

Overview of Disaster Incidences in April 2016

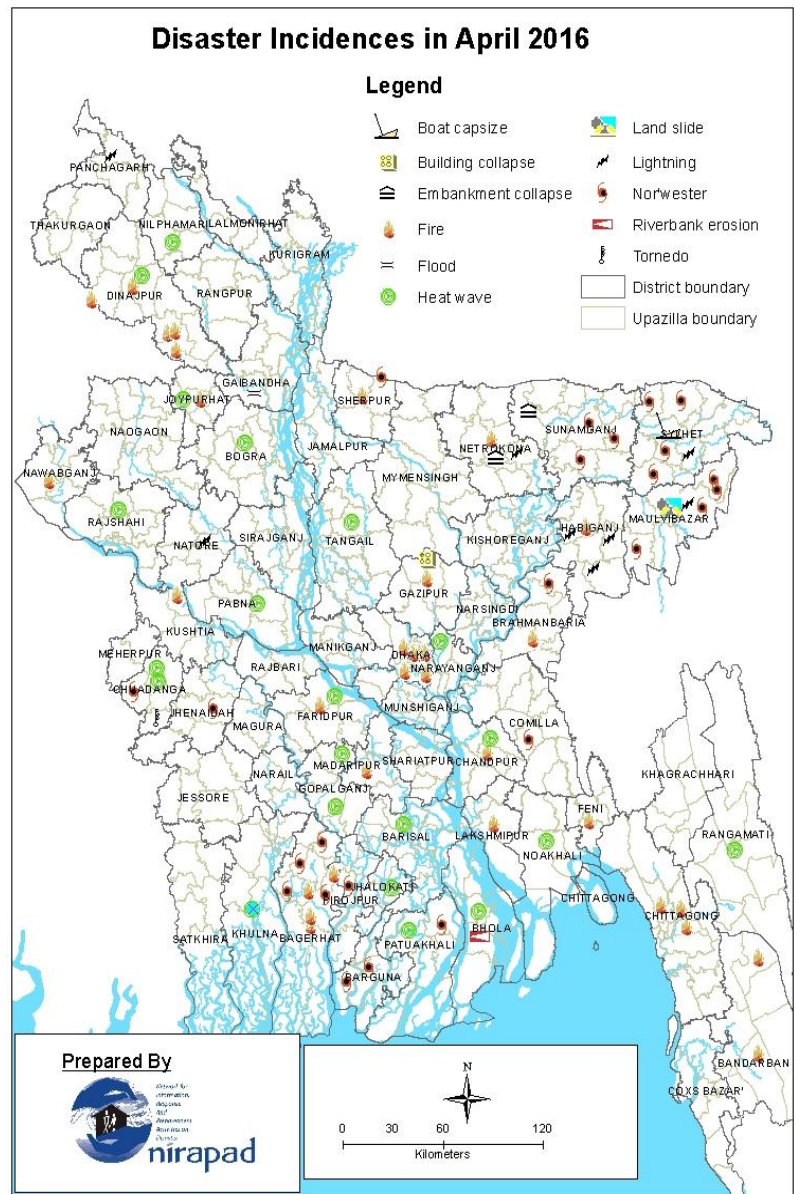
April was the month of disaster in terms of both natural and manmade. Nor'wester, Lightning, Heat Wave, Tornado, Boat Capsize, Riverbank Erosion, Flood, Embankment Collapse, Landslide, Hailstorm, Earthquake were the natural incidents that occurred in this month. Apart from these, Fire Incidents, Building Collapse was occurred in this month.

Incidents of Nor'wester were reported on 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 16th and 29th of April and affected 11 districts. Lightning occurred in 6 districts on 3rd, 16th, 18th and 19th of this month.

On 17th April, one incident of boat capsizes at Goanighat in Sylhet district and two incidents of embankment collapse in Sylhet and Netrokona district were reported, respectively. In this month, an incident of landslide at Kamalganj upazila of Moulvibazar district on 5th April, riverbank erosion at Monpura upazila in Bhola district on 27th April, a wall collapse incident at Gazipur district on 23rd April, a hailstorm incident on 2nd April at Bagerhat district also reported in the national dailies.

Beside these, there was a flood in Gaibandha district at Fulchari upazila on 18th and a tornado on 6th of this month at Jibannagar upazila under Chuadanga district, respectively. Also, mild tremors of two earthquakes were felt on 5th and 13th April in all over Bangladesh. Furthermore, 30 fire incidents were occurred in 18 districts.

April-2016						
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



Description of the Events in April 2016

Nor'wester

In April, Nor'wester hit 11 districts e.g. Pirozpur, Barguna, Brahmanbaria, Comilla, Patuakhali, Moulvibazar, Sylhet, Bagerhat, Chuadanga, Jhinaidah, and Sunamganj. 22 destructive Nor'westers took place on 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 16th and 29th of this month resulting huge damage to the melon grains, betel field, corn, banana, eggplant, chili, snake beans and other crops especially affects the Boro paddy enormously on a vast tracts of land. More than 1,000 acres of crop land were destroyed and more than 100 fruitful trees were uprooted. There were four Nor'westers stricken in Sylhet and Moulvibazar, three in Bagerhat, two in Barguna, Chuadanga and Sunamganj and one in rest of the districts.

On 5th April, traffic movements on Khulna-Barisal and Jessor-Jhinaidah highway were suspended for hours due to Nor'wester. Also, train services of Sylhet with the other parts of the country were stopped for 10 hours at Kamalganj in Moulvibazar on 7th April as trees fell on tracks during the storm. Electricity was disrupted continuously in these 11 districts during the storms as many electric poles were uprooted.

More than 3,730 houses and 13 educational institutes were damaged, 2 boats were capsized, 2 people were killed, 68 people were injured during the Nor'wester. Estimated losses were about more than BDT 6 crore.

Table 1: Loss and damage by Nor'wester in April 2016

Date	Location		Impact	Source	Remark
	District	Upazila			
1-Apr	Pirozpur	Mathbaria	Tin-shed building of "Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibar Rahman College" damaged. Estimated cost BDT 20 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 2</i>	
	Barguna	Taltali	2 boats capsized at Chotobagi, Nasanbariya and Sonakata union. Estimated loss near about BDT 1 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 2</i>	Incident occurred at the Payra riverbank, Telulbaria near Bay of Bengal.
	Brahmanbaria	Akhaura	Crops damaged and several trees uprooted. Traffic movement stopped for hours. Electricity disrupted.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 2</i>	
	Comilla	Debidwar	"Kharabad Ideal High School" building severely damaged due to the storm. Estimated loss BDT 7 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 2</i>	
	Barguna	Amtali and Taltali	Melon grains damaged due to the hailstorm.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 2</i>	
2-Apr	Patuakhali	Baufal	Total 50 houses where 10 are totally and rest are partially damaged.	<i>The Daily Star, April 3</i>	Nor'wester lashed Dhulia launch terminal.
4-Apr	Moulvibazar	Kulaura and Sreemangal	5 people injured and more than 50 houses in 10 villages damaged.	<i>The Daily Star, April 6</i>	Storm accompanied with hail uprooted scores of trees and electric poles and damaged standing boro paddy on vast tracts of land.
5-Apr	Moulvibazar	Kulaura and Sreemangal	Damaged crops and trees.	<i>The Daily Star, April 6</i>	Storm accompanied with hail uprooted scores of trees and electricity poles and damaged standing boro paddy on vast tracts of land.
	Sylhet	Sylhet sadar	8 people injured and 30 houses damaged.	<i>The Daily Star, April 6</i>	

Table 1: Loss and damage by Nor'wester in April 2016

Date	Location		Impact	Source	Remark
	District	Upazila			
	Bagerhat	Bagerhat sadar, Kochua, Fakirhat and Rampal	Boro paddy, betel field and other crops damaged on vast tracts of land. A number of electric pole uprooted. Power supply of entire district snapped. 1,000 houses damaged. Khulna-Barisal highway remained suspended for three hours.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 7</i>	Violent storm accompanied by hail swept over the area
	Chuadanga	Alamdanga	1 woman killed as a wall of her house hit by the storm and collapsed.	<i>The Daily Star, April 7</i>	Storm lashed the area.
	Jhinaidah	Jhinaidah sadar, Kotchadpur, Kaliganj and Maheshpur	More than 100 of katcha houses destroyed. Electricity disrupted. Many trees uprooted. Jessor-Jhinaidah highway remained stopped for one hour.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 7</i>	Storm accompanied by swept over the area at night
6-Apr	Chuadanga	Meherpur	More than 100 fruitful trees uprooted. Uprooted trees blocked the road and disrupted the electricity service. About 300 houses destroyed. 11 educational institutes damaged.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 7</i>	Storm accompanied by hail swept away the area
	Bagerhat	Maheshpur	2 people injured. More than 100 houses damaged. Storm damaged paddy, corn, banana, eggplant, chili, snake beans on a vast tract of land. Estimated loss BDT 5 crore.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 7</i>	
	Bagerhat	Molerganj	A number of houses, crops and educational institutions damaged at Panchakaran, Teligati, Hoglapasha, Chingrikhali, Bongram and Ramchandrapur union of Molerganj.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 7</i>	
7-Apr	Moulvibazar	Kamalganj	Train services of Sylhet with the other parts of the country suspended for 10 hours.		Trees fell on tracks during the storm
8-Apr	Moulvibazar	Baralekha	At least 2,800 houses and uprooted 100 trees and telephone and electricity poles.	<i>The Daily Star, April 11</i>	Hailstorm accompanied by rain hit the area and swept through the area. The hails were larger than egg.
	Sylhet	Fenchuganj	The storm uprooted sores of trees and electricity poles and damaged standing Boro paddy on vast tracts of land.	<i>The Daily Star, April 12</i>	
	Sylhet	Sylhet sadar	The storm uprooted sores of trees and electricity poles and damaged standing Boro paddy on vast tracts of land.	<i>The Daily Star, April 13</i>	
16-Apr	Sylhet	Sylhet city	3 injured. Large and old trees fell on houses; uprooted tree fell on a power line causing disruption of power supply.	<i>The Daily Star, April 17</i>	
29-Apr	Sunamganj	Bishwamvapur	1 person killed.	<i>The Daily Star, April 30</i>	
	Sunamganj	Derai and Dharmapasha	1000 acres of crops damaged. 200 houses damaged, 50 injured and many electric poles uprooted.	<i>The Daily Star, April 30</i>	
Total			Total more than 3,730 houses and 13 educational institutes damaged, 2 boats capsized, 2 people killed , 68 people injured, more than 1,000 acres of crop land were destroyed, 100 trees uprooted that making loss of more than BDT 6 crore.		

Lightening

In the month of April, 8 incidents of lightning occurred in 6 districts e.g. Natore, Moulvibazar, Netrokona, Panchagarh, Habiganj and Sylhet on 3rd, 16th, 18th and 19th April. Among them, 4 incidents occurred on the same day on 19th April in Habiganj, Sylhet and Panchagarh district. The number of incidents were most in Habiganj district i.e. three. Total 13 people were killed and 9 were injured in these incidents.

Table 2: Loss and damage by Lightning in April 2016

Date	Location		Impact	Source	Remark
	District	Upazila			
3-Apr	Natore	Lalpur	1 killed and 2 injured.	<i>The Daily Star, April 3</i>	The effected were playing football in the college playground during a thunderstorm.
16-Apr	Moulvibazar	Moulvibazar sadar	1 killed.	<i>The Daily Star, April 17</i>	
	Habiganj	Lakhai	3 killed.	<i>The Daily Star, April 17</i>	
18-Apr	Netrokona	Madan	2 killed and 5 injured.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 18</i>	Incidence occurred in a brick field.
19-Apr	Habiganj	Nabiganj	2 killed.	<i>The Daily Star, April 20</i>	
	Habiganj	Baniachong	1 killed.	<i>The Daily Star, April 20</i>	
	Sylhet	Jaintiapur	2 children killed and 1 injured.	<i>The Daily Star, April 20</i>	
	Panchagarh	Boda	1 killed and 1 injured.	<i>The Daily Star, April 20</i>	
Total			Total 13 were killed and 9 were injured.		

Fire

There were 30 fire incidents in April, 2016. As for geographic spread, 18 districts (Patuakhali, Dhaka, Sherpur, Faridpur, Dinajpur, Chittagong, Habiganj, Bandarban, Bagherhat, Gazipur, Madaripur, Brahmanbaria, Feni, Lakshmpur, Chapainawabganj, Netrokona, Joypurhat and Chandpur) experienced fire. These incidents caused death to 5 persons; 6 cows, 5,000 broilers and injury to 17 people. More than 15 shops and 141 houses were burnt and estimated loss was about BDT 3 crore 54 lac (Table 3).

As many as 4 fire incidents occurred on 10th, 24th and 26th April, three or two incidents in a single day occurred on 8th, 16th, and 23rd April. Highest seven fire incidences occurred in Dhaka district. There were four fire incidents occurred in Dinajpur, three in Chittagong, two in Bandarban and Gazipur and one incident in each of the remaining 12 districts.

Fire Incidents at Sundarbans

In the month of April, there were three incidents of fire at Sundarban. Fire broke out at Chandpai range of the Sundarbans in Sharankhola upazila on 13th, 18th and 27th April. Fire originated at Abdullah Shila, Pach koralia and Napitkhali area adjacent to Nangli forest camp. In the last incidents of fire, it took three days to put out and destroyed over three acres of the forest. Though there has been no human casualty in this incident, a large number of trees were burnt in the fire.

Table 3: Loss and damage by Fire in April 2016

Date	Location		Impact	Source	Remark
	District	Upazila			
2-Apr	Patuakhali	Patuakhali sadar	10 hoses burnt.	<i>The Daily Star, April 3</i>	Fire originated from kitchen.
5-Apr	Dhaka	Tejgaon	40 rooms gutted. Estimated loss BDT 20 lac.	<i>The Daily Star, April 6</i>	Fire broke out in “Kulipara slum” at a three storied tin made house. Fire originated from electric short circuit or a stove.
8-Apr	Sherpur	Sherpur sadar	1 cotton warehouse, 4 shops and 4 houses burnt.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 9</i>	Fire erupt from cotton warehouse
	Faridpur	Modhukhali	2 houses and 1 kitchen. Estimated loss BDT 3 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 9</i>	
	Dinajpur	Kaharol	6 cows killed and 1 house burnt. Estimated loss BDT 5 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 9</i>	Fire originated from electric short circuit.
9-Apr	Dinajpur	Birganj	6 houses burnt at Mohammadpur union.	<i>The daily Jugantor, April 10</i>	
10-Apr	Chittagong	Khulshi	2 people injured.	<i>bdnews24.com, April 10</i>	CNG gas cylinder of a private car blast at a refueling station.
	Habiganj	Habiganj town	1 woman killed. Estimated loss BDT 1 lac.	<i>bdnews24.com, April 10</i>	A fire broke out in a house.
	Bandarban	Roangchari sadar	26 houses burnt. Estimated loss BDT 30 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 10</i>	
	Chittagong	Chittagong city	2 shops gutted. Estimated loss BDT 4 lac.		Fire originated from electric short circuit.
15-Apr	Dhaka	Savar	2 killed and 4 injured.	<i>The Daily Star, April 16</i>	A defective CNG gas cylinder of a private car blast at a refueling station near Nabinagar, Ashulia
16-Apr	Gazipur	Tongi	A bus caught fire and burnt.	<i>The Daily Star, April 17</i>	Fire originated from the CNG gas cylinder blast.
	Dhaka	Dhanmondi	Fire burnt the stuffs of a room. No injury.	<i>The Daily Star, April 17</i>	A fire broke out in a room of a girl’s hostel at green road. Fire originated from electric short circuit.
	Madaripur	Rajoir	1 house burnt and 1 woman killed.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 17</i>	
19-Apr	Chittagong	Hathazari	5 houses burnt. Estimated loss BDT 3 lac.	<i>The Daily Prothomalo, April 20</i>	Fire originated from kitchen.
20-Apr	Bandarban	Alikadam	1 child killed and 1 house burnt.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 21</i>	
21-Apr	Brahmanbaria	Sarail	Shops at local market “Akhitara bazar” burnt. Estimated loss BDT 10 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 21</i>	Fire originated from electric short circuit.
23-Apr	Dhaka	Baridhara	5 injured at Kuril Bishwa road.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 24</i>	Fire originated from electric short circuit.
24-Apr	Feni	Daganbhuiyan	1 killed.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 25</i>	Fire originated from kitchen.
	Lakshmipur	Roypur	10 houses burnt and 5 injured. Estimated loss BDT 1 crore.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 25</i>	
	Chapainawabganj	Shibpur	3 shops burnt at Durlavpur union. Estimated loss BDT 7 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 25</i>	Fire originated from Gas cylinder blast
	Netrokona	Madan	15 houses burnt at Madan union.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 25</i>	

26-Apr	Dhaka	Mohammadpur	4 people burnt.	<i>The Daily Prothomalo, April 27</i>	Fire originated from a gas lighter machine in a tea stall at “Nobodoy Housing” area
	Joypurhat	Akkelpur	5,000 broilers burnt. Estimated loss BDT 20 lac.	<i>The Daily Star, April 27</i>	Fire broke out at “Keshabpur” village.
	Dinajpur	Kaharol	60 houses of 26 families burnt. Estimated loss BDT 50 lac.	<i>The Daily Star, April 27</i>	Fire broke out at “Masterpara” village and rapidly spread. Fire originated from a house kitchen.
	Dinajpur	Birganj	No loss found.	<i>The Daily Star, April 27</i>	Fire broke out at “Shahi Cold Storage” originated from the heat of electric welding.
27-Apr	Dhaka	Kuril	Few readymade garments burnt.	<i>The Daily Jugantor April 28</i>	Fire originated from electric short circuit and broke out at a room of 2 nd floor of a six storied building. The room was used as a store of readymade garment.
29-Apr	Chandpur	Chandpur Sadar	6 shops burnt. Estimated loss BDT 2 crore.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, April 30</i>	
30-Apr	Dhaka	Savar	2 people burnt in Amin bazar union.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, May 1</i>	
	Gazipur	Kaliyakair	1 warehouse of Jhoot burnt. Estimated loss BDT 1 lac.	<i>The Daily Jugantor, May 1</i>	
Total			Total 5 people killed, 17 people injured, more than 15 shops, 2 factories, 40 rooms , 141 houses and 1 bus burnt , 6 cows and 5000 boiler killed and estimated losses were about BDT 3 crore 54 lac.		

Heat Wave

In the month of April, the longest spell of heat wave has been reported i.e. 24 days at a stretch in several districts. The highest temperature was recorded 41.2 degree Celsius in Rajshahi which was the highest in last thirty years. Total 6 people were killed by heat stroke in 4 districts (Chuadanga, Joupurhat, Jhalakathi and Pabna). 17 districts e.g. Dhaka, Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra, Dinajpur, Gopalganj, Tangail, Faridpur ,Madaripur, Rangamati, Chandpur, Noakhali, Nilphamari, Barisal, Khulna, Patuakhali, Bhola experienced mild heat wave throughout the month (The Daily Jugantor, May 1).

Table 4: Loss and damage Heat wave in April 2016

Date	Location		Impact	Source
	District	Upazila		
7-Apr	Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra, Dinajpur, Faridpur and Gopalganj	All upazilas	High temperature. Temperature increased ranged from 36 to 38 degree Celsius.	<i>bdnew24.com, April 8</i>
13-Apr	Chuadanga	Jibannaar	2 killed by hit stroke.	<i>The Daily Star, April 17</i>
20-Apr	Joypurhat	Akkelpur	1 farmer died of heat stroke.	<i>The Daily Star, April 20</i>
24-Apr	Jhalakathi	Rajpur	1 man killed.	<i>The Daily Star, April 25</i>
27-Apr	Pabna	Bera	2 killed.	<i>The Daily Jugantor April 28</i>
Total			Total 6 people were killed.	

Boat Capsize

One incident of boat capsized was reported killing 1 people at Goanighat in Sylhet district on 17th April (The Daily Jugantor, April 18)

Riverbank Erosion

During this month, riverbank erosion was reported on 27th at Monpura upazila in Bhola district resulting the damage of road connecting to North Sakuchiya and South Sakuchiya (The Daily Jugantor, April 28).

Flood

Fulchari upazila of Gaibandha district experienced flood on 18th of this month due to sudden rise of the water level in Jamuna River. The flood inundated immature “Kali Boro” paddy on 20 hectares of land (The Daily Star, April 19).

Embankment Collapse

In the month of April, 2 embankment collapse incidents occurred. Embankment of Baram and Sonadubi haor under Derai and Dharmapasha upazila of Sunamganj district collapsed on 19th of this month due to overflow of water coming from hill slope. At least 250 acres land of Boro paddy were damaged (The Daily Prothom Alo, April 18).

Also, “Heyeza” dam was breached at Dingapota haor in Mohanganj upazila under Netrokona district on 22nd April following damage of Boro paddy (The Daily Jugantor, April 23).

Landslide

An incident of landslide occurred at Kamalganj upazila of Moulvibazar district in the month of April on 5th and caused death to a child (The Daily Star, April 6).

Hailstorm

In this month, one incident of hailstorm occurred on 2nd April. The hailstorm accompanied by hails and rain swept through eight villages of Bagerhat district and damaged 1,000 houses, 100 CI sheet-roofed shops and a few mosques damaged. It also damaged 200 hectares of maize plant (The Daily Star, April 3).

Building Collapse

In the month of April, an incident of building collapse occurred at Gazipur district on 23rd April. During the demolition work, some parts of the roof of a building fell on the adjoining CI sheet-roofed house that killed 1 and injured 5 persons (The Daily Prothomalo, April 24).

Earthquake

The first earthquake was of 5 in Richter scale (primarily it was 4.6 in Richter scale) occurred on 5th April near Meghalaya of India, 212 km north-east of Bangladesh Metrological Department (The Daily Star, April 6) and the epicenter of the second earthquake that felt on 13th April, was in Myanmar with a magnitude of 6.9 in Richter scale (The Daily Star, April 16). There was no damage reported in the first incident, while 9 buildings tilted in Chittagong and Feni district in the second incident.

Tornado

A tornado hit on 6th of this month at Jibannagar upazila under Chuadanga district and affected around 10 villages. It damaged more than 500 houses, uprooted a number of trees and 7 electric poles, disrupted traffic movement and damaged crops like boro paddy, corn, banana, litchi, mango and vegetables on a vast tract of land (The Daily Jugantor, April 10)

Response in April 2016

GoB Response in Fire

The district administration of Bagerhat district distributed BDT 25 thousand to each of the affected people (The Daily Jugantor, Aril 10). Agricultural department started work from the next day to mitigate the damages.

Conclusion

There were few devastating incidents in the month of April. Fire, Nor'wester, lightning caused death and injuries a lot. The almost unbearably hot and dry weather scorched parts of Bangladesh throughout the month. Frequent fire incidents at Sundarban posing a threat to the biodiversity. Again response and preparedness activities are not in an improved condition. Countrywide Nor'wester was responded by the Government, but it could not mobilize resources and precede the action adequately. Several natural incidents in the same month are an alarm to take the course of action to mitigate the consequences.