

GREEN CONSTRUCTION

The construction sector is booming in the country. Largest section of population is affiliated to this industry. The construction industry here plays a major role in the economy of the region. Most advance materials, technology and machinery is being imported, rather has been imported and these are already in use. Dubai is all set to build the highest landmark on the earth, infrastructure in Dubai and Abu Dhabi can be compared to any developed nation and technical advancement and innovation is the trend of the day in U.A.E.

However, there is little consciousness towards the environmental issues related to construction. In this part of the world we can import most recent version of primavera or the latest model of earthmovers but what we are not importing is the recycling technology, environment friendly materials. For common men recycling may be a way to get cost effective material but for the engineers, it is a 'technology'. We owe to the earth and to environment and being engineers it is our prime responsibility to lead the whole region towards green construction.

Recently recycled plastic has been seen getting introduced in the industry, although steel is recycled for a long time now and is most common recycling material, lots of other areas remain to be improved. The green construction makes a positive contribution to the community, improve comfort for the building occupants and reduce environmental impact through strategies such as low impact site development, energy and water conservation and use of green construction material and design that improves indoor air quality. Dubai Municipality has taken few steps in this direction recently. However the concept cannot succeed until the whole engineering community keep it on their agenda and work with dedication and complacently.

The green building is all about how to approach six most important aspects of green home building. Site planning, energy efficiency, efficient water use, optimized indoor environment quality, material selection and maintenance consideration. It is about how to manage and control building cost through construction waste management

which shows how to eliminate or reduce dumping and tipping costs create less on-site debris and develop re-use opportunities for materials. It involves working with the entire team to think of the building develop, the design concept, its mechanical system and the outdoor climate as working together to deliver positive living environment. If we follow this approach, we will be ahead of curve in the areas of health efficiency, comfort and overall customer satisfaction.

It is not about cost effectiveness only but green construction is about our love and dedication towards environment, towards conservation of resources and energy. Whatever may be the source of energy policy of conservation is the best. Leaders of U.A.E have proved by example and have converted the desert into green land. Why cant engineers make their contribution to the nation and set a trend for green construction.

By

**ZAKIR A. REHMAN,
BSC Engg., MBA.**