# The Baily Star

Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali Dhaka, Monday, November 3, 1997

## Bayonetting the Liberation War

Today is the infamous Jail Killing Day. This is the blackest day in the annals of this ancient nation in so far as it completes the mean and hideous and bloody act that was initiated on August 15,

But this day, November 3, has another and very elevating meaning for us. The leaders of the Liberation War, who were spared the fate of Bangabandhu and his family, were expected to fall in line and many of them indeed did so. There was no point in courting certain death, might have been the way they thought. Not so in the case of our great four. Possibly no one even dared ask them if they would compromise. And so they were sequestered behind jail bars lest resistance should build up with them at the centre.

When the protagonists of the August 15 massacre got convinced of not getting any of the four to bend, they put out what they believed to be the last flame of the resurgence of the Bengalees as a nation. A foreknowledge or premonition of things slipping beyond their control on the morrow hastened both their decision and execution. And the unbending four courted martyrdom with the sure knowledge they were doing the right thing. Death hardly can be more glorious. And they died a hero's death only to live eternally in the mind of all Bengali-speaking people of the world.

Among the killers were some who fought in the Liberation War. Didn't they know who were they killing? A process of ingratitude growing viciously into an all-enveloping amnesia spilled from the bloodied bayonets of the killers and made us all forget who were those that fell that night to the world's cowardliest bullets. Tell us ye, sons and daughters of this soil, who would develop, command and win us our life's best blessing and this people's highest ever glory — the Liberation War, if not Tajuddin? And what great comrades-in-arms he had in the Acting President Syed Nazrul Islam, Finance Minister Captain Mansur Ali and Commerce Minister Kamruzzamman of the Provisional Bangla government in Mujbnagar! All but one of the Liberation War government was there in the jail cells and the assassins killed them with a will to kill the Liberation War and its goals and achievements.

We can try to repay our debts to Tajuddin and his indomitable comrades, who together represent the Liberation War as no other groups of person do, by imbibing their patriotism and courage and total commitment to society and practising these in our life unfalteringly.

## After the Bonanza What?

Bangladeshi tea never had it so good in the world market. Global output declining sharply due to drought in major tea-growing countries, Bangladeshi garden-owners not visited by the natural vagary made an exceptional windfall this year. We congratulate them on the good turn of fortune and the dynamic efficiency with which they have seized and encashed the opportunity in the global market.

From a survival context they have emerged into the brilliance of a reawakening. All concerned with the tea industry must strive now to keep it alight, lest it wore off as a mere fortuitous onetimer. It is good augury that rather than resting on the oars of a bonanza, the tea professionals are seriously thinking a plan to plough back the money into raising the quality of their yields. Must the government, or for that matter, Bangladesh Tea Board, confine their role to pontificating the tea growers what to do and what not to do with the 'extra profits'.

It is time the government sat down with the garden owners, traders and the workers' representatives on the specific agenda of adopting a modern approach to production, processing, blending and marketing of this highly popular beverage in the world. There is a vast scope for stepping up production of good quality tea through well-planned, adequately-financed and technically-assisted scientific researches in collaboration with other major tea-producing countries which are not, strictly speaking, our rivals; because Bangladesh tea has a constancy of demand for its thickening quality and colour while the rest of world's reputed tea is coveted for its aroma or flavour. Within a framework of complementarity they must work in concert to develop strains that add to the stock of blendables to suit different palates world-wide.

The policy cover must bring within its ambit the workers' welfare including their security in the work-place currently being endangered by poachers and intruders.

For expanding bilateral sales, let's gear up for a fresh marketing drive.

## Despicable

Unsporting behaviour of some players coupled with unnecessary police cruelty killed Saturday afternoon's prospect of an absorbing contest between two popular clubs in a group engagement of the curtain-raising tournament of the domestic cricket

season. If Minhaz's behaviour was another display of his trademark antics in similar situations, Mohammedan Sporting skipper Aminul Islam's instigating prolonged argument with the umpire was appallingly astounding. Getting involved in indecent public disagreement with umpires over a verdict is the last image that people who know the vice captain of the national team can think of. Besides, neither Minhaz nor Amin is young and naive enough to miss the consequence of the impact of their behaviour on rabid supporters of the club. The ugliest part of Amin's behaviour was that instead of goading the dismissed batsman on way to pavilion he just started arguing with the umpire like a spoiled brat.

To cap it all was the so-called police action. All afternoon members of law enforcing agency lazed around while missiles were being flung from the galleries. Just when the dust was settling down did they swing into action with indiscriminate lobbing of tear gas shells.

Bangladesh Cricket Board should conduct enquiry into Saturday's incident and deal with the authorities of the people responsible for both unruly and unsporting behaviour. If found guilty it should also severely deal with that club official who reportedly tried to attack a Board official over the adjudication of the man of the match award.

Alan Greenspan, the highly experienced and knowledgeable Chairman of the US Federal Reserves has remarked about a week ago that the prevailing boom in the US stock market could not be sustained for too long. Sure enough, the major correction came just a few days later on Monday, October 27.

HIS last week of October has witnessed a major storm in the financial markets of ★ the rich countries of the world — North America, Europe, Far East and South East Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Ironically, it came in the week following the reminiscences of a similar storm on "Black Monday" of October 19. 1987. Although in the statistical sense, two observations whether in two weeks or two decades or whatever time dimensions doesn't constitute a trend of events to give it a sense of regularity, one should still watch out for such a recurrence in the future.

It looks like the famous Kondrat long-period business cycle after every 50 or 60 years hasn't taken place this time following 1929 depression, which a few smart alecs were predicting in the United States, the capitalist world may be facing

medium and short cycles only and that without much hardships on the life of the common people. Thanks to the deep understanding of the business cycle issues by the theorists

rections were domestic.

INSIGH Kabir U Ahmad

awareness among the policy makers in advanced countries so as to promptly respond to the needs

ther below. However, coming back to the events of the last week, although in the week of October 20-24, Hong Kong stock market experienced a substantial slide in its price index which some observers in various parts of the world thought had triggered the New York stock market's major shake up on Monday, October 27, with a loss of 554 points of the Dow Jones price index of 30 blue chips, this certainly was not the major cause of the latter's price decline. Of course, Hong Kong stock market decline had some influence on New York market since many fund managers in the US had portfolios on Far Eastern markets the ratings of which have been lowered lately, but by and large the reasons for New York's price cor-

of the economy as and when such trauma ap-

pears in the market. This issue is analysed fur-

Over the last six and a half years or so, the Dow Jone's price index has been steadfastly growing from somewhere in the range of 3200-3400 to over 8200 breaking all the barriers, as it were. As Alan Greenspan, the highly experienced and knowledgeable Chairman of the US Federal Reserves has remarked about a week ago that the prevailing boom in the US stock market could not be sustained for too long. Sure enough, the major correction came just a few days later on Monday, October 27.

The Pattern of Development

The report of the market development has been indicating that there was a kind of a leaderfollower behaviour in the stock market. Monday's price correction in New York was followed by all the major markets in the rest of the world on Tuesday with similar price declines. But since on Tuesday, October 28, the Dow Jones industrial average in New York market quickly rebounded by gaining 337 point it was followed suit by those other markets as well, although by not as much. The Dow Jones price index on Wednesday and Thursday rose by a small margin and that has engendered somewhat of a disap

during the then East Pakistan

Government and the other by

Both the Commissions after

finishing their tour abroad

submitted their valued recom-

mendations to the government

for implementation with a view

to make the rules suitable for

an independent country. They

also recommended for setting

up of a separate Training

Academy for the jail officers

and staff. After a long lapse of

time, the previous BNP gov-

ernment constituted a three-

member Jail Code Revision

Committee from amongst the

retired jail officers to prepare

draft rules revising the rules of

the existing Jail Code. The Jail

Code Revision Committee duly

submitted the draft revised

rules to the appropriate author-

ities. But these are still await-

like to mention that our neigh-

bouring government's West

Bengal revised thoroughly the

Jail Code Rules introduced

during the British regime to

make it suitable for an inde-

pendent country. They have

also changed the name of West

Bengal jails as Correctional In-

implement the recommenda-

tion of Munir Commission? I

would request, the present

democratic government of

Bangladesh to give attention to

Retired Administrative Officer

Disappointing tour

team has finished their Kenya

trip in an incongruous manner.

We had a long-cherished desire

that we shall earn a winning

record in ODI. But we can't

achieve that coveted distinction

contending with the compara-

bly mediocre teams in the world

cricket arena. We have vied for

21 ODIs and lost all of them but

Kenya has three win in this

highest echelon of cricket game

matches in Nairobi but apart

from the first leg match against

aspirant Zimbabwe, in which

Bangladesh crossed 250 runs

mark for the first time in ODI.

and bungled badly in all other

Our team contended in four

of their 15 encounters.

Sir, Bangladesh Cricket

Why are we still hesitating to

In this connection, I would

ing implementation.

stitutes.

this aspect.

Bangladesh.

Abdur Razzaque

Prisons Directorate

pointment in the follower's markets because the New York market hasn't gained fully what it has

lost on Monday. One has to understand that the follower countries do have some equity and bond links with the US market but the situation in the US market has to reflect the internal strengths and weaknesses of the economy. The speculative element in the stock prices which definitely distorts the financial resources in an economy has to be brought under control. This is what has happened in the US market on Monday and the following Tuesday-Thursday. This pattern cannot be the same in all the follower markets. The degree of speculation and the related distortions in the financial markets all over the world cannot be the same.

> currency overvaluation, overinvestment in real-estate and other sectors in the Far Eastern markets and the external loan burdens are not the same in all

Similarly.

the degree o

countries. Therefore, the degree of price corrections in the US market cannot correct the internal mistakes in all other countries of the world. Nor can the strengths and internal adjustments of the outer world can correct the mistakes of the US economy. This justifies Alan Greenspan's observation on Wednesday that the last week's sell-off has brought market prices to a reasonable level which can sustain the 1st six and a half years' expansion of economic activities in the United States.

### Comparison Between 1929 and 1987 Crashes

The Economist of London of October 20-24 1997, has observed that there was hardly any hardship after 1987 crash. On the contrary there was a severe hardship following the 1929 crash. Investors quickly took advantage of the 1987 price decline in stock markets and bene-Right now people are looking for another such opportunity to buy cheap shares after a 1987-type crash. It certainly has happened last week. Two points are worth making. First of all there were some job-losses both in New York and elsewhere on a small scale. In New York alone there were losses of about 14000 high paid jobs in the financial sector. But it wasn't on the scale of general unemployment and economic hardships inflicted on the people in general after the 1929 crash in the industrialised world. The sec ond points is that after the 1929 crash, governments in the industrialised world tightened both monetary and fiscal policies guided by the old classical economist's thinking. Such policies

cal economic thinking came in 1936. However, after 1987 crash the government especially the United States government, supplied new cash to ease the market condition so that interest rate did not shoot up when the market became tight. This avoided the potential economic slump. The understanding of economists has improved a great deal since 1929

had had disastrous effects. Keynesian anti-cycli-

# Storm in the World's Financial Market | China's Blue Water Plunge

If the Chinese have been expanding themselves in the Spratlys the true challenge to them would be, according to the observers, to hold the islands against a determined naval blockade which can be enacted only by the US Navy while using locally available naval and port facilities.

VEN whole of Europe seemed small for → Napoleon's conquest as the powers of Europe started crumbling before his feet. The dreams of vast empire floated in his mind and the mystery, wealth and greatness of the East lured him irresistably, especially those of Egypt and India. Escaping the vigil of a genius of the sea, he did manage to take an Army across the Mediterranean to Alexandria but the ragtag French fleet carrying it there was eventually destroyed by Nelson right in the harbour. Beleaguered in Egypt. Napoleon still nourished his dreams and opened negotiation with the Shah of Persia and Tipu Sultan of South India with the fond hopes of possible conquests further in the East

But nothing substantial came out of it because of his powerlessness at sea. Napoleon was a very great general and a master of war on land, but on sea he was helpless. He did not understand it much. And it was the sea power that ultimately broke Napoleon. Exactly a century before him Peter the Great of Russia realised, in the same manner, the limits to his power. On land Russia was invincible. Even Napoleon could not penetrate it.

the East and the West it was, in fact, the

people took to the discovery of oceans and

unknown lands through their undaunted sea-

faring. The English were pioneer in the field and

survived the ravages of the Napoleonic wars, they

imposed their control over most part of the world

Only during the great wars the mantle gradually

passed on to the United States. Any nation

aspirant of attaining a strategic reach of global

scale must possess a blue water capability and for

them, the Mahanian doctrine of global strategy

For Peoples Republic of China — the country

frequently mentioned today to be a great power by

the turn of the millienia — the point could not be

lost sight of. Yet China with her priorities else-

where and a typical continental mindset took un-

necessarily long time to get over her sea blindness

while among the Asian powers India made a giant

leap forward in her maritime enterprise. How-

ever, back in 1992 the central military commis-

sion of PRC resolved to establish a high perfor-

mance blue water fleet supposed to be the 'world's

most powerful navy including, of course, the ac-

quisition of its own aircraft carriers matching the

nation's burgeoning economic might and politico-

security clout. Even a modest beginning only to

give shape to the first phase of this ambitious plan

has been rather spectacular. PLA navy has already

broken out southward and surged across Malacca

straits to Indian Ocean. The approaches to

Malacca straight one of the world's most crucial

maritime choke points can, according to the Chi-

nese, be dominated from the Spratly islands and

lands and reefs, mostly uninhabitated, between

the coasts of Vietnam and the Philippines - al-

ready weighed heavily in China's strategic calcu-

The Spratly islands — a multitude of small is

Myanmar's coast-line on the Bay of Bengal.

But Peter knew, in a hard way, that his country must be strong at sea to qualify as a great

Ever since sea

still remains sacroscant.

became the high-

way of the world

and the commer-

# PERSPECTIVES

by Brig (Rtd) M Abdul Hafiz

the size of a naval task force it would need to deploy in order to conduct a major war in the Spratlys. In the spring of 1995 PLA's South China fleet already

The PLA Navy al-

ready calculated

and six 051-type Luda-class warships. Plans are mastery of the sea which dictated the rise and fall afoot to support this fleet with 10-16 submarines, of powers. In the wake of Renaissance the almost equal number of frigates and 30 patrol revolutions and inventions shook Europe where boats and submarine hunters apart from a comprehensive airdefence systems by transferring PRC's most modern warships from other fleets. In addition, for the daunting task of as unchallenged master of the seas not only they subsequent defence of the islands the PLA planners saw no alternative to a Chinese aircraft

all economy and industrialisation of Asia-Pacific

continues to expand with same rapid pace. It was

no wonder that the PLA Navy's first ever offensive

was to take place in the Jhonson reef of the

Spratlys. Even if the Chinese have been expanding

themselves in the Spratlys the true challenge to

them would be, according to the observers, to hold

the islands against a determined naval blockade

which can be enacted only by the US Navy while

Airforce was busy building the permanent base in

the Hainan island for the defence of the South

China Sea which subsumed their concerns also

for the Spratlys, the true expression of a sense of

urgency for a rush to the high sea both with the

CMC and PLA high command came in the wake of

one of the largest scale naval warfare exercise

conducted in the PRC in 1994. It used the

Choushan island as the site for dress rehearsal for

ambitious operation in Spratly islands. As per

Beijing's estimate a surge into the islands consti-

tutes a key to the PLA Navy's ability to reach and

ultimately dominate the strait of Malacca.

Although a joint command of PLA Navy and

using locally available naval and port facilities.

Apart from the Spratlys and the sea lanes between the Pacific and Indian Ocean, Myanmar is the other main surge point of the PRC. With a very long coastline stretching along the Bay of Bengal and a few islands off shore Myanmar offer an ideal strategic staging point to control the western approaches to the strait of Malacca as well as to directly challenge the traditional custodians of Indian Ocean. But in spite of PRC's staunch support for the military government in Yangon, her building up of strategic infrastructure in Myanmar started only in early 1990s, precisely when PRC chalked up her own naval strategy at a grand scale. From 1990 PRC poured in \$1.2b worth of weapons and other equipments in Myanmar and the pace of weapon delivery is still growing.

What is, however, of strategic importance is the Chinese development of the military infrastructure in Myanmar, particularly naval facilities. Another significant development of Sino-Myanmar strategic understanding is the PRC's upgrading of the road and railway system from China's Yunau province to several ports along the Myanmar coast of Bay of Bengal. The extent of expansion of the transportation infrastructure, all in harsh jungle and mountainous terrain, exceeds by far the needs of even the most optimistic outlook for Sino-Myanmar commercial relations.

PRC's drive through Myanmar to the coast of Bay of Bengal is distinctly reminiscent of Russia's century-old drive for the warm water of Indian Ocean, which got stuck in the rocky wilderness of the Hindukush. But what Russia could not achieve seems well within the reach of China due mainly to the latter's multidimensional structure of

### lations. Now this importance grew manifold with the discovery of huge oil fields in those islands. These oil deposits would be of great importance both economically and strategically, as the over

OPINION

## Reservation on Reserved Seats

Munira Khan

ECENTLY, I had the opportunity of attending LUin an international workshop on "Electoral Law Reform in Bangladesh" where leaders of some political parties, MPs, lawyers ex-justices, activists and NGO workers participated. Along with many other relevant subjects the participants raised the issue of women's seats in the Parliament and discussed it elaborately from different perspectives. I got a distinctive feeling that all of them were sincere in their belief that women's participation should come in a bigger and wider way in Bangladesh's politics.

As 50 per cent of the population of the country, women should contribute more and should be empowered with absolute and direct right to participate, act and share the governance of the country in way which is effective and meaningful. But how? That is a big question to be answered by the politicians and other consciencous people and need attention of those who want real democracy to be practiced in our country, who want the elimination of discrimination against women in every sphere of their lives in Bangladesh.

It we look back, we can see that discrimination in the political arena which existed before liberation continued even after the birth of Bangladesh. In 1972, only 15 seats were reserved for women in the Parliament for 10 year, disregarding the role played by the women in all the movements

and the Liberation War. Women's participation in the Liberation War cannot be denied as they all fought in their own capacities equally, and in my opinion, sacrificed more than men. The reserved seats were increased from 15 to 30 during the regime of late president Ziaur Rahman although I cannot find any reason why only 30? Why not more? In that period, I have seen many women came up to be involved in politics and the president himself was always addressing women to work side by side with men. I have heard him speaking at a seminar that every women should work and earn enough to get recognition and respect as a fellow citizen of a country should get.

But the involvement of women in politics did not increase the number of seats in the Parliament much and moreover the mode of election remained the same. In the meantime, different women's organisations and the women activists were loud in their thinking that the system of reserved seats and the mode of election for women the parliament was not a proper one to have true representation of

power build-up.

them in the Parliament. notice that the women politicians particularly the members of parliament who were the beneficiaries of the indirect method supported the system giving many reasons such as financial constraints etc., whereas activists who were not directly involved did not get nominations from the majority party for direct election.

Ten years have passed; but am surprised that even in 1997 we hear the same arguments and speeches more or less in any debate, discussion and seminar. Even when the period of reservation of seats of women expired on May 7, 1987 circumstances (or lack of initiative on the part of the politicians) did not allow to increase the number of women's seats in the Parliament and extended the period of reservation up to 4 April, 2001. Anyway, lobbying have been going on by the activists, although we have not heard much about this from the politicians and MPs. I think, many of us are really confused about the issue.

Although it is an established fact in democracy that indirect way of electing representatives cannot give a proper role to the MPs to be accountable to the voters, we are getting two sets of MPs from a constituency: one directly elected — one indi-

According to our Constitution women have equal rights that of men, they are welcome to participate in any political activities and to free to contest election from any constituencies they want. But problems remain about getting a successful result. As it is, when a qualified, better candidate from the smaller and weaker parties find it difficult to win in the direct election, how would a women candidate who has smaller budget, less known than the male win? After all they are neither ex-ministers, ex-servicemen nor business tycoons or indus-

trialists. Nowadays, parties do not provide funds to the candidates for electioneering — rather they take money from the aspirants for the party and relactant to give nomination to women Who or which party would want to lose a seat. Politics is not

charity, after all! But I am sure we all want a solution and the responsibilities lie with the politicians

more than anybody else. It needs planning, and strong and sincere determination for implementation of the plan accordingly.

We all understand that as a person cannot walk not to speak of running when one of his/her major organs of the body does not function well - a nation cannot progress until and unless the whole component of the society and nation progress at the same pace. For that the stronger section has to help, strengthen and pull up the

weaker one with a good will. Here in Bangladesh we all agree that women still belongs to a weaker section in the arena of politics. So the responsibilities lie not only with them but mainly with the male politicians if they really went progress of the nation. One may argue that nobody gives anything willingly and voluntarily. Why empower others when one can do without it? So women are to fight for they political

But again I will argue that for obtaining superiority and effective participation in politics, women will need some time and opportunities to be involved and congenial atmosphere. To achieve those, women need some concession, and that is why the issue of reserved seats crops up repeatedly. Like reserved seats for minority community in many countries, women's seats in the Parliament should be reserved for a longer period, but not by indirect election. First the seats should be increased from 30 to 150. In my opinion according to the proportion of increased women population, 150 seats in the Parliament is not much. Then in every two constituencies, one can be reserved for women candidates. That means every voter will cast two votes one for the male candidate, one for a woman. A woman candidate will be common in two neighbouring constituencies.

In this way, reserved seat and direct election system many continue for some time say, for another two terms, and I am sure everybody will agree with me that this is not too much to ask. It is reasonable and necessary

Women could have asked more but as I said earlier the weaker section of the community will have to wait until it gains more strength and becomes fully equipped with political knowledge and necessary qualities to share the responsibilities of running a government. For that women need cooperation goodwill and time and they will get it, I am sure.

Reforming the jails matches. Against host Kenya, Bangladesh scored 193 all-out Sir, Two Jail Reform Comand 101 all-out and in all the missions were set up - one

four matches Bangladesh could

not play all the 50s overs.

Bangladesh bundled out a test the Government of the People's playing nation for the second Republic of Bangladesh with a times, when Zimbabwe was all view to modify/change the exout 284 against Sri Lanka. isting Jail Code Rules intro-For Bangladesh, the 2nd leg duced during the British regime. matches were very disappoint-The first one headed by Mr ing, in which Bangladesh was Rahmat Ullah, the then Comskittled out for a meagre total of missioner of Dhaka Division 90 all-out and 107 all-out and the second one headed by against Zimbabwe and Kenya Mr Justice Munir which was respectively. Two consecutive named as Munir Commission. victories over Bangladesh, has Both the Commissions visited made their (Kenya) way to esdifferent countries including tablish a position at nine in some of the European countries Ceat International Cricket and examined their existing team rating with two points system of Jail Administration where West Indies is in 8th poand Jail Code Rules on the spot. sition with 13 points and Sri

> Shohel 533, Surya Sen Hall Dhaka University

rank with 43 points.

## Fire in the factories

Sir, The authority concerned is taking steps to remove the problems from the garments factories although it is too late. Fire break-out is the main fear of the garments workers. Till now 143 workers have died due to fire and about 2000 have suffered burn injuries. Some were close to dead, according to a report published in weekly Bichitra of October 3, '97. If the authority would have thought about fire, we couldn't have lost these valuable lives. Why don't they do something before it's too late? From this, one may guess the real picture of our country as well as the procrastination of authority concerned.

Readers, how they (authority concerned) should be taken to task?

Main Uddin Sabuj 514, Zia Hall University of Dhaka.

## No end of experts

Sir, Jute Minister Faezul Huq seems to be expert in every line, from all angles and for making any kind of expert comment or sweeping remark, rendering him an all rounder. First of all, he had the courage to make a recommendation for a particular person to the Establishment Division. He even met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in order to make sure. Being a person of high calibre and a close member of Sher-e-Bangla and having served in practically all the governments at the ministerial level, his words naturally carry much weight. He is the only cabinet member who has not aged, nor changed or had to change parties. In other words, he is a man who belongs to the whole nation as a singular VVIP belonging to all parties.

In the latest incident, his all-important comment was to the effect that Bangladesh had a bumper harvest, which ought

not to have happened but has making his ministry unwilling to pay the jute growers the price his Prime Minister had pronounced in public meetings prior to the last general elections. Even if he is serving for the first time as Jute Minister. he has proved himself to be an expert, claiming this year's jute production is far below the desired quality, as if to prove or to make sure that no other person is able to judge the quality of jute so accurately. Nevertheless the fact that the PM has made an agreeable approach in writing to the Establishment Ministry on her minister's recommendation proves that rules and regulations are not the norm followed by the Awami government. And may be, it is one reason why the transfer order may be given without the officer's designation and can be signed by his or her supervisor.

It would not be out of the way to mention how influential bureaucrats can serve all governments even after 3 years or more has elapsed, even on contract basis and even after being accused of contempt of court by the Supreme Court, High Court

These experts have a monopoly of the expertise business. Let the talented young go elsewhere and let the aging junior officers rot in subordinate posts. There is no dearth of experts: Mr Abdus Samad shaking Kofi Annan's hahd, Kibria the financial saviour and Mi Ahmed Tofail Ahmed alone holding two portfolios where the inexpert BNP needed two ministers.

South Bashabo Dhaka

## Cuisine on the Tower

Sir, On the top of Jiban Bima

Would the owner of the restaurant and other authorities like Jiban Bima Corporation/DCC look into the matter and take immediate remedial steps?

Khairul Anam Khan 45/1 New Eskaton Road Dhaka-1000

Lanka has occupied the top

K M Chowdhury

Tower (20th floor) one restaurant in the name of "Tower International Cuisine" has been opened about 5 to 6 months back. Unfortunately the owner of the restaurant has not made adequate arrangements to emit the pungent smell the cooked item discharges during the preparation process. As a result anyone using the lift or passing through the corridors of any floor, especially those above 10th, has to consume the bad smell. The Privatisation Board. Securities and Exchange Commission, Siemens and other important offices are on these floors and one can well imagine the inconvenience the employees and the visitors (especially the foreigners) have to face daily and almost throughout the day.