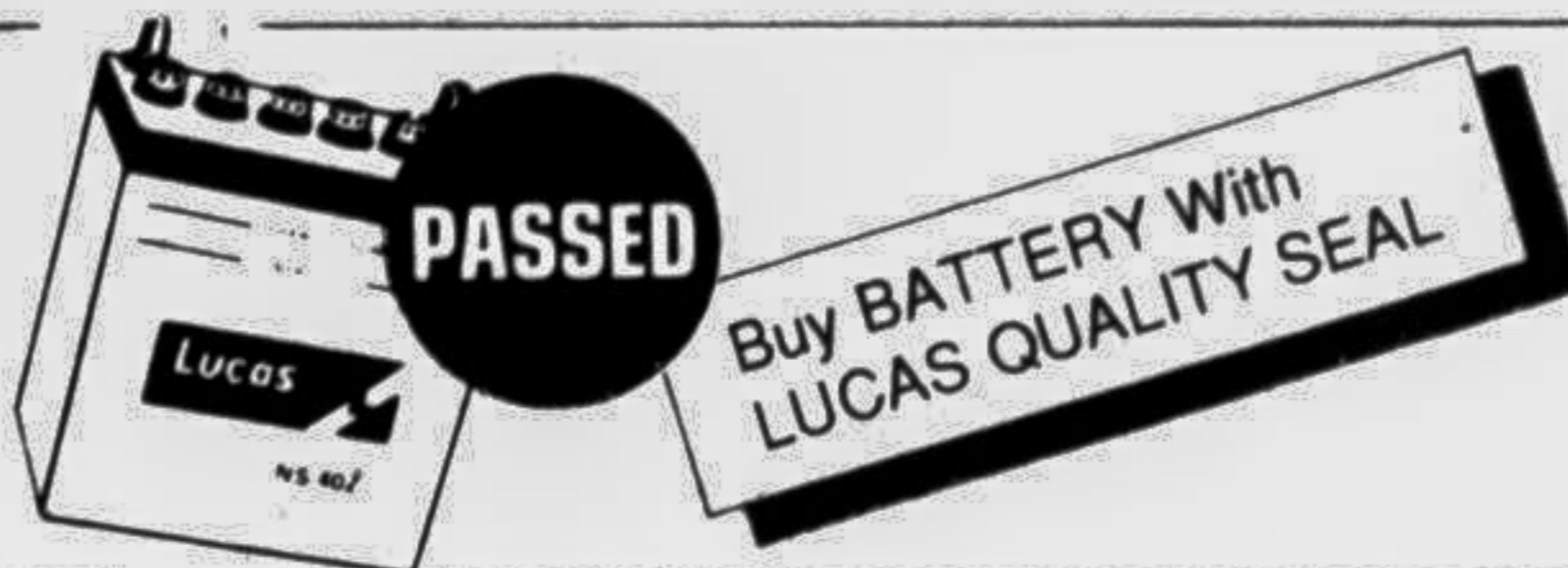


Lucas Batteries

ALL THE WAY WITH YOU



RAHIMAFROOZ

Dhaka 104, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 Phone: 865270-74
13, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212 Phone: 862351, 862391
Chittagong 15, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong Phone: 504792

Hundreds of govt troops defect to Khmer Rouge

PHNOM PENH (Cambodia), Aug 5: Discord within Cambodia's new armed forces has prompted hundreds of soldiers to defect to the Khmer Rouge guerrilla group, UN sources said Thursday, reports AP.

The three factions that won the most seats in the UN organised elections in May joined forces last month to create a united army against the Khmer Rouge. The two biggest factions are the previous Vietnamese-installed government and FUNCINPEC, a guerrilla group that was allied with the Khmer Rouge in fighting the government until a 1991 peace treaty.

But UN sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said soldiers from the Vietnamese-installed administration had apparently been trying to intimidate those from FUNCINPEC.

UN peacekeepers in the field reported that several hundred FUNCINPEC soldiers have therefore joined the Khmer Rouge in a southeastern province, Kompong Cham, the sources said.

The sources said they had heard reports of similar defections in a southern province, Kampot.

UN spokeswoman Susan Manuel confirmed the reports but declined to comment further.

Government spokesman EK Sereyath said he had no information on military defections but said he heard civilian members from his FUNCINPEC faction had fled to Khmer Rouge zones. He had no details.

Kompong Cham was the scene of widespread harassment against FUNCINPEC in the month after the election, when it became clear that FUNCINPEC had won more seats than the administration installed by Vietnam in 1979.

The Khmer Rouge controls about 20 per cent of Cambodia with a fighting force of 10,000.

NAP
From Page 1 Col 6
Bhattacharya claimed that the General Secretary's report was supported by most of the EC members who spoke in favour of joining Kamal Hossain and others in a new party.

Some insiders said that both Prof Mozaffar and Pankaj Bhattacharya have taken firm positions about the new party, a situation which might lead to a split in the NAP unless an agreement is reached at today's National Committee meeting.

The proposed party is likely to be floated under the leadership of Dr Kamal at the three-day Grand National Convention scheduled from August 27 in the city.

The CPB (reformist), the leadership of which has already decided to merge with the party in office, will take a final and formal decision at the party's central committee meeting today.

A faction of the Ganatantri Party and some other smaller parties and forces are also likely to join Kamal's platform.

Private medical college at Ctg
Allegations against Prof Nurul Islam

The sponsors of a private medical college in Chittagong Thursday came under fire from a section of guardians who accused the chairman of the college — National Professor Nurul Islam — of gross malpractice and mismanagement.

The guardians also sought intervention from the concerned authorities to protect the academic future of some 300 students from home and abroad.

When contacted, Professor Nurul Islam, however, denied all charges, saying "some misguided people" were out to tarnish his image with "false accusations."

Leaders of the Guardians' Forum for the Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS) and the University of Science and Technology (USTC) organised the press conference at the Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday afternoon.

Convener of the Forum, Advocate Moududur Rahman, noted eye specialist Prof. Rabul Hossain, Director of the AK Khan Group of Companies Md Nuruddin and Ashiqur Rahman spoke at the press conference.

Spelling out their allegations against the Professor Islam, the Forum leaders said he was running a "non-existent" medical college without permanent affiliation from the Chittagong University.

They said that the academic careers of the students who took admission had become bleak since the college lacked all pre-clinical and para-clinical facilities and had no dissection room, dormitory or hospital.

The students, who enrolled in the IAHS after paying Taka one and a half lakh as admission fee and nearly three thousand taka every month as tuition fee, were now doing their practical courses at different hospitals of Chittagong, they claimed.

No proper account of more than Taka 4 crore received as admission and tuition fees, had been maintained, the guardians' representatives alleged.

"Prof. Nurul Islam during his visits to the IAHS, used to tactfully dodge the students' genuine demands for a full-fledged hospital, dormitory, auditorium, common room, cafeteria, lavatories and recreation facilities," said Advocate Rahman.

Many members of the governing body of the private medical institution were unaware of any meetings or of the accounts, nor was there any



Kashmiri Muslims, defying curfew, shout anti-India and pro-independence slogans in protest Wednesday, two days after a Muslim family was killed by security troops. Thousands of people have taken to the streets to demonstrate against the killings. — AFP photo

Dhaka to give \$ 1 lakh for US flood victims

Bangladesh has decided to contribute 100,000 US dollar as "token cash" for the flood victims of the Mid-West in the United States in addition to its commitment of sending jute bags and tea, reports UNB.

This contribution is being made "as a gesture of friendship and human solidarity," a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

Under US pressure, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation accepted a plan in Brussels on Monday to prepare air strikes against Serb forces.

But most other NATO countries have imposed conditions on this military option which diplomats say could stifle it.

"We feel very deeply that the leadership of Bosnia is being offered a horrible choice between murder and suicide," Sattar said.

He was speaking after meeting the UN-Co-Chairmen of the Bosnia peace talks, David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, who are currently trying to stave off the collapse of the negotiations.

Sattar led a five-man OIC delegation which had earlier pleaded the case of air strikes against the Serbs in meetings with the foreign ministers of France and Britain on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Replying to objections that air strikes on Serb positions could endanger UN troops currently in Bosnia, he said several OIC countries were ready to contribute to the UN force.

Islamic countries recently offered 18,000 soldiers to the force, but this offer has not so far been taken up by the UN

Main Post Offices of Noakhali, Comilla, Moulavi Bazar, Jessore, and Benapole Post Office, Barisal, Kushtia, Patuakhali, Faridpur, Bogara, Pabna, Dinajpur and Rangpur.

Sylhet: Main Post Office, and Sylhet Medical College Post-office.

Khulna: Khulna GPO, Khulna City, Khulna Bazar, Khulna Commissioner's Secretariat, Khulna KDA New Market, Daulatpur and Kollaghat Post Office.

Rajshahi: Rajshahi GPO and Rajshahi Railway Station Post Office.

Bagerhat: Mongla Post Office.

Miyazawa
From Page 1 Col 3
parted for the last time to warm applause from staff members, making way for a successor 18 years his junior.

Miyazawa, unable to enact reforms to clean up rampant political corruption, lost a no-confidence vote in June and was forced to call the elections.

This coalition government must accomplish what the LDP failed to do — and the takeoff point is political reform," said Krigo Ouchi, Head of one of the smaller parties in the coalition.

Related Story on Page 5
Hosokawa, 55, belongs to the 18th generation of a warlord family that for centuries ruled a corner of rural southern Japan. As a member of the Liberal Democratic Party, he served 12 years in the less powerful upper house of Parliament and as governor of Kumamoto prefecture from 1983 to 1991.

But his soft-spoken, aristocratic demeanor was unknown to most Japanese voters until he formed the Japan New Party in May 1992, after quitting the LDP in 1990.

OIC calls for immediate air strikes on Serbs

GENEVA, Aug 5: An association of 51 Islamic countries called here today for rapid implementation of NATO proposals for air strikes on Serb forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina, reports AFP.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Abdul Sattar, Chairman of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), said air strikes seemed the only way to end the genocide of Bosnian Muslims.

Under US pressure, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation accepted a plan in Brussels on Monday to prepare air strikes against Serb forces.

But most other NATO countries have imposed conditions on this military option which diplomats say could stifle it.

"We feel very deeply that the leadership of Bosnia is being offered a horrible choice between murder and suicide," Sattar said.

He was speaking after meeting the UN-Co-Chairmen of the Bosnia peace talks, David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, who are currently trying to stave off the collapse of the negotiations.

Sattar led a five-man OIC delegation which had earlier pleaded the case of air strikes against the Serbs in meetings with the foreign ministers of France and Britain on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Replying to objections that air strikes on Serb positions could endanger UN troops currently in Bosnia, he said several OIC countries were ready to contribute to the UN force.

Islamic countries recently offered 18,000 soldiers to the force, but this offer has not so far been taken up by the UN

Main Post Offices of Noakhali, Comilla, Moulavi Bazar, Jessore, and Benapole Post Office, Barisal, Kushtia, Patuakhali, Faridpur, Bogara, Pabna, Dinajpur and Rangpur.

Sylhet: Main Post Office, and Sylhet Medical College Post-office.

Khulna: Khulna GPO, Khulna City, Khulna Bazar, Khulna Commissioner's Secretariat, Khulna KDA New Market, Daulatpur and Kollaghat Post Office.

Rajshahi: Rajshahi GPO and Rajshahi Railway Station Post Office.

Bagerhat: Mongla Post Office.

Miyazawa
From Page 1 Col 3
parted for the last time to warm applause from staff members, making way for a successor 18 years his junior.

Miyazawa, unable to enact reforms to clean up rampant political corruption, lost a no-confidence vote in June and was forced to call the elections.

This coalition government must accomplish what the LDP failed to do — and the takeoff point is political reform," said Krigo Ouchi, Head of one of the smaller parties in the coalition.

Related Story on Page 5
Hosokawa, 55, belongs to the 18th generation of a warlord family that for centuries ruled a corner of rural southern Japan. As a member of the Liberal Democratic Party, he served 12 years in the less powerful upper house of Parliament and as governor of Kumamoto prefecture from 1983 to 1991.

But his soft-spoken, aristocratic demeanor was unknown to most Japanese voters until he formed the Japan New Party in May 1992, after quitting the LDP in 1990.

AL MPs deny press report

By Staff Correspondent
Two Awami League MPs in the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Works Ministry — Kazi Abdul Rashid and Prof Abdul Quddus — in a joint statement yesterday, strongly protested a news item published yesterday in a section of the press regarding the construction work at 30, Hare Road.

They disowned the "unanimous decision" in the Standing Committee that the Works Minister and his ministry were not involved in the corruption concerning construction of the building.

The 'fabricated' news was made public with a motive to mislead the people, they remarked. No decision was taken clearing anybody, they maintained.

FBUTA's concern
By Staff Correspondent
The Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association (FBUTA), in a statement Thursday, expressed grave concern at the recent increase in terrorist activities in the educational institutions.

The federation said that if the situation continued, the education system of the country would be destroyed.

It termed the acts of terrorism as part of a 'conspiracy to destroy the democratic system' and called upon all to resist it.

The statement, signed by Dr Mustahidur Rahman, president and Dr Abdul Rahim, secretary general, also condemned the recent incidents at the Jahangirnagar University and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and demanded proper punishment for the persons involved.

Violence over hijra-dance in Sirajganj
SIRAJGANJ, Aug 5: Many people were injured, seven shops burnt and some 15 houses ransacked in widespread clashes over a dance by two eunuchs in the town today, reports UNB.

Police lobbed tear-gas shells to disperse the mob and picked up 10 people for the rioting.

Ten of the injured, including a 7-year-old girl and a woman, were admitted to the General Hospital with serious wounds.

The violence erupted when the local Moutaj cinema hall employees were publicising a newly-released film — "Banglar Badhu" with two eunuchs (hijras) dancing on a bullock cart.

When the 'show' reached the Kazipur ghat near the bank of river Jamuna, some youths demanded a dance by the 'hijras' be arranged there. The cart driver requested them to go under the shade of some nearby trees to enjoy the dance. But the youths forced them to stage the show on the spot.

An altercation ensued and at one stage Wali Khan, 28, son of the cart driver, was stabbed, allegedly by the youths. Hearing the news Wali's neighbours from Chak-Kobdaspura and Duttapara attacked the youths.

Then, youths from the Goyla and Ekdala areas also joined the free for all with long knives, sticks, iron rods and other sharp weapons.

The rioting which started around 2 pm, spread through the entire areas and lasted about three hours. At least 50 cocktails were exploded.

The injured hospitalised were identified as Wali Khan, Belal, Abul, Amina, Molina, Dulal, Afal, Amjad, Shatka and Chandu.

Transport strike postponed
Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Sramik Federation has postponed its strike till October 31 following fruitful talks with Bangladesh Road Transport Authority here yesterday, according to an official handout, reports BSS.

Presided over by State Minister for Communications Fazlur Rahman, the meeting was attended, among others, by Chairman, BRTA, federation leaders Habibur Rahman Khan, Abdul Rashid, Md Ismail, Shahjahan Khan MP, Moinuddin, Abdus Sattar, A Rahim Bux, Osman Ali and Shamaur Rahman.

The meeting had discussions on five-point demand, placed by the federation.

Decisions were taken on the problems of basic unions and withdrawal of cases.

The Midnight File

Christopher visits Italy today
AMMAN, Aug 5: US Secretary of State Warren Christopher confirmed he would travel to Italy on Friday to discuss contingency plans on allied air strikes in the former Yugoslavia. Christopher told a news conference in Amman on Thursday after talks on Middle East negotiations that he was concerned by the "deterioration on the ground in Bosnia." He said he would stop at Aviano airbase in northern Italy for talks with NATO commanders on "what might be our contingency plans for action if we find that the Serbs continue their strangulation Bosnia," reports Reuter.

Hizbollah fires rockets into Israel's 'security zone'
MAJAYOUN (Lebanon), Aug 5: Guerrillas fired four Katyusha rockets into Israel's "security zone" in south Lebanon today for the first time since Israel called off a blitz in the south last week, security sources said. A ceasefire agreement on Saturday included "understandings" that guerrillas of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah movement would not fire Katyusha rockets at northern Israel but it did not cover guerrilla attacks on the "security zone," reports Reuter.

Indian opposition for impeachment of CEC
NEW DELHI, Aug 5: India's centrist and leftist opposition today decided to press for the impeachment of Chief Election Commissioner TN Seshan to protest the freeze he ordered on all elections until December, reports AFP.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Centrist National Front, the four-party left front and two smaller centrist groupings. A spokesman said they would forward the demand to Parliament Speaker Shivraj Patil.

"We want him impeached for his arbitrary and whimsical action," said Nitish Kumar, a National Front leader, commenting on Seshan's orders Monday to put off all elections until December 18.

Seshan said in his order that no balloting would be held until New Delhi stopped interfering in the working of his autonomous Election Commission, which oversees elections to Parliament and state legislatures.

Indian opposition for impeachment of CEC
NEW DELHI, Aug 5: India's centrist and leftist opposition today decided to press for the impeachment of Chief Election Commissioner TN Seshan to protest the freeze he ordered on all elections until December, reports AFP.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Centrist National Front, the four-party left front and two smaller centrist groupings. A spokesman said they would forward the demand to Parliament Speaker Shivraj Patil.

"We want him impeached for his arbitrary and whimsical action," said Nitish Kumar, a National Front leader, commenting on Seshan's orders Monday to put off all elections until December 18.

Seshan said in his order that no balloting would be held until New Delhi stopped interfering in the working of his autonomous Election Commission, which oversees elections to Parliament and state legislatures.

Bombay police blamed for riots
BOMBAY, Aug 5: A human rights investigation has accused Bombay police of siding with Hindu extremists during communal riots in the city and of opening fire on innocent Muslims, reports AP.

About 1,000 people died in Bombay in December and January during Hindu-Muslim riots, the worst in the city's history.

BNP committees
From page 1 col 7
tions would work and cooperate with the parent organisation, he said, adding that the rules are likely to be modified to invigorate the overseas branches of the party.

He ruled out any possibility of changing the current provision in the constitution which says that only the Chairman of the party will be elected by the councilors while the rest of the office-bearers, including the Secretary General, will be selected by the Chairman.

Dr Rafiq murder
Three held for interrogation
By Staff Correspondent
The Detective Branch (DB) was interrogating three persons in connection with the killing of a doctor at the Farmgate area in the city Thursday.

Dr Rafiqul Islam, 36, son of Mohammed Atahar Ali, a resident of the Dhaka Cantonment, was killed by some hawkers Tuesday night where he had gone to buy a wallet.

Dr Rafiq, who passed MBBS from the Rajshahi Medical College in 1990, was severely beaten up by some hawkers after an altercation regarding the price, and left him lying in an unconscious condition. He was admitted to the nearby Al Rajhi Clinic where the doctors on duty declared him dead.

His body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. Later, it was sent to his village home.

Dr Rafiq of village Nischintapur in Baraigram thana under Natore district, had set up a private practice only few months ago at Janata Pharmacy at Kanchpur.

Tejgaon police carried out a raid in the Farmgate area yesterday and arrested Shaheen, Mohammed Ali, Mojibor, Haider and Ratan.

Later Shaheen, Mohammed Ali and Mojibor were handed over to the DB while the others were released.

Meanwhile, the pavements of the Farmgate area yesterday were barren of the hawkers who reportedly stayed away fearing police action.

BJC winding
From page 1 col 7
service, 10 to 15 per cent over the gratuity amount plus other admissible benefits and one year's pay as part of leave preparatory to retirement.

The total liabilities of the corporation stand at Taka 1253 crore, out of which Taka 944 crore is the interest amount on outstanding bank loans.

The Jute Ministry is currently in the process of evaluating the total assets of the corporation, spread around the country, but particularly concentrated in Narayanganj, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna.

However, it is estimated that the total value of the Corporation's assets would be worth over Tk 600 crore.

A provisional assessment made by the Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong placed the value of the assets of BJC in that district at Taka 52 crore.

The employees of the corporation are trying to resist the closure and even forwarded a compromise formula to the Jute Ministry.

The employees sought the retention of about 800 of the existing employees, offering to put up 10 per cent of their admissible benefits, towards the formation of a company on commercial basis, but with patronisation from government-owned jute mills.

The BJC was set up by a government ordinance in 1985 by combining the services of the Jute Marketing Council, the Jute Trading Corporation, Bangladesh Jute Export Council and Rally Brothers. It was established to ensure fair prices to the jute growers, check smuggling and to stabilise the price.



Children offer folded paper cranes as a memorial monument for atomic bomb victims at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park Friday. The annual peace memorial service will be held today, the 48th anniversary of the dropping of the bomb on Hiroshima August 6, 1945 which killed more than 20,000 people. — AFP photo

Editor: S. M. Ali
Executive Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Published by the Editor on behalf of Media world Ltd., 52 Motijheel, C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at The Sangbad Ltd., 36 Pirana Paltan, Dhaka. Editorials, News & Commercial Offices: House No. 11, Road No. 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4. Advertisement: 500091 (Direct). Fax No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box No. 3257. GRAM: DAILY STAR DHAKA.