

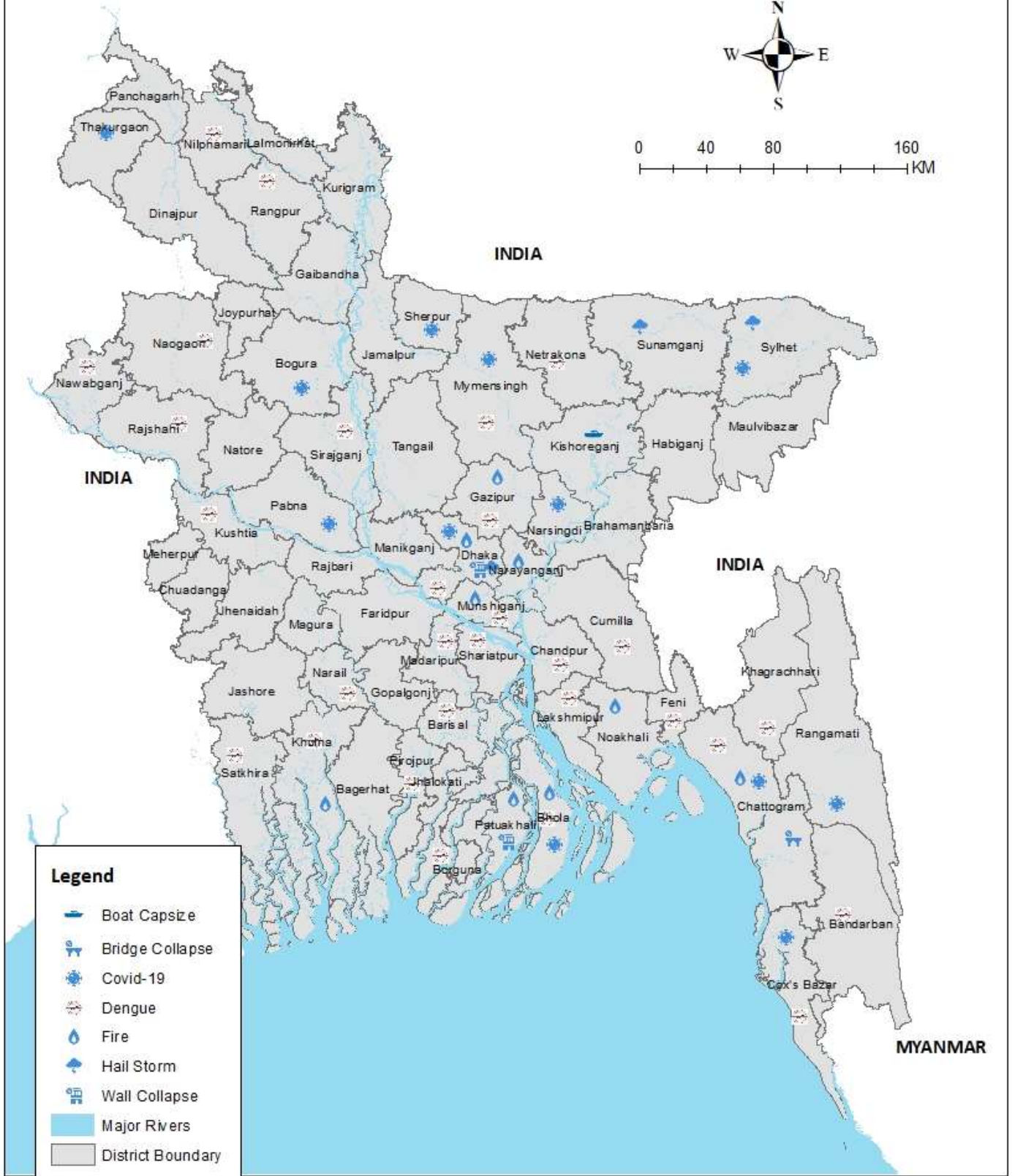
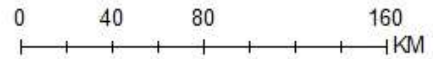


Overview of Hazard Incidences in March 2024

A total of **Seven** distinct hazard incidents occurred in Bangladesh during March 2024. These incidents included **COVID-19, dengue, bridge collapse, fire incidents, wall collapses, hailstorms, and boat capsized**. There was a total of **891** fire incidents that were recorded, and tragically, these fire incidents resulted in **66** fatalities and **131** injuries, as stated in the daily hazard situation report published by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief ([MoDMR](#)) and the Daily Newspaper. In contrast to February, there was a decrease in the number of confirmed cases of dengue cases and deaths that occurred during March. As stated in the daily situation report provided by the Directorate General of Health Services ([DGHS](#)), the outbreak affected approximately all of the Bangladesh districts, with **311** confirmed cases and **5** deaths reported during March. Moreover, there were two wall collapses that were witnessed, which resulted in one death along with **three** others being injured while a loss of approximately 22 crores occurred. In addition to that, **one** bridge collapse incident occurred in Chandanaish upazila of Chattogram district. In that incident a local pick-up van driver sustained injuries and an approximate monetary loss of **23.99** crore is recorded. Apart from these, an incident of boat capsizing has been reported this month where of all the 21 people on board, **six** died and **three** went missing. Although there were **three** deaths reported during March and there were **1055** newly confirmed cases of COVID-19, according to [DGHS](#), there has been a slight reduction in the number of confirmed cases than the previous month. Besides, two incidents of hailstorms have also been reported in Dhaka, Sylhet, and Sunamganj, of these the latter two districts saw injuries of **four** people and crop and property damage.

Monthly Hazard Incidence Calendar: March 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
Index	Covid-19	Dengue	Boat Capsize	Fire	Nor wester	Bridge Collapse
Wall Collapse						

Hazard Incidence in Bangladesh, March 2024



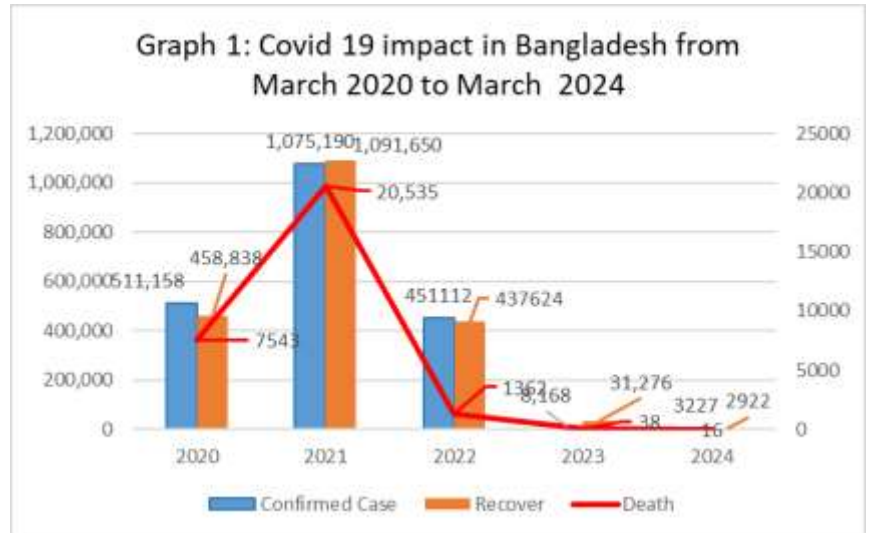
Description of Hazard Incidences in March 2024

Covid-19

Between the first of March and the last day of March 2024, **1055** patients were newly identified with Covid-19. During this period, there have been 3 reported deaths.

Since the initial identification of COVID-19, the total number of confirmed cases has reached 2049518 as of the end of March. This indicates there has been a slight decrease in both the number of confirmed cases and the number of deaths compared to the previous month. As of March 2024, the

total number of deaths in Bangladesh was 29,493 according to the Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS). During this month a total of **1395** people recovered. To obtain a more comprehensive analysis, kindly refer to Annex-1 and the table provided below.



Dengue

Based on [DGHS](#) daily situation report, there was a decrease in confirmed cases and deaths of dengue compared to the previous month. In March, Dhaka as usual recorded the highest number of confirmed cases (**121**) and deaths (**2**). There were **311** confirmed cases and **5** reported deaths in total throughout March. The map shows the spatial distribution of dengue-confirmed cases in March. For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to [Annex 2](#) and the table provided below.

Fire

According to the Disaster Situation Report of the Department of Disaster Management ([DDM](#)), **841** fire incidents took place across the country in March 2024. Dhaka division reported the highest number of fire incidents (**300**), followed by Khulna division (**184**), Rajshahi division (**100**), Chattogram division (**81**), Rangpur division (**63**), Mymensing division (**56**), Sylhet Division (**37**), Barishal division (**20**). Out of the **841** recorded incidents, **53** fatalities and **89** injuries were reported, along with significant property damage. The table shows the summarized incidents of fire that happened in October according to [DDM](#). For more information see [Annex3.1](#).

On March 02, A fire broke out at Gausul Azam Super Market in the Nilkhet area. Locals and market employees managed to douse the blaze at 4:40 pm even before the fire service arrived and around 1 lakh BDT was the monetary loss from that incident as a few shops caught fire ([Dhaka Tribune](#)). However, on March 13, On March 13, at least 32 people, including women and children, were injured after a gas cylinder caught fire following a leak in Gazipur's Kaliakoir and among them, 14 died later sustaining severe injury ([The Dially Star](#)). Apart from this, another fire incident was reported on the bank of Meghna in Hosendee union of Gajaria upazila of Munshiganj where a factory of super board was engulfed by that fire. Six workers and an Ansar security member of the factory have been reportedly injured while trying to douse the fire ([The Business Standard](#)). Later on 24 March, a fire broke out at a local market in the District of Narayanganj where Around 150 shops, including the chemical shop, car parts shop, grocery shop, confectionary shop, and pharmacy, were burned, said a witness [Somoynews.tv](#). For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to [Annex3.2](#).

Boat Capsize:

On March 22nd, a routine boat journey turned tragic as a vessel carrying 21 passengers sank in the Meghna River after colliding with a bulkhead. Despite swift rescue efforts, six lives were lost, with three women found dead and three others still missing. The community reels from the impact of this devastating event, while rescue teams tirelessly continue their search for the missing individuals, determined to bring closure to grieving families ([Somoynews.tv](#)).

Bridge Collapse:

"This was a disaster waiting to happen," said a resident, voicing the frustration of many in the community. On March 23, a sand-laden pickup truck plunged into a canal when the Bailey bridge it was traversing collapsed in the Barkal area of Chandanaish upazila, Chattogram. The driver sustained injuries in the incident ([The Business Standard](#)). The bridge, a crucial link on the Anwara-Chandanaish upazila road, was slated for removal due to its unsafe condition but remained in use. Despite local concerns, the structure continued to carry heavy cargo trucks, leading to this avoidable accident.

Hailstorm:

On March 24, a nor'wester accompanied by hailstorms and lightning struck the capital at 2:30 am, with hailstones the size of cricket balls causing significant disruption for about an hour. Similar conditions were observed in Comilla, Narsingdi, Narayanganj, and Mymensingh, with the highest recorded rainfall of 63mm in Nikli, Kishoreganj ([Dhaka Tribune](#)). On March 31, Sylhet and Sunamganj were hit by thundershowers and hailstorms, with hailstones weighing up to 203 grams. The storm caused extensive damage to crops and properties, injured four people, and led to a six-hour power outage in Sylhet. Farmers are concerned about the impact on boro paddy crops, potentially raising prices ([Somoynews.tv](#)).

Wall Collapse:

On 14 March 2024, a tragic incident occurred in Rangabali upazila of Patuakhali as the roof of a 50-bed upazila health complex in Patuakhali Rangabali collapsed during welding work. There is no apparent news of death but a monetary loss around 22 Crore has occurred ([Dhaka Tribune](#)). Besides, another unfortunate incident occurred on 24 March 2024 in Malibagh, Dhaka. In that tragic incident, a construction worker was killed along with 3 others being injured ([NewAge](#)).

GoB Response in March 2024

In month of March, 2024 there are no reported GoB responses for several hazard incidences.

Conclusion

In March 2024, 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 March 2024

Date	Division	District	Impact		Source
			Confirm case	Death	
1-31 March -24	Barisal	Bhola	1	0	DGHS
	Chattogram	Chittagong	16	0	
		Cox's Bazar	37	0	
		Comilla	1	0	
	Dhaka	Dhaka	989	2	
		Narsingdi	2	0	
	Mymensingh	Mymensingh	1	1	
		Sherpur	1	0	
	Rajshahi	Pabna	3	0	
		Bogura	2	0	
Rangpur	Thakurgaon	1	0		
Total	Sylhet	Sylhet	1055 Cases	3 Deaths	

Annex-2: Dengue Impact in October 2023

Date	Division	District	Impact		Source	
			Confirm case	Death		
1-31 Oct-23	Barisal	Barisal	5	0	DGHS	
		Bhola	5	0		
		Pirojpur	3	0		
		Barguna	15	1		
	Chattogram	Chittagong	28	1		
		Cox's Bazar	20	1		
		Bandarban	4	0		
		Khagrachari	2	0		
		Feni	1	0		
		Comilla	10	0		
		Chandpur	29	0		
		Lakshmipur	18	0		
		Dhaka	Dhaka	121		2
			Faridpur	0		0
	Gazipur		1	0		
	Madaripur		6	0		
	Munshiganj		4	0		
	Narsingdi		4	0		
	Shariatpur		12	0		
	Khulna	Khulna	2	0		
		Satkhira	3	0		
		Narail	3	0		
	Mymensingh	Kushtia	1	0		
		Mymensingh	6	0		
		Netrakona	1	0		
	Rajshahi	Rajshahi	1	0		
		Nawabganj	1	0		
		Naogaon	1	0		
	Rangpur	Sirajganj	3	0		
		Kurigram	0	0		
			Nilphamari	1		0
	Total		311	5		

Annex-3.1: Fire Impacts in March 2024

Division	Total	Impacts	Source
Dhaka	300	47 died and 84 were injured	DDM
Mymensingh	56	1 died	
Barisal	20	1 injured	
Sylhet	37	5 died and 1 injured	
Rajshahi	100	No casualties recorded	
Chattogram	81	No Casualties recorded	
Khulna	184	3 injured	
Rangpur	63	No Casualties recorded	
Total		53 were killed, and 89 were injured	

Annex-3.2: Fire Impacts in March 2024

Date	Division	District	Upazilla	Impact	Sources
4-Mar-24	Chattagram	Chattagram	Karnaphuli	20,000 tons of sugar damaged in S Alam sugar mill fire	The Business Standard
7-Mar-24	Dhaka	Dhaka	Banani	No casualty has been reported	Shomoynews.tv
13-Mar-24	Dhaka	Gazipur	Kaliakoir	36 people including the elderly, women and children were severely injured, among them, 14 died.	The Daily Star
14-Mar-24	Dhaka	Dhaka	Hatirpool	No apparent impact	Prothom Alo
16-Mar-24	Chattogram	Chattogram	Patiya	No Tangible loss to human lives.	The Financial Express
23-Mar-24	Dhaka	Dhaka	Chawkbazar	No casualty has been reported	Prothom Alo
23-Mar-24	Dhaka	Dhaka	Gulshan	There have been no reports of casualties	Dhaka Tribune
24-Mar-24	Dhaka	Munsiganj	Gajaria	Six workers and an Ansar security member of the factory have been reportedly injured while trying to douse the fire.	The Business Standard
24-Mar-24	Dhaka	Narayanganj		Around 150 shops, including the chemical shop, car parts shop, grocery shop, confectionary shop and pharmacy, were burned, said witnesses	Somoynews.tv
24-Mar-24	Dhaka	Dhaka	Banani	No casualty has been reported	Somoynews.tv