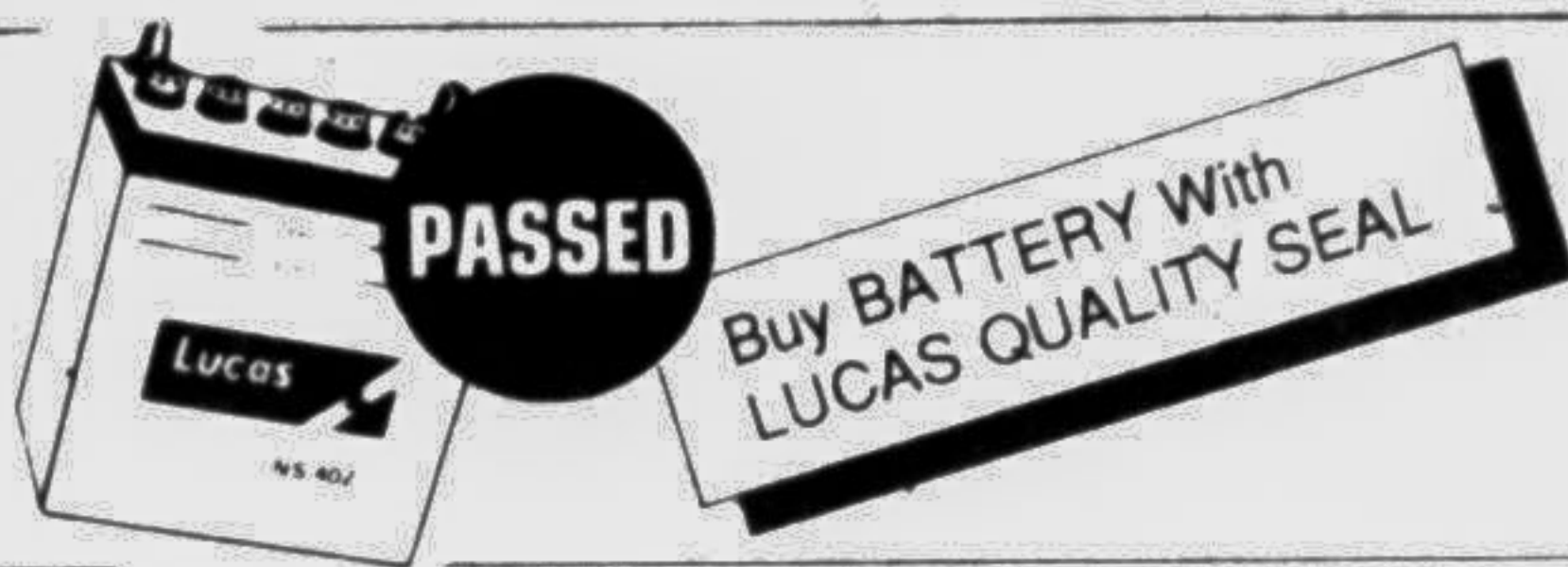


# Lucas Batteries

ALL THE WAY WITH YOU



## RAHIMAFROOZ

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### 'No plan to retrench T & T employees'

Telephone and Telegraph Minister Mohammad Keramat Ali yesterday told Parliament that the government had no plan for retrenching employees of the Telephone department, reports UNB.

Responding to a volley of supplementaries during the question hour, the Telephone Minister said on an average one employee or official is engaged for 13 telephone sets, which is not surplus in number.

He said some 60,000 digital telephone connections will be given in Dhaka city while 30,000 digital connections in Chittagong. This year 18,000 new digital connections will be given in Dhaka city, he added.

In reply to a question, he said the work on installing telephone exchanges in thana headquarters will be given to 15 hurt as Jamaat, BCL clash in Feni

FENI, July 15: Chhatra League and Jamaat-Shibir activists clashed in the town today, injuring at least 15 people, four of them seriously, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the clash erupted on the Trunk Road at 10:30 am when Chhatra League members allegedly attacked a Jamaat procession hailing the High Court order for release of the party chief Golam Azam.

### Redwan's panel sweeps BGMEA elections

The 27-member panel headed by Redwan Ahmed, MP won a landslide victory in the executive committee elections of one of the country's biggest trade bodies — the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers' and Exporters' Association (BGMEA) yesterday.

Early counting of votes last night indicated that Redwan Ahmed's panel was ahead of the other panel headed by BGMEA's incumbent president Md Mosharraf Hossain.

BGMEA sources said, out of a total of 1145 voters, 977 votes were cast during the polling between 9 am and 5 pm. There are 1542 garments factories in the country presently.

The Redwan panel, declared unofficially elected for the period of 1993-95, also includes BGMEA leaders, like Syed Iskandar, Col (ret'd) Anwarul Azim, Engineer M A Taher, Engr Nurul Haq Sikdar, Amir Humayun Chowdhury and others.

The office-bearers' election of the newly-elected panel will be held today at the BGMEA office at 4 pm.

Mosharraf Hossain, who was elected president of the organization on March 12, 1991, was leading the Olkyo Forum panel while Redwan Ahmed who was a vice-president in Mosharraf's panel, was leading the Sammita Nirbachan Parishad panel.

the private sector as per the decision of the government. He told Prof Rafiqul Islam (AL) that Taka 2 crore 32 lakh 20 thousand 424 was earned from card phone till July 8, 1993.

In reply to Advocate Abdul Matin Kashru, the Telephone Minister said the telephone charge has been increased seven times since independence of the country.

### SKOP talks

resented the government move, terming it an attempt to mislead the workers.

Convener of the Patkal Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad Abul Bashar rejected the offer, announced over state media last night, saying that those who met the minister did not have any authority to negotiate on the issue.

Another leader of the parishad, Shah Alam, reacting to the incident, told this correspondent: "We don't know the persons who met the minister. They are only collaborators of the government and are acting against the general industrial workers' interests."

SKOP coordinator Dr Wajed, venturing a prediction about today's talks with the government, said: "No fresh talks can succeed in resolving the crisis, caused by the government's betrayal, unless the authorities make adequate concessions."

The SKOP was going to respond to the government offer of renewed discussions only to prove its sincerity about settling the agreed demands at the negotiating table," he told The Daily Star.

### Clash at city HSC exam centre

At least four teachers and as many as six HSC examinees were injured in a clash between examinees and employees of the Tejaon College, an examination centre in the city, yesterday.

The trouble began when an invigilator prevented an examinee of the Dhaka College from adopting unfair means and reportedly called in the guards to expel him.

Witnesses said the clash began when the examinee was allegedly manhandled by a group of guards at the end of the Statistics examination at about 5 pm Thursday.

Agitating students pelted stones at the college employees. They also damaged window panes and furniture.

Hearing the news, a group of students of the Tejaon College rushed to the spot from nearby areas and the college hostel and chased the examinees of the Dhaka College, sources said.

Three students each from the Dhaka and Tejaon colleges were injured in the hour-long fracas. Meanwhile, a large contingent of police was deployed near the Tejaon College area.



Pakistani army and police patrolling the streets of Karachi Wednesday to avert any violence as arrests continue in Karachi and Hyderabad for the third consecutive day. In the last three days 10 vehicles and two government offices have been burned by the Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) activists. — AFP photo

### Adventure cut short!

From Munir U Ahmed

KHULNA, July 15: Four students of the Mymensingh Zila School, who sneaked out of their home town last week, were detained by police here today.

According to police, Ali Akram, 10, Ajay Das, 10, Ripon, 11, and Tutun, 9, students of Class Six of the Zila School, and all hailing from Sherpukurpar of Mymensingh town, planned to visit the Sundarbans last month.

Accordingly Akram, whose father is a Forest Ranger here, proposed to lead the team during the trip. Ripon reportedly took Taka 1300 from his father's pocket and all four friends started for the Sundarbans via Dhaka by bus.

They arrived in Khulna last Sunday and took a launch to the Sundarbans. Meanwhile, the news of their disappearance appeared in different Dhaka dailies.

Based on these reports, police intercepted them this afternoon at the railway station while they were about to board a train on their return journey home.

According to police sources, the parents of the intrepid quartet have already been informed and asked to collect them.

While talking to newsmen at the Kotwali thana, one of them told this correspondent that they were inspired by a BTV drama.

In reply to another question, one of them confessed that they had thoroughly enjoyed the escapade but feared beating from their parents on returning home.

BJP to back no-confidence against Rao

NEW DELHI, July 15: India's Hindu opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said today it would support a communist-led no-confidence motion against Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao in parliament this month, reports Reuter.

### Benazir calls off march

From page 1 col 7

country's 'troika' came amid a deepening political crisis, just one day ahead of an opposition march intended to besiege the capital and force Sharif's resignation.

Officials said the talks came after Army Chief Abdul Waheed shuttled between the two politicians, who are locked in an intense power struggle.

General Waheed first met separately with the President and the Prime Minister and later brought them together to negotiate at the President's residence, the officials said.

The session lasted about 75 minutes but it was not immediately clear whether Sharif and Ishaq Khan had thrashed out a solution to their differences on power-sharing, which have paralysed Pakistan for the last four months. But government officials said the army had agreed to block the highways linking Islamabad with the cities of Lahore and northwestern Peshawar to prevent the marchers' entry into the capital.

Opposition leaders earlier vowed to bring 500,000 supporters to Islamabad to force Sharif's ouster and early general elections, which he had so far refused to call.

Worried that the capital's security personnel would be insufficient to stop such a march.

### Gang-rape case: Four held in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, July 15: Four persons were arrested here today for their involvement in a gang-rape case.

According to Khalishpur thana, one Asma begum, 21, was gang-raped last Tuesday at Khalishpur. Her condition was stated to be critical today. The arrested persons are Arif, Alam, Mustafa and Akbar. Police said Arif was wanted by police for his involvement in different cases.

### 14 killed, 70 hurt as trains collide in Bihar

NEW DELHI, July 15: Two packed passenger trains collided head-on in the eastern Indian state of Bihar today leaving 14 people dead and 70 injured, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said, reports AFP.

Railway officials said three cars overturned and three derailed in the collision near Darbhanga, nearly 500 kilometres (300 miles) northwest of Calcutta, the news agency said.

Seven people were killed instantly and three died on their way to hospital, PTI quoted officials and witnesses as saying four bodies were trapped in managed coach spattered with blood.

Fifty-seven of the 70 injured were hospitalised in serious condition.

Bangladesh navy ship Shah Paran during her routine patrol rescued all the three crew of a fishing boat from the Sangu rivermouth off Kutubdia on Wednesday, reports BSS.

The boatmen belonging to Banshkhali thana in Chittagong district had been floating in the Bay of Bengal for the last three days without food and drinking water following a crack at the bottom of their boat and engine failure.

### Navy rescues 3 fishermen

Bangladesh navy ship Shah Paran during her routine patrol rescued all the three crew of a fishing boat from the Sangu rivermouth off Kutubdia on Wednesday, reports BSS.

The boatmen belonging to Banshkhali thana in Chittagong district had been floating in the Bay of Bengal for the last three days without food and drinking water following a crack at the bottom of their boat and engine failure.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry, in a press release yesterday, regretted the error.

### 'Meet the People' PM gives patient hearing to 15

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia gave a patient hearing to 15 people who met her under her "meet the people" programme at Sugandha yesterday evening, reports UNB.

Among them was Pradip Kumar Bhakta who came with various problems of his sweepers community. Mohammad Saiful Islam, a first year student of Zoology of the Jagannath University College, apprised the Prime Minister of his research on fish disease and its remedy.

Peara Begum came from Senbagh in Noakhali district with protest against the killing of her husband in Kuwait and sought intervention of the Prime Minister in punishing the assassins.

Earlier, she had met members of the public one at a time at Natore Ganobhaban, twice at Bogra Circuit House and the rest at Sugandha, in which about 400 people seeking jobs and bringing to her notice their various problems met Begum Zia.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah, Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda and Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Minister Tariqul Islam attended the meeting yesterday.

### 2 Foreign Office officials face action

Necessary action has already been initiated against two officers of the Foreign Ministry for the error made in the name of the French Prime Minister in a message of felicitation sent to him by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on the occasion of French National Day, Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman informed the Jatiya Sangsad last night, reports BSS.

Clarifying a point of order raised by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad on the matter, the Foreign Minister said the mistake was corrected by Bangladesh Ambassador to France before handing over the message to the French Prime Minister.

Awami League member Sheikh Fazul Karim Selim first wanted to point out the mistake before the chair but he was not given the floor and later, the deputy leader of the Opposition raised it.

The Foreign Minister said the image of Bangladesh was not affected abroad as the corrected name was released in France. The mistake was carried in the Bangladesh press, he added.

Rising on a point of order, Awami League member Tofael Ahmed disagreed with the minister and said the image of the country was very much affected because the transnational news agencies like Reuter, AFP and others might have circulated the wrong names as mentioned in the Foreign Office release.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry, in a press release yesterday, regretted the error.

### The Midnight File

#### Indian plane with 4 crashes

BOMBAY, July 15: A government Super King air plane with four people on board crashed on hill at Talaja, 50 km (30 miles) east of Bombay today, police said. Rescue teams were trying to reach the wreckage in the thick overgrowth on the hill and it was not known if there were any survivors, a policeman at the Talaja Police station said. A Directorate of Air Safety official said the plane belonging to the National Remote Sensing Agency was flying from Ahmedabad in Gujarat state to Bombay when it lost contact with the local airport's control tower around noon local time, reports Reuter.

#### US to send 40 warplanes to Bosnia

WASHINGTON, July 15: The United States said today it will send 40 warplanes, including four heavily armed AC-130 gunships, to help protect UN safe havens in Bosnia. The move followed an agreement by NATO on Wednesday that US, French, British and Dutch warplanes could start protecting UN ground forces in Bosnia, including those in the planned safe areas, as early as next week the mission is expected to involve some 60 warplanes, most of the American, reports Reuter.

#### 'Ghali lacks qualified army advisers'

LONDON, July 15: UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali lacks enough qualified military advisers to help supervise and control the world body's military operations around the world, British Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said here today, reports AFP.

Speaking on BBC radio, Rifkind said he was making no criticism of the calibre of the individuals currently assisting the UN chief, for they were "a very dedicated" group.

"But they really are a tiny handful," the minister added, saying it was time to consider whether the number of qualified personnel should be increased.

A few years ago the United Nations had 18,000 troops around the world, now there were more than 50,000 in a large number of countries, Rifkind noted.

#### Shah Amanat bridge reopens

CHITTAGONG, July 15: The Hazrat Shah Amanat (R) Bridge formerly known as Karnafull Bridge was formally reopened to traffic here today, reports BSS.

The bridge suffered serious damage in the cyclone of 1991. The seven-span bridge, about a kilometre in length and 28 feet in width including 23 ft carriage way and 5 ft side walk, is a steel truss type of steel pile foundation with a zobe timber deck.

Communications Minister Olt Ahmad formally reopened the bridge repaired at a cost of Taka 39.97 crore, of which Bangladesh contributed Tk 8.60 crore while the rest, Tk 31.38 crore was given by the Royal Government of the Netherlands.

#### Akhtaruzzaman Babu's nephew refused bail

The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate yesterday rejected the bail prayer of Shahidul Alam, a nephew of Akhtaruzzaman Babu, MP, wanted in a murder case, reports UNB.

Shahidul Alam was sent to Dhaka Central Jail. He was produced before the court after 4 days police remand. He was arrested by DB police from Chittagong on July 10 in connection with the murder of Advocate Humayun Zahir, a prominent businessman.

#### Foreign banks

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Bank Thursday announced that it would fix the exchange rates on a daily basis with immediate effect instead of the previous system of half yearly rate fixation as a step towards Taka convertibility.

Bangladesh adopted a system of flexible exchange rate management in the mid-Eighties and the exchange rate of the Taka depreciated by about ten per cent between 1985 and 1991 in real terms.

At present exporters can retain only 5-10 per cent of their export earnings in foreign currency and the rest has to be converted into local currency from the Bangladesh Bank.

### Golam Azam freed

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against Wednesday's verdict of the High Court. Attorney General Aminul Haque appeared before the Court Thursday afternoon on behalf of the government seeking a stay of the High Court order on grounds of maintaining state security, which was rejected by Justice A T M Azal.

A UNB report adds: Prof Golam Azam yesterday underlined the need for unity of the Muslim Ummah to ensure the very existence of Muslims of the country.

"There are no Muslim states around our country, so we have to be united in our own interest," he said while giving a brief speech to his partymen in front of his Maghbazar residence shortly after his release yesterday evening.

Speaking about torture on Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Prof Azam said capitalism, imperialism and recently dissolved socialism are against Islam.

Islam is the only way to ensure welfare of the people, he said, and urged all political parties to establish Islam in every spheres of life.

Addressing on the occasion, Jamaat Secretary General Maulana Mattur Rahman Nizami said Prof Azam was the leader of the Jamaat before his arrest, but now he has become the leader of the country.

The Jamaat will hold a rally in front of the north gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque today (Friday) at 4:30 pm which will be addressed by the freed party chief.

Golam Azam went directly to the Maghbazar Mosque from the jail and made a brief speech there before a rally. He expressed gratitude to his countrymen, including the jail staff.

At the mosque, the Jamaat leader, in his white kurta and pajama, was looking bright and cheerful, encircled by his partymen and newsmen.

A smiling Azam, flanked by his two grandsons Anaz and Shabak, exchanged greetings with his party members at the jam-packed mosque.

When asked to comment on the release of Golam Azam, Secretary General Mattur Rahman Nizami said: "Let the rule of law be victorious. We will continue upholding the rule of law for the welfare of the country."

**ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

সারচার্জ ব্যতীত বকেয়া পরিশোধের সর্বশেষ সুযোগ ৩১শে জুলাই পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত

অসংখ্য গ্রাহক সময়ের স্বল্পতা, বাস্ততার কারণে বকেয়া এবং হালনাগাদ পানি ও পয়ঃ কর ৩০শে জুনের মধ্যে পরিশোধ করতে বার্ষ হওয়য়া ওয়াসার নিকট সময় বর্ধিত করার আবেদন জানিয়েছেন।

ঢাকা ওয়াসা বিশেষ বিবেচনায় আগামী ৩১শে জুলাই '৯৩ পর্যন্ত গ্রাহক-সাধারণের অনুরোধে সময় বর্ধিত করেছে।

সর্বশেষ ৩১শে জুলাই '৯৩ তারিখের মধ্যে সমস্ত বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ পানি ও পয়ঃবিল পরিশোধে বার্ষ গ্রাহকগণের বিরুদ্ধে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নকরণসহ পিডিআর প্র্যাক্টের অধীনে কঠোর শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

ঢাকা ওয়াসার ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের নেতৃত্বে নারায়ণগঞ্জসহ সকল জোনের আওতাভুক্ত এলাকায় পুলিশসহ সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নকারী দল ইতিমধ্যেই পানি ও পয়ঃকর পরিশোধে বার্ষ গ্রাহকগণের বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করছে।

আজই আপনার বিল পরিশোধ করুন। বিল না পেয়ে থাকলে সংশ্লিষ্ট আঞ্চলিক অফিস অথবা ওয়াসা ভবনে সদস্য (অর্থ) (ফোন : ৮১৬৭৯৯) এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

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## Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

### Reduction in the Selling Price of Urea Fertilizer by Tk. 650 (Six Hundred Fifty) per Metric Ton and Tk. 32.50 (Taka Thirty Two and Paise Fifty) per bag new distribution system

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WASA-PI-282/93  
D-508