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**GRAVEL DEPOSITS OF BHOLAGANJ AND ITS
ADJOINING AREAS, SYLHET DISTRICT,
BANGLADESH**

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ABSTRACT

Bholaganj area is located on the Alluvial plain of the Khasi-Jaintia Hills. The area is covered with Piedmont deposits, Abandoned channel deposits, Flood basin deposits, Flood plain deposits, Old sand bar deposits, Channel deposits of Holocene Epoch, but the rocks of Dihing Formation is exposed at Banda Tila.

Bholaganj gravels comprise quartzite, granite, gneiss, amphibolite basalt, sandstone and conglomerate while Banda Tila deposits are mostly of quartzite and sandstone.

At Bholaganj, the total reserves of Dhalai River Channel gravel deposits for an area of 1,210,90 sq. metres (1,301,19,700 sq. ft.) up to a depth of 4.5 metres (15 feet) come out to be 3,320,640 cu. metres (117,177,300 cu. ft.). But the total recoverable reserves of Banda Tila gravel deposits for an area of 459,531 sq. metres (4,943,825 sq. ft.) up to a depth of 3 metres (10 feet) are about 700,363 cu. metres (24,719,125 cu.ft).

Bholaganj gravels are mostly fresh and hard and can be used as good construction materials whereas Banda Tila gravels are partly weathered and soft compared to those of Bholaganj area.

Dhalai River sand can be used as construction materials. Grain size analysis and Fineness Modulus indicate that the sand is of good quality.

The deposition of gravels at Bholaganj is dependent on the frequency and intensity of water-flow in the Dhalai River. The Dhalai River is constantly changing its course. Controlling the river course and keeping its tract clear from debris will make the replenishment of the gravel deposit steady.