

From the Editor.....

Most of the time our country is referred to as a third world country, which in the least is quite irksome and more so when done by foreigners. Still, the fact remains that we are not a country with enviable GNP or GDP on per capita basis and that our foreign debt is nothing to be proud of. One of the main reasons for the plight of the country could be attributed to our consumer society intent on consuming imports from a luxury car down to a toothpick.

One positive step towards recovery from the present state is the development of local products with locally synthesized technologies, which cater for our needs just adequately but acceptably. This way, not only the cost but also the foreign currency expenditure and use of non-renewable resources could be reduced.

It is in this light, the new building materials and techniques developed by our Engineers should be appraised. Such indigenous technologies are urgently needed if we are to attain even a semblance of self-sufficiency and independence. Our Engineers should be encouraged and motivated to do similar research and disseminate the knowledge gained, as an urgent need of the times.

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Editor

Editor's Note:

On a further request by the author, the Editor wishes to modify the acknowledgement pertaining to a paper published in January 2005 issue by Eng. D. A. R. Dolage titled "An Improved Laying Technique for Ceramic Floor Tiling", which appeared in the October 2005 issue. It should read thus:

"The author is extremely grateful to Mr. Garvin Abeweera for the valuable contribution made through his final year project, in planning, collecting data and analysis towards this paper, under author's supervision. Also the author is thankful to engineers, supervisors and tillers for their kind cooperation at every stage of this research."