

GREEN REVOLUTION IN BANGLADESH GARMENTS

■ By Omar Gias

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he history of Industrial Revolution dates back to as early as the eighteenth century. But Bangladesh, a young country which achieved its independence just in 1971, observed the growth of industrial and manufacturing sectors within itself from not too long ago. Its garment industry has witnessed phenomenal growth over a short period of time. Bangladesh is now not only the second largest readymade garments producing

country in the world but also it is taking lead in green garment business. Garment factories of Bangladesh are going green in phasing with eco-friendly technologies to meet the growing global demand for green products. Till date a total of 36 garment factories in Bangladesh have achieved

LEED certifications from the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) of which 12 are Platinum rated, 16 are Gold and 5 are Silver rated. Moreover, as many as around 195 more garment factories have already been registered in the USGBC -- all of which are expected to start their operations by the end of 2017.



Vintage Denim Studio

Among the top 10 highest rated apparel factories in the world at least four are originated from Bangladesh. Remi Holdings Ltd, a sister concern of the Bitopi group has recently achieved LEED Platinum certification under the category LEED: BD+C: New Construction, with a score of 97 points, making it the highest rated green RMG factory in the world. The highest rated LEED Platinum washing plant in the world namely Genesis



Genesis Washing

GLOBALLY TOP 10 LEED CERTIFIED FACTORIES (Industry Category)

No	Points Awarded	Project Name	Country Name	Certification Level
01	97	Remi Holdings Ltd	Bangladesh	Platinum
02	92	Plummy Fashions Ltd	Bangladesh	Platinum
03	90	Confidential	Ireland	Platinum
04	90	Vintage Denim Studio Ltd	Bangladesh	Platinum
05	86	Bottega Veneta Atelier	Italy	Platinum
06	86	Method Products PBC	United States	Platinum
07	85	SQ Celsius 2	Bangladesh	Platinum
08	84	FGL-Tan Phu Expansion	Viet Nam	Platinum
09	83	Princetel	United States	Platinum
10	81	Genesis Fashions Ltd.	Bangladesh	Platinum

Source: USGBC

To see a video on today's Garment Industry of Bangladesh go to the link: <https://youtu.be/iB-uEKe-5to> or scan the QR code.



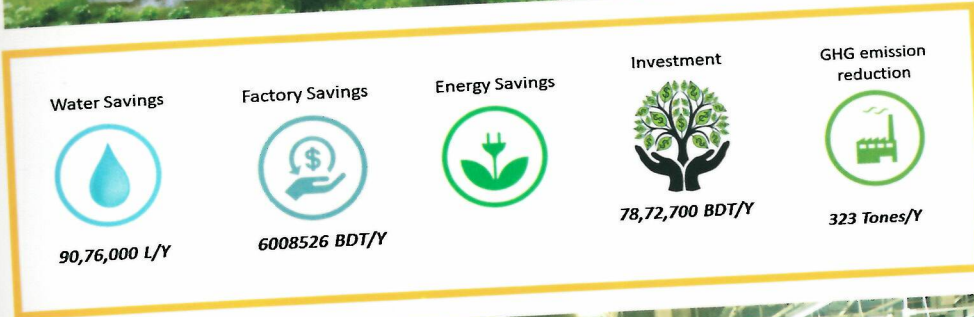
Washing, world's highest rated knit factory Plummy Fashions and the highest rated denim fabric mill Envoy Textiles are also located in Bangladesh. Moreover, Tarasima Apparels Ltd -- the highest rated LEED Platinum RMG factory and washing plant under the category LEED O+M: Existing Buildings, and Vintage Denim Studio -- the highest rated jeans manufacturing unit in the world -- are too situated in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) as the apex trade of garment manufacturers has also been making efforts to promote environment friendly green concepts among entrepreneurs and motivate its Members to adopt energy-efficient technologies and resource-efficient production machineries. In order to institutionalize the process, BGMEA set up an Environment Cell within its complex. BGMEA is cooperating with IFC in implementing the PaCT project (Partnership for Cleaner Textile) that aims to enhance the long-term competitiveness and environmental sustainability of the textile wet processing sector in Bangladesh, by supporting factories in specific

Plummy Fashions



ceremony to recognize outstanding practices. BGMEA proactively designed another project with the PSES, GIZ, aiming at the tier-2 factories which have never been intervened by any development partners or buyers. This particular project named "Cluster Based approach to enhance environmental performance in the factories" is trying to create a culture of sharing knowledge between the advanced and challenged ones through working group discussion. Already 17 factories have been intervened under this project and achievements are:



Bangladesh is one of the lowest emitter of CO2 in the world but at the same time one of the worst victims of global climate change. Here in Bangladesh every day top-tier garment factories are setting new examples of environment-friendly business operation. The industry associations and the government are also supporting and encouraging this going green. But with Bangladesh playing such a small role in global emissions, the impact of its efforts of green industrialization may be limited unless the developed countries follow its example.

Remi Holdings Ltd



geographic clusters to reduce their water footprint through (a) enhancement of water resource management, (b) adoption of low-cost/no-cost Cleaner Production practices, and (c) investments in technologies that significantly reduce water consumption and effluent. So far 162 wet processing factories have been engaged in the project. To encourage its members to adopt good environmental practices, BGMEA in collaboration with the GIZ also started award



Envoy Textiles