

A Landmark

The Jatiya Sangsad on Tuesday passed the Indemnity (Repeal) Bill setting a landmark in Bangladesh's march towards a nation of justice.

We are sad at the way the bill was passed with the BNP and other two parties absenting themselves from the House.

The repeal is but a step to normalize the dispensations of this state. A very important step towards restoring the justifiability of all crimes perpetrated within the state.

The True Provider

A mother does not only protect and feel her children. The FAO has found that she also harvests more than half of world's total food crops.

The FAO says in spite of that glorious fact, 50 per cent of world's women are below the poverty threshold against 30 per cent for men.

The world organization has hit upon a golden wisdom — possibly the best that mankind has had for a long time: investment in women's education in the developing countries is more profitable than all other investments.

The news from Rome cannot but make one recall that it were women who developed agriculture from the first sowing by humans and the first tending of wild crops.

When shall we in Bangladesh do our bit in righting the situation by pushing up our priority of women's education to number one? We must do this. But for assured results, we should first get our education thing right.

Skyey Inferno

Charkhi Dadri, a quiet village in northern India, was robbed of its evening tranquillity by a skyey inferno yesterday.

Air crash has a congenital and inseparable relationship with the idea of flying. But mostly they are accidents either owing to acts of sabotage or some sort of technical glitch developing in a particular aircraft.

Although one runs the risk of treading on the treacherous ground of hypothesis while dwelling on the aftermath of a tragedy at such an early stage, it would be quite relevant to remind our civil aviation authority of the necessity to take stock of the situation prevailing in our airports.

History: A Chronicle of Events Told by Tellers of Tales

The President recently inaugurated a conference of the Bangladesh History Association. As expected, the astute and forthright President Justice Shahabuddin extolled the virtues of history in educating citizens and underlined the solemn and sensitive task of historians in writing it objectively.

Darius the Great, son of Artaxerxes, son of Xerxes, King of Kings, monarch of all one can be hold, went on the lengthy exercise of self-adulation in the name of self-introduction.

The visual records they collected were supplemented by their analysis and surmise in order to enable them to reach their conclusions. The epics and legends also helped to guide them in their work.

The present government appears to have taken upon itself the task of re-writing history of Bangladesh on grounds that omissions were committed in the portrayal of the true history of the nation, especially about the period of Liberation movement.

Research Centre has done commendable work in this regard and is continuing its efforts to make it all-comprehensive. It is indeed necessary that appropriate reflection of this heroic episode must be made available to our citizens.

It was alleged that Bangabandhu's role as founder united and fought ceaselessly, both actively and passively as their circumstances permitted, till the cherished goal was attained.

The War of Liberation was, no doubt, guided by the Mujibnagar government but it was so done in the name of Bangabandhu. He got the first news when, as the King Head of Bangladesh Mission, I had

or father of the nation was not reflected in our school textbooks. People may differ on many issues since the inception of Bangladesh movement, right from the six-point demand of Sheikh Mujib for autonomy, but no one could dispute the singular and the phenomenal contribution made by him in the creation of an independent Bangladesh.

Putting Aside Politics

It is high time the representations of the nation acted judiciously to forge co-operation among them to fight the hydra-headed monster of terrorism unitedly by dint of their synergetic power, writes M Arshad Ali

It is time to put aside politics, join together and get the job done for America's future — were the words of President Clinton to the jubilent crowd that gathered at Little Rock, Arkansas to celebrate his victory in the presidential election of America for the second term.

The whole country has been groaning under the suffocation of terrorism. Not a bit of it is left excluded where terrorism has not raised its poisonous hood. All its arenas — educational, economic, social and cultural — are invaded and pervaded by this ugly monster of inequity.

This speaks of the her determination to rout terrorism with root and branches from all nooks and corners, crevices and niches of the country and all strata of society without any discrimination. This is what she is committed to do in order to ensure rule of law and equality of justice as outlined in her election manifesto.

As a nation cannot but be optimistic. Our heritage and culture and above all our Liberation struggle have taught us to be so. That is why, we like to say that strengthened by the encouragement of the Prime Minister for politics of national consensus a beginning of this co-operation has ushered in with the meeting of the Home Minister with the MP's of six south-western districts.

The continuity of life — the existence of the nation — is seemingly at stake because all its limbs have been horribly bruised with enormous lashes of terrorism and lawlessness rendering it unable to bear any further.

To the Editor

Water purifying tablets Sir, Untreated or inadequately treated water can transmit disease causing agents, such as bacteria, viruses and protozoan parasites.

All these issues have health implications and the findings may be useful in planning disaster preparedness and management programmes.

Kerb Economics Sir, On going through, Bayes, Streeten, GNP, GDP, PCI (per capita income), and HDI (UN Human Development Index) in DS (Oct. 12), I was reminded of a personal experience I had only the day earlier in the local market.

At least they will have to face a trial. The barbaric Pakistani Army who killed three million Bangladeshers were not given a trial. Let the nation not forget the sacrifice of its millions.

Some questions Sir, Recently I had been to Sylhet by Biman Bangladesh Airlines. On arrival at Sylhet I went to the Biman office to reconfirm my flight back.

There is no doubt that the photograph is a piece of beauty indeed. But to use such a photograph as an advertisement which will be circulated around home and abroad we must think twice.

PM's live TV programme Sir, I and my family members enjoyed the question-answer session with the Prime Minister on television on the occasion of completion of hundred days of Awami League government.

Steel Foot Overbridges Sir, To ease the pedestrian movement in the city, the Dhaka City Corporation is now building a number of Steel Foot Overbridges in different important locations.

Observance of birth anniversary of Sheikh Russell Sir, The 32nd birth anniversary of late Sheikh Russell, the youngest son of late President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed on the 18th October, 1996 last.

They must face trial Sir, The chief cleric of the Baitul Mukarram mosque, should be publicly tried and punished on charges of treason and sedition.

Quality control at the manufacturing level may be adequate, but the use of the tablets should be standardised and control by international, as well as national, bodies.

Similarly, one should not be oblivious of the fact that another unique contribution was made by Ziaur Rahman by his historic declaration of independence, again in the name of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Secondly, Zia's another remarkable achievement was his ability and skill to take control of the highly volatile and unstable situation in the country following the events of the 7th November 1975. Without his

Let us term it that the seed for co-operation has been sown and let us hope that the Parliament which is the apex body in dealing with all national issues and problem including those of terrorism and lawlessness will water, nurse and fondle it with all the cares necessary for its growth to florescence.

Let the soothing breeze that has risen from the Bay of Bengal in the shimmering summer of terrorism blow with full force all over Bangladesh.

The writer is Inspector of Colleges, Dhaka University

Representatives of big professional groups may not be invited to the TV auditorium as they get chance of meeting the Prime Minister and Ministers off and on.

Questions should be invited by advertisement in the news media. One person should be asked to send one question only by a particular date and on receipt these should be sorted out identifying the common questions.

One-third of the number of questions proposed to be placed before the Prime Minister may be from those received through letters, one-third from those present in the auditorium and one-third from those received through telephone.

The DCC should explore and utilise local potentialities.

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