

Sphere India National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India

SITUATION REPORT- 1

Floods in West Bengal

Date: 20th September 2024 (Friday)

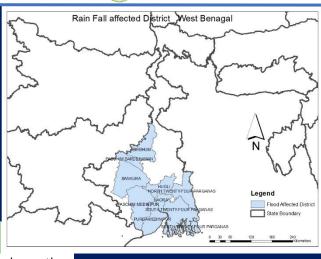
Time: 12:00 PM (IST)

SITUATION UPDATE AND RESPONSE

- On 13th September 2024, a well-marked low-pressure area formed over the northeast Bay of Bengal and southeast Bangladesh, intensifying into a depression by 0530 hours on 14th September. The depression moved westnorthwestwards across coastal Bangladesh and Gangetic West Bengal, and by 05:30 hours on the same day, it further strengthened into a deep depression over Bangladesh and Gangetic West Bengal.
- As a result, heavy rainfall and discharge of water from Damodar Valley Corporation has led to severe flooding in southern West Bengal, claiming three lives and affecting over 2.5 lakh residents.
- Six districts are significantly impacted, including Birbhum, Bankura, Howrah, Hooghly, North and South 24 Parganas, East and West Medinipur, and Paschim Bardhaman.
- Worst affected Area: Ghatal in West Medinipur and Udaynarayanpur in Howrah. The release of water from the dams and reservoirs has worsened the situation in Ghatal. The Dwarakeswar River has breached as well causing floods in Hooghly. This has led people to leave their homes in search of a safe and secure shelter.
- The flooding has also caused a lot of damage to the crops as they got washed away. Panskura railway station and it's adjoining bus stand in East <u>Medinipur</u> district sinked after flood completely becoming inaccessible to commuters.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

- The state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister has deployed disaster relief teams to assist in the affected areas and has initiated immediate measures to manage the situation.
- In response to the rising water levels, approximately 25,000 residents have been evacuated to safer districts as a preventive measure. 180 temporary shelter camps supporting 1 lakh people set up by GoWB.
- The Chief Minister has also instructed that road repairs should commence as soon as the water recedes. Additionally, there are plans to manage water release from the DVC dams to mitigate further flooding.
- O2NDRF teams have been deployed across West Bengal for the past five days, actively engaged in flood rescue operations in the districts of West Medinipur, Howrah, Hooghly, and East Medinipur. So far, they have rescued 33 people, evacuated 892 individuals, and saved 12 livestock.
- The Mereological office on Friday said it was closely monitoring the potential formation of a low-pressure area over northwest Bay of Bengal around September 23.



Statistical Analysis

Worst Affected District:
Birbhum, Bankura, Howrah,
Hooghly, North and South 24
Parganas, East & West
Medinipur, & West
Bardhaman



No. of Causalities: 03



Evacuated people : 25,000



Affected Population : 2.5 Lakh











HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

- IAG-W.B, Sphere India and Unicef FO-W.B jointly monitoring and coordinating the situation and planning response as required.
- Several local organizations under State & District IAGs assessing situations and have shared preliminary assessment reports. A few of them have started with immediate support. (*Info. attached in Annexure*).
- A group of Jr. Doctors & Healthcare <u>Workers</u> providing free Abhaya Clinics in Flood-Affected Areas of E. Medinipur, W.B. They are also distributing relief materials.

EMERGING NEEDS:

- Shifting of people from the submerged areas.
- Shelter: Tarpaulin sheets, Plastic ground sheets, bamboo.
- Food & Nutrition: dry food items, Cooked food distribution, Dry food for children, pregnant and lactating mothers, disabled and elderly, Baby food.
- Non food items: Kitchen utensils, Mosquito nets, blankets, bedsheets, solar torchlight
- Health: Mobile Health camps, Basic health services, menstrual hygiene kits, psychosocial support to children
- WASH: Bleaching Powder, lime powder, carbolic acid, phenyl, halogen tabs, safe drinking water supply
- Education: Cleanliness drive in affected schools, temporary learning place till schools reopen.

ANNEXURES:

- <u>Situation Reports IAG WB organizations(SPADE, KJKS, etc.)</u>
- Ministry of Home Affairs Sitrep (18.09.2024)
- Daily Flood Report Irrigation & Waterways Department, GoWB
- List of NGOs registered with District Authority, Howrah
- DDMP East Medinipur









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- District IAGs: <u>Click to view</u>



Source of Information

 Media, Social Media, Sphere India WhatsApp Group

Disclaimer:

Sphere India makes every effort to verify the information contained in its Situation Reports. As the ground situation changes rapidly in emergency situations, users should check with concerned agencies before making any decisions based on the info. provided in this report.

