

YASMEEN

The Ballad of a Flower Not Allowed to Bloom

by Audity Falguni

The "helpless" judgment of the Seema Chowdhury murder case is still before our eyes. Hence we appeal and caution our noble Judiciary, that, the criminals should not be enabled to make the proper use of the loopholes of our legal system.

IN our opinion, death was due to asphyxia followed by internal hemorrhage, as a result of throttling followed by head injury and she was raped which was ante-mortem and homicidal in nature.

No, readers! Don't get puzzled. This is not any anti-novel climax draft of the "hungry" author Suvmil Mishra. This is simply a medical report.

Nearly two years before, on a fine morning of 24th August, 1995, some indigenous people (Saontals) and two or three workers of the BRAC office found the corpse of a young girl on the Dinajpur-Thakurgaon highway. Her face was aslant towards west and hands wide apart, her forehead had swelling and a deep cut in skull. Her right jaw was bruised, her kamiz torn down the right armpit. She was out and out blood stained and the hips of her salwar were wet (purity readers might shout: put! obscene! your Majesty... this is simply a medical report).

Thus, on 24th Aug. 1995, we found the "deep cut in skull-kamiz torn-wet salwar Bangladesh". That on 23rd August afternoon, 1995, a girl as named "Bangladesh" or a country named "Yasmeen" rode on a "Dhaka-Thakurgaon coach, just to see her mother Sharifa Begum in Keradang, Dinajpur. That poor 14-year-old domestic worker got down with a co-passenger youth at Dash Mile bus stop, where she took some milk and bread at a tea-stall and waited for another bus to reach her mother's residence. It was approximately at 4:00 am of night, a police patrol van and ASI Mainul, Constable Sattar-Amritlal arrived at the spot. Police van: state or the state-

mechanism, administration, coercive madness of the ruling class, "puppet" government police van, or better to say, the state-mechanism forced Yasmeen to go with them claiming that they would reach her safely to her destination (as our state-mechanism is always too weeping for the integrity of the "soil" and the "virgin"). Capture of the girl resulted in rape in the morning cab. The ravished country, then jumped from the running cab. The police personnel, being alarmed, further picked her up and recognising as "dead," left the corpse on the highway.

The successive series of incidents were more frightening! Neither the "hungry" script of Goddard-Mrital-Gautam, nor the angry "Guernika" of Picasso, nor the "Black Africa" of Tutu-wala Defining one's own-self in the reality of the insane time, it was Dafadar Velu of the Uttar Govindpur Union, who filed the case of an unnatural death in Dinajpur Kotwali (UD case No 85/95 GD No 953), approximately at 6:30 am, 24th August. Though Velu's GD was accepted but his signature was taken in a plain white paper and he was not made reading out of what has been written. However, in the meantime, the accused police personnel filed a "false" unnatural death case (GD No 957), saying, the girl died out of jumping from running cab. As if it were to establish this false statement, ASG Jahangir Alam arrived at the spot, intentionally unclothed the girl and exam-

ined her sexual organs with a stick before the crowd. Later on, the body was moved to the hospital for autopsy. The physician concerned Dr Md Mohsin issued an intentional medical report, determining the "jump" from the van as the prima facie cause of her death although opining that the "sexual organ" of the deceased was congested after the completion of this fabricated post-mortem report. The dead body of the girl was buried as an unidentified one by the help of Anjuman-e-Mofidul Islam. By 24-25th August, Dinajpur police succeeded in discovering an identity for the girl: the local daily "Tista" described Yasmeen as the floating prostitute "Banu." However, Dinajpur city went on trembling with a number of processions and demonstrations owing to resentment amongst all sections of people, political parties and social organizations. It flared up to such an extent that 17 persons died at Dinajpur (27-28 August) and Cawajup was imposed.

On August 29, Yasmeen's body was exhumed for a second autopsy. On August 30, second autopsy report disclosed that Yasmeen died of gangrape. Homicidal case was filed against three police personnel

U/S 302/376 of Bangladesh Penal Code and U/S 64 of Women and Child Repression (Special Provision) Act, 1995.

You know, Yasmeen's law is that black buffalo, whose horns can be turned too easily, as depending on the muscle power. Hence a new scenario of anarchy was revealed before our eyes. If it were not anarchy, then why should two concrete years be wasted for the mere declaration of the judgment, particularly when the case was so vividly direct, involving rape and murder? 30th August 1995-31st August 1997: 2 solid years. Although the three criminals, who have raped and murdered you have been declared to be hanged on, but those who tried to cancel and destroy the necessary "documents" of the crime committed towards you - how could they be relieved peremptory discharge? Even if the story did end here! Now the rapist-culprits are asking for appeal. Hearing is going to be held within a few days in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court... everything getting entangled. 24th August 1995-31st August, 1997: Let me sum up all the sloths and anarchies our legal system has presented to you:

(1) Approximately at 6:30 am., while Dafadar Velu expressly wished to file a GD, his signature was received in a plain, white paper and he was not made reading out what had been written. This is explicit violation of S 154, CrPC.

(2) Issue of false and fabricated medical report by Dr Mohsin (24th August). Hasty burial of Yasmeen as an unidentified corpse.

(3) 25th August, 1995, local daily "Tista" described Yasmeen as prostitute. Press release from Home Ministry tried to establish that jump from the cab was the root cause of her death.

(4) August 30, homicidal case was filed against three police personnel U/S 302/376 of Bangladesh Penal Code and U/S 64 of Women and Child Repression (Special Provision) Act 1995.

(5) Although this case was a UD case at first and on receipt of the post-mortem examination, FIR was lodged on 4.9.95, the investigation officer started the recording of depositions U/S 101 of the CrPC. And that in the midst of the investigation the case was handed over to the ASP, CID Zone, Bogra, Mr Mahfuzur Rahman, for investigation. He received the case record from Senior A S P Dinajpur, Md Afzal Hussain on 29.12.95. Thus we see that more than five months had been re-

quired for completing the investigation, while S167 of the CrPC gives a precise provision for completing an investigation within a reasonable time. If the investigation can't be completed within 24 hours, then the police officer is authorised to investigate the matter within a "reasonable time."

(6) September 3: A second murder case against three police personnel was filed by Manbadhikar Bastabayan Sangtha, Dinajpur Unit.

(7) September 12: Sammlita Nari Samaj demanded the removal of Home Minister for his failure to protect the dignity and security of women. They also demanded publication of the report of the inquiry committee.

(8) August, 22: Yasmeen rape and murder case was transferred to Rangpur.

(9) August, 24, 1996: Sammlita Nari Samaj observed the day as "Women Repression Resistance Day" to protest against all oppression against women.

(10) September 27, 1996: Trial of Yasmeen rape and murder case starts at Special District and Sessions Court at Rangpur.

(11) November 10: Court framed charge against all the accused in the Yasmeen murder case. Court framed charges

against the three principal accused under Section 64 of the Women and Child Repression (Special Provision) Act and against the other accused under Section 201/34 of Bangladesh Penal Code.

(12) At the time of court proceedings it was seen that lots of evidences were needed to be produced by senior Assistant Superintendent of Police Md Afzal Hossain and public prosecutor but they failed to produce those evidences.

(a) Mr. Afzal Hossain recorded the statement of three principal accused but he did not examine Abdullah-Hel-Baki (duty officer of that police station at that time). In GD No 957, there is no statement as to cognizable offence against any person.

(b) Mr Afzal Hossain did not hold any TI parade in respect of identification of Sattar, Moinul-Amritlal-Sattar.

(c) Though Dr Md Mohsin was an accused in the case but his name was not included in the FIR.

(d) Many prosecution witnesses could not describe actually what happened at the time of incident, because they had to make depositions two months later, for example, prosecution witness-2 Sree Joyonto Kumar could not remember whether the police who got down from van were in uniform or not.

(e) March 13, 1997, Barrister Amrul Islam was appointed as special Public Prosecutor by the Law Ministry to submit arguments.

(f) July 30: Court concluded deposition of witnesses. Total 47

witnesses were examined and cross-examined.

After two long years of delay, the judgment of sensational Yasmeen rape and murder case was delivered by the District and Sessions Judge Abdul Matin, Rangpur on 31 August, 1997. By this judgment, main three culprits were sentenced to death while the other six (i.e., OC Motiur Rahman, ASI Jahangir Alam, Swapon Kumar Chakrabarty, SP Abdul Kuttalab, Amritlal and Abdus Sattar) were acquitted because all these persons, in eyes of law, committed no material illegality or irregularity in respect of holding the inquest and investigation as to the death of Yasmeen.

The over-all case-study shows that although the "Women and Child Repression Act 1995" holds provision for the completion of any investigation process within 60 days, still 210 additional days were expired for the entire investigation work. It provided large scopes for the concealment and destruction of "alamats" resulting in honourable discharge of the "Gentlemen" criminals.

All we know is, two appeal hearings are going to be held in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on Yasmeen's issue. One is filed by the defendants to quash the execution order and the other made by the State against those accused under S/201/34, of a penal code for destruction of necessary evidence.

The "helpless" judgment of the Seema Chowdhury murder case is still before our eyes. Hence we appeal and caution our noble Judiciary, that, the criminals should not be enabled to make the proper use of the loopholes of our legal system.

Evolving an Education System Relevant to Our Needs

by Shahabuddin Mahtab

In some selected secondary schools, vocational teachers training courses may be introduced in classes nine, ten and eleven. This would draw greater number of women to take up school teaching. The Employment of women teachers, will have manifold key effects, such as empowerment, dedication, lesser number of children etc.

IN the past decades three important Commissions were appointed to give their recommendations regarding an education system which would meet the needs of our lives, and each person, male or female, will be a productive unit of the society. The Commissions appointed were: (a) Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission (1974); (b) National Education Advisory Board (1979); (c) Mafiz Commission (1989). Each of the three Commissions have given their thoughtful recommendations in each case, and we could have made giant strides, if the recommendations were faithfully and sincerely implemented.

In the second, third and the fourth plan periods, massive doses of money were injected into our educational system, but in the actual field neither the number of educated persons nor a qualitative change could be observed.

The main causes of our failure in the educational arena is not due to the absence of financial resources but it is due to non-commitment, wastage of public funds, in such things as buildings, furniture etc. etc. The whole system was not geared to achieve the objective set forth in the five-year plans, but met the needs of specific groups, for their enrichment. This led to the total failure of most of the educational projects.

Some of the causes for the failures may be indicated as below.

(a) The primary need was to create a cadre of dedicated and well trained teachers, which we failed to do.

(b) Necessary curricula were not developed according to our condition and requirements. We failed to perceive that, education was needed so that we could meet the requirements and challenges of life.

(c) The type of education that was imparted at the primary stage was not attractive to the poor section (90%) of our people. They thought that the time

spent as such was a mere wastage to them.

(d) During the last two and half decades the Ministry of Education had engaged a huge number of consultants in different fields of education such as general education, technical education, vocational education, trade courses etc etc. The benefit that we received was almost nil.

(e) During the past decades, some expensive projects were undertaken such as the Bangladesh Education Equipment Board Project in Mirpur and the Leather Finishing Centre in Hazaribagh. Like most other projects the above two projects were totally unproductive and a sheer wastage of public funds.

(f) The Ministry of Education was unable to devote itself to important, urgent and nation building activities. The Education Secretary and his officers at the Ministry were engaged in most unproductive activities such as the transfer and posting of officers, obtaining grants for schools and colleges, foreign trips for the officers etc etc. Creative and constructive work in the Ministry was almost impossible. To be very blunt, the entire Ministry was rather preoccupied with "Tadbir".

Some comments on the Report of Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission (1974)

The Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission that a child should learn only one language, our mother tongue. The learning of English will start from Class-VI. It recommended that to be a good citizen of the country, eight years of schooling was necessary. The reason that they had given was that, in a highly competitive and technological world, schooling for at least eight years was necessary. The eight-year period of universal primary education was taken as the minimum requirement.

In view of the fact that the female children were coming to the schools in lesser numbers

this could only be rectified by employing greater number of women as teachers. Poor attendance of girls in the primary stage in present day Bangladesh is the main factor which is retarding the progress of education. In comparison, neighbouring India has made enormous progress in female education. Reflecting on the Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission Report, it is seen that while literacy of men was about 31 per cent, the literacy of women was only 13 per cent.

If we look into the facilities that are available to the boys, the facilities for the girls are far less. This imbalance is an important factor which has to be taken into consideration by our leaders, administrators and planners in the greater interest of the country. Our main thrust in the five-year plan should be oriented towards female education. If a girl is educated the whole family is educated. The Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission recommended that the intermediate colleges be merged with our school system. For most of the students, the secondary school should be their final stage of general education. For only the most talented students, the higher education would be made available. The recommendations of the Commission was that, after completion of studies up to the eighth class, the general students should acquire specific vocational training, through which they could be productive to the society. For the extension of vocational training we could follow the system set in India which is called "Learn and Earn".

The Commission recommended a three-year period to get a pass degree, and four years of study for the honours graduate. The Masters degree should be for one year only, for the honours graduates and two years for the ordinary graduates.

The Commission was of the view that in order to reduce our present poverty level, and to move towards economic emancipation there was no better alternative to vocational education and training. The Commission was fully aware of the fact that large amount of machinery, equipment, books and highly trained teachers were necessary. Keeping this in view, the books, and machinery are required to be produced within the country.

The Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission was of the view, that we should have a trained manpower. The trained Diploma holders in technical education can be the most effective trained manpower who would be working with their hands and be an important part of the productive process. To make the best use of the Degree Engineers Diploma holders. For training the Diploma Engineers, at least 50 per cent of the teachers in the Polytechnics should be Degree Engineers. Our technical education must be geared towards the need of the country and for maximum productivity in a highly competitive technological world.

Teacher Training: The Commission recommended for

the predominant and fundamental role of teacher training. It clearly stated that the physical facilities etc had only a secondary role to play. The most important things were the quality and number of teachers.

Our experiences for the past twenty-six years have been that there was a tremendous fascination for new school buildings, addition of a room, toilets, tables and benches etc. The core need for having trained and efficient teachers has been neglected over the years. The best candidates were often not appointed, for extraneous reasons, at the cost of primary education itself. The actions taken by the Facilities Department and the Directorate General of Primary Education were not transparent and above board.

The eight-year period of primary education, and the provision of training of teachers were ambitious ones, but nevertheless this could have been possible if there were firm political commitment, dedication and transparency. Whatever programme we undertake it is bound to fail unless there is honesty and sincerity at all levels.

In some selected secondary schools, vocational teachers training courses may be introduced in classes nine, ten and eleven. This would draw greater number of women to take up school teaching. The Employment of women teachers, will have manifold key effects, such as empowerment, dedication, lesser number of children etc.

It may be further mentioned, that the project relating to trade courses for the school dropouts,

failed because of negligence and lack of transparency.

The Commission spelt out the necessity of having adequate number of separate PTIs for women, and separate hostels for women, where PTIs were co-educational.

As stated earlier, we should have trained vocational students. It therefore necessarily follows that we should have well qualified teachers for imparting vocational skill and knowledge. For this purpose, necessary facilities should be available at the Technical Training Centre and the Teachers Training College.

The Commission recommended that the Technical Teachers Training College should be shifted to a new place. The Technical Teachers Training College continues to be in its former location, although extensive extension of the existing building has been made.

The Commission has recommended for the extension of all kinds of teachers training. However, in the light of our present resources we may not be able to undertake long-term training for the teachers. The present scenario is that, most of our Secondary School Teachers have not received the prescribed training.

In view of the fact that most of our teachers were untrained, the Ministry of Education provided Distance Learning for the untrained teachers leading to B Ed degree. This has been able to meet our felt needs. It should be taken as a stop gap arrangement until such time we are able to have larger number of Teachers Training Colleges. We

would further suggest short time refresher training for our teachers during their long holidays.)

In their report the Commission have suggested long term training for each class of teachers. We have resource constraints.

Higher Education and Research: The Commission observed that higher education as it exists at the College and University have failed in the area of learning, understanding and meeting the present challenges of life. Most of our teaching is mechanical and habitual repetition, which is otherwise known as ROTE learning. This kind of learning is a total wastage of time and energy without any contribution to the national economy. The number of general Colleges are increasing each year, which again is a total wastage of our meagre resources.

The Commission specifically recommended that, we have first to ascertain our total national requirements and thereafter make the education sector plan for the Five-Year Plans. The Commission recommended for the upgradation of the colleges and the University in terms of real learning and the application of knowledge that has been acquired. The Commission further pointed out the extreme paucity of books and libraries throughout the country. Similarly there was a total lack of appreciation for research work in our educational institutions at the appropriate levels.

Engineering and Technology Education at the Degree Level: The four Engineering Colleges in Dhaka (Joydevpur), Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna, were under the Director General, Technical education. In the year 1986, it was decided to have an autonomous body for these four Engineering Colleges with the Minister for Education as Chairman of the Board. The Colleges are now designated as

BITs - Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna. It was felt that DG (Technical) was unable to give greater attention to the Engineering Colleges because of his other preoccupations.

It may be mentioned in this connection that the creation of the Indian Institute of Technology at Delhi, Kharagpur (West Bengal), Bombay and Madras was conceived by Moulana Abul Kalam Azad and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, keeping in view the need for highly qualified engineers and technologists for meeting the challenges of new India. The graduates of IITs of India are greatly valued throughout the world. Our graduates from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology are also valued in the western world. Our four BITs have so far failed to make the grade in the international field. It has simply been a change of name only. In fact, in Bangladesh itself, the BIT graduates are valued much less as compared to the BUET graduates. At present there is a severe employment difficulties for the degree engineers, because we have been unable to proceed with our industrial development. The Government has to address itself urgently in this regard.

We have the following three colleges in the field of technology: (a) Bangladesh College of Textile Technology; (b) Bangladesh College of Leather Technology; (c) Institute of Graphic Arts. None of the colleges are held in high regard by the prospective employers, because those graduates are not very useful to them. All the three sectors mentioned above will have great demand in the country itself, if the knowledge and skill of the graduates are upgraded, and they receive in-ternee training while undergoing their studies. All these three institutes are alleged to have administrative and discipline problems.

Teachers of BUET Architecture Deptt continue work abstention

By BUET Correspondent

Teachers of the Architecture Department of BUET demanding the cancellation of the new admission procedure of the department, introduced by the authority for the 97-98 session, have been observing a work-abstention since Feb 2.

The conflict between the teachers and the university authority began when admission to the Architecture Department was combined with that of the Engineering and the Urban and Regional Planning (URP) departments.

But the teachers of Architecture Deptt disagree with the decision. Architecture is an art. So excellent marks in the HSC examination is not the only criteria for admission to the department. It is also essential to have an aesthetic sense and artistic bend of mind," said a spokesman of the department in a press conference held recently.

The admission procedure has been categorised into three modules. Students interested in Engineering and URP have to attempt module 1 and 2 comprising Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and English. Students interested in architecture will have to attempt modules 2 and 3. Module 3 consists of freehand drawing only.

Students with average of 60 per cent score in the HSC examinations from science group will be eligible for admission to Architecture Deptt. This deci-

sion was taken unanimously in an architecture faculty meeting held on June 4, 1997. The decision was later approved by the Academic Council.

There are several compulsory subjects in the curriculum of the architecture deptt which require knowledge of Physics. Further, statistics of previous years show a poor pass rate in Physics offered in Level 1 Term 1, of Architecture.

Considering these facts the BUET Academic Council made a decision to allow only those with a science background to appear in the admission test.

The BUET authority is quite rigid in its decision and the examination will take place as scheduled.

Kushtia Ideal College Principal dead

District correspondent of the Daily Ittefaq and the Vice President of Meherpur Press Club, Abdur Rashid Majumder, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday after remaining in coma for five days, reports UNB.

Rashid, 37, who was also the Principal of Bhatarama Ideal College in Kushtia, was serious injured in a road accident on Feb 11.

Quality of Care Manual launched

Contraceptive use increases to 45pc in 2 decades

The use of contraceptives has increased from 8 per cent to 45 per cent during the last two decades across the country, reports UNB.

"Much success has been achieved in providing family planning services in order to decrease the population growth," said Health Minister Salahuddin Yusuf while launching a manual on 'Quality of Care', a guideline to improve the quality of essential MCH-FP services, formulated by Bangladesh Population and Health Consortium (BPHC), at a city hotel yesterday.

BPHC is one of the components of Bangladesh government's Fourth Health and Population Project, designed to provide financial support and capacity building to NGOs in the delivery of MCH-FP services throughout Bangladesh.

Chaired by Dr Mehtabunisa Currey, the ceremony was addressed, among others, by the Dr Nancy Gerein, Director, CIDA, Anthea Mulakala, project manager of BPHC, DR Helene Wirzba, Research Coordinator BPHC, and Dr Nazma Kabir, Consultant, BPHC.

The Health Minister said BPHC-funded NGOs showed remarkable achievements in increasing the coverage of antenatal and post-natal care by 67

per cent and 55 per cent respectively.

Yusuf said Bangladesh has acclaimed and recognised both nationally and internationally for some success in Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and FP.

"Despite the success attained... the burden of overpopulation looms large on Bangladesh. Poverty, unemployment, malnutrition, illiteracy and poor sanitation have been continuously plaguing the prospect of planned parenthood", the Minister observed.

"We need to improve the quality of services to improve the utilisation of the resources and the existing infrastructure to decrease maternal and child mortality," he said.

The Health Minister said BPHC and its funded NGOs took initiative to develop such a manual during the last two years to provide standards and indicators in selected MCH-FP services.

Yusuf said the contents of the manual have been reviewed by the Directorate of Family Planning and Health Services. The procedure, standards and indicators are in accordance with national ones, he added.

He encouraged the health officials of both the government and non-government organisations to use the 'Quality of Care

Manual' to provide better services to the needy.

The minister hoped that the manual will contribute to be success of family planning and health programmes as well as decrease the infant and maternal mortality rates.

Anthea Mulakala said BPHC's quality of care manual has timely relevance, on the eve of the inception of Bangladesh's Health Population Project-5 (HAPP-5).

The manual affirmed an NGO commitment to quality assurance in the health sector, a key principle of HAPP-5 and paves the way for government and non-government organisations' collaborations on quality issues during HAPP-5.

She said the Contraceptive Acceptance Rate (CAR) raised from 59 to 65 per cent between the years 1993-96 by the BPHC-funded NGOs which is higher compared to the national figure.

NGOs located in low-performing areas (Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet) started with a lower CAR, had an increase of 19 per cent in the same period. Mulakala said, BPHC, operating since 1988, has been funding 61 NGOs and presently 47 NGOs are serving about 2 million people in Bangladesh.



Nescafe, the largest-selling coffee brand in the world, participated in sharing the special moments on Valentines Day on Feb 14 with a young crowd at Big Bite, a fast-food restaurant in the city. Habib and Balam of 'Renegades' music band enchanted the audience with sentimental love songs. The crowd also took part in a quiz competition and won fabulous prizes like Nescafe caps, T-shirts, and 50 per cent off on Nescafe mugs.

Biman sales centre opens at Banani

Biman Bangladesh Airlines has commissioned another sales centre at Iqbal Tower (8th floor), Kamal Ataturk Avenue Banani, telephone nos 9883489 & 9885275, which has started functioning from Feb 15, says a press release.

Jamaat rally tomorrow

Dhaka city unit of Jamaat-e-Islami will hold a rally at the Purana Paltan Crossing tomorrow demanding cancellation of the CHT agreement and protesting the price-hike of essentials, reports UNB.

Shop owners of Reazuddin bazar observe strike

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Feb 16:

The shop owners of Reazuddin Bazar in the city today observed a half-day strike keeping the shops closed to protest the killing of a trader by illegal toll collectors on Saturday.

The protesting traders also submitted a memorandum to the police commissioner here to arrest the killers.

Poultry trader Abdul Mabud was shot dead as he refused to pay illegal tolls demanded by local terrorists, police said.

JS body on Health Ministry meets

The first meeting of sub-committee-1 of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare Ministry was held yesterday with its Convenor Dr M Amanullah in the chair, reports UNB.

The meeting held primary discussion on the submission of a report to the main committee about the reported irregularities in purchasing medical appliances, involving Tk 100 crore, under the Second Health Planning Services Project of the ministry.

Committee member Dr H B M Iqbal, Health and Family Planning Secretary Mohammad Ali and concerned officials attended the meeting held at the Sangsad Bhaban.