



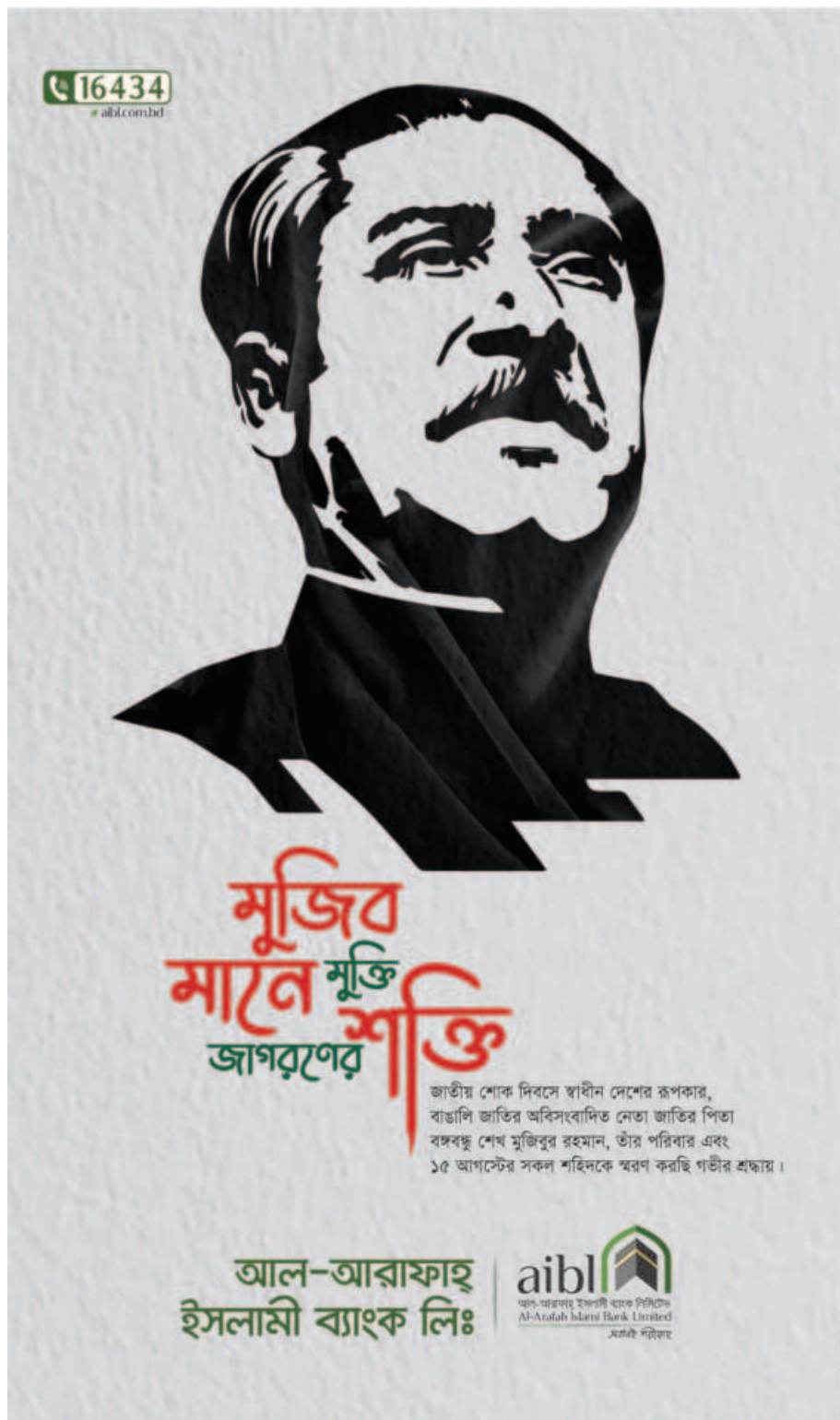
“The Constitution of Pakistan should guarantee freedom of expression and freedom of press”

to the people that this particular pact is harmful to the country as a whole and to the people and nation as a whole. But the Government here thinks that whatever pacts they make, they feel, that they are for the betterment of the country. In spite of the fact that the Ministry or the Government in power might not be popular as was the case with the Muslim League Ministry in East Pakistan yet they might think that they are very popular with masses and, therefore, whatever they would do, that would be acceptable to the people as a whole. It might be that the Government in power enters into a pact which is harmful to the Country, which is against the interest of the people as a whole and if the Opposition Party wants to discuss it and mobilize public opinion against this particular part by telling them that it is detrimental to the interests of Pakistan, how would they be able to do this? Our Government Sir, has entered into several pacts with foreign countries, such as SEATO Pact, Baghdad Pact and several other pacts. Many people do not like these pacts. They have a right to discuss these things; Press have got a right to say that these pacts are harmful to the country; some paper may write in favour of Government, some may write against it. I do not know whether the Honourable Law Minister can produce before this House any Constitution of the world, where it has been written that nobody can discuss about the friendly relations of other countries which are friendly to each other. Every country of the world is friendly to each other. There are so many friendly countries in the world with whom we have good and brotherly relations. But who will judge this question?

SEE PAGE 5



Mr. Chundrigar, I know what they do about these things. Our letters are censored, can you deny the fact? Can the Interior Minister deny the fact? Our phones are tapped and our letters re-censored. You say that "freedom of expression" means freedom of press. Do you know that in East Bengal, the editors are called and it is said "you cannot write this, you cannot write that". They cannot even write facts. Sir, I can prove it. The Government of East Bengal writes, or a clerk writes it; the order goes from the Secretariat that "you cannot discuss these things". A sub inspector goes on behalf of the Government to stop the Press from writing a particular thing. Mr. Haroon knows that this is done



I have suffered, Mr. Chundrigar, I know what they do about these things. Our letters are censored, can you deny the fact? Can the Interior Minister deny the fact? Our phones are tapped and our letters re-censored. You say that "freedom of expression" means freedom of press. Do you know that in East Bengal, the editors are called and it is said "you cannot write this, you cannot write that".

