



Source: windy.com

A depression, which formed in the Bay of Bengal on 4 November 2019, gradually formed into a severe cyclonic storm (Cyclone Bulbul). The cyclone moved north-northeastwards (LONG. 87°E) this morning and is expected to make landfall at Sundarban (LONG. 89°E) this evening. The districts of Khulna, Satkhira, Bagerhat, Bhola, Patuakhali, Barguna, Jhalokathi, Barisal and Pirojpur were marked to be at high risk. According to the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), within 74km of the cyclone center, wind speed is forecasted to be about 130kmph and will result in high tidal surges; seven feet higher than normal. Today, BMD has hoisted great danger signal 10 (ten) for Mongla and Payra ports.

BRAC has presence in all of the vulnerable areas; sub-district level emergency response teams are coordinating its efforts with government, other organisations and is in continuous communication with its head office. They have reported rain and strong winds and have observed community evacuation to cyclone shelters. Local administrations and Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) volunteers are making announcements on loudspeakers urging people to go to cyclone shelter.

Bangladesh government initiatives

- Coastal districts' disaster management committee meetings were held on Friday (8 November). Government and non government organisations were present at these meetings.
- Evacuation of communities to cyclone shelters have already begun; 4,071 shelters across the coastal belt are ready to accommodate 1.8 million people
- Cyclone preparedness programme (CPP), Red Crescent Society and other volunteer groups are disseminating warnings signals and standing by for necessary response
- Government allocated rice, cash and fodder for immediate relief distribution in the vulnerable districts

BRAC's preparations

- The Emergency Operating Centre (EOC) has been activated at BRAC head office to coordinate necessary response. (Contact +8801713052518 for sharing updates/queries)
- District level incident command systems (ICS) and upazila disaster management teams (UDMT) are standing by at the coastal region. These emergency teams are prepared to initiate response within 24 hours after cyclone disintegrates.
- ICS and UDMTs are attending meetings with government's district relief and rehabilitation officers (DRRO) and upazila disaster committees (UDMCs) respectively for smooth coordination.
- A disaster management steering committee (DMSC) meeting was held at BRAC head office today. The committee has allocated increased contingency fund budget for vulnerable upazilas, and suggested preparation for staff deployment (including head office staff) at affected areas.
- The contingency funds will be utilised to deliver dry food, water and medicines for necessary emergency response for evacuated communities at cyclone shelters.
- First aid and medical teams will be at the first line of response. (Contact +8801730329588 for sharing updates/queries)
- ICS and UDMTs are ready to conduct loss and damage assessment.