

Mega Projects of Bangladesh

Date: October 25th, 2023

From Vision to Reality: A Journey Towards Robust Economy

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Overview

Bangladesh is regarded as a frontier market and is included as the 2nd fastest-growing major economy in the world on the IMF's list of the next eleven emerging market economies. Bangladesh's economy is currently ranked 34th in the world, but by 2036, it should rise to 24th, and by 2040, it should be the 9th largest consumer nation worldwide. Barring any major setbacks, Bangladesh's GDP is expected to increase from its current USD 460 billion to USD 1 trillion by 2040. By highlighting the advantages of investing in its mega projects, including as logistical support and a business-friendly environment, the nation seeks to draw in global investment.

Bangladesh is focusing on mega projects to transition from LDC to sustainable development. Prime Minister of Bangladesh has recently inaugurated the Padma Bridge Rail Link, a significant infrastructural project expected to benefit 80 million people and boost economic growth by 1.5%. The government has initiated numerous construction projects since 2009, including the Padma Bridge Rail Link, elevated expressway, Metro Rail and Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant. These mega projects aim to modernize physical infrastructure and create an ideal business climate, making the country profitable in terms of economic margin and safe investment.

The goal of the ongoing mega projects is to upgrade the nation's physical infrastructure and establish an excellent business climate, making it incredibly profitable in terms of economic margin and safe investment. It is estimated that the world economies will need to spend roughly USD 57 trillion on infrastructure by 2030, even under the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals, in order to achieve the expected levels of GDP growth on a worldwide scale. About two thirds of it will be needed in Bangladesh and other developing nations.



“Well-planned infrastructure projects can lead to a virtuous cycle of economic development. They stimulate demand, create jobs, and generate positive externalities.”

John Maynard Keynes

Defining Mega Projects



According to the Oxford Handbook of Megaproject Management, "Megaprojects are large-scale, complex ventures that typically cost **USD 1 billion or more**, take many years to develop and build, involve multiple public and private stakeholders, are transformational, and impact millions of people".



A megaproject is a temporary undertaking involving **substantial investment, complex organization, and lasting economic, environmental, and societal impacts**. It often spans multiple entities and countries, with a focus on substantial output and innovation across construction and decommissioning projects.



However, USD 1 billion is not a constraint in defining megaprojects; in some contexts, a relative approach is needed, such as in developing countries, where a much smaller project (such as one with a **USD 100 million budget**) could constitute a megaproject.



According to US OFCCP, Projects eligible for designation as Megaprojects are valued at **USD 35 million or more** in funding, some part of which must be federal funding, and are expected to last for **at least one year**.



Megaprojects are run on budgets ranging **between 0.01% and 0.02%** of a country's gross domestic product (GDP). Therefore, the cost of 0.01% of GDP is considered to be a rational criterion that a country can apply as a threshold.

Airports

International Airports

Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport Terminal 3


 Dhaka


78.5% completed


 USD **2.5** Billion


 Soft opening- 7th October, 2023
Fully Operation Starts - 2024



Cox's Bazar Airport Expansion Project


 Cox's Bazar,
Chittagong


80% completed


 USD **300** Million


 Fully Operation Starts - 2024



Osmani International Airport Expansion Project


 Sylhet


10% completed


 USD **255** Million


 Approx 2025



Bridges

Roads, Rails

Padma Bridge

 Louhajong, Munshiganj
Shariatpur, Madaripur

 Completed

 USD **3.6** Billion

 26 June, 2022

Padma Rail Link

 Dhaka, Mawa,
Bhanga, Jessore

 **72.5%** completed

 USD **4.63** Billion

 Soft Opening - 10th October, 2023
Fully Operational- June, 2024

Bangabandhu Railway Bridge

 Sirajganj,
Jamuna River

 **52%** completed

 USD **1.6** Billion

 August, 2024

Rupsha Rail Bridge

 Khulna, Rupsha River

 Completed

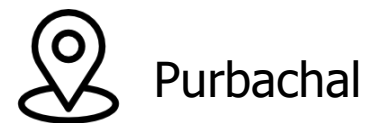
 USD **500** million

 25th June, 2023

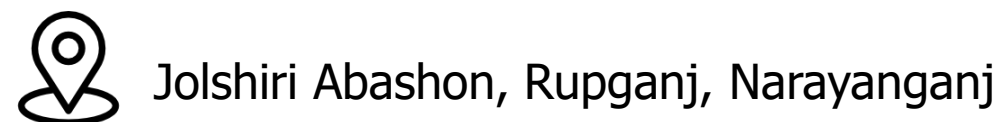


Buildings

Purbachal Central Business District



Jolshiri Central Business District



Stadium

Largest stadium in Bangladesh, **most expensive** cricket stadium in Asia, and **3rd largest** cricket stadium in the world upon completion

The Boat



Purbachal



Under construction



USD **140** million



By 2026



Roads

Tunnel, Expressway, Rapid Transit

Karnaphuli Tunnel

 Chittagong,
Karnaphuli River

 Completed

 USD **1.2** billion

 Open for traffic:
28th October, 2023

Dhaka Elevated Expressway

 Dhaka

 **65%** completed

 USD **1.63** billion

 Initial Launch- 02 September, 2023
Est. Completion - June, 2024

Chittagong Elevated Expressway

 Chittagong

 **60%** completed

 USD **4** Billion

 Est completion- June, 2024



Roads (Contd.)

Tunnel, Expressway, Rapid Transit

Purbachal Expressway

 Dhaka - Rupganj  Completed  USD **1.0** billion  Open for traffic already,
Official Inauguration
October, 2023

SASEC Dhaka-Sylhet Corridor

 Sylhet  **6.4%** completed  USD **1.7** Billion  31st December, 2026

SASEC Road Connectivity: Hatikumrul-Rangpur-Highway

 Rangpur  **50%** completed  USD **1.7** Billion  31st December, 2024



Railway

Rail, Metro

Chittagong-Cox's Bazar Railway Link


Chittagong, Cox's Bazar


80% Completed


USD **2.13** billion


12th November, 2023

Dhaka MRT Line-1


Airport-Notunbazar-
Komlapur-Purbachol-
Nodda-Notunabazar


6.7% Completed


USD **5.2** Billion (est.)


December, 2026

Dhaka MRT Line-5


Gabtoli-Panthapath-
Aftabnagar- Dasherbandi (S)
Hemayetpur- Gabtoli-
Vatara (N)


14.1% Completed


USD **4.9** Billion (est.)


By 2030



Railway (Contd.)

Rail, Metro

Dhaka MRT Line-6

 Dhaka  1st Phase- Completed
2nd Phase- **92%** completed
3rd Phase- **5.5%** completed

 USD **2.8** billion

 1st phase, 29th December, 2022
2nd phase, 29th October, 2023
3rd Phase, by 2026



Akhaura -Sylhet Railway

 Sylhet  Under Construction

 Approx **2.16** Billion

 30 June, 2025



Sea Port

Matarbari Deep Sea Port



Maheshkhali,
Cox's Bazar



18% Completed



USD **2.409** billion



Est completion-
January, 2027



Payra Sea Port



Payra, Barisal



Completed



USD **0.58** billion



October, 2023



Energy

Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant

 Ishwardi, Pabna  77% completed  USD **12.65** billion  1st Unit- March, 2024
2nd Unit - July, 2025

Matarbari Power Plant

 Cox's Bazar  **95%** completed  USD **5.2** Billion (est.)  January, 2024

Rampal Power Station

 Bagerhat, Khulna  Completed  USD **1.6** Billion (est.)  1st Unit- 23rd December, 2022
2nd unit- October, 2023



Energy (Contd.)

Payra Thermal Power plant

 Patuakhali, Payra
  Completed
  USD **2.48** billion
  21st March, 2022

Banshkhali Power Plant

 Banshkhali, Chattogram
  Completed
  USD **2.6** Billion
  September, 2023

Underground Power Distribution System

 Dhaka, Narayanganj
  Under Construction
  USD **2.5** billion
  December, 2024

Power Grid Network Strengthening

 Dhaka-Chittagong
  71% completed
  USD **1.4** Billion
  30th June, 2024



Defence

Bangladesh Navy Frigate Program



Chittagong Dry Dock Limited



1% Completed



Estimated by 2030



Approx. USD **2.0** - USD **2.5** billion



BNS Sheikh Hasina Submarine Base



Cox's Bazar, Chittagong



Completed



USD **1.21** billion

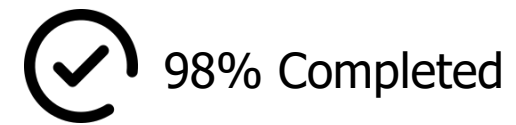
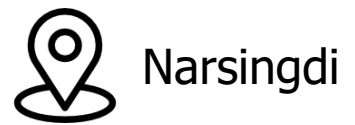


20th March, 2023



Agriculture

Ghorashal-Polash Urea Fertilizer Project



Barrage (Proposed)

Teesta River Management Project



Rangpur Division



Proposed



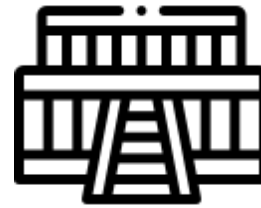
USD **1** Billion



06 Mega Projects to be Inaugurated Before 12th National Election



Karnaphuli Tunnel
(28th Oct, 2023)



Purbachal Expressway
(Oct, 2023)



Cox's Bazar Rail Link Project
(12th Nov, 2023)



Metrorail
(2nd Phase – 29th Oct, 2023)



Rampal Power Station
(2nd Unit – Oct, 2023)



Ghorashal-Polash Urea Fertilizer Project
(Nov, 2023)



There are a total of 40 loan packages and 5 grants for the 20 mega projects amounting to USD 32.26 billion



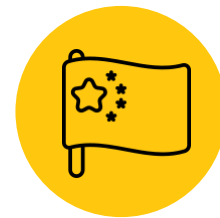
37 loan packages to kick-off repayment by 2030, amounting to USD 28.43 billion



7 loan packages out of 37 are semi and non-concessional owed to the Exim Bank of China and Russia, amounting to USD 17.78 billion



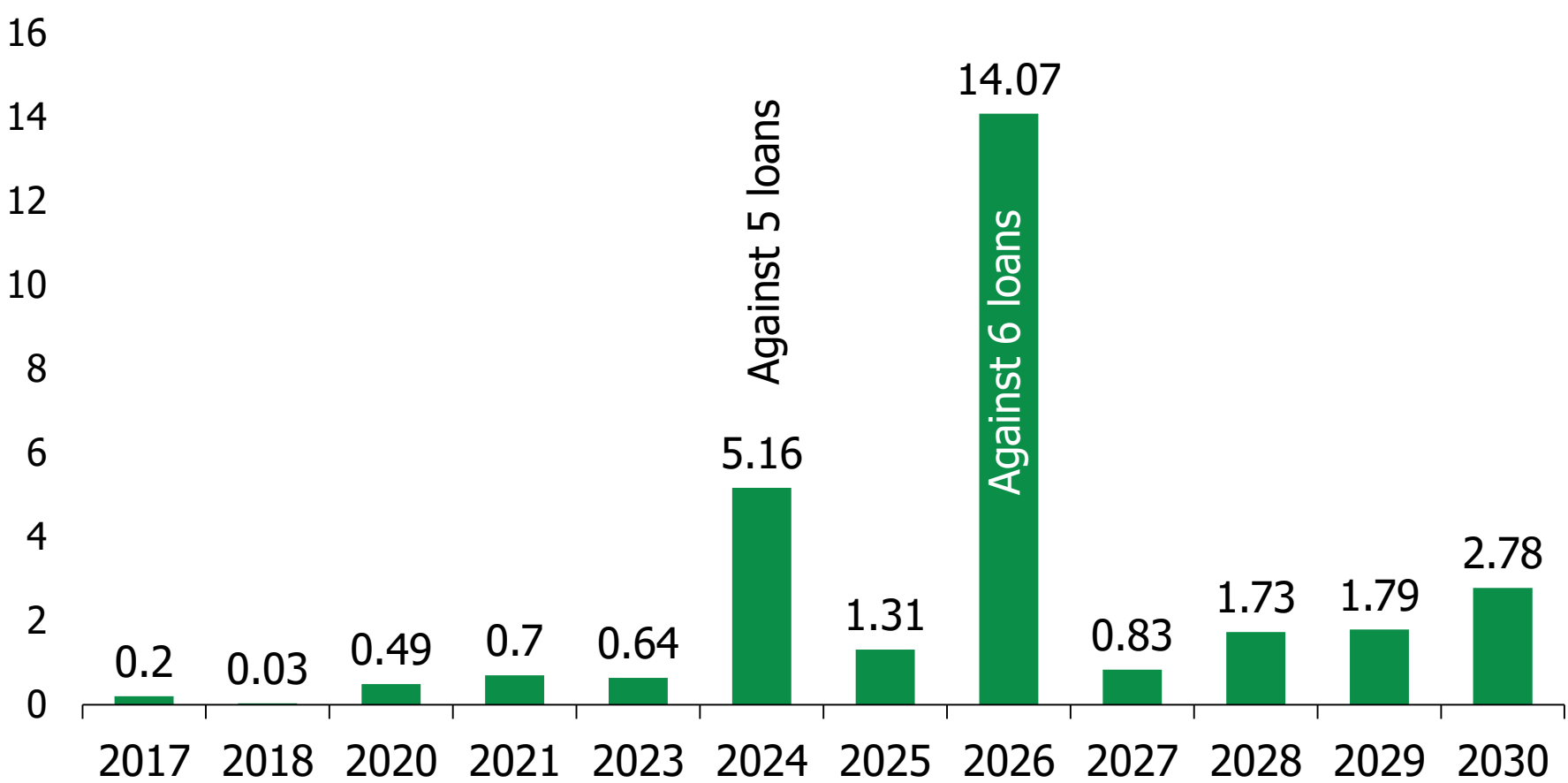
The Russian loans are due for repayment in 2020 (1 loan) and 2026 (1 loan)



The Chinese loans are due for repayment in 2021 (1 loan), 2024 (2 loans), 2025 (1 loan) and 2026 (1 loan)

Loan Repayment

Loan Repayment by 2030
(in USD Million)



World's 10 Mega Projects

Riyadh Metro Project

Location: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Type: Metro Rail

Inauguration: December, 2023

Project Cost: USD 22.5 Billion



Tren Maya

Location: Mexico

Type: Railway

Inauguration: 1st December, 2023

Project Cost: USD 15 Billion (est.)



Tun Razak Exchange

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Type: Central Business District

Inauguration: 29th November, 2023

Project Cost: USD 10 Billion



Delhi-Mumbai Expressway

Location: India

Type: Expressway

Inauguration: 2nd Phase-2nd October, 2023

Full by February 2024

Project Cost: USD 13.1 Billion



Toranomon-Azabudai District

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Type: Complex of 03 skyscrapers

Inauguration: 24th November, 2023

Project Cost: USD 4.4 Billion



Iconic Tower

Location: Egypt

Type: Skyscrapers

Inauguration: 2024

Project Cost: USD 3.8 Billion



World's 10 Mega Projects

(Contd.)

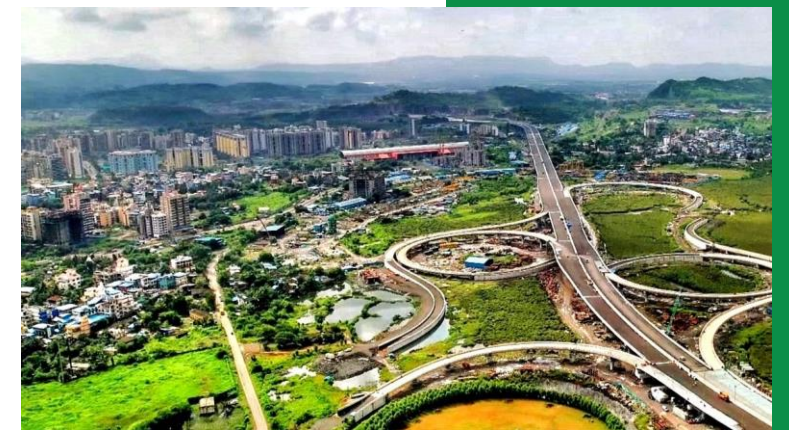
MSG Sphere

Location: Paradise, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States
 Type: Music and entertainment arena
 Inauguration: 29th September, 2023
 Project Cost: USD 2.3 Billion



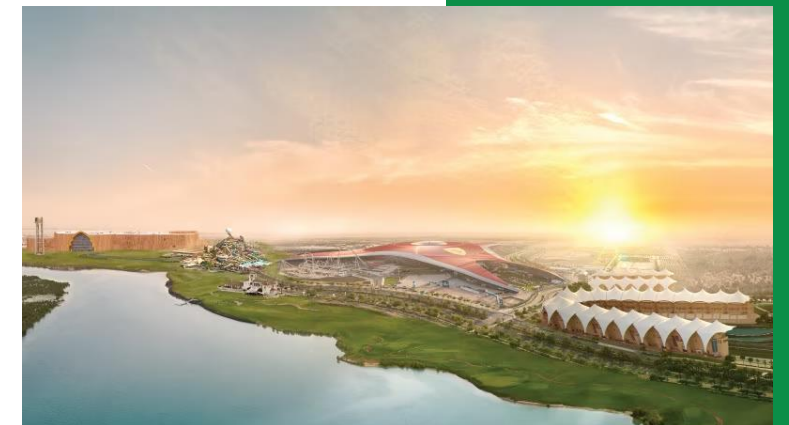
Mumbai Trans Harbour Link

Location: Mumbai, India
 Type: Sea bridge with Expressway
 Inauguration: December, 2023
 Project Cost: USD 2.2 Billion



Sea World Abu Dhabi

Location: Abu Dhabi, UAE
 Type: Marine life theme park
 Inauguration: 23rd May, 2023
 Project Cost: USD 1.2 Billion



Four Frankfurt

Location: Frankfurt, Germany
 Type: Complex of 04 skyscrapers
 Inauguration: 2025
 Project Cost: USD 1.065 Billion



World's 10 Mega Projects

(Contd.)



Masuma Rahman

Assistant Manager
masuma@greendeltacapital.com



Sumaiya Binte Kader

Senior Research Analyst
sumaiyabinte@greendeltacapital.com

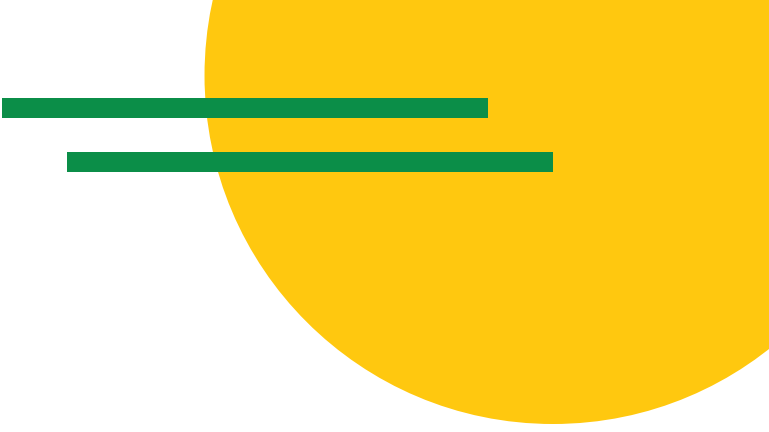


Md. Mahin Hossain

Senior Research Analyst
mahin@greendeltacapital.com

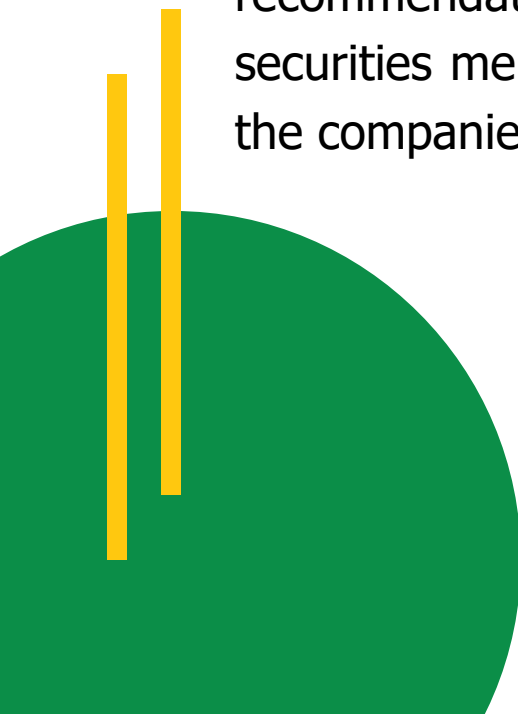
Meet the GDC Research Team





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GDC Research

Green Delta Capital Limited

Green Delta AIMS Tower (3rd & 4th Floor)

51-52, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212

Email: research@greendeltacapital.com

