



MDS Qualifying Examination 2024-25
Professional Master of Development Studies Programme
Department of Development Studies
University of Dhaka

27 September, 2024

TEST BOOKLET

Candidate's Name

Examination Roll Number

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Candidate's Signature

Signature of the Invigilator

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMINEES

1. The duration of the test is 1 hour 30 minutes. The test consists of four parts: **PART-I**: Quantitative Aptitude, **PART-II**: Reading Comprehension, **PART-III**: Writing Skills, and **PART-IV**: Viva-voce.
2. Use of any electronic gadget in the examination hall is strictly prohibited.
3. Candidates are required to score a minimum acceptable mark in each part.
4. Adopting any sort of unfair means will result in the cancellation of candidature.

MARKS SHEET		
Q.N.	Marks	Score
PART-I		
1-5	15	
PART-II		
6-10	10	
PART-III		
11	10	
12	10	
13	10	
14	10	
15	10	
Viva	25	
Grand Total		

PART-I: Quantitative Aptitude (1-5)

Marks - $3 \times 5 = 15$

1. A train is full of passengers. At the first station, $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ of the passengers leave the train while 96 board on the train. At second station half of the passengers leave the train and 12 new passengers enter the train. If at this time the number of passengers is 240, find the number of passengers at the beginning.
2. In an election between two candidates, the winning candidate got 70 percent votes of the valid votes and he won by a majority of 3630 votes. If out of total votes polled 75 percent votes are valid, then what is the total number of votes polled?

3. The sum of the ages of father and his son is 44 years. If 6 years after the father will be 3 times as old as his son, what are their present ages?
4. A merchant has 1000 kg of sugar part of which he sells at 8% profit and the rest at 18% profit. He gains 14% on the whole. The Quantity sold at 18% profit is?

5. A and B are 20 km apart. A can walk at an average speed of 4 km/ hour and B at 6 km/hr. If they start walking towards each other at 7 a.m., when they will meet?

<p style="text-align: center;">PART-II: Reading Comprehension (6-10) Marks - $2 \times 5 = 10$</p>

Based on what is stated or implied in the passage, write your answer to the following questions.

Being a deltaic country and for its geographic location, Bangladesh faces devastating damages every year. In a new global index, Bangladesh has been ranked 7th among the countries most affected by extreme weather events in 20 years since 1998. The ability of a community to recover from a disaster is very much associated with strong social connections. Social capital can be used as a potentially strong element of resilience before and after any disaster. A well-connected community is able to respond collectively during or after a disaster, which helps them use external resources, knowledge and information. Using these elements collectively makes the actions of adaptation or recovery quick and efficient. Although the development of social capital is a natural process, the implementation of strategy and policy can positively influence its development. Consequently, social capital indirectly works as a key for recovering from any disaster impact and could build resilience to hazards. Measuring social capital is very complicated because it is an abstract idea and researchers have to determine or define this for operationalization of this concept; such as to determine the quality of social connection as well as network and the extent of its presence. Additionally, a theoretical understanding alone lacks significant contributions without real world field testing from a geographical viewpoint to unfold different sides of this concept, as social interactions are contingent upon actors' intentions and occur within the context of everyday life

6. Explain how social capital contributes to community resilience before and after a disaster. Provide specific examples mentioned in the passage to support your explanation.
7. The passage suggests that social capital is a "natural process." However, what role does policy and strategy play in its development, and how might this influence a community's disaster recovery efforts?
8. Why is measuring social capital described as a complicated process? Identify and explain at least two factors that contribute to the difficulty of operationalizing this concept.

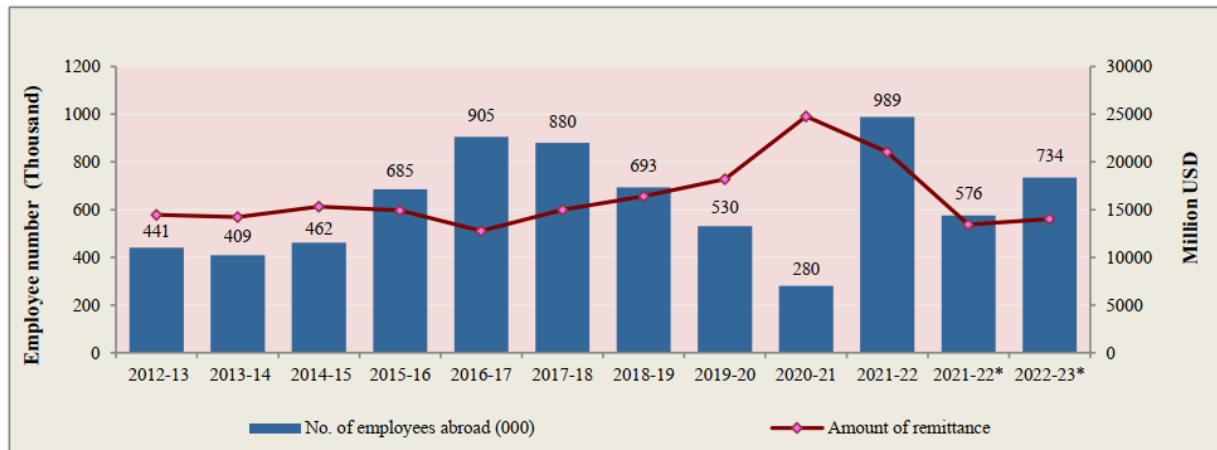
9. Discuss the significance of real-world field testing, as mentioned in the passage, in understanding social capital from a geographical perspective. Why might a theoretical understanding alone be insufficient?
10. According to the passage, what challenges do researchers face when studying social capital in the context of disaster resilience? How do these challenges affect the interpretation and application of social capital in policy-making?

PART-III: Writing Skill (11-15)

Marks - 50

11. Analyze and interpret the following figure in your own words: Marks - 10

Figure: Manpower Export and Remittance Inflow



Source: BMET, Bangladesh Bank. *July-February

12. Analyze and interpret the following table in your own words:**Marks - 10**

Table: Financial inclusion of the households (in percentage)

	HIES 2022			HIES 2016		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
Having a bank account	14.12	13.39	15.65	7.50	7.60	7.30
Having a deposit with micro/ financial institution	21.30	21.04	21.85	15.09	17.30	12.20
Having a deposit with informal financial institution	6.91	7.08	6.56	5.30	5.10	5.70
Having a loan account with financial institution and/or friends, etc.	37.03	39.35	32.11	29.30	32.70	22.10

Source: Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2022

13. Critically analyze the following issues:

Marks – (5+5=10)

- [illegible]

- 14. Write a precis on the following passage in no more than one-third of its length. The precis should be as far as possible in your own words.**

Suggest a suitable title too.

Marks - 10

Bangladesh is facing a series of strategic challenges as it strives to achieve sustainable development and strengthen its position in the global arena. One of the most pressing issues is energy security. With its economy growing rapidly, the demand for energy is soaring. However, Bangladesh's reliance on natural gas and imported oil makes it vulnerable to supply disruptions and price volatility. To address this, the country must diversify its energy sources by investing in renewable energy, particularly solar and wind power. However, the lack of infrastructure, technological capacity, and necessary investments pose significant obstacles.

Climate change remains another critical challenge. Bangladesh, with its low-lying geography, is particularly susceptible to the impacts of rising sea levels, floods, and cyclones. Strengthening coastal defenses, improving disaster preparedness, and transitioning to a low-carbon economy are essential strategies to mitigate these risks. The need for regional cooperation on climate action and environmental management has also become more urgent.

On the geopolitical front, Bangladesh finds itself in a delicate balancing act between major regional powers, such as India and China. The country's strategic location is both an asset and a risk, with regional security concerns, such as the Rohingya refugee crisis and the threat of transnational terrorism, complicating its foreign relations. Additionally, maintaining social harmony, political stability, and economic growth in the face of these internal and external challenges will require visionary leadership and well-coordinated policies.

15. Write an essay on the following topic:

Marks – 10

The University I Want

