

➤ According to the Air Quality Index (AQI) published by AirVisual in January 2023, Dhaka ranked **2<sup>nd</sup>** in the world for the worst air quality.

➤ According to IQAir, the average PM2.5 concentration in Dhaka in January 2023 was **245  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$** , which is 10 times above the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended limit.

➤ In 2019, more than **57,000** people in Bangladesh lost their lives due to air pollution

## Top 5 Upazilla of Bangladesh with Poorest Air Quality

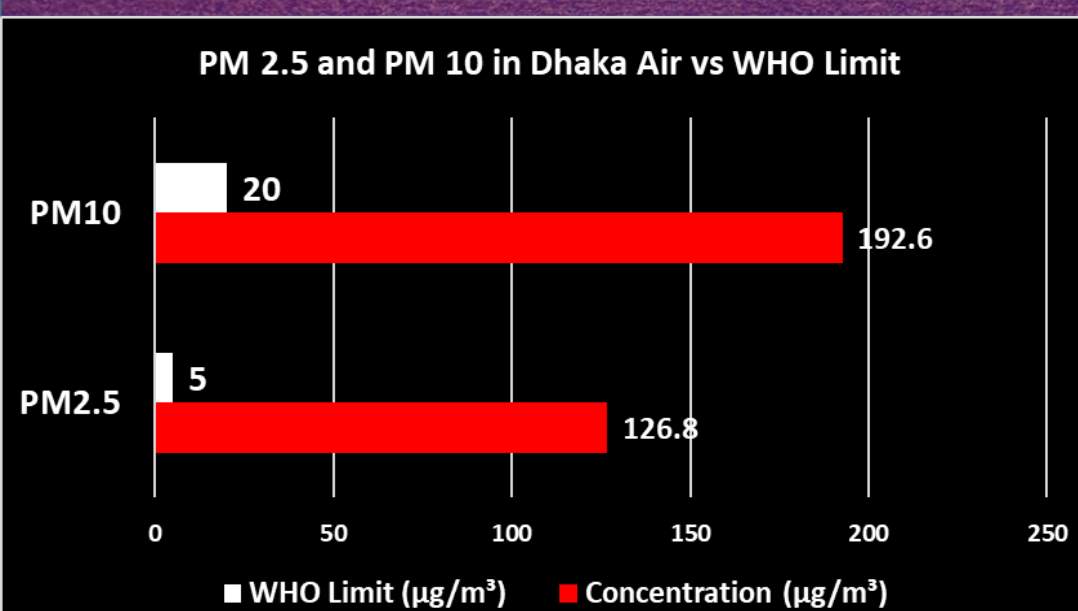
**Gazipur Sadar**

**Madaripur Sadar**

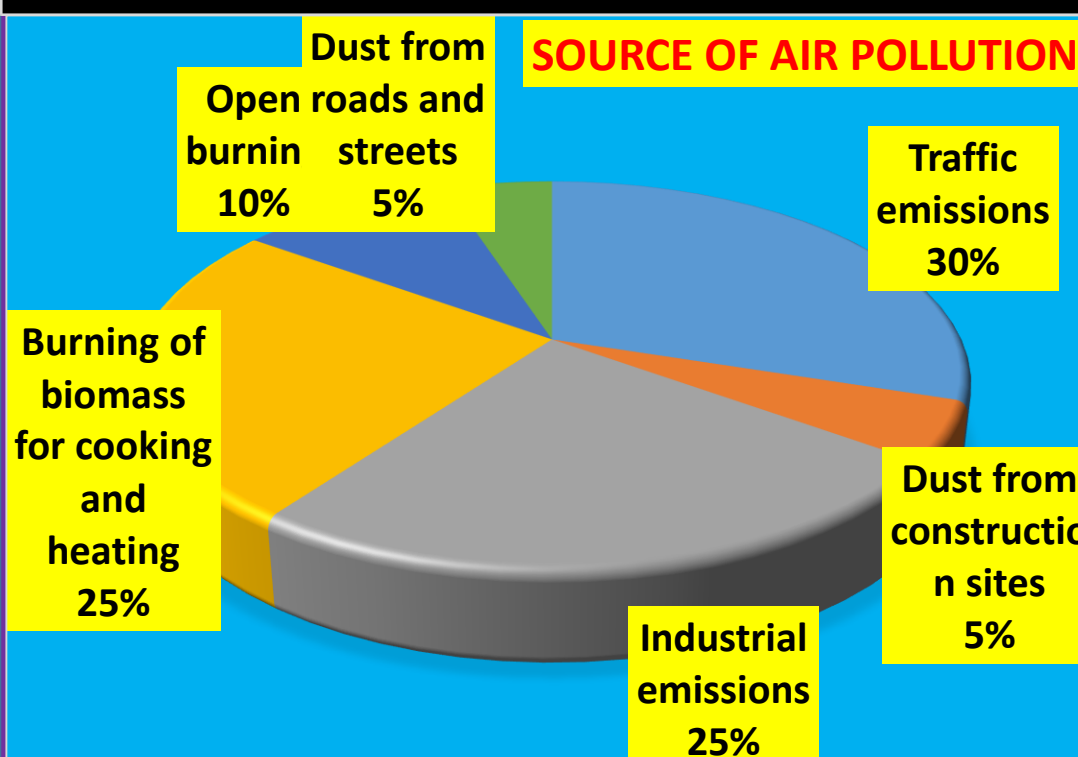
**Nawabganj Sadar**

**Jamalpur Sadar**

**Pabna Sadar**



Pollutant	Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	WHO Limit ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )
Lead	0.13	0.04
Cadmium	0.02	0.01
Zinc	5.8	2.5
Arsenic	0.002	0.1
Chromium	0.03	0.05
Copper	5.8	2.5
Lead	0.13	0.04



## Cleaner Air: The Way Forward

### The Clean Goal

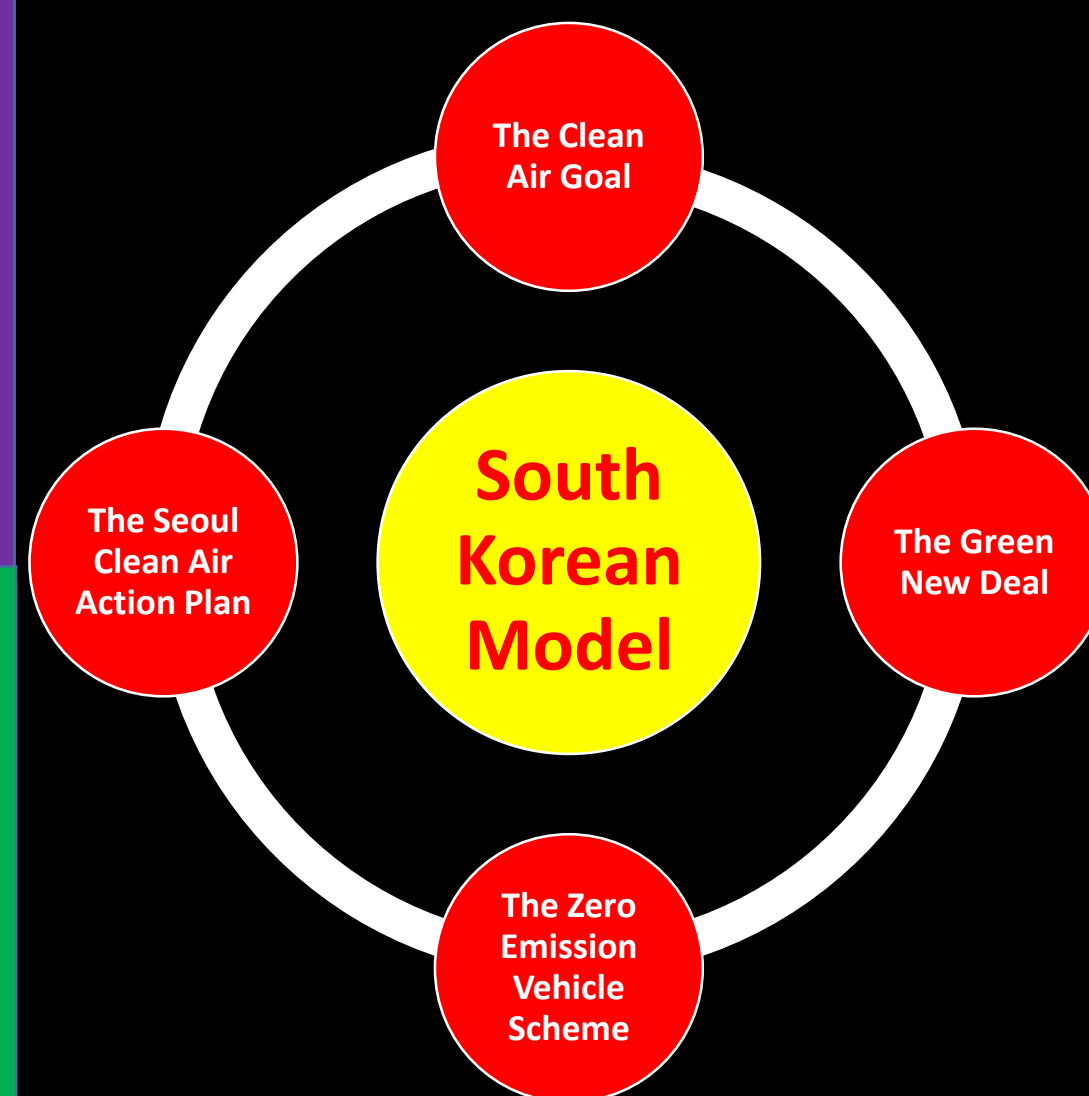
- Promoting the use of electric and hybrid vehicles
- Improving energy efficiency and switching to cleaner fuels
- Promoting the use of cleaner fuels for cooking and heating
- Improving air quality monitoring and enforcement

### The Green New Deal

- ✓ Investing in renewable energy to reduce emissions from power plants
- ✓ Planting trees to absorb pollutants from the air
- ✓ Improving public transportation to reduce reliance on private vehicles.

Investment in Renewable Energy

Strong Legislative Action Against Air Polluters



Planting More and More Trees

Using dust barriers around the construction sites

### ZEV Market Development Scheme

- ❑ Providing subsidies for the purchase of ZEVs ( Zero Emission Vehicles)
- ❑ Investing in ZEV infrastructure, such as charging stations
- ❑ Setting targets for the number of ZEVs to be sold in South Korea

### The Seoul Clean Air Action Plan

- ❖ Installing dust concentration observing equipment
- ❖ Ensuring dust barriers in construction sites
- ❖ Supporting businesses that are committed to reducing their environmental impact

## Banishing Plastic's Snare: Way Forward

**We Must Act Now!**

Strictly Implement Ban on Single-use Plastics



Choose products with less packaging

Support businesses that are taking steps to reduce plastic pollution



Imposing High Taxes on Plastic Generation

Mass People Consciousness against Plastic Pollution



### Ray of Hope: Green Industries



"Half of the top 100 environment-friendly factories are in Bangladesh"

Recycling plastic

Designing products with less plastic

Green Innovation

### Success Story of Rwanda in Reducing Plastic Usage

Year	Estimated plastic bags used per day
2008	10
2010	8
2012	4
2014	1
2016	0.3

Rwanda took effective steps to reduce plastic pollution:

Providing free reusable bags to citizens

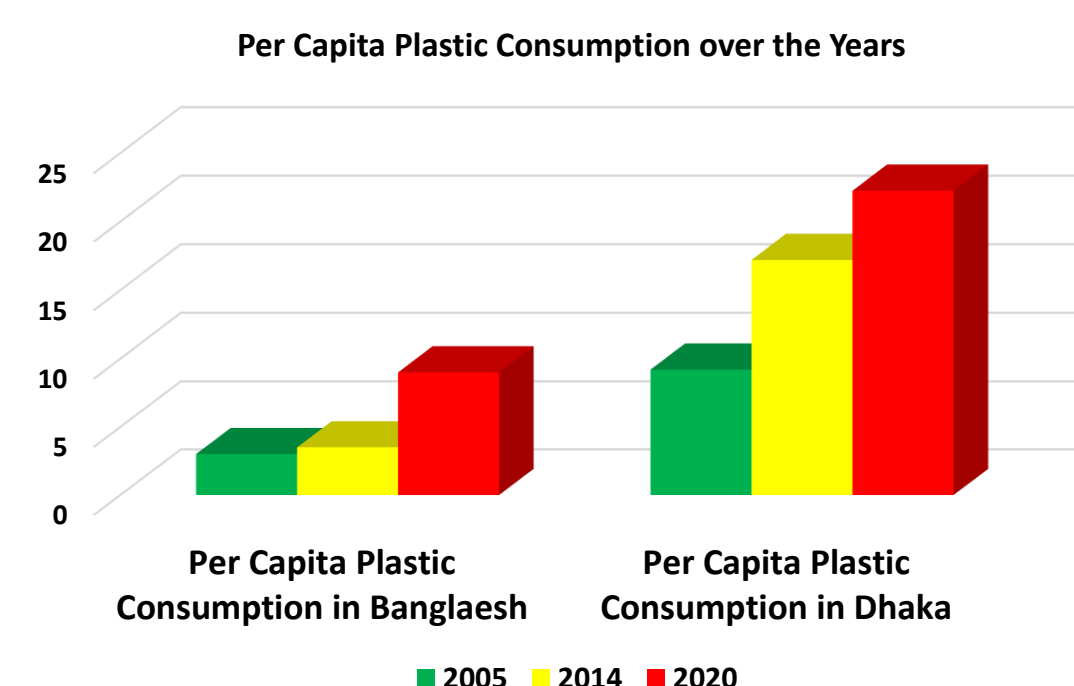
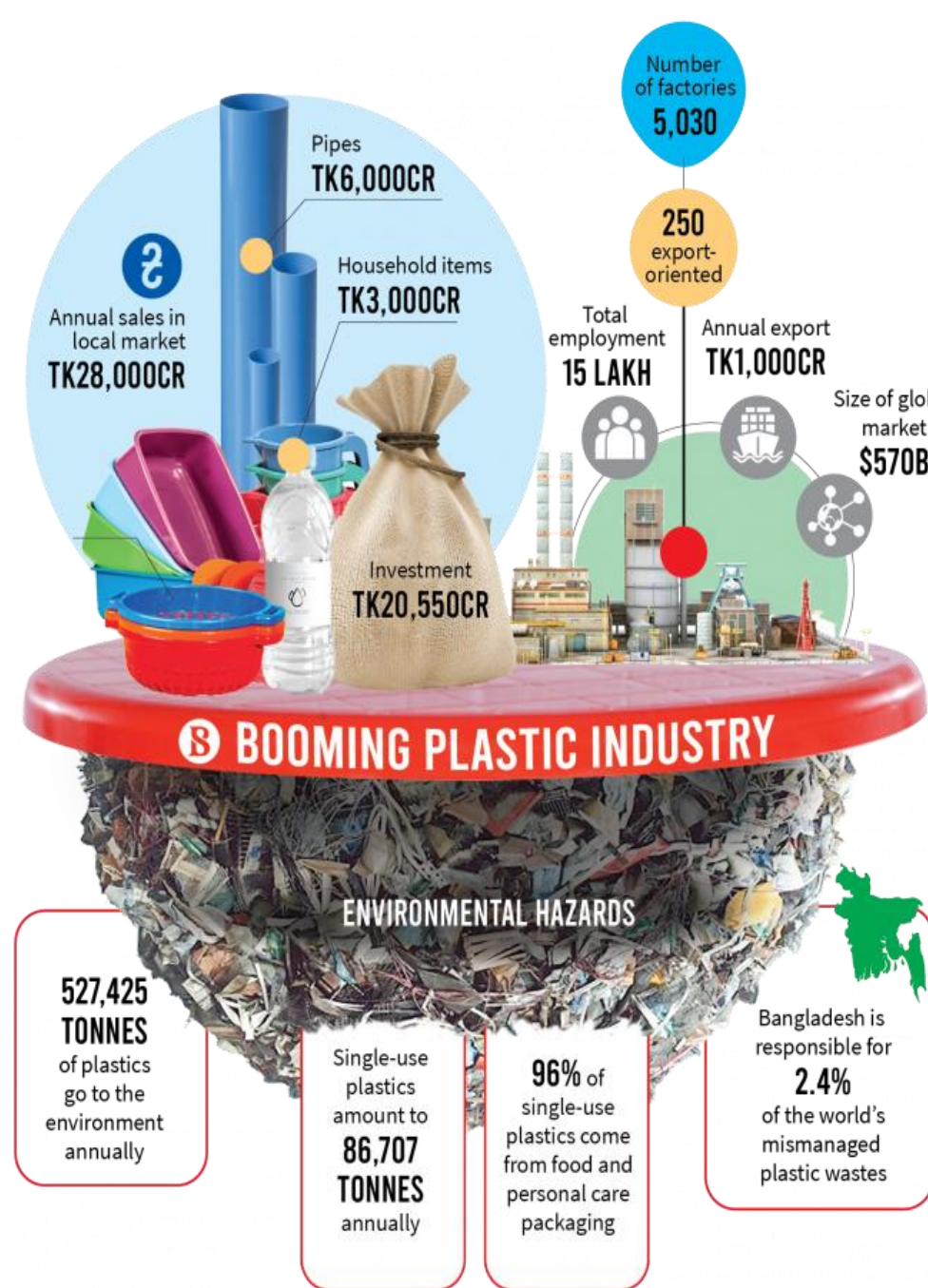
Encouraging businesses to use sustainable packaging

Raising awareness about problem of plastic pollution

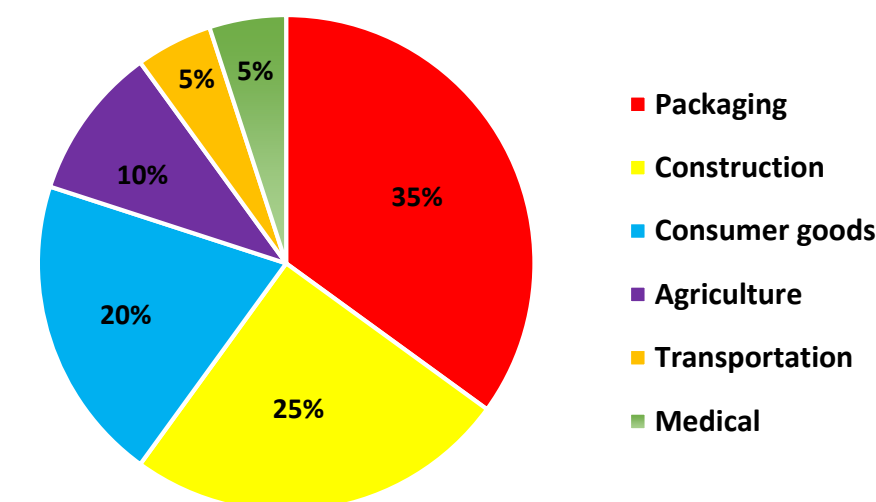
Building more recycling centers

Encouraging the use of compost

Strictly disallowing Plastic Items at Airport



### Sectorwise Use of Plastic



❑ In 2020, Bangladesh generated an estimated **977,000** tons of plastic waste. Of this, only 31% was recycled, and the remaining 69% was either landfilled or littered.

❑ In **2020**, Bangladesh's per capita plastic consumption was **9.0 kg**, up from **3.0 kg** in 2005.

❑ In **2021**, the government banned the use of **single-use plastic bags** in Dhaka city. Yet, the order has not been enforced at all.

Year	Plastic Generation (tonnes)
2005	287,000
2010	438,000
2015	625,000
2020	977,000

### Plastic Rivers!

❖ In just the four rivers that surround the capital city Dhaka, 30,000 tonnes of plastic waste were discovered. Half of this was in the river Buriganga.