

# INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## **BANGLADESH: TROPICAL STORMS/TORNADOS**

15 May, 2001

*Information Bulletin N° 1*

*DREF Allocated: CHF 39,000*

*This Information Bulletin is being issued based on the needs described below. A DREF allocation of CHF 39,000 has been released, and the Federation does not anticipate further needs at this time. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are needed. This operation will be reported on through the quarterly DREF update.*

### ***The Situation***

Severe tropical storms and tornados have been lashing Bangladesh since late April and continued during the month of May. Over the first two weeks of May, 43 people have been killed, 150 fisherman are missing, and thousands of people have been injured. Huts, schools, standing crops, and fruit and timber trees were also extensively damaged.

On 11 May a severe tornado with winds of over 100 kph hit the northeastern part of Bangladesh causing 12 deaths, more than 200 injured and extensive material damages of housing, educational, and electrical facilities. The most affected districts in the southwest and northeast of Bangladesh are: Mymensingh, Netrokona, Tangail, Naogaon, Moulvi Bazar, Chuadanga, Jhainadah, Gaibandha, Patuakhali, Meherpur Gopalganj and Noakhali.

On 14 May the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) officially requested the Federation to provide support for emergency relief assistance for the most affected areas.

### ***Red Cross/Red Crescent Action***

CHF 39,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to immediately begin providing emergency assistance. The BDRCS has instructed its Community Based Disaster Preparedness Units to release the limited emergency relief funds currently available. The Federation delegation is working closely with the BDRCS and local authorities in order to identify the most urgent needs of the affected population, and to deliver the appropriate assistance.

The BDRCS and Federation objectives are:

- To immediately assist 2,000 families (10,000 persons) in the 10 most affected districts by providing emergency relief items.
- Completion of the relief operation within two weeks.

- Delivering assistance to the following target areas with the most urgent assistance needs: Mymensingh, Netrokona, Tangali, Noakhali, Gopalganj, Patuakhali, Gaibandha, Rangpur, Moulovi Bazar and Naogaon.

## *Needs*

Immediate emergency needs are for: 40,000 kg of food (rice), 4,000 pieces of clothing (2,000 of saree and 2,000 of lungi), health and hygiene items (2,000 pieces of soap), and 4,000 candles. Each family will receive a family kit consisting of 20 kg of rice per family, 1 saree, 1 lungi, 1 bar of soap, and 2 candles. These items are being procured from the DREF allocation, and donors are requested to refund the funds released from the DREF.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

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*All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

*For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

*For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.*

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