



Overview of Flash Flood, 2017

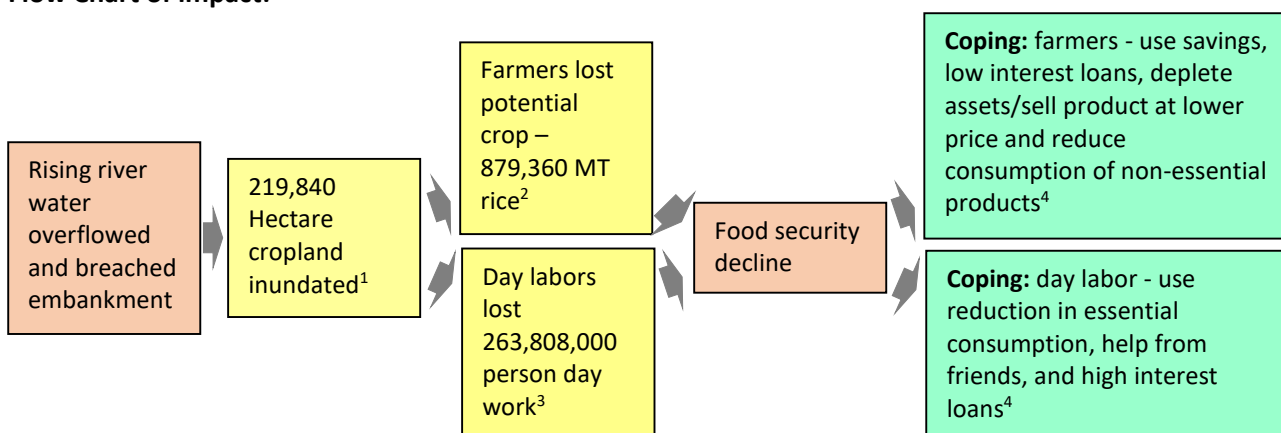
Heavy rainfalls as well as onrush of water from the upstream Meghalaya hills in India have led to the inundation of a vast areas of croplands of Haors and low-lying areas of the northeast. Flood started on 28th March affecting six districts (Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Sunamganj, Habiganj, Netrokona and Kishoreganj) in the north east region. Rising water overflow and breached embankment in many places and inundated vast areas of croplands. It destroyed nearly-ready-for-harvesting boro rice in about 219,840 hectares areas (details information in table 1).



Impact of Flash Flood

This flood caused huge damage to crop production. Potential loss of crops is estimated to be 879,360 MT.

Flow Chart of impact:



Detailed impact scenario:

The flood has severely affected 518 unions of the total 541 unions in the 62 upazilas under the 6 districts. About one third of the total households of these districts has suffered due to loss of their Boro crop. Also many of them has lost their houses (partially or fully) as well as suffered due to the loss of fisheries and domestic animals and birds (detail in table 1, 2, 3 and 4).

Table 1: Proportion of household affected by the flash flood in six districts

Districts	Household (BBS, 2011)	Affected household (%) (DDM, April 28, 2017)
Kishoreganj	627,322	148,687 (23.7%)
Habiganj	393,302	74,440 (18.9%)
Sylhet	596,081	212,570 (35.7%)
Sunamganj	440,332	172,617 (39.2%)
Netrokona	479,146	167,180 (34.9%)
Moulvibazar	361,177	74,594 (20.7%)
Total	2,897,360	850,088 (29.3%)

Table 2: Brief damage information of six districts affected by flash flood (up to April 28, 2017)

Districts	Affected Upazilas	Affected Unions	Affected HH	Fully Damaged Agricultural Land (Hec.)	Damaged House	
					Fully	Partially
Sunamganj	11	88	172,617	102,436	2,600	15,000
Sylhet	13	105	212,570	26,715	20	10
Netrokona	10	86	167,180	19,566	0	0
Kishoreganj	13	56	148,687	45,256	0	0
Habiganj	08	64	74,440	15,953	46	51
Moulvibazar	07	60	74,594	9,914	194	284
Total	62	518	850,088	219,840	1,860	15,345

Source: DDM Report on Damage Information and Relief Distribution on Flash Flood, May 01, 2017

¹ Source- Reports of DDM on Damage Information and Relief Distribution on Flash Flood, May 01, 2017

² Estimated production of 4 T per hectare as suggested by the Ministry of Agriculture

³ Estimated 120 person/day for harvesting boro rice from one hectare of crop field (Consultation with local farmers).

⁴ Final Draft National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh 2015

Table 3: Information on damage to fisheries as received from Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock			
Districts	Affected Upazilas	Damage to water bodies and fish production	
		No. of Water bodies	Fish (MT)
Sunamganj	11	23	49.75
Sylhet	3	8	21
Netrokona	3	14	118.82
Kishoreganj	0	0	0
Habigabj	0	0	0
Moulvibazar	3	1	25
Total	20	46	213.95

Source: DDM Report on Damage Information and Relief Distribution on Flash Flood, April 28, 2017

Table 4: Information on damage to livestock as received from Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock								
Districts	Affected Upazilas	Affected Unions	Loss of livestock					
			Cow	Buffalo	Goat	Sheep	Duck	Hen
Sunamganj	11	97	361,000	1,250	68,500	32,450	1,210,500	962,000
Sylhet	4	21	249,574	11,763	28,797	41,729	2,120,621	401,100
Netrokona	10	69	139,858	533	40,118	2,053	1,017,495	491,096
Kishoreganj	8	48	132,388	0	0	0	513,300	0
Habigabj	6	34	140,324	1,092	22,640	9,221	1,019,903	517,354
Moulvibazar	3	50	67,022	15,072	21,865	2,719	89,756	266,890
Total	42	284	1,090,166	29,710	181,920	88,172	597,175	2,638,440

Source: DDM Report on Damage Information and Relief Distribution on Flash Flood, April 28, 2017

GoB Response in Flash Flood, 2017

The Government of Bangladesh has targeted 330,000 (of the total 850,088) households to provide assistance. The support include mainly GR (rice and cash), VGF, cash through Employment Generation Program for Poorest scheme and C. I. sheet and cash for housing. In addition, the government assistance included special cash grant under VGF. Details of the assistance are in the table below:

Flash flood response as committed by the Honorable Prime Minister

- Provide food and fodder to the affected households
- Open Market Sale (OMS) of rice at subsidized rate
- Monthly cash grant for the affected households
- Moratorium of loan repayment and waive interest of bank loan
- Distribute fertilizers, seeds and other agricultural components among the farmers at free of cost.
- Subsidize electricity to the people in the affected localities.
- Plan for long term development of the haor areas

Table 5: GoB allotment for the affected people									
Districts	No of families (till July)	GR		VGF		EGPP		C. I. Sheet (Bundle)	Cash for housing (BDT)
		Rice (MT)	Cash (BDT)	Rice (MT)	Cash as special grant (BDT)	No of beneficiaries	Cash (BDT)		
Sunamganj	150,000	1,450	8,500,000	14,700	225,000,000	13,925	124,927,436	200	600,000
Sylhe	50,000	428	2,437,000	4,900	75,000,000	19,787	177,407,937	0	
Netrokona	50,000	648	4,240,000	4,900	75,000,000	16,108	144,860,128	0	
Kishoreganj	50,000	652	3,870,000	4,900	75,000,000	17,387	156,243,338	0	
Habiganj	29,000	403	1,400,000	2,842	42,500,000	12,670	113,534,043	100	300,000
Moulvibazar	1,000	343	1,450,000	98	1,500,000	11,570	103,727,807	0	
Total	330,000	3,924	21,897,000	32,340	495,000,000	91,447	820,700,689	300	900,000

Source: DDM Report on Damage Information and Relief Distribution on Flash Flood, April 28, 2017

Conclusion

Flash flood occurred in nearly all unions under the six haor districts and affected about one third of the households of the districts. It destroyed the potential boro crop fully. Also the affected households suffered due to loss of fisheries and domestic animals and birds. Moreover, some households have lost their houses (fully or partially).

The GoB response is prompt and significant. It included GR rice, cash grant, VGF including special cash grant, employment generation and C. I. sheet and cash for housing. More importantly, the Government has expressed its commitment to turn haor areas into an economic resource hub.

Media Coverage

Dhaka Tribune

April, 08, 2017

Flash flood in the Haors may worsen rice price hike

Traders believe the high price of rice is set to continue after recent flash floods in the northeastern wetlands destroyed more than 200,000 hectares of mature Boro paddy.

See details: <http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2017/04/08/flash-flood-haors-may-worsen-rice-price-hike/>

Paddy production hit by flood in the Haors

... Floods have occurred in at least four of the five districts in the region. In Moulvibazar, which experiences the most rainfall in Bangladesh, at least 12,800 acres of Boro paddy went under water. Our correspondent Saiful Islam reported that farmers were seen collecting peanuts, pumpkins and yams from the inundated fields.

See more: <http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2017/04/08/paddy-production-hit-flood-haors/>

The Daily Star

April, 08, 2017

Fresh areas flooded in Netrakona

Flood situation in Netrakona continues to deteriorate as fresh areas of farmland were inundated yesterday, causing immense sufferings to thousands of farmers.

Due to washing away of two more embankments-'Gachikhai' and 'Joypur' embankments in Khaliajuri upazila, over 90 percent area of the upazila has gone under water, said Mohammed Tofael Ahmed, upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Khaliajuri.

See details: <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/fresh-areas-flooded-netrakona-1388464>



April, 09, 2017

হাওড়ে কৃষকের সর্বনাশ

... একের পর এক বাঁধ ভেঙ্গে যাচ্ছে। নতুন করে খালিয়াজুরি-সোনাতলার বাঁধ ভেঙ্গে যাওয়ায় আরও কিছু জমির ধান ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত হবে। উপজেলার বাইরে সুনামগঞ্জ জেলার চিত্র আরও ভয়াবহ বলা চলে।

See more:

<http://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/260723/%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%93%E0>



April, 09, 2017

হাওড়াঞ্চলের দুর্যোগ ও করণীয়

হাওড়ের কৃষকের সর্বনাশ হয়ে গেল। দেশের হাওড়াঞ্চল সিলেট, সুনামগঞ্জ, কিশোরগঞ্জ ও নেত্রকোনার কয়েক শ' হাওড়ে বছরের একমাত্র ফসল বোরো কাঁচা অবস্থায় অকাল বন্যায় পানির নিচে তলিয়ে গেছে। যেখানে প্রায় তিন লাখ টন ধান উৎপাদনের আশা ছিল তার সবটাই নিঃশেষ হয়ে কৃষকের মাথায় হাত। একদিকে সব ফসলডুবির ক্ষতি, কৃষকের গোলা খালি, অপরদিকে সারা বছরের খোড়াকি ও সংসারের যাতবীয় খরচের দুশ্চিন্তা। তার ওপর আরও আছে ফসল করার জন্য লাখ লাখ টাকা ঋণের বোঝা।

See more at:

<http://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/260767/%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%93%E0%A7%9C%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9E%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%97-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A3%E0%A7%80%E0%A7%9F#sthash.1i7dhiCo.dpuf>



April, 08, 2017

ফসলের ক্ষতি সইতে না পেরে কৃষকের মৃত্যু

■ মদন (নেত্রকোনা) প্রতিনিধি
পাহাড়ি ঢল ও ভারি বর্ষণে নেত্রকোনার মদন উপজেলার নিম্নাঞ্চলে দেখা দিয়েছে আকস্মিক বন্যা। এ বন্যায় বোরো ধানের জমি তলিয়ে যাওয়ার দৃশ্য দেখে ক্ষতি সইতে না পেরে হৃদরোগে আক্রান্ত হয়ে রহিছ মিয়া (৫২) নামে এক বর্গাচাষির মৃত্যু হয়েছে। বৃহস্পতিবার সন্ধ্যায় মদন উপজেলার ফতেপুর ইউনিয়নের রুদ্রশী গ্রামে এ ঘটনা ঘটে। রহিছ মিয়া ঋণ করে তলার হাওরে ৫ একর জমিতে বোরো ধান আবাদ করেন। বৃহস্পতিবার বিকেলে বন্যায় তলিয়ে যায় বোরো ক্ষেত। চোখের সামনে এ দৃশ্য দেখে বিলাপ করতে করতে সন্ধ্যায় বাড়ি ফেরেন রহিছ। বাড়ি ফিরে কান্নার এক পর্যায়ে হৃদরোগে আক্রান্ত হয়ে তিনি মারা যান।

ফতেপুর ইউপি চেয়ারম্যান রফিকুল ইসলাম চৌধুরী জানান, আকস্মিক বন্যায় ফসলের ক্ষতিতে তার ইউনিয়নের গ্রামে গ্রামে কৃষক পরিবারে আহাজারি ও কান্নার বিলাপ চলছে। পানি বৃষ্টি পাওয়ায় মাইকিং করে এলাকার সব মানুষ ঝেঁষায় বিভিন্ন স্থানে বাঁধে মাটি কাটা ও স্লুইস গেটের ভেতরের পানি সরানোর জন্য দিনরাত কাজ করছে।

অপ্রত্যাশিত এ বন্যায় মদন, গোবিন্দশী, মাঘান, তিয়শী ও ফতেপুর ইউনিয়নের বিভিন্ন এলাকা তলিয়ে গেছে।

The Daily Star

April, 13, 2017

Declare haors as 'affected areas'

... Addressing a roundtable at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital, they also alleged that contractors who got the job of building embankments from Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) did not complete their work in due time and, in most cases, they were involved in corruption. Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) in collaboration with Water Rights Forum organised the roundtable. The flood-affected residents sought loans on easy terms for farming and urged that the government declare the areas surrounding haors as “affected areas”.

On an average, some 75 percent crops in haor areas of Sunamganj, Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Netrakona, Kishoreganj and Brahmanbaria went under floodwater in the last few days, causing damage to crops worth around Tk 6,000 crore, claimed Reza, president of Paribesh O Haor Unnayan Shangstha. He said 90 percent crops in Sunamganj have gone under floodwater and farmers in those areas are facing a severe crisis as they did their cultivation with loans from different NGOs.

See more at: <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/declare-haors-affected-areas-1390495>

theindependent

April, 12, 2017

Haor floods manmade, claim activists

Participants in a roundtable discussion on the recent flash floods in the haors (wetlands) in north-eastern districts alleged that it was a manmade disaster created by the collapse of faulty flood barriers to protect lives and crops.

They also demanded punishment for the officials and contractors responsible for building the flood barriers. Summing up the discussion at Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) yesterday, rights activist Sultana Kamal said, “This disaster was due to the lack of planning and coordination by the government departments concerned and the substandard work by the contractors who built the flood barriers.”

See more at: <http://www.theindependentbd.com/printversion/details/89910>

Dhaka Tribune

April 23, 2017

Over 341,000 farmers have become victim of the flood in the division, according to government estimates

The recent flash flood caused by incessant rain over the last few days has inundated nearly standing Boro paddy on about 114,000 hectares of land in four districts of Sylhet division.

According to the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), Sunamganj is the most affected area in the division. The standing crops on some 57,289 hectares of land in Haor areas went under water.

On the other hand, the crops on 34,379 hectares in Sylhet; 10,277 hectares in Moulvibazar; and 11,737 hectares in Habiganj have been damaged.

<http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2017/04/23/114000-hectare-boro-crops-damaged-4-sylhet-districts/>

April 30, 2017

Prime Minister Hasina exposes love, compassion for flood-hit haor people

“... .. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Sunday demonstrated her extraordinary love and compassion towards the flood-hit haor people as she visited some affected areas of the upazila in the northeastern district of Sunamganj.”

See more at: <http://www.daily-sun.com/post/223229/Prime-Minister-Hasina-exposes-love-compassion-for-floodhit-haor-people>

May 1, 2017

PM visit boosts morale of haor residents

“... .. Hasina visited Shalla, one of the worst hit areas 70-km from Sunamganj town, to see for herself their predicament. She told them she and her government would provide them with full support.

The support includes waiving the interest on agriculture loans for a time; distributing fertiliser, seeds other agriculture inputs, rice, and cash; subsidising electricity; and planning long term to turn haor areas into an economic resource hub.”

See more at: <http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2017/05/01/pm-visit-boosts-morale-haor-residents/>

May 2, 2017

PM warns against rise of food prices in plea of flood

“... .. The prime minister said the government is examining any negligence in constructing the embankments of the Haors and resolved that actions would be taken if anybody found responsible for this.

She said payment of all bank loans of the Haor people would remain postponed until harvesting of the new crop and interest of the bank loan would be halved. She also announced distribution of fertilizer, seeds, other agricultural components among farmers free of cost and monthly allowance of Tk500 for every affected family.”

See more at: <http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2017/04/30/pm-warns-rise-food-prices-plea-flood/>