

BANGLADESH



Country Dialling Code (Tel/Fax): ++880

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, (National Tourism Organization), 83-88, Mohakhali Commercial Area, Dhaka - 1212. P : +880-2-8833229, 8834600, Fax : +880-2-8833900, info@bangladeshtourism.gov.bd, www.bangladeshtourism.gov.bd
Capital: Dhaka Time: GMT + 6

Background: Bangladesh came into existence in 1971 when Bengali East Pakistan seceded from its union with West Pakistan. A third of this desperately poor country annually floods during the monsoon rainy season, hampering normal economic development.

Location: Southern Asia, bordering the Bay of Bengal, between Burma and India
Map References: Asia

Area: total: 144,000 sq km land: 133,910 sq km water: 10,090 sq km

Climate: tropical; cool, dry winter (October to March); hot, humid summer (March to June); cool, rainy monsoon (June to October)

Terrain: mostly flat alluvial plain; hilly in southeast

Natural Resources: natural gas, arable land, timber

Population: 129,194,224 (July 2000 est.)

Nationality: noun: Bangladeshi(s) adjective: Bangladeshi

Ethnic Groups: Bengali 98%, Biharis 250,000, tribals less than 1 million

Religions: Muslim 88.3%, Hindu 10.5%, other 1.2%

Languages: Bangla (official), English

Economy: Despite sustained domestic and international efforts to improve economic and demographic prospects, Bangladesh remains one of the world's poorest, most densely populated, and least developed nations. The economy is largely agricultural, with the cultivation of rice the single most important activity in the economy. Major impediments to growth include frequent cyclones and floods, the inefficiency of state-owned enterprises, a rapidly growing labor force that cannot be absorbed by agriculture, delays in exploiting energy resources (natural gas), inadequate power supplies, and slow implementation of economic reforms. Prime Minister Sheikh HASINA Wajed's Awami League government has made some headway improving the climate for foreign investors and liberalizing the capital markets; for example, it has negotiated with foreign firms for oil and gas exploration, better countrywide distribution of cooking gas, and the construction of natural gas pipelines and power plants. Progress on other economic reforms has been halting because of opposition from the bureaucracy, public sector unions, and other vested interest groups. The especially severe floods of 1998 increased the country's reliance on large-scale international aid. So far the East Asian financial crisis has not had major impact on the economy.

Industries: cotton textiles, jute, garments, tea processing, paper newsprint, cement, chemical fertilizer, light engineering, sugar

Currency: 1 taka (Tk) = 100 poisha

Railways: total: 2,745 km broad gauge: 923 km 1.676-m gauge narrow gauge: 1,822 km 1.000-m gauge (1998 est.)

Highways: total: 201,182 km paved: 19,112 km unpaved: 182,070 km (1997 est.)

Waterways: 5,150-8,046 km navigable waterways (includes 2,575-3,058 km main cargo routes)

Ports and Harbors: Chittagong, Dhaka, Mongla Port

Airports: 16 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 16 over 3,047 m: 2 2,438 to 3,047 m: 2 1,524 to 2,437 m: 5 914 to 1,523 m: 1 under 914 m: 6 (1999 est.)

Visa: required by all.

Duty Free: goods permitted: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 225g of tobacco, 2 bottles of alcoholic beverages, 250ml of perfume, gifts up to Tk500

Health: a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from all persons arriving by sea or air from an infected area or an area that the WHO deems as endemic. Those without a certificate will be quarantined for 6 days.

HOTELS•MOTELS•INNS

CHITTAGONG

HOTEL AGRABAD



HOTEL AGRABAD

P.O. Box 147
 Post code no. 4000
 Chittagong

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 TEL: +880-31 713311-8
info@agrabadhotels.com
 Web: www.agrabadhotels.com

HOTEL TOWER INN LTD CHITTAGONG, 183, Jubilee Road, Chittagong, Phone: +88 031 2862691 -2, Fax: 0088 31 615662, email: info@hoteltowerinn.com, <http://www.hoteltowerinn.com>

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BEST WESTERN LA VINCI HOTEL, 54, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka, 1215, BD, Phone: 880-2-9119352, Fax: 880-2-913 1218, <http://book.bestwestern.com>

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HOTEL AL-HELEL Motijheel Circular Road Dhaka Tel 281533 Cable ALHELEL E-mail http

HOTEL DE CRYSTAL CROWN, House 5, Road 23/A, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh, Tel: 880-2-8825030, Fax: 880-2-9888448, E-mail: reservation@crystalcrownhotel.com, www.crystalcrownhotel.com

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CHITTAGONG - SHAH AMANAT INT'L AIRPORT, Chittagong Airport, Bangladesh, Patenga, Chittagong, Tel: +880 (0)31 500171/1

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info@greenbanglatours.com <http://www.greenbanglatours.com>

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info@meghnagroup.biz, www.meghnagroup.biz

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sal@squaregroup.com, <http://squareair.com.bd>

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winuxgroup@gmail.com, <http://www.helicopterbd.com>



TOURIST OFFICES INFO.

TRAVEL AGENCIES

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GANGES TRAVEL SERVICE Hotel Purbani Int'l Dikusha Commercial Area, Dacca TEL: +880 25 40 81.

JAMES FINLAY AND CO. LTD. 47 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dacca 2. TEL: +880 25 00 67

CRUISES AND SHIPPING LINES

BANGLADESH PARJATAN CORPORATION 233 Airport Road Dhaka-1215
Tel:327842 817855-9

COSTA,Tel:39 010 4206099, info-med@costa.it ,<http://www.costacruise.com>

DISNEY CRUISE LINE,General Inquiries,tEL:800 951 3532,
<https://disneycruise.disney.go.com>

FRED.OLSEN CRUISE LINE,Fred. Olsen House, White House Road, Ipswich,
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London,W6 8JA UK,Tel:0845 201 8912 ,ukcrt@ncl.com ,<http://www.ncl.co.uk>



BUS & RAILWAY STATIONS

BANGLADESH RAILWAY,Dhaka Kamapur,tel:9358634; 8315857,
<http://www.railway.gov.bd>

BANGLADESH RAILWAY E-TICKETING SERVICE,
<https://www.esheba.cnsbd.com>

BANGLADESH ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION,Paribahan Bhaban,
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9344477, Fax:880 2 8321425, <http://www.shohagh.biz>

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RESTAURANTS & BARS

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1208, Bangladesh,Tel:880 1762 444555,Cuisines: Continental, Pan-Asian

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- 1212,Tel.88 02 8826638, Fax.88 02 8826608,Cuisines: French
<http://www.bellagio.com.bd/le-souffle.php>

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MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

DHAKA



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Dhanmondi, Dhaka City, Bangladesh

BANGLADESH NATIONAL MUSEUM , Phone:88 02 8619396 9, Fax:88
02 8615585,dgmuseum@yahoo.com ,www.bangladeshmuseum.gov.bd

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<http://www.novothatre.gov.bd>

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