# The Baily Star

Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali

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## Getting to the Truth

The foreign and local observer groups are unanimous in their opinion that the June 12 polls were held freely, fairly, transparently and peacefully in quite a palpable manner. We the voters carry the same impression pervasively. For we would have known of any wrongdoing if it were committed on a results-altering scale as is being alleged by the former ruling party.

Mind you, the experienced foreign observer groups spread all over the country and they visited polling centres not of others' choice but theirs. They received clearly verifiable replies to the queries made relating to both polling and counting of votes. In all of the voting centres polling agents of at least all the major political parties were asked the standard question as to whether they felt satisfied with the way things were being conducted. Their nods lent credence.

From the plethora of positive comments made by international observer groups we cull out three very significant ones.

The NDI were "impressed," said Solarz, "by the fact that only 123 polling stations of a total of 25,957 — less than half of one per cent — were to discontinue voting due to disruptions." On behalf of the European Union it has been stated that "the allegation of massive rigging (by BNP) was not supported by documents and sufficient evidence."

The SAARC non-governmental team inter alia said in its interim assessment, "the clear manifestation of people's aspirations in favour of peace, order and democratic governance also contributed to the conduct of the polls in substantial compliance with the electoral laws and procedures."

Our own perception is when the margin between the total number of votes and the turnout was the slimmest recorded in the history of our national polls, there was no scope for any massive rigging. Such an overwhelming voter presence at the polling centres was a powerful antidote to rig-

Much as we have respect for the conclusions reached globally, so have we heard with respect the charges of irregularities brought up before the Election Commission by BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia. Her grievances must be seriously, openly and transparently investigated by the EC and results made public accordingly at the soonest in order that even an incorrigible doubter can feel that the air has been cleared.

### Chance for Gowda

Indian Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda has won the vote of confidence in parliament. His United Front Alliance was expected to win the vote on the confidence motion ever since the Congress Party expressed its readiness to support his government. The backing he received from the Congress Party for his government's survival was crucial. However, the reality of Indian politics at this stage made it rather easy for him to sail through parliament. As anyone knows, the Congress support is from outside the government.

Both the United Front and the Congress were averse to seeing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in power and they have steadfastly held on to that point. For the Congress to give a try to form a government this time was out of the question. So the fact of an outside support from it suits both the United Front and the Congress. It is, however, not a marriage of convenience. The Congress wants to keep both options — either to continue to support or to withdraw the same whenever it is propitious open. The minority government of Deve Gowda. therefore, will remain weak and the Congress may

be the key player. Yet there is no doubt that the political uncertainties in India have been brought to an end, albeit for the time being. The issue that counts is whether the Congress support is totally unconditional or not. There is no clear indication that the support is conditional which means the Congress has adopted a 'wait-and-see' policy. It has not compromised on the question of its independent decision-making. What its strategy appears to be is to have a breathing time to strengthen its position. That ploy may be fine, but the Congress has to be very careful lest any premature move on its part goes to facilitate the BJP's sailing to power. A snap election forced by its withdrawal of support from the government could help the BJP cause.

## From the Fallen

The June 12 elections have left us with, among other things, the razor-edge scenario of epitaphs of some prominent political leaders. They looked at the intensely focussed polls as a measure of their popular credential only to meet with the fate of humiliation determined by the public rejection and the accompanying agonising media attention. All the major parties including the astoundingly negated Jamaat-e-Islami have had their share of setbacks owing to the failure of their more fancied candidates.

The defeats, in some cases by yawning margin. of people with loads of experience point at the emerging reality of voters being discerning and self-asserting than ever before. Instead of being swayed by their emotional and rational obligation to the party to the point of blindness; instead of being fatally enamoured of cant and agitprop; and instead of surrendering abjectly to the goading of herd instinct, the electorate behaved in a manner that hints at its coming of age.

The BNP has reasons to believe that the poor show of the seasoned campaigners went a long way in its failure to muster enough seats, and thus retain its grip on power. Party chief and former prime minister Khaleda Zia's unwillingness to reshuffle the cabinet and devise some ways for finding the horses for courses could only make the case worse for the defeated lot. Despite situational differences in the cases of losing heavyweights in AL, JP and JI, the pattern looks more or less similar. The message is loud and clear: the electorate no longer wants to be taken for granted.

## Clinton has the Last Laugh

## Bosnia Born-again: Uncle Sam Looking Beyond Horizon?

American people swallowed willingly and palatably, were a healthy 'package of programme of action with spending cuts' and new taxes to reduce budget deficits and at the same time to open a new vista with more and more employment and checking of the 'ill-health' of the US economy which the Reganomics", or Reagan's trickle-down economics couldn't achieve. Rather Reganomics" was a total failure. According to latest statistics. US economy is showing an upward trend creating more jobs for the unemployed and an expansion of foreign trade. So Clinton has not forsaken his people to gain more mileage in the other Clinton's Bosnia Policy:

**New Twists and Turns** Within three months of his assumption of office as President. Clinton tried to give shape to his pre-election declared policy on Bosnia. It was a two-pronged approach; first. exempt Bosnian government from arms embargo, and sec-

Serbian positions to keep

them away from grabbing

more lands." But as expected,

and apprehended even by

Clinton, the plan was outright

spurned and deliberately skut-

tled by some European pow

these were happening while

"Vance-Owen Circus" was

continuing their show to

hoodwink the the world pub-

lic opinion. So in the face of

such crude Machiavellism of

these self-interested powers.

plan. But he learnt a hard les-

son that to contain these hos-

tile obstructionists, he would

have to change his strategy to

be in the driving seat. And he

door approach' and taking a

round-about turn, after the

dismal failure of Christopher

mission to Europe to sell the

Clinton plan in 1993. He

changed the periphery of the

entire plan to give it a more

solid foundation. First, he in-

vited the Bosnian Croat and

Bosnian Muslim leaders to

Washington and persuaded

them to set up a Croat-Bosnian

Federation as an entity to give

a united front to their com-

mon enemy — the Serbs.

This historical event had the

blessings of both Croatian and

Bosnian presidents. This first

tangible achievement served

as a booster for Clinton to go

ahead with peaceplan. The

newly-formed federation,

which has lasted for more than

a year under US protection,

has undoubtedly strengthened

Clinton's hands when he took

up his second strategy of call-

ing another historical summit

at Dayton. Ohio, of the leaders

representing the warring par-

ties to sign a ceaselire agree-

ment to carry on details both

on military and civilian fronts

to restore permanent peace in

much-orchestrated

Bosnia. In this dramatic development, the Bosnian Serbs were represented not by their leaders, but by Serbian President. Milosevic, who signed on their behalf

Bosnia today is dominated by the 60,000 NATO implementation force, under Dayton accord. Thus the peace plan of Clinton was not only accepted by the warring factions, including the Serbs and their mentors, but also it received full support from the European powers. Once again it was proved that when America leads stoutly, others follow it. In fact, many political 'pundits' considered that Bosnia would inevitably be 'Clinton's Vietnam and be a dangerous quagmire for America to get out from. It was a big gamble for Clinton, particularly, in view of the upcoming presidential election. Either Clinton would make a victorious Big March to the presidency as a Big President or he would get wiped out politically, depend-

by AMM Shahabuddin Voice against

Isolationism

In his Union of the State speech to the Congress in January last, President Clinton The whole scenario in declared that "American global leadership is strong and must remain so," adding, "we must not be isolationists," with an oblique reference to the policy of isolationism of the Republicans in world affairs Clinton clearly stated that the main thrust of his foreign policy was "diplomacy where we can, and force where we must." Bosnia stands out clearly to prove veracity of his statement. The successful use of this dictum in the use of fine diplomacy on one hand. a strong-arm policy through the mighty NATO force, on the other, to bring together the "unwilling horses" to drink from the same "pond", is à classic example in the history of modern world leadership.

In fact, President Clinton as a Democrat, had to fight

League for the next 20 years, the world history might have been very different," regrets Wells. It was, indeed, the Republican's isolationist policy which brought another devastating war in 1939.

Unfortunately, the sad episode was repeated by the Republicans during Second World War with the Democrat President Franklin Roosevelt. who was considered as the most intelligent and courageous exponent of world affairs, among the other western leaders. But he was "chained," so to say, by the US public opinion which was influenced by the powerful Republicans. So for the first two years of the WW II, America kept itself aloof and maintained a safe distance from what was happening in Europe and in the rest of the world. At last, it had to get involved in war only when Japan attacked US Navy stationed at Parl Harbour in 1941. America then declared war against the Axis Powers, led by Hitler. And Britain leased its Atlantic bases to America.

Thus. Roosevelt showed

sage that America can no longer be 'isolated' from European affairs. In fact, America is already working as a European power', rather than an outsider poking its nose into the domestic affairs of Europe. Even the recent summit of NATO powers has clearly proved how indispensable America's position is in European security even if the proposed "Europe-only" Task Force is formed to meet any

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peace-track, Clinton is now

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Bosnia, perhaps to become a

part of "European power". He

is trying to rope in some of

the newly-independent east-

ern European powers into

NATO in some capacity or

other. They are coming bit by

bit. And US move to establish

bilateral relations, economic

and defensive, with countries

like Hungary and eastern Eu-

ropean countries, is a clear

pointer to which way the

wind is blowing in Europe.

And the recent meeting of

southern Balkan states held in

Albania, focussing on Bosnian,

crisis vis-a-vis related situa-

tions in Macedonia and

Kosovo, conveyed a clear mes-

Hang Together, or Fall Apart During his recent whirl-

eventuality, because the pro-

posed force will have to work

under NATO umbrella, using

NATO communication facili-

ties, logistics, and other as-

sets that belong to America.

wind tour of Yugoslavia, Bosnia, Italy and Hungary, President Clinton tried to convince all concerned that peace and security of Europe depends on the policy and attitude of the concerned states toward their peaceful destination not only in war-torn Bosnia but all around. Either, every one hangs together, or all falls apart' seems to be the thrust of the message he wants to convey. One thing is clear that on the success of his Bosnia policy, much depends his own success in the upcoming presidential election in November next. There are many hostile forces, at home and abroad that want to foil his attempt to re-enter the President's House for the second term. But Clinton seems to have skillfully hit the bull's eye in challenging the opposing forces. Clinton might have been elected as a "Domestic President" 'in 1991, but the rising compulsions around the world since his assumption as the president of America. prompted him to take lead in world affairs as a "Foreign Policy President." Perhaps he is destined to become the world president of the only superpower left in the field after the demise of former Soviet Union, to put things in their proper perspective. But whether Clinton deserves the mantle of Woodrow Wilson and

ing on the success or failure of onelly, "use of air attacks on tooth and nail against the After putting Bosnia on its peace-track, Clinton is now looking beyond the horizon of Bosnia, perhaps to become a part of "European power". He is trying to rope in some of the newly-independent eastern European powers into NATO in some capacity or other.

ers, particularly UK and France, on the plea that their forces on the ground would be harmed by the Serbs, thus giving a free hand to the Serbian hordes to carry on their vandalism in the name of ethnic cleansing". And all

Face' Bill Clinton was elected by the American people more as a 'Domestic President' than a star-performer in interna tional affairs, like Ronald Reagan or George Bush. But soon Clinton withdrew his peace Clinton made a successful debut as a 'foreign policy Presi dent with an skilful 'operation' in Bosnia despite all sustained efforts, at home and abroad, to cut him down, to did it by giving up the front-

RESIDENT Bill Clinton

has fulfilled his pre-ele-

ction promise on Bos-

diplomatic edge over

nia very skilfully, showing a

others. As they say, he has got

the cake and the leing too!

Now-famous Dayton peace

accord on Bosnia, under the

diplomatic maneouvering of

Clinton, will go down in

history as a masterpiece of

Shining diplomacy and

statesmanship. It not only

brought about the much-cov-

eted peace in the war-ravaged

Bosnia, but also cast a long

shadow of the efficacy of US's

world leadership in foreign af-

fairs. No doubt, there would

be 'pin-pricks' and 'rumblings'

here and there in today's

newly-born Bosnia, that wor-

ries all. Certain unwelcome

hostile and undesirable devel-

opments in the Serb-held ar-

among Croats and Muslims in

the Croat-Bosnian Federation

may be a direct challenge to

those who signed the Dayton

agreement under US auspices.

but such developments also

emphasise the deterring role

of the NATO-sponsored Peace

Implementation Force. Amer

ica doesn't want to "spoil the

child" by sparing the rod. The

roaring Serbs are gradually

being "tamed" and "broken in'

by the Ring Master. And under

the recent Washington accord

between the leaders of Mus-

lim-Croat Federation under US

auspices, they have agreed to

put their soldiers under a uni-

fied command and to permit

refugees to return to their

homes. It is undoubtedly a big

achievement to put a new life

and agility in the shaky Federa

the Bosnian Serb leaders

much depends on how the

Serbian President Melosevic

handles them, because it was

he who had represented the

Bosnian Serbs at the Dayton

summit and had signed on the

agreement. Whatever might be

the outcome, the strong pres-

ence of the 60,000 man NATO

Implementation Force of

which 20,000 from USA would

serve as guiding force for the

Clinton: A 'Domestic

President with a New

recalcitrant parties

As regards the behaviour of

or, some differences

vilify him. In his election campaign, Clinton unequivocally declared: "History has shown that you can't allow mass extermination of a people and just sit by and watch it happen." But unfortunately, he was rather forced to swallow his words and to "just sit by and watch" the horrors of mass annihilation of innocent Bosnian Muslims, men women and children. He had to step back for the time-being, because of the hurdles put on his way at home by the "isolationist" Republicans on one hand, and by some European allies who were opposed to US leadership to gain foothold on the plea that Bosnian problem was an internal affair of the Europeans on the other. Britain and France being the most outspoken on the issue. Germany. however, openly sided with

But this rather unexpected 'switch-over' from domestic issues to foreign affairs, doesn't mean that Clinton had betraved his voters. His 'economic bills' that the

his Bosnia policy vis-a-vis Eu-

### Macedonia: Another

Milestone Before entering head-long into the Bosnian issue, Clinton made another strategic more. this time through UN, to prevent spill over of the Bosnian war into other concerned parts of Europe, particularly in Kosovo, a province of Serbia, dominated by ethnic Muslims of Albanian origin. Macedonia which lies just east of Albania and north of Greece, dominated by Orthodox Christians having a close affinity with the Serbs, was selected as a launching pad for such preventive action. A 1200-men UN peacekeeping force, half of which is from America and the rest from Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland, has been stationed there since

It was the rising tension between the Serbs and the ethnic Albanian Muslims that prompted UN to launch this preventive, action at the initiative of America. At a recent meeting of the South Balkan defence ministers in Albania. US Defence Secretary William Perry praised the role of the UN mission in Macedonia in preventing conflagration in that area. It is a happy augury on the part of Clinton to bring together the South Balkan countries, in cluding Albania, Bulgaria and Macedonia, along with USA Italy and Turkey to work together to maintain peace and stability in the region. Thus Clinton's efforts to build up a strong base for establishing lasting peace in Europe, including former Soviet-coneastern European countries, showed signs of visible success, with America playing a leading role in European affairs. So it was a big step forward for consolidating US world leadership which the

rest of Europe had already

accident, a transformer within

the Sat Masjid Electric Control

Room Area was fully damaged

and the electric supply of the

area went off at 2:00 am. Inci-

dentally my residence is situ-

ated within the distribution

network of the said trans-

former. But it is a great plea-

sure to say that the Duty Engi-

neer and other staff and tech-

nicians of the Sat Masjid Elec-

tric Control Room by offering

their active and untiring ser-

vices even on weekly holiday

had successfully restored the

electric supply within the

shortest possible time. They

indeed deserve our apprecia-

However, it is strongly felt

that the higher authority of

DESA should arrange to pro-

vide some reserve transform-

ers for meeting up needs of

emergency situation. Neces-

sary technical support with

specific vehicle for installing

transformers and other acces-

sories should also be provided

the residents of our area plus

Meanwhile, it was found by

to the control room.

hurdles created by the "isolationist" Republicans in the execution of his independent foreign policy in Bosnia and other places. Similar situations were created by the Republicans to humiliate renowned Democrat Presidents, like Woodrow Wilson during First World War and later, Eranklin Roosevelt the 1930s. So the "negative policy of isolationism followed by the Republicans is not a new thing, their "hands-off" attitude in world affairs is perhaps the direct result of their being afraid of "getting involved in others affairs" except perhaps where such involvement would bring positive material gain for America such as Bush's 'Operation Desert Storm against Iraq, more to ensure O-1-L supply from the Middle East than to liberate

The Republicans' hesitancy to get involved in the First and Second World Wars was due to their religiously-followed policy of isolationism. But the Republicans know how to fish in the troubled waters. They enthusiastically floated, during the two world wars, commer cial policy of "lease-land" and 'cash and carry" to fill the colfers with commercial gains during these terrible days

laced by the West. The world-renowned historian HG Wells alleged that the 'worst damage" to the League of Nations was dealt by the Republicans — dominated US Senate, by refusing to join the league at all, mainly because the Republicans found their golden chance "to deal a menblow" to the Democrat President Woodrow Wilson and his party, although the US President made a tremendous contribution in establishing the league and in prepar, ing its great covenant. (The Republicans have been following the same old "dog in the manger" policy to humiliate Clinton and discredit his party by putting specks whenever and wherever possible). "Had America been part of the

the way in world affairs, mark ing its place in world history The table was turned in favour of the Allied Powers to dictate terms to their enemies

#### Clinton Breaks the Same Egg-shell

Another Democrat President. Bill Clinton, again pathetically became a "prisoner of conscience" in the hands of the powerful Republicans during the Bosnian war. But history was repeated again Clinton stood up and broke the shackles by challenging the obstructions and manipulations created by the Republicans and forced ahead with his peace plan. He seems to have already crossed the bridge by removing all hurdles put on his way, at home and abroad, and has been successful in bringing up into action under NATO umbrella all its participants to show a challenging face to the Serbian hordes to cut to their size. Even France which left NATO some 30 years ago came under the NATO to join forces in Bosnia. Of course. France is now coming back to NATO as a permanent menther under a 'face-saving' device of creating a "new NATO".

## OPINION

## Maturity and Politics

Shamsher A Chowdhury

began concentrating on how to lence and intolerance. respond to her complex ques- Take for instance the issue response word for word but do knowledge that nearly all polit-

complex. The views on the given by any and all party leadmatter do certainly differ from ers for clearing the educational individual to individual. My institutes of arms. An exercise main purpose therefore is not in demagoguery and self-deto make some scholarly delib- ception. Admittedly arms do erations on the subject, but put play a 'significant' role in the forward a point of view which working of politics all over the may generate some interests world, particularly the Third among some people without World countries, however its casting any aspersion on any influence in the educational other view/s or individuals, institutes in Bangladesh seem The other objective is: put us to have crossed all limits and to thinking on the subject it- proportions. Our politicians self and the significance there must be matured enough to of in the development of a so- realise that this is not only ciety and a nation at large.

giveness, tolerance so on and alone is its backbone. so forth. These attributes however more often than not are gripped by the Indian phobia co-related to specific situation today. There may be some and circumstances. To site an truth in it. However the fact example I told my daughter remains that these are some of that as much as saying prayers the age old tactics used for diconstitute a part and parcel of verting the people's attention practising Islam one also from the failures of the govneeds to understand that for ernment, conversely tactics many others of different faith used by the politicians alike in in other parts of the world gaining advantage for thempeople of other faiths may in- selves. Be that as it may the dulge in sacrificing animals matter of concern here should and say prayers. The crux of be not what others do but what

theirs and we to ours. maturity which relates to our more responsibly, sensibly and passing harsh judgements over in a matured way. others on moral counts. So Violence and condemnation many of us are often ready to seem to be the key aspects of condemn a prostitute, a thief, our political activism. We or even a mere urchin on the spend hours dissecting one street. Will condemnation another's misrule. We are alone bring about a change in ready to condemn one another their lives? Should not one at the drop of a hat and even also pause and think for a go to the extent of eliminating while and probe and soon we our opponents through the shall find out as to how many barrel of a gun. It appears that of us are truly to be blamed? tolerance is a bygone virtue We may have intense disliking and has no place in our polifor all the dislocation and tics. moral degradation these cause in the society but the truth lesson or two from the politiremains that their misfortune cal wisdom recently displayed and the pains are as much real by our neighbour, the largest

as one can imagine of. In a few days time we are go- the sagacity to learn from

ing to get a government. cently has failed to display the know or do not know.

My daughter who is in her requisite maturity for the de-12th grade now and 19 years velopment of a healthy political of age once asked me: "What is environment. Politicians and called maturity?" For a while I politics alike are beset by was completely lost and then senseless demagoguery, falseregained my composure and hood and self-deception, vio-

Franklin Roosevelt, only time

will show.

tion. I do not recall as to my of arms recovery. It is common recollect in general what I ical parties harbour their own armed cadres among students The subject is as vast as it is and yet full-throated calls are hampering the educational at-The word 'maturity' as I see mosphere of the nation but it has a universal connotation. also corroding the vital fabric Among others its essential in- of our society at large. No gredients for an individual country worth its name can often relates to some of the survive without respect for very basic human attributes Rule of Law and the realisation like kindness, generosity, for- that education and education

On the other hand, we are the philosophy is that they to we are doing or can do. It is high time we should come out There is also the aspect of of this child's play and act

Finally can we not take a democracy in the world. The Let us come to today's trouble with us is we are neiburning question - the issue of ther matured enough to decide the country's Political Maturity. for ourselves nor do we have others. We are arrogant and Our political scenario re- boastful of whatever little we

#### Single-party government by AL

Sir. There is a general inipression that Awami League is unlikely to secure single majority in the Parliament, and therefore must enter into a coalition with another party to form a government. However, the following analysis indicates that there still exists a possibility for Awami League to form

a government alone without any such coalition. The total number of constituencies is 300. However, in case of nine members, they were elected from 25 constituencies but will be sworn in as members only in respect of nine constituencies. Consequently, 16 constituencies will fall vacant for by-election in future by the newly appointed government of the country. Hence, any political party having 143 members in the Parliament will now command a

single majority in the House. At present Awami League has 133 seats declared in its favour. Of this, five seats are to be given up by members elected from more than one seat. Hence Awami League requires another 15 seats in order to secure a single major-

ity in the parliament. It is not totally inconceivable for Awami League to win in 15 out of the remaining 29 constituencies in respect of which the Commission is yet to pronounce the election re-

Viguar I Chowdhury 51 Sarıvardi Ave Baridhara, Dhaka

#### Optional subjects in BCS exam

Sir, In the process of appointing officers at the Public Service Commission (PSC) makes the candidates undergo a 'written test' for 500 marks in five compulsory subjects and for 300 marks in three chosen subjects. The candidates face disparity from the optional

(chosen) subjects and are thereby being deprived of the constitutional guarantee of equal right of every citizen to get service opportunity in the

following manner: 1) As the students of science group or BUET students can choose from subjects related to science, they can obtain 90-95 per cent marks if all answers are given correctly and thereby can get 270-285 marks out of 300. But a student of arts group, bearing the same merit and calibre can not obtain more than 210-225 in three optional subjects at a rate of 70-75 per cent, if all answers are correct and complete. Thus the former gets a lead of 45 marks over the lat-

2) In the routine maintained by PSC for optional subjects, some candidates get more gaps for preparation than the candidates of other optional subjects. Thus disparity

among them is created. 3) Sometimes with the question of a subject becoming traditional, a candidate gets advantage over others with non-traditional questions for

their subjects. Thus, PSC can not select candidates objectively and properly. To remove such disparity. PSC must abolish optional subjects from written test keeping provisions equally for all for an unified system.

Md Al Mamun 347, Zahurul Hay Hall Dhaka University

#### For emergency power supply

Sir, Electricity has long become one of the essentials of city life. When electricity fails in any area due to some mechanical fault or other reason. it becomes a foremost duty for the concerned electric complaint office to take prompt action thereby in restoring electric supply to that area.

Police in burga Sir. Many may acclaim the recent police innovation. Innovation to wear burga or veil to surprise the law breaking criminals, offenders, malefac-Recently, owing to some tors, hooligans, rogues, those

M Zahidul Haque

Asstt Prof. BAI, Dhaka.

teasing the womenfolk particularly the girls, gamblers, drunkards, all sorts of evil makers causing public nuisance. There were news that known illlamed notorious terrorists were noticed to instantly disappear for fear of being apprehended on mere suspicion of appearance of police in burga. There is nothing to feel any jubilation in this. Certainly there is widespread helplessness and insec-

urity prevailing in the country. in cities, bazars, markets, roads and everywhere. There are terrorism, murders, loots, arson, theft, dacoity, childlifting, oppression against women, particularly rape, and what not. There cannot be any two opinions that adequate steps to deal squarely with the violation of laws must be taken. But the sad aspect is that, it is not rare that law enforcing personnel instead of maintaining expected praiseworthy reputation, condescend to earn serious bad names. For the general populace it is a situation of great horror.

It is greatly apprehended that police would find ways and devices to do some extra nuisances under the disguise to round up mischief makers. It is high time that the nation speak with all force to denounce the recent trends of the police wearing burgas. For burqa has Islamic sanctity attached to it and by all means its religiousness must be maintained and protected with godfearing conscience and all

It is noteworthy that Islam prohibits impersonation and it is not without reason. It is imperative that the government lose no time to issue strict directives for employing other devices than the use of veil or burga by the police. Wearing of veil by the women police may,

Abu Ziaush Shams

the staff of the Control Room also reported that the telephone of the Sat Masjid Control Room was dead. And it took a great difficulty on the part of the members of the public as well as the officials of the Control Room to make emergency communications.

May we request the competent T&T authority to please take necessary step so that not only the telephone of the Sat Masjid Electric Control Room (No.319890) but also other scrupulousness it demands. emergency telephones may not

however, be considered.

Mugdapara, Dhaka