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Congratulations to new CA

Dr. Fakhrudin Ahmed is widely believed to be a neutral and efficient man. Our politicians are not trustworthy that's why we need the CG system, after all. The system should be temporary and election should be held under existing government just like any other democracy. We have to prove that we are progressing economically, politically and socially. We need many more Dr. Yunus, not just one.

We have a huge gap between politicians and the young generation. Young and educated people of Bangladesh are way ahead of our politicians. Politicians have to come to terms with

the ground reality. People around the world are watching us.

Again magic of free economy and globalisation would propel us into the next level. Unfortunately, politicians are contributing very little in our progress but young entrepreneurs are contributing the most. We need a free economy and also Look-East policy. Who is in government would matter very little. The BNP or the AL would be fine for the people as long as they do not botch up the growth process.

Ekrab Belal
Look-East Club



Thank you

It was my pleasure to find The Daily Star to be the first among the Internet edition of newspapers of Bangladesh to break and then provide the comprehensive news of the emergency clamped on the country.

I also thank you personally for your editorial. I was a little child when I visited The Daily Star office in Dhaka with my father who encouraged us to read English dailies from our childhood. Now, living in Toronto, I find that The Daily Star consistently beat others in providing fast news over the Internet.

I wish you and your colleagues all the best. Better days are wait-

ing ahead for Bangladeshi media.

Sayantan Goswami

Toronto, Canada

Seeking information about Ulpur

This is probably the most inconvenient time for making a request like this. I really hope things will calm down soon in your country.

I am desperately looking for some information about Ulpur in Gopalganj district. It is quite difficult to find out anything from Europe, especially that I do not speak Bengali. Could anyone please help me with where I can find data/information available in English?

There is a former zamindar's palace in Ulpur, now a Tehsil Office. We would like to have pictures of that and we would be ready to pay for it.

Zsolna Roy Chowdhury

Hungary

Ask what you can do

One thing I notice these days is that every time reporters go out on streets and ask people to comment on the nation and the currents affairs, almost everybody complains about the government. It seems they believe that the government will solve all of their problems and they don't have any responsibility to solve some of their problems themselves.

Like the Americans, we Bangladeshis should ask what we could do for our country.

Bidyut Sarkar

Los Angeles, California

State of emergency

Though the people of Bangladesh never desire to witness a state of emergency for the sake of country's betterment, they are now going through it. When the AL led 14-party alliance boycotted the 22 January election, it was crystal clear that the polls would not be credible. On the contrary the grand alliance declared tougher agitation programmes while the BNP wanted the one-sided election at any cost. People in general, businessmen, intellectuals, and foreign diplomats along with international bodies were concerned about the future of the country beyond imagination.

So the president had to take a decision. Now it is high time for our political parties to get psychologically prepared for election and have the good will to cooperate with the new caretaker government.

I hope and so also do the general people that the parties will work together for holding free and fair polls. Otherwise, the problem will not be resolved.

M Ala Uddin Ansary
Zahurul Haque Hall, DU

The people of the country heaved a sigh of relief at the declaration of the state of emergency in the country which virtually relieved it from the unbearable situation earlier created by the two political parties led by their two women leaders; one vying for a purposeless one sided election to come to power again and the other vowing to resist the same with all kinds of anarchy and civil disorder. The whole nation was made a helpless captive before the nefarious activities of those two parties which were directed to their party's

welfare only and not for the country's welfare. Therefore, it was essential that some quarters would come forward to save the country and thanks to the Almighty Allah that it has finally come. May I as a humble citizen of the country put forward some suggestions before the authorities for their consideration: a) Enact Public Representative Disqualification Ordinance (PRDO) prohibiting the known corrupt holders of black money and other criminal elements from contesting any future elections. This will encourage and facilitate capable and honest persons to contest in the election.

b) Like many other civilised countries of the world, a person should not be allowed to hold the position of the prime minister and MP for more than two terms. and finally c) Deliver exemplary punishment to those corrupt MPs and ministers and their accomplices who acquired huge wealth illegally through plundering national assets. Such measures would become a lesson for everyone so that in future nobody holding public office would dare resort to such activities and would not treat the country as their "Zamindari" to do anything they would like to.

I believe no political party would agree to implement the above, but only a non-political and patriotic force can bring these reforms for the betterment of the country, which would definitely receive overwhelming endorsement from the whole nation sans a few political parties and their workers.

M Ataul Hoque

On e-mail



No election before cleaning up

What a sigh of relief! At last the country is saved! Who saved it we don't know and we don't want to know, because the real savers never shout like the shameless creatures around us. However, we understand that those who saved us definitely rendered a great service to the nation.

However, once they have done it, their responsibility has gone up sky-high. Now they have to do a lot more things for the sake of us. They have to weed out the corrupt and criminal elements from society.

It seems that the new government would only work for organising a free and fair election.

To achieve that goal it is supposed to do certain jobs. But our opinion is that it should think about the issue of free and fair election much later. The first job is to create the conditions for free and fair polls. The two major parties are engaged in a shameless fight for power.

We beg of you to first identify the criminals and corrupt elements in the guise of godfathers and terrorists and remove them from the powerful positions that they are occupying.

Shafi Ahmed Chowdhury

Shanker, Dhaka

A suggestion

Our over-heated political arena has become quiet after the promulgation of state of emergency. The level of adrenaline has suddenly dropped to below normal and people are recovering from the withdrawal syndrome. It also offers us an opportunity for stocktaking and ruminations.

In the recent past politics took upper hand over economic activities. The country was in turmoil. The counter measures were violent and unsettling. The conspirators led us to a crisis situation.

There were several incidences of vandalism, arson and anarchy in the RMG sector. The recent one occurred in the factories of NASA group in Tejgaon. The sight of vandalism by the so-called workers

appalled us. We could not contemplate how workers could destroy other peoples' properties with such recklessness and thoughtlessness. Now, hopefully there will be relief from such situations. The economic activities will be put back to the right track.

Traditionally the armed forces play a pivotal role in our country, especially during the period of crisis. All the concerned parties woo them.

In this connection the example of Turkey is worth considering. The founder of modern Turkey, Kemal Ataturk, gave a constitutional responsibility to the Turkish Army for safeguarding democracy and secularism.

The proposition deserves a serious consideration in our context too.

SN Mamoon

On e-mail



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9x3