have been deeply shocked

by seeing in the dailies on

12th January the death

news of a Jt Secy named

Nikunja Devnath who was

brutally killed by armed

snatchers in broad day-light on

the Dhaka University campus.

It is also seen in the same day's

newspapers that six other

innocent people have been

killed in the city during Eid

protection of life and property

of the people and then to main-

tain law and order in the coun-

try. The government is con-

stituently responsible for safety

and security of life and property

of the people. And to fulfil this

obligation, the police force is

raised and maintained. It is the

primary responsibility of the

police to provide protection to

all irrespective of political be-

lief and ideology. We must re-

member that police are not

primarily prosecutors, rather

they are protectors of the peo-

ple. They must be organised.

trained, motivated and

equipped properly to accom-

plished their task without ma-

jor failure. Police have differ-

ent nature of job than other

employees of the government.

They must be treated differently

for their different nature of job.

When others will relax in their

own spare time, police will re-

will go out during holidays and

for which police have to be kept

on special alert - and they are

meant for that. The police are

not doing any favour to any-

body by being alert on holidays

and if they have not done so.

that means they have not done

is at fault. If the Home Minister

HE hijacking of the Indian

Kathmandu has proved to be

one of the longest ever wit-

nessed. This incident has also

demonstrated in a telling man-

ner the ruthlessness with which

terrorists execute their plan of

action disregarding basic hu-

man sensitivities. Much as one

would like to, it appears that

the hijackers seem to be emboldened by some external sup-

port. The unprovoked killing of

the innocent Rupin Katyal and

the refusal of the hijackers to

release his wife even to attend

his funeral, easily highlight the fact that terrorists observe no

limit in pursuing their mission

and goal, a frightening aspect of

terrorism indeed. This incident

has raised a number of very im-

portant issues and we can ill-

afford to wish them away. One

of the most important realisations that stares on our face is

that we in India continue to

wish away ground realities and

also are none the wiser for all

few years now about interna-

tional terrorism and the need

for all nations to jointly

counter such terroristic devel-

opments. We have no doubt

taken up this matter in the

various international fora like

the UN. SAARC, etc. India has

also signed agreements with a

number of countries to evolve

international co-operation to

fight terrorism. In spite of all

these the present hijacking has

clearly exposed our failure to

evolve and practise an opera-

tional policy which would en-

sure our national security.

What to talk of international

arrangements on a global basis.

we have not yet brought into be-

ing any effective mechanism

which would look after our in-

terests even in the limited geo-

Asia. The manner in which ter-

rorist outfits, whether of Indian

or Pakistani or Afghan origin.

TOM & JERRY

James Bond

BY WAN FLEMING

DRAWING BY HORAL

We have been talking for a

our past experiences.

Airlines flight IC-184 carrying 187 passengers from

So it is obvious that people

main alert on duty.

their duties.

Police are raised first for the

holidays.

## The Police Must Deliver

by Mohd. Akhtaruzzaman

The parliament must review and find out whether present police force is capable of protecting the life and property of the people. Are they properly paid so that they do not bow their head to the criminals under any enticement? Are they properly equipped, qualified, trained and motivated to serve the people of the country? Are they being used properly or are they being misused to serve the evil doers?

ordered police for extra alertness then we could easily find out who had disobeyed him and for which a Jt. Secy had to see the face of an untimely death.

The minister should give policy directives to his ministry and in that process the secretary concerned should issue executive order for implementation by the department concerned of the government. While issuing such orders, the secretary must ensure that right number of persons are deployed with proper equipment and resources. But these days, we find high level officers act as hinderance to the functioning of the police force. They provide no support to the police authority for efficient functioning of the police. The police are very poorly organized and have been made dependable on other legal and illegal sources. Nobody really bothers to see whether police, so deployed, are even fed properly, not to talk about their minimum worthiness, as if the police has to live on their own to perform their duties. A policeman works round the clock. has no duty hours, does not get appropriate wages, no overtime, has no transport, no TA/DA and no money ever for paper work of his duties. In .his Now we have to find out who state of affairs of police, one can expect nothing from them.

Over and above, they are heavily misused to control political

rivals of the party in power. There is no evidence in the country till today any Cabinet or Parliament has ever cut down the budget of the police. Rather it is the inefficiency of the ministry to provide proper and appropriate budget for the police force. It is a common complaint of police personnel that they are not adequately provided for to perform their duties efficiently.

It is not the duty of the police to make provision or prepare the budget for their outfits, nor it is the duty of the Cabinet or Parliament. The Police Department will prepare the demand for them according to the duty which is assigned to them. The Cabinet will do the vetting and Parliament will pass the budget. It is the primary and sole responsibility of the officers of the secretariate of the ministry under the command of the secretary concerned to prepare the appropriate and adequate budget for the police as per the task assigned to them. It is because of the failure of the leadership of the Home Ministry that Mr. Devnath had to give his life. I could blame the police for the failure if they would have been given the right budget to be extra vigilant dur-

ing Eid holidays. I could have held the minister responsible if he would have cut the budget submitted by Secy or even I could make the Parliament responsible for not passing the budget. But irony is that we, the members in the parliament, do not even get a chance to say a word, after voting "YES" for the

The DMP Commissioner and

his DCs and ACs must prove

that they also did their best dur-

budget.

ing the last holidays to protect the life and property of the people for whom they are employed - no matter whether they are paid, or not given equipment or even not given proper training and motivation, but it is their primary responsibility since they have the responsibility. Police must have the moral courage to stand for truth, face the eventualities and deter the evil forces. They, at no instance, should go beyond the law and legal framework. They

people and maintain law and They have the right to arrest anybody found creating or attempting to create threat to life and property of anybody or

must remember that they are

not responsible for punishing

anybody or correcting the soci-

ety. They will provide protec-

tion to life and property of the

anyone violating or attempting to violate law. But under no circircumstances, can they even abuse a criminal what to talk must, I repeat must, stop such recurrences otherwise they will have to face the consequences. The civil society will do their best for a high standard of police for their own interest but police should also show positive response. The citizens of the country will not mind to spend any amount for the safety of their own but the police must prove that they can help the citizens.

I would further request my fellow friends in the parliament especially the Members of the Standing Committee on Home Ministry to review the performances and activities of the police in general and the seven killings including that of the Jt Secy, in particular. The parliament must review and find out whether present police force is capable of protecting the life and property of the people. Are they properly paid so that they do not bow their head to the criminals under any enticement? Are they properly equipped, qualified, trained and motivated to serve the people of the country? Are they being used properly or are they being misused to serve the evil do-

cumstances, I repeat under no about beating or killing. Police

The OC of the PS concerned should clarify his position about his activities for protection of life and property of the people of his area.

There is a silent call for

All these questions must be answered otherwise many Nikunjas will face such tragic

The author, a retired Major of Bangladesh Army, is a BNP lawmaker.

# Political Roundup: Heed the Feedbacks!

by Abul M Ahmad

TOW feedbacks are readily available in the local media from Bangladeshis residing abroad, as the latter can read the Dhaka newspapers imagination; but then what? through the Internet every day just as we do at home. The political commentaries and views reproduced in the local press are interesting, trying to judge our nasty political misadventures objectively from a distance. It is -noted that sometimes the approach is refreshingly different from that of the local observers.

The people are suffering from 'hartal fatigue'; but there is also the 'other fatigue' due. perhaps, to Awami League's 'rhetorical overkill' (plus the sharp tongue of some of the pundits). Now it might be more prudent for the political leaders not to go around with the ideology malas (garlands). Over-selling is independent of party affiliation (Mujibism could not take off as yet; and trying too hard all the time does not produce the expected result).

more pragmatic programmes involving 'can-see' examples of good governance, instead of offering platonic tutorials over abstract and high-flown valuejudgement ideological 'visions'. which cannot be assimilated easily by the masses hovering just below or above the poverty line. First change the condition, then indoctrinate; because it is the information age, and time waits for none. There are too many other attractions

around, within reach, and accessible. This is the age of com-

petition - nearer home. It is easy enough to rouse the Better to talk less before the delivery - expectant sonar Bangla is still 'expecting' after three decades. The credibility-fatigue has to be kept in mind. There are too many impositions on the underdeveloped minds in the underdeveloped countries by undeveloped leaders with itmerant followers.

The marginal minds have no time for politics, competing against the very struggle for survival and day-to-day living. The hopes and aspirations projected by the two principal groups, the governors and the governed, might have considerable communication gap, resulting in illusions and delusions: which, of course goes against the political leadership Too much expectation is good neither for the people nor the service providers.

The days of the big political parties are gone (look around at the Asian capitals, to start with). So some observers feel that BNP scored a point by going for a coalition from the preelection stage (post-election alliances are much simpler). Kader Siddiqui's new political party will make its presence felt, as this liberation war leader is not a stranger to the scene. The split in the FF (Freedom Fighter) camp has to be carefully watched, as it

might tilt the balance, however slightly, in one direction. Now too many sights are aimed at AL. Ershad, a crafty politician who should not be underestimated, would like to see both the ladies weaken.

The Bengalees have always been anti-establishment, and in that respect, that much unpredictable. It is all the more so with the vicious confrontational politics of today. The next regime cannot be predicted; as floor-crossing is still an active pastime, and internal feuds are simmering. There are many politicians who seek change secretly, and the bubbles will erupt when the time comes.

The problem with Bangladesh politics is the absence of internal democracy. condoned by the sycophants and condemned by the ambitious souls. Anyway, the hartal overkill will make it disappear as a major weapon in the millennium years, as a psychological rest period is required; and especially if the growth rate is poised for a take-off.

There are two elegant modern terms 'zero-tolerance', and 'zero-maintenance'. The political maintenance cost will go up. and zero-tolerance has to be compromised in the core area, as the rule of the loners are gone. Plastic-coated politics will give way to plasticity in political behaviour, as talented non-politicians embrace this profession to uplift it from the nadir of post-revolution

## Hijacking: Need for Introspection

by T Ananthachari

There have been reports that India was kept informed by countries like the USA about the possibility of a major incident being perpetrated by terrorists before the end of the year. The people in the country have a right to know, at least now, the correct version and the role played by the NSC and other decision-making bodies of the government.



KANDAHAR: A hijacker hanging out of cockpit, to have a look of surrounding at the Kandahar Airport in Afghanistan on Dec 30. Taliban soldiers with rocket launchers stood guard around the plane as Indian negotiators reportedly haggled with the hijackers over the release of some Kashmiri militants.

to total laxity in security arrangements at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, is a rude reminder of our own failure to come to grips with some sensitive yet basic issues inherent in a complex and dangerous terrorist prone situation. It is time that India introspected about its security needs and also its current abilgraphical context of South, ity (or inability) to look after them on a day-to-day basis.

In the first instance it is im-

portant to be assured that there have been launching their acis awareness about the serious tivities from the territories of threats to national security and our neighbours, for a few years now and our seeming inability what terrorism means. There seems to be a big disparity in to appropriately counter such the definition of this term in efforts clearly buttresses the the first instance. More imporabove unhappy judgment. tantly, there has to be commit-Going by the reports appearment to 'security' needs of the ing in the media from time to country. Every segment of the time, there have been numerous country and people should bemeetings and consultations believe in the need to adhere to setween India and some of its curity measures. According to neighbours to specifically admedia reports, there was obvidress the problems arising out ous slackness on the part of Inof terrorism in the region. It is dian Airlines officials staobvious that such meetings and tioned in Kathmandu, pointing consultations are not leading us to the fact that they were not anywhere. The latest hijacking particular about following sewhich was facilitated, thanks curity practices expected of



NEW DELHI: An unidentified hostage waves as a group of hostages disembark from a plane at New Delhi's international airport on Dec 31, after spending eight days in a hijacked Indian Airlines jet in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

- AFP photos

DIST. BY ASIA PEATURES

MOUSE

IARATHON

FINISH

LINE

Going by what is happening in the Rajiv Gandhi murder case, some serious doubts arise in this regard. Here was a case in which a leading Indian political figure, who was a contender to the post of Prime Minister of the country, was killed by members of a terrorist outfit of foreign origin. Still in terms of the conclusions of the court, it was not an act of terrorism. And, following the sentence of death given to some of the accused in the case, there is a continuing debate, mostly on political lines, whether at least one of the convicted persons, a woman in this case, should not be shown clemency and awarded a lesser punishment. That a top leader of one of the major national political parties has joined this chorus is definitely a disturbing thought clearly indicating that we are still not taking terrorism seri-

There is also opposition to the new terrorisi, act which is to replace the TADA. One should remember that though the majority of the people may be law-

abiding, we cannot wish away the fact that there is a small percentage who hold the rest to ransom and who have to be dealt with firmly. Our experience has also shown that more often than not, people who have been wrongly accused under the TADA have been released by the courts. So, the outcry against all laws which seek to control terrorism is not understand-

The second aspect is our failure to educate and sensitise the general public as to what the policy of the government is in regard to matters like kidnapping, hijacking, etc., particularly as to the inescapable need to evolve a national consensus in this regard in the content of national security. If such a thing were done, the public would also understand their own role in it. The current unfortunate hijacking incident has brought to surface the consequences of not paying attention to this aspect of the matter. Going by the responses of some Chief Ministers and expectedly. of the relatives of the hostages. there is serious doubt if the in-

By Hanna-Barbera

herent complexities of negotiations in hijacking incidents and the long-term national security interests involved are being understood and appreciated in perspective by the nation as a

There are situations, as in the current hijacking episode, when the hijackers were at an advantage, thanks to unstated help and support they might be getting from some of the neighbouring countries who are beheved to be fomenting terrorism in India and who might only be too happy to draw maximum mileage at the unavoidable and helpless discomfiture which India faced due to the present hijacking. In such a situation, it does not make decision-making by the government any easier if there were sectarian pressures to somehow resolve the crisis and get the hostages released at all costs. In such context, it is necessary for the news media to issue statements which are fully verified from authorised sources. It has to follow some discipline and there should be no room for one upmanship. Otherwise, media can be a source of avoidable scare among the public. It is obvious that when negotiations are on, it may not be wise to reveal all details. It may be a good idea for government agencies to take the relatives of hostages into confidence and give them accurate information about the safety of the hostages. The third aspect of the prob-

lem is the fact that we have not been able to anticipate the shape which our security threats will assume at a given point of time. Since the start of terrorism in Punjab in 1984 and also militancy of the order and magnitude in J&K since the later part of 1989, we have almost invariably been taken by surprise at the moves made by Pakistan. Kargil is too recent an event to be recounted here. We are being surprised regularly in J&K by ever increasing intensity of terrorist activities following a hull for nearly two years. That, countries like Nepal, Bhutan and even Bangladesh are being used for promoting terrorist activities in and against India is well known by now and yet, there is no sign of any let up in such activities. We have been talking of our friendly neighbours particularly in the East. Even then, we have not succeeded in curbing terrorist activities through their territories. One well informed expert on Nepal mentioned in an interview in the electronic media on the 26th December that to the best of his knowledge there have been no worthwhile dialogue during the last few years between India

and Nepal on security issues. . There is often information about possible terrorist attacks but unless these are studied in detail, analysed in depth with a view to anticipating and acting. incidents, both minor and major, will continue to surprise us in the days to come also. It is most unfortunate that a hijacking incident of the magnitude as the present one has occurred,

notwithstanding the setting up of a high powered National Security Commission. There have been reports that India was kept informed by countries like the USA about the possibility of a major incident being perpetrated by terrorists before the end of the year. The people in the country have a right to know, at least now, the correct version and the role played by the NSC and other decision-making bodies of the govern-ment. Also, periodically we have been informed that security was continuously being beefed up'. Under the circumstances, it appears that security measures and anticipation based on intelligence and analysis, do not seem to have any meaningful relationship. -Mandira

The writer is a former Director General of Border Security

### ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ

প্রধান কার্যালয় ৮, রাজউক এ্যাভেনিউ, ঢাকা

তারিখ ঃ ১৭.০১.২০০০ইং

### দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয়ঃ-কর্পোরেশনের কেন্দ্রীয় হিসাব সম্পর্কিত সফটওয়্যার উন্নয়ন প্রসংগে

ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ এর কেন্দ্রীয় হিসাব সম্পর্কিত সফটওয়্যার উনুয়নের লক্ষ্যে নিম্নোক্ত শর্তাবলীসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট বিড ডকুমেন্টে উল্লেখিত শর্তাবলী পালন সাপেক্ষে সফট্ওয়্যার উনুয়নপূর্বক সফটওয়্যার মেইনটেনেল স্বিধা প্রদানে আগ্রহী প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে নিজম্ব লেটারহেড প্যাডে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান শর্তাবলীঃ

দরপত্র আগামী ০৮ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০০০ তারিখ বেলা ১১-৩০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে কর্পোরেশনের সংস্থাপন বিভাগে রক্ষিত টেভার বাব্রে ডাবল ইনভেলাপ সিস্টেমে (একটিতে টেকনিক্যাল অফার এবং অপরটিতে ফিন্যালিয়াল অফার) দাখিল করতে হবে এবং ঐ দিনই বেলা ১১.৪৫ মিনিটে দরদাতাদের সমুখে যেদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) শুধুমাত্র টেকনিক্যাল অফার খোলা হবে;

যে সকল প্রতিষ্ঠানের অফার টেকনিক্যাল যোগ্যতা অর্জন করিবে তথুমাত্র সে সকল প্রতিষ্ঠানের ফিন্যান্সিয়াল অফার পরবর্তীতে যে কোন সময় দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে যেদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হবে;

দরপত্রের সাথে উদ্ধৃত দরের ২.৫% পরিমাণ অর্থ আর্নেস্টমানি হিসাবে ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ-এর অনুকলে যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাপ্তকর পে-অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে জমা দিতে হবে;

অফিস চলাকালে কর্পোরেশনের প্রধান কার্যালয়ের সংস্থাপন বিভাগ হতে ১০০০.০০ (একহাজার) টাকা নগদ পরিশোধপুর্বক (অফেরতযোগ্য) বিভ েকুমেন্ট ক্রয় করতে হবে। দরপত্র দাখিলের দিন কোন বিভ ভকুমেন্ট বিক্রয় করা হবে নাঃ বিড ডকুমেন্ট-এ উল্লেখিত বিষয়ের অতিরিক্ত কতিপয় হিসাবের হেড সংযুক্ত হতে পারে। এ বিষয়ে বিস্তারিত

তথ্য সংশ্লিষ্ট বিভাগ থেকে বিড অফার প্রদানের পূর্বে সংগ্রহ করতে হবে;

কোন কারণ প্রদর্শন ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।

কফিল উদ্দিন আহাম্মদ চৌধুরী সহকারী মহাব্যবস্থাপক সংস্থাপন বিভাগ



## মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা বোর্ড, ঢাকা/রাজশাহী/কুমিল্লা/যশোর/চট্টগ্রাম মাধ্যমিক স্কুল সার্টিফিকেট পরীক্ষা-২০০০

এতদারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য ২০০০ সনের মাধ্যমিক স্থুল সার্টিফিকেট পরীক্ষার সময়সূচি নিম্নে প্রদন্ত

হ'ল। বিশেষ প্রয়োজনবোধে বোর্ড কর্তপক্ষ এই সময়সূচি পরিবর্তন করতে পারবেন। দিন ও তারিখ বিষয় विষय ७ সময় विषय ७ मग्य বিষয় বিকাল ২টা থেকে ৫টা পর্যন্ত কোড সকাল ১০টা থেকে ১টা পর্যন্ত কোড বৃহস্পতিবার ১। ইংরেজি-১ম পত্র 209 2/0/2000 শনিবার ১। ইংরেজি-২য় পত্র 204 8/0/2000 রবিবার ১। বাংলা (আবশ্যিক)-১মপত্র 707 ২। বাংলা বিকল্প সহজপাঠ-১ম পত্র 0/0/2000 200 ৩। বাংলাদেশের সংস্কৃতি ও বাংলা ভাষার প্রাথমিক জ্ঞান-১ম পত্র ১। বাংলা (আবশ্যিক)-২য় পত্র সোমবার 205 ২। বাংলা বিকল্প সহজপাঠ-২য় পত্ৰ 6/0/2000 508 ৩। বাংলাদেশের সংস্কৃতি ও বাংলা ভাষার প্রাথমিক জ্ঞান-২য় পত্র 200 ১। হিসাব বিজ্ঞান ১। আরবি 757 মঙ্গলবার 186 9/0/2000 ২। সংশ্ৰত 750 758 ৪। কম্পিউটার শিক্ষা (তত্ত্বীয়) 707 ए। कर्मम्बी निका ৬। শারীরিক শিক্ষা ও ক্রীড়া 200 200 ৭। চারু ও কারুকলা (তত্তীয়) ৮। বেসিক ট্রেড (তত্ত্বীয়) 186 200 ১। সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান বুধবার 286 ২। সাধারণ বিজ্ঞান 10/2000 229 ১। পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান (তত্ত্বীয়) বৃহস্পতিবার 200 8/0/2000 ২। ইতিহাস 209 ৩। ব্যবসায় পরিচিতি 285 ১। সলীত (তত্ত্বীয়) শনিবার ১। গণিত 789 709 33/0/2000 ১। উচ্চতর গণিত (তত্তীয়) রবিবার ১। কৃষি শিক্ষা (তত্ত্বীয়) 256 308 ২। গাইস্থ্য অর্থনীতি তেত্তীয়। 32/0/2000 759 ১। ইসলাম শিক্ষা সোমবার 777 २। हिन्दु धर्म निका 30/0/2000 225 ৩। বৌদ্ধ ধর্ম শিক্ষা 270 8। शिष्ठ धर्म निका 278 ১। উচ্চতর বাংলা 779 ১। জীব বিজ্ঞান (তত্ত্বীয়) মুখলবার 704 ২। উচ্চতর ইংরেজি 250 ২। অর্থনীতি 28/0/2000 787 ১। রসায়ন বিজ্ঞান (তত্ত্বীয়) 209 বুধবার 220 ১। ভূগোল ২। পৌরনীতি 380 ২। বাণিজ্যিক ভূগোল 30/0/2000 188 ৩। ব্যবসায় উদ্যোগ 780

ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষার সময়সূচিঃ ১। বেসিক ট্রেড (১৩৫) সহ সকল ২৭/৩/২০০০ ে ৩৩/৩/২০০০ এর মধ্যে শেষ করতে হবে ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষা

জিডি-৫৫

৫টি শিক্ষাবোর্ডের পক্ষেঃ

প্রফেসর মোঃ আতাউর রহমান পরীকা নিয়ন্ত্রক

মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা বোর্ড, ঢাকা।

A LUCKY OVERSIGHT THE ENEMY HAS LEFT THE GATE OPEN





