

Providing essentials at reasonable price

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THERE are two aspects of selfishness of human being. One of them is positive and the other is negative. Human societies go forward to development by exercising positive approach. On the other hand, negative selfishness pushes man to corruption and terrorism. Even if we exclude selfish people and their over ambition, common people want food, cloth, housing, education and health-care at reasonable prices. In brief, it can be said that common people want their necessities at reasonable prices. For that the government should have proper monitoring over open market economy to maximise the market competition. I am presenting the importance of creating competitive market with a view to supplying commodities to general people by creating an open market system.

In order to get commodities at a reasonable price, competitive and close-to-competitive market system is a must where there will be more producers, suppliers, buyers and sellers. Profit earners will not be able to increase prices of essentials in the name of sellers. They would not have any influence on prices. They can sell goods at only existing market price. If any seller demands more price the buyer can buy from others instead of the first seller. Then the extra profit-earner will have to stop his business. So it can be said that people can buy goods at reasonable

prices when there is competitive market. In other words, if there are more sellers no one can demand excessive price. In Bangladesh, a country of 15 crores, the 9th largest in respect of population, there is no scope for enough production and ensuring reasonable prices without taking liberal steps in the market, open market and economic environment. For this open market economy and credibility in investment so that more producers, suppliers and sellers could be attracted, production and supply will increase. People can lead a convenient life within their

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purchasing power. We need proper monitoring and controlling system so that excessive profit hunters cannot exploit buyers by selling lower quality goods. General people should also have clear idea about present market price, quantity and quality of the particular items. Government intervention is necessary in this respect. In a competitive market goods produced from different firms, if they are of the same category, are of simi-

lar prices. In this case there is little probability of the buyers to get exploited. In open-market and open-economy the buyers are not supposed to face unwanted control. They can enjoy full freedom in buying and selling goods. Again anybody can start or close a business any time he likes. Businessmen should not face any kind of obstacle in taking business decision. When a businessman gets excess profit, in a competitive market new businessmen appear. Again a businessman can close his business if he finds the production cost high or market price low. Only the

traders who make reasonable profit and in a normal situation their business can sustain for long. It means to consume goods at a reasonable price there should be open market open economy where there should be no obstacle. Control by the government would be limited. For this industries should be set up around the country. So the responsibility of the government ought to be creating credibility, controlling irregularities and remov-

ing corruption. For industrialisation certain other things are needed; such as - inspiring entrepreneurs, reducing production cost, controlling inflation and increasing subsidy by providing tax-holiday to the producers. Import tax or tariff should be reduced on importable raw materials. There should not be the existence of import quota on raw materials at this moment. Above all technology, production oriented research, skilled management, high quality production, balanced distribution of goods, marketing and hard work should be ensured. Moreover, we should keep in mind that ours is an import-based country. In this country most of the daily necessities are imported. So it is suggested to import some goods at lower price rather than producing them at home at higher cost.

Presently our economic scenario is inflation, uprising of prices of essentials and unemployment. In this situation the above mentioned areas should be addressed at the moment for ensuring reasonable prices of commodities so that common people have ability to buy the essential commodities. In this respect open-market with limited control and open-economy on the whole is very much significant.

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