



Cyclone AMPAN hit Bangladesh coast: many areas are under water

As reported by the Bangladesh Metrological Department Cyclone Ampan is now lies over Rajshahi-Pabna area as a land deep depression. Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Mongla and payra sea port have been asked to display local cautionary signal number 03 (three). Moderate to heavy rain/thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty/squally wind is likely to occur at most places over Khulna, Barishal, Chattogram, Rajshahi, Dhaka, Rangpur, Mymensingh & Sylhet divisions with very heavy falls at places over the country.

At least eight (15) people were killed in Bangladesh, many houses were damaged and trees uprooted as severe cyclonic storm Amphan hit the Sundarbans coast of Bangladesh coastlines on 20 May 2020 evening after making a landfall in India's West Bengal. The victims are from Patuakhali, Bhola, Pirojpur, Laxmipur, Sandwip and Satkhira. The coastal areas of Khulna and Satkhira region have been devastated by the cyclone Amphan. The storm damaged more than a lakh houses in different areas of Khulna, Satkhira and Bagerhat districts. Heavy rains and high tidal surges broke the dams and submerged low-lying lands, ponds and crop lands in different areas. Besides, thousands of trees have been uprooted. The entire coastal region has faced extensive damage.

Most affected area is Satkhira, besides many low-lying areas of Barishal, Chattogram and Khulna went under water due to tidal surges. In some areas, onrushing water breached protection embankments. More areas include Dhal Char, Char Nijam and Char Kalatali of Bhola; several villages of Rangabali and Galachipa upazilas of Patuakhali; and Majhir Char of Pirojpur are drenched. According to Water Development Board officials the Meghna, Bhola, Baleshwar, Bishkhali and Paira rivers were flowing above the danger mark at several points in Patuakhali, Barguna and Bagerhat. Different areas in Dacope and Koira upazilas of Khulna were also flooded as Rupsha, Shibshar and Pashur rivers were flowing above the danger level. Onrushing water overflowed the protection embankment in Dakkhin Betkashi of Koira, said locals news.

Earlier the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), under the leadership of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MODMR) evacuated up to two million people to cyclone shelters to minimize the impact of the cyclone on exposed populations. The GoB has also allocated 3,100 metric tons (MT) of rice and 42,000 packets of food along with funds for children's food (\$36,400) and animal feed (\$32,900) and US\$ 58,700 in cash to 19 risk-prone districts.

People living in the coastal area have been already returning home from cyclone shelter. Following protection measure would help people to protect from any danger.

- Don't return to your property or vehicle until authorities confirm it is safe to do so.
- Flooding can occur after a cyclone. So always abide by local alerts and warning system.
- Stay away from damage areas and properties.
- Don't use electrical appliances that have been wet until they've been checked for safety.
- Drinking Water may be contaminated. Take photos and dispose of any items that have been affected by contaminated flood eaters.
- Stay away from damaged power lines, fallen trees and flood waters.