

BATCHING PLANT

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Today, real estate, not just in the city but across the country, has been booming and growing immensely, with the scale and quality of infrastructure getting better with every passing year. The growth in this sector has in turn led to progress in batching plants in India and these two inter-related categories have been demonstrating an illustriously strong expansion.

While many of us may have definitely seen a batching plant, we might still not know what it is. So, what is a batching plant? Well, it is an important piece of equipment that is used to make concrete. For any type of construction, concrete is the base material that is required; and thus, this has created a huge importance of batching plants; so much so that there are different types of them. There are three types being used today: transit-mix plants, central-mix plants, and hybrid plants with the former two affixed next to each other. Apart from that, there are more variations of batching plants that are based on factors such as types of mixer drums; such as tilted, single-shaft, twin shaft, etc.

The stationary concrete batching plant is easy to install and is also the most commonly used for construction purposes because it can be used in a variety of complex terrain structures and has higher production efficiency compared to its mobile counterpart.

THE GROWTH DRIVERS

In the recent years, the Indian government has come up with ambitious large-scale infrastructure projects, and these have been

the biggest demand drivers for India's batching plants segment. These ambitious projects are for housing that include the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana among others.

Apart from increasing local demand, several players in India's batching plants segment boasting of high quality have engaged with global companies in the form of joint ventures. As per experts, in the current scenario, there is a huge demand for batching plants. Talking specifically about Vadodara, today in the city, the floor space index has increased and because of that, more vertical construction is happening. Thus, when there are going to be more high rises, a huge quantum of concrete will be required on site, and that's where batching

Information Technology (IT) in products and use of it to improve process efficiencies. Apart from the addition of sensors to plant equipment, today, construction equipment are being produced with technologies like USB, HMI and SCADA to turn control systems user-friendly.

The pace at which technology is growing today, it won't be too long before more and more companies in the segment adopt advanced technologies such as internet of things (IoT), cloud, and enterprise mobility to ride the digital wave of business transformation.

CONCRETE GROWTH!

MASSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE BUILD-UP HAPPENING IN THE CURRENT SCENARIO IS ASSURING HIGH GROWTH FOR INDIA'S BATCHING PLANT SEGMENT. LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE SAME

plants come in the picture. They allow not just speeding up of the process, but also ensure consistent quality of concrete.

TRENDS IN THE SEGMENT

Like every other sector, the concrete industry too has been positively affected with the advent of advanced technology. A pertinent one among these is the addition of sensors to plant equipment, which gives producers accurate information about their assets.

Apart from that, two key trends that can be observed in India's batching plants segment would be the integration of

INDUSTRY EXPERTS SPEAK:

V RAMESH BABU

"The gradual growth of the ready mix concrete industry from the 1990s is one factor behind the rise in the number of concrete batching plants in the country. The gradual increase in project sizes along with other key factors such as greater emphasis on quality and increasing pressure to stick to project schedules has meant boom time for concrete batching equipment suppliers in recent times. Concrete batching plants are estimated to be growing at a CGAR of 12 to 17 per cent and the numbers are expected to more than double in the next five years. Technological advancement is the need of every sector and this holds true for the Construction Equipment (CE) sector as well. In the past decade, a lot of technological advancements have taken place in the batching plant equipment in the country. With the changing scenario in construction industry, different types of concrete are being used in the market. Also, with strict compliance towards reducing environment pollution, people are shifting towards inline bin arrangements, covered transfer belts, keeping provision for different types of additives, etc. The new evolution is the introduction of tower type plants which are completely environment-friendly."



MANOHAR CHENNAM

"When we talk about the market demand today, the overall market size for the batching plant potential is of 1,500-1,600. The demand for these plants will largely depend on the take of infrastructure and realty projects. In my opinion, the market is gearing up to handle higher capacity plants for infrastructure projects viz. road, water bodies, etc. However considering the current pace of the economy, the need for small and medium capacity plants is more evident."



ASHESH SHAH

"Today, RERA requires developers to deliver their projects timely, and batching plants are of the biggest use in that scenario. Also, as concrete is ready to pour, less manpower is required in the process and that reduces a lot of related issues that would otherwise crop up during construction. If there's one demand from batching plants from the construction industry, I would say that would be affordability. If every mid-segment developer can afford to have a plant on site, that would lower his costs and also ensure quality; thus the developer will fully be aware of what he's delivering to the customer. This doesn't happen when developers get concrete from third party sources where credibility issues crop up. As far as the technological advancements in batching plants go, I would say that they are giving expediting results and I'm quite satisfied."



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