Importance of IT infrastructure: Digital Bangladesh

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The most common word that is being used in recent times is 'Digital Bangladesh'. The word is commonly used in politics, media, among the intellectuals and the common people. Since the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her party's election manifesto vowed to develop a digital Bangladesh by 2021, it has given a great hope and opportunity to the peoples of Bangladesh. The concept is widely accepted by Bangladeshi people from all walks of life.

Digital Planet: The world is gradually becoming a digital planet. Almost every country in the world is working towards becoming a digital society by 2015. As an emerging country, Bangladesh must establish a knowledge based society to become a digital society. A digital society ensures easy access of information. In a digital society all the necessary information will be available on-line and all the task, do not matter how simple they are, of the government, semi-government and also private sectors will be processed using the new technology. So, 'Digital Bangladesh' must guarantee efficient and effective use of modern Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in all sectors of society.

Digital Bangladesh: To become 'Digital' Bangladesh, we need to have strong ICT infrastructure. A strong ICT infrastructure can develop a country in many ways. We are using computers for more than a decade but we failed to develop better ICT infrastructure and are not able to provide digital devices and services to the common people. Internet facilities should be made available to the common people at a cheaper rate. We are far behind in this case as our position is the worst among the South Asian countries. For a proper ICT infrastructure development we need uninterrupted power supply. But, unfortunately, we have power deficit up to 500 MW daily which is a big obstacle for developing a strong ICT infrastructure. The literacy rate of the Bangladesh is still under par. We need to develop manpower with ICT skills.

ICT Policy: To build 'Digital Bangladesh' we need a proper ICT policy. We also need huge funds to develop infrastructure and to develop ICT parks. We need to create international markets where we can export software and other services. We are doing well in

outsourcing and we still have scope to develop further. In this way we can earn a lot of foreign currency by which we can develop our country. So the government of Bangladesh should take utmost priority to develop ICT sector and do the necessary for this.