The Baily Star

Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali

Dhaka, Tuesday, September 2, 1997

A Momentous Verdict

This was in a way the event of the century three serving policemen sentenced to be hanged by an appropriate court. Without detracting in any way the importance of the verdict on Sunday in the Yasmin rape and murder case, it must be said the nation was on the day, all nerves, as exactly as it happens before a lottery draw. People were not sure the perpetrators of the dastardly gang rape and murder of a fourteen-year-old would indeed be punished. People's confidence in the courts in particular and all the organs of government in general had shrunk steadily over the decades. taking no small a beating by the recent verdict in the Shima rape and murder case. There were other factors contributing to a general lack of confidence about Yasmin getting posthumous justice. The verdict on Sunday came two years and six days after the commission of the crime. It didn't come posthaste and deliberate attempts were suspected to further delay the process and reduce the evidences into a plethora of inadequacies. Without commenting on the merit of the judgement, something we are not allowed to both legally and morally, we are gratified that by one fell stroke of this judgement, the erosion of confidence in the judicial system will largely be stopped and both police and the people will get the important message that wayward policemen stand to be punished even with death. More importantly, this judgement setting a worthy precedent for many such, in fact, numberless judgements to follow, would be effective as a supreme deterrent against violation of women.

Courts of law are limited in their capacity to turn in justice insofar as these depend wholly on the material lodged in support of the wronged subject's complaint. Yasmin was a poor child, helpless in every respect. There was practically no chance of her murder getting a fair trial. It was first the popular explosion of protest by the common man of Dinajpur that forced the case on the system, the establishment and the then government. The seven that died in that protest, shot by police bullets, are surely among the adorable heroes of our society. What about punishing those responsible for their death?

While tendering our debt of gratitude to those that protested and died in Dinajpur in the closing days of August, '95 we send our sincere thanks to the women's organisations but for whom the flame could have gone out yielding to the wily ways of those that protect crime residing well within the government's sinews. And why had it to be a women's-only care? It was truly a social outrage that Yasmin's murder evoked - why weren't the nongender and male-dominated social organisations there by the side of the women activists? If Mahila Awami League could be there, why not Awami League itself? Who will fight to rid this society of women repression? Only women?

The government is going to appeal against the Shima murder verdict. It was pleasing indeed to know that government is also going to contest the acquittal of the six other accused in the Yasmin

We wouldn't forget you, Yasmin.

DCC's Decision

Dhaka on Sunday evening turned into a commuter's nightmare because traffic system virtually collapsed.

Hopefully, the capital would see less of inconvenience like this in future. Because, the Dhaka City Corporation has fixed seven sites in the city for meetings or assemblies. Backed by legal teeth this announcement should succeed in keeping city's thoroughfares free from the invasion of political parties who have so far proved themselves enormously callous to citizens' rights. Though proclaiming passion for democracy and amelioration of people's lot they have got away with their terrible ignorance of civic nuisance comfortably.

Originally mooted by the previous BNP government, the plan, one cannot help observing, has come in the line of implementation rather late. But better late than never. However, acrimony and difference between the government and the main opposition BNP has become so entrenched and pervasive that it is easier to be skeptical than genuinely optimistic about the healing prospects of the DCC decision.

We urge the ruling AL and its front organisations to lead others by example in observing the DCC prohibition in this regard. BNP, the main opposition who hardly did any good to its image in terms of sensitivity to public convenience by skipping the meeting, would be advised well to cooperate the government at least on this issue. Should it have any reason to contend the DCC decision on ground other than opposition for opposition's sake, then it should make it clear sooner than later.

A Good Move

In the crowd of depressing news flowing out of country's few seats of higher education there has emerged one of late which calls for appreciation. Jahangirnagar University authorities have done what their counterparts at Chittagong University failed to do due to the opposition of the communal and reactionary forces: they have named one of the

four female dorms of JU after Pritilata Waddedar. It is a shame for the tradition of a place like Chittagong hallowed as it is with the memory of so many luminaries — a heady mixture of saints, spiritualists, rebels — that it failed to honour one of its greatest daughters who sacrificed her life in

the wake of anti-colonial struggle in the thirties. Pritilata is a bright star in the constellation of our martyrs whose intrepidity and selflessness intensified our quest for freedom and emergence as an independent nation and country. It is a legacy from the British Raj that successfully culminated in our independence. No consideration communal or otherwise can make us lose sight of that fact and our desire to remember them with love and respect. We hope this commendable precedence will be replicated in other areas with discretion.

SOUTH ASIAN BUSINESS SUMMIT

Minding Our Own Business

Ever since its inception Bangladesh has taken initiatives in improving relations and in enhancing cooperation in our region, but not with as much vigour and energy as one would have desired.

S an independent nation, we appear to remain steeped in the past and that too a A past comprising twenty-five years. Endless debates continue to rage in this country on subjects such as the definition of our nationhood. about roles of political personalities in given situations; in short about anything that comes up as we delve into our past. We seem to behave as if achieving national consensus on these is of prime and immediate importance. Except for the opposition's frantic search for an "issue", we give the impression of being sublimely indifferent to the present and surprisingly unconcerned about the future.

As a nation, we seem to be moving with our gaze transfixed towards the past. Ours seems to be a nation divided, some pro-Indians, some pro-Pakistan and yet some pro-Islamic of all hues. Saudi Arabian, Iranian, Libyan, even Taliban, There is something common in them, for all of them appear immersed in the past, some dating back to twenty-five years (emergence of Bangladesh), some fifty years (birth of Pakistan)

and others fourteen hundred years (advent of Islam). Yet these words written more in anguish than

Bangladesh's constitution within months of a

bloody war that liberated the country, though in

periods of national insanity, as it were, we have

tried to tamper with it. Again in saner moments.

we have respected and obeyed the constitution as a

good nation should! We recognised our limitations

in practicing democracy and have been ingenious

enough to device the system of neutral caretaker

governments to conduct general elections. This we

did dutifully amending the constitution according

to the requirement, but not before a long-standing

political stalemate had foreign emissaries, medi-

ators, and all kinds of do-gooders run exasperat-

we have on occasions come up with fresh and for-

ward-looking ideas. Within weeks of our indepen-

dence, even when the effects of war were visible in

the subcontinent. Sheikh Mujib, during his first

foreign visit as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh

to Calcutta, in February 1972, appealed to all our

neighbours to do away with the "sterile policies of

confrontation" to stop "wasteful expenditure" and

in more concrete terms, when on his return from

the Lahore Islamic Summit, he said in March

1974: "... In the subcontinent, Bangladesh, India.

Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka want to live to-

gether in peace. We do not want to quarrel with

anybody. We want to live as an independent and

sovereign country with self-respect, in brotherly

relations with our neighbours. I do not want any

body's interference in our affairs, nor do we wish

Bangladesh at that time, in his book, Critical is-

sues sees this statement as a "clear signal for re-

Rahman formally proposed the formation of a re-

gional grouping (SAARC). At the outset, the coun-

tries of the region were suspicious of the move. In-

dians wanted to ensure that it was not a Pakistani

ploy and the Pakistanis had to be certain that

Bangladesh was not up to some kind of an Indian

game. The other four countries (Bhutan and the

Maldives added) of the region had to be convinced

yet be called a resounding success, yet it has been

with us for the last twelve years fanning the flick-

ering lamp of South Asian cooperation. SAARC

can claim some credit at least for the fact that Gu-

iral. Hasina and Nawaz Sharif, happily all now

heading democratically elected governments

Fakhruddin Ahmed, Foreign Secretary of

Four years later, in May 1974, President Ziaur

to interfere in others affairs.

gional cooperation.

regional cooperation.

Two years later, he reiterated the same theme

to turn this region into an "area of peace."

dominate our political landscape.

edly between the two ladies, who have now come to

In the field of relations with our neighbours.

in anger do not constitute a fair commentary on this nation. As a nation, we have also on occasions displayed farsightedness and ingenuity that, in, view of our general behaviour pattern, seem al-1 💃 most out of character. For insta-

Frankly Speaking... tween the private gov-

by Faruq Choudhury

about a cohesion nce, we accomplished the difficult task of framing in the economic liberalisation measures the three countries have already taken. They will also be able to exchange ideas face-to-face on infrastructure development including the need for improving the archaic air, road, railway and shipping links that bedevil even an ordinary traveller, not to speak of a prospective investor.

(some of the predecessors of the latter two had

come to power through the somewhat less cir-

cuitious manner of holding their respective coun-

and have demonstrated their commitment to im-

In this situation Sheikh Hasina has taken

laudable initiative. She has invited the prime

ministers of India and Pakistan to a South Asian

Business Summit in Dhaka this winter. It is un-

derstood that both the prime ministers have re-

acted positively. Should the summit take place, it

at the head of government level will be held. But

then this will be a summit with a difference. The

prime ministers will have with them some of the

leading businessmen and industrialists of their

respective countries. In fact, it will be their sum-

mit, with the three prime ministers acting as cata-

send a powerful signal to prospective foreign in

vestors but will also encourage the regional pri-

vate sectors to do increasing business with each

other and to establish joint venture enterprises.

It is felt that such a gathering will not only

The summit will

also facilitate in-

teractions be-

ernment repre-

sentatives who

will also be at the

summit. This may

elp in bringing

will be for the first time that a tripartite meeting

prove inter-state relations in the region.

Efforts at establishing subregional cooperation are going on what with the "growth quadrangle (India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan) and BIS-TEC (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand and the likely participation of Myanmar) and the idea of this summit reflects the same desire of both deepening and enlarging economic and commercial relations in the region.

India and Pakistan, the two principal actors in this region, may find it more convenient to discuss matters at a tripartite meet rather than in bilateral discussions. This Bangladeshi move comes at a time when - granting the occasional hiccups, there is a thaw in Indo-Pakistan rela tions and has therefore been a timely one.

Ever since its inception Bangladesh has taken initiatives in improving relations and in enhancing cooperation in our region, but not with as much vigour and energy as one would have desired. The reasons for our being at times tentative in our efforts are twofold. First, Bangladesh has unresolved issues of its own both with Pakistan and India, particularly with the latter. However the recent months would have shown even to the dichard sceptic that the issues are not intractable and beyond resolution and that two countries can indeed discuss problems without being acrimonious. The second reason is the painful immaturity and shortsightedness of our domestic politics. We have a propensity of drawing India and Pak istan in to our internal politics for reasons, at times, more imaginary than real. There is, added to this, a general perception, kept alive by vested quarters on both sides of the political spectrum that the Awami League enjoys special relationship with India and the BNP with Pakistan.

Such perceptions are obviously not helpful in our bilateral relations with India and Pakistan. particularly as our electoral options, for the time being at least, teeter between the Tweedle dee of the Awami League and the Tweedle dum of the BNP. This perception also to a great measure robs Bangladesh of its freedom to act as the neutral that Bangladesh was talking sense in espousing third power in the region.

The present Bangladeshi proposal to hold the SAARC which came into being in 1985 cannot South Asian Business Summit involving both India and Pakistan is largely aimed at bringing in the private sectors more intimately in our mutual development. This move on the part of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh is not tainted by any party considerations and should be seen as a well timed. desirable and non-partisan Bangladeshi move.

Free Market Pricing and Energy Sector Reform

It is not only to avoid political agitation that free market pricing is necessary for fossil fuels. A sensible energy policy calls for energy market reform. The existing programme of the government in this respect is rather piecemeal. There is no comprehensive plan.

Window on Asia

OVERNMENT, for that matter any tries at gun point!) have been talking earnestly Tgovernment in the world today, regardless about enhancing economic and commercial ties of all its might, will fail to ensure predetermined price of any product or service for any length of time without incurring losses or subsidy.

The days of administered prices are gone and dead. The free market should determine prices which is basically the interplay of supply and demand of a particular product or service. If there is a rise in the international crude oil price. petroleum product prices must increase since the demand are not likely to come down at the same time

Similarly, when the price of crude oil falls, the benefits, if there is a fair play of free market forces, are likely to be passed on to the consumers of various petroleum products, depending on the elasticity of demand.

The concept of elasticity is the key to the issue. If the change in demand is high due to change in prices, then the elasticity of demand is high. Such elasticity is low in case of petroleum products since fuel consumption cannot be cut down overnight. People must keep up to their schedule of movements. Trucks and buses cannot be off the road at a short notice without causing a major disruption in the economy. In this connection, hartal is an

unique way Bangladesh-style - to lower the consumption of transport fuel and enhance the elasticity of demand. Similarly, we must eat and demand for rice is

inelastic. Salt is the classic textbook example: we consume the same quantity of salt regardless of

Government has an inherent tendency to administer prices of such essential products characterised by inelastic demand. In case of foodgrains. such administered prices through rationing system proved to be prohibitively expensive as well as subsidy for the rich. Fortunately, the system has now been phased out with the narrowing down of the food deficit through increased domestic production. However, the government retains the option of open market sale of food grains in case of any apprehension of excess demand and unusual rise in prices. The problem today in the food sector is in another direction. The effectiveness of government interventions in the market need to be considered both in terms of retail prices to protect the consumers and also farm gate prices to ensure fair returns to farmers. This can be the subject of another column next time. Today the focus is on administered pricing versus free market prices. In case of food grains, reforms have been substantial involving retail consumer market and government interventions are through free market sales or purchase at the growers level during harvest period. Administered pricing is not the issue any longer in the food sector.

It is the energy sector which suffers from total price control by the government through its monopoly procurement, processing, distribution and sales of all forms of non-renewable energy: electricity, gas and petroleum products. Consequently prices are all inflexible. The government faced the music for enhancing petrol prices. The same would be the consequence if prices of electricity on natural gas are increased.

However, it is not only to avoid political egitation that free market pricing is riceessary for fossil fuels. A sensible energy policy calls for energy market reform. The existing programme of the government in this respect is rather piecemeal. There is no comprehensive plan.

The domestic petroleum market is characterised by total government monopoly. It is no longer a tenable situation. If we should depend on foreign private companies for exploration and drilling, the why on earth, the downstream refining and marketing should be under public control. Once the multinationals discover natural gas, hopefully oil as well, processing and marketing of those newly-discovered fuels would be carried out by the same or may be other interested private companies. Government has no business to remain engaged with oil business when the most important component of the business, that is finding new sources of energy, is the responsibility of private companies. The government now owns an outdated refinery which is in need of

immediate capacity expansion. There is also no justification for the four oil companies to remain within the public fold.

We had our full innings with socialism and mounting public sector losses. Privatisation of the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) should be on the agenda of the government. The refinery and the 4 oil companies should be sold to 5 different parties. The import of crude oil and petroleum products should be a free-for-all affair. Additional refining capacity is now a must while manufacture of petroleum products from natural gas have been proposed by an international oil company engaged in exploration and drilling in Bangladesh. Given the rate of increase of fuel consumption, new private oil marketing companies

may also be encouraged to enter the market. It may be recalled that multinationals rushed in to secure exploration and drilling rights. They will have an abiding interest in our energy sector development. The oil industry world over is vertically integrated. From exploration and drilling to refining and distribution/marketing are all carried out by the oil giants. It is therefore natural to foresee a similar development in Bangladesh. provided the government creates the enabling

> conditions by privatising the nascent oil industry infrastructure. No doubt there should be scope for public intervention in order to ensure fair and stable prices of petroleum produ-

cts. What should be done is to determine the fair level of prices which should do justice to both producers and consumers without involving any subsidy or taxes as the fiscal instrument of

The corresponding levels of crude oil and natural gas prices should also be determined. This exercise may be carried out when the international crude prices are lower than the pre-determined optimum. The difference between the optimum and real prices should be taxed away and put into a "Petroleum Prices Stabilisation Fund". It would be negative tax when optimum price is lower than the actual price and there will be accumulation of funds if there is a fall in the crude oil price. The crude oil prices varied between \$21 and \$18 during last few years. The variation had been around 17 per cent. A stabilisation fund if established by the BNP regime would have worked and price stability maintained without a sudden price-hike. More so, because exchange rate was also fairly stable during the first half of this decade. However, in future if there is a long run secular increase in crude oil prices, a gradual price increase of not more than 5 per cent at a time of the final product prices would

The principle of the price stabilisation fund for petroleum products is the same as the food sector pricing. Government should give up directly administered pricing and depend on the free market as far as possible. However price stability is necessary and the proposed fund should do the needful. Such a price stabilisation fund has been working in Thailand until the recent upsurge in the exchange rate. The value of Thai Baht has been knocked off by as much as one-third in the last 2 months: However, to the extent we can bring about import substitution, petroleum prices can be protected from exchange rate fluctuations, in particular, depreciation of taka.

Such import substitution is feasible by using compressed natural gas (CNG) instead of diesel petrol or octane in all forms of automobiles, railways and water crafts. We should at least make a beginning by converting petrol-driven cars and reduce high costs to consumers. There are also proposals from a multinational company to convert natural gas into diesel and kerosene. The proposal should be approved as soon as possible. CNG conversion on a large-scale is now a distinct possibility and the first initiative of the government will be to privatise the business. There has been no initiative so far in this respect.

Privatisation is basic to free market pricing. It has to be aggressively pursued. However, it cannot be done unless and until the basic principle that government has no business to be in business is accepted in right earnest.

Lothe Editor...

Garments and Varsities

Sir, Dhaka's population control should be one of the top priorities of the government. In this regard, two more factors seem to have been overlooked Government has very wisely set up EPZ in the outskirts of the city. But there are hundreds of garment factories in the city, on almost all the main roads, and not one but even five or six in each building. Thousands of workers work in these — they are crammed up because of less space available. These buildings and their electric fittings are not properly and securely made up, necessary for a factory and that is leading to major fire breaks and many deaths. Why not make a rule that all the garment factories should build their own buildings with fire exits, daycare centres for small children, their own cafeteria etc., outside the city. If located on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway it will also be suitable for the conveyance of their products to Chittagong port. from where bulk of it is ex-

Dormitories for young girls working in the factories and small quarters for the families as in the Adamjee Jute Mills should also be built. The garment owners are making huge profits, so it would not be difficult for them to set up such factories out of the town. It will even help them to make more profit in the long run, as the rent there will be much less than in the heart of the city, fire hazards will decrease, workers will be happier and so work better etc. And it will help the government to decrease the exces-

sive congestion in Dhaka city. Another factor which will help decrease the congestion in Dhaka city is re-locating the universities and colleges outside the town. Many new private universities, medical and technical colleges are being set up in the city centre. Why not re-locate them in the outskirts of the city.

The academic atmosphere will be much better and students will be more busy with studies than with politics. Tuition fee will be also come down as the

rent is less outside the city and proper campus can be set up instead of just renting residential house in the city centre.

Dr Sabrina Rashid (Bu e-mail) Dhaka Cantonment

Policy of truth Sir. It is being said by the different political parties that terrorists do not have any political affiliation. But the truth is opposite. The terror-mongers simply would not have dared to such extent had they not enjoyed covert support from different political groups. So, first of all, the politicians have to admit publicly that it is none else but their party-workers who are creating the mischiefs. Someone must start — preferably the one at the helm of power — to try to turn the tide around before things get totally out of control.

Or we can just keep watching each act of terrorism and say "Thank God, it didn't hap-

Chowdhury Naim Rahman Khulshi, Chittagong.

"48 out of 51 edible oil refineries operate without valid licences"

Sir, This is in response to report published in The Daily Star on 5th August, 1997. It was noted that the aforesaid report inadvertently maligned the edible oil refinery industry.

The Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute (BSTI) is seeking a 2,800 per cent increase in its CM fees for quality certification. The level of increase sought is unprecedented. We have heard of increases of 10 per cent, 15 per cent, 20 per cent etc., but we have never heard of a government institution seeking an increase of 2,800 per cent.

The edible oil industry has always paid its dues in all spheres of activities including CM fees. As a matter of record, we are one of the largest contributors to the government ex-

chequer in terms of import duty and VAT. In fact, the whole edible oil industry has for the time-being suspended payment of CM fees in view of the extraordinary demands for increase. The matter is still under negotiation with the authorities concerned and we are confident that the authorities will surely appreciate that no increase of 2,800 per cent can ever be justified. We have stated that we are agreeable to a reasonable increase. And once that is settled all edible oil refineries will pay the fees immediately.

In this regard, it may be worth mentioning that most of the other industries are also not currently paying the CM fees due to unreasonable increase in

MA Rouf Chowdhury Chairman Bangladesh Vegetable Oil Refiners' and Vanaspati Manufacturers' Association

"Why Power Shortfall?"

Dhaka.

Sir, The editorial titled "Why Power Shortfall?" in DS dated 20.8.97 was well written stating people's grievance for power shortfall. But one sentence con-

Any government is a government. There can't be "this" government or "that" government, "previous" government or "present" government. Government is always a present one. Have we ever seen any break in this process or is there any record that there was no government at any time in the country?

entirely the present governmen-

t's fault that it is so

Nur Hossain 151, Bangshal Road Dhaka-1100.

Secular **Fundamentalism**

Sir, A new type of fundamen-

talism is appearing in the Muslim countries. This can be called Secular Fundamentalism (Carla Power, Newsweek, 14 July, 1997). The aim of this fundamentalism is to resist the mixing of Islam with politics. In Algeria, the secular forces cancelled election to stop victory of the Islamic Salvation Front and in Turkey, the army removed the pro-Islamic prime minister. But these are not going unchallenged. Algeria is in a civil war. Turkey could be the next. The lesson is this: it may be dangerous to let democracy work freely, but it is a lot more dan-

fuses me: "It is obviously not

BCS question paper

Sir, To my utter despair I am writing this letter to you because I just don't know who else to talk to about it.

I am a candidate for the Civil Service and currently sitting for the ongoing written test of BCS 1997. I think so far I've managed well in general Bangla and general English on 26th and 27th August respectively. But on 28th it was the test on General Knowledge (Bangladesh Affairs). I'm used to English text all along and usually expected an English version of the question paper overleaf. But to my (and presumably some others' too) surprise there was none there! You just can't believe your eyes. I was simply flabber

In the instruction on question papers, in bold letters, it

gasted.

was mentioned 'you can answer either in Bangla or in English and technical words can be written in English'. I asked the on-duty invigilator for an En-

centre at the moment To cut short the story, I had to cope without an English version risking gross terminological confusion in considerable number of cases. Unfortunate!

glish version thinking there

might be separate ones. She was

embarrassed first and then sent

a bearer to talk about it to the

PSC official available at that

Now I with my fellow suffer ers just wonder under what circumstances did PSC suddenly feel obliged to drop the English version from BCS question paper this year? Surajit

BCDJC, 187 Green Road, Dhaka

gerous to stifle it

Islam is slowly but steadily getting mixed with politics in Muslim countries like Jordan, Malaysia and Pakistan. Political Islam now increasingly attracts the educated middle-class. The Muslims are no longer viewed in the West as Kalashnikov-Koran toting extremists. Fearing this softening of attitude towards the Islamic fundamentalists. secularists in the Muslim countries are showing an anti-Islamic radical view which may be coined as Secular Funda-

Anwar Sadiq 12C, Amtoli, Mohakhali, Dhaka.

mentalism.

Unhygienic drainage system in RU

Sir. Rajshahi University has a beautiful and charming campus. But smelly drains wither the charm in many respects. Most of the unmetalled drains filled with filthy water breed mosquito and passers-by are also irritated by it. These drains also become stagnant in rainy seasons. My earnest appeal to the authority concerned to take proper measures to solve the problem and to ensure a stinkfree campus.

Humayun Morshed Himu E/34, Sher-e-Bangla Hall Rajshahi University

The Geneva Camp

Sir. This refers to a news tem captioned "Clash in Geneva Camp" published in an English daily of 19th August. 1997. There is no denying the fact that Geneva Camp located at Mohammadpur, in the heart of Dhaka city is the largest concentration camp housing more than 20,000 stranded Pakistanis. In recent past, the camp has turned into a den of criminals Clash and confrontation have become a routine matter in order to establish each other's supremacy. Open use of fire arms have been a common scene. Whatever is happening there is neither a new phenom-

ena nor 8th wonder of the world. Much have been written on the subject to draw the attention of authorities concerned but all feel flat. National dailies in past had reported pointing out the crimes going on there.

Attention of Mayor had also been drawn to this but went in vain. It seems as if there is no rule of law in the country. Not only the city corporation but law enforcing agency is also silent.

Aminul Islam Chowdhury Humanyun Road, B Block Mohammadpur, Dhaka

What's in a name or title?

Sir, There is a tendency with the politicians in our country that they be always busy with changing the name of a place or road, of an organisation or institute. This habit should go. Please keep the dead souls in peace. They will be happy not to be disturbed. If one is so desirous of giving name to a road or institution, or whatever, he/she may please build a new one. Then no soul will be disturbed and no mortal being will feel sorry or object.

And now, let us talk about 'father of the nation' issue. Well there should not be one such adoration. When one works wonder for the nation, he/she may be called 'pioneer' or you may call him a 'founder' of the nation.

I would like to request all the politicians: for God's sake, please don't waste time in sorts of dirty politics. If this process continued one day will come when you have to find out your name or your party's name only in the process of oblivion. For, there's a limit to toleration, too

I am proud of being a Bangali. But when I think that I am within an arena of a dirty political instability. I really feel worried. The world is moving so fast, please do something for the development of the country. That's the process to keep your name brighter forever

R S Nayan Dhanmondi, Dhaka