UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

BANGLADESH STUDIES

Paper 2: Environment and Development of Bangladesh

SPECIMEN PAPER

May/June

Additional Materials: Answer Paper/Booklet

1 hour 30 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Answer any three questions.
Sketch maps and diagrams may be drawn to illustrate an answer.

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on each question.
1 (a) Study Fig.1.

(i) Describe the main physical features of the shaded area A. [5]
(ii) Why is area A suitable for the generation of hydro-electric power? Give two reasons. [2]
(iii) Name rivers B and C. [2]

(b) The delta of the Ganges-Brahmaputra river system covers a large area of Bangladesh. With the aid of a labelled diagram(s) describe how a delta is formed. [6]

(c) Flooding by rivers, especially August to October, is a serious problem in Bangladesh.

(i) Explain why the rivers flood. [5]
(ii) How effective are the methods used to control floods? Give reasons for your answer. [5]
(a) Fig. 2 is a climate graph for Barisal.

(i) What is the rainfall in the wettest month?  
(ii) Using Fig. 2 only, describe the distribution of rainfall in Barisal.  
(iii) Describe the temperature pattern for Barisal, including the range of temperature.

(b) The heaviest rainfall occurs in the monsoon season.

(i) What is meant by the term ‘monsoon’?  
(ii) Explain how the reversal of winds causes monsoons.
(c) What effects do you think droughts have on farmers’ lives?

(d) Installing deep tube wells to help overcome the effects of droughts has resulted in arsenic contamination in the water. Explain the causes of arsenic contamination and describe its effects.
3 (a) Describe two differences between subsistence agriculture and commercial agriculture. [2]

(b) The main food crop of Bangladesh is rice. State the natural inputs that allow rice to be grown in Bangladesh. [5]

(c) Fig. 3A shows rice production in Bangladesh and Fig. 3B shows the acreage of rice.
(i) Using Figs 3A and 3B, describe the trends shown in rice production and acreage. [4]

(ii) How does Fig. 3 show that the yield (the amount produced per acre) of rice has changed between 1994 and 2001? [2]

(iii) Explain how new developments such as the ‘Green Revolution’ have resulted in the trends shown in rice production. [6]

(d) Do you consider that it is important to increase both food and cash crop production in Bangladesh? Give reasons for your answer. [6]
4 (a) (i) With the use of examples, describe the main features of cottage industries in Bangladesh.

(ii) In which ways do you think cottage industry helps women in Bangladesh?

(b) Fig. 4 shows the number of garment-making factories between 1991 and 1998.

With the help of Fig. 4, describe the importance of the ready-made garment industry to Bangladesh, including employment and trade.

(c) Using Fig. 4, predict the likely number of garment-making factories in Bangladesh in the year 2000. Explain your answer.

(d) One of the environmental problems of industrialisation has been pollution.

With reference to examples, describe the impact industry has had on the environment.

(e) Other industries are not progressing at such a fast rate as the garment industry.

What could the government do to help to encourage industrialisation in Bangladesh?
(a) What is meant by:

(i) birth rate

(ii) infant mortality

(iii) natural increase?

(b) Fig. 5 shows the percentage distribution of population by age groups.
(i) Which age group had the largest increase between 1951 and 1996? Give reasons for this increase. [4]

(ii) Which age group had the largest decrease between 1951 and 1996? Give reasons for this decrease. [4]

(c) Some people emigrate from Bangladesh to Europe.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this international migration for Bangladesh?[4]

(d) **Adult Illiteracy Rates for 2000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(i) Why is female illiteracy higher than male illiteracy? [4]

(ii) Why is illiteracy higher in rural areas than urban areas? [2]

(iii) How does illiteracy affect employment prospects? [3]

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Map (Fig. 1) adapted from World Atlas – Graphosman (ISBN-984-8108-02-5)

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