The Baily Star

Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali

Dhaka, Monday, August 10, 1998 Sabotaging the Nation

Lights went out on June 20 night. It seemed all the lights of the world were put off together. Unrelieved darkness enveloped the city and the jet black that we dipped into was full of forebodings. Yes, the blackout was to continue in the capital city for about two days and at places in the country hours beyond that. And in that fearsome darkness the nation was robbed of its hopes of an early recovery of the power situation - promised so forcefully by the government time and again.

The panic and disgust caused by the disaster was so forceful that the government had to institute an enquiry into the incident. At the time, we in these columns tried to be fair to the government and blamed the blackout on the very bad state of our generation and distribution systems of power as also on the unsatisfactory position of gas supply to the turbines. It is all true that almost nothing has been added to the installed generation capacity of power over many years while demand had galloped to dizzy heights. And that all the turbines were by now quite old and, for lack of proper maintenance and rest, many of these have turned erratic and undependable. We said the PDB was doing an impossible job of pleasing all in a built-in unhelpful situation.

The enquiry report is now in, a month later than stipulated. And it comes as a revelation. For it places most of the responsibility of the June 20 blackout not on mechanical failure or technical inadequacy but on sheer neglect and carelessness on the part of PDB personnel. This was unsuspected. Or rather covered from view by the ponderous physical problems of the situation. There was another reason. The nation was suffering from such acute crisis of power that no one could suspect for a minute that some people could indeed have had a hand in that owing to nothing more than callousness. And the enquiry report itemises such

At one stage of the brewing crisis the Prime Minister put the power plants under army supervision. At another an exasperated PM sacked the energy minister. Nothing helped and the situation only got worse. Now how will the way of the uncaring engineers be mended? Apparently, the PDB power establishments are not strong on supervision. But what happens when the top boss of the place is himself not quite mindful? In the history of the current power crisis there are cases of people in charge taking wrong decisions, because of lack of application, perhaps. When a doctor fails, he fails an individual or a family at the most. When a power system engineer fails, he sabotages the nation. This, it seems, has to be drilled into mind of all responsible PDB personnel.

Shame on BCB

Bangladesh Cricket Board has 'punished' Gordon Greenidge, the West Indian coach of the national team, for speaking his mind to the press. A rather long interview with The Daily Star where this master opening batsman of the yesteryears gave vent to his frustration at Board's failure in making optimal use of his experience and expertise, has apparently led to his fall from grace - his removal as national team's coach at least for the imminent Commonwealth Games. Not that we did not see it coming. Still we hoped for once, if not for anything else at least for the sake of decency, they would hold themselves back from indulging in an eminently self defeating and nasty exercise. They have put Gazi Ashraf Hossain, the man who has been serving as the manager of the national team, in Greenidge's shoes. Why? If Gazi Ashraf was good enough to be entrusted with the job of coaching the national team why the Board in its infinite wisdom did not select him right from the start? Why it made so much fuss about roping in Greenidge? Does the BCB want to say signing Greenidge was a mistake? Then it should make an official announcement admitting its judgmental error instead of resorting to this kind of indecent ruse of teaching a professional a lesson for no fault of his own.

Actually the BCB people are hoist with their own petard. They failed to live up to the mouthful of promises they made to sustain the interest that was generated in the country after the ICC success through their own efficiency and are now trying to pass the buck on Greenidge. We want to say it very clearly that developing the game in a country in the real sense of the word and hosting a few international competitions or playing a few big names in club cricket by cultivating personal friendship are two different ball games. Lobbying would do our future in cricket no good if we can't play the game on the green, more precisely if we can't beat our opponents and produce results in our favour more often than not. If the BCB does not want to have the label of basic dishonesty stuck permanently on it, it should have Greenidge reinstated in his position immediately. Give Greenidge a free hand. You just play the role of the facilitator. Don't forget Greenidge carries with him a wealth of experience and professionalism that not all the Board officials put together would ever weigh up to.

Narrow Squeak for Biman

It is really alarming the manner in which Bangladesh Biman is muddling through. It is sheer good luck that we have not heard of any major disaster yet. A report in a leading Bangla daily yesterday informed us how an aircraft on an international flight recently made a narrow squeak. On June 29 the Dhaka bound airbus from Kuwait with more than two hundred passengers on board caught fire in its cargo segment when being only few miles away from the Zia International Airport. Luckily it touched down safely and the fire was quickly detected and snuffed by the attending ground staff. But what really gives a sinister touch to the whole affair is the attempt to cover up this potential accident by the Biman officials. Instead of going for a thorough investigation, they tried to hide it. Biman has been living dangerously for quite some time. Not long ago, two planes on domestic routes escaped serious accidents.

If the authorities do not intervene now to bring a semblance of system, order and accountability, things might fall apart. We urged the authorities for firm corrective measure before. We reiterate our call. Piecemeal or cosmetic surgery will do Biman no good. Biman needs a thorough overhauling. Accountability has to be established at any cost. Only then Biman can be passengers' home in the air.

Eagle in the Clasp of Dragon!

The US increasingly finds herself straight-jacketed in a situation where she desperately needs Beijing's cooperation to deal with any problem in international system — be it the weaponised nuclear stand off in South Asia, the tension in Korean Peninsula, Cambodia or drug trafficking and peddling in weapon and technology for mass destruction.

of the world. Within a decade that power has reached its elastic limit. The cross-currents of international politics do bring predicaments even for the mightiest at times.

Y all reckoning the re-

cently-concluded visit of

President Bill Clinton to

China has been the decade's

biggest political spectacle. Both

the President and his host

wanted to make it a show befit-

ting the newly-emerging US-

China trans-Pacific strategic

and business partnership. The

high profile of the visit was

bizarre in the sense that during

the election campaign in 1992,

Mr Clinton frequently accused

Mr George Bush of 'coddling' up

to the dictators in Beijing.

Within much less than a decade

Clinton also is now credited

with the same compliment by

his conservative opponents in

dency, the US-China relation-

ship has been far from easy. Not

only it was bumpy from the out-

set, it had to encounter numer-

ous roadblocks. Only until last

year the term applied to the US'

China policy was 'contain-

ment'. When Jiang Zemin vis-

ited the US last autumn it was

transformed into 'constructive

engagement'. During the Clin-

ton visit the agreed 'mantra' of

the relationship was that of 's-

trategic partnership' implying

joint responsibility for peace

and stability in Asia for the

both. It was in sharp contrast to

'say, no to the US' in China's

business circle and 'the coming

conflict with China' among US

made possible? After the cold

war the US had been rather

comfortably saddled at the apex

of an unipolar world. She

demonstrated her awe-inspir-

ing power during the Gulf War

and proclaimed a world order of

her own design in its wake. For

a while her sway over the world

was total, unchallengeable and

undisputed giving the Ameri-

cans a feeling that their country

was indispensable superpower

HE obvious uncertainty

tillery duel across the Line of

Control (LOC) in Kashmir will

escalate into a battle localized

to that area or into a full-scale

war between India and Pak-

(IAF) made some incursions.

however, that came to nought

except for their helicopter gun-

ships strafing civilian targets.

IAF Chief Air Marshal Sareen,

visiting Kashmir, brushed aside

the "Guns of August" as a "sea-

sonal thing". It is true that the

LOC remains alive during Au-

gust because August and

September are roughly the

best(and last) available period

for cross-border activity, par-

ticularly for logistics. The In-

dians annually attempt to in-

terdict such activity by sporadic

shelling of possible infiltration

routes. However this time the

coordinated nature of the ar-

tillery shelling and the quan-

tum is much more intense and

widespread, almost across the

entire length of the LOC and by

all accounts it is an Advani-ini-

tiated exercise with far graver

implications. By all accounts,

Pakistan Army's 10 Corps was

pervading the country is

whether the intense ar-

The Indian Air Force

How was that turn-around

academia only two years ago.

Throughout Clinton presi-

Capitol Hills.

In post-cold war world the US does not anymore wield undisputed authority. Even the allies question her authority now, when their interests are hurt. Her grip has worsened over the countries in the EU who are going to introduce Euro to compete with American currency more forcefully. France, sour with American monopoly of world affairs has, of late, clashed with the US in the Middle East. Russia, seeking to restore her lost stature is constantly at odd with the Americans dabbling in her near abroad'. Both of them have since been clamouring for a multipolarity in world politics. American peace mission has clearly suffered a setback in Arab-Israeli conflict and her containment policy in the Gulf also has become diluted.

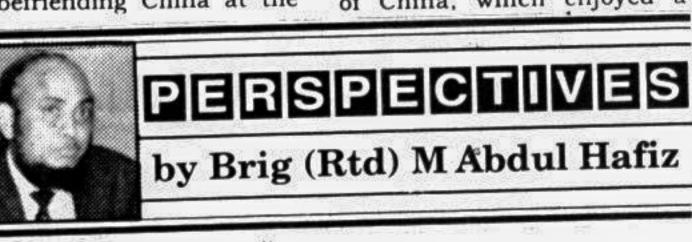
Given this new equation in global scene, the US increasingly finds herself straightjacketed in a situation where she desperately needs Beijing's cooperation to deal with any problem in international system - be it the weaponised nuclear stand off in South Asia, the tension in Korean Peninsula, Cambodia or drug trafficking and peddling in weapon and technology for mass de-

The post-cold war realities are such that Washington is in dire need of a cooperative framework of operationalisation of its relation with Beijing that goes beyond bilateral to regional and global. She is convinced that China has an important role to play in US policy towards East and South East Asia. And now with the nuclear proliferation in South Asia, according to Clinton's speech at National Geographical Society, 'China has a key role to play in the resolutions of problem be-

tween India and Pakistan'. In spite of an American urge for befriending China at the

tough stand on the issues nor did China really care. Beijing had been perfecting the art of cold soldiering the US allegation for last several years and during the visit, the US enamoured with China's mega-market and with her new found enthusiasm for China wanted to ignore or overlook many of the Chinese lapses and tried to find excuses for Beijing's difficulties in its compliance.

In the meantime the policy of China, which enjoyed



former's critical juncture the issues standing between Beijing and Washington were formidable. Prominent among the issues of conflict between them were of human rights, religious freedom, forced abortion, problem of Tibet apart from all important nuclear and missile technology transfer. The visit was about to be marred by the Loral space and communication related allegations and US insistence on China signing the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). Yet it was Beijing which got the US administration exactly where it wanted it.

It was obvious that the tone of the visit was set by the host. The stark reality was that neither the US wanted to take favourable trade balance, \$50 bn a year with the US, continued to be characterised by a determination to draw the line and hold to it - be it human rights or China's nexus to Iran and Pakistan or on Taiwan and Tibet questions.

The persistent Chinese response to US demands on various issues had been that its accession to them would depend on the cessation of American arms sales to Taiwan, need for China to preserve the exchange rate of the yuan to dollar and American vote in China's favour in the IMF, World Bank and WTO.

Even such 'misdemeanors' of China were overlooked by the US who was magnanimous enough to preserve its currency

exchange rate for China in spite of Asian economy undergoing convulsion. China's human rights violations were swept under carpet.

On the top of everything else, China was seen as a strategic partner on issues such as that of Korean Peninsula. The Indian nuclear test came as godsend for China because it assigned her a joint role with the US to curb nuclear proliferation in the subcontinent. She was also seen as a counterweight against Russia with whom the US' bonhomie has gradually been fading. In warming up with China it was however the commercial interests which subsumed all other vital American interests.

Apparently, Mr Clinton had of late been following a policy of appeasement towards China lest it would shut off its megamarket to American business. Instead of tough responses to China's recalcitrant posture, Clinton tended to simply look the other way. In preserving China market stood behind him all those US companies which invested billions of dollars in projects or in trade with China and who did not want their profits jeopardised by something so trivial in real politik as American values.

As an immediate outcome of the visits of both the presidents \$60 bn seemed to have been secured for the US business for 40 nuclear plants which would be built in China by 2000.

The reciprocity of symbolism was aplenty in the visits. Mr Clinton did not make any third country stopover either en route to China or on return as a

gesture of goodwill because Mr Jiang Zemin also did not land on non-American territory during his US visit last year. However his Hong Kong stopover while returning carried significant message — perhaps of telling Taiwan that the model of 'one country, two system' was worth emulating even by the

During Jiang's visit his first port of call was Hawaii. The real purpose was to demonstrate at Pearl Harbour a shared past of both the US and China of being subjected to Japanese aggression during the second world war. In reciprocity, Clinton had to cancel his planned stopover at Tokyo where he wanted to brief the US' closest ally as to what transpired in Beijing during his visit.

It is remoured during the visit that a campaign contribution of \$100,000 by the China Aerospace Corporation funneled to the Democratic party in the US was a factor in lifting sanction against the satellite sale. But then George Bush also had to ease the post-Tiananmen sanctions on the export of satellite technology to China, a fact which was turned into a campaign issue by Clinton in his 1992 presidential campaign.

The network of US-China business lobby is so dense and widespread that whoever occupies the White House succumbs to its persuasion. As a matter of fact there is growing lobby in the US to argue against any kind of sanction against China. Because according to it, sanctions will not only prove counter-productive but will also stall all the progress that were achieved in the last few years in US-China bilateral relation. From the Clinton's China visit and its outcome, it seems the incumbent US President has fallen in line with arguments of this lobby.

Sovereignty at Risk

The only solution for a democratic PM like Mian Nawaz Sharif to limit sovereign risk is to widen and deepen the democratic process through the broad spectrum of government from Local Bodies upto the Federal Cabinet. Our national unity is fragmenting because of the lack of people's participation in governance at every level.

West. While one could concede that pre-blast such steps could not be made public, at least the government should have had a gameplan which could have been well thought out before implementation. Not only was this lacking but post-blast the government got caught up in the general euphoria and instead of consolidating its gains, mainly national unity, it went ahead and announced dramatic political and economic initiatives, the public reaction effectively derailing that euphoria and the nation's sovereignty at risk. Kalabagh Dam is necessary but the will of the people could have been built through consensus, not arbitrary announcement to that effect. Similarly the freeze of Foreign Currency Accounts (FCAs) was necessary under the circumstances but a better way could have been devised to get past the obstacle. The net result of bad policy

initiatives is that not only has able to give an effective reit put the Mian Nawaz Sharif sponse, enough to silence their regime at risk but also the naguns in a number of locations. tion's sovereignty. While our Pakistan went through a economic scenario is desperate, very uncertain period after the a resilient parallel economy is May 11 Indian blasts. In this keeping us afloat. Even at the day and age, for a country to threaten another with nuclear end of our survival tether, the official rate of exchange has dewar and annihilation is rather preciated by 2-3 per cent extraordinary. Despite the ecowhereas the unofficial rate has nomic consequences foreseen, fluctuated between 18-22 per Pakistan had no choice but to cent. Again, given the adverse go ahead with its own nuclear circumstances, particularly the blasts to even the military, and more importantly, psychologisanctions, this is not a bad performance. When taking into account that hundreds of mil-While it took courage to face lions have come below the upto the western world, particupoverty line in Indonesia, S. larly a disapproving US, the

and political keel. To forestall further deterioration, the Government is going through with a cabinet re-shuffle. Going by the track record of the Sharif brothers, this changeover will be used to stifle the remaining dissent in the Cabinet, a sure recipe for political disaster in the future. As it is, the present Cabinet members are hardly known to raise any voice of argument for fear it will not find favour with the Sharif brethren. Once the Cabinet is fully stacked with a bunch of ves-men, more serious mistakes across the board are

sence of regional stalwarts from any party and in the presence of political lightweights whose only claim to fame is to be "talented" in acquiring authority on the coat-tails of extra-constitutional power. The Jamaat-i-Islami has the only cadres with potential street power but it has only focused political strength in few locations, though Imran Khan is perennially on the hustings he has limited still political nuisance value, he can only benefit from a long-term national government followed by an electoral exercise that sees the

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Ikram Sehgal writes from Karachi

likely to occur. Amazingly the only bold initiatives taken by the Sharifs were of personal vendetta, that they could find time to indulge in this exercise while the nation is at risk is at the very least, astonishing.

With the nation in a state of virtual internal collapse, the Indian firing across the LOC has helped to stabilize the situ-Domestically, Mian Nawaz Sharif has nothing to fear from a fragmented opposition, led in Sindh by a person labelled internationally as corrupt and in NWFP by a sub-regional leader of a party with parliamentary strength only because of the misplaced generosity of PML (N). Former President Farooq Leghari lacks political credibility in the abPML (N) and PPP lose their leaders to third parties.

The only "political" party left is the Army and fortunately for Mian Nawaz Sharif, despite the consensus availing from the unit and formation Monthly Security Intelligence Reports (MSIRs), particularly the column labelled "Morale-Military" and "Morale-Civilians", the present hierarchy is extremely professional and disinclined from Napoleonic adventure. Possible alternate Caretaker names have been aired, they have possibly disappeared in the smoke of artillery shelling across the LOC. In a series of garrison visits, the COAS has very emphatically argued against "Quickthe credibility of those advising it as well as to the Army becoming part of the problem rather than solving the problem. The Army cannot afford to get bogged down internally at this time. It is already involved in Karachi by proxy through the Rangers and is deeply worried about the drying up of funds, not only for its vital and essential purchases but day to day running of the military machine. As much as the COAS may want to remain distant from the political situation, the Army is being drawn inexorably into the governance process and in the end may find themselves operating more than the usual remote control buttons despite the COAS's best

intentions. Mian Nawaz Sharif's regime will not be able to withstand any further major faux pas in the prevailing environment. There is always a fail-safe line between democratic process and

autocrafic government in any third world country, if the PM brings autocracy into his government it may well soon be replaced by more authoritative autocracy in the country. He cannot juggle both and get away with consequences thereof. The only solution for a democratic PM like Mian Nawaz Sharif to limit sovereign risk is to widen and deepen the democratic process through the broad spectrum of government from Local Bodies upto the Federal Cabinet. Our national unity is fragmenting because of the lack of people's participation in governance at every level. When the people gave their mandate to the PM, they expected performance based on their interest and not on the interest of an inwardly looking city-nation biased inner coterie, long on flattery and short on common sense and logic. Each crisis has the potential of turning into a disaster and as every day dawns, the country is going deeper into debt and with no solutions in sight. As history has repeatedly shown, when absolute disaster looms, necessity becomes the bane of even the most sincere of intentions.

OPINION GOVERNANCE

The Fundamental Issue

Firdous Murshid

Governance is perhaps the horn or drive your truck in your atest buzz-word that has hit our shores. Even the Prime Minister has had to nod to it with great deference, in a recent conference. The Bible tells us that in the beginning was the Word. So it would appear that just by uttering the appropriate magic words in all earnest and great passion, we could usher in an era of transparency, accountability and efficiency in our national institutions - at least until such time as a new

buzz-word is imported! I am all for great ideas and grand concepts. I have absolutely no problem with people who want to re-invent or modify the wheel. I have great respect for the grand oral tradition of our policy makers, academics and leaders of civil society - because clearly, if we are not able to articulate the problem, reveal all its complex intricacies and arouse and mould public opinion in the right direction, we are not going to be able to make a dent in the

black-box of governance. I hold my breath in anticipation of the next major international conference on the subject. Until then, let me draw attention to a relatively neglected cept will nevertheless be deemed worthy of note.

In an ideal situation, the best governance regime is paradoxically, one where there is no need for governance. Consider a world where society is essentially self-regulated, all members are law-abiding, where the rules of conduct are well-known and where non-compliance with rules and social norms do not occur. If such a society were to exist, then we would not need a police force or a judiciary. The role and size of the state would be much simplified and reduced, with the government free to concentrate on important matters like growth or poverty

alleviation. In such a world, there would be no fraud, bank defaults, bounced checks, breaches of contract or chaotic traffic (the last because then you would not drive on the wrong side of the road, glue your palms to the

Yes, it does seem like an impossible dream, but does point to an important point: good governance is much more closely related to attitude, behaviour, education, culture and norms rather than to the size of the police force, the number of commissions, committees and task forces, and the legal/judicial framework. However, much of the discussion on governance that we hear relates precisely to the latter, less relevant issues. Thus, the fundamental challenge is to promote, collective, cooperative action and build on appropriate cultural practices and norms (before these disappear com-

pletely from our midst).

No amount of policing, rules, regulations and directives can help in a cultural milieu that does not favour cooperation. Every individual will then attempt to maximize his shortterm, private welfare - the sum-total of which will yield chaos, confusion and anarchy - this is one case where Adam Smith will find himself standing on his head. In the absence of cooperation, the institutions of governance (including those dimension of governance in the of enforcement) are going to fail hope that a not-so-grand con- miserably. It would be facile to believe that effective enforcement is possible in a situation of widespread disregard for rule of law - the cost of such enforcement would simply be overwhelming.

> Where does this then lead us? We have to go behind the factors that have made us lawless. We have to rule by example. We need to instill respect for the law. We need to be reminded of the importance of driving on the left side of the road. We need to change our attitudes and engender respect if not love, for fellow mortals. At the end of the day we need education, in the broader sense of the term. And that process of education must

begin with our leaders. Murder of Rubel and the subsequent and ongoing attempts to cover-up, deny, justify a criminal act by a state institution, probably does not help engender love and respect.

Fresh non-fat milk

Nawaz Sharif Government un-

fortunately had not taken con-

crete steps to cope with the

sanctions threatened by the

cal balance.

Sir. Nowadays fresh wholesome milk is available for people of Dhaka city in sealed plastic packs. Suppliers have done a good job for which citizens can get unadulterated fresh milk everyday.

However, fresh non-fat milk is not available in the market. This is causing difficulty for old people who cannot take wholecream milk due to health condition. Presently they have to depend on imported powdered non-fat milk which is expensive and the quality is not dependable.

I would therefore request the milk producers to produce limited quantity of non-fat milk and start supplying in Dhaka city. Once this milk is available at a reasonable price, old people will start purchasing this product. Gradually the consumption will go up and it can be marketed in other large cities like Chittagong, Khulna etc.

It may be mentioned that non-fat milk is available in most of the large cities of the

Serajul Haq Eastern Tower. 20 New Eskaton Road, Dhaka-1000

Observing August 15 Sir, August 15 is a remarkable date in Bangladesh not because it was the birth day of Khaleda Zia (as claimed by her) but for a reason known to everybody. That very familiar was not at all a happy one, instead it was a very very sad incident in the history of Bangladesh.

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the very founder of the Independent Bangladesh was brutally killed in the early morning of the 15th of August, 1975 by our own soldiers, believably not of their own will but by both national and international conspiracy. And Sheikh Saheb was not killed alone but all the members (then present in Bangladesh) of his family had to meet the same fate.

Korea and Thailand, this be-

comes relatively positive. How-

ever, good governance could

have kept us on better economic

Then why the entire Bangladesh should not observe August 15 as our National Mourning Day? There may be reservation as regards Mujib's fatherhood of the Bangalee Nation just because he did not create a new nation (Bangalee nationhood developed bio-socially in a very slow process, state. The persons diminishing Mujib's credits may note that have not used the term Father of the Nation before his name. Then what about the term Bangabandhu (the friend of Bangla)? This very title was given to Sheikh Mujib after his successful launching of the famous six-point demand. This title has become a very familiar one and almost synonymous with his real name. Furthermore a title given by the people should be honoured and must not be stripped of. Yet for acceptability to the opposition camp, I haven't used also the term Bangabandhu before

Sheikh Mujib's name. I regard Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani as the dreamer of our national independence (he also dreamt of the Jamuna Bridge as early as 1949!), Sheikh Mujib as the Organizer of Independence Movement and Tajuddin Ahmed as the Executant of the Liberation

War, while Ziaur Rahman was one of the three Chiefs of three special forces.

I may be wrong and if so the readers are requested to correct my notion. If I am right at least in regarding Sheikh Mujib as the Organizer of our Independence Movement and thus the Founder of Independent Bangladesh (the war was fought after the declared commandership of him), then my urge to every Bangladeshi is to observe August 15 as our national Mourning Day. Khaleda Zia's birth day, even if it is on the same day should not be observed joyfully because such an observance may amount to show disrespect to the mourning mood of the people at large.

Can the nation expect at least some discussion on the day on the life and unnatural demise of Sheikh Mujib from our present opposition party (the ever biggest opposition in Bangladesh politics)?

MAS Molla Member, BAAS, Dhaka.

Agri-education

Sir, According to the press reports, academic activities including research of the Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU). Mymensingh have been facing setback due to inadequate budget allocation for the current fiscal year. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved Tk. 35 crore as budget to BAU for fiscal '98-99 against the demand of Tk. 46 crore. Of the amount, grant from the government is Tk.

sity's own sources. It is a known fact that the government has undertaken

33.20 crore while Tk. 1.80 crore

Fix" solutions and pointed to

will be earned from the Universome pragmatic steps for bringing about changes in higher agricultural education with a view to strengthen the country's agro-based economy through creating an educated and skilled farming community. Some Agri-colleges have been declared to be upgraded while one agri-university has been set

At a time when the higher agri-educational institutions in the public sector have devoted themselves in the task of producing skilled, scientific manpower for raising productivity in the agri-sector at par with the government strategies, the inadequate budget allocation for BAU will undoubtedly hamper the academic and research activities of the university.

M Zahidul Haque BAI, Dhaka-1207.

Democracy in India

Sir, India happens to be one of the largest democratic country in the world. But recently a number of people were protesting against a play about a man who assassinated Gandhi and where the assassin was glorified. If the play was cleared by the State Sensor Board, then why bother? If the Indians practice democracy then they have nothing to fear.

Let people be the judge.