BANGLADESH: FLOODING

USE P TO INDICATE A **PHYSICAL CAUSE**

CAUSES

USE **H** TO INDICATE A **HUMAN CAUSE**

HIMALAYAS

Spring / summer snow / ice melt increases the river discharge

DEFORESTATION

In northern Bangladesh and Nepal. Causes less interception and more overland flow

EROSION

Of bare surfaces adds silt and sediment to rivers. Making inefficient channel forms

MONSOON CLIMATE

Heavy annual total rainfall of 2000 - 5000 mm. 80-90% falls in the summer months. Saturated soils / rocks give more overland flow

LOW LYING

Bangladesh is flat and

1 m in height. 80% is

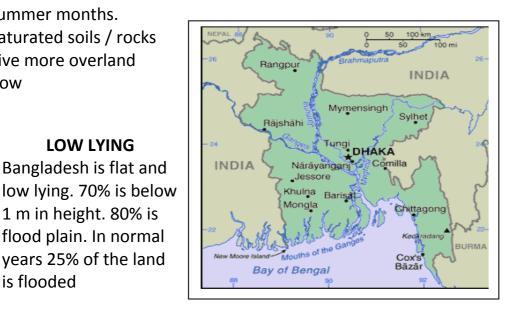
flood plain. In normal

years 25% of the land

is flooded

3 RIVERS

Converge on the Delta. Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna



RIVER REGIMES

All 3 rivers have a variable regime with a summer / late summer peak

URBANISATION

Bangladesh is a very densely populated country and is particularly urbanised around the capital city Dhaka. This covers the surfaces and gives more overland flow

HYDRO-POLITICS

Dams and schemes in other countries eg Farakka Dam / Barrage in India may cause downstream problems

TROPICAL CYCLONES (COASTAL FLOODS)

Very low pressure and strong winds cause a storm surge and very high tides (+7m) Heavy rainfall (summer / autumn is the cyclone season) coincides with river floods Bay of Bengal is funnel shaped and concentrates water to the north

DELTA

The country is mostly the flat delta of 3 rivers.10% of the country is rivers, lakes and swamp Distributaries, braided and meandering streams are inefficient channels, unstable and ever changing

GLOBAL WARMING

Emissions of CO2 and other gases increases the Greenhouse effect, leads to Global Warming and sea level rises

WATER CONTROL

Embankment and dam failures may make downstream problems worse