



Situation updates

- The second spell of flood that started since 2nd week of July 2020 due to the torrential monsoon rain and onrush of water from the upstream, affected 18 districts across Bangladesh as highlighted in the map below.
- According to the National Disaster Response Coordination Center (NDRCC) report that over 2.4 million people are directly affected by the flood and more than 548,819 families remain waterlogged and lost their houses in 90 sub-district and 523 unions across the affected 18 districts.
- Around 49,522 people took shelter in designated shelter centers abiding by social distancing due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation. However, many more are living in makeshift houses on the dykes and roads.
- The Health Emergency Operation Center & Control Room under Directorate General of Health Services on July 18, reported since June 30, a total of 62 people were killed by flood-related incidents, such as drowning, snake biting, diarrhea, RTI, and skin diseases. About 3,376 people are also suffering by various diseases caused by the floods.
- The flood submerged nearly 62,000 hectares croplands, which already damaged crops worth nearly BDT 350 crore, and going to pile up further losses.
- Flood affected families who are living in makeshift houses on dykes and roads are suffering from acute shortage of food, drinking water and sanitation facilities.
- Flood protection infrastructures such as embankments, dykes, dams and sluices are already damaged. Many rivers bank erosion has been observed and expected to be more severe as flood water starts receding.
- Nine BRAC offices are inundated in the flood water in Sylhet division.



18 district
impacted

2.4 Million people
affected

548,819 household
waterlogged

64 people
dead

Flood forecast

- The Bulletin of Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) issued on July 20, 2020, indicates that **there is a possibility of heavy to extreme torrential rainfall in the north and north-eastern part of Bangladesh, and the adjacent West Bengal, Assam and Meghalaya provinces at the foothill of Himalayan in India in the next 24 to 72 hours. As a result, the water level of the Brahmaputra- Jamuna, Dharla and Teesta in northern region, and the major rivers of the upper basin of Meghna in the north and north-eastern part of country may increase rapidly.**
- The water level of the Ganges-Padma rivers may remain static in the next 24 hours, while the increase of water level of the rivers surrounded by Dhaka district may continue in the next 48 hours.
- In the next 24 hours the flood situation in Sylhet, Sunamganj, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogura, Jamalpur, Sirajganj, Tangail and Manikganj district may remain static.
- The Bulletin also shows that the highest 190 mm rainfall at Sunamganj Station in Bangladesh and 326 mm rainfall at Cherapunji Station in the northeastern region of India were recorded in the last 24 hours.

Government's Response

- The Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief has taken necessary preparation and opened 1,483 shelter centers across the flood affected regions to provide shelter to the marooned population abide by the social distancing during the ongoing COVID-19 situation.
- Since June 28, 2020, the Government of Bangladesh has allocated:



- According to the BRAC field report, as of July 19, 2020 the local administrations distributed total 2,971 metric tons rice; BDT 7 crore cash grant; and 14,470 packets dry food in the most affected 8 districts namely Sunamganj, Sylhet, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Jamalpur, Bogura and Sirajganj.
- The local administrations are also distributing baby food, drinking water, water purification tablets, oral saline and fodder as well as installed many temporary latrines and 120 tube-wells near to the shelter centers.

BRAC Monitoring and Preparedness

- BRAC is monitoring the flood situation at the district, sub-district and union level through regular communication and collecting information from its field staff, and taking necessary preparation to provide support to the most vulnerable population, in case the situation deteriorates and needs arise due to the flood.
- BRAC keeps disseminating early warning messages through incorporating COVID-19 prevention measures in the flood affected and vulnerable districts through four community radios.
- BRAC is participating in the district level coordination meetings with local administration to stay updated on the situation.
- BRAC field staff are assisting for evacuation of waterlogged population to safe shelter centres.



“When I started relief distribution, I noticed that people didn't wear mask during this ongoing COVID-19. I decided to distribute mask along with 600 packets of dry foods and 49 MT rice among 20,000 people. Around 95 families are in flood shelters already, however, more than 50,000 people are still under water and unable to reach the nearest shelter due to lack of transport support and staying with shortage of food and drinking water. I urged support from other volunteer organizations to come forward and evacuate them to shelter centers, so that we can rapidly distribute the relief items to them.”

-Yasmin Nahar Ruma
Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (UNO),
Sunamganj Sadar Sub-district, Sunamganj