

## Implementing Agenda 2030

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

The private sector, particularly the corporate segment, needs to come forward more prominently because of its major role in the economic progress of the nation. The private investors have a responsibility to ensure that their undertakings are so managed as to contribute to economic growth that is socially agreeable and environmentally sound. By so doing, they will in fact be contributing to a sustainable future of their own industries and businesses as well. The mechanism of public-private partnership (PPP), which has been in place for quite some years, may be revamped for utilisation for the purpose of mobilisation of the private sector to make its contributions to sustainable development in coordination with the government and other stakeholders.

If facilitated and supported, people of small means, particularly of rural areas, can mobilise funds of their own and generate income, employment, and savings. They may be encouraged to use whatever savings they may have

FDI in Bangladesh is rather low. It has, however, tended to increase slightly recently, topping USD 2 billion in 2015. To attract more FDI, adequate attention needs to be given to ensuring political stability, improving business environment, and improving infrastructural facilities such as transportation, ports, gas and electricity supplies, and timely disposal of the required official actions.

or whatever funds they may be able to raise through credits extended to them for the additional funds required for undertaking micro-scale enterprises—in which the total requirement is, by and large, the equivalent of USD 5,000 or USD 10,000. Even if they cannot invest any amount initially from their own sources and the whole requirement is made available in terms of credit, they will soon start to improve their economic conditions and generate savings for investment. But, only making money available to them is not enough. They must also be simultaneously provided with such services as assistance in securing market information, skills training, accessing appropriate technologies, and marketing products. Experience of Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) is that there is tremendous interest

among large numbers of rural people around the country who, if assisted as indicated above, take up such activities.

FDI in Bangladesh is rather low. It has, however, tended to increase slightly recently, topping USD 2 billion in 2015. To attract more FDI, adequate attention needs to be given to ensuring political stability, improving business environment, and improving infrastructural facilities such as transportation, ports, gas and electricity supplies, and timely disposal of the required official actions.

In respect of ODA, Bangladesh should strengthen efforts to establish beneficial global partnerships to meet the resource gaps after maximum possible mobilisation of domestic resources. The principle of common but differentiated responsibility and

respective capabilities provides a sound basis for these partnerships to be worked out. Because in the interest of effective 2030 Agenda implementation in the developing countries, particularly the LDCs and SIDS, the additional financial resources, appropriate technologies, and capacity enhancing support that they may need should be provided by the international community. This is also a must from the point of view of reducing inequality among countries.

Corruption is pervasive in Bangladesh and is another major challenge in the context of 2030 Agenda implementation. It causes siphoning off and wastage of resources, delays in decision-making and implementation, and, not infrequently, makes for wrong targeting. In Bangladesh, there are policies and laws against corruption;

and there is also a dedicated agency, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), to take action against corruption. But, all this has so far been of little avail in practice in reducing corruption to any meaningful extent. More focused and purposeful, honest, and coordinated action is essential for achieving results in terms of meaningfully reducing corruption, while continuing to strive for further successes in the course of time. SDG 16 calls for promoting just, peaceful and inclusive societies and establishing accountable and inclusive institutions. This SDG should be accorded the high importance it deserves in the context of steadily taking the sustainable development agenda forward.

Terrorism is an international menace that kills and maims people who are often innocent. It can hinder the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through its destabilising effects. The counterterror measures claim resources which might otherwise have been available for economic and social purposes. In Bangladesh, the government policy stance is zero tolerance in respect of terrorism. From time to time, however, terrorist activities of one sort or another have taken place in the country, but the government's stern action in recent times, particularly during the last seven or eight months, has been able to reduce the possibility of terrorist activities to a minimum. But continuous vigilance is essential to prevent likely terrorist acts. All the known terrorist groups operating in Bangladesh are now subdued by strong police actions and are under elaborate surveillance. It is also necessary to watch out for any new terrorist groups or individuals who may try to raise their heads from within the country or outside and take necessary action to nip any such possibility in the bud.

The writer is Chairman of the Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF).



Best Wishes  
To  
**The Daily Star**  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

IFAD Multi Products Limited



IFAD Autos Limited



ASHOK LEYLAND

IFAD Enterprises Limited



ELGI  
Always Better. Industrial Air Compressors



ESCORTS

IFAD Motors Limited

ATUL



www.ifadgroup.com

Sonartori Tower, 12 Baponon C/A, Sonargaon Road, Dhaka-1000  
E-mail: contact@ifadgroup.com, Phone: +88 02 9632753-7, Fax: +88 02 9632765

IFAD GROUP  
Since 1985

ASGAR ALI  
HOSPITAL we create hope

a concern of citygroup

we create  
hope



111/1/A, Distillery Road, Gandaria, Dhaka-1204, Bangladesh, Tel: +88-02-7454 122-35  
E-mail: info@asgaralihospital.com, Web: www.asgaralihospital.com

For Doctor Appointment, Emergency & Ambulance  
HOPELINE 10602 | 01787-683333