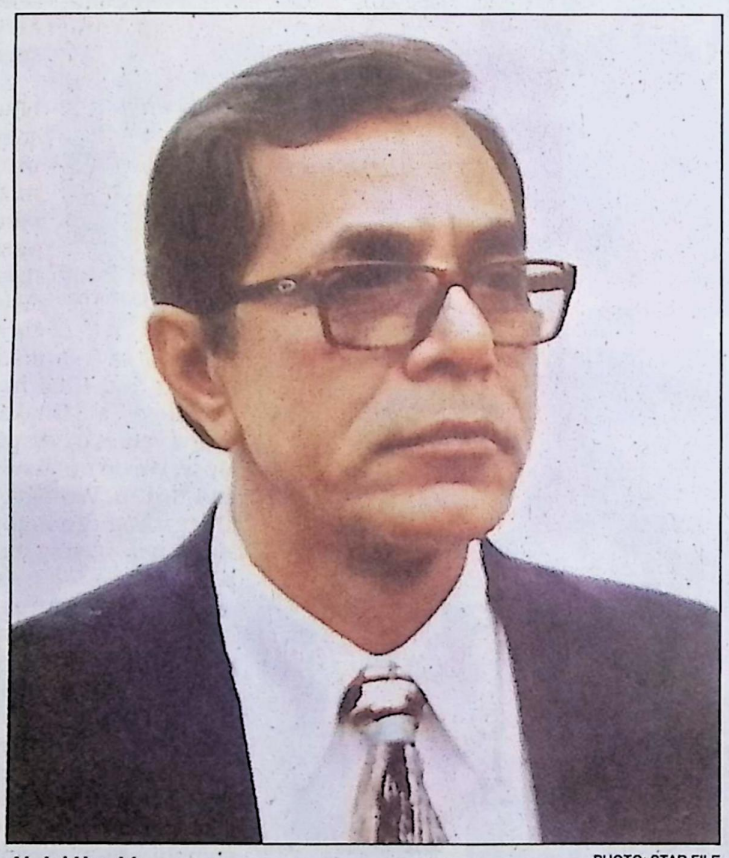
Welcome, Mr President

SHAKHAWAT LITON



Abdul Hamid PHOTO: STAR FILE

Will Abdul Hamid, the newly elected president, be able to make a difference? Or will he only act according to the advice of the Prime Minister which his predecessors did in the past, especially when the nation went through a political crisis? This is a crucial question.

All the signs suggest that the country is heading towards a grave political crisis centring the next parliamentary election. Amid such a situation, what can the newly elected president do to save the country from plunging into an abyss, especially at a time when the politicians appear to act like sworn enemies? Or is it wise for the president to step into a politically tensed and controversial situation?

Being the head of the State, he has the scope to take some ground breaking steps to open the window for talks between the major political parties. He can give advice to the prime minister and the government to do something or to refrain from doing something. He might as well give advice to the opposition leader and the opposition parties. In a word, he holds a position from where he can enlighten the nation with a new vision. His every word should be important.

After the death of President Zillur Rahman on March 20, when the issue of election to the presidency was raised, many political analysts were of the opinion that it might open a window of opportunity to overcome the growing political crisis.