

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: FLOODS

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

Heavy rains had led to flooding in the districts of Jessore, Khulna and Satkhira in south-western Bangladesh over the last two months. Recent heavy rains across different parts of the country worsened the flood situation in the south-western districts. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and the Federation continue to assess the situation, distribute relief items in the affected areas and share information and coordinate interventions with other organizations.

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The Situation

As an effect of low depression over the Bay of Bengal on 19-20 September 2006, different parts of Bangladesh experienced heavy rainfall for five days. This resulted in a worsening of the flood situation in the south-western districts of the country. According to information received from the field, the water level in some areas rose by 1-2 feet, leading to an increasing number of families moving to safer places, especially by roadsides. In this context, the need for further assessment and intervention is under discussion.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) / Federation continue with the distribution of food and non-food items in the flood affected areas. The latest update on the relief distribution operation is given below:

Table 1: Distribution of relief items in Jessore and Satkhira districts, as on 29 September 2006

Coverage			Items distributed per family							
Sub-districts (Upazilla)	Union	No. of families	Family kit box	Plastic sheeting	Blankets (Pcs.)	Clothing for women (Pcs.)	Clothing for men (Pcs.)	Rice (10 kg. pack)	Lentils (2.5 kg. pack)	Edible oil (900 ml. bottle)
Jessore district										
Monirampur	Nehalpur	380	359	131	359	---	---	359	359	359
	Shyamkur	245	---	245	216	216	216	216	216	216
	Monoharpur	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Kultia	1,180	---	1,180	553	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180
	Haridaskathi	500	---	430	500	500	500	500	500	500
	Durbadanga	265	---	245	265	265	265	265	265	265
	Dhakuria	300	---	260	300	300	300	300	300	300
	Khanpur	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Keshobpur	Chalauhathi	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Sagardari	425	241	184	425	184	184	425	425	425
Avoyanagar	Biddyanandakathi									
	Shundoli	965	---	965	965	965	965	965	965	965
	Chalishia	700	---	700	400	700	700	700	700	700
	Noapara Pourashava	426	--	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
Satkhira district										
Satkhira Sadar	Fingri	250	---	250	250	250	250	250	250	250
Kolaroa	Jalalabad	200	---	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Tala	Tetulia	425	---	425	425	425	425	425	425	425
Total		6,261	600	5,641	5,284	5,611	5,611	6,211	6,211	6,211

The process of procuring food rations for an additional 6,350 families is underway. Necessary arrangements have been made to transport non-food items from the BDRCS warehouse in Dhaka to the affected areas.

The BDRCS/Federation teams have completed an assessment of the flood affected areas in Khulna district. According to official figures, 18,000 families have been slightly affected in four unions of Dumuria upazilla in Khulna district. The BDRCS/Federation teams have identified 1,050 badly affected families in the district, in need of assistance. According to local sources, no other agencies had visited the areas before the assessment team.

Table 2: The numbers of most affected families in Jessore, Satkhira and Khulna districts, as identified by the assessment team:

Districts	Sub-districts (Upazillas)	Number of affected families
Jessore	Keshobpur	7,910
	Monirampur	8,000
	Avoyanagar	7,192
Total		23,102
Satkhira	Sadar	400
	Tala	1,140
	Kalaroa	1,300
Total		2,840
Khulna	Dumuria	1,050
Grand total		26,992

UNICEF has provided water purifying tablets and bleaching powder to be distributed through the BDRCS network in the affected areas, as planned.

The Bangladesh delegation has been participating in regular coordination meetings and sharing information with various INGOs and NGOs, both at the field level and at the centre in Dhaka. ECHO withdrew the possibility of funding support due to fund constraints. The Federation health delegate visited Satkhira and Jessore districts to assess the needs for health interventions and has designed some intervention plans if required.

Occasional political disturbances have hampered the smooth functioning of the operation.

[Please return to the title page for contact information](#)

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- *Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.*
- *Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.*
- *Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.*
- *Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.*

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>