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Information bulletin

India: Assam Floods and Landslides

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Glide n° FL-2019-000084-IND	Date of issue: 20 July 2019
Date of disaster: slow onset since 26 June 2019	Point of contact: Rina Tripathi, Advisor, Disaster Management, IRCS
Operation start date: -	Expected timeframe: -
Category of disaster: Orange	
Host National Society: Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS)	
Number of people affected: 4.3 Million	Number of people to be assisted: TBC
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant): -	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant): -	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), will seek funding thru DREF activation to provide support to the affected population.

The situation

Flooding and landslides caused by the overflowing of Brahmaputra River (which flows from the Himalayas) bursting its riverbanks have affected 4.3 million people in the state of Assam. 120 deaths have been reported as of date. Tens of thousands have been displaced with 83,000 people seek temporary shelters at camps set up by the Government of India while many others are living in makeshift shelters.

28 districts in Assam are affected by the floods; Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Biswanath, Barpeta, Chirang, Golaghat Jorhat, Sonitpur, Darrang, Nalbari, Bongaigaon, Morigaon, Nagaon, Majuli, Baksa, Kokrajhar, Dhubri, South Salmara, Goalpara, Kamrup, Hojai, Sivsagar, Tinsukia, Cachar, KarbiAnglrng, West Karbi-Anglong, Hailakandi and Dibrugarh districts.

In addition to Assam ,12 districts in Bihar are also badly affected by floods; Sitamarhi, Sheohar, East Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Supaul, Araria, Sahersa , Katihar, Purnia, and Kishanganj. A total of 1,796,535 people has been affected and 1,100,000 people are displaced by flood water in 55 blocks in nine districts - Sheohar, Sitamarhi, East Champaran, Madhubani, Araria, Kishanganj, Supaul, Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur. Impact and scale of flooding are likely to increase over the following days reported by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD).

The IMD is forecasting that the north eastern states are likely to experience enhanced rainfalls with isolated heavy to very heavy rain in Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura from 9 to 16 July 2019. The IMD report has been prepared for reference/information to Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), IRCS districts branches, Red Cross volunteers from affected districts, and news agencies.



Red Cross volunteers distributing food to the affected population.
(Photo: IRCS)

Situation Analysis of affected districts of Assam

Name of district	No. of village affected	Crop area affected (ha.)	Population affected	Relief camps	Distribution centre	Population in camps
Dhemaji	419	8,830	128,853	1	7	49
Barpeta	502	3,243.50	735,450	-	28	-
Lakhimpur	130	3,968.70	65,969	1	13	177
Jorhat	77	1,463	47,690	2	-	197
Biswanath	133	1,585	75,988	1	-	229
Golaghat	109	5,070.23	119,179	15	38	2,413
Baksa	14	650	4,050	10	-	3,394
Nalbari	90	4,198	72,600	2	22	284
Chirang	12	2,314.70	7,024	7	-	1,249
Majuli	90	2,367	78,547	5	29	442
Darrang	119	1,312.50	69,865	-	5	-
Sonitpur	48	2,324.16	40,350	8	3	2,246
Bongaigaon	42	1,899.50	83,338	1	40	334
Nagaon	107	3,012.71	19,428	-	-	-
Kokrajhar	1	-	144	1	-	144
Morigaon	296	25,291	349,703	6	3	601
Dibrugrah	91	4,809.22	51,186	6	8	872
Dhubri	323	3,182	337,799	3	-	1,246
South Salmara	53	832	1,0,849	-	-	-
Goalpara	148	4,172	99,290	-	-	-
Kamrup	100	4,035	36,855	-	3	-
Hojai	62	1,225.20	9,228	-	5	-
Sivsagar	33	235	1,170	-	14	-
Tinsukia	60	1,095	38,001	8	17	911
Cachar	40	-	9,732	5	-	1,354
Karbi-Anglong	1	-	937	3	-	445
West Karbi-Anglong	22	6	10,158	-	7	-
Hailakandi	56	486	2,150	-	-	-
Total	3,181	87,607.43	26,45,533	85	242	16,596

(Source: Compilation of data from state disaster management authority and respective IRCS branches)

The Government of India has taken immediate action with regards to the floods where relief camps and distribution centres have been set up by administration in the affected districts, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) have been deployed for rescue operation. Local authorities are providing medical services and as well as food and household items distribution to the affected people such as rice, lentils, salt, wheat bran, palm sugar (gur), flat rice (chira), baby food, candles, match boxes, mosquito coils, tarpaulins, and sanitary napkins. On top of these, the local administration is providing green grass for cattle and animal feed to sustain the livestock belonging to the affected people.

In Bihar, NDRF and SDRF have been deployed to flood-affected districts to carry out the relief and rescue operations. The government has established 152 camps and 151 community kitchens at the flood affected districts.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), Assam State Branch and all the district branches are working in close coordination with the district administration and ASDMA in flood response. District branches and volunteers/social emergency response volunteers (SERVs) are working in affected communities and providing rescue, Red Cross volunteers also providing first aid services, distribution of drinking water, food and household items to flood-affected population and supporting local authorities in relief distribution. In addition, Red Cross volunteers are providing awareness programme on flood preparedness, health precautions, hygiene and sanitation.

IRCS Assam State Branch has set up a control room at its Disaster Management Centre, Kedar Road, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati for flood response. The State Branch has developed a standard operating procedure (SOP) for flood

response and disseminated the SOP to district branches. IRCS Assam State Branch is maintaining close communication and coordination with other stakeholders for collaborative flood response operation.

IRCS Assam state branch is working closely with the IMD Guwahati Regional Meteorological Centre in providing weather forecast, alerts to villagers and Red Cross volunteers. Around 140 Red Cross Volunteers are working in close coordination with the district administration in providing search and rescue, relief distribution, first aid and 140 volunteers are mobilized to Bihar to work in close coordination with the government authorities.

IRCS is in close coordination with IFRC Country Cluster Support Team in Delhi and the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur on monitoring the situation and is planning to seek funding thru DREF activation to provide support to the affected population.



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How we work

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Save lives,
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from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.