



BANGLADESH



INTRODUCTION

The huge delta region formed at the confluence of the Ganges and Brahmaputra River systems - now referred to as Bangladesh - was a loosely incorporated outpost of various empires for much of the first millennium A.D. The Bengali independence movement, led by the Awami League (AL) and supported by India, won independence for Bangladesh in 1971.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Abdul HAMID

Head of Government

Prime Minister Sheikh HASINA Wazed

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Dhaka

Legislature

unicameral House of the Nation or Jatiya Sangsad (350 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 148,460 sq km
Land: 130,170 sq km
Water: 18,290 sq km

Climate

tropical; mild winter (October to March); hot, humid summer (March to June); humid, warm rainy monsoon (June to October)

Natural Resources

natural gas, arable land, timber, coal

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

one of the fastest growing economies; significant poverty reduction; COVID-19 adversely impacted female labor force participation and undermined previously stable financial conditions; looking to diversify beyond clothing industry; fairly low government debt; new taxation law struggling to increase government revenues

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$793.5 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$4,800 (2020 est.)

Industries - jute, cotton, garments, paper, leather, fertilizer, iron and steel, cement, petroleum products, tobacco, pharmaceuticals, ceramics, tea, salt, sugar, edible oils, soap and detergent, fabricated metal products, electricity, natural gas

Agricultural products - rice, potatoes, maize, sugarcane, milk, vegetables, onions, jute, mangoes/guavas, wheat

Exports \$38.78 billion (2020 est.)

clothing, knitwear, leather footwear (2019)

partners: US 15%, Germany 14%, UK 8%, Spain 7%, France 7% (2019)

Imports \$57.26 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, cotton, natural gas, scrap iron, wheat (2019)

partners: China 31%, India 15%, Singapore 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

164.1 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.95% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Bengali at least 98%, other indigenous ethnic groups 1.1% (2011 est.)

Language

Bangla 98.8% (official, also known as Bengali), other 1.2% (2011 est.)

Religion

Muslim 88.4%, other 11.6%

