## The Daily Star

Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali Dhaka, Wednesday, May 20, 1998

## Why More Autorickshaws?

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in a rare flourish of candour, said the other day if BNP hadn't done anything in the electricity sector in its fiveyear governmental stint, 'so have we failed to do anything in that sector in our two years of governance.' If this sets a trend of owning failure in public, who should step out next and do some cathartic admission of guilt? It should be Sajeda Chowdhury, the minister for environment. Nothing has been done to improve Dhaka's pollution profile. Things haven't moved an inch in atmospheric, sound and industrial pollution areas. Forests are being denuded and lead settling in the chests of the urban people and they are hawking migratory birds at important city joints and burning trees by tens of tons at brickfield kilns - at the constant rate set before AL's coming to power. The new government has meant less than nothing environmentally.

A fantastic move to import 5,000 'baby-taxies', as the two-stroke three-wheelers are known, is under process. Four government managed banks are footing the 50-crore Taka bill. The beneficiary is an autorickshaw chalok federation who have been defaulting on all of their 31-crore Taka bank loan for years. The banks are said to have been pressured by two influential ministers into advancing such an illegal loan, a loan going directly against the professed environment policy of the government.

The two-stroke engines of the three-wheelers have been identified as the single largest contributor to the blackening of the Dhaka sky with carbon and lead poisons. We have been told of a planned phasing out of these vehicles. And we have also been told of some legal loopholes undermining a speedy execution of that plan.

If the present 50-crore Taka bonanza materialises for the baby-taxi lobby, we shall urge the government to scuttle the ministry of environment and put the talents of senior minister Sajeda to better spots elsewhere, to things that interest her truly. This baby-taxi thing is going to be a big text for the government's environmental protestations. Which very directly means that this is going to prove if the government is truly committed to changing things for the better or would it bide its time negotiating the age-old rut of government sans governance — just going through the motions and nothing besides.

Chuck the two-stroke ones off the road. This can be a good beginning to prove government bona fides on questions of people's good.

#### Inflationary Foot-fall

The average rate of inflation has more than doubled in the last 12 months. From less than three per cent last year the overall rate stands at above six per cent. On point-to-point basis though the country's inflation rate is estimated to be higher than 8 per cent.

The Finance Minister's Advisory Committee at their first meeting with S A M S Kibria, after eight months in hibernation, alerted the minister to the rising inflationary pressure building upon the economy. People in fixed and low income brackets who form the majority are badly hurt by higher inflation. As the cost of living goes up down goes their purchasing power. Economic hardship has a way of exacting a political cost from the govern-

ment. Inflation has increased both in food and nonfood items but it is in the latter category that the rise has been the most marked. There was underproduction of Boro in the northern part of the country. By contrast, good harvests were reported from other areas. In a mixed scenario the manipulators cashed in on the negative news of production shortfall keeping blindfolded to the positive intimation of better yields. The government information system apparently failed to work out the national averages at the right time, make them available to public and confront the speculators with assailing statistics. This may sound unrealistic in view of the general lack of credibility of governmental statistics - emanating even from the primary sources. There is always someone to spike it by painting a rosy picture to curry favour with

The economists urged the finance minister to follow effective fiscal and monetary policies with an eye to preventing the inflationary pressure going out of hand. They called for belt-tightening around current expenditure. This was followed by emphasis laid on efficient tax administration, responsible avoidance of legal trammels and rationalisation of the tariff structure.

higher-ups.

In terms of monetary policy, the credit controls remain in operation. There has been a decrease in the government's borrowing from the banking system but without any corresponding rise noticed in private sector lending.

At all costs the government must not allow the rising trend in current expenditure to continue.

#### Shibir Rowdyism

We do not know how to phrase our anguish and anger. A brilliant student, a would-be doctor, the only son of his parents shot dead on the way to his place of study. The 18 year old, son of a Chittagong University teacher, had no stake in any kind of rivalry, political or otherwise to even remotely deserve such a premature and pathetic end. He just happened to be in the university staff bus that was ambushed reportedly by the armed cadres of Islami Chhatra Shibir. How could criminals dare attack a bus travelling under police escort? Has law and order been banished from this land? How come the student wing of a party that has no moral place in the political legacy of this country be so

powerful as to take institutions and law like that? It should be remembered Mushfiq is the second sacrifice to Islami Chhatra Shibir's renewed campaign of violence in last two weeks. Ayub, an admission-seeker, was recently killed by the Shibir activists who have let loose a reign of terror ever since the authorities got a move on to free Chittagong University from their vicious grip.

It was clear for quite some time that Shibir activists were desperate to do something that would send the university in limbo. They have been attacking staff and student buses and shuttle trains of the university frequently. Yet the local administration abjectly failed to stem their tyranny. Agreed Shibir cadres operate on a hit-and-run policy from bases in the interior but that does not mean law enforcers won't know a way to tackle them.

# Fallout of Explosion: Jingoism and Arrogance

objectors.

The BJP-led government is equating nationalism with support to the tests. In a country where Mahatma THAT annoyed President Clinton more than Gandhi led a non-violent struggle to defeat the mighty British it has a large number of conscientious ▼ India's nuclear tests was the failure of CIA to pick up any information on New Delhi's preparations to conduct them. He came to know about the or Pokhran. But he would tell

conference.

Vajpayee made the an-Weather was also a help in the cover-up. April and early nouncement. Indeed, New Delhi had learnt May were unusually dusty. A a lesson from the 1994 flasco. few storms blew in the desert. Then Prime Minister P V The temperature was around 45 Narasimha Rao had planned degree Centigrade and a pall of two underground tests. But he haze hung over the site to make the visibility poor. had to cancel them under pres-The government feels elated sure from Washington. Its satelfor having dodged CIA and lites had photographed the hive

explosions only after Indian

Prime Minister Atal Behari

of activities in the Pokhran other intelligence agencies. "It's area in Rajasthan, where India not a question of chest thumping," say officials. "How come had exploded its first bomb in we carried out three sub-kiloton tests without any previous ex-This time the scientists studperience? How has India ied how long did it take the satellites to complete their orlearned all this? This is what bit travel. Within the period the US will be asking. It was available between one round highly challenging and comand the other, some work was plex computer calculations. done to avoid detection. A maze Many heads have rolled at CIA of electricity wires and water headquarters in Langley and at pipes were laid and army sapthe US Embassy in New Delhi. pers installed barbed wires to The process began soon after the BJP won the vote of conficordon off the particular area, dence in the Lok Sabha on beginning nearly 55 kilometres March 23. Vajpayec had already from Pokhran. Seven holes held consultations with Deputy were dug up to accommodate the

Planning Commission chairfive explosions, two extra in man Jaswant Singh, Home case one of the bombs failed to Minister L K Advani and Dedetonate. Fissile plutonium fence Minister George Fernanmaterial was transferred to the des. The armed forces chiefs site from the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) outside were told much later. "Of course I knew what was going," Advani has told a foreign newspaper The scientists and others, correspondent. "But I wasn't who often used army transport privy to the operational deplanes for travel, swore to setails." Advani confirms the crecy. So much so, they did not formal decision was taken imtake even their spouse into conmediately after the ruling Bharfidence about their movement. tiya Janata Party (BJP) won its The main person, R Chivote of confidence on March 23. dambaram, head of the Atomic "There was no cabinet commit-Energy Commission, left Bomtee involved, this was PM's debay many a time to visit Delhi

cision and it could be made only in the PM's office.' his wife that he was going for a

Some knowledgeable circles allege the real decision was taken after Vajpayee consulted the RSS ideologues. Their mouthpiece — Organiser — has let the secret out. Only hours after the tests were carried out the weekly tabloid appeared on news stands with a special 'Nuclear India' report. Articles printed in the issue pointed to the security threats posed by Pakistan and China — the same argument echoed by the Vaj-

Vajpayee's immediate predecessor, Inder Gujral, says: "I too could have ordered the tests, but did not do so because I did not want to risk international sanctions damaging our economic development." The Vajpayee government did not take Gujral's fears into account. None at the top echelons of decision-making anticipated the severity of the US-led sanctions that threaten future investments worth \$21 billion. Vajpayee's political advisor, Pramod Mahajan, laughed off

#### BETWEEN THE LINES

#### Kuldip Nayar writes from New Delhi

payee government - and stressed the need for India to exercise its nuclear option. A senior scientist from BARC is quoted as saying, "We can do it again."

The Indians believe that Pakistan would have no option except to set off its own nuclear test in response to its own domestic pressures. "Sanctions will hurt Pakistan more," a gleeful official says. "The Indian economy will also be hurt but we can bear it. Their economy is in the doldrums. Can they withstand even the clementary sanctions that will be imposed? Most of Pakistan's weaponry comes from the US and that will be cut when they

the sanctions by predicting, "US investors will lose more than us." Advani puts on a brave face arguing, "the country has the innate strength to face all difficulties. We will be hurt but not crippled by sanctions." He emphasises that security considerations "motivated us."

Extremists say the country's nuclear tests have revived India's ancient glory stretching back thousands of years before the birth of Christ. One of their proudest claims is that a prehistoric weapon, the 'Agni ban', first mentioned in the Hindu epic, the Mahabharata, was more devastating than the present generation of Hydrogen bombs. The 45-kiloton weapon tested under the sands of the Rajasthan desert was considered no exception.

Activists from both the RSS and the BJP have fanned out across the country to sell the myth to any one who challenges the potency of the Agni ban. At rallies they chant mantras before distributing sweets associated with celebrations of the great victory. They also have another agenda: To convince the electorate that the BJP alone has had the courage to test the bomb.

They have a point. Delhi conducted its first nuclear test in 1974 but then froze the programme. Foreign governments applauded. Their appreciation of India's restraint led successive governments to conclude there were virtues in abstinence. Warnings by the West not to carry out further tests also deterred Delhi. But the BJP government went ahead with it because of political agenda. One, it wanted to shore up the dithering coalition. Two, it had the eyes fixed on a mid-term poll which, it believed, was inevitable.

Opposition parties, which have avoided any direct criticism of the tests, are quite right when they say that the BJP is out to carn political capital from the tests. They challenge the government's contention that security needs forced them down the nuclear road. Vajpayee has accused China and Pakistan of conspiring to undermine India's security. But relations with both of them had improved during the 18 months when the United Front government was in power. What has happened since the advent of the BJP-led coalition to infer that the environment in the neighbourhood has changed? This is also the question that former prime minister Deve Gowda has rightly posed to Vajpayee in a letter.

However, the fallout of the explosion has been jingoism on the one hand and America's arrogance on the other. The BJPled government is equating nationalism with support to the tests. In a country where Mahatına Gandhi led a non-violent struggle to defeat the mighty British it has a large number of conscientious objectors. Many others question the timing. All of them cannot be brushed aside. And when the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the extremist of the RSS wing, talks about setting up a Shakti peeth (place of power), it means that the whole programme is acquir-

ing the Hindutva edge. The US, which is a self-appointed policeman of the world, has made observations like "duplicity" and "deliberate falsehood." They smack of unbridled power. Why should the nuclear bombs be the preserve of the US or, for that matter, the other four countries, the UK, China, Russia and France? The CTBT is discriminatory to that extent. It allows the club members to retain the bomb and nu-

clear weapons. The third world is not any country's vassal. America has not yet realised that the days of imperialism are over. I wish there had been more consultations among the third world countries, at least between India and Pakistan, on how to insulate themselves against the power-hungry and marketcrazy West.

# Permissive Standard of Administration: Eroding Confidence

by Md Asadullah Khan

The overriding fear is that political feud and administrative paralysis, that have started surfacing may take the country back to chaos and the economy could bleed again.

T UDGED from the permissive standard of J politics and administration in the country, it appears something truly bizarre is happering. If what is happening is any indication, governance at all levels of administration seems to be flawed. With the political parties busy in hurling abuses at each other and mostly pre-occupied with just digging the past, the country's administration is weathering a crisis of confidence. By now the rule of reason, ethical responsibility, proper surveillance and supervisory activities are somewhat comforting illusions. With AL in the seat of power, the electorate was yearning for stable governance - a factor seemingly missing long since. Without contradiction, sta-

bility requires a degree of rectitude, coherence, policy pattern. determination, courage, capacity to make intelligent guesses and an attitude to stand firm in the face of all odds. One cannot escape wondering how many honest officials there are in the government these days, especially in the police, customs, IT and banking sectors. Growing corruption is the worst problem facing the government. Of course crimes have always existed in the society but the rot was never so pervasive as it is now. Majority of the politicians in the earlier days were men of austerity known for their charisma, sacrifice and fighting spirit. But now majority of them flaunt their wealth, no matter they owe banks crores of taka as over due loan with little intention to pay even the interest due. True, we are ruled not by people who fought for our freedom but who have the most

money. And it does not seem to matter where the money came

Shockingly, the weakening moral standard and authority of politicians only increase arbitrary power of officials at different tiers of administration. People feel all this has led to a situation where bureaucrats are indifferent to shying away from their administrative responsibilities. Consequently, on the other hand, flawed system has resulted in such regulations with each passing day as has made life miserable. Public employees demand pay offs for means question propriety? each work required to be done, even for moving a file from one

but for a small price that one otherwise calls kick-back. People want fulfilment of promises made to them time and again by the leaders : freedom from hunger and poverty. job for all, education for all and health care for the vast multitude of suffering humanity. People are getting tired of slogans and rhetorics. They are sick of the leaders pampering ideologies but never practicing it, and by now are convinced that unscrupulous persons occupying the driver's seat in public offices cannot be booked because of the politicisation of

table to the other. Water, gas,

electricity, Income Tax assess-

ment, land registration and

land possession, city corpora-

tion tax payment, phones in-

stallation, train and bus tickets

during Eid rush can all be had

What strikes most is that many of these people either in public offices or outside escape punishment due to some lacu-

tain stages.

criminal investigation at cer-

nae in the law itself or political interference or an inept police or manipulation in evidence. The blatant and brazen way some political parties are instigating CBA activities despite the fact that most people in the country view such activities as monstrous indicates if anything, our love for democracy is only skin deep. If elections to CBAs in T&T, Water Development Board and Chittagong Port have been put on hold by a court order, could we by any

The limping state of our banking system, with bank officials, even directors blamed for looting depositor's money points to simply poor governance in the financial sector. The embezzlement of 4.5 crore taka from the Sonali Bank branch at Baitul Mukarram, 1.5 crore taka from the Rupali Bank branch at Sadarghat and 1.31 crore taka, by one director of the Islamic Bank branch at Motijheel, points to lack of proper surveillance by the bank authorities

If such series of events can't jolt the government to action. when and what else will cause them to? In the course of inaction, problems fester and reach an overwhelming proportion when possibly there would be no remedy available. There are plenty of areas such as containing terrorist activities, publication of the list of godfathers loan scandal etc that demanded action but even repeated pleas have had no practical impact The bank debacle in the country has gone unnoticed for long. A

bigger collapse might come about as a result of panic, in which terrified depositors may destroy a banking system by withdrawing their money simultaneously.

The sluggish performance in the banking sector stems from many counts such as government borrowing from the banks that deprives the private sector of the needed credit for trade and industry vis-a-vis non-enforcement of strict penalties on loan defaulters and removal of inept or corrupt officials and directors. These were steps that seemed long overdue and needed to be taken urgently strengthen the authority and supervisory capability of the Bangladesh Bank: Admittedly, unless lendings by political or any influential considerations are totally ignored, things can't

Banks in the country, despite all cautionary signals hoisted from time to time in the past few years, are still crippled under the burden of an accumulated bad loan estimated at Tk 150 billion accounting somewhat 37 per cent of total disbursement figure of Tk 395 billion. It is a common knowledge that it is the recovered loans that gives banks the money to re-lend. It is quite funny to see that guarantors of defaulted loans go scot free in absence of proper legal frame to haul them up, or its non-implementation in as much as they are the real borrowers behind the scene.

An elected government unlike an authoritarian ruler, has only five year of time to

Will it be the same

again?

over the situation in BUET.

am anxious whether we would

be able to complete our courses

in the scheduled time. But who

is responsible for this situation

- the Chancellor, the VC or the

education minister? To me, all

of them. Whatever is the result

Sir. We are very concerned

cleanse, relocate and adjust structural reforms. Once they resort to dilly-dallying, dithering or they are accused of narrow vision and ethical flexibility, it will cost them heavily in terms of diminishing popularity, increasing public disgust and future election prospects.

Echoing with President Shahabuddin, conscious citizenry have asked political parties to delink students' fronts from their politics but, as it seems this has not been listened to. People are appalled to see student activists in the University campuses flaunt pistols. or machete instead of books. It is far more strocking to see even innocent boys falling victim to gun battles that have raged through the campus again. These are crises which are consequences of blunders we have been doing day in and day out, through our rash and innately selfish actions.

With crises multiplying everyday, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina surely understands

what's at stake for her in the country. We might recall that great US presidents (Lincoln, Franklin D Roosevelt, Truman) owe their reputations to crisis leadership. Their lesser failures are forgotten. By the same token many presidents have been destroyed by crises, despite other accomplishments. Lyndon Johnson was devoured by Vietnam, Jimmy Carter by the Iranian hostage crisis and Nixon by the Watergate scandal. Conscious citizenry in the country fear that, this time, if the government fails to deliver proper governance or take the country ahead. Bangladesh or more so AL may not get another

chance soon. The overriding fear is that political feud and administrative paralysis, that have started surfacing may take the country back to chaos and the economy could bleed again. Fully aware of the pitfalls that lie ahead, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, people believe, would change her style of governance with a vision. No more outpouring of venom. Bangladesh simply can't absorb another dose of it.

The writer is Controller of Examinations, BUET.

### **OPINION** Sad and Shameful

I write this to thank you for your leader "A Crime against Society" published on the 1st instant giving a factual synthesis and analysis without any bias or twists about the untoward happening centring a disputed land between Luxmibazar Shahi Mosque and St. Francis Xavier's Girls' School of Luxmibazar. From the reports so far published and the opinions of the people, it is asserted that the people of this country do not support lies, violence, mobocracy and vandalism. It is the mischievous acts of some vested quarters, exploiting the simple sentiments of the com-

monmen by evil designs and I being a witness to the unruly rowdism feel it a duty to share the following:

Nothing has happened to the mosque. The school was bringing down the abandoned building after they had obtained clearance to do so from the court. The Judge, the Magistrate present during the breaking of the building and the labourers hired for the purpose all were Muslims and they did not do

anything to harm the mosque. Somebody raised the false and most dangerous alarm that the Christians were breaking down the mosque. The mosque committee cannot brush off the

responsibility. Some people of course did the mobilisation and invited the attackers with some ulterior motives. A big band of attackers came out of a certain lane driving heavy motor bikes and from another area, an organised group approached the site with rods of certain length. Thousands came out of the lanes and by-lanes but they were passive spectators. A herd of criminals came to loot. Some searched for the teenage female inmates. Some desecrated the cross that stands at the forequarters of the premises.

The loss incurred by the schools, churches are not only immense in physical terms but it has severed the psychological bondage of mutual respects and co-operation between communities. The age old trust is broken. Many families of Christian community were seen to move out of the locality.

The way the properties, buildings are damaged bespeaks of uncivilised barbarian psyche of the attackers. Why couldn't police intervene in time? The

11:00 am when a truck load of policemen was already guarding the place and it culminated into a direct violent attack around 5:00 pm. Why couldn't they re-inforce the police presence to defuse the mob and why

didn't they stop the attackers?

It has also manifested the hostility of a community on another community and assertion of the maxim "might is

Unfortunately, some local ex-Gregorians and their guardians, families also took part in the attack, actively or passively. From a drug store that belongs to an ex-student of St. Gregory's High School and some houses of the ex-students, even current students, groups of youngmen were seen coming out armed with rods. It is simply

In the meantime, some handouts have been distributed from a few mosques making some utopian claims while agreeing that there no papers was documents to support them on the plea that the predecessors were so engrossed in devotion to Almighty that they did not bother about documents. They have also declared Jihad. A section has been trying to

politicise the issue. Already many foreign diplomats have visited the place. The incidence has tarnished the image of the government and the country. It may take a toll on the economy of the country also, who knows. The mob was incited also by some persons whose wards are believed to be studying in the USA. Canada and other western countries. These countries may consider to deport such wards who knows, and stop granting visas to the people of the locality. For the criminal act of a handful many of us will have to

If the real culprits do not pay for the heinous act, they will repeat the crimes again and again further emboldened. Government has already taken some appropriate steps and stopped further attempts to torch and break the schools and the churches. The government should investigate into the matter more, fix responsibilities and punish the culprits to put an end to such vandalism and

rowdism. An inhabitant of Luxmibazar, Dhaka.

### Our mental slavery

Sir. Now that we have long since won independence more than a generation ago after a war in which the students played a most prominent role during the whole period of the liberation movement before and during 1971, it seems that the political parties will let the student community pursue their own career of studies and professional start-up, instead of setting up active (and violent) party fronts on the campuses.

Each citizen has the basic right to pursue his/her own career, without being disturbed by other professional groups (of which politics is a profession). It is intriguing to find that the students at the tertiary level of education cannot think for themselves on the state of the nation, and be able to criticise all parties as and when necessary, and not allow themselves to be spoon-fed by fossilised political leaders.

slavery. These students will be the leaders of tomorrow. They must be open-minded, and have the moral courage to call a spade a spade. To err is human, therefore all leaders (anywhere in the world) are subject to this universal limitation of their natural faculties.

How this interruption in studies is going to be made up in the succeeding years (one's life time is limited)? How these wayward youths will adjust themselves and fit in their own society and work side by side

with their own kith and kin? Why the politicians are allowed to continue this social aberration? Is there one single reason to support such political leadership which harm the fu-

ture of the students? Let this issue be nationally debated.

A Zabr Dhaka

#### Great walls of Dhaka

Sir. There is not only one but there are two great walls of China in Dhaka city. One is spread from Rajuk building point in the west to American Express building in the east the boundary wall of Bangabhaban at Paltan-Dilkusha-Motijheel area and the other one is spread all over Chowkbazar area, the high rise boundary wall of Dhaka Central Jail. There is also a Berlin Wall on the south-western side of Bangabhaban in front of

Jaikali Mandir Road. These great walls of Dhaka do not attract tourists. Rather those walls create hundreds of problems for city-dwellers like housing, pollution, obstructions in the movement of vehicles and pedestrians, create traffic jams and law and order situation.

Over the last 30 years, we have heard time and again about the shifting of Dhaka Central Jail from old Dhaka This is one form of mental city to other side of the river Buriganga. Very often the rumours of shifting of Bangabhaban from its present busy and crowded Naya Paltan-Motijheel Area to Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Baridhara, Gazipur etc. also came up, but of no avail.

O H Kabir 6. Hare Street, Wari, Dhaka

#### How about one-eyed Jack?

Sir, I thank Mr Masroor Ahmed Deepak for confirming in writing (DS-Sunday, May 10) what I considered of his earlier letter in the April 19 issue of the

I admit I do not have Mr Deepak's flare for writing long letters, but I do wish to make my point clear once again that Mr Deepak's April 19 letter took only one particular political party to task and not also the party responsible for initiating the whole episode in the JS on April 15. I hope Mr Deepak realises by now that it is not the power of the Speaker that is in question — but his wisdom!

I would request Mr Deepak to re-read that whole letter, and particularly this sentence: "Obviously. Mr Deepak did not bother to take into consideration Mr Mahfuz Anam's fine commentary in your April 17 issue while expressing his very partial views." Well, whose partial views this refers to? Certainly not Mr Anam's whose commentary was very evenly and objectively written.

So, if 'One Eyed King" is not preferred, how about One Eyed

A A Chowdhury Dhaka

#### At last, it's totally stopped

It is regretful that BTV has finally stopped the transmission of BBC programmes and they, as far as I know, don't show any reason for this. We have only one channel and it has been used as the government publicity media in past and at present. The present government reduced the programme's time only to one hour BBC programmes - and now it is completely stopped. But why?

Satellite facility is not yet available in Bangladesh and it is expensive. Besides, some people don't want satellite channel for keeping their children away from its bad effects. The commercial satellite clubs generally do not give the BBC or CNN channel to their subscribers.

So, the BTV authority should rethink the matter cordially and should take a positive decision immediately. Babul Akter (Bablu)

Deptt of Mass Communication M Zahidul Haque and Journalism Dhaka-1207 Dhaka University

#### of this impasse, the sufferer will be the students. The Chancellor will remain in her power, the teachers

(including those who resigned from their posts, not from their job - what a bluff) will get their wages and other facilities provided by the tax-payers' money and the minister will remain as the minister.

What will we gain is another session jam of some months.

A Student BUET, Dhaka

#### The Earth Day

Sir, Quoting world's leading climate scientists. President Clinton while speaking on the Earth Day, April 22, has said that the Earth will warm, the seas will rise and natural calamities will intensify and increase in number if the greenhouse gas emission are not reduced. "Fortunately, we know how to avert these dangers," the President, however, assured and urged to develop innovative technological market-related solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emission. We, heartily appreciate the

above deliberation of the US President, would invite him to kindly take the leading role with his country's modern technological facilities to develop appropriate technology for containing greenhouse gas emission and to make the technology available to all over the

BAI, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar

agitation was visible from