

Report on Unusual Saline flood (2014) at Sagar Island, S.24 Parganas

Prepared by

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Sagar Island, S. 24 Parganas



OVERFLOW OF RIVERINE WATER
crossing the river bank

SILENT DISASTER AT SAGAR ISLAND

On **13th July,14** morning, people of Sagar Island residing near the eastern river bank noticed an unprecedented incident : no storm, no cyclone but more severe than AILA, , never seen before, flow of saline high tidal water over the river bank (more than 2 feet above the river bank, in some places), flooding of more than **12 villages** (Kachuberia, Pakhirala, patharpratima, Hendalketki, Silpara, Mooriganga, Sibpur, Sumatinagar, Dhablat Sibpur, and few other villages, mostly on the eastern bank of Sagar island).

Intrusion of saline water in the villages destroyed crops, and all of their means of livelihood at Sagar island. The flood starts on 12th July,14 during high tide (night) and continues up to 15th July,14.



This calamity leads to damage of paddy fields (salinity intrusion), damages of several thousand houses, Betel Vine Yards, livestock, etc. As a result, several thousand people being homeless are in camps and sharing community space & food, which completely alter their normal life including, agriculture, business, fish farming, students' education, health, etc.



The loss estimated received from the local authority is given below:

Name of the GP	NO. of camns	No. of peple in the	Damage				Animal Husbandry
			Paddy field	Betel vine yard	Kharif vegetable	Pond (fishery, domestic use)	
MG-I	10	10000	180	58	75	2500	Not yet estimated (several thousand)
MG-II	2	1500	20	8	12	500	
DS-II	3	4000	35	8	10	650	
Dhablat	3	4000	45	10	25	700	
Gangasagar	3	4500	25	18	18	450	
Ghoramara	2	1500	22	6	10	300	



The staff members of Pribesh unnyan Parishad were involved in relief work spontaneously by distributing drinking water and dry food. Medical camps were also organised and the same will also be organised with medicines purchased and also received as donation. Considering the urgency of salt tolerant paddy cultivation, we procured 5 quintals of Dudheswar variety from Patharpratima and distributed amongst 200 farmers of the affected villages. We have tested the salinity as follows:

Salinity test of the flood water within Village (Hendalketki & Silpara)

Tubewell - 0 ppt
Sweet water pond- 0.1 ppt
before high tide (low tide) :
10-11 ppt
During high tide : 12 - 13 ppt

It will affect the paddy cultivation for the next 2-3 years. Moreover, Contamination of drinking water is the major problem people facing there.



Dr. Anupam Paul, Agricultural Scientist. ATI, Fulia, Nadia interacting with affected farmers for overcoming the situation. PUPA distributed salt tolerant Paddy (500 kg) brought from Patharpratima Block to more than 200 farmers of Sagar Island, S. 24 Parganas, W.B.

We have estimated the loss in MG-I Gram Panchayet with information from Panchayat office and the local pepole, as follow.

Demography along with flood induced damage (MG-I GP)
(Documented by PUPA)

Sl. No	Village	Total HH	Total Population		General Population		SC Population		House fully damaged	House Partly damaged	Betelvine damaged	Pond (saline)	Paddy field (Saline) in acre
			M	F	M	F	M	F					
1.	Phulbari	272	614	578	458	470	156	108	Nil	Nil	156	Nil	Nil
			1192		928		264						
2.	Kashtala	356	968	800	678	534	290	266	Nil	Nil	290	Nil	Nil
			1768		1212		556						
3.	Shibpur	207	568	465	411	342	157	123	20	23	157	26	20
			1033		753		280						
4.	Kachuberia	318	952	905	660	650	292	255	83	47	292	280	220
			1857		1310		547						
5.	Pakhirala	291	947	885	308	230	639	655	120	90	639	180	170
			1832		538		1294						
6.	Patharpratima	375	910	862	725	684	185	178	159	19	185	196	110
			1772		1409		363						
7.	Hendalketki	278	774	616	606	453	168	163	66	169	168	425	210
			1390		1059		331						
8.	Silpara	286	736	695	251	253	485	442	183	91	485	507	200
			1431		504		927						
9.	Muriganga	226	568	552	511	496	57	56	72	28	57	105	50
			1120		1007		113						
10.	Sikarpur	294	882	821	355	320	527	501	15	4	527	7	-
			1703		675		1028						
11.	Champatala	414	1364	894	1236	810	128	84	20	25	128	40	20
			2258		2046		212						
Total		3317	(9283/8073)		(6199/5242)		(3084/2831)		738	496	3084	1766	1000 acre
			17356		11441		5915						

Demography (Summary) & Saline flood induced Damages							
		No. of flood affected villages	House fully damaged	House Partly damaged	Betelvine damaged	Pond (Saline)	Paddy field (Saline) in acre
Total village	11	9					
Total household	3317		738				
Caste Distribution				496			
General Caste (Population)					3984		
Male	6199					1766	
Female	5242						1000
Total	11441						acre(approx.)
Schedule caste (Population)							
Male	3084						
Female	2831						
Total	5915						
Total	17356	9	738	496	3984	1766	1000