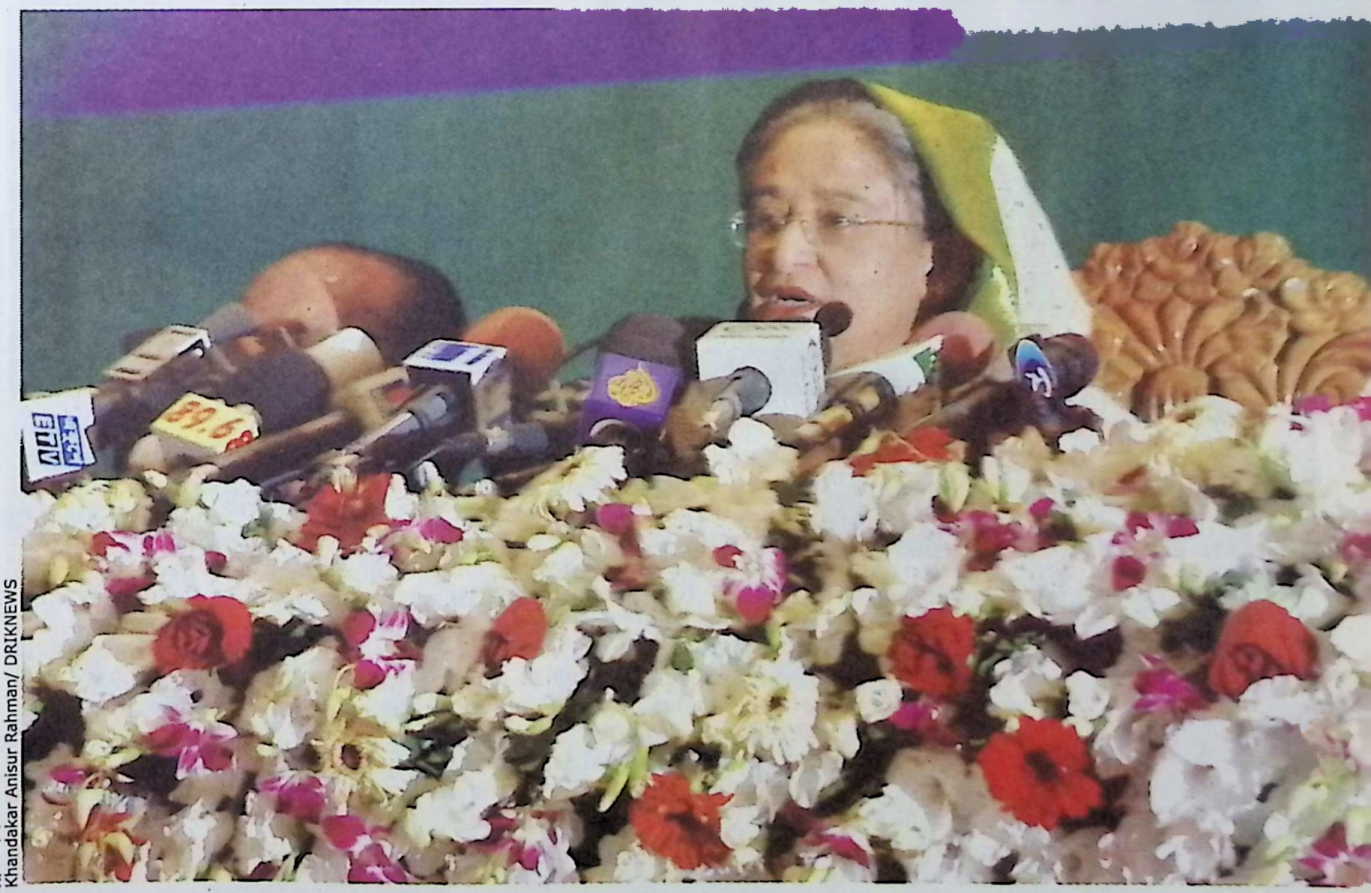
The American citizens are all set to celebrate a colorful New Year after having elected the first African American President in the history of the country. The election in our country has also been conducted smoothly. And, someone has even thrown shoes at Mr. George W Bush. Things could not be any better. (Although, I personally believe that the journalist, whose name I have shamelessly forgotten, should have a New Year's resolution not to throw his shoes in the gutter anymore.)

Coming back to Bangladesh, the successful election on the brink of the New Year has filled many of us with a rekindled sense of hope. Only time would tell what the new Government has in store for us. Yet, it's hard not to cherish on the fact that an impartial and peaceful election has been conducted after two years of hard work. It's equally hard not to cheer for all the first time voters who have soared in this year's election. Not only that; the youth of Bangladesh have stepped up into their roles as the nation builders, prompting awareness campaigns to refrain from voting for the war criminals and also urging to cast 'No vote' if none of the nominees are preferred by the voter. All in all, on the threshold of a brand New Year, our country seems to be all set to make a brand new start.

At this point, I cannot help but wonder what it would be like if Bangladesh as a nation made its New Year's resolution. Every year we make resolutions to let go of our flaws, to make the right changes in our lives, to start fresh in a fresh new year. With all the positive momentum going in its way Bangladesh might as well be making a fresh start in the year 2009. Yet, our country has its share of flaws that needs to be uprooted, and many prospects that need to be pursued. All it lacks now perhaps is a strong resolution. Thus, at the brink of a brand New year, lets actually try and imagine what the New Year's resolution for Bangladesh should be.

I will not let political instability ruin the economy of the country

Over the years we have seen how political instability in Bangladesh has crippled many prosperous business sectors. As the new Government is about to assume its control, deep inside many of us are scared that *hartals* and its harmful brethrens would rise again. Instabilities like this not only ruin the local business sectors, but also scare away the foreign investors. All in all, the people in the country suffer.



Khandakar Anisur Rahman/ DRIKNEWS