The countrywide retail prices of rice (Boro HYV coarse rice) continued to decline with the national average being stable at 24.5 Tk/kg in the current quarter. International rice prices remained stable after increasing by 2 percent in May. Global wheat, maize and soybean prices started to soar from mid-June due to poor production in major food exporting countries as a result of unfavourable weather conditions. Bangladesh being a wheat and soybean oil importing country the rise in the international prices is likely to transmit to the domestic market. The wholesale price of wheat has increased by 9 percent from July to August and the retail price of wheat increased by 6 percent from June to September. So far the price of soybean oil has remained stable at 123 Tk/l. When compared to the high food prices of 2008, the retail prices of almost all essential food commodities are low except for the price of palm oil which continues to remain high. However the retail price of palm oil has decreased by 4 percent from last quarter and was 99 Tk/l in September.

The general inflation rate continued to decline (7.39 percent in September, base year 1995/96) mainly because of the decline in food inflation. However, non-food inflation went up in September to near double digits (9.6 percent) after government imposition of a power price hike.

In July-August, as Ramadan and Eid festival approached, remittance inflows went up by 18 percent from a year ago and by 12 percent from June. Remittance inflows have significant impact on the food security of around 8 million households who rely on remittances as their primary income.

Assuming a normal monsoon, Bangladesh’s rice production for FY 2012/13 is forecasted at 34.2 million MT, while rice consumption (food, seed, and feed use together) is forecasted at 35 million MT. Import of rice is minimal compared to the same time last year; however import orders for wheat jumped in July following soaring international prices as both the public and private sector put an effort to stockpile.

The government started Boro rice and Boro paddy procurement on 3 May at 28 Taka/kg and 18 Taka/kg. 960,456 MT of rice have been purchased under the running Boro collection programme as on 20 October. As of 11 October, the government has distributed a total 0.36 million MT of food grains under the Public Food Distribution System (PFDS), which is 0.06 percent lower compared to the total distribution at the same time last year. The Open Market Sales (OMS) drive, which resumed in major cities and districts of the country, continues with rice being sold at 24 Tk/kg and whole grain wheat flour (atta) sold at 20 Tk/kg.

Based on wage data collected by WFP in Barisal, Khulna and Rajshahi division, in September a male agricultural wage labourer could buy 9 kg of rice with his daily income of 230 Taka, an increase of 23 percent from the purchasing capacity a year ago. The average retail price of rice decreased by 21 percent from a year ago which partly contributed to the improved purchasing capacity of agricultural day labourers. The daily wage of a female agricultural labourer in September was 154 Taka - leading to only 6 kg/day in rice purchasing capacity.

There is significant regional difference in monthly rice purchasing capacity (measured by multiplying the daily Terms of Trade with the average number of work days in the region) between Rajshahi division in the north and its southern counterparts. With rice prices being the same in both regions this difference is mainly due to the difference in regional wage rates. The monthly rice purchasing capacity of agricultural labourers in Rajshahi, Barisal and Khulna divisions decreased in September which is the lean season. Due to limited employment opportunities, the rice purchasing capacity in the flood affected areas of the Northwest is expected to decrease in October even more than that of a lean season in a normal year.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

The overall climatic conditions were favourable in most parts of the country except in the Northwest. Starting in the end of September 2012 this region was hit by floods for the third time this year due to heavy rainfall and the onrush of upstream water. The flood hit during the lean season at a time when households were expecting to recover from the impact of the previous floods (at the end of June 2012 and mid-July 2012) through the harvest of Aman paddy. The worst affected districts were Bogra, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Kurigram and Sirajganj.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

INFLATION AND REMITTANCES

In the first quarter of FY 2012/13 general inflation, measured by the point to point variation in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), continued to decline. The general inflation rate started to fall since February and stood at 7.39 percent in September (base year 1995/96). The government targets to bring down the average inflation rate to 7.5 percent in the current fiscal year.

The falling general inflation rate is mostly attributed to the declining food inflation as a result of the decrease in prices of essential food items (particularly rice). The central bank's move to curb lending to unproductive sectors is also reported to contribute to the declining general inflation (Daily Star, October 8, 2012).

After a 12-month respite of declining food inflation, it went up in August partly due to the rise in prices of essential commodities during Ramadan and Eid festival. Due to the price hike of imported items in August (Ramadan), the rise in food inflation during that period was higher than that up to July. However, the food inflation again declined in September (6.16 percent). Despite the falling trend in food inflation mostly due to stable rice prices, there is speculation that with the global rise in prices of wheat, maize and soybean oil food inflation may increase in Bangladesh, as the country imports wheat and soybean oil from global markets.

Unlike in the year 2011 the non-food inflation in 2012 is much higher than the food inflation. In the current quarter the non-food inflation dropped in August, however, it rose again in September (9.6 percent). The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) linked higher non-food inflation to a power price hike. The government increased the power tariff on 01 September by 15 percent to Tk 5.75 per unit to cut the subsidy on power.

In July, as Ramadan and the Eid festival (August) approached, remittance inflow ($1.9 billion in nominal terms) went up by 18 percent from last year and by 12 percent from June. The values in the graph are adjusted for inflation and are in constant Taka of the year 2000. In constant Taka terms, remittance inflows in the current quarter were 21 percent higher than in the same quarter of 2011 and 4 percent higher than in the previous quarter. Remittance inflows have significant impact on the food security of around 8 million households who rely on remittances as their primary income.
Domestic food grain production

The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) set the food grain production target for FY 2011/12 at 35.8 million MT which is 3.7 percent higher than last year’s actual production of 34.5 million MT. The estimation of Aus production was finalized by BBS at 2.3 million MT which is 16.7 percent lower than the target. BBS’ final estimate of Aman production in FY 2011/12 was 12.88 million MT, which is 3.2 percent less than the DAE’s projection of 13.3 million MT; however, it is almost the same as in the previous fiscal year. The final estimate of Boro production is 18.7 million MT which is 0.77 percent higher than last year’s production. The total yield of the Boro crop remains almost the same (- 0.08% compared to last year’s yield).

Government food grain procurement, import and public stock situation

The opening public stock of food grain for the FY 2012/13 is 23 percent higher than last year. As of 21 October 2012 government stock of rice and wheat was 1.6 million MT (1.3 million MT of rice and 0.3 million MT of wheat) which is 0.1 million MT higher than that of the same time last year (Ministry of Food).

Due to higher opening stock, satisfactory stock situation in government storage, as well as good domestic production, the total import of food grains for the FY 2011/12 was only 43 percent of total import in FY 2010/11. As of 20 October, the food grain import in the FY 2012/13 is 0.51 million MT of which 0.013 million MT is rice and 0.5 million MT is wheat. Import of rice is minimal compared to the same time last year; however, import orders for wheat jumped in July following soaring international prices as both the public and private sector put an effort to stockpile.

The government started Boro rice and Boro paddy procurement on 3 May at 28 Taka/kg and 18 Taka/kg. According to the Ministry of Food, 1.014 million MT of rice have been purchased under the Boro collection programme which ended on 31 October.

The total food grain distribution through the Public Food Distribution System (PFDS) in FY 2011/12 was 12 percent less than in FY 2010/11. The total distribution planned for 2012/13 is 2.77 million MT against the actual distribution of 2.10 million MT in 2011/12 (FPMU, Forthlightly Outlook 109). As of 11 October, the government has distributed a total of 0.36 million MT of food grains under PFDS, which is 0.06 percent lower compared to the total distribution at the same time last year (Ministry of Food). Distribution through monetized and non-monetized channels were 0.17 million MT and 0.19 million MT respectively. The Open Market Sales (OMS) drive, which resumed in major cities and districts of the country, continues with rice being sold at 24 Tk/kg and whole grain wheat flour (atta) sold at 20 Tk/kg. Under the drive atta is sold in all districts and rice is sold only in southern districts.
The average wholesale price of rice (both nominal and real price) in the current quarter has decreased compared to the same quarter last year. Although the nominal wholesale price of rice remains higher than in pre-2008 shock years, the real wholesale price of rice has decreased compared to the same period.

Compared to prices in the previous quarter, the average wholesale price of rice remained stable in the current quarter. The wholesale price of Boro rice in Dhaka division stood at 2320 Tk/quintal in September, decreasing from 3047 Tk/quintal a year ago and 2490 Tk/quintal in June.

Following international trend, the wholesale prices of wheat has started increasing from August. The nominal price of wheat increased by 9 percent from July to August and by 7 percent from August to September.

Both the average wholesale nominal price and real price of wheat in Dhaka Division have increased from the previous quarter as well as the same quarter of the previous year. The average nominal and real prices have increased from the last quarter by 12 percent and 8 percent respectively and from the same quarter last year the nominal and real prices increased by 19 percent and 11 percent respectively. The prices are however, significantly lower than the prices of the 2008 shock year.

**International wholesale prices of rice and wheat**

In the current quarter, the average prices (in USD/MT) of coarse rice in Kolkata (India) increased by 9 percent while prices of Thai 5% broken rice declined by 3 percent compared to the last quarter. The average wholesale price of Kolkata coarse rice in September stood at 348 USD/MT, while at the same time of the year the price of Dhaka coarse rice was 284 USD/MT and Thai 5% broken rice price was 591 USD/MT.

The wholesale price of Kolkata coarse rice in Rupee remained unchanged from November 2011 to April 2012, but the price fluctuated in...
USD terms due to fluctuation of the exchange rate of the Rupee. The wholesale price of Kolkata rice increased in June and again in August both in Rupee and USD terms.

Prices of Thai 5% broken rice started declining in June due to lack of new inquiries from foreign buyers and expectations that the government would begin releasing its intervention stocks in July. In July and August, it further declined due to actual release of government stocks (USDA, Rice Outlook September).

Since mid-June 2012, prices of wheat have soared on global markets after the worst drought in half a century impacted crop yields in the US, the world’s biggest wheat exporter. The prices of wholesale wheat both in the Gulf of Mexico and in Dhaka Sadar, after decreasing over the last quarter, started to increase in the current quarter. In the Gulf of Mexico, the wholesale price of wheat increased by 25 percent from June to July. Consequently the wholesale prices of wheat in Dhaka Sadar market increased in the following month (by 9 percent from July to August). In comparison to the same periods in the pre-shock years, the wholesale price in Dhaka Sadar is still lower (by 14 percent); however in the Gulf of Mexico it has shot up by 27 percent. The average wholesale price of wheat in Dhaka in the month of September was 334 USD/MT and in the Gulf of Mexico it was 353 USD/MT. The difference in prices reduced swiftly over the July-September quarter.

Retail prices for essential food commodities

When compared to the high food prices of 2008, the retail prices of almost all essential food commodities are low except for the price of palm oil which continues to remain high. However, the retail price of palm oil has decreased by 4 percent from last quarter and was 99 Tk/litre in September. Since Bangladesh is a soybean importing country retail prices of soybean oil are speculated to increase in the coming months due to the international price hike. Fortunately it has remained stable so far at 123 Tk/litre.

The countrywide retail prices of rice (Boro HYV coarse rice) continued to decline with the national average being stable at 24.5 Tk/kg in the current quarter. In Dhaka Sadar market, retail prices of coarse rice remained stable at 26 Tk/kg throughout the quarter.

Prices of lentil (masur) after hiking during the month of Ramadan (July-August) have not come down yet. In Dhaka Sadar market, it even crossed the peak price of the high food price year 2008 by 2.6 percent. Traders and importers claimed that the price hike of lentils in the exporting countries (Bangladesh mainly imports lentils from Nepal, Turkey and Canada) and the shortage of supply against the demand are responsible for the price spiral in the local markets. According to BBS, local production of red lentil (masur) has been decreasing for the past five years (Financial Express, 02 September).

The increase in the wholesale price of wheat grain has started to affect the retail price of wheat flour. Although the price of wheat flour in the current quarter has declined by 3 percent compared to the last
quarter, it is around 9 percent higher than it was in July-September last year and has shown an increasing trend over the current quarter; from July to September the price of wheat flour increased by 14 percent. Prices are still significantly lower than during the 2008 food price peak period.

There are divisional variations in the prices of these essential food commodities. The highest decreases in the prices of rice compared to the 2008 peak prices have been reported in Khulna (by 29 percent) and the highest decreases in the prices of wheat flour compared to the 2008 peak prices have been reported in Barisal (by 27 percent). Lentil retail prices in all divisions except in Dhaka decreased by 2 to 14 percent compared to the 2008 peak prices. In Dhaka the change was an increase by 24 percent which dampended the decrease in national average retail price of lentil.

Despite the increase in the national average retail price of palm oil in the current quarter, the prices in the divisional Sadars of Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna decreased. The retail price of palm oil in Sylhet Division has been increasing since March 2009 (57 Tk/l) and crossed the 2008 peak price (88 Tk/l) in February 2011. This may have contributed to the rise in the national average price of palm oil.

Retail cost of basic food basket

The cost of this basket is calculated based on the prices of essential food items like rice, wheat flour, edible oil and lentil and the average daily consumption of these items by a typical 5-member household. The average daily household food basket cost in Dhaka Sadar markets during July-September is Taka 70.7. It has decreased from both the last quarter and last year by 2.3 percent and 14.9 percent respectively. This is mainly due to the decrease in the price of rice as it constitutes the highest portion of the food basket. The average food basket cost is 53.8 percent higher than the cost during the same quarter in pre-shock year 2006.

Terms of Trade/ Food purchasing capacity of agricultural day labourers

The Terms of Trade (ToT) of agricultural day labourers, the ratio between the daily wage of agricultural labourers and the average retail price of rice in the market, is used to assess the food purchasing capacity of impoverished households. It is an indicator of the quantity of essential food items that an agricultural day labourer can buy with his/her daily income.

The latest available wage rate data from BBS is of March 2012. WFP collects wage data from a selection of farmers
and labourers and interviews with upazila agricultural officers in Barisal, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions. To create a time series of national agricultural day labour (male and female) and the daily purchasing capacity up to September 2012, the wage data collected by WFP was used for the period of April to September 2012 and the wage data from BBS was used for the time period preceding April 2012. However, the estimated ‘national average’ based on wage data collected by WFP is an average of wage data from only 3 divisions—Barisal and Khulna in the south and Rajshahi in the north. It cannot be presented as a statistically valid data, but provides an indication of the wage trend.

Based on September data, a male agricultural wage labourer could buy 9 kg of rice with his daily income of 230 Taka, an increase of 23 percent from the purchasing capacity a year ago and a decrease by 13 percent from August. In September, the average price of rice decreased by 21 percent from a year ago which partly contributed to the improved purchasing capacity of agricultural day labourers. Mid-August to October is considered agricultural lean season and the purchasing capacity generally diminishes unless the price of rice also decreases significantly. Following the usual trend, the purchasing capacity of agricultural day labourers decreased in September. The agricultural lean season runs up to October until harvesting of the Aman crop and planting of wheat starts in November. There is significant difference between the agricultural daily wages for male and female labourers. In September, the average wage in Barisal, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions for a male labourer was only 154 Taka/day whereas for a female labourer it was 230 Taka/day – a difference of 76 Taka/day. Households depending on a woman’s daily labour are therefore highly disadvantaged and remain most impoverished. Based on September data, male agricultural labourers had the capacity to purchase 9 kg of rice per day, whereas female agricultural labourers could only purchase 6 kg of rice. In addition work opportunities for female agricultural labourers are far less than for their male counterparts.

The terms of trade also vary among divisions. There is significant regional difference in monthly rice purchasing capacity (measured by multiplying the daily ToT with the average number of work days per month in the region) between Rajshahi division in the north and its southern counterparts. Calculation of the monthly ToT shows that in Rajshahi division, the major rice producing region, the monthly rice purchasing capacity in August was 180 kg whereas in Khulna division it was 195 kg and in Barisal division it was 241 kg. With rice prices being the same in both regions; this difference is mainly due to the difference in regional wage rates (in August the average daily wage rate for male labourers in Barisal, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions was Tk 317, Tk 264 and Tk 207 respectively). There is significant monthly variation in rice purchasing power as well. Aus harvesting and Aman transplanting activities run up to the first half of August. Due to limited employment opportunities and lower wage rates thereafter rice purchasing power fell in September.
IMPACT OF SHOCKS ON HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY

FOOD INSECURITY IN THE FLOOD AFFECTED NORTH WEST

Starting in the end of September, the Northwest region of Bangladesh was hit by floods for the third time this year due to heavy rainfall and the onrush of upstream water. Realizing the immediate need for assistance in the agriculture, food security and livelihood sectors the members of the Food Security Cluster (FSC) carried out a rapid food security assessment from 9 to 13 October 2012 in 5 districts (Bogra, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Kurigram and Sirajganj) which were worst affected by the flood. The complete report is available at http://foodsecuritycluster.net/countries/bangladesh.

Following are the major findings on food security and livelihoods from the assessment:

- The flood hit during the lean season in the agricultural calendar, when household food security and livelihoods were already in stress conditions. The flood therefore caused additional hardship especially to vulnerable sections of the population. Agricultural day labourers and small and marginal farmers were reported to be most affected while non-agricultural day labourers and fishermen were reported to be partly affected by the flood.

- A total of about 27 percent of the cultivated land (85,678 ha out of a total of 232,144 ha) was submerged to various degrees (minimum 15 days) in 17 upazilas of the 5 districts, varying from a minimum of 16 percent in Gaibandha, followed by 24 percent in Sirajganj, 36 percent in Bogra, 40 percent in Kurigram district to a maximum of 51 percent in Jamalpur. 89 percent of the flood affected area was sown for Aman paddy, and it was expected that most (about 80 percent) would be effectively irrecoverably damaged. The rest of the area (11 percent) was under pulses and vegetable cash crops, all of which have also been destroyed.

- The assessment showed that income opportunities were dramatically reduced in most affected areas (e.g. all respondents in Jamalpur mentioned they could not obtain any job opportunities in the two previous weeks). Moreover, the wage rates of agricultural day labourers in the severely affected unions of Jamalpur, Kurigram and Gaibandha decreased significantly, standing at 20 to 50 percent less compared to the typical lean season wage in a normal year. The flood hit during the lean season, when purchasing capacity of households is generally low and food prices tend to be higher. On top of that, the significant reduction in agricultural wages, which came as a direct effect of the floods, substantially reduced the purchasing capacity of the vulnerable households and was thus likely to negatively affect their food security and nutrition status.

- The affected vulnerable households were employing a number of coping strategies to deal with the crisis situation, including distress selling of assets, migration to other areas in search of employment, and reduction in size and frequency of meals. The migration of the agricultural labourers is additionally likely to create a labour crisis for the interim crop cultivation.

- Despite the interim agricultural season in November (in-between Aman cultivation and Boro cultivation), which may contribute to recover livelihoods the following critical issues regarding access to food and livelihoods, a number of serious conditions prevailed and remained valid:
  - The flood damaged the household level food stock and major income of the year.
  - If the alternative cultivation was not practiced widely from November there would be an employment crisis for the agricultural wage labourers.
  - The agriculture wage in many areas was very low, thereby limiting the access to food.
  - Many marginal farmers may not have been able to afford the alternative cultivation season unless provided with external assistance.

- Food, agricultural inputs and shelter repair were identified as immediate needs by the communities. Immediate needs related to the agricultural sector consist of cash grant support for farming and/or provision of seeds and fertilizer for winter (Rabi) crops. The marginal farmers are very vulnerable as the interim cropping is unlikely to substitute the major income and food stock from the Aman harvest which was supposed to happen in November/December. Therefore, cash assistance has been suggested not only for November but also for the Boro planting in late December or January next year in the affected areas so that they could revive their livelihoods. To respond to the food insecurity situation that was
caused by the effects of the floods, immediate food and cash support to the most vulnerable households (agricultural day labourers, female headed households) would have been required straight away till December (Boro planting season).

FOOD SECURITY OUTLOOK

RENEWED GLOBAL FOOD PRICE HIKE

Global

The current situation in world food markets, characterized by sharp increases in maize, wheat and soybean prices, has renewed fears of a repeat of the 2008 world food crisis.

Global prices started to soar from mid-June due to poor production in major food exporting countries as a result of unfavourable weather conditions. FAO’s Food Price Index, driven by the rise in international grain and sugar prices, rose 6 percent from June to July after dropping for three consecutive months. Its Cereal Price Index averaged 260 points in July, up by 17 percent from June and only 14 points below its all-time high (in nominal terms) of 274 points registered in April 2008.

Severe drought and extreme heat in the US, the world’s largest agricultural exporter, harmed production of maize which consequently led to an increase in the prices (by 23 percent from June to July). Untimely rains in Brazil, the world’s largest sugar exporter, triggered sugar prices to soar. Poor production prospects in Russia and Australia due to unfavourable weather contributed to the hike in prices of wheat (by 19 percent in July). International prices of soybean oil soared by 7 percent from June to July (source: www.indexmundi.com). At the same time, however, international rice prices remained stable after gaining by 2 percent in May. In July, FAO’s Rice Price Index averaged at 238 points, which was 5 percent lower than in July 2011 and 19 percent lower than the average price index of 2008.

More recently, FAO announced that after two months of stability its Food Price Index rose by 1.4 percent from August to September, mostly due to increase in dairy and meat prices and more contained increases for cereals (the Cereal Price Index rose by 1 percent). Prices of maize, sugar and oil fell. International wheat prices also started falling from the second half of September, following assurance by the Russian Federation that it would not impose restrictions on exports although there is gloomy speculation on its production prospects.

Although global rice production for 2012/13 is forecast at a record 465 million MT (milled basis), stability of rice prices will also depend on policies that rice exporting countries adopt. India, Thailand, Vietnam and Pakistan are the biggest rice exporting countries in Asia. While Thailand’s export declined by 44 percent from January to September due to uncompetitive prices as a result of government intervention (the Thai government has been buying rice from farmers at fixed, above-market prices, part of a policy aimed at boosting rural incomes), export from India and Vietnam rose.

There had been speculations that due to uncertain rice production prospects as a result of delayed monsoon, India may reinstall its rice export ban which it had lifted in September 2011 after three years. By the end of September, according to FAO, India has achieved a bumper harvest and stock piles are exceeding warehouse capacity (Manila Bulletin, 1 October 2012). This makes India’s ban on rice export highly unlikely. However, as international trade depends on complex interplays, developments in the Indian market and other cereal markets have to be monitored in the upcoming months.

Although international rice prices have not increased, the global rice production forecast has reached a record high and the global rice stock is higher than it was a year ago; possibilities of an increase in prices cannot be eliminated as demand for rice can increase if consumers choose to substitute it for wheat. Global wheat production for 2012/13 is forecasted in October at 653 million MT, 6.1 percent down from last year’s production, mostly because of reduced production prospects in Australia, the world’s second largest wheat exporting country (USDA, 15 October).
**Bangladesh**

Bangladesh is a wheat and soybean importing country. And increases in international prices are expected to transmit to the domestic market. Both the wholesale price and retail price of wheat has already increased and are expected to rise further in the coming months as transmission lags (from international to domestic markets) shorten.

In FY 2011/12 wheat imports dropped significantly by 53 percent compared to the previous fiscal year. According to the Directorate General (DG) of Food, the government plans to import 0.8 million MT of wheat in FY 2012/13 and following the recent price hike it targets to import a major portion of the planned quantity in the next three to four months to avoid the risk of increased prices in future. Statistics show that the private sector has doubled its imports as well compared to the same period last year, in an effort to stock pile before prices increase even more.

Fortunately the staple food of Bangladesh is rice, prices of which have remained stable or decreased both in international and domestic markets. According to the Household Income and Expenditure Surveys (HIES) of BBS, over the years per capita consumption of wheat (by 8.3 percent from 2005 to 2010) has increased as rice consumption has decreased (by 8 percent from 2005 to 2010). Yet in absolute figures, consumption of wheat (12.1 grams per day per capita) is minimal compared to rice consumption (406.2 gram per day per capita). For FY 2012/13 USDA’s consumption forecasts were lowered for Bangladesh, Burma, and Egypt. However, with the increase in prices of wheat, substitution of rice for wheat and thus increase in demand for rice has to be monitored.

FAO has projected record crops for Asian rice exporters as well as the top four Asian rice importers including Bangladesh. Assuming a normal monsoon, Bangladesh’s rice production for FY 2012/13 is forecasted at 34.2 million MT, while rice consumption (food, seed, and feed use together) is forecasted at 35 million MT (GAIN, Grain and Feed Annual 2012).

Stability of rice prices will also depend on storage capacity. The government aims to raise the storage capacity of its silos up to 2.2 million MT by 2015 to maintain emergency stocks and to help farmers receive fair prices as the rice price falls with every production boom. In the past 3 years, the storage capacity of government silos increased from 1.45 million MT to 1.65 million MT and the finance minister in his budget speech in June 2012 vowed to further raise it by 24,000 MT by 2013.
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Terms of Trade
Purchasing Capacity of Male Agricultural Day Labourer (Wage/Rice Price)
September 2012

Kg of Rice/Day
- 7.70
- 7.71 - 9.60
- 9.61 - 11.00
- Data Not Available

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Spatial Reference: Geographic Coordinate System WGS 1984
Map produced by: Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM-UNHCR, WFP, Bangladesh, 27 Nov. 2012)

Source: Wage Data- WFP, Rice Price Data- DAM

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Terms of Trade
Purchasing Capacity of Female Agricultural Day Labourer (Wage/Rice Price)
September 2012

Kg of Rice/Day
- 5.20
- 5.21 - 6.50
- 6.51 - 7.20
- Data Not Available

Administrative Boundary
- Division Boundary
- District Boundary
- Main River

Source: Wage Data- WFP, Rice Price Data- DAM

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Spatial Reference: Geodetic Coordinate System WGS 1984. Map produced by Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) Unit, WFP Bangladesh, 27 Nov. 2012.