

Cold Wave/Winter Response Overview

Shelter Cluster Bangladesh

13 January 2026

Overview: Bangladesh is currently experiencing a mild cold wave, according to the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), this cold wave is affecting the districts of Rajshahi, Pabna, Dinajpur, Panchagarh, Nilphamari, Jashore, Chuadanga, and Kushtia, and it is expected to persist. The lowest temperature recorded so far in 2026 was 6.7°C at Badalgachhi Upazila in Naogaon on 07 January 2026. BMD forecasts that until January 16, the weather will remain mostly dry with occasionally partly cloudy skies across the country. Moderate to dense fog is likely in river basin areas, while light to moderate fog may occur elsewhere during late night and early morning. Both day and night temperatures are expected to remain largely unchanged.

This prolonged cold spell has disrupted daily life and increased hardship, particularly for low-income individuals who spend most of their time outdoors.

According to the DGHS, between 01 November 2025 and 12 January 2026, a total of 122,076 cases of cold related Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI) and diarrhea disease were reported nationwide, resulting in 56 deaths.

Key figures (Winter Disease Report between 01 November 2025 and 12 January 2026)

Acute Respiratory Illness



37,273

Case Reported



50 Deaths

Diarrhea



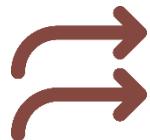
84,803

Case Reported



6 Deaths

Summary of Cold Wave/Winter Response (As of 13 January 2026)



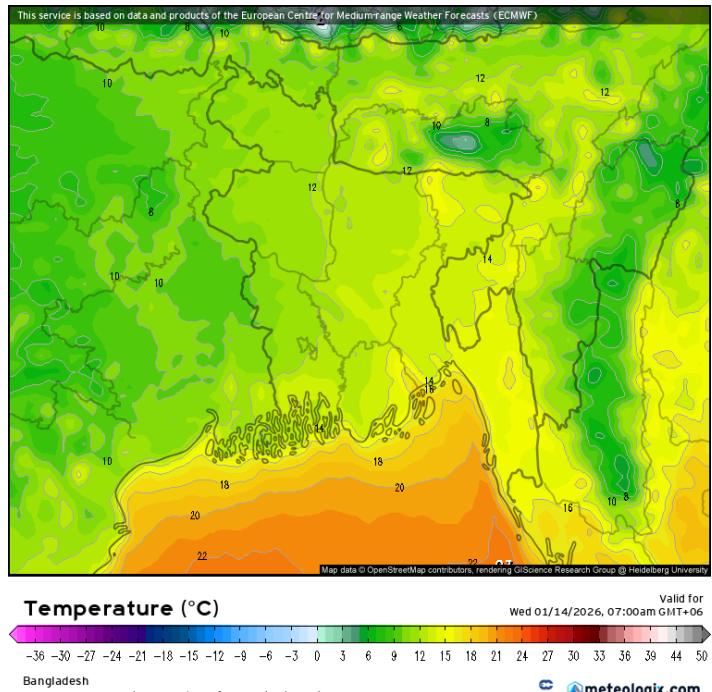
87,243

Blankets Mobilized



USD\$ 4,15,252

Mobilized



Response Details:

- **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)**, with support from International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Danish Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent Society, Swiss Red Cross, Comic Relief, British Red Cross, and American Red Cross, is distributing 34,700 blankets nationwide through its 68 branches. To facilitate this initiative, BDRCS has mobilized USD 144,583.
- **BRAC** distributed 37,486 blankets across the districts of Gazipur, Naogaon, Gaibandha, Natore, Nilphamari, Meherpur, Panchagarh, Bogura, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Rajshahi, Chapai Nawabganj, Chuadanga, Jamalpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Sirajganj, Gopalganj, Joypurhat, Jhenidah, Rangpur, Pabna, Kushtia, and Khulna. Additionally, 726 shawls were distributed in Bogura district. In total, BRAC mobilized USD 98,290 for its winter response.
- **Caritas** plans to distribute 6,000 blankets to 6,000 families in 15 Districts. In addition, Caritas will provide unconditional cash assistance to 1,020 of these families, with each receiving BDT 1,000 (approximately USD 8.3). Overall, Caritas is mobilizing a total of USD 40,000.
- **Disable Development & Educational Foundation (DDEF)**, with support from Global Giving Inc. USA, distributed 300 blankets in Barguna district and mobilized USD 850.
- **Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK)**, with support from Concern Worldwide and Shahjalal Bank PLC, distributed 1,050 blankets in Lalmonirhat and Gaibandha districts and successfully mobilized USD \$6,083 to support ongoing relief efforts.
- **Integrated Development Forum (IDF)**, with support from Orphan Support International, Human Relief Foundation, and Zymaal Relief Foundation, distributed 560 blankets across Lalmonirhat, Kushtia, and Rajbari. Additionally, IDF provided 60 teddy bears and footballs to families and successfully mobilized USD 2,167.
- **Islamic Relief Bangladesh (IRB)** provided winter packages to 1,750 families. Each package included two blankets, one shawl for woman, one shawl for man, and one sweater for children. The distribution took place in Kurigram and Rangpur districts, with IRB allocating USD 46,779 for this initiative.
- **Muslim Aid Bangladesh Field Office** provided winter relief packages to 3,647 families. Each package included one blanket, four cardigans/sweaters, four monkey caps, four pairs of woolen socks, and 200 ml of petroleum jelly. The distribution took place in Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, and Sirajganj in partnership with local organizations MJSK, SKS Foundation, and UDDIPAN. A total of USD 76,500 was mobilized for this initiative.



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