

Administration of Bangladesh

A world map with a light blue background and white landmasses. Bangladesh is highlighted in a darker blue color and is circled with a red line. The map shows the continents of North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

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Administration

- In every sphere of social, economic and political life there is administration which means that for the proper functioning of the organization or institution it must be properly ruled or managed and from this concept emerges the idea of administration.
- the word "administration" refers to managerial functions in general, which may include local governments, or the hierarchy of national and local government, that applies to a town or district.
- More specifically, it may refer to public administration, the business of administering public policy as determined by government.

- The **Ministry of Public Administration** (জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয়) (**Mopa**) is primarily responsible for management of public administration in Bangladesh.
- Present minister is Sheikh Hasina Wazed (Prime minister of Bangladesh)
- Present minister of **State is Farhad Hossain.**
- Present Senior secretary is K M Ali Azam.

Bangladesh Administrative Service (BAS)

- The **BAS is the** premier civil service cadre of the Bangladesh Civil Service, and which **formulates and executes** the policies of the government.
- BAS officers hold all senior and middle-ranking administrative posts, such as the permanent heads (non-political) of government ministries, as well as divisions and departments within ministries, in the central secretariat headquartered in Dhaka.
- Additionally, in the field administration (outside central government ministries) the **senior administrative posts** in the eight Divisions and their sub-units are also held by officers of the BAS.
- The **Cabinet Secretary** of Bangladesh is the senior post in the BAS.

Central Administration

- These are based primarily in the Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
- Cabinet Secretary (Head of the Cabinet Division, and Head of the BCS).
- Principal Secretary (the Head of the Prime Minister's Office, and equivalent in stature to the Cabinet Secretary)
- Senior Secretary (Reserved for the secretaries in the most important ministries and departments)
- Secretary (usually the head of a ministry)
- Additional Secretary
- Joint Secretary
- Deputy Secretary (the usual rank of a Private Secretary (PS) to a Minister)
- Senior Assistant Secretary
- Assistant Secretary

Recruitment

- All BAS officers are recruited at a single entry-level by the **Bangladesh Public Service Commission**, having undertaken and scored highest in what is widely regarded as the most competitive examination in Bangladesh, the Bangladesh Civil Service examination.

Functions

Central Administration

- In a ministry or division BAS officers are responsible for policy formulation and implementation to Ministers.
- They mainly perform **four types of functions**: clerical (private office), administrative (policy), communications and financial; as either policy advisers or in management roles.

Field Administration

- In field administration, BAS officers play **two different roles** from the start of their career: as a "commissioner" delivering government policy in their geographic unit, and as Executive Magistrate.
- They execute the powers of executive magistracy to the extent specified by government directives and Acts of Parliament.
- A **Deputy Commissioner**, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Senior Assistant Commissioner (also UNO) and Assistant Commissioner (also of Land) are all Executive Magistrates in field administration.
- Additionally, if required, the government can empower any member of Bangladesh Administrative Service as an Executive Magistrate by means of deputation.

Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy

- The academy provides a five-month long basic training course related to law and administration for newly appointed officers of Bangladesh Civil Service (Administration) cadre, and various periodical training for officers.
- In addition, a one-year "Master in Public Policy and Management (MPPM)" course is delivered by the academy to mid-ranking BAS officers.
- The academy is headed by the Rector, who is of the rank of Secretary to the Government.

Administrative Geography of Bangladesh

- Bangladesh is divided into eight administrative divisions:
- Divisions are subdivided into **districts (zila)**.
- There are **64 districts** in Bangladesh, each further subdivided into **upazila** (subdistricts) or *thana*.
- The area within each police station, except for those in metropolitan areas, is divided into **several unions**, with each union consisting of multiple villages.
- In the **metropolitan areas**, police stations are divided **into wards**.
- There are no elected officials at the divisional or district levels, and the administration is composed only of government officials.
- Direct elections are held **in each union** (or ward) for a **chairperson** and a number of members.

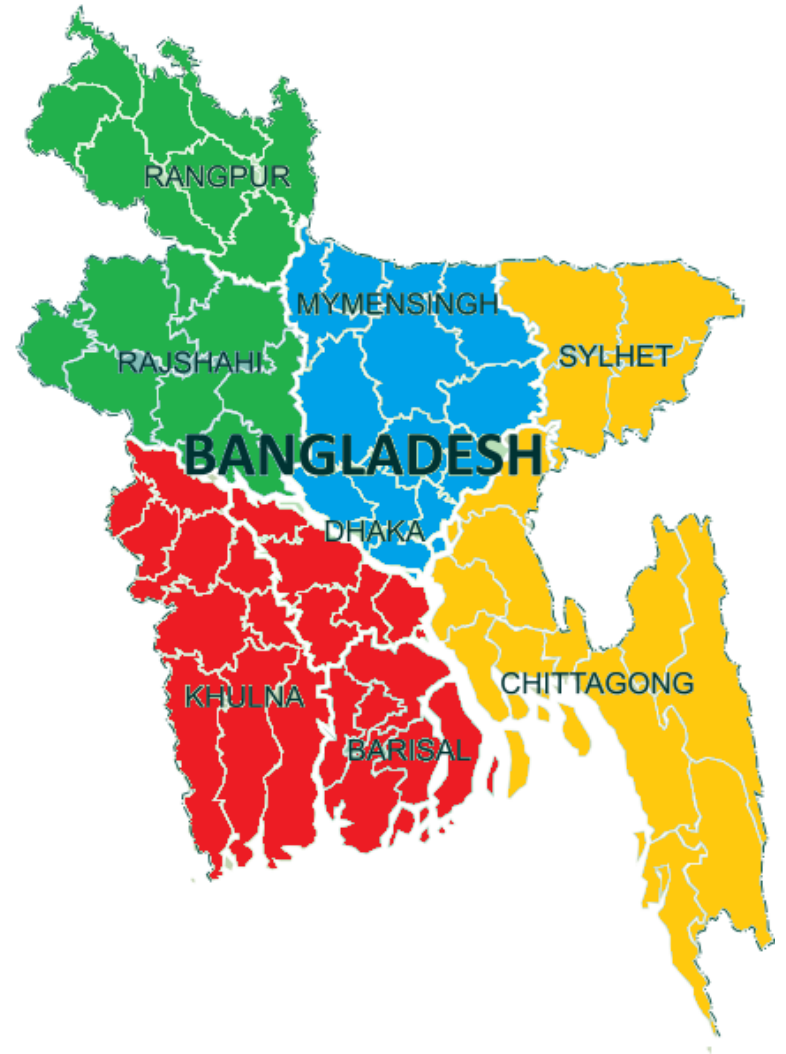
Regions of Bangladesh

- Traditionally Bangladesh is divided between **n four regions** by the fertile Ganges-Brahmaputra delta formed by the confluence of the Ganges (Padma), Brahmaputra (Jamuna), and Meghna rivers and their respective tributaries.
- **Northern Bengal**: comprising Rajshahi Division and Rangpur Division.
- **Eastern Bengal**: comprising Chattogram Division, Sylhet Division and proposed Cumilla (Meghna) Division.
- **Central Bengal**: comprising Mymensingh Division and Dhaka Division, excluding proposed Faridpur (Padma) Division.
- **Southern Bengal**: comprising Barisal Division, Khulna Division and proposed Faridpur Division.

Regions of Bangladesh

Regions of Bangladesh:

- **Green:** Northern Bengal
- **Red:** Southern Bengal
- **Blue:** Central Bengal
- **Yellow:** Eastern Bengal



Central Government

8 divisions

64 Districts

**Outlines of the five tiers of
government in Bangladesh.**

495 Upzilla

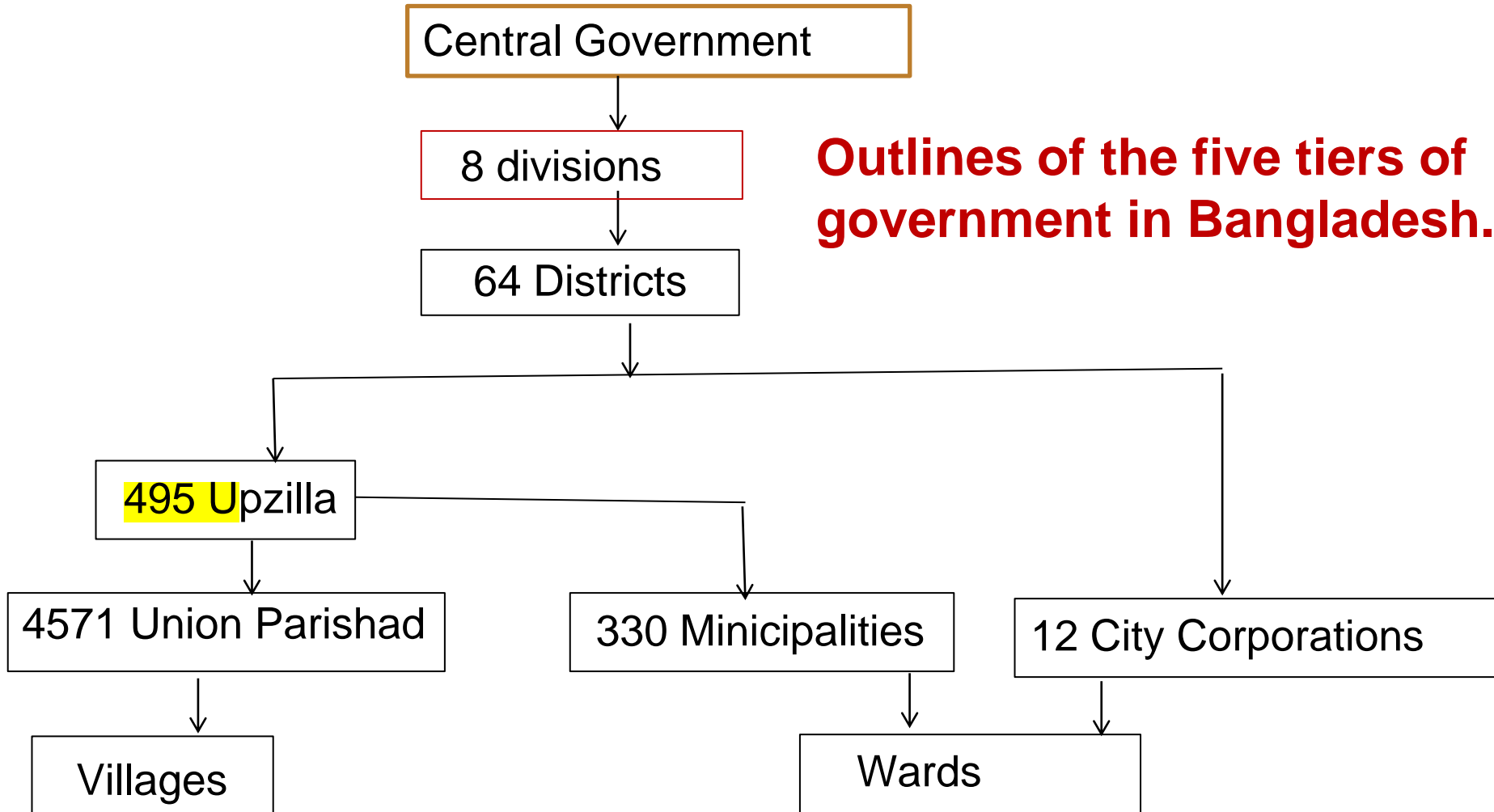
4571 Union Parishad

Villages

330 Minicipalities

Wards

12 City Corporations



Divisions of Bangladesh

Bangladesh is divided into eight administrative divisions:

- Barishal,
- Chattogram
- Dhaka,
- Khulna,
- Mymensingh,
- Rajshahi,
- Rangpur, and
- Sylhet.

Proposed divisions

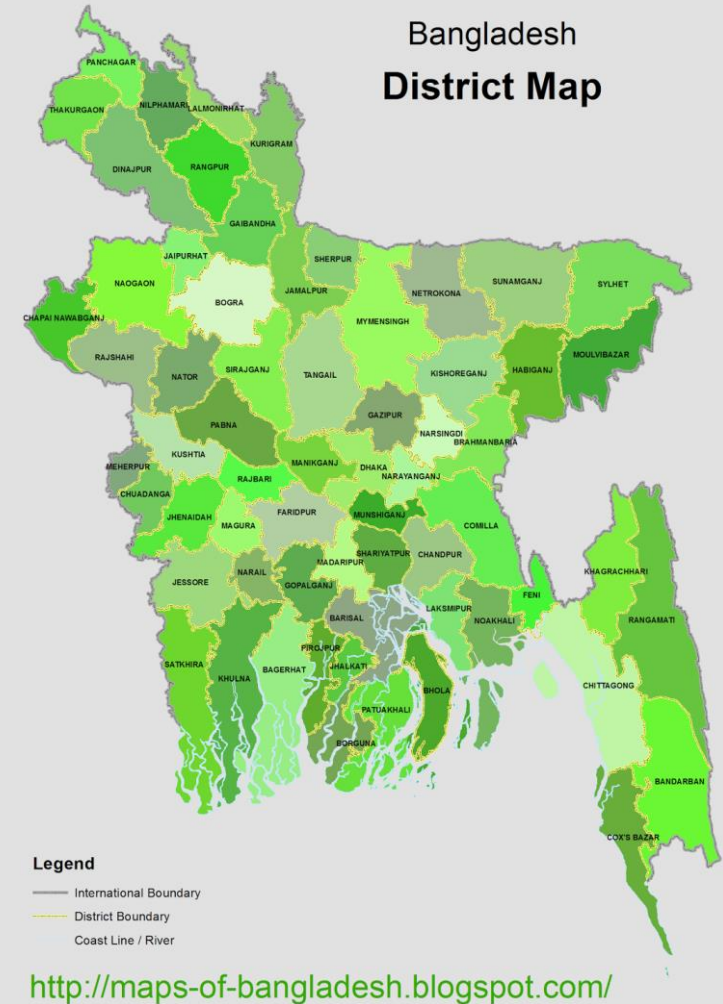
Cumilla (Meghna) Division – proposed to consist six northwestern districts of the existing Chattogram Division.

Faridpur (Padma) Division – proposed to consist five southern districts of Dhaka Division.



Districts of Bangladesh

- 8 divisions are divided into **64 districts**
- On **6 December, 1971** **Jessore** became the first district of Bengal to be liberated from Pakistani forces.
- Jessore is also the first digital district in Bangladesh.
- Each district is run by a Deputy Commissioner ("**DC**") who is appointed by the government from a Deputy secretary of BCS Administration Cadre.



Districts of Bangladesh

District		Division
Bandarban	বান্দরবান	Chattogram
Brahmanbaria	ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া	
Chandpur	চাঁদপুর	
Chittagong	চট্টগ্রাম	
Cumilla	কুমিল্লা	
Cox's Bazar	কক্সবাজার	
Feni	ফেনী	
Khagrachhari	খাগড়াছড়ি	
Noakhali	নোয়াখালী	
Rangamati	রাঙ্গামাটি	

Districts of Bangladesh

District		Division	
Barguna	বরগুনা	Barisal	৪৫
Barisal	বরিশাল		১১
Bhola	ভোলা		১৪
Jhalokat	ঝালকাঠি		১৪
Patuakha	পটুয়াখালী		১৫
Pirojpur	পিরোজপুর		১৫
Habiganj	হবিগঞ্জ	Sylhet	
Moulvibazar	মৌলভীবাজার		
Sunamganj	সুনামগঞ্জ		
Sylhet	সিলেট		

Districts of Bangladesh

District		Division
Dhaka	ঢাকা	Dhaka
Faridpur	ফরিদপুর	
Gazipur	গাজীপুর	
Gopalganj	গোপালগঞ্জ	
Kishoreganj	কিশোরগঞ্জ	
Madaripur	মাদারীপুর	
Manikganj	মানিকগঞ্জ	
Munshiganj	মুন্সিগঞ্জ	
Narayanganj	নারায়ণগঞ্জ	
Narsingdi	নরসিংদী	
Rajbari	রাজবাড়ী	
Shariatpur	শরীয়তপুর	
Tangail	টাঙ্গাইল	

Districts of Bangladesh

District		Division
Bogra	বগুড়া	Rajshahi
Joypurhat	জয়পুরহাট	
Naogaon	নওগাঁ	
Natore	নাটোর	
Chapainawabganj	চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ	
Pabna	পাবনা	
Rajshahi	রাজশাহী	
Sirajganj	সিরাজগঞ্জ	

Districts of Bangladesh

District		Division
Dinajpur	দিনাজপুর	Rangpur
Gaibandha	গাইবান্ধা	
Kurigram	কুড়িগ্রাম	
Lalmonirhat	লালমনিরহাট	
Nilphamari	নীলফামারী	
Panchagarh	পঞ্চগড়	
Rangpur	রংপুর	
Thakurgaon	ঠাকুরগাঁও	Mymensingh
Jamalpur	জামালপুর	
Mymensingh	ময়মনসিংহ	
Netrokona	নেত্রকোণা	
Sherpur	শেরপুর	

Districts of Bangladesh

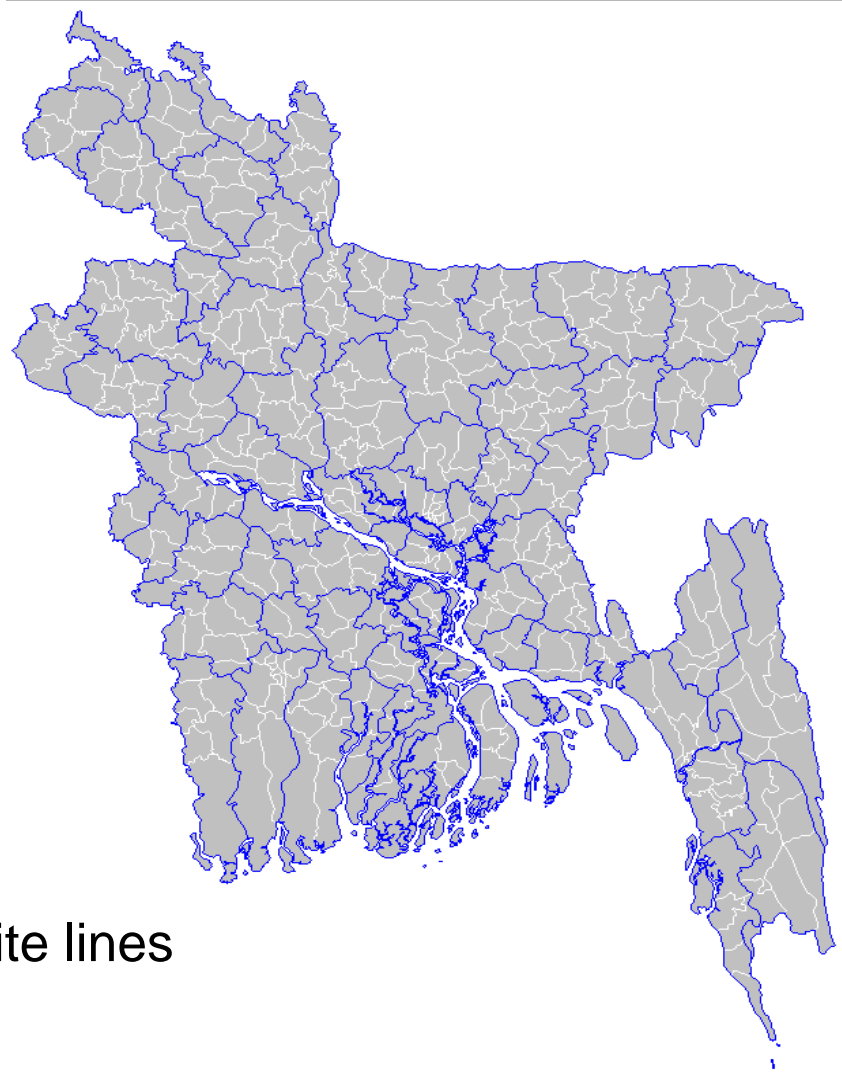
District		Division
<u>Bagerhat</u>	বাগেরহাট	Khulna
<u>Chuadanga</u>	চুয়াডাঙ্গা	
<u>Jessore</u>	যশোর	
<u>Jhenaidah</u>	ঝিনাইদহ	
<u>Khulna</u>	খুলনা	
<u>Kushtia</u>	কুষ্টিয়া	
<u>Meherpur</u>	মেহেরপুর	
<u>Narail</u>	নড়াইল	
<u>Satkhira</u>	সাতক্ষীরা	

Upazilas of Bangladesh

- The [districts](#) are divided into sub-districts called upazilas.
- Upazilas are similar to the county subdivisions found in some Western countries.
- Bangladesh has 495 upazilas (as of 31 August 2021).
- The upazilas are the second lowest tier of regional administration in Bangladesh.
- Upazilas were formerly known as [thana](#) which literally means police station.
- In 1982 thanas were re-termed to as upazilas with provisions for semi-autonomous local governance.
- This system was reverted to the thana system in 1992.

- Later in 1999 geographic regions under administrations of thanas were converted into upazilas.
- The word *thana* is now used to solely refer to *police stations*.
- Generally, there is one police station for each upazila; but larger administrative units may have more than one police station covering different regions.
- The upazila is administered by **Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO)** and upazila parishad. UNOs are Senior Assistant Secretary of Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS).
- Each upazila parishad (or council) has a **chairman**, a **vice-chairman** and a **woman vice-chairman**.
- All three are elected through **direct popular election**.

- The sub-districts are further subdivided into 4,571 Rural Councils and 330 **Town Councils** or Paurasabha or Municipality.



Subdistricts of Bangladesh, divided by white lines

City corporations

- The cities with a city corporation, having mayoral elections, include Dhaka South, Dhaka North, Chattogram, Khulna, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Barisal, Rangpur, Cumilla, Narayanganj, Mymensingh and Gazipur.
- The city mayors are elected for a span of five years.
- The city corporation are divided into wards, which are further divided into mahallas.
- Direct elections are held for each ward, electing a councillor.

Municipal corporations

- In the metropolitan areas, excluding the cities with city corporations, have municipal corporations, also known as Paurasabha.
- Paurasabhas are divided into wards, which are further divided into Mauzas and Mahallas.
- Direct elections are held for each ward, electing a chairperson and a number of members.
- The municipal heads are elected for a span of five years.

Union councils

- Union councils (union parishads) are the smallest rural administrative and local government units in Bangladesh.
- Each Union is made up of **nine** Wards.
- Usually one **village is designated as** a Ward.
- There are **4,571** Unions in Bangladesh.
- A Union Council consists of a chairman and **twelve mem**bers including **three mem**bers exclusively reserved for women.
- Union Parishads are formed under the *Local Government Act, 2009*.
- The boundary of each Union is demarcated by the Deputy Commissioner of the District.
- A Union Council is the body primarily responsible for agricultural, industrial and community development within the local limits of the union.

Villages of Bangladesh

- A village is a clustered human settlement or community, larger than a hamlet but smaller than a town, with a population ranging from a few hundred to a few thousand.
- In Bangladesh, a village is the smallest territorial and social unit for administrative and representative purposes.
- At the 1991 census, there were 68,038 villages in Bangladesh with an average of 232 households.
- Villages are characterized by higher growth rate of population and lower literacy rate compared to urban areas - but these gaps are decreasing.
- After independence the villages in Bangladesh were underdeveloped in terms of infrastructure and economic activity..

- But now, the villages are gradually driving towards economic progress.
- Baniachong (বানিয়াচং) is an upazila of Habiganj District in the Division of Sylhet, Bangladesh. **Village Baniyachong is the** biggest and the most populous village in Asia.
- It is believed that the **village Srimukh in Bishwanath Upazila** of Sylhet is the smallest village in Asia. There is no road **of its own.**
- The village of **Tilnai** in Lalmai Upazila of Cumilla district, which was previously considered the smallest village in Asia, has a population **of 40.**
- On the other hand, the present populations **of Srimukh village are five.** Among them, **one man, three women and a child.**