



Forecast on depression formation (IMD)

Current Forecasted Situation:

- The Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) stated the depression is likely to recurve gradually and move North-Northeast wards. Maritime ports of Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Mongla, and Payra have been advised to hoist distant cautionary **signal no. 01**. (9 May 2023, 11:00 PM BST¹).
- Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) stated that the depression and lay centred at 1730 hours IST² of 9 May 2023 over southeast Bay of Bengal near latitude 8.3°N and longitude 89.5°E, about 510 km southwest of Port Blair, 1480 km south-southwest of Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh) and 1360 km south-southwest of Sittwe (Myanmar).
- According to IMD, the depression over southeast Bay of Bengal is likely to move north-northwest wards and intensify into a severe cyclonic storm by 11 May, then recurve and cross southeast Bangladesh and north Myanmar coasts between Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh) and Kyaukpyu (Myanmar) around forenoon of 14 May 2023.
- European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecast (ECMWF) and Global Forecast System (GFS) forecasted potentiality of landfall from 13-14 May. The cyclone may make landfall on the coastal zone of Bangladesh (high impact on south-east coastal districts) and north-west coast of Myanmar by the evening of 14 May with a surge height of 3.2-6.5 meter.
- There is a probability of moderate heavy to heavy rainfall over the central and south-east coast of Bangladesh.

In total 4 sources of forecast have been analysed (ECMWF, BMD, IMD and GFS) by the BDRCS/German Red Cross (GRC)/ Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/ IFRC relevant experts and according to their analysis all three sources indicated the landfall on 13 May but ECMWF predicted the landfall will happen with its maximum velocity on 14 May 2023 at 2 pm in south eastern part and west coast of Myanmar. A few prominent global forecast models (ECMWF and GFS) have also forecasted potentiality of landfall from 13-14 May. According to ECMWF, the cyclone may make landfall on the coastal zone of Bangladesh (high impact on south-east coastal districts) and north-west coast of Myanmar by the evening of 14 May with a surge height of 3.3-5.8 meter. According to GFS, the cyclone may make landfall on the north-west coast of Myanmar by the evening of 13 May and may have impact on the Cox's Bazar coast of Bangladesh. Surge height would be 3.2-6.5 meter. According to BMD there is probability of moderate heavy to heavy rainfall over the central and south-east coast Bangladesh. Based on the prediction, there is a strong possibility to activate by BDRCS Forecast based Financing (FbF) which has 3 stages where windspeed is required to be least 125 kmph with 25% damage of the local assets.

¹ BST – Bangladesh Standard Time

² IST – Indian Standard Time

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) Actions:

- A virtual meeting was organized on 5 May 2023 during 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm as the BMD issued a special bulletin (alert message) on 03 May 2023 at 04 pm³. All the coastal units (branches) along with BDRCS HQ, IFRC and other Partner National Societies (PNSs) representatives participated in that virtual meeting. In that meeting all the coastal units were requested to take preparedness actions e.g., coordination with local govt. administration, meeting among UEC and RCYs to get ready with pre-stock and early actions, etc. Also, requested them to keep close contact and coordination with local suppliers, transport owners, Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) officers and community leaders, local disaster management committees and shelter management committees.
 - A coordination meeting was organized on 09 May 2023 at 4.00pm at BDRCS Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) chaired by Secretary General of BDRCS and Head of Country Delegation (HoCD), IFRC along with country representatives from British Red Cross (BRC), Swiss RC, Swedish RC, Danish Red Cross (DRC), Acting CR, American Red Cross (AmCross), Director, Admin (CPP), Director (Operation), CPP, Director, DCRM, Director, DR, Director, Training, Director, Youth & Volunteers, Director, Unit Affairs, and senior relevant officials from BDRCS, IFRC, PNSs were participated in the meeting. In the meeting forecast updates were shared by BDRCS and CPP. Also updates of active volunteers, availability of dry foods support, updated contingency stock (overall BDRCS emergency stock, Cox's Bazar and Bhashan Char) and standby Human resources (Volunteers and Staff) have been shared with the meeting participants by the Director, Disaster Response of BDRCS.
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- Coordination Meeting with the partners at BDRCS NHQ**
- BDRCS is monitoring the cyclone situation using various global and national fore-casting models and sharing the monitoring report (Synoptic weather analysis) with relevant stakeholders.
 - Decentralized fund amounting BDT 5.5 million (approximately USD 55,000) is available at 14 cyclone prone units and these units of BDRCS are ready to execute the possible actions with the support from BDRCS NHQ and with their own local resources.
 - BDRCS activated 176 National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members & 150 National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) members and they are standby for immediate response.
 - 2,000+ Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers at district level and 2,280+ RCY volunteers are standby at sub-district level across the coastal areas.
 - 76,000+ CPP volunteers (50% are female) are now standby across the 13 coastal districts areas.
 - 100 staff and volunteers trained on Rapid Market Assessment, 16 Practical in Emergency Cash Transfer (PECT) trained members, 30 Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) trained members & 20 International Mobilization and Preparation for ACTION (IMPACT) trained staff are standby.
 - 14 mobile mass water purification units (including 1 unit saltwater treatment kit), 10 Mobile Medical Teams are standby.
 - 200+ mobile devices are available for collecting damage and need information.
 - 5 Emergency Response Unit (ERU), 3 Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) and Coordinated Assessment and Planning (CAP) trained members are ready to deploy.
 - RCY volunteers and community volunteers are coordinating with the respective government agencies and CPP.
 - BDRCS personnel are maintaining close coordination with Disaster Management Committees and meetings them regularly at district, upazilla (sub-district), union and ward levels, well known as DDMC, UzDMC, UDMC and WDMC meetings.
 - CPP, RCY, UDRT, CDMC and CDRT volunteers are in a process to map safe cyclone shelters for possible evacuation if the evacuation order is placed.

³ All are Bangladesh local time.

- BDRCS oriented on anticipatory actions and equipped 14 cyclone-prone districts with 30 super megaphone sets, 300 light sets, 36 smart phone, 122 first aid sets. BDRCS gave CPP 30 solar panels and equipment to power isolated coastal radio stations.
- BDRCS updated cyclone shelter data base in 14-cyclone prone districts.

At Cox's Bazar Level:

- At Cox's Bazar an emergency coordination and preparatory meeting held on 9 May 2023 at Population Movement Operation (PMO) level where attendees include representatives from BDRCS unit, BDRCS Myanmar Refugee Relief Operation (MRRO) and PMO-BDRCS/IFRC management discussed about current response-readiness and discussed about few collective actions as part of institutional readiness to respond to cyclone Mocha effectively and efficiently in Cox's Bazar.
- BDRCS along with IFRC is maintaining close coordination and communication with office of the Refugee, Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) and Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) for camp level preparedness.
- Mapping out suitable vendors for delivering emergency dry food packages and listing out of possible vendors through appropriate communication.
- DRM Team and respective sectors closely coordinate with external sectors, working groups, and humanitarian agencies through the ISCG.
- Formation of teams from PMO Trained Emergency Response Team Roster Database on standby and to be activated for Immediate Mobilization (Impact Assessment, Relief Distribution, etc.)
- Trained CPP volunteers are ready to hoist the signal flags in camp and host communities. Currently disseminating awareness key messages about the cyclone.
- At Cox's Bazar, medical personnel on standby for possible deployment as Mobile Medical Team (MMT).

Bhashan Char

- At Bhashan Char, BDRCS is the primary organization for disaster management. With the support of UNHCR, IFRC, and other PNS, BDRCS is working to enhance the response capacity of the community on the island. BDRCS team closely coordinating with the Govt. authorities, UN and other organizations and established sectoral coordination for emergency. Based on the sectoral stock, volunteers, and response capacity, BDRCS prepared an emergency preparedness and response (EPR) database which will be used as an emergency coordination tool during the cyclone. Area wise team leaders are assigned who will coordinate and mobilize the volunteers and community people before, during and after the cyclone. Fifty-eight cyclone shelters are ready along with sufficient food stock. Twelve flag points have been identified across the island and as per BMD's signal, flags will be hoisted.
- An evacuation drill has been completed on 07 May 2023 with the participation of 3,000 FDMN of Bhashan Char. With a real-time scenario and engagement of all sectors, BDRCS evacuated 3,000 FDMN from 5 different clusters. The community themselves and BDRCS FDMN volunteers demonstrated the scenario-based action considering the Cyclonic context.



Evacuation drill-Cyclone signal/Warning dissemination by a volunteer



Evacuation drill-Volunteer orientation

- 106 trained Emergency Preparedness and Response volunteers are ready to be deployed in the field to facilitate information dissemination, awareness building, evacuation to the shelter, and other response activities if the cyclone happens.
- BDRCS have 1 Field Coordinator and more than 45 staff/officers, 110 EPR/SMS trained volunteers, CPP volunteer group stationed at the island. 20 community volunteers/cluster (10 male and 10 female) are standby.
- BDRCS communication & CEA team is working with relevant personnel for reviewing and disseminating necessary awareness messages on cyclone preparedness through social media, targeting the coastal districts population.

BDRCS Contingency Stock: Updated on 09 May 2023.

SN	Items	Dhaka	Chittagong	Cox's Bazar	Total
1	Tarpaulins	11,593	11,140	2,000	24,733
2	Shelter toolkits	754	107	5,000	5,861
3	Emergency shelter kits			7,450	7,450
4	Bucket	1,000	3,815		4,815
5	Jerry can	7,746	13,535	500	21,781
6	Hygiene Parcel	5,800	100	3,790	9,690
7	Family tent		2,155		2,155
8	Floor/ sleeping Mat	2,382	6,200		8,582
9	Kitchen Set	900	1,199		2,099
10	Mosquito net	500	4,000		4,500
11	Dead body bag	1,846			1,846
12	Blanket	6,589			6,589
13	Water Purification Tablet	2,00,000			2,00,000

Overall RCRC Emergency Response Capacity in Cox's Bazar: Updated on 9 May 2023

Emergency Response Component	PMO	Unit Office	MRRO-BDRCS	CPP
Manpower capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 190 Emergency Response Team (ERT) members (149 Quick Disaster Response Team (QDRT) & 41 Rapid Response Team (RRT) - 429 Sector based camp volunteers. - 3,300 camp volunteers trained on Cyclone Early Warning, Disaster Preparedness, First Aid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 300 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) - 25 Unit Disaster Response Team (UDRT) 	400 Camp Disaster Response Team (CDRT) [25 CDRT/camp in 16 UNHCR Area of Response - AoR camps]	8,600 volunteers for the sub-districts of Cox's Bazar
Logistical resource capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20,000 CHF Emergency Fund - 8,300 Tie Down Kits - 7,450 Emergency Shelter Kits - 3,790 Hygiene Kits - 920 HHs Non-Food Item (NFI) Kits - 475 Emergency WaSH Kits - 5 Mobile toilets - 150 LSAR Kit in 33 camps - 167 megaphone and 134 hand sirens in 33 camps <p>** 30% of overall logistical capacity can be used for Host based on needs/gaps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 200,000 BDT Quick Action Fund (QAF) - 5,000 Shelter tool kits - 2,000 Tarpaulin - 500 Jerrycan 	40,000 families Core Relief Items 100 catchment containers in 16 UNHCR AoR camps	

Overall RCRC Emergency Response Capacity in Bhashan Char: Updated on 09 May 2023

Description	Unit	Total Quantity
Security and safety equipment (Fire Extinguisher)	Pcs	2,520
Raft/Rescue Boat	Pcs	4

Personal Protective Gear	Pcs	170
Fire blanket	Pcs	400
Megaphone	Pcs	170
Search and Rescue Kit	Pcs	100
Stretcher	Pcs	70

IFRC and in-country PNSs Actions

- IFRC and in country PNSs are closely monitoring the situation and providing technical guidance to BDRCS for updating the preparedness bulletin, contingency stock, and situation reports.
- IFRC is coordinating and updating in-country partners, other external stakeholders, clusters, working groups, Humanitarian coordination task team (HCTT) and IFRC Asia Pacific regional office.
- IFRC country delegation kept all staff on standby and ready to provide necessary technical support to BDRCS.
- IFRC is ready to mobilize Early Actions Protocol (EAP) if triggering threshold is reached.
- IFRC is agreed to mobilize DP stock for 5,000 households emergency items, which includes tarpaulins, jerrycans, etc.
- German Red Cross and RCRC Climate Center have been supporting BDRCS to analyze the cyclonic forecasts.
- In-country PNSs are coordinating with their field team and headquarters. Bilateral resource mobilization mechanisms of some PNSs are in place to support BDRCS. American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross are ready to support in resource mobilization process (Quick Action Fund and other fund) if required.
- IFRC representative will be present during the CPP Implementation Board meeting, chaired by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), when signal 4 is hoisted.
- Updates have been uploaded on the IFRC GO Platform.

Other partners actions

- Grameen Phone is showing interest in supporting mobile medical team and distributing safe drinking water in case of emergency.
- USAID is also coordinating with BDRCS to get the updated information and mapping where and how can assist BDRCS in case of emergency by providing humanitarian aid.

Government of Bangladesh (GoB) Actions:

The Inter-ministerial DM Coordination meeting will be held on 10 May 2023 at 3:30 pm chaired by Hon'ble State Minister in presence of Cabinet Secretary and Principal Secretary. National Disaster Response and Coordination Centre-NDRCC is producing daily disaster situation report.

Media Coverage of BDRSC Actions:

Bangla

[বঙ্গোপসাগরে সুস্পষ্ট লঘুচাপ, 'শক্তিশালী' ঘূর্ণিঝড়ের শঙ্কা](#)

[‘মোকা’র জেরে অশান্ত সমুদ্র, ভরী বৃষ্টির পূর্বাভাস, আন্দামানে সতর্কতা জারি প্রশাসনের সুস্পষ্ট লঘুচাপটি বিকালে নিম্নচাপে এবং বুধবার ঘূর্ণিঝড়ের রূপ নিতে পারে।](#)

[বঙ্গোপসাগরে নিম্নচাপ, সমুদ্রবন্দরে সতর্ক সংকেত](#)

English

[Cyclone Mocha: Reason behind its name, how to track cyclone updates](#)

[Cyclone Mocha may hit Bangladesh](#)

[Bay of Bengal cyclone updates: IMD says Mocha may intensify into cyclonic storm by May 10](#)

[Cyclone Mocha In Odisha, Bay of Bengal: Cyclone Storm Likely To Move Towards Myanmar-Bangladesh Coast](#)

For further Information

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