

Assam Flood Situation Report (Specific to Chirang and Kokrajhar BTC.)

Date: 26th July 2016.

Context

The flood situation continues to remain grim with the no of affected population touching 12.5 lakh in 2,106 villages under 58 revenue circles of 18 districts today with major rivers like Brahmaputra is flowing above its danger level at Dibrugarh, Neamatighat, Tezpur, Guwahati, Goalpara and Dhubri, while the Burhidihing is flowing above its danger level at Khowang, Subansiri is flowing above its danger level at Badatighat, Dhansiri (South) is flowing above its danger level at Numaligarh, Jia Bharali is flowing above its danger level at NT Road Crossing, Puthimari is flowing above its danger level at NH Road Crossing, Beki is flowing above its danger level at Road Bridge and Sankosh is flowing above its danger level at Golakganj.

The incessant rain over the last few days and the release of water from Upstream (Bhutan) had worsened the situation in BTC. Aie River is known to be the notorious the local called it a Blind Rivers- swamping the paddy fields, houses and changing of the river course.

The Srijangram block and a large part of Bijni, which fall under Bongaigaon district, have also witnessed a major damage as the gush of river waters in Srijangram area had breached portions of anti-erosion dams before submerging human habitations, said the affected villagers.

These Rivers have washed away hundreds of villages in Chirang district. Whereas in Kokrajhar district the overflow of Sankosh, Swmanga River and its tributaries waters resulted in the destruction of many villages and agricultural lands. 70% agricultural lands were submerged and many houses were damaged both in Chirang and Kokrajhar districts forcing the people to move out from the villages. Now these people are still taking shelter along the high land and roadside without having sufficient food items and protection from various factors.

AFFECTED POPULATION / NEEDS ASSESSMENT

IGSSS team conducted rapid assessment in Chirang, Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon and many of the ongoing peace project villages are reported badly affected by the flood. The number of houses getting submerged under water is on the rise as the water level is continuously rising every passing day. The badly affected villages of Sidli and Bijni circle of Chirang district by the Aie River flood waters are: Dababil, Boro Nilibari, Debwr bil, Sishubari, Part of Ranisundri, Besorbari, Nachanguri, Garugaon, Hapasara, Naturbari, Besorbari, Moderpur, Joypur, Sishubari, Nangalbhangra, Sishubari Boro, Aipuali, Anthaibari and Baujuri. Till writing of the report, the flood water is still flowing at danger level. The flood has so far claimed one person from Amguri, Chirang district. The affected people are both from tribal as well as minority communities.

The affected families are taking shelter in roadside, school and high raised areas. Any relief materials are yet to reach due to the distance and lack of proper means of transportation as many villages still remain cut off

PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Structural Damages: There are different types of infra-structural damages caused by the flood like school buildings, PWD Roads, ICDS Centres, Hospitals, Enbankments, Electricity Poles and Wirings etc. 213-No Choto Nilibari LP School and Sishubari LP School under Sidli block has been wash away by the flood waters, major enbankments from Debargaon to Dangaigaon has been eroded between Dohlapara nearing the PWD road from Bongaigaon to Bengtol via Birhangaon, another major enbankment in Dwiswmjhora and Mesgate of Koilamoila have been eroded and have changed its course towards Kunkrajhora, Ambari, Dologaoon, Gopdapara destroying number of contiguous villages and paddy fields thereafter. The value is loss is still under assessed.

Food, nutrition and Livelihoods: 80% of the affected victims lost their cultivated crops because they were all submerged by the flood waters. Neither could they go for the daily wage works as they have more works to do for repairing, cleaning their houses and shifting their household materials etc. The amount of food that women and children have to eat is decreasing day by day which is a concern for their health and nutrition. The remaining domestic animals are struggling with their fodder. Women and children bore the brunt of it with their decrease intake of food and continuous exposure to contaminated water poses high risk to their health. The value is loss is still under assessed.

WASH: Neither death nor missing people has been reported so far in these villages. More than four days the people were taking shelter in the highlands and roadsides. The village roads are not accessible due to slushy and mud on the road. At present there are flood waters in and around the villages at the high of 1 to 2 feet. 60% of the HH are not able to accessed safe drinking water facilities and the existing water points got contaminated or are at risk of contamination. There is also a need for drinking water. People go for open defecation as the toilets were damaged. No sufficient water containers. Women use torn or waste clothes during menstrual period.

Shelter: In some of the villages water is still grim and people are rushing to find high and safe places. Most of the shelters are damages as their houses are made of thatch grass and bamboo. Houses in Dababil, Boro Nilibari, Debwrbil, Sishubari, Part of Ranisundri, Besorbari, Nachanguri, Garugaon, Hapasara villages were fully damaged and there is *an immediate need for shelter support like tarpaulin, plastic mats and mosquito nets.*

Education: As the village roads and the school structures are cut off and school books damaged, children are facing problem in going to schools. The school children will face problem as long as the water logging continues and the village roads not repaired.

Given below are the *priority lists of villages out of the many affected villages that require immediate responses.*

Sl	Name of Block	Distri ct	Name of Village	Comm unity	Total No. of Affected HH	Total Population (approx)	Shelter Fully damaged
1	Sidli Block	Chiran g	Joypur	Muslim	33	180	0
2			Sishubari Muslim	Muslim	28	170	0
3			Sishubari Boro	Boro	17	90	0
4			Kagrabari	Boro	25	121	0
5			Nangalbhanga	Muslim	50	280	0
6			Sishubari	Muslim	30	192	25
7			Aipuali 1 & 2	Boro	64	331	0
8			Rani Sunduri	Boro	31	160	0
9			Boro Nilibari	Mix	29	162	0
10			Dababil (Ray Basti)	Rajbhongshi	116	564	116
11			West Dababil (Urao Basti)	Adivasi	74	381	30
12			Anthaibari	Boro	262	1299	0
13			Baujuri	Rajbhongshi	45	200	15
14			Durgapur Muslim Basti	Muslim	23	154	0
15			Choto Nilibari (Ray Basti)	Rajbhongshi	69	340	69
16			Choto Nilibari (Boro Basti)	Boro	36	192	36
17			Khanibhur Muslim Basti	Muslim	30	187	0
18			Khanibhur Boro Basti	Boro	64	340	10
20	Borobazar (Bijni)	Chiran g	Bhabanipur (Muslim Basti)	Muslim	99	521	76
21			East Amguri	Muslim	33	179	33
22			Rajpara	Boro	46	233	0
23			Simolguri	Boro	32	165	32
24			Aozarguri	Boro	34	165	34
25			No 2 Lantibari	Boro	64	322	0
26			Nowagaon	Boro	52	251	52
27			Sishubari	Boro	22	105	22

		Hadan				
	Total				1472	7646
						562

Source; IGSSS Bongaigaon Field Unit. (The team is still collecting information from the field through Peace Action Volunteers, Women Peace committee, Core Members and district administration)

Immediate needs identified are

- Food items like Rice, dal,
- Plastic sleeping mats,
- Hygiene kit washing (Buckets with lids, bath soaps, washing soaps, disinfection liquids, sanitary napkins)
- Package drinking water
- Tarpaulin,
- Mosquito nets
- Candles

Recommendation

Immediate response with Hygiene kits, Plastic mats and Tarpaulin (for those whose houses were damage), mosquito nets and unconditional cash support is recommended.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

IGSSS is coordinating with IAG-Assam, Bongaigaon Field Unit office and local district NGOs and district administration to monitor the situation.

Government response:

The Chief Minister of Assam has instructed the concern district administration to extend support to the affected communities by setting up relief camps (9 Relief Camps in Sidli Circle with 11456 peoples and 10 in Bijni Circle with 7990 peoples) and provision of food items like rice, dals, salt and M. Oils and few thin plastic sheets for temporary shelter¹

STAFFING

IGSSS has trained emergency assessment and programming staff in North East to adequately respond to the flood, if required. No external staff support is required at this time.

Report prepared by
Mr. Dulal Basumatary
Prog. Officer, IGSSS, BTC.

Additional Sources: ASDMA, The Assam Tribune, IAG- Assam SitRep and Chirang DC Office

¹ Chirang DC