may worsen further in the next 24 hours.
- The flood situation in Sunamganj and Sylhet districts have worsened a week after improving following a previous bout of flash floods, as the most important rivers including Surma, Jadukata and Sari are overflowing since yesterday.
- There is a possibility of heavy rain in the Southeastern and Hill Tract regions in the next 24 hours, which may cause rapid increase of the water level of Sangu, Halda, Mhuri and Matamuhuri rivers.
- Hundreds of chars and low-lying areas along the Teesta and Dharla Rivers have been inundated as Teesta's waters began flowing above danger level since Friday afternoon due to incessant rains and water from upstream India, leaving around 70,000 people of 17 unions of Lalmonirhat district marooned.
- Thousands of Teesta River shoal people are worried about the second flood. Although many people are at home in waterlogged conditions, people from remote char areas are taking shelter in safe places with cows, goats, ducks, chickens and other necessities.
- In Gaibandha, 26 unions under four sub-districts are flooded, affecting almost 23,865 households. About 300 houses also disappeared into the riverbed and more than 2,300 people took shelter in schools, other institutional buildings and on the road side.
- In Sirajganj, 31 unions and one municipality under five sub-district have been flooded, damaging about 280 houses; 16.5 km road and 2,520 hector crop lands.



"I was struggling since the starting of the Corona pandemic. I could hardly manage two meals a day for my family. Now this Jamuna river erosion has taken away my home. We saved the roof somehow but I lost most of my livestock. The flood left us nothing to survive on. Along with my family 35 other families have become homeless here. This is the ninth time I lost my home to river erosion."

**Most. Alladi Khatun,
Hijulia Union, Chowhali sub-district,
Sirajganj**



Government's response

- Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, MP is monitoring the flood situation of the country through direct communication with local administration in flood affected districts.
- The Government of Bangladesh has taken necessary preparation and allocated total 8,210 metric tons of rice, BDT 2 crore 22 lakh 50 thousand for cash grant, 48,000 packets of dry food, BDT 48 lakh for fodders and BDT 48 lakh for baby food to 23 districts since June 28, 2020.
- The Sunamganj local administration allocated 400 MT rice and BDT 8 lac for each sub-district, and already started opening 127 shelter centres to provide refuge to the flood affected people in 11 sub-districts. Health teams are also ready to support the people in need with medical assistance.
- The Government has allocated 534 MT rice and BDT 12.5 lakh in Jamalpur district; 200 MT rice, BDT 11 lakh for cash grant, BDT 2 lakh for baby food and BDT 2 lakh for fodder and BDT 2 lakh for baby food in Gaibandha district; and 480 MT rice and BDT 15 lakh for cash grant in Lalmonirhat district.

BRAC Monitoring and Preparedness

- BRAC is monitoring the flood situation at the district, sub-district and union level through collecting information from its field staff, and reviewing the flood forecast information from the FFWC and coordinating with local administration and local government institution in collecting updated information of the flood situation.
- BRAC has a well-structured Standard Operating Procedures and Flood Response Guidelines, which will be activated to support the most vulnerable population, in case the situation deteriorates and needs arise due to the flood.
- BRAC is also disseminating early warning messages through incorporating COVID-19 prevention measures in the flood affected and vulnerable districts through four community radios, and will continue to broadcast messages to raise awareness among the flood affected population in order to reduce the impacts of this dire situation.
- BRAC is participating in the district level coordination meetings with local administration to stay updated on the situation.



"Coronavirus has already cut-down our income and we already used up our savings during the lockdown. But by working in agriculture, we were doing well. My husband was cultivating paddy and maize, I was rearing chickens and ducks, and hoping for better days. But the flood took away everything I had. Where do I go now? We don't have any food. How can we stay like this?"

*Aliza Begum,
Kachua, Saghata Union, Gaibandha*