



Empowering Growth The Thriving Journey of Bangladesh's Cable Industry

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cables, including low, medium, and high voltage cables for the Bangladesh market," he noted.

Around 120 cable manufacturers, including small-scale enterprises, operate in Bangladesh, with several major players dominating the market. Notable companies like BRB Cable Industries Ltd., Partex Cable, Bizli Cable, Eastern Cable, BBS, SQ, RR Electrical, and Poly Cable collectively meet 80 percent of the country's cable demand. The market leader, BRB, commands a 41 percent share, followed by Eastern Cable at 15 percent, BBS at 13 percent, and Partex and Bizli at 6.5 percent each. Other players collectively account for 22.2 percent of the market.

However, it's worth noting that only a handful of companies maintain international standard products. There are numerous small-scale companies that produce sub-standard cables to cater to those seeking cheaper house wiring options. However, opting for such cables can lead to significant risks and potential safety hazards.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS & QUALITY

Local manufacturers produce an extensive array of cables, including telephone wires, LAN cables, fiber optic cables, extra-high-voltage cables, and marine cables.

Bangladesh's cable industry has also made remarkable strides in technological advancements.

Highlighting this point Rabiul Kamal, head of brand, BBS Cables said "Now in Bangladesh, we have manufactured up to 245Kv high voltage cables. We use the world best Sikora technology to produce electric cables.

Similarly, Partex Cablex brought the CDCC CCV line in 2016 from Maillefer, Finland, informs A K M Ahsanul Haque, Chief Operations Officer, Partex Cables.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

We produce all types of domestic temporary shutdowns due to nationwide. However, despite such shown resilience and continues to cater to most of the cable demand in Bangladesh.

> alleged that the government still needs to import electric and internet cables as the government is implementing a number of projects with bilateral financing. For this reason, the government is bound to import cables under the project as per the agreement, despite the local industry being capable of catering

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to 100 percent demand for cables in Bangladesh.

Rafiqul Islam Rony, director of marketing and sales at BRB Cable Industries Limited, echoes this sentiment, stating, 'Despite local manufacturers producing world-class cables, the government needs to import cables for foreignfunded projects.' He highlights that contractors in such projects often resort to using sub-standard products due to the lack of

opportunities to inspect the quality. Nevertheless, Rony mentions that The cable industry faced significant the government has now shifted its challenges during the pandemic, focus towards emphasizing quality industry appears very promising.

halted production and transmission and distribution to minimize system losses. In light of a shortage of the workforce this development, he proposes that the government extend support challenges, the local industry has to local companies to reduce their dependence on imports. According to him, these local manufacturers have already established the However, industry insiders capacity to manufacture cables meeting international standards.

It may be noted here that the government is still the major client of local manufacturers, particularly Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (REB).

Local cable manufacturers heavily rely on raw material imports from countries like Chile, China, India, Oman, Malaysia, South Korea, and Singapore. Pointing to this fact, Mahbub Hossain Mirdha, Director, and CEO of RR-Imperial Electricals Ltd, suggests that if the government lowers taxation on importing copper, it will discourage the use of low-quality or scrap-made copper and incentivize the production of high-quality Copper Cathode by local industries.

The local producers have also urged the government to impose higher taxes on foreign cables to incentivize local production and reduce reliance on foreign imports. Additionally, they have requested the government to engage in policylevel negotiations with foreign donors to facilitate local production of quality cables for the G2G project and other mega projects.

The Bangladesh cable industry's journey has been marked by steady growth, spurred on by technological advancements, initiatives, government increased investments. As the demand for telecommunications, data services, and power supply continues to rise, the industry has embraced opportunities to diversify its offerings. Local manufacturers have demonstrated their capacity to meet domestic demands and even export quality products. With a focus on research and development, along with government support, the future of Bangladesh's cable

