



Development should be the absolute principal for steady GDP Growth



Mohammed Alamgir Kabir

It is admittedly a positive side that the development trend in Bangladesh is attributed to the upward growth trend of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the big challenge is to keep this trend steady.

Currently, large scale of domestic infrastructure developments are playing an important role to increase the GDP rate and it is high time we emphasized on the improvement of the sector, because a country's development is depended mostly in domestic physical infrastructural development. It does not mean only the development of the Road, Bridge, and Culvert but also comprise of infrastructural developments.

Likewise, agriculture is another sector which is the important for development of the country as it contributes a great extent in increasing GDP rate. The maximum utilization of land and fostering of agriculture is needed to meet the demand of densely populated Bangladesh. But unplanned housing and infrastructural development cannot bring about sustainable development of a country.

Being one of the densely populated countries of the world with limited land area, we need vertical construction to make multi-storied buildings, skyscrapers to accommodate this huge population. Indeed we need high storied buildings for common people with comparatively low cost, needing small piece of land. Our horizontal land is very valuable for food production and no alternative device has yet been formulated in the world for food security without agriculture. Therefore, agricultural land should not be used for inhabitation other than ensuring food security.



The per-capita consumption of cement in Bangladesh is only 105 kg against which the neighboring countries like India (217 kg), Malaysia (570 kg), South Korea (705 kg), China (1700 kg) likewise in steel sector Bangladesh is only 45 kg against the neighboring countries like India (126 kg), Malaysia (374 kg), South Korea (537 kg), China (410 kg) are utilizing much more of these construction agents.

Singapore and Hong Kong are exemplary small countries where large number of people with various modern amenities are accommodated on a small piece of land. The area of South Korea is almost equal to Bangladesh but they have achieved surprising development. Moreover, Taiwan, Malaysia, Qatar, UAE, Brunei, SriLanka, and some other small countries in Europe & South America have already shown widespread infrastructural development with multipurpose sustainable plan. Bangladesh has lots of scope to stand in the row of these countries of highly developed physical infrastructure.

The materials which aided the aforesaid development with cement and steel being two of the most prominent. The per-capita consumption of cement in Bangladesh is only 105 kg against which the neighboring countries like India (217 kg), Malaysia (570 kg), South Korea (705 kg), China (1700 kg) likewise in steel sector Bangladesh is only 45 kg against the neighboring countries like India (126 kg), Malaysia (374 kg), South Korea (537 kg), China (410 kg) are utilizing much more of these construction agents. Bangladesh is yet to undertake much physical infrastructural development efforts. Cement is the symbol of infrastructural development. The growth of Gross Domestic product will be increased, if the consumption of cement and steel increase.

Bangladesh is a country of heavy monsoon rain, high volume of sulphur presence in our soil, salty air, fluctuation of temperature, flood takes place almost every year and different area of land contains different strength. Based on these indications the experts make design for roads & highways. In Bangladesh roads and highways are made of asphalt base which is not suitable considering the nature of Bangladesh. It has short durability incurring huge cost.

Asphalt base roads are effective in such part of the world where humidity is extremely low, does not get inundated with floods, experience rain in low frequency and temperature variations are moderate.



The factory of MI Cement at West Mukterpur in Munshiganj district.

The six seasoned country like Bangladesh has recently built concrete road in some areas, with construction cost being 20-25% high rather than traditional asphalt road. But the longevity of concrete road is much more than the better. So, concrete road is economical and durable. Thus concrete roads are durable, economically viable and cost saving. Some countries like Southeastern area of China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria and Neighboring India have taken comprehensive implementation plan for making concrete road. So far they have implemented the same in wide range of area and the result is very positive. So, it is

crore taka have been invested in cement & steel sectors, the largest part of the fund have been procured as loan from different Banks. (Report BB)

Our country is developing and we acknowledge the credit with thanks to the Government and people of Bangladesh. Besides, we expect that in continuing the flow of development, Government should come extend additional facilities to cement & steel sectors. This way we can boost production and find more new markets abroad.

The writer is the Vice President, Bangladesh Cement Manufacturer's Association (BCMA) And Chairman of GPH Ispat Ltd. - Mohammed

CHARU
ceramic

Great Wall
Ceramic Industries Ltd.

টাইলস এক্সপার্ট

The Largest Tiles Manufacturer in Bangladesh

W A L L T I L E S



www.greatwallceramic.net

Head Office: 34, Bir Uttam C.R. Dutta Road, Dhaka-1000. Phone: +8802-9666308, 9664607, 9664389, 8623484 Fax: +8802-9667283
E-mail: info@greatwallceramic.net. Factory: Gilarchala, Sreepur, Gazipur.

Safety Everyday

FROM PAGE 4

example. Suppose the protective insulation (cover) of a wire in a refrigerator has been damaged and the live wire has come into contact with the body of the refrigerator. As soon as someone comes in contact with the body of the refrigerator, he will be allowing the "current" to pass through his body to the earth resulting in electrical shock which can be fatal. Now if the refrigerator body is earthed properly then this danger can be overcome as the "current" will then go through the earth wire and shut off the power supply to the equipment by blowing the fuse or tripping the circuit breaker. Nowadays another protective device called ELCB or Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker is available which can be installed at home with individual equipment or for the entire power supply to the household. This will take care of the earth leakages anywhere in the home by shutting off the power anytime any leakage occurs. However, the down side is that, sometimes this can cause "nuisance tripping" for some minor leakage that may not be fatal.

"Safety Awareness" among our people is poor. This is demonstrated by the way people hang on to public

transport, travel on train rooftop (even run on them) or are busy with their mobile phone while driving or on the road. Many lives have been lost on train tracks where people busy on their mobile phones have been killed. We see our construction workers on high rises hanging on dangerously at heights without any protective equipment like safety belt etc. It is said that a fall from a height of even 3 feet can kill. Our people seem to be indifferent and nonchalant as far as safety awareness is concerned and seem to have a false sense of belief that accidents happen to "other people" only. Sad that such attitude is also noticed among the educated class and even students.

The encouraging sign is that most of our industries as well as different organizations, both government and non-government are now taking precautions to warn of the hazards. Yet I think that our people still lack the awareness that is required to avoid life threatening occurrences in every aspect of our lives.

We need to remember that an unfortunate accident can happen only once which is enough to maim us for life or kill us, and then it will be too late. We definitely should discuss "Safety Awareness" with our co-workers and family members. We could be taken lightly or even ridiculed but may end up saving precious lives.

