

Bdst 2 Rivers

Explain why each of upland areas and deltas are less suitable for agriculture.

upland area:

1. forested
2. away from main river valleys
3. cultivation could cause soil erosion
4. difficult to provide water all year
5. Accept very heavy rainfall.

part of delta:

1. flooding with saltwater
2. forested or sunderbans
3. very difficult communications
4. frequent damage from typhoons.

Describe the distribution of land most suitable for agriculture.

1. valley or either side of Jamuna also its tributary Tista
2. south east of Mehghna and or Padma
3. area to west of Padma delta/area to north of Dhaka
4. narrow strip along coast in east.

Give one piece of evidence which supports the idea of rivers being the principal resource.

1. provide water all year round
 2. best farm land near rivers
 3. flooding brings new layer of silt keeping land fertile
 4. fishing
 5. HEP
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1. flooding adds nutrients to land and a densely populated country needs annual addition of nutrients
 2. rivers vital for water supply - washing/cooking/drinking
 3. irrigation water for farming - rice needs a lot of water to provide high yields
 4. water for industry

5. transport via river
6. fish from rivers source of protein
7. measures can be taken to protect people from worst floods, etc.
8. HEP in Chittagong area

Give one piece of evidence which supports the idea of rivers being the greatest hazard.

flooding causes:

1. loss of life
 2. loss of farmland and communications
 3. spreads diseases
 4. destroys crops
 5. damages infrastructure
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1. floods can cause devastation
 2. loss of lives
 3. loss of farmland/crops/livestock
 4. changing courses of rivers can wreck villages
 5. (erosion of river banks leads to landlessness)
 6. poor country so cannot protect all people against floods
 7. bring waterborne diseases
 8. damages infrastructure
 9. (all this increases poverty)

What do you consider to be the best way of reducing the hazards?

1. establishing stronger 'islands' for settlements
2. encouraging people to settle on higher ground
3. develop other economic activities away from areas of worst flooding
4. afforestation of slopes to reduce run off
5. work with surrounding countries to re afforest slopes
6. build embankments to sides of rivers/dams or barrages to hold back water
7. sluice gates
8. early warning system.

What difficulties are faced by the people who live close to this river?

1. flooding causing loss of life and vegetation when river rises after rains

2. changing channels of rivers can wreck villages
3. bank being eroded thus less land is available for housing and agriculture
4. transport difficult due to many channels
5. access to areas of vegetation difficult due to width of river
6. no bridges

Explain how rivers in Bangladesh are affected by each of the following:

(i) Deforestation

Rain reaches rivers more quickly/greater scope for soil erosion/rivers rise quickly leading to faster flooding/greater erosion by raised water levels

(ii) Construction of barrages

1. slow flow of rivers below barrage
2. sediment trapped behind barrages
3. land downstream may become less fertile due to loss of annual sediment
4. land above barrage becomes flooded
5. holds back water which prevents flooding downstream

'Global warming could have disastrous effects on the rivers of Bangladesh.'

1. snow melt
2. changed rainfall patterns
3. backing up of water as sea levels rise
4. additional river flooding
5. rivers drying up

'Global warming makes people and countries work together to deal with the effects of climate change on Bangladesh.'

1. pressure to reduce deforestation in hills or Himalayas or Nepal
2. rivers do not start in Bangladesh so pressure to address problems in surrounding countries
3. Bangladesh is one of the most affected countries so rest of world becoming more aware

'Controlling the flow of the Jamuna-Brahmaputra river is not possible.'

1. Head waters in India

2. Massive flow / many rivers join it
3. Very expensive
4. Majority of land is floodplain / delta / low-lying
5. Monsoon / flash / rainfall induced floods
6. Variation on flow
7. River shifting
8. Earthquakes and river bed uplift

'It is important to control the flow and erosion of the Jamuna-Brahmaputra river.'

1. Causes floods
2. Loss of cash crops
3. Loss of basic food supply
4. Loss of infrastructure
5. Loss of life
6. Increases poverty