### The Baily Star

Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali Dhaka, Wednesday, March 26, 1997

### The Knock at the Door

We are a nation in a hurry. Our strengths and weaknesses are a matter of record offering a ready frame of reference to avoid the pitfalls, make up for the lost opportunities and forge ahead by building on our strong points. Therefore, being in a hurry does not mean we have to be jittery or listless. On the contrary, with our seasonings through the troughs and peaks and trials and errors, we ought to feel steady on our feet as we approach the next millennium.

Turbulence may have been our constant companion but through it all we have had the undimmed and prized glory of re-establishing democracy in the last half a decade or so. The democratic edifice has been rebuilt from the ashes of de-institutionalisation and atrophy by virtue of the two free and fair general elections held in 1991 and 1996. We have proved for all to see that not only did we achieve nationhood through a hardfought war we are also capable of stoutly defending our right to democracy sought to be trampled well out of character with the very spirit of the freedom struggle.

As we rejoice in the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bangladesh's birth, our hearts are brimful with a solemn surge of sentiments in grateful acknowledgment of the services rendered by many in the making of our beloved, independent homeland. We must pay tributes to the martyrs and known and unknown heroes of the liberation struggle, to the Muktibahini as a force, to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the architect and mentor and to the War-time Prime Minister Tajuddin and his the then cabinet colleagues for their leadership under extra-ordinary circumstances. Also we place on record our tributes to our international friends, especially India for its all-out support to our cause and standing by us as a tower of strength in our hour of need. We acknowledge the committed role of the then socialist bloc led by former Soviet Union. We also pay our homage to Andre Marlaux, George Harrison, Pandit Ravi Shankar and several British and US opinion leaders and legislators who acted as powerful conscientious objectors to the genocide.

In broad but clearly distinguishable terms, we have a two-some track-record. While we have an impressive record of fighting for democracy, on the flip-side we carry a stigma of failing to develop our economy. We have missed opportunities for an economic take-off that came our way at least a couple of times. Let us match our good record by proudly proclaiming ourselves as a nation unwavering in its commitment to democracy and give the national economy a place of primacy in politics. We have devoted our commemorative issue to the need for a change in political culture by way of removing a major impediment to our meaningful entry into the 21st Century.

> Electronic Media Autonomy

The Radio, TV Autonomy Commission is at the final stages of preparing its report and it will be sometime before its full contents are made available for public scrutiny. But the little that has come out, thanks to a report carried in this daily, has drawn our attention to some important issues concerning the electronic media's autonomy. We fail to understand what will be achieved by placing Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television — as purportedly recommended by the commission under a special parliamentary committee unless separate independent set-ups are put in place for both the media and then they are made accountable to the JS committee.

Then the constitution of a five-member national broadcasting commission which will be charged with monitoring radio and TV programmes on a weekly basis can be of consequence if it enjoys the power to take necessary measures to improve the quality of the same. In that case, there is hardly any rationale for the organisations being encumbered with too many authorities at different points. The emphasis ought to be on professional independence and judgment based on news value the kind of working style that standard newspapers enjoy and prize so highly everywhere. The staff in the electronic media also need to throw challenges to themselves and must be made accountable for what they produce.

There is also a recommendation for pay and royalty incentives for the staff. We would suggest that the commission be mindful of the prospect for private TV channels to open in the near future. It is efficiency, creativity, ingenuity etc on a comparative or competitive basis with the private sector channels that stand to win the day for the electronic media in the public sector. We want to see our radio and TV develop like the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) or the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and enjoy their kind of freedom.

#### **Green Cities**

The more roosting places a city provides for the bird the better its physical environment will be. This is an expert opinion, not a bird lover's propaganda campaign. Now, how do our capital city and the port city fare on this count? We have no facts and figures at hand to know about Dhaka city's situation but zoologists at the Chittagong University are unambiguous in their opinion that the port city fares very poorly. A number of rare species of animals and birds are on the verge of extinction because their nests are fast disappearing, thanks to denudation of hills and the urban encroachment.

We understand the situation in Dhaka will not be any better, if not worse. Quite a number of birds and animals, due to their scavenging habits, restrict the growth of some harmful insects and keep the environment clean. And the scarcity of trees and greenery in our big cities is proof enough that the birds and animals find no convenient places for roosting.

Therefore, the answer to our cities' environmental deterioration lies in creating small patches of artificial forests or parks. Those are likely to provide abode and sanctuaries for the species under threat of extinction. Particularly for the Chittagong city such a project will help enhance its natural beauty and also give a new lease of life to the 30 rare species of birds found in that area alone.

## The Present Image of Bangladesh

by Zillur Rahman Siddiqui

After the killing of Sheikh Mujib and the gruesome massacre of his family and some of his close relations, and after the incredible crime of providing legal protection to his killers and providing them safe sanctuary in our embassies abroad, we lost all self-respect and the world promptly withdrew its respect for us. We were pariahs in the comity of nations.

founder, the architect of the state of Bangladesh. Ovation ners. The outlook was good, the and aid came liberally from the insurgents within the country affluent world. The country had were well under control, we got adopted for itself a constituthe membership both of the tion, a fully democratic one, Commonwealth of Nations and and it took us less than a year to the United Nations soon frame the fundamental law of enough, and barring a few exthe land. The Indian forces that ceptions, we got the recognition had fought along with our freeof most countries. Those were dom fighters to liberate the the years when Bengalees, anyland, we were able to send back where in the world, felt themwithin months of our victory. selves taller by an inch. We were Such things do not normally poor but proud and the world happen but it did in our case, largely due to the personality of knew that Bangabandhu and the admira-Our image was totally tar-

HE best image that Bang-

the days following our victory

in the war of liberation. In

Sheikh Mujib we had a leader of

world stature. He was

universally recognised as the

tion in which the Indian Prime

Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi re-

garded him and his heroic peo-

ple. This admiration was

shared by many throughout the

world. It was Bangabandhu's

stature as a leader that raised

the stature of Bangladesh in the

was in ruins but the work of re-

construction was taken up in

earnest and was going on apace.

According to the estimate of our

economists, we had, by the be-

ginning of 1975, turned the cor-

URING the 26 years since

we decided to chart a cou-

legacy of a freakish geographic

entity called Pakistan, have we

been able to establish — both in

spirit and practice — the

Bangaleeness that we had de-

fended so staunchly before? The

answer to this question might

be a big NO. A sizeable portion

of our population simply does

not subscribe to our ethno-cul-

tural identity: People who

refuse to be Bangalees but prefer

to be known as Bangladeshis.

rse independent of the

The country and its economy

comity of nations.

ladesh presented to the

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nished the moment we lost our leader and with our leader our pride. After the killing of Sheikh Mujib and the gruesome massacre of his family and some of his close relations, and after the incredible crime of providing legal protection to his killers and providing them safe sanctuary in our embassies abroad, we lost all self-respect and the world promptly withdrew its respect for us. We were pariahs in the comity of na-

tions. Things remained pretty gloomy for us, politically speaking, for over twenty years after the fall of Mujib. Our constitution was either abrogated or mutilated and our political life brought to such a depth of degradation as to make democ-

racy a meaningless term. Late in 1990, a massive movement in which practically all our political parties joined hands, removed Ershad, the wily autocrat, from power. The combined will of the parties brought a caretaker government into power with a mandate to hold a parliamentary election and to facilitate a democratic change of power. Ershad was put behind the bars. and faced a series of charges which led to his trial in the courts. Both the acts, the election and the trial, must have brightened our image as a nation in the eyes of the world. A deposed president put behind the bars and facing trials is, after all, not a common sight. One does not see such things in a politically underdeveloped country like Bangladesh. Our ability to put law in a commanding position was something we could

take pride in.

While we could do this, we failed to do another thing more important in the final analysis than this: We could not institute a case against the killers of the father of the nation, Sheikh Mujib. The indemnity ordinance, later incorporated in the constitution, protecting the killers from legal action, stood on the way. The government of Begum Khaleda Zia could not be persuaded to lift the bar through a suitable amendment of the constitution. Later, of course, it has been found, that the difficulty had no legal basis. Charges have now, under the government of Sheikh Hasina, been framed and the trial is

about to begin I mention the trial following the imprisonment of Ershad. and the impending trial of the killers of Bangabandhu as these are vitally related to the issue of national image. A nation that

condones crime and more, a nation that gives legal protection to killers, cannot claim to be a civilised nation. And we had lost our claim to be called such by our omission and commis-

sion in the past

Things have changed and are changing with a new government in office. It is generally believed that our image as a nation is improving but perhaps it is too early to make a claim which defies proof of a substantial kind. An image is a matter of perception, and the perception must be shared by a large number of men of mixed composition. It seems that, internationally speaking, we have a better standing now than what we had a year ago. Heads of states and government have paid visits to our country in larger numbers in recent months than they have in many years. It looks as if we have opened up to the world and the world too has moved closer to us. We have a stronger feeling now of being a part of the world.

This reminds us of similar feelings in the first few years of our freedom.

The question of image is a complicated one. Much will depend on our ability to build our economy, and no less on our success in building our democratic institutions. we are yet to claim much success with our handling of the Sangsad. Relation between the treasury bench and the opposition in the Sangsad has remained bumpy. to say the least. Political opposition tends to move out of the House into the streets. This has caused anxiety as political stability has been identified as the precondition of achieving economic progress. The world is watching and we are fumbling.

Without making impossible claims, we may say this much that the country has taken a few steps on the path of democracy, that institution building is very much on the agenda, that the people have greater confidence now than in the past so many years in its democratic destiny. and that we have, through our commitment to democracy and progress, earned the goodwill of the world in a large measure which lends support to the belief that the world has come to put its confidence in us. And is it not this that goes by the name

# Recognising Challenges of the Time

by Nilratan Halder

The question we need to ask ourselves is: why we have failed to synthesise our religio-cultural practices and concepts while nations in the Far East have reconciled with those successfully?

political contamination. Thanks to its great sustaining power, society has not yet capitulated to the political imposition. But the conflicts between what has evolved throughout ages and what is forced with a motive are evident everywhere and we are paying a heavy price as a result.

The question we need to ask Indeed, most of our political ourselves is: why we have failed woes originate from this lack of to synthesise our religio-culnational convergence. Our politural practices and concepts tics, murky as ever, cannot free while nations in the Far East itself from the prison of the have reconciled with those sucpast - a past that ironically is a cessfully? Malaysia and recent one and conveniently Indonesia in particular have made to suspend in a limbo. done the job so admirably. We Snapped from the best of also have to our credit a most Bangalee tradition and culture, satisfying period when Sultan the new interpretation of our Alauddin Hossain Shah could identity had to rely heavily on transcend the religious rigidity distortion and even outright to accept all that springs from lies. Society at large — because the soil as the best of human of its near mono-culture and treasure. The recognition is small geographic boundary — is given to the creativity of man, more often than not subjected

his richness of mind and achievement in all areas of life. So here was a sultan's mental capacity to recognise the diversity of human achievements and expressions. Secularism was at its best. The Vaisnab variety of Hinduism — a flexible and unorthodox form of religion — went along the sultan's

own religion, Islam. That cultural fusion is found in the development of sahajia or marami sects of both Hinduism and Islam. The Sufis and Bauls are not strict adherents of either of the two religions and still have assimilated virtues from both. We therefore do not need to look far for inspiration. But there is a strong current to project our identity on the basis of religion. We are hardly aware that this holds us back. The proponents of our constitution gave us the right direction but the subsequent

mutilation it has suffered at the hands of generals taking over state power no longer helps us to look beyond and outward. But the world is fast changing, offering ever newer challenges. When the South Asian tigers thanks to visionary leaders like Lee Kuan and Mahathir are making revolutionary strides in their economic and information sectors, we are either engaged in our typical petty brawls or still groping in the dark to decide our religio-cultural identity.

In the thousand years' history of the Bangalees, they have displayed a high degree of creativity, an enviable richness of mind in terms of literature, philosophy, metallurgy and other crafts but - as the Chinese travellers put it — they could be seen enjoying calumnies at each other's back. No

wonder, the Bangalees had to go through a long night of what is called matsyan. Today the Bangalees on both sides of the border are facing a cultural crisis. The Bangalees on the other side are getting devoured by a politically instigated linguistic and cultural invasion. On this side we are making our own cocoon only to discover that our fashioning of it has remained incomplete. Today the question ought to be asked if we are again heading for a sort of matsyan.

And look at the ambivalence: on the one hand we tend to be the ultimate protector of religion through unsolicited admonitions — which in reality is conservatism at its height and on the other, do not mind; rather welcome the worse-thanthe-blue-film type Hindi movies, thanks to video cassette and cable TV. Such a duality is

bound to exact a price. And nothing but our politics reflects this bankruptcy of mind and heart. Nowhere politics has been used so blatantly to exploit commonman's simplicity and trust. Politics is for self aggrandisement and the country and nation may go to hell. If this is just a figment of imagination of an idle brain, let the politicians prove otherwise. Why make issues of things that have little relevance to the well-being of our people who have ever received a raw deal? It is time that you looked at them from a perspective that relates them to the big world outside. This is the age of information and science of a very advanced type. The more you dwell on petty issues. the far you lag behind other nations racing for reaping the harvest of technology. Please look beyond the wall of your own creation. Time is fast running out for us. We need a fresh journey and will surely be helped by our fellow travellers-quite a lot of them, provided that we prove our commitment to the cause of this land.

# Bhutto Met Mujib: Bid to Forge Some Link

The versions are as different as the personalities of the men who gave them. Bhutto was flamboyant, dapper

and uncertain; Mujib was retiring, simple and forthright. The former blew hot and cold in the same breath;

the latter showed trust and steadfastness

BETWEEN THE LINES

Kuldip Nayar writes from New Delhi

ULFIKAR Ali Bhutto's first task after being sworn in as Pakistan's President (20 December 1971) was to get in touch with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, then in Pakistan jail, to see if it was possible to forge some link, however loose, between West Pakistan and what was once East Pakistan. For that purpose. Mujib was brought by helicopter from jail to a dak bungalow near Rawalpindi.

Mujib gave me the following version of his release when met him in Dhaka on April 27.

"I had come to know from my jailor, a Godfearing man that Bangladesh had been liberated. Therefore, when I was removed from my jail, I suspected that it must be for the purpose of holding talks. thought I would not indicate any prior knowledge of the liberation of Bangladesh. Within a couple of days of my arrival at the dak bungalow, Bhutto appeared there one afternoon. I asked him: 'Bhutto, how are you here?' He said: 'I am the President of Pakistan'. I began laughing and said: 'You, Bhutto, Pakistan's President! That place belongs to me; you know I won the majority of seats in the Pakistan National Assembly'. As if he wanted to frighten me. he said that he was also the Chief Martial Law Administrator. Bhutto said: 'I have come to talk to you'. To this my reply was that I would not talk unless he were to say that I was free. Bhutto said: 'Yes. Then we talked. He blamed Yahya for all that had happened, although I knew that he (Bhutto) had been at the back of everything. He really wanted the eastern wing to go its own way so that he could become the President of what was left of Pakistan. Bhutto came straight to the point. He wanted me to agree that the three subjects — Foreign Affairs. Defence and Communications — would be managed jointly by Pakistan and

not possible but when he went on pressing I said that it was difficult for me to decide anything without consulting my

"There was yet another meeting, the last one between us. That time also he pressed for the same thing and asked me to try my best. I replied: 'Let me

Bhutto whom I had met earlier gave me a different version. His story was:

"On December 23 when we met for the first time, Mujib took out the Quran and said: 'I am a good Muslim. I still want Defence, Foreign Alfairs and Currency to be Central subjects between the two regions'. On 27 December, when we met for the second time, he was very vague. He said: 'I can't say the number of subjects (to be given to the Centre) and what kind of subjects, but links, certainly. I want to retain links'. I was sceptical. I told Mujib: 'As you know, you are saying this here and I take you at your word, but when you go there, see the atmosphere, and see all the young men with rifles around you, and having come back from the grave, you won't be able to do it. But even if you maintain some fictional links, I would be satisfied'. He was positive. 'No, No', he said. 'I am the leader — me leader hai, main theek kar don ga' (I am the leader, I shall set things right) — and that sort of thing. You know, I like him. The point is that there are so many problems and I don't

When I told Mujib on April 27 what Bhutto had said, particularly his assertion that Mujib had sworn by the Quran to allow joint control of some subjects, Mujib said: "Bhutto is a liar. I am grateful to him for saving my life, but that gives

think he bargained for half of

him no right to spread lies. The versions are as different as the personalities of the men who gave them. Bhutto was flamboyant, dapper and uncertain; Mujib was retiring, simple and forthright. The former blew hot and cold in the same breath; the latter showed trust and

steadfastness At least one thing emerged from the talks between the two Mujib was released unconditionally (8 January 1972). He was requested to go to any Arab country and then fly to Dhaka or Delhi or wherever he pleased. But he preferred to go to London

before he returned to Dhaka via

After the meeting between

Mujib and Bhutto the dialogue

was reported to have been car-

ried on between Bhutto and

Kamal, then Law Minister in

Bangladesh, who was also re-

leased from a West Pakistani

jail after Mujib was set free.

Kamal was said to have carried

a message for Mujib on links

between Pakistan and Bangla-

desh. But Mujib contradicted

Bhutto's purpose in releasing

this when I met him in Dhaka.

Mujfb ("a nightingale which

allowed to go scot-free unneces-

sarily," as Bhutto put it to me)

was to retrieve in the eyes of the

international community at

least something of Pakistan's

image which had been shattered

by the happenings in Bangla-

desh. Bhutto told me three

months later that he released

Mujib as a gesture to India

which he knew would find the

going hard in Bangladesh

New Delhi.

without Mujib. Mujib's release did not, however, mean any change in Pakistan's policy on Bangladesh. Bhutto spoke Yahya's language. In his first broadcast as President (20 December 1971) he said: "We will continue to fight for the honour and integrity of Pakistan .... East Pakistan is an inseparable and unseverable part of Pak-

Keeping up the fiction was also Radio Pakistan, which continued to begin its daily transmission with the announcement of not only West Pakistan time but also "East Pakistan" time. West Pakistani newspapers which used to have

editions published from Dhaka

continued to claim on their

mastheads simultaneous publi-

cation in "East Pakistan" and

whenever Rawalpindi talked of

convening the Pakistan Na-

tional Assembly, it took pains

to mention "the representative

anger against the East Bengalis

in West Pakistan — just as Bi-

haris and non-Bengalis bore

the brunt of the Bengali

vengeance in Bangladesh all

through the liberation struggle

and after — but it settled down

to private resentment. The Gov-

ernment openly said that the

Bengalis would ultimately quit

and people also thought it better

to leave them alone. However,

Rawalpindi ordered all Bengali

military personnel to barracks

and removed Bengali civilians

from key positions. The atmo-

and "go back to their homes"

Initially, there was public

of East Pakistan.

prisoners of war and territory lost in the West. But when the Soviet Union extended recognition he said he could not break off diplomatic relations with Moscow. However, he "punished" Britain for the same action by quitting the Commonwealth. China continued to speak in terms of one Pakistan. America said less about the integrity of Pakistan but more about the

sphere in Pakistan was such

hat even if Bhutto had recog-

nized Bangladesh it could not

have raised much protest. But

he rode a high horse and cut off

diplomatic relations with the

nations that recognised

Bangladesh. Probably he was

trying to keep a bargaining

point in future discussions with

India to get back 90,000-odd

presence of Indian forces in Pakistan and later recognised Bangladesh when it found the Soviet Union having a field day

The countries which stood by Bhutto en bloc were those of West Asia. The Arab nations, which had received unstinted support from India, whether on the Suez or in their quarrel with Israel, told New Delhi plainly that they would not recognise Bangladesh before Pakistan did. Mujib's personal letter to them was of no avail. The Arab countries explained that they were not anti-India but wanted to go along with Islamic countries, little realizing that Bangladesh has a larger Muslim population than Pak-

In fact, all through the struggle in Bangladesh, the Arab countries stood by Pakistan. Even when Mrs Gandhi wrote to request them to "take action to convince Pakistan to leave its policy of aggression. they kept quiet. Muamar Gaddafi of Libya blamed India

and said in a letter to her that "India was the one that decided to go to war," and that "India's negotiations with the Russians, with regard to weapons and defence agreements, were actually agreements of attack when it came to their implementation." (In token of his appreciation, Bhutto named the Lahore Stadium after Gaddafi.)

Some Arab business houses went to the extent of cancelling orders with Indian firms. One firm in Kuwait wrote, in broken English, to an Indian firm: "This was killing men, women, children of our Pakistani Muslims, and all Muslim are our brothers, profit of our business money is going to your defence ammunition which killing our Muslim peoples. Also we have decided to discontinue our trade relation with your firm until the war not finished, that means your country India is not stopped war with Pakistan.'

However, as days went by, there was a change in Bhutto's attitude. He resiled from his earlier stand of "no recognition" to "recognition after meeting Mujib." Rawalpindi sent feelers to Dhaka accordingly. First, Indonesia tried to bring about a rapprochement between the two and was able to persuade Bangladesh to send its representative to Jakarta to meet a representative from Pakistan. When Bangladesh conveyed its assent, Bhutto sent a message that Mujib should himself go to Jakarta to meet him. On learning this, Mujib recalled his representative, who had reached Jakarta by that time. The Indonesian Government was so hurt by Rawalpindi's attitude that it recognised Bangladesh straightaway. The British Government too tried to mediate. Again Bhutto's demand was that he and Mujib should meet in some third country. The latter said that he would never meet Bhutto until Pakistan had recognised his Government, and added: "Who is bothered about Bhutto, or for that matter about Pakistan?"

#### Power failure and sabotage

Bangladesh. I told him it was

Sir, The country has plunged into darkness and as per statements made by the Prime Minister herself, normal supply of electricity is not possible till June or July next. How much loss the nation will have to bear during this long period of time? It's horrible! However, it is more unfortunate that instead of admitting her government's failures, since it assumed power, she is trying to convince the people that the dreadful power crisis is the result of sabotage and this has been committed by the BNP people. She has also accused that Tk 7900 crore was spent by the BNP government in the name of generating power but actually the previous government played ducks and drakes with public money. Why she has disclosed

this fact after such a long time? What the ministry concerned

was doing for nine months? You have rightly said (DS 17-03-97) that today's crisis is not the immediate result of just yesterday's foolishness. It is said that the previous government did not take any action during its five-year tenure to increase electricity generation even marginally. It may also be right. But people's memory is not so short as it is usually admitted. The present prime minister, then leader of the opposition, never extended any cooperation to the elected government of BNP. She kept the whole nation in doldrums by numerous strikes for long two and half years. As such Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her party is also responsible for the many failures of the last BNP government. She is now asking all sorts of cooperation

from BNP and other opposition parties which she had denied to

the previous government. It is more unfortunate that after assuming power, the present government, instead of concentrating all its energy to solving the burning problems faced by the country, is trying to keep the nation into make-belief world and devoting more than half of its energy is unnec essary works like glorifying her

dynasty. However, I wish good luck to Sheikh Hasina, hoping against hope, that she takes dynamic actions on war footing to solve the burning problems of the country instead of defending her failures by accusing former government of BNP. If she brings progress and prosperity, it will also raise the image of his father and Awami League. KR Zakhmi Khulna

### Selection of players

for ICC Sir, In the recently-concluded SAARC Cricket tournament, Bangladesh team was defeated by all the participating teams in a humiliating way. Particularly the performance of Golla. Anis and Moni were very disappointing. In contrast, the performance of some of the players of our A team now on a visit in Pakistan is very excellent. The batting of Sumon with an average of more than 50 against formidable bowling of Waker, Saclaeen etc., the economical bowling of Zakir and Jam needs special mention. Sumon (as an opener). Zakir and Jam should be considered for inclusion in the national

team. Kamrul Aman Khan 45/1. New Eskaton Road Dhaka-100.

### Ecology

Sir, Recently, the State Minister for Information, Prof. Abu Sayeed while addressing an environmental seminar at the Goethe Institut urged upon everyone to build green belts across the country for maintaining ecological balance. He observed that due to environmental degradation the existence of the human civilisation is now under threat. The Minister emphasised on the need for creating mass awareness against pollution so that our future generation could grow up in a healthy environment.

While strongly endorsing the above views and suggestions, I would sincerely request our dynamic Information Minister to please open an "Environmental Information and Monitoring Cell" in the Ministry of Information to collect public views

and opinions on various environmental issues which are published daily in the newspapers and to channelling these to the relevant government departments for necessary action. This cell may also function as an information monitoring centre on environmental disci-

plines It may be mentioned here that the common citizens, environmental activists and others have since long been urging the authorities vide newspaper's columns to take pragmatic measures towards checking emission of black fumes from the vehicles causing serious pollutions to the environment.

M Zahidul Haque Publicity & Press Secretary. Bangladesh Society for Con-

servation of Environment.