

Brahmaputra

The Mighty Brahmaputra, an international river, ranking in the top three in the world in terms of sediment and flow discharge. It originates in the Chemayung-Dung glacier, approximately at 31030'/N and 8200'/E, some 145 Km from Parkha, a trade centre between lake Manassarowar and Mount Kailas. It covers total drainage area of 583000 Km² and only 47000 Km² (8.1% of total) lies in Bangladesh. It enters in Bangladesh at the east of Bhabanipur (India) and northeast of Kurigram district. It meets with Padma (Ganges) at Goalanda and with Meghna at Chandpur and finally falls to the Bay of Bengal. Total length from its source in southwestern Tibet to the mouth in the Bay of Bengal is about 2850 Km. Within Bangladesh territory, Brahmaputra-Jamuna is 240 Km long. The river is characterized by high intensity of flood flows (102535 cumec; 09 September 1998) during monsoon season (June through September) and huge sediments as well. It has different channel Characteristics/flow patterns; braided, meandering and so on. Formation, deformation and migration of sand bar (chars) controls the bank erosion. Large flow variation (3510 cumec; 10 February 98), almost flat course after hilly region, sandy soil, unprotected bank, fine bed materials are also the characteristics for severe bank erosion.