Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali

Dhaka Tuesday, February 24, 1998

## Trade Fair Message

An international trade fair is an ideal global mart where the latest products and processes are put on display under the same roof, so to speak. It provides a bird's eye view of technologies and promotes spot sales and placement of procurement orders, both going into millions. In a populous city where the elite is given to conspicuous consumption and a growing middle class wistfully looks for innovative functional articles, sale proceeds and gate-money receipts are likely to be sizable.

We wish the month-long Dhaka International Trade Fair '98 which was declared open on Sunday by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina were larger than it is: some 100 companies from 20 countries and 275 local business houses are participating in it. Not quite a tribute to our market size or the purchasing power. Bigger the size of participation the larger and more useful would have been the comparative study of products on display. This could open our eyes to the changing tastes of buyers throughout the world.

We find ourselves in an inter-dependent world, politically economically and culturally; yet competition is very much the rule of the game, "survival of the fittest", the credo like in the remote, misty yore. The quality of our products and the safety of our environmental and other standards had been a subject-matter of intense controversy and debate in the USA, Canada and EU with the result that bans got clamped on our shrimp and garment exports, let alone retro-active claims made on duty arrears etc.

Those clouds have lifted away lately by virtue of an efficient handling of the points at issue by the commerce ministry. Much as we thank them for it we also urge them to monitor progress on the child labour elimination programmes, the scheme for standardisation of shrimp processing and our promise to abide by certification rules relating to knitwear exports. We must do everything in our power to enhance the competitive edge of our exportables. It is music to our ears to be paying audience to such declarations as 'foreign consultants appointed by the government to ensure the quality of fish and fish products' and 'hazard analysis on critical points underway in the leather sector'. Mind you, we have fine-tuned our Inspection and Quality Control Ordinance to suit EC regulations and by that token our responsibility for quality control has vastly increased.

#### Treatment by Patches? No

The most celebrated nursery rhyme, one that sought to teach children numbers one to ten, occurs in Jogindranath Basu's equally celebrated Hashikhushi. That rhyme begins with a ditty of some Haradhon having ten sons. As it progresses, the family reduces by one after another. In the end - Haradhoner ekti chheley kande bheu bheu, Moner dukkhey boney galo, roilo na aar keu — the only remaining son sobs uncontrollably and goes away into the forests. This wouldn't at all be a bad idea if Bangladesh Biman did exactly that on the occasion of its lone domestic flight aircraft receiving a bad leg injury. It will be pretty difficult for the Biman chief, or for that matter, the minister of aviation to argue convincingly why the Biman business should not be wound up. Rather than leasing another people's aircraft and keeping the thing on artificial respiration, it would be a far better thing to lease out the whole of Biman to some dependable airlines operator.

It is riddled with corruption and epitomises in itself all the ills that have been attributed to public sector enterprise by detractors from the free market camp. Yes, indeed why shouldn't it be privatised? The organisation has been ailing from its inception. It has never walked but limped all of its short life. And what luxurious limping has this

Biman must turn its adverse times into a blessing by exerting itself and arriving at some well-deliberated, wise and pragmatic and perhaps radical vision — and go into a thorough overhaul. No more patchwork treatment by gauges and poultices. The situation calls for treatment of the enterprise as a whole. And it may not as such be within the power of the airlines company itself to do so. The government must take the task up as its very own headache which if not attended in time may prove too costly for it.

When will the government take the Biman scandals seriously? Isn't it time that it took charge and threw its whole weight behind making it a viable, profitable and highly dependable corporation? A national flag carrier is after all an ambassador

#### Death of a Cricketer

After having been in a state of coma for 48 hours Indian cricketer Raman Lamba was declared dead last afternoon. The Delhi cricketer who represented India in a number of one-day international matches was fatally injured on the head while taking part in a league match for Abahani here Friday

A seasoned professional cricketer with considerable experience what Raman did on that day, however, was courting a disaster. He chose to field at a 'dangerous' fielding position (forward short leg) without a headgear or helmet.

Death has a way of breaching the best of defences. But we would nevertheless ask why Lamba was not rushed to the best local neuro-surgeon in the first place even though professor Rashiduddin Ahmed, reputably the number one in this field was very much in town. Only after convulsion began on February 21 that his expertise was sought.

It appears from the press reports that a precious long spell of time was lost through the club officials' failure to understand the gravity of Lamba's injury.

The sad eminently avoidable death of Lamba points finger at one overriding necessity of the moment: authorities have to adopt mandatory measures for close-in fieldsmen to use protective gears. We suggest Bangladesh Cricket Board address the issue with post haste and make sure a law is made and observed strictly on the field. This is the age of technological excellence. Why risk life when technology offers a protection.

Besides, Board should also see that doctors are equipped with the skill, experience, courage and personality to tackle an emergency situation like this are readily available at the playing grounds.

We are deeply touched by his death and convey our heart-felt sympathies to the members of his bereaved family.

# Devaluation: How it Works

The inflexible domestic markets both in case of export and import trade clearly indicate that there are far more important issues than devaluation. We should know how the devaluation will work in the economy which is vitiated by many other factors.

Bangladesh increased by over 20 per cent and foreign remittance by more than 7 per cent. Imports however declined by 5.63 per cent during the same But how far export supplies period. During the current fiswould respond to price incencal year, performance of the foreign trade sector seems to be good. In spite of expanded export earnings as well as remittance, the foreign exchange reserve could not be maintained at a comfortable level. On the other hand, decline in imports does not reflect a decline in import of machinery and raw materials. Although disaggregated data are not available, most probably foodgrain import during January-November period was comparatively less which will be made up during the second half of the current fiscal year. Consequently, pressure on of additional export earnings

URING July-November.

1997 period, exports from

foreign exchange reserve will intensify. The best option, under the circumstances, is to further increase export earnings and remittance from abroad. The exchange rate should therefore be attractive. Devaluation of Taka tends to be the answer. At the same time, it may also be noted that large-scale import of foodgrains may not be necessary. If the spring harvest of wheat followed by boro rice is good, the shortfall in Aman harvest may be largely compensated. Already there are reports that boro plantings are likely to be larger than expected. However, we cannot be certain as yet since accurate crop monitoring is not possible. Government also cannot take any chance. At the moment, more than the usual level of food imports has been contemplated.

tives induced by devaluation? According to the former Finance Minister, we do not have export surplus while garment manufacturing and exports are based on back to back L/C, thus making it immune to the prevailing exchange rate. Will there be a favourable response to export of raw jute and jute manufacture? The price of raw jute in the world market declined by 32 per cent during last twelve months. Devaluation may only offset the decline in raw jute prices since supply response from the jute sector is likely to be poor in the short run. Therefore, gains in terms

Devaluation may still be useful for greater inflow of remittance from abroad. Again, this may not be true, since a latest study on the subject indicate, that the volume of remittance is much more influenced by the number of Bangladeshis working abroad and not the value of Taka in dollar terms. Apart from garments and jute, there are other categories of merchandise exports which should benefit from devaluation. may also be argued that we compete in the world market with other Asian countries where devaluation has become the order of the day. We cannot remain isolated. Devaluation is necessary to retain our com-

may at best be marginal.

petitive position. But devaluation alone

cannot enhance export earnings. The easing of problems at Chittagong port, easy availability of working capital, its reduced cost, firm supply of electricity are equally, if not more, important than devaluation. The elimination of protection money and bribes will considerably reduce cost of transporting both import and export cargoes exceeding the benefits of devaluation. The backward linkage to garment industry and a more vigorous diversifi-

were imported or smuggled from India). But it is not. Why? Nobody seems to know the right answer. Same is the fate of many other manufacturing enterprises where the general feeling is that competition from abroad is too strong to survive. Technically, if machinery and equipment are up to the mark, the manufacturing involves lot of labour who can easily acquire or already possess the necessary skill and raw materials and component are avail-



## Window on Asia

**Shahed Latif** 

cation of textile related exports, for example, knitwear, hosiery. specialized textile products etc., can further augment the scope of the particular sub-sector of export.

Regardless of the exchange rate, our manufacturing industries including those which cater to the export market, do not seem to be competitive in many instances with substitute products from other countries. in particular from India. Leather industry, for example, should expand manifold, given domestic availability of basic raw materials (hides and skin. where often the live animals

able at competitive prices — local or foreign does not matter expansion of competitive manufacturing for both export and domestic market in textile, leather, plastic, ceramics, electronics, etc., should not be too difficult. However, we are constrained by other factors such as lack of infrastructure, hidden cost and, above all, propensity towards short term profiteering. Shortage of genuine entrepreneurs is a real crisis of the day who can take full benefit of the incentives induced by exchange rate depreciation. Perhaps this is what the former Finance Minister hinted at.

Devaluation may not work. since there are other constraining factors — beyond the scope

of any monetary instrument. Devaluation affects both export and import trade. If a dollar fetches Taka 46.5 today, as against Taka 41 six months back, then prices of all imported goods and services should increase by 13 per cent., assuming all other conditions, including import prices in dollar, remaining the same. In Bangladesh context, immediate impact would be felt in the prices of petroleum products. Will the Government enhance the prices at the gas stations or enhance the budgetary burden through enhanced subsidies? In case of the latter, the soft option, it would lead to increased public borrowing since public revenue generation is already short of target. This may reduce private borrowing which, among others, would affect export growth. Therefore the basic purpose of devaluation is likely to be defeated.

On the other hand, if there is increased import of foodgrains. consumers will face higher prices. However, in international market, price of crude petroleum has fallen during last one year by as much as one third, while rice and wheat prices have declined by 16 per cent and 12 per cent respectively during the same period. Therefore the negative impact of devaluation may be obviated. On the other hand, the domestic prices without subsidies do not

the international market since the procurement may not be from the cheapest sources of supply. This is particularly true with regard to prices administered by the government For example, when fuel prices were increased, world prices were on the decline and have continued to fall thereafter. Unfortunately, consumers do not seem to gain out of it. Hidden costs, informal payments, unnecessarily high cost of port clearance and transportation are all added up and passed on to the consumers. The export price of Thai white rice. 5 per cent broken, which is comparable to our fine quality rice (Kataribhog) is Taka 14.12/kg, even after taking into account the latest round of devaluation. Add another 30 per cent for transport, marketing margin etc., and the retail price works out to Tk 18.36/kg. However in the retail market of Dhaka such quality rice is sold at Tk 24/kg., minimum. Thus it is quite obvious that even the rice market which is large enough to accommodate countless number of buyers and sellers is not competitive, although it fulfils the very first criteria of competition.

seem to follow movements in

The inflexible domestic markets both in case of export and import trade clearly indicate that there are far more important issues than devaluation. We should know how the devaluation will work in the economy which is vitiated by many other factors. The analysis, although not complete, is at least indicative of the fact that devaluation at the moment may not deliver the intended results.

Also there is no reason why

the Rajya Sabha, which is a

council of states, should not

# Polls: An Essay at Division and Violence

Nothing has remained sacrosanct for political parties. The present lot — all of them — only wants to grab power, whatever the cost. A new formation is required because only then will there be a revival of values and idealism.

S the polling winds up towards the end, a feeling of Luncertainty engrips the country. It is not confined to whether the Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies or Congress or the United Front would form the government but spreads to whether the nation would settle down to a serious, full five-year rule. Elections do not seem to throw up any party with a clear majority, although the BJP may be the largest.

Come to think of it, there was no real choice before the voters. It was like jumping into the sea or the lake. On one side were communalists and their aplogists and, on the other, the corrupt and some other parties with dubious credentials. The third alternative, after the break-up of the Janata Party, never took off. In fact, the most drubbing this time will be that of the third alternative, the Janata Dal.

Still some way has to be found whereby a voter could express opposition against the candidates imposed on him or her. True, in a democratic set up, no voter should stay away from the polling booth. But it amounts to forcing a choice on a voter when he or she is not finding any candidate worth the choice. This way democracy

becomes a machine of tyranny. A proposal made by Vice-President Krishan Kant, when he was an ordinary Member of Parliament, is one way out. His idea is that a ballot paper should have a 'no' column. Such voters as feel that none of the candidates listed on the ballot paper deserve their vote, can say so by ticking the 'no' column. And if the 'no's of a candidate totalled more than 50 per cent of the votes polled, he or she should not be declared elected.

The suggestion made by Gandhian Jayaprakash Narain also requires a serious attention. He wanted the electorate to have the right to recall the elected member. In other words, if in a particular constituency, a specific number of voters were to say in writing that their member had let them down, they would have the right to

have fresh polls, where the sitting member could also participate. Some Scandinavian countries follow this practice. In India, this is needed all the more because a large number of candidates after election forget their constituency and do not show up at all during the full five-year-term. The modus operandi is to flirt from one constituency to another to avoid the wrath of voters.

Still more urgent are the electoral reforms to reduce the role of money and crime. The minimum estimate this time is Rs 15,000 crore: Rs 4,500 crore is the official allocation for the poll expenses and the rest is the minimum expenditure calculated on the basis of Rs 2 crore on each of the 543 constituencies. Although the ceiling for the Lok Sabha member has been raised to Rs 15 lakh yet everyone knows that the expenditure is generally Rs 1 crore and beyond.

Coming to crime, no political party is uncontaminated. Either it has suspects in its own ranks or it has entered into poll pacts with such parties as are not particular about clean methods. The Election Commission too has failed in keeping out the criminals. If a survey by a weekly in Delhi is any guide, prominent candidates of most parties await final disposal of graft cases against them and hence are not qualified to contest. For reasons best known to it, the Supreme Court has not yet given its verdict on the hawala cases, in which leaders of the BJP, Congress and the Janata Dal are involved.

But the real point to worry about is the tension that elections heighten. Political parties contest the polls as if they are fighting a war, unmindful of the effect which their actions may have. A society which lives on the periphery of caste, communalism and crime, is always

## BETWEEN THE LINES

### Kuldip Nayar writes from New Delhi

volatile. After the disturbances during the current election, it will take time to return to even its pre-election status quo. The question to be asked is whether there is a way to avoid the nation from being hauled over the

What happened in Coimbatore, where more than 50 people died in a series of bomb blasts is one example of communal hatred. The fire was smouldering for six months when a Hindu-Muslim rioting took place last. The caste clashes in Bihar are equally disconcerting. At least 20 died there. Somehow, the polls passed off peacefully in the state in 1996. Why the law and order machinery failed this time when the Election Commission knew beforehand that the stakes for former chief minister Laloo Prasad Yadav were heavy. UP has been comparatively peaceful but there is no running way from the pernicious propaganda in the name of caste. No amount of police force can check such happenings. Maybe, the very electoral system needs to be changed because the polls have come to be increasingly an essay at division and violence. Cleaner persons are either opting out or are being crowded out.

Equally disturbing are the utterances made during the campaign. For example, Sonia Gandhi's observation that BJP leader Atal Behari Vajpayee is a liar was in bad taste. This is not part of the Indian culture. She is, in fact, lucky that the government is placed in such circumstances where it cannot give out the name of her husband, Rajiv Gandhi, as one of

the beneficiaries of kickbacks from the Bofors gun deal. The government's explanation is that it does not want to restrict the authority of Indian courts on one hand and go back on the undertaking given to Swedish officials that it will not give out any information till the case is completed.

Congress president Sitaram Kesri has not served even its party's purpose, much less the country, by accusing the RSS for the Coimbatore blasts. It is a serious matter, not to be taken lightly. In fact, the anti-RSS or, for that matter, the anti-BJP rhetoric is becoming a mantra for any cover-up. Strange, Defence Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav should go to the constituency of Satish Sharma, a Congress candidate, against whom there are charges of corruption, merely to oppose the BJP candidates even when his own nominee is there. West Bengal Chief Minister

Jyoti Basu does not enhance his reputation by saying that the communists had preferred Mulayam Singh Yadav to Inder Gujral when the latter was chosen as Prime Minister. Is this disclosure meant to woo Mulayam Singh for the post-election combination, which the Marxists want to lead? CPI leader Inderjit Gupta goes to the extent of saying that Gujral should not have accepted the Akali Dal support. But what does one make out of the CPI alliance with Congress in Punjab? When Gujral's own party, the Janata Dal, welcomes the Akali. port, what locus standi Gupta have? The Akali D like Kerala's Muslim Leas. which is sought by the Marx-

meet during the period the Lok Sabha remains dissolved. There is nothing in the consti-Another drawback in electution to say that the Upper tion is the long period between house cannot meet on its own. the dissolution of the Lok The government has been fol-Sabha and the formation of lowing an illegal practice for new elected government. To

the last 48 years. The Rajya some extent, it cannot perhaps Sabha represents Parliament be helped because of the countill the other house is elected. try's size and the uncooperative The President should ensure its attitude of political parties. The session so that the problems result is that the caretaker govaffecting the nation are disernment, even without people's cussed in that house. mandate, continues to rule It is a pity that nothing has practically in the manner an remained sacrosanct for politielected government does. Bangladesh has its Chief Justice in charge of the caretaker

cal parties. The present lof - all of them - only wants to grab power, whatever the cost. A new formation is required because only then will there be a revival of values and idealism. Till then the nation will continue to pay heavily.

#### **OPINION**

government which, as their

constitution lays down, admin-

isters, supervises the polls and

finishes the job within three

months. Something like that is

## HR Report by US State Department

Jerome Matthias There is a saying that "you can fool all the people for

sometime, some people for all the time, but you cannot fool all the people for all the time". So when I saw the headlines in your newspaper (5-2-98) about US Ambassador to Bangladesh John C Holzman being summoned to our foreign Office and being handed over a protest about holding a press conference without permission (the protest was read out to the ambassador before being handed over to him by our Foreign Secretary), I felt that perhaps our government thought they could fool us (the people) for all the time! I to say that they could fool us for sometime, but not for all the time.

Then again (5-2-98) in the BBC Bangla service at 10:45 pm, I heard a interview of our State Minister for Foreign Affairs saying that if some people have died in police custody, then the government was not responsible for it, because "life and death" are matters in the hands of the Almighty! Therefore, are we to understand that the government is not responsible for the actions of its police force? It is well known that the Bangladesh police "routinely use torture and other forms of abuse in interrogating suspects", so why this effort to dis-

own it? Now I will come to the part that really crowns it all. Our Foreign Secretary compared the release of the accused in the Shima Chowdhury case, with that of the release of famed US footballer O J Simpson! I think nothing could be more foolish than this comparison. Shima Chowdhury died in police custody, after she was arrested in circumstances which violated all norms of human rights, and four policemen were accused for her murder. They were released because the prosecution had not done a good job. As for O J Simpson, he had the most brilliant criminal lawyers that money could buy on his defence side. After O J Simpson was released, he had to face trial in a civil suit brought by the families of his victims. And there the rich man, O J Simpson was found guilty and ordered to pay a huge amount to the families of his victims! But who's going to fight for poor Shima Chowd-

I am not well versed about rules and regulations but suppose the US Embassy wanted permission to hold the press conference, would our government have granted it at once? It is common courtesy no doubt, that the host governments are informed of holding such press conferences but how long would

it have taken to grant such a permission? About the SPA (Special Powers Act) the less said the better. As far as I can recollect, the present ruling party had said they would abolish it if they came to power. One of the reasons voted for them in '91 and '96 was that they would repeal the SPA. In '91 they did not come to power but they did so in '96. So I thought they would keep their word, but now it seems that they are going back on it. Just because previous governments used it, does not mean that it

has to be continued.

Recently in your newspaper of 28-1-98 you published a call by the Sammilito Nari Samaj to the PM urging intervention against the growing cases of women repression. At one place it had to do about the Yasmin murder case of Dinajpur. They said that the instance of the doctor who gave false medical report and the SP who tried to suppress facts were acquitted; it did not reflect proper justice. And that after the verdict in that case on 30-8-97, there should have been an appeal within 90 days. They continued that they tried on numerous occasions to see the Attorney General to discuss the matter but he declined to give them time! I write this because our Foreign Secretary compared Shima Chowdhury's case with that of O J Simpson, when he spoke to Ambassador Holzman. And therefore, I want to make another comparison. About the time that Yasmin was raped and murdered in Dinajpur by some policemen, a Japanese teenager was raped by some US Servicemen in Okinawa. Those US Servicemen were arrested tried and sentenced long before Yasmin's trial even stared, not to speak of the acquittal of the doctor and the SPI

I conclude by thanking John Kincannon, Spokesman of the US Embassy in Dhaka and Director, US Information Service, and Steve Eisenbraun, Counsellor for Political Affairs and also feel grateful to US Ambassador to Bangladesh John C Holzman for releasing this Human Rights report on Bangladesh, otherwise, "what we all know, would not have come out in the open". I also hope that our government acts on it, instead of just brushing it aside by saying that "reports gathered from the local press are not the gospel truth". If we did not have the local press report, we would be bound to swallow whatever the government pushed down our throats and because we have the local press, the government "cannot fool all the people for all the time".

Misleading name

Sir. Like other newspapers of Bangladesh, the DS also uses a misleading term "IRRI-BORO" to denote one of our rice-producing seasons — "BORO". IRRI is the abbreviation of "International Rice Research Institute" located in the Philippines. whereas "BORO" is one of the major three rice-producing seasons in Bangladesh. Other two seasons are: "AUS" and "AMAN". IRRI developed world's first semi-dwarf High Yielding Variety (HYV) known as 1R8 in 1967, which became popular in our country and was cultivated mainly in the "BORO" season. People used to call this rice as "IRRI DHAN" in their common parlance.

But the scenario has changed after Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) located in Joydebpur, Gazipur came into being. Since its foundation in October, 1970, BRRI has developed more than 30 HYV rice. suitable not only for "BORO" but also for "AUS" and "AMAN" seasons.

In usual notation these HYV rice are dubbed by two first letters of the abbreviated name of the research institutes from where they were developed, e.g., IR 8, IR 20 for varieties developed by IRRI and BR1, BR11 etc., for varieties developed by BRRI. Farmers rate of adoption of HYV rice is the highest in "BORO" season, but it is growing rapidly in "AUS" and "AMAN" seasons and the noteworthy fact is that most of HYV rice land is under BRRI developed varieties nowadays. If it is necessary to pronounce names of a rice-producing season and institutes developed suitable HYV rice for that season together. "BRRI-BORO" could be the most appropriate name. Then why not "BRRI-AUS" and "BRRI-AMAN?"

I request that everyone will write the correct name of our rice-producing seasons from

Abdul Latif Sarker PhD Student Shinshu University, Nagano,

A request

Sir, I have passed my HSC this year from Dhaka Board. Since long I had cultured a keen interest to get admitted into the Dept. of Architecture of the same faculty at BUET. Accordingly, I was taking preparations to sit for the admission test. Recently, the BUET circular has been published in different dailies.

But to my surprise the admission committee has introduced so many restrictive points which has taken me aback. With my little or no practical experience I can admit frankly that it seems a planned attack on smooth growing of the future generation, because the said admission committee has introduced so many few items with no prior notice to us. I feel we are denied our access for no fault of ours.

We would earnestly request the admission committee to reconsider the decision and slick to last year's decision; the new decision can very well be put to use next academic year.

Mahfuza Zita Hossain Candidate from Viquarunnesa Noon College Dhaka

Do Something fast

about health hazards Sir. Our country is facing serious health hazards - arsenic is being found in ground water in many parts of the country which is making people seriously ill and pollution of the atmosphere by harmful particles has become a threat to healthy living and people are becoming sick from it

But it seems that our government is not taking this seriously and no fruitful steps has been taken to combat these serious problems. We are really surprised by this attitude.

We know that in the UK thousands upon thousands of cattles were slaughtered when 'mad-cow disease was reported and in Hong Kong, chickens were killed in great numbers when it was disclosed that a kind of flu originated from

I am afraid to think if God forbid, our country ever fell victim to this sort of disease. then what will happen?

Nur Jahan East Nusirabad, Chittagong

#### Why inflict the innocent

Sir. We are really worried to see that the US is frequently threatening Iraq to strike for uncomplaince of UN resolution. In fact, Iraq has allowed the chief inspector of UN inspection team to inspect all its possible installations. The chief inspector is taking a long time to complete the job.

There were countries which have not complied to many UN resolution in the past. But those countries have not been punished for their non-compliance Due to long imposition of sanction, the people of Iraq have al ready suffered a lot. Again, any threat of attack is nothing but

present scenarios has changed. Mahbubul Haque Chowdhury General Manager

The US should think that

an additional infliction.

Agrani Bank , Rajshahi

Criminals' den?

Sir, Is Dhaka city turning into a den of criminals? Once my favourite city is now betraying me. My memory strikes me emotionally when I am ventilating my odd experience I encountered very recently.

A man with a smiling face approached me and sounded to be very much acquainted with me for a long time. His behaviour made me bound to be amiable as he expressed that compare to me he was serving a petty job and it is natural for me to forget him.

It was his pretension before snatching money from me by his gang. Spit on him - and in fine I pray to God to save Dhaka city.

Bose Asoke Kumar 82, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

Country and power

Sir. To best of my knowledge none of the leaders of my country loves the country, but the power. I urge them to love the country alongside power.

Faiz Hussain Texas, USA

hury and do we have such Laws here, as there are in the US?