

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Subject: Floods in Assam and Bihar – situation report as on 14th July at 1800 Hrs.

ASSAM

23 out of 27 districts continue to be affected by floods. Water level is falling in almost all the places, but Bramhaputra river is flowing above danger level in Dibrugarh, Kamrup, Jhorhat, Sonitpur and Goalpara districts.

In Nalbari district, water levels of all the rivers are flowing above danger level. Road communication to Nalbari from all sides still remains disrupted.

In Dhubri district, water level in river Bramhaputra is still rising. In South Salmara Mankachar sub-division, water level is flowing above danger level with rising trend. Erosion is continuing at difference places under Birsingh Jarauwa block. In Sonitpur district, the water level of Bramhaputra is flowing above danger level. In Morigaon district, water level of river Bramhaputra, Killong, Kapili and killing are flowing above danger level. In the Bajali sub-division of Barpeta district, water level of all the rivers are flowing above danger level. In Dhemaji district, the level of Bramhaputra river is receding. In the Rangiya sub-division of Kamrup district, flood situation is still grim. In Golaghat and Goalpada districts, water level of river Bramhaputra is flowing over danger level. In Karbi Angalong, water levels of rivers Bhorapani and Kapili are rising. As many rivers are still flowing above the danger level in different parts of the State, the situation remains grim.

2. The damage reported is as follows:-

Number of villages affected	5223
Area affected	6,90,000 hectares
Crop area affected	4,68,000 hectares
Total population affected	49,95,714
Human lives lost	14
Houses washed away	15000
Houses damaged	Approx 4 lakh
Relief camps opened	1296

Vital installations, telephone lines, educational institutions, electric sub-stations and other Government installations are reported to have been badly damaged. Around 1.5 km of Bramhaputra dyke at Malahu has been breached. Flood water have also affected Kaziranga National Park, 3 hog deers and 2 pythons have

died. The new areas inundated in Assam are – Kamrup (Hajo area), Golaghat (Bokakhat area), Dhubri, Darrang, Lakhimpur, Hamren and Morigaun.

3. Traffic on NH-31, NH-37, NH- 44 and NH-52 continues to be disrupted due to submergence at various points. A 20-metre breach on NH-31 between Nalbari and Barpeta has occurred. Road communication from Barpeta to NH-31 is also cut off due to breach in the State PWD road.

4. The broad-gauge link north of Brahmaputra to Guwahati has been restored but it continues to be under the danger of being disrupted because of flood waters. The railway link between Rangia and Dhemaji (north of Brahmaputra) continues to be disrupted and is not likely to be restored before the 30th of July. The railway link south of Brahmaputra is operational. The rail link between Lumding to Badarpur and Rangiya to Tezpur is disrupted.

5. The State Government is carrying out rescue and relief operations. 30,066 quintals of rice, 2000 quintals of dal, 352 quintals of chira and 1191 quintals of salt have been distributed as gratuitous relief.

6. **Assistance requested from the Central Government and the action taken.**

The State Government had requested for 7 helicopters. The helicopters have been made available to the State Government. These helicopters have been positioned at Guwahati, Tejpur, Dibrugarh, Jorhat and Silchar as requested by the State Government.

7. Assistance is being provided by the Army for relief and rescue operations as follows:-

- 3 composite flood relief columns are providing assistance in Nalbari with 6 BAUTs
- 3 composite flood relief columns are providing assistance in Kamrup district with 7 BAUTs.
- 1 composite flood relief column is operating in Darrang district with 4 BAUTs.
- 1 composite flood relief column is operating in Nagaon district with 6 BAUTs.
- 1 composite flood relief column is operating in Kokrajhar district.
- 3 composite flood relief column are operating in Goalpada district.

The Ministry of Defence were requested to provide 25 more number of BAUTs to the Government of Assam. 23 BAUTs from Pune and Bangalore are expected to reach Guwahati by late evening today. With this, the total number of BAUTs available in Assam for rescue and relief will be 46.

8. About 60 rakes of goods are still lying backed up for entry into Assam because of the slow movement of traffic on the broad gauge link north of Brahmaputra and the need to give priority to mail and express trains. The rake movement for civil supplies has now been started. Govt. of Assam have indicated the priority to be given for movement of essential commodities on priority. Ministry of Railways is being advised on the movement of rakes accordingly.

9. Unloading of rakes carrying food grains at BT road, Guwahati and Gosaigaon sidings is affected due to partial submergence of the sidings. Unloading of rakes at other seven terminals in NE region is going on smoothly.

10. The Department of Food as well as the Ministry of Railways have confirmed that there is at least one month's supply of food grain available with Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland. The total stock of food grain in North-East is reported to be more than two lakh MTs. For Assam, 1.1 lakh MT of foodgrains is available with FCI in Assam.

11. The road bridging between Guwahati siding and Meghalaya/Jaintia Hills and beyond is ongoing. Around 120 trucks carrying food grains are on road. They were stranded because of landslides. The road is likely to be cleared in next two days.

12. Normal routine operations of movement of 40 to 50 trucks of foodgrains every day from New Guwahati to Silchar, Tripura and Mizoram is going smoothly.

13. The Ministry of Health were requested to provide 50 lakh halogen tablets; 50 lakh packets of ORS; 500 MTs of DDT and 200 MTs of bleaching powder to the State. 25 lakh halogen tablets are being transported by air from Hyderabad and will reach Guwahati by noon of 15th July 2004. As against the requirements of 50 lakh ORS packets, it has been decided that Ministry of Health will go ahead with 10 lakh ORS packets to be provided to the Govt. of Assam immediately. In view of the flood situation of Assam, Ministry of Health will assess the requirement of bleaching powder and supply the required quantity to the State. Govt. of Assam currently has 1049 MTs of DDT available with them, which is meant for indoor residual spray. Ministry of Health has further advised that carrying indoor residual spray during flood situation is not considered to be operationally and technically desirable. Ministry of Health will obtain the details of micro-action plan for DDT spray from the State govt. and a view on additional supply of DDT will then be taken.

14. The Ministry of Health is sending a Central Team to the flood affected areas of Assam to advise the State on the action to be taken to prevent outbreak of epidemics. The team is expected to leave for Assam tomorrow morning.

15. The Department of Drinking Water Supply was requested to dispatch a team to Assam to assess the drinking water situation. The Dept. of Drinking Water Supply has received a feedback form State govt. that drinking water situation is completely normal.

16. The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have reported that they have released 4000 MT of K-Oil as an additional allocation to the State of Assam. This has been received and distributed. Govt. of Assam have further requested (through the Resident Commissioner, Assam) for additional 6000 MT of K-oil and Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have been advised to issue necessary orders for additional allocation immediately.

17. Funds from CRF/NCCF

The first instalment of Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 46.26 crores was released on the 12th of July. Taking into account the State share of Rs. 15.42 crores the total funds available on this account comes to Rs. 61.68 crores. In addition, a sum of Rs. 55 crore has been released from the NCCF on an ad-hoc basis on the 13th of July. The above releases will make available an amount of Rs. 116.68 crores to the State for carrying out relief operations.

18. Aerial survey and visit of the Central Team

The Hon'ble Union Minister for Water Resources is visiting Assam tomorrow for an aerial survey of the flood affected areas. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team is also being constituted for detailed assessment of the flood situation in Assam and the team is likely to visit the flood affected areas immediately after the flood water has receded to an extent.

BIHAR

The flood situation in Bihar continues to be grim. As on 14th July 2004, the river Bagmati was still flowing in unprecedented flood situation in Benibad, Bihar. It is now flowing near its previous highest flood level of 49.72 mt. with a falling trend. The river Budigandak was flowing in high flood situation 16 cm below its previous HFL and 1.6 metres above the danger level, and is anticipated to rise in the next 12 hours. The river Kosi is flowing in high flood situation 44 cm below its previous HFL and 2.11 metres above the danger level, and is anticipated to fall in the next 12 hours.

The Districts affected are Supaul, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, West Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Khagaria, Sheohar, Madhubani, Araria, Saharsa, East Champaran, Samastipur, Katihar, Kishanganj.

Road communication on eight National Highways is disrupted at different places in the State, with flood waters overtopping the road. The National Highways affected are 28-A, 31, 57, 77, 81, 104, 105, 107. There is slippage of 800 mts. on NH-31. Some of the critical national highways which have affected road communication links with Assam, different districts of North Bihar and bordering areas of Nepal are NH-28A, 31, 77 and 104.

The damage reported is as follows:-

Number of districts affected	16
Number of Blocks affected	113
Number of villages affected	3652
Population affected	94.36 lakh
Area affected	39.982 lakh hectares
Crop area affected	8.418 lakh hectares
Number of houses damaged	2.38 lakh
Human lives lost	32
Number of livestock lost	17

2. The State Government is carrying out relief operations. The details are as follows:-

Boats deployed	1432
Readymade food distributed	1209.49 Quintals
Number of polythene sheets distributed	20868
Number of food packets air-dropped	23863
No. of Candle	63920
No. of Match boxes	25264

3. **Assistance requested from the Central Government and the action taken.**

Six Army columns were present in Bihar as on 12th July, 2004. Two columns are deployed in Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur, Four columns were today deployed in Madhubani, Darbhanga and Samastipur districts. One task force with four BAUTs have been airlifted to Madhubani today.

4. Two additional columns were airlifted from Bhopal to Patna today. These columns are being deployed to Samastipur district. Total no. of Army flood relief columns available to Bihar now is 8 with 32 BAUTs.

5. A total of 10 helicopters have been made available to the State as on TODAY. This includes 3 MI-8, 4 MI-17 and 3 Chetak helicopters.

6. Govt. of Bihar had requested for 50,000 MT each of rice and wheat for providing GR to affected people. The FCI were instructed accordingly. FCI is making available the grain from its stocks. There are adequate stocks with the FCI in the State.

7. Government of Bihar have requested for **5000** tents. **308** tents have already moved from Orissa and will reach Patna by tomorrow, **15th July** evening. **200** tents arranged by Govt. of Gujarat have been airlifted to Patna today. 60 tents from CISF are being airlifted to Patna tomorrow. 60 tents from CRPF available in Mokama and Muzaffarpur have been made available to Govt. of Bihar today.

8. The State Government has requested for 10 lakh pieces of polythene sheets (of 5X5 metre dimension) to provide temporary shelter. State Governments of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat were advised to assist Bihar in procurement of polythene sheets. Five MT of Polythene sheets have been dispatched from Gujarat today.

9. The State Government had requested for 10 lakh litres of additional allocation of K-Oil. The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have allocated the entire quantity. They have also indicated that further allocations can be made available as required. Govt. of Bihar have furnished district wise allocation of K-oil to State Area Coordinator.

10. The Govt. of Bihar had requested for 50 lakh halogen tablets. 25 lakh halogen tablets from Hyderabad will reach Patna by air tomorrow. A specialist team of Ministry of Health have arrived in Patna to assess the situation and advise the State Government on actions to be taken to prevent outbreak of epidemic in the flood affected areas.

11. Four satellite phones and onsite emergency coordination kits have been provided to the Government of Bihar by MHA. One more set is being dispatched to Bihar tomorrow.

12. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways have been advised for immediate assessment of the National highways 28-A,31,77 and 104 and take necessary measures for restoration on priority. Other national highways, which are also affected, either due to over-topping or slippages (exact positions to be assessed) are NH-57, NH-81, NH-105, and NH-107 which will also be assessed for necessary action. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways will send an assessment team to Bihar to assess the situation and plan necessary measures for restoration. A detailed report in this regard will be furnished soon.

13. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) have been advised to assist the Government of Bihar in procurement of fodder. Railways will provide rakes for movement of fodder. DAHD has arranged for fodder through Government of Punjab and Govt. of Uttar Pradesh and State Government of Bihar is taking necessary action for procurement and transportation of fodder.

14. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) have also been requested to provide five lakh units each of HS/BQ/FMD vaccine for cattle. DAHD has already arranged for one lakh doses of HS and 50,000 doses of HQ through Government of Uttar Pradesh and 1.7 lakh doses of BQ and 0.63 lakh HS vaccines from Jharkhand and the State Govt of Bihar has made necessary arrangements for the supplies. A representative of Indian Immunological Limited is in Patna to discuss the supply of FMD vaccines keeping in view the existing cold chain in the State.

15. **Release of funds from CRF**

The State of Bihar has been allocated an amount of Rs. 51.40 crore in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for the year 2004-05 consisting of 61.45 crore as Centre contribution and Rs. 20.35 crore as State contribution. The first instalment of the Central share of the CRF had not been released by the Ministry of Finance to the State of Bihar as the State Government had not furnished the utilization report for the year 2003-04. Keeping in view the fact that funds will be required by the State Government to carry out rescue and relief operations in flood affected areas, the Ministry of Finance have been advised to release the pending first instalment of CRF of Central Share for the year 2004-05 amounting Rs. 30.525 crores. The amount has been released on July 12, 2004. Taking into account the State share of Rs. 10.175 crore, an amount of Rs. 40.70 crore will be available to the State Government for carrying out the relief operations in the affected areas.

16. **Aerial survey and visit of the Central Team**

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Water Resources visited Bihar today for an aerial survey of the flood affected areas. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team is also being constituted for detailed assessment of the flood situation in Bihar and the team is likely to visit the flood affected areas immediately after the flood water has receded to an extent.

[R.K. Singh]
Central Relief Commissioner
14.7.2004.