

Major parties promise

From Page 1 Col 4.
would not use the official cars for the campaign for the BNP candidates.

Referring to the resignation of the incumbent mayors, the minister gave the assurance that the government would do everything necessary to ensure free and fair polling.

Workers Party representative Saiful Huq, opposing the idea of an all-party committee, said free and fair polls eventually depended on the political will of the ruling party. He, however, said if the formation of a committee was at all necessary, some other democratic parties outside Parliament should be incorporated into the body.

Awami League general secretary Zillur Rahman spoke in favour of the formation of such a committee. The AL leader, however, asserted that free, fair and impartial polls depended on the BNP.

Zillur Rahman questioned the governing party's commitment to conduct the elections in a free and fair manner.

Awami League leaders, at the meeting gave the assurance of their party's all-out cooperation to make the elections free and fair, and pledged to abide by the code of conduct. They also requested the CEC to strictly implement the election rules impartially.

Jatiya Party leader Manirul Huq Chowdhury demanded that they be allowed to hold election rallies uninterrupted.

Responding to the demand, the CEC said it was not under his jurisdiction. "Everybody has the right to hold rallies," he observed.

The Jamaat, Gonatantri Party and Gono Forum leaders strongly argued in favour of the formation of such a committee. All of them, however, thanked the Chief Election Commissioner for putting forward the 22-point code of conduct for the elections and assured him that they would abide by the rules.

Gono Forum leader Shajahan Siraj requested the Chief Election Commissioner to raise the ceiling of the expenditure for the city mayor candidates but no party supported him. The present ceiling for the mayor candidate is Taka five

lakh. The Chief Election Commissioner, briefing newsmen after his meeting with the political leaders, said the meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere and the leaders deliberated on relevant issues open-heartedly. "There is no alternative to a combined effort of all concerned to ensure free, fair and peaceful elections," Justice Rouf maintained.

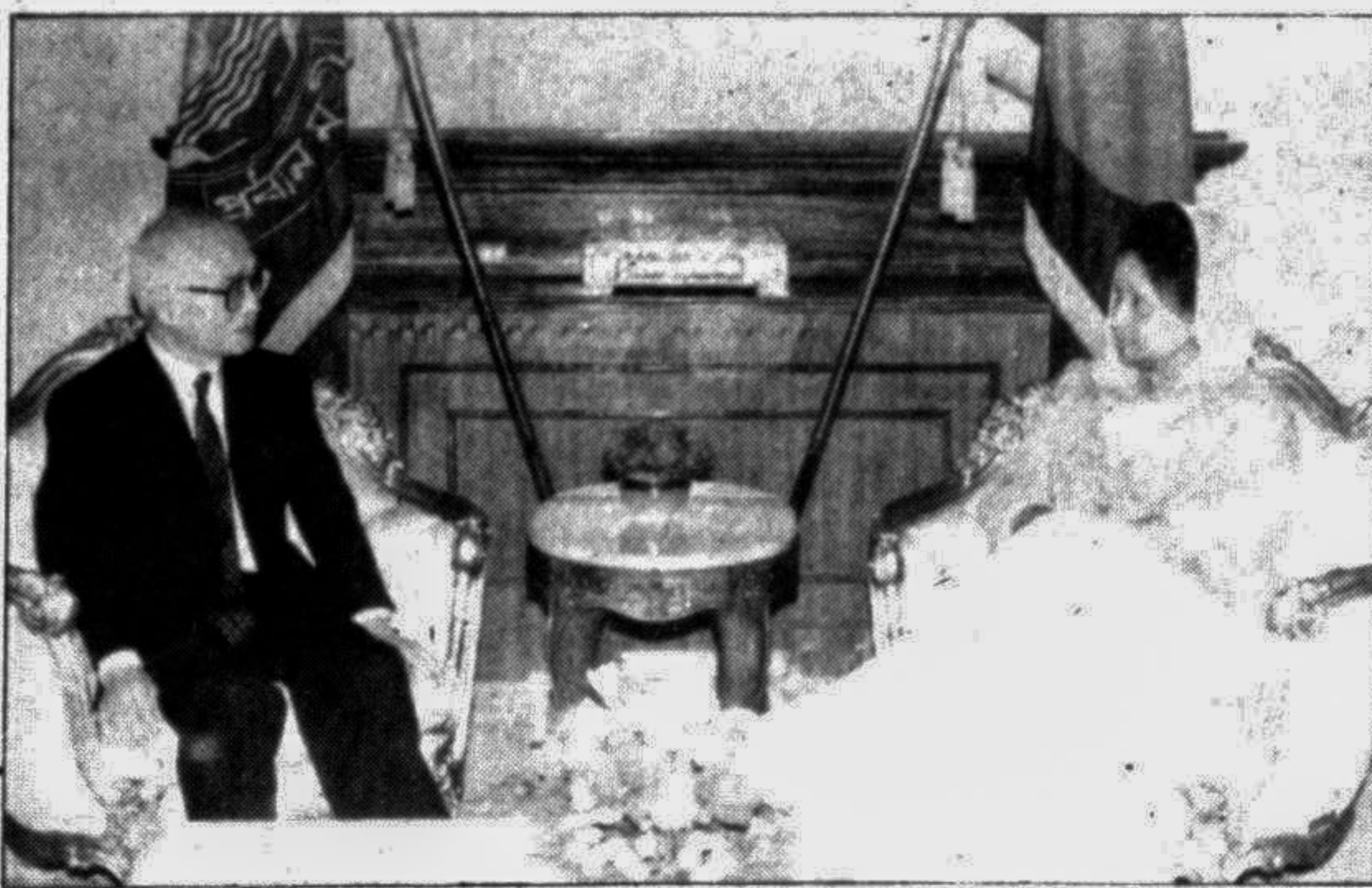
Speaking further on the issue, he said, "Election is not an administrative act, but a political one. So, all political parties must come forward to contribute to the neutral and peaceful holding of polls and thus help the voters have their confidence in elections."

Replying to a question, the CEC pointed out there was no provision in the election rules to ban writing on walls.

"But we appealed to the political parties to abandon the practice," he said adding the major parties earlier responded positively to the appeal. However, he noted, the municipal rules prohibit writing graffiti.

Responding to another question, Justice Rouf said relevant laws provide for imprisonment ranging from two years to seven years for the violators of election rules. "But only laws cannot guarantee peaceful polls, unless the participating parties, their candidates, voters and others concerned are sincere."

Chaired by Justice Abdur Rouf, the meeting was attended by Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Miah, Minister for Textiles Major (Retd) Abdul Mannan, Food Minister Lt. Gen. (Retd) Mir Shawqat Ali, Salahuddin Ahmed, MP, Amanullah Aman, MP, Major (Retd) Quamrul Islam, MP and Syed Mohammad Mohsin MP of the BNP, Zillur Rahman, Rahmat Ali, MP and Barrister K S Nabi of the Awami League, Monirul Haq Chowdhury, MP, Ismail Hossain Bengali, Kazi Piroz Rashid of the Jatiya Party, Suranjit Sengupta, MP, Mohammad Afzal and Mahmudur Rahman Babu of the Ganatantri Party, Saiful Haq and Kamrul Ahsan of the Workers' Party and Shajahan Siraj of JSD.



The visiting Chairman of the Daewoo Corporation, a leading investment and trading company of South Korea called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday. —PID photo

Daewoo keen to invest in Bangladesh

From Page 1 Col 8
The Korean investors' response came when Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharrar Hossain in a meeting apprised them of the prospects of energy and mineral resources, particularly gas, coal and hardrock.

A vast scope and opportunity have been ushered in for the private entrepreneurs to invest in the energy and mineral resources sector in Bangladesh," the minister told the potential South Korean entrepreneurs.

Kim Woo Choong also met Telecommunications Minister Tariqul Islam at his office yesterday.

During the meeting, Choong said that Korea is interested to help Bangladesh in expanding its telecommunications facilities. "We would like to know the existing policy and future plan of Bangladesh about its telecommunications programme," Choong added.

South Korean entrepreneurs. Kim Woo Choong also met Telecommunications Minister Tariqul Islam at his office yesterday.

During the meeting, Choong said that Korea is interested to help Bangladesh in expanding its telecommunications facilities. "We would like to know the existing policy and future plan of Bangladesh about its telecommunications programme," Choong added.

South Korean entrepreneurs.

Kim Woo Choong also met Telecommunications Minister Tariqul Islam at his office yesterday.

During the meeting, Choong said that Korea is interested to help Bangladesh in expanding its telecommunications facilities. "We would like to know the existing policy and future plan of Bangladesh about its telecommunications programme," Choong added.

Nepalese booters spoil

From Page 1 Col 6
fastest man of South Asia with a record timing of 10.61 seconds in the men's 100m sprint.

The elusive football gold of Bangladesh went to Nepal, who beat India in a penalty shootout in the final yesterday to register their only gold of the meet. Nepal finished with 22 medals, Bhutan and the Maldives were the two teams in the gathering of over 900 sports men and women to go without a gong.

A total of 374 medals, including 117 golds, were up for grabs in this meet, featuring athletics, boxing, football, judo, kabaddi, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, volleyball and wrestling.

Twenty-eight records, including sixteen in track and field events, were rewritten. Eight new marks were set in shooting and another four in swimming.

BCS (Information) Assoc executives
Golam Panjatan, Director General of the Department of Film and Publication (DFP), and Harun-ur-Rashid the Deputy Principal Information Officer of the Press Information Department have been elected President and Secretary-General of the BCS (Information) Association respectively, says a press release.

The election of the Association was held recently. The other office-bearers are — Vice-presidents: Captain (ret) Syed Sujauddin Ahmed and A Q S Dewan; Joint secretary-generals: Kazi Akhter Uddin Ahmed and Sarder Md Aminul Islam; Treasurer: Md Abdul Mannan; Organising and Inter-service Secretary: Md Akhteruzzaman; Publicity, Publication and Training Secretary: Abdul Awal Hawlader; Welfare, Sports and Cultural Secretary: Md Maniruzzaman and Office Secretary: Md Istiaque Hossain.

Members elected are — Md Nazmul Huda Khan, Tasir Ahmed, Abdus Sattar Meajee, Dr Md Hannan, Mahfuzur Rahman Molongi, Hosneara Akhter and ATM Momenul Huq.

Professionals
From Page 1 Col 7

The meeting also discussed whether to start the work abstention programme before or after the month of Ramadan.

Explaining the situation, one senior member of the Prokrichi said, the work abstention programme was likely to begin after all the resignation letters filed by the members were collected.

"Submitting the resignation letters to the President would be our last battle," he commented. The leader declined to be identified.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Published by Mediaworld Ltd. 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed at City Publishing House Ltd. 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4. Advertisement: 500091 (Direct). Fax No: 88-02-863035. GPO Box No: 3257. Cable: DAILYSTAR DHAKA.

The Midnight File

Protest outside French prisons

PARIS, Dec 26: About 700 people carried red, white and green Basque flags in the capital Sunday and rallied outside two prisons where Basque militants are jailed. Prisoners' families and activists marched from the Pompidou Centre museum to the Justice Ministry in the demonstration, held around Christmas for the past four years, reports AP.

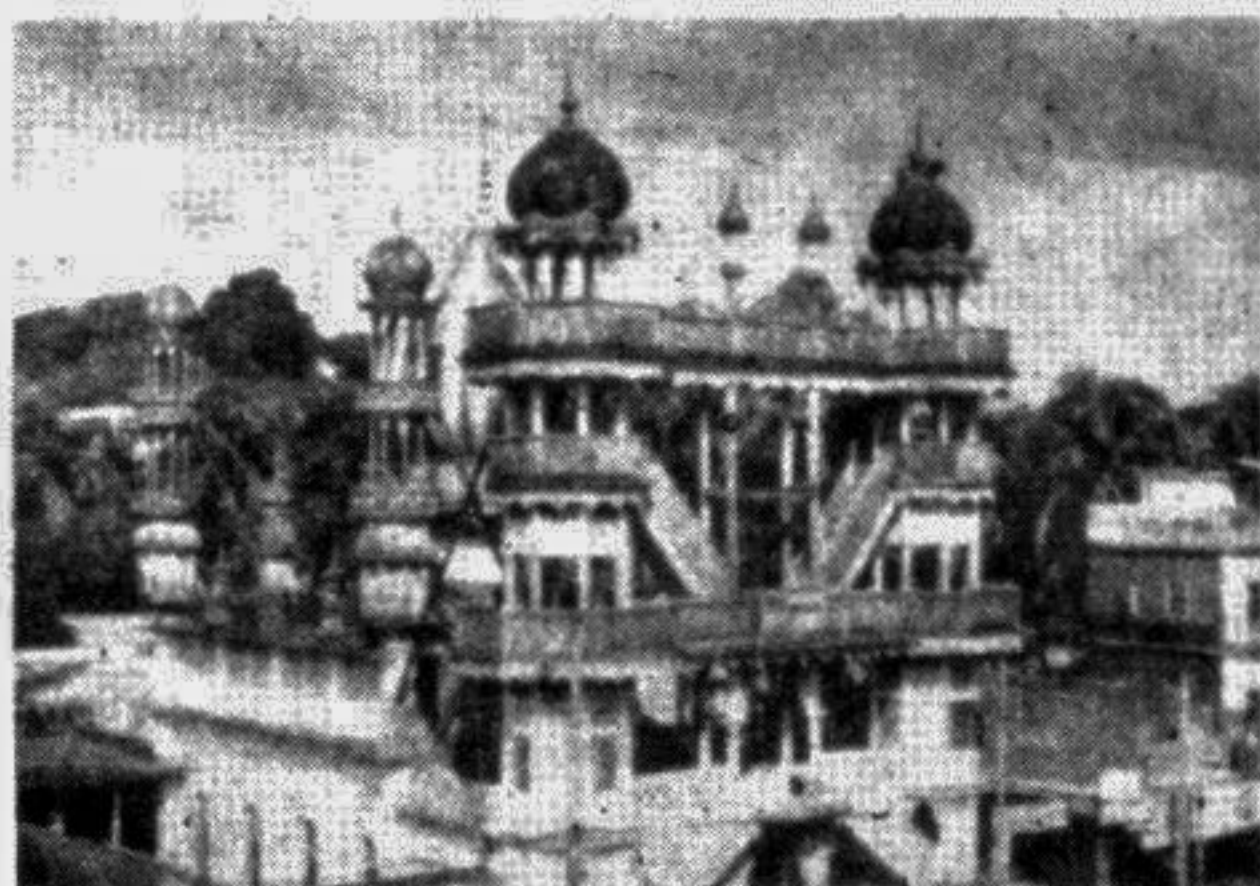
Militia commander killed in Lebanon

MARJAYOUN (Lebanon), Dec 26: Pro-Syrian guerrillas fired machine guns at Israeli-allied militiamen in south Lebanon Sunday, killing a senior militia commander and wounding two civilians, security sources said. The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the attack took place around 3 pm (1300 GMT) on the coastal Hamra passageway, reports AP.

Landslide claims 15 Algerians

ALGIERS, Dec 26: At least 15 people died and 62 were injured when a landslide tore up dozens of houses on a hillside in the western Algerian town of Oran, the official news agency APS said today. The landslide struck the populous Ras el Ain neighbourhood at around 2100 GMT on Saturday night, sweeping away 130 houses, reports Reuters.

NCC Bank now at Kadamtali, Chittagong



Our 18th branch goes into operation from today, the 27th December 1993 at Rafique Plaza, 1151 D.T. Road, Kadamtali, Chittagong the holy land of Baro Awliah.

Bank with NCC Bank. Our 18 branches at Dhaka, Chittagong, Feni, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet and Khulna are always ready to serve you with efficiency and promptness.



National Credit and Commerce Bank Limited
BANKING WITH A TOUCH OF HEART

Indo-Bangla

From Page 1 Col 8

talks yesterday also agreed to include issues like reduction of tariff determination of items of export and import, credit promotion, avoidance of double taxation and joint investment.

The agreed minutes between the two sides at the end of the ministerial level JEC meeting will be signed on Wednesday.

Pranab Mukherjee, who brings with him a 17-member trade delegation, will meet the business community here shortly after his arrival this afternoon.

The meeting will be held at the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), Commerce Minister Shamsul Islam and senior officials are also scheduled to attend the meeting.

Meanwhile, sources told UNB that the duration of the JEC meeting has been slashed. Officials said the JEC meeting will now conclude on the first day as the Indian Minister is to return home early.

ঢাকা মহানগরীতে পূবালী ব্যাংক-এর আরও একটি নতুন শাখা

আজ ২৭শে ডিসেম্বর '৯৩ইং

শুভ উদ্বোধন

গ্রামবন কমপ্লেক্স
৯৯, মহাখালী বা/এ, ঢাকা

বাবসায় বিনিয়োগ, রপ্তানী ও বৈদেশিক বাণিজ্যে বিশেষ পরামর্শসহ ঋণ সহায়তা দানে পূবালী ব্যাংকের রয়েছে বিশেষ স্বীকৃতি। সুদীর্ঘ ৩৫ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা সমৃদ্ধ দেশের প্রাচীন ও রহতম প্রাইভেট ব্যাংক পূবালী হোক আপনার আস্থা ও নির্ভরতার প্রতীক।

লেনদেনের সহজ সরল ব্যাংক



পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
অভিজ্ঞতায় সমৃদ্ধ দেশের রহতম প্রাইভেট ব্যাংক

Step into Cellular Age

You've heard about them. You've read about them. You've possibly even talked on them. They are the cellular telephones from world's leading cellular communication company—Hutchison Telecom.

It's right at your doorsteps now. Handy, reliable and advanced. Whether you need a phone for business, pleasure or personal reasons Hutchison has it all—Portable and Transportable.

Whether it is Micro TAC 1500 or Ultra Sleek 9660 Portable, or 3150 Transportable—you can always be at the centre of communication.

In short, Hutchison communication will never leave you out of contact. Whether you are at your construction site in remote areas, in a family outing in the countryside or on a long drive at the outskirts of the city, you can communicate with anybody within a range of 40 kilometers (aerial distance) of Dhaka city.

To find out more about Hutchison's Cellular Technology and its amazing range of Portable and Transportable telephones please call us on 885281 and 882186-87



Hutchison Bangladesh Telecom Limited
Pacific Centre, 14 Mohakhali Commercial Area, Dhaka-1212