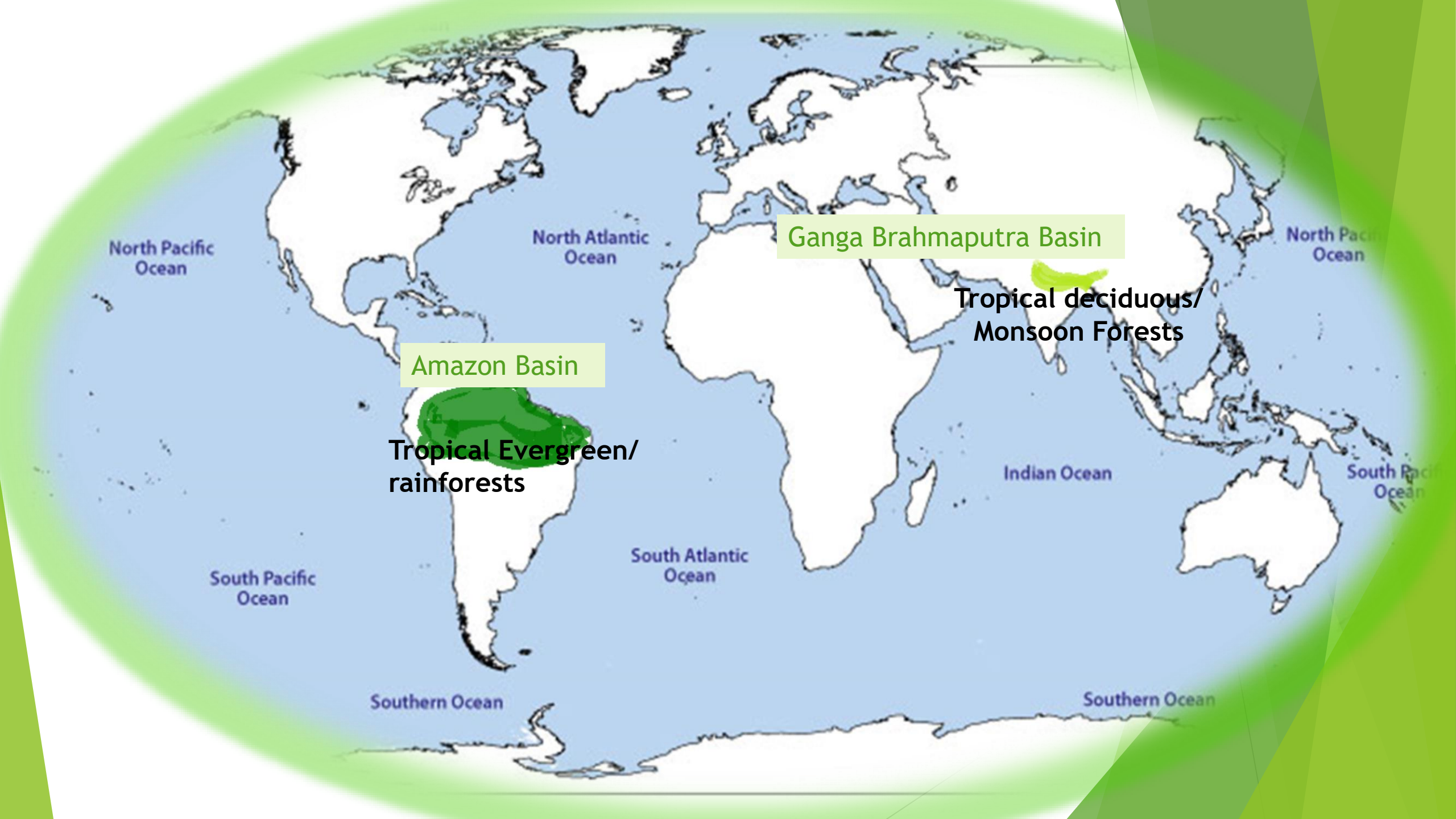


TROPICAL AND SUB TROPICAL REGIONS

A COMPARATIVE CASE STUDY



Ganga Brahmaputra Basin

Tropical deciduous/
Monsoon Forests

Amazon Basin

Tropical Evergreen/
rainforests

North Pacific
Ocean

North Atlantic
Ocean

North Pacific
Ocean

Indian Ocean

South Pacific
Ocean

South Pacific
Ocean

South Atlantic
Ocean

Southern Ocean

Southern Ocean

LOCATION

AMAZON BASIN

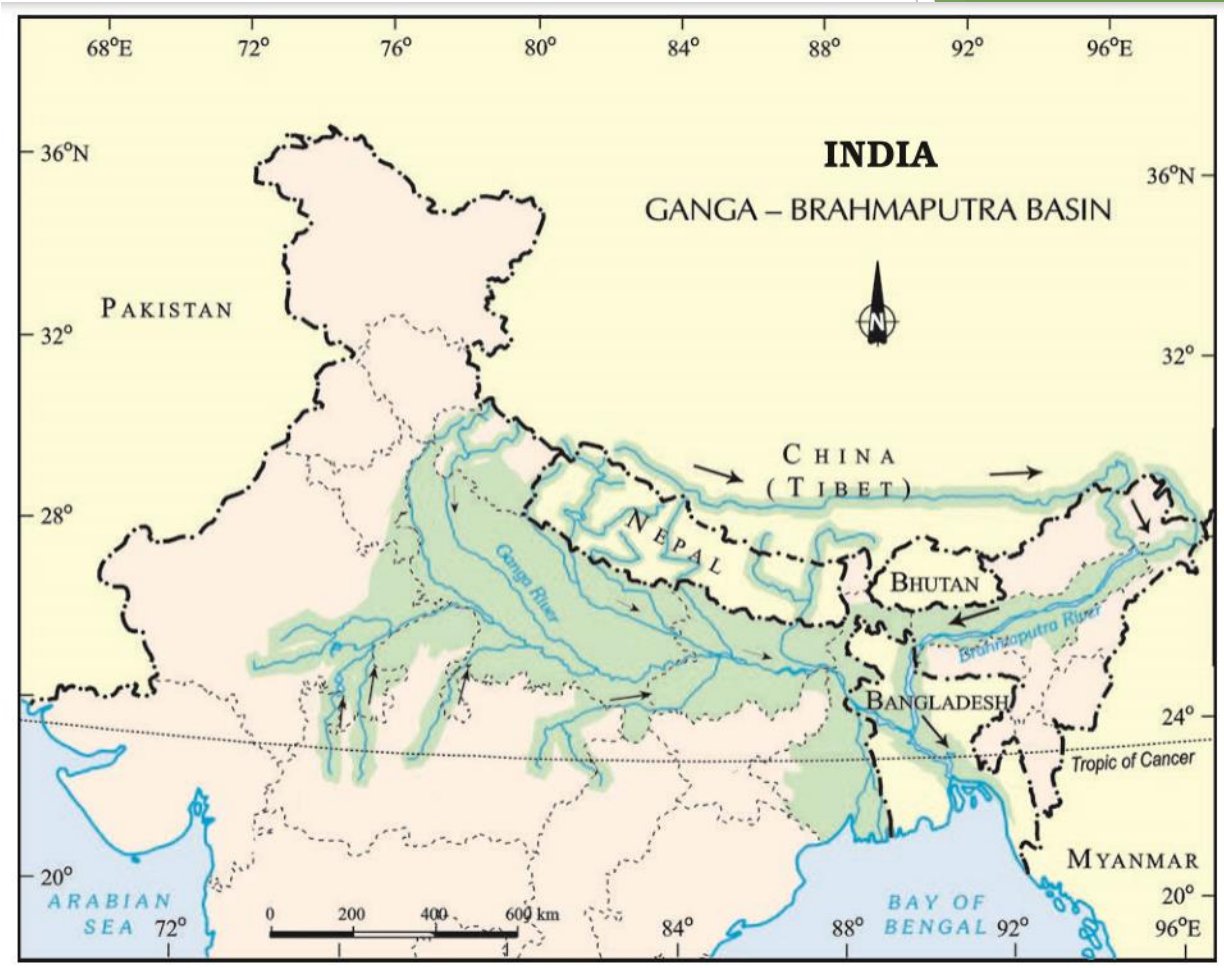
- ▶ Between 10°N and 10°S . So, it is referred to as the equatorial region
- ▶ The river Amazon flows through this region. Notice how it flows from the mountains to the west and reaches the Atlantic Ocean to the east

GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA BASIN

- ▶ The basin lies in the sub-tropical region that is situated between 10°N to 30°N latitudes.
- ▶ The plains of the Ganga and the Brahmaputra, the mountains and the foothills of the Himalayas and the Sundarbans delta are the main features of this basin.



AMAZON BASIN



GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA BASIN

CLIMATE

AMAZON BASIN

- ▶ The Amazon Basin stretches directly on the equator and is characterized by hot and wet climate throughout the year.
- ▶ It rains almost everyday.
- ▶ The day temperatures are high with very high humidity. At night the temperature goes down but the humidity remains high.

GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA BASIN

- ▶ The area is dominated by monsoon climate.
- ▶ The monsoon brings rains from mid-June to mid-September. The summers are hot and the winters cool.

NATURAL VEGETATION

AMAZON BASIN

- ▶ It is the region of world's largest rainforests.
- ▶ The forests are in fact so thick that the dense "roof" created by leaves and branches does not allow the sunlight to reach the ground.
- ▶ The ground remains dark and damp. Only shade tolerant vegetation may grow here. Orchids, bromeliads grow as plant parasites.

GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA BASIN

- ▶ In the Ganga and Brahmaputra plain tropical deciduous trees grow, along with teak, sal and peepal.
- ▶ Thick bamboo groves are common in the Brahmaputra plain.
- ▶ The delta area is covered with the mangrove forests.
- ▶ In parts of Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh, coniferous trees like pine, deodar and fir can be seen because the climate is cool and the slopes are steep.

Amazon Rainforests – The mesmerizing 'Lungs of the Earth'



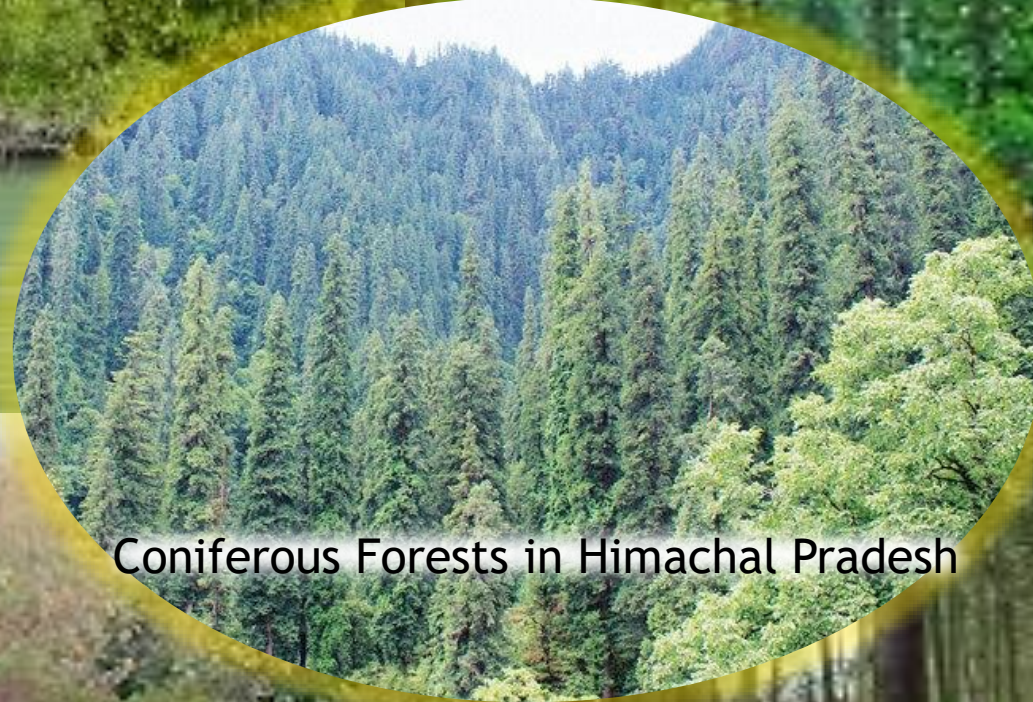
Kapok trees found exclusively in Amazon rainforest grow taller by 13 feet per year and produce up to 5000 fruits at one time.



Mangrove forests in Sundarbans

Sal Forests

Varied Vegetation in Ganga Brahmaputra Basin



Coniferous Forests in Himachal Pradesh



Upper Gangetic Plain



Bamboo Groves in Brahmaputra plain

WILDLIFE

AMAZON BASIN

- ▶ The rainforest is rich in fauna. Birds such as toucans, humming birds are found with distinct features.
- ▶ Animals like monkeys, sloth and ant-eating tapirs are found here.
- ▶ Various species of reptiles and snakes also thrive in these jungles. Crocodiles, snakes, pythons abound. Anaconda and boa constrictor are some of the species.
- ▶ Besides, the basin is home to thousands of species of insects.
- ▶ Several species of fishes including the flesheating Piranha fish is also found in the river.

GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA BASIN

- ▶ There is a variety of wildlife in the basin.
- ▶ Elephants, tigers, deer and monkeys are common.
- ▶ The one-horned rhinoceros is found in the Brahmaputra plain.
- ▶ In the delta area, Bengal tiger, crocodiles and alligator are found.
- ▶ Aquatic life abounds in the fresh river waters, the lakes and the Bay of Bengal Sea



TOUCANS



ANACONDA



WILDLIFE IN AMAZON BASIN

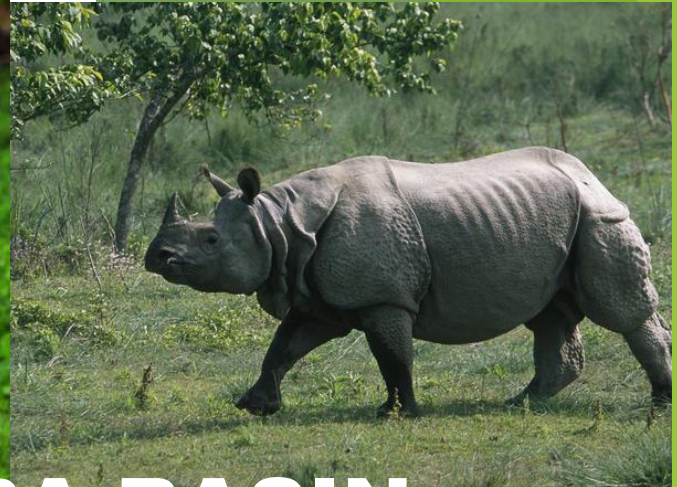


TAPIRS

BLACK PIRANHA



WILDLIFE IN GANGA BRAMHAPUTRA BASIN



PEOPLE

AMAZON BASIN

- ▶ People grow most of their food in small areas after clearing some trees in the forest.
- ▶ They practice “slash and burn agriculture”.
- ▶ The staple food is manioc, also known as cassava that grows under the ground like the potato.

GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA BASIN

- ▶ The density of population of the plains is very high.
- ▶ Agriculture is the main occupation of the people where flat land is available to grow crops.
- ▶ The main crop is paddy, Wheat, maize, Banana plantations and tea plantations.

DEVELOPMENT

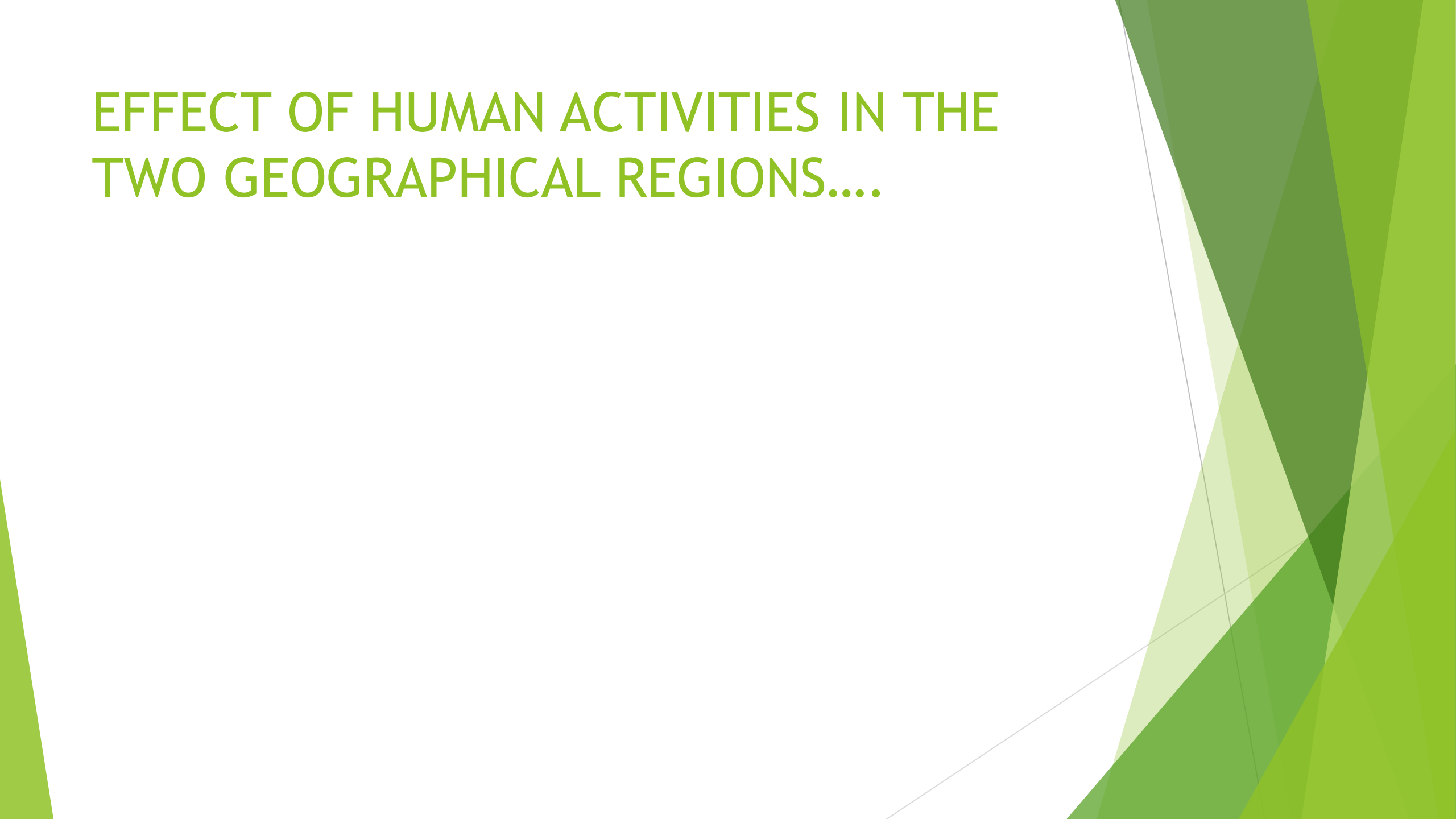
AMAZON BASIN

- ▶ The developmental activities are leading to the gradual destruction of the biologically diverse rainforests.
- ▶ In the older days the heart of the forest, could be reached only by navigating the river.
- ▶ In 1970 the Trans Amazon highway made all parts of the rainforest accessible.
- ▶ Aircrafts and helicopters are also used for reaching various places.

GANGA BRAHMAPUTRA BASIN

- ▶ The Ganga-Brahmaputra plain has several big towns and cities.
- ▶ The wastewater from these towns and industries is discharged into the rivers.
- ▶ All the four ways of transport are well developed in the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin.
- ▶ Kolkata is an important port on the River Hooghly.

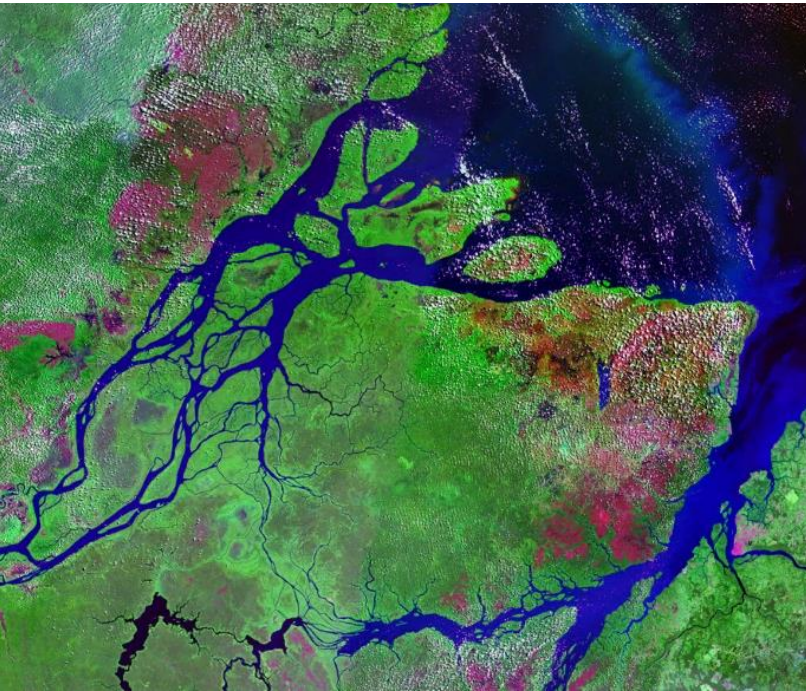
EFFECT OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES IN THE TWO GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS....



HUMAN INTERACTIONS IN AMAZON BASIN....



THE LUNGS OF THE EARTH CHOKING WITH SHIFTING CULTIVATION AND DEFORESTATION ...



HUMAN INTERACTIONS IN GANGA PLAINS....



AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRIES, TOURISM ARE ADDING TO THE POLLUTION OF THE REGION

