

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

BANGLADESH STUDIES

7094/02

Paper 2 Environment and Development of Bangladesh

May/June 2006

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

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.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

Answer any THREE questions.
Answer ALL parts of the questions you choose.

- 1 (a) Fig. 1 is part of a news report on floods caused by heavy monsoon rains.

Bangladesh flood crisis worsens

The UN has warned of a humanitarian crisis in Bangladesh, where floods have claimed more than 300 lives. The Bangladesh state news agency said the deaths were the result of drowning, disease and snakebite. High tides in the Bay of Bengal are a major concern as they could stop flood waters flowing into the sea. Officials say more than two-thirds of Bangladesh is flooded. About 40% of Dhaka is under water and in places the sewage system has failed, sending foul-smelling water into the streets.

28th July 2004, BBC News

Fig. 1

- (i) Explain the causes of heavy summer monsoon rains. [5]
- (ii) Describe the effects of such floods on the lives of the people. [6]
- (b) Apart from the monsoon rains, name **two** other natural causes of floods in Bangladesh. [2]
- (c) (i) Describe possible flood control measures. [6]
- (ii) In your opinion, how effective are the measures mentioned in (c) (i) in reducing the devastating effects of floods? [6]

2 (a) Explain what is meant by these terms:

- (i) natural resources
- (ii) sustainable development.

(b) Study Fig. 2, which shows the distribution of forests in Bangladesh.

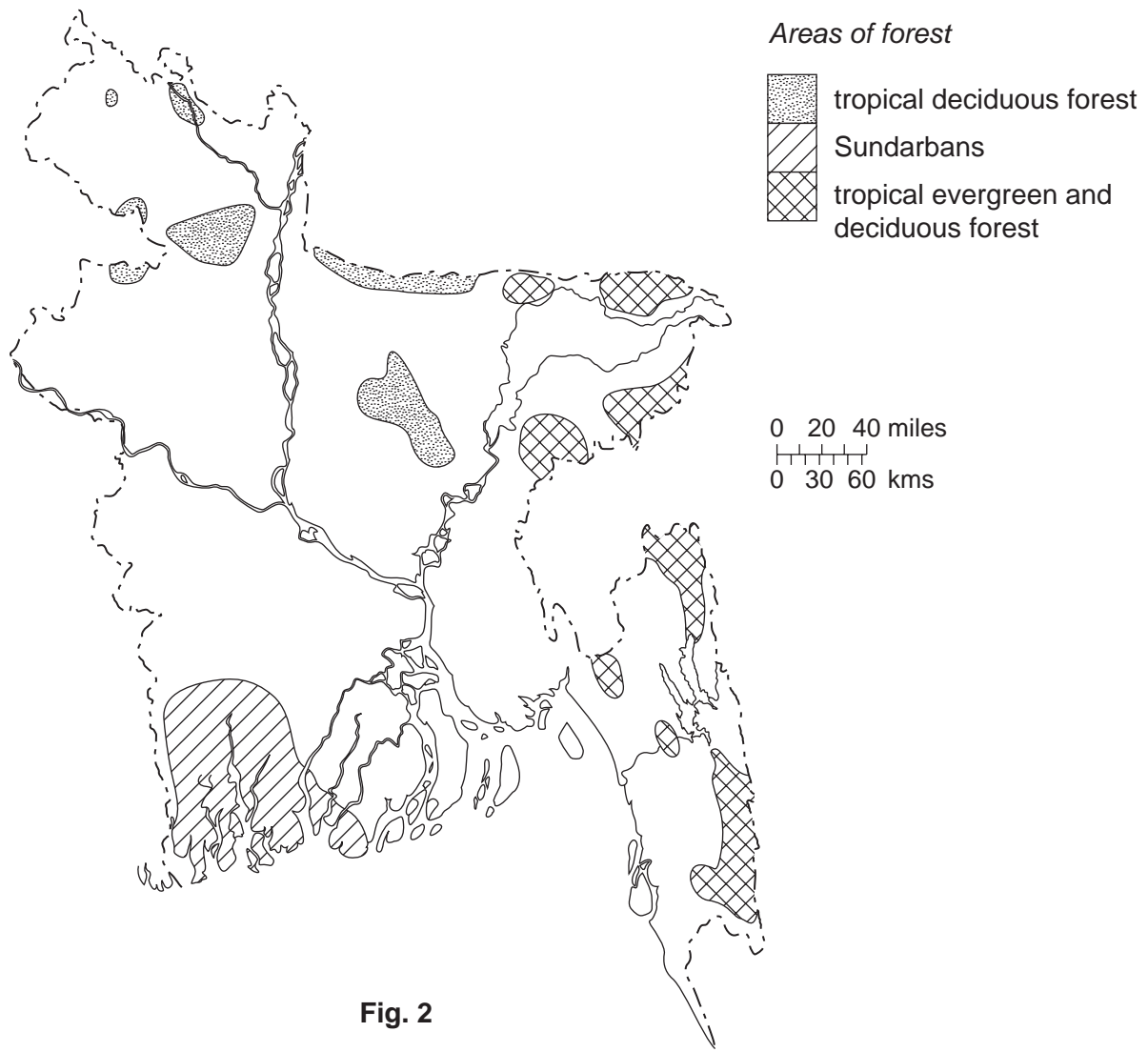


Fig. 2

- (i) Describe the distribution of the Sundarbans. [3]
 - (ii) Describe the characteristics of the Sundarbans. [3]
- (c) Explain the importance of the forests to the people of Bangladesh. [6]
- (d) In 1981, 17.5% of Bangladesh was forested but this had decreased to 13.5% in 1996. (2001 Statistical Yearbook of Bangladesh)
- (i) Why are the forested areas decreasing? [4]
 - (ii) Choose some measures taken to slow down the decrease in forested land. Discuss how effective you think they have been. [5]

- 3 (a) Read the following extract about the increase in wheat cultivation in Bangladesh.

After independence in 1971, Bangladesh faced an acute food shortage. It was realised that rice alone could not meet the food requirement of the country. Wheat was therefore chosen as an alternative food crop to be grown at a time of year which remains mostly free from natural calamities. Today, among the cereal crops, wheat is next to rice in importance.

Fig. 3

- (i) Name an area of the country where wheat is cultivated.
- (ii) During which season is wheat grown?
- (iii) Describe the physical factors (natural inputs) necessary for growing wheat. [6]
- (b) Both rice and wheat yields have increased due to the 'Green Revolution'.
- (i) Explain how the 'Green Revolution' has led to an increase in the yields. [7]
- (ii) Not all effects of the 'Green Revolution' have been good. Explain how problems may be caused by using these new techniques. [4]
- (c) Commercial crops are important as raw materials for industry.
- For **either** jute **or** sugar cane:
- (i) describe the physical factors (natural inputs) necessary for your chosen crop. [4]
- (ii) explain the importance of the chosen crop to Bangladesh's economy. [4]

- 4 (a) Read the following extract about the 'informal sector'.

The informal sector in most developing countries accounts for the biggest share of employment. About 90% of the workforce in Bangladesh works in the informal sector. This includes workers in the informal agricultural, industrial and service sectors.

Fig. 4

- (i) Name **two** specific examples of work in the 'informal sector'. [2]
- (ii) Describe the characteristics of employment in the informal sector. [5]
- (iii) Is the informal sector important to the people and the economy of Bangladesh? Give reasons for your answer. [5]
- (b) Industrialisation is important to the overall development of Bangladesh.
Explain the obstacles that Bangladesh needs to overcome in order to develop her industries. [8]
- (c) The lack of capital prevents all types of development.
Describe how banks can help industries to develop. [5]

- 5 (a) Fig. 5 shows the birth rate and death rate per 1000 for Bangladesh between 1983 and 1998.

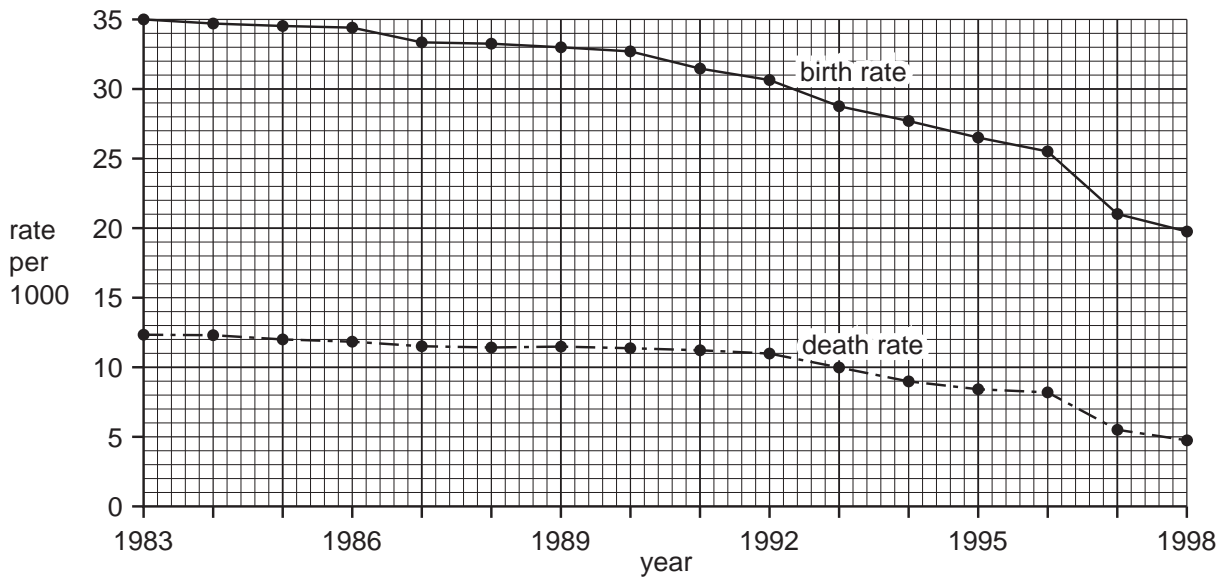


Fig. 5

- (i) Describe the main trends of the death rate shown in Fig. 5. [2]
- (ii) Give reasons for the trend described in (a) (i). [4]
- (iii) Between which two years did the birth rate, shown in Fig. 5, have the highest decrease? By how many births per 1000 did the birth rate decrease between these two years? [2]
- (iv) Give reasons for the decrease in the birth rate. [4]
- (v) What was the rate of natural increase, per 1000, in 1998? [1]
- (b) (i) State what is meant by:
- rural-urban migration
- international migration. [2]
- (ii) Describe what causes people to migrate. [5]
- (iii) Do you think the area the migrants left will benefit or not? Give reasons for your answer. [5]

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Question 1 Fig. 1 © bbc.co.uk 28 July 2004
Question 3 Fig. 3 © Banglapedia (Asiatic Society of Bangladesh)
Question 4 Fig. 4 © CIE Online Pilot Textbook for Bangladesh Studies.

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