

## Overview of Hazard Incidents in March, 2020

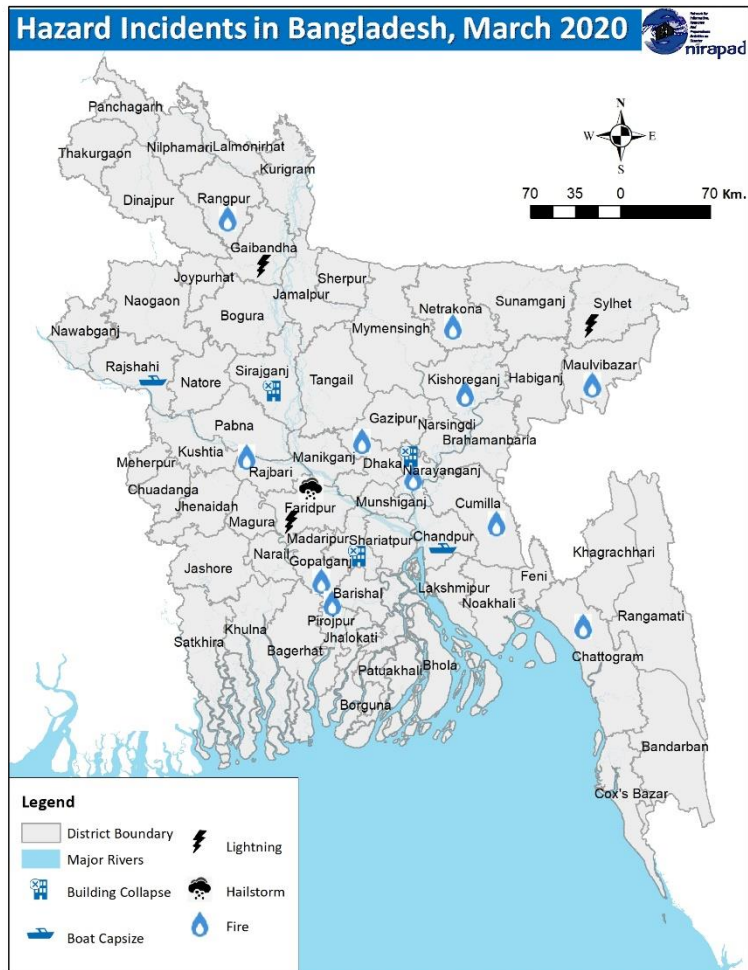
In March 2020, six devastating hazards took place across Bangladesh including Covid-19 pandemic, fire, hailstorm, lightning, boat capsizes and building collapse.

In the end of the March 2020 Covid-19 pandemic is getting devastating day by day as already five persons killed, 25 persons recovered and a total of 51 has been infected in Bangladesh.

Fire took place in 11 districts i.e. Cumilla, Gopalganj, Chattogram, Dhaka, Netrokona, Narayanganj, Moulvibazar, Rangpur, Kishoreganj, Rajbari and Pirojpur with 33 incidents among which Dhaka faced six incidents of fire.

Lightning affected three districts i.e. Faridpur, Sylhet and Gaibandha with three incidents. Boat capsizes took place in Rajshahi and Chandpur with two incidents.

Building collapse took place in three districts, i.e. Madaripur, Sirajganj and Narayanganj with two incidents. The only incident of hailstorm took place in Faridpur.



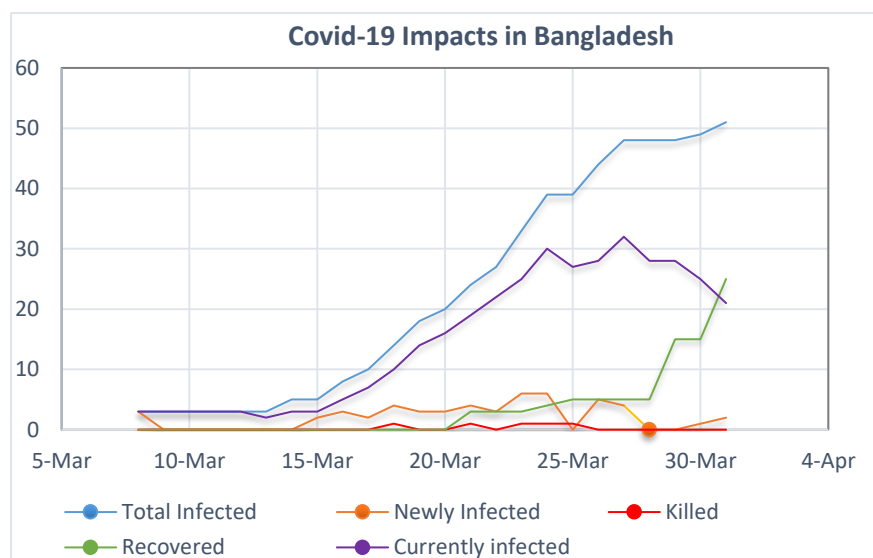
Source: NDRCC Reports and National Dailies, March 2020

March 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	12	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
Index						
	Covid-19	Building collapse	Hailstorm	Fire	Lightning	Boat capsizes

## Description of Hazard Incidents in March 2020

### Covid-19 Pandemic in Bangladesh

The worldwide pandemic Covid-19 has become talk of the time worldwide and Bangladesh is no longer away from its ferocious effects. Up to March 31, 2020, the total number of identified Covid-19 cases is 51 persons among which 5 persons died. According to IEDCR, the chance of spreading Covid-19 is now at community level



which may lead to highly increase this number very fast. Also, the death toll may also rise if not diagnosed and treated immediately. The rising tendency in the number of infected patients may lead to a huge public health hazard in coming days. According to honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh, H. E. Sheikh Hasina, the most crucial time for Covid-19 transmission is the month of April, 2020 and most of the people may get affected if they do not properly maintain the directions given by the government; specially, staying at home.

Table 1: Loss & damage by Covid-19 Virus in March 2020

Date	Total Infected	Newly Infected	Killed	Recovered	Currently infected	Source
March 08	3	3	0	0	3	<a href="https://www.iedcr.gov.bd">https://www.iedcr.gov.bd</a> , March 31, 2020
March 09	3	0	0	0	3	
March 10	3	0	0	0	3	
March 11	3	0	0	0	3	
March 12	3	0	0	0	3	
March 13	3	0	0	0	2	
March 14	5	0	0	0	3	
March 15	5	2	0	0	3	
March 16	8	3	0	0	5	
March 17	10	2	0	0	7	
March 18	14	4	1	0	10	
March 19	18	3	0	0	14	
March 20	20	3	0	0	16	
March 21	24	4	1	3	19	
March 22	27	3	0	3	22	
March 23	33	6	1	3	25	
March 24	39	6	1	4	30	
March 25	39	0	1	5	27	
March 26	44	5	0	5	28	
March 27	48	4	0	5	32	
March 28	48	0	0	5	28	
March 29	48	0	0	15	28	
March 30	49	1	0	15	25	
March 31	51	2	0	25	21	
<b>Total</b>	5 persons killed & 51 persons infected					

## Fire

11 districts i.e. Cumilla, Gopalganj, Chattogram, Dhaka, Netrokona, Narayanganj, Moulvibazar, Rangpur, Kishoreganj, Rajbari and Pirojpur faced 33 incidents of fire in March 2020, which killed 12 person and injured seven persons along with estimated loss of BDT 23 lakhs. Dhaka faced the highest number of incidents (six) in March 2020. In Gopalganj, on March 01, 2020, an incident of fire killed five persons at a time. A massive fire incident took place in a slum of Mirpur under Dhaka district on March 11, 2019 which burnt more than 200 houses completely. Another incident took place in Hathazari upazila under Chattogram district on March 08, 2020 which burnt one godown, two shops, two tin-shed houses and one car with an estimated loss of BDT 18 lakhs.

Table 2: Loss & damage by fire in March 2019				
Date	Location		Impact	Source
	District	Upazila/ Thana		
March 01	Cumilla	Laksham	• 1 rail-bogi burnt	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 01, 2020
	Gopalganj	Muksudpur	• 5 persons killed	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 01, 2020
March 02	Chattogram	Chattogram Sadar	• 2 persons killed & 1 person injured • 6 shops & some houses burnt	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 02, 2020
March 03	Chattogram	Boalkhali	• 200 chicken killed	<a href="https://bangla.bdnews24.com">https://bangla.bdnews24.com</a> , March 03, 2020
March 08	Chattogram	Hathazari	• 1 godown, 2 shops, 2 tin-shed house & 1 car burnt • Estimated loss of BDT 18 lakhs	<a href="https://www.kalerkantho.com">https://www.kalerkantho.com</a> , March 09, 2020
March 09	Dhaka	Chawkbazar	• No impact reported	<a href="https://www.thedailystar.net">https://www.thedailystar.net</a> , March 09, 2020
March 10	Netrokona	Kendua	• 1 person killed	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 11, 2020
	Dhaka	Jatrabari	• 50 tin-shed house burnt	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 10, 2020
March 11	Dhaka	Mirpur	• 200 houses burnt	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 11, 2020
March 14	Narayanganj	Sonargaon	• 2 persons injured	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 14, 2020
	Dhaka	Mirpur	• 1 jhut godown burnt	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 14, 2020
March 17	Moulvibazar	Kamalganj	• No impact reported	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 17, 2020
	Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar	• No impact reported	<a href="https://jamuna.tv">https://jamuna.tv</a> , March 17, 2020
March 21	Cumilla	Lalmal	• No impact reported	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 21, 2020
	Kishoreganj	Bhairab	• 2 persons killed & 1 person injured	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 22, 2020
March 26	Dhaka	Ashulia	• 3 persons injured	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 26, 2020
	Rajbari	Goaland	• 1 person killed	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 27, 2020
March 28	Pirojpur	Bhandaria	• 1 person killed • 1 house burnt • Estimated loss of BDT 5 lakhs	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 28, 2020
March 29	Dhaka	Sher-e-Bangla Nagar	• Medical equipment burnt	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 29, 2020
<b>Total</b>	12 persons killed, 7 persons injured, 200 chicken killed; 8 shops, 251 houses, 1 car, 2 godowns, 1 rail-bogi and some medical equipment burnt, estimated loss of BDT 23 lakhs.			

## Hailstorm

Hailstorm took place in all the upazilas of Faridpur on March 03, 2020 which damaged a huge amount of onion, sesame and lentil croplands leading towards heavy loss of the farmers (<https://bangla.dhakatribune.com>, March 03, 2020).

## Lightning

Lightning took place in three districts i.e. Faridpur, Sylhet and Gaibandha in March, 2020 which killed five persons and injured six persons. In a massive incident in Sundarganj upazila under Gaibandha district on March 04, 2020, two persons were killed and four persons were injured.

Table 3: Loss & damage by Lightning in March 2019				
Date	Location		Impact	Source
	District	Upazila/ Thana		
March 03	Faridpur	Sadarpur	• 1 person killed	<a href="https://bangla.dhakatribune.com">https://bangla.dhakatribune.com</a> , March 03, 2020
March 04	Sylhet	Gowainghat	• 2 persons killed & 2 persons injured	<a href="https://www.dhakatribune.com">https://www.dhakatribune.com</a> , March 06, 2020
	Gaibandha	Sundarganj	• 2 person killed & 4 persons injured	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 06, 2020
<b>Total</b>	5 persons killed and 6 persons injured			

### **Boat Capsize**

Two incidents of boat capsizing took place in Rajshahi and Chandpur on March 04 and March 24, 2020 correspondingly. The most heart-touching incident took place in Rajshahi on March 04, 2020 in which nine persons were killed including a newly married bride.

Table 4: Loss & damage by Boat Capsizing in March 2019				
Date	Location		Impact	Source
	District	Upazila/ Thana		
March 04	Rajshahi	Rajshahi Sadar	• 9 persons killed	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 09, 2020
March 24	Chandpur	Chandpur Sadar	• 1 person killed	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 25, 2020
<b>Total</b>	10 persons killed			

### **Building Collapse**

Three districts i.e. Madaripur, Sirajganj and Narayanganj faced three incidents of building collapse in March 2020 which killed six persons and injured 13 persons. In Tarash upazila under Sirajganj district on March 19, 2020, four persons were killed and two persons were injured when the under-construction gate of a college collapsed on them.

Table 5: Loss & damage by Building Collapse in March 2020				
Date	Location		Impact	Source
	District	Upazila/ Thana		
March 18	Madaripur	Madaripur Sadar	• 5 persons injured	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 18, 2020
March 19	Sirajganj	Tarash	• 4 persons killed & 5 persons injured	<a href="https://bangla.bdnews24.com">https://bangla.bdnews24.com</a> , March 19, 2020
March 27	Narayanganj	Narayanganj Sadar	• 2 persons killed & 3 persons injured	<a href="https://www.prothomalo.com">https://www.prothomalo.com</a> , March 31, 2020
<b>Total</b>	6 persons killed & 13 persons injured			

## **GoB Response in March 2020**

**Response to boat capsizing:** BDT 20,000 has been given to each killed person's family by the Rajshahi district administration on March 07, 2020.

**Response to Covid-19:** In the mid of March, 2020 GoB declared to close all the educational institutions to prevent spreading of Covid-19 country-wide. Also, Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSC) examination was cancelled which was to be held from April 01, 2020. After first death of Covid-19 affected patient on March 18, 2020, GoB declared general holiday across the country from March 26, 2020 to April 04, 2020. Also, the transportation system including roads, railway, water transportation, national and international flights. Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) has undertaken necessary steps to test Covid-19 suspected patients and the treatment providers were provided with Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). More test kits and PPE are being arranged by GoB as soon as possible. Also, IEDCR is arranging to test Covid-19 in regional areas to find out more patients shortly. People (especially poor and ultra-poor) who are in need of foods, GoB arranged to provide foods at their doorsteps by the local administrations.

## Conclusion

A total of six hazards took place in this month with several incidents across the country. These incidents caused a huge loss of lives and properties and disrupted daily activities of people. GoB took initiatives to minimize the losses and also undertook necessary actions to provide support to the distressed people.