

Situation Report 1 -Flood in southeastern Bangladesh
21 August, 2024



Picture: Early warning Message disseminated by RCY in Khagrachari hill tracks

Overall Situation:

The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) reports that the Brahmaputra-Jamuna and Ganges rivers are currently in a falling trend, with the Padma River remaining steady; all are expected to continue declining over the next 48 hours. Conversely, major rivers in the northeastern and eastern regions are rising, with medium to heavy rainfall anticipated in these areas and adjacent upstream regions over the next 48 hours. This may cause water levels in rivers such as the Manu, Khowai, and Dhalai in Moulvibazar and Habiganj districts to rise above danger levels, potentially maintaining the current flood situation in low-lying areas. Similarly, in the southeastern and eastern regions, steady water levels are expected in rivers like the Muhuri, Feni, Halda, Sangu, Matamuhuri, and Gumti, with the Muhuri, Halda, and Gumti rivers, particularly at risk of exceeding danger levels, possibly leading to short-term flooding in adjacent low-lying areas. Specifically, the Water Development Board reports that the Muhuri River is currently 86 centimeters above the danger mark, while the Feni Weather Office recorded 97 millimeters of rainfall in the last 24 hours.

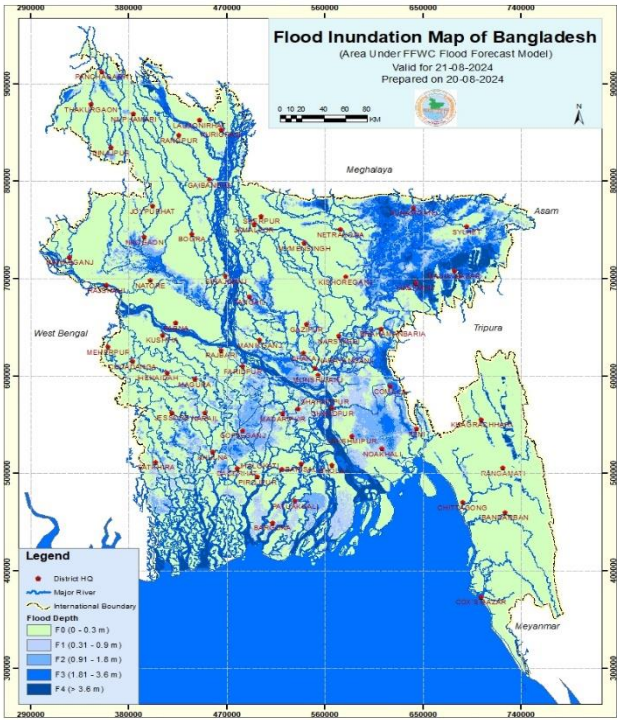


Figure 1: Inundation Map by FFWC, 21 August, 2024

Impact on affected Districts:

Feni District:

Meteorological organizations have forecasted medium to heavy rainfall over the Southeastern and Eastern regions, which may keep the water levels of the Feni, Halda, Sangu, Matamuhuri, and Gumti rivers steady. On August 21, 2024, the Dhaka Tribune reported that Parashuram and Fulgazi Upazilas in Feni have been submerged by a third round of flooding, exacerbated by continuous rainfall and upstream water flow. Feni recorded 186mm of rain, with Parashuram experiencing 300mm. The Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) noted that 17 sections of flood control embankments along the Muhuri, Kahua, and Silonia rivers were breached on August 2, leading to further flooding. The breaches have submerged roads, homes, crops, and fish enclosures, affecting around 25,000 families. In response, authorities have stocked relief supplies, but over 50 villages in Parashuram and 40 in Fulgazi remain flooded. Water levels have risen 55cm above the danger mark, reaching levels not seen in the past 40 years, leaving over 100 villages submerged and more than a lakh people stranded.

Noakhali District:

Companiganj and Hatiya Upazilas are fully inundated by floodwaters. Subarna Char, Sonaimuri, and Noakhali Sadar Upazilas have been partially affected by the flooding.

Cumilla District:

Choddogram, Cumilla Sadar, Burichang, debiddar, Meghna, Titas and Nangolcoat Upazilas are partially inundated by floodwaters, with low-lying residences particularly affected.

Khagrachari District:

In Khagrachari, several Upazilas—including Khagrachari Sadar, Dighinala, Mohalchari, Manikchari, Panchari, Guimara, and Ramghare—are experiencing severe flooding due to heavy rains, landslides, and rising water levels in the Khagrachari Maini and Kachalong rivers. Approximately 75 villages and 6,500 households have been affected. The flooding has also submerged parts of the Khagrachari-Sajek road, stranding around 250 tourists in Sajek. The situation has led to landslides in multiple Upazilas, including Khagrachari Sadar and Dighinala, affecting 30 villages and trapping about 4,500 families. Currently, around 2,000 families have sought refuge in relief centers. The Khagrachari Red Crescent Unit is actively engaged in rescue and evacuation efforts. Immediate assistance is needed in the form of hygiene kits, food packages, shelter kits, and cash support.

Bandarban District:

The Naikhangchari area has received warnings for a potential landslide due to ongoing weather conditions. In Bandarban Sadar, the water level of the Sangu River is nearing the danger level, leading to flooding in nearby low-lying areas. The situation remains critical, with a heightened risk of further flooding if water levels continue to rise.

Rangamati District:

Baghaichari Upazila in Rangamati is currently submerged under floodwaters.

Chattogram Hill tract:

In Chattogram, the Upazilas of Mirersharai and Fatikchari have been severely affected by flooding due to excessive rainfall. In Fatikchari, the Halda River dam has been damaged, causing water to inundate the surrounding areas. Additionally, Sitakundo Upazila has also been partially impacted, with low-lying areas submerged.

Cox's Bazar District:

In Cox's Bazar, Titong Union in Pekua Upazila is severely affected by floodwaters. Additionally, a landslide triggered by excessive rainfall on August 18, 2024, in Pekua Upazila has tragically resulted in the deaths of a mother and her two children.

Photos of BDRCS in Actions – Ahead of Flood in Bangladesh



Picture: Flood Situation in Feni



Picture: BDRCS RCY volunteers are actively on the ground, disseminating early warning messages and assisting with evacuation efforts in Khagrachari



Picture: Flood situation In Rangamati



Picture: Flood situation in Pekua Cox's bazar

For Further Information:

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