# Hazard Incidences in Bangladesh, October 2023



# Overview of Hazard Incidences in October 2023

A total of 9 distinct hazard incidents occurred in Bangladesh during October 2023. These incidents included COVID-19, dengue, bridge collapse, cyclone, fire incidents, heavy rainfall, tornadoes, wall collapses, and waterlogging. In contrast to September, there was a substantial rise in the number of confirmed cases of dengue cases and deaths that occurred during October. As stated in the daily situation report provided by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), the outbreak affected approximately all of the districts in Bangladesh, with a total of 67868 confirmed cases and 359 deaths reported during October. There was a total of 311 fire incidents that were recorded, and tragically, these fire incidents resulted in five fatalities and 10 injuries, as stated in the daily hazard situation report published by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and the Daily Newspaper. It has been reported by the Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) that cyclone Hamoon had an impact on a total of two districts, 15 upazilas (sub-districts), 97 unions, and approximately **590,000** Bangladeshi nationals. Moreover, there was a wall collapse that was witnessed, which resulted in the recording of two unfortunate deaths. In addition to that, two bridge collapse incidents occurred in two districts of the Sylhet division, namely Munshiganj and Moulovibazar, resulting in the injuries of **two** individuals within those districts. According to the daily newspaper, two tornadoes were recorded, and **one** person was killed as a result of it in Faridpur. Although there were **no** deaths reported during October, there were 204 newly confirmed cases of COVID-19, according to <u>DGHS</u>. Additionally, during the same month, 273 people recovered from the virus. Additionally, 365 houses were destroyed in Faridpur and Brahmanbaria together. As a result of the heavy rainfall that occurred in October in 3 different divisions (Dhaka, Rajshahi, and Sylhet), problems such as waterlogging and disruptions in road networks have arisen. It was observed that waterlogging occurred in 4 districts across the country, namely Dhaka, Savar, Sylhet, and Tongi. This caused the residents of these districts to experience varying degrees of disruption and inconvenience.

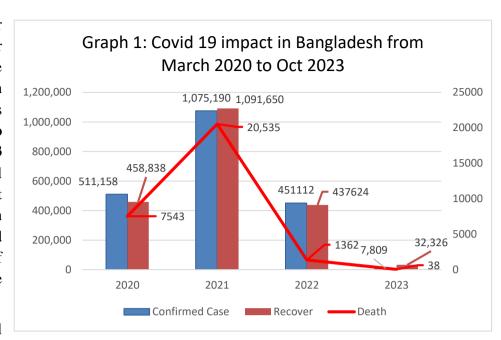
	-		-			
		Monthly Haz	zard Incidence C	Calendar: October	2023	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	# <del>**</del>		3	4	5	6
<b>₩⊕</b>	8	9	<b>₩</b> ⊛ 10	<b>₩</b> ⊕ 11	12	<b>₩</b> ₩ 13
14	<b>₩</b> ₩ 15	<b>₩</b> ⊕ 16	<b>₩</b> ⊕ <b>ŤT</b> 17	18	<b>**</b> 19	20
21	22	23	<b>₩</b> ⊕ 24	25	<b>₩</b> ⊕ <b>♠◊</b>	₩₩
28	<b>₩</b> ⊕ <b>^</b>	30	<b>₩</b> ⊕ <b>TT</b> 31			
Index	Bridge Collapse	Covid-19	Cyclone	<b>O</b> Dengue	<b>o</b> Fire	Heavy Rainfall
<b>Tornado</b>	<b>waterlogging</b>	Wall Collapse				



# Description of Hazard Incidences in October 2023

## Covid-19

Between the first of October and the last day of October 2023, 204 patients were identified newly with Covid-19. During this period, there have been no reported deaths and 273 people have made a full recovery. This indicates that there has been a decrease in the number of confirmed cases and the number of deaths compared to the previous month.



Since the initial

identification of COVID-19, the total number of confirmed cases has reached **2,045,934** as of the end of October. From the beginning of October until the end of the month, the total number of deaths in Bangladesh was **29,481**, and the total number of cases that were recovered was **2,013625** (DGHS). To obtain a more comprehensive analysis, kindly refer to Annex 1.

#### Dengue

Based on <u>DGHS</u> daily situation report, there was an decrease in confirmed cases and deaths of dengue compared to the previous month. In October, all **64** districts of Bangladesh were affected by dengue, and **Dhaka** as usual recorded the highest number of confirmed cases (**16634**) and deaths (**172**). There were **67868** confirmed cases and **359** reported deaths in total throughout October. The map shows the spatial distribution of dengue confirmed cases in the month of October. For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to Annex2.

#### **Bridge Collapse**

A total of three bridge collapses occurred in October 2023. In a series of unfortunate incidents, infrastructure failures have plagued various regions in Bangladesh. On October 2, the collapse of a pillar in a Moulvibazar bridge disrupted vehicular traffic on the Moulvibazar-Shamshernagar-Chatlapour road, inconveniencing thousands of residents from Komolganj, Kulaura, and Rajnagar upazilas who heavily rely on this main route. The suspension of traffic forced students, employees, traders, and others to seek alternative and more costly transportation routes (thefinancialexpress). On October 17, a bailey bridge in Munshiganj's Banikyapara collapsed, leading to a truck plunging into a ditch along the Muktarpur-Sipahipara road. The collapse resulted from the bridge giving way under the overloaded truck, causing immediate traffic congestion and leaving two individuals injured. These incidents underscore the critical need for infrastructure maintenance and improvement to ensure the safety and well-being of the affected communities (thebusinessstandard). Adding to the string of incidents, on October 31, 2023, another setback occurred in Moulvibazar as a bailey bridge over the Saranrai canal collapsed under the weight of a stone-laden truck. This incident halted traffic movement, causing significant distress for residents of Paschim Juri, Purba Juri, Sagarnal, Goalbari, and Fultala unions, who relied on the bridge as a crucial route (thedailystar).

#### **Waterlogging**

In October 2023, waterlogging was reported in six different districts. Among them, on October 5, Rajshahi city in Bangladesh faced extensive waterlogging as very heavy rainfall submerged major areas, including Uposhohor, Lakshmipur, Rajarhata, Sadhur Mor, Shaheb Bazar, Padma Residential Area, and Shalbagan. The persistent rainfall caused difficulties for commuters, and farmers were adversely affected as their lands went underwater. More than 50 houses in the area were reported to be submerged (thedailystar). On October 6, Torrential rain on a recent weekend caused severe waterlogging in parts of the capital, including Banglamotor, Karwan Bazar, Farmgate, Bijoy Sharani, Mirpur Road, and Shyamoli, exacerbating difficulties for those on the roads for work (thedailystar). Torrential rains led to waterlogging in Savar and Ashuli, impacting markets and buildings. The Tongi-Ashulia-EPZ Road experienced knee-deep water, resulting in vehicle breakdowns and disrupting vehicular movement. Homes in Palashbari, Baipail, Jamgora, Chitrashail, Vadail, and Kaichabari were submerged, disrupting the daily lives of local residents (dhakatribune). By October 7, Sylhet city continued to grapple with waterlogged roads and gridlock due to continuous rainfall since the early hours of the previous day. Despite substantial investments in waterlogging projects, the situation persisted, hampering health services at Osmani Medical College Hospital. The challenges of managing the impact of heavy rainfall on urban infrastructure were evident across these incidents, characterized by widespread waterlogging rather than flooding (thedailystar). For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to Annex3.

## **Tornado**

On October 6, a series of short-lived tornadoes destroyed Faridpur and Brahmanbaria, resulting in one reported fatality and significant destruction. A 20-year-old female resident of Hamirdi village in Bhanga upazila, Faridpur, lost her life in the tornado that lasted nearly three minutes in Saltha upazila. The calamity destroyed over 330 houses, with 200 in Bhanga, over 100 in Alfadanga, and 21 in Saltha, affecting several villages and experiencing power outages, uprooted trees, and structural damage. In Brahmanbaria's Sarail, a separate one-minute tornado destroyed 15 houses in Meratli village of Shahbazpur union, causing the uprooting of at least 50 trees, but no human casualties were reported. These tornadoes left hundreds homeless and emphasized the need for rapid response and support for affected communities (thebusinessstandard).

#### Fire

According to the Disaster Situation Report of the Department of Disaster Management (<u>DDM</u>), **311** fire incidents took place across the country in October 2023. Dhaka division reported the highest number of fire incidents (**116**), followed by Khulna division (**60**), Chattogram division (**46**), Mymensingh division (**24**), Rajshahi division (**22**), Sylhet division (**15**), Barisal Division (**15**), Rangpur division (**13**). Out of the **311** recorded incidents, **five** fatalities and **10** injuries were reported, along with significant property damage. For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to <u>Annex4.1</u>

On October 9, a fire erupted in a Kakrail building, specifically on the fourth floor of the SA Paribahan structure. Fire service units promptly responded to the incident and brought the blaze under control (prothomalo). However, on October 14, a re-rolling mill explosion in Siddhirganj, Narayanganj, resulted in burn injuries for five workers (prothomalo). Tragedy struck again on October 26 when a fire at Khawaja Tower in Mohakhali claimed the lives of at least three individuals, leaving 10 others injured (thedailystar). The incidents continued as unidentified miscreants set a bus ablaze in Kakrail on October 28 (prothomalo), and a similar attack on October 29 in the Deila area of Demra led to the death of a youth named Naim and left another, Rabiul, injured (prothomalo). For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to Annex4.2.

## Cyclone

On the evening of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) reported that the cyclonic storm named "Hamoon" commenced its landfall on the Chattogram-Cox's Bazar coast of Bangladesh. The storm, accompanied by heavy rainfall, completed its crossing over the coast at 1:00 am on Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

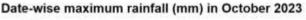
According to the Needs Assessment Working Group (ReliefWeb), the cyclone has affected approximately 0.59 million people, leading to the evacuation of 151,976 individuals. To address the crisis, 1,613 flood shelters were opened, but unfortunately, 42,921 shelters have been damaged or destroyed. The impact has spread across two districts, 15 upazilas, and 97 unions. Tragically, 85 lives have been lost, with an additional 5 reported as missing or injured. The breakdown of the impacted population reveals the vulnerability of certain groups, including 0.29 million women, 0.31 million children (aged 0 to 19), 19,207 elderly individuals (aged 60 and above), 7,917 pregnant and lactating women, and 8,525 persons with disabilities. In terms of sectors, livestock has suffered, with 18 reported deaths, while fisheries have incurred a loss of BDT 11.0 million. Crop lands spanning 6,265 hectares have been damaged, and forestry damage is estimated at BDT 10.0 million.

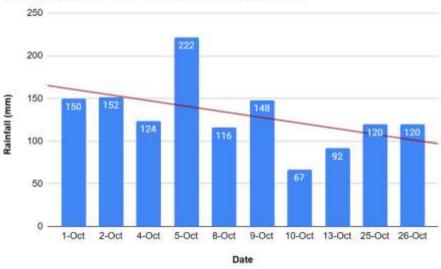
#### Wall Collapse

On October 6, a tragic incident occurred in Kaliakair upazila of Gazipur as a couple lost their lives when their mud house collapsed during heavy rain. Local reports indicate that the continuous downpour over the past few days in the Ratanpur area weakened the mud walls of the couple's house. The collapse happened early Friday morning while the couple was asleep, resulting in their immediate demise at the scene (prothomalo).

## **Heavy Rainfall**

During October, Rajshahi experienced a heavy amount of rainfall, with 222 mm of rainfall in a single day for that month. This was part of a broader weather pattern and climate change, with the divisions 3 (Dhaka, Raishahi. and Sylhet). experiencing heavy rainfall in the initial 10 days of the month. Moreover, Cox's Bazar, Teknaf, Lama, and Bandarban experienced heavy rainfall after cyclone





Hamoon crossed those areas in the later days of the month. Problems such as waterlogging and disruptions in road networks have arisen. Unfortunately, the consequences of this excessive rainfall were severe, leading to waterlogging in various districts in the Southern and Western regions of Bangladesh (Daily Situation Report).

## GoB Response in October 2023

# Response to Tornado

In Faridpur, local administrations have initiated relief operations in response to the tornado's impact, providing support to affected areas. Meanwhile, in Brahmanbaria's Sarail Upazila, Executive Officer Md Sarwar Uddin has announced relief efforts for the families affected by the tornado. As an initial measure, these families are receiving 30 kg of rice to address their immediate needs (thebusinessstandard).

## **Response to Cyclone**

The Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief took actions on 24 October 2023 to distribute as humanitarian aid to the distressed and helpless families affected in the mentioned coastal districts in the face of Cyclone 'Hamoon' in West-Central Bay of Bengal and adjacent areas by Relief Work (Rice),

Relief Work (Cash) and funds are allocated for the purchase and distribution of baby food and fodder (NDRCC).

**Table 1: GoB Response to Cyclone** 

				Number of people took shelter			Number of livestock took shelter				Medical team		
SL	District Name	Shelter Opened	Men	Women	Children	People with disability	Total	Cow/ Buffalo	Goat/ Sheep	Others	Total	Formed	Active
1	Barguna	642	433	570	180	24	1207	89	98	11	198	47	47
2	Barishal	736	1787	1988	923	65	4763	201	167		368	89	89
3	Bhola	869	43694	47646	13110	12	104462	7963	11200		19163	98	98
4	Chattogram	1037	59286	45241	7271	17	111815	1602	3619		5221	201	187
5	Cox's Bazar	576	16667	23238	218	38	40161	326	419	102	847	79	79
6	Feni	33	476	420	139	15	1050	150	120		270	14	14
7	Jhalokhathi	59	249	250	109	9	617	62	19		81	23	23
8	Laxmipur	285	1606	827	215	0	2648	5	17		22	35	35
9	Noakhali	485	1200	1840	515	40	3595	503	345		848	102	102
10	Patuakhali	738	610	1245	480	15	2350	483	367		850	72	72
11	Pirojpur	561	648	578	450	5	1681	78	87	250	415	70	70
	Total	6,021	126,656	123,843	23,610	240	274,349	11,462	16,458	363	28,283	830	816

# Conclusion

In October 2023, Bangladesh faced different types of hazards and adverse events, and the report underscores the critical need for a robust disaster management strategy to mitigate the impact of adverse events. This underscores the need for an integrated and proactive approach to disaster risk reduction.

# **Annex-1: Covid-19 Impacts in October 2023**

Date	Division District		Impact	Source	
			Confirm case	Death	
1-31 Oct-23	Chottogram	Chottogram	1	0	
	Dhaka	Cox's Bazar	17	0	<u>DGHS</u>
		Dhaka	185	0	
		Gopalganj	1	0	
Total			204	0	

**Annex-2: Dengue Impact in October 2023** 

Date	Division	District	Impa	ct	Source
Date	Division		Confirm Case	Death	
		Barisal	2,768	44	
		Patuakhali	1,479	0	
	Barishal	Bhola	780	1	
	Бапѕпаі	Pirojpur	1,863	2	
		Barguna	1,105	0	
		Jhalokati	259	0	
		Chattogram	2779	12	
		Cox's Bazar	941	1	
		Bandarban	212	0	
		Rangamati	106	0	
		Khagrachari	121	0	
	Chattogram	Feni	318		
	Chattogram	Noakhali	384	0	
		Lakshmipur	1083	1	
		Chandpur	1146	0	
		Comilla	1607	0	
		Brahmanbaria	260	0	
		Dhaka	16634	172	
		Faridpur	2099	53	
		Gazipur	1632	0	
		Gopalganj	687	0	
		Kishoreganj	175	0	
		Madaripur	1155	1	
	Dhaka	Manikganj	4763	5	
		Munshiganj	522	0	
		Narayanganj	555	0	
		Narsingdi	1189	0	
		Rajbari	1200	0	
		Shariatpur	476	0	
-31 Oct-23		Tangail	445	2	DGHS
-51 001-25					ропо
		Bagerhat	469	0	
		Chuadanga	435	2	
		Jessore	1341	8	
		Jhenaidah	1442	5	
	Khulna	Khulna	2045	20	
		Kushtia	1538	4	
		Magura	1436	2	
		Meherpur	771	0	
		Narail	821	3	
		Satkhira	435	0	
		Mymensingh	733	0	
	Mymensingh	Netrakona	109	0	
		Jamalpur	294	0	
		Sherpur	232	0	
		Rajshahi	1805	13	
		Nawabganj	418	0	
		Natore	281	0	
		Naogaon	123	0	
	Rajshahi	Pabna	1180	2	
			1493	0	
		Sirajganj			
		Bogura	474	1	
		Joypurhat	52	0	
		Rangpur	229	1	
		Panchagarh	25	0	
		Nilphamari	160	0	
	Rangpur	Lalmonirhat	48	0	
		Kurigram	155	0	
		Thakurgaon	85	0	
		Thakuigaon	126	· ·	

Date	Division	District	Imp	Source	
	Division		Confirm Case	Death	
		Gaibandha	205	1	
	Sylhet	Sylhet	99	0	
		Sunamganj	9	0	
		Habiganj	40	0	
		Maulvibazar	17	0	
Total		64	67868	359	

# Annex-3: Waterlogging in October 2023

Date	Division	District	Location	Impact	Sources
5-Oct-23	Rajshahi	Rajshahi	Sadar	extensive waterlogging as very heavy rainfall submerged major areas. Rainfall caused difficulties for commuters, and farmers were adversely affected as their lands went underwater. More than 50 houses in the area were reported to be submerged	thedailystar
	Dhaka	Dhaka	Sadar	Severely impacting residents like cooking due to extensive waterlogging knee-deep flooding	thedailystar
	Dhaka	Dhaka	Savar	After half an hour of rain, the road is knee-deep	<u>thedailystar</u>
6-Oct-23	Dhaka	Dhaka	Tongi	The Tongi-Ashulia-EPZ Road experienced kneedeep water, resulting in vehicle breakdowns and disrupting vehicular movement. Homes in Palashbari, Baipail, Jamgora, Chitrashail, Vadail, and Kaichabari were submerged, disrupting the daily lives of residents.	dhakatribune
7-Oct-23	Sylhet	Sylhet	Sadar	waterlogged roads and gridlock due to continuous rainfall, hampering health services.	thedailystar

# **Annex-4.1: Fire Impacts in October 2023**

Division	Total	Impacts	Sources		
Dhaka	116	5 were injured			
Mymensingh	24	No casualties recorded			
Barisal	15	No casualties recorded			
Sylhet	15	No casualties recorded	<u>DDM</u>		
Rajshahi	22	No casualties recorded	<u>—</u>		
Chattogram	46	1 people killed and 2 injured			
Khulna	60	4 people killed and 2 injured			
Rangpur	13	1 person killed			
Total: 6 were dead, and 10 others were injured.					

# **Annex-4.2: Fire Impacts in October 2023**

Date	Division	District	Upazila	Impact	Sources
9-Oct-23	Dhaka	Dhaka	Kakrail	No injury or damage	<u>prothomalo</u>
14-Oct-23	Dhaka	Narayanganj	Siddhirganj	5 workers injured	<u>prothomalo</u>
26-Oct-23	Dhaka	Dhaka	Mohakhali	3 killed, 10 injured, significant disruption in internet	thedailystar
				and telecommunication services	
28-Oct-23	Dhaka	Dhaka	Kakrail	a bus was burnt	<u>prothomalo</u>
29-Oct-23	Dhaka	Dhaka	Demra	1 killed, 1 injured, and a bus was burnt	prothomalo
Total				4 people killed and 16 were injured	