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## Shima rape case

### Investigation officer, 2 other policemen sued

CHITTAGONG, July 24: Elna Khan, an advocate of Bangladesh Supreme Court, today filed a case in the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court against three police personnel including investigation officer of the Shima Chowdhury rape case on charges of their alleged abuse of power and gross negligence of duty, reports BSS.

Elna Khan, also an activist of Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR), in her prayer said the investigating officer and assistant superintendent of police Hafizuddin Dewan in collaboration with former sub-inspector of Raojan Iqbal Hossain and officer-in-charge of Raojan police Serajul Islam concealed necessary documents in the Shima rape case and issued chargesheet in such a way that the accused could not be found guilty.

The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Kamaluddin fixed July 29 as next date for further order, said a BSEHR press release.

## A second airport to be kept open round-the-clock

By Masud Arif

The government has decided to keep one airport or two, other than Zia International Airport (ZIA), open round the clock for emergency landing specially during rainy season.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism has already directed the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAA) to take necessary steps to implement the decision, officials said.

The decision came following an investigation into a recent incident of diverting a domestic flight of Biman to Calcutta. On June 2 last, Capt. Shahadat of Biman Bangladesh Airlines had diverted a Dhaka-Sylhet flight to Calcutta reportedly due to inclement weather on the way to Sylhet.

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## AL leaders begin countrywide tour programme

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League leaders yesterday began a countrywide organisational tour programme.

On the first day of the tour programme, party leaders Zilur Rahman, Amir Hussain Amu, Abdul Jalil and Mozaffar Hussain Paltu addressed rallies in Gazipur, Brahmanbaria, Naogaon and Jessore respectively.

A meeting of the AL central working committee (ALCWC) had earlier formed 16 teams for the tour programme, says a press release.

## BNP's countrywide demonstration on Sunday

BNP has announced a countrywide demonstration on Sunday to protest government's decision to change the name of Zia International Airport, reports UNB.

The decision to bring out processions and hold protest rallies in all cities and district headquarters was taken in a joint meeting of office bearers of Dhaka city BNP and its front organisations at party central office yesterday afternoon.

Chaired by BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, the meeting strongly protested the conspiracy to rename the ZIA and demanded immediate withdrawal of this decision.

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## Situation tense: BDR deployed

### Rohingyas take control of 2 camps, continue demonstration

By Reaz Ahmad

Hundreds of militant Rohingyas opposed to repatriation continued to demonstrate in two refugee camps in Cox's Bazar till late last night.

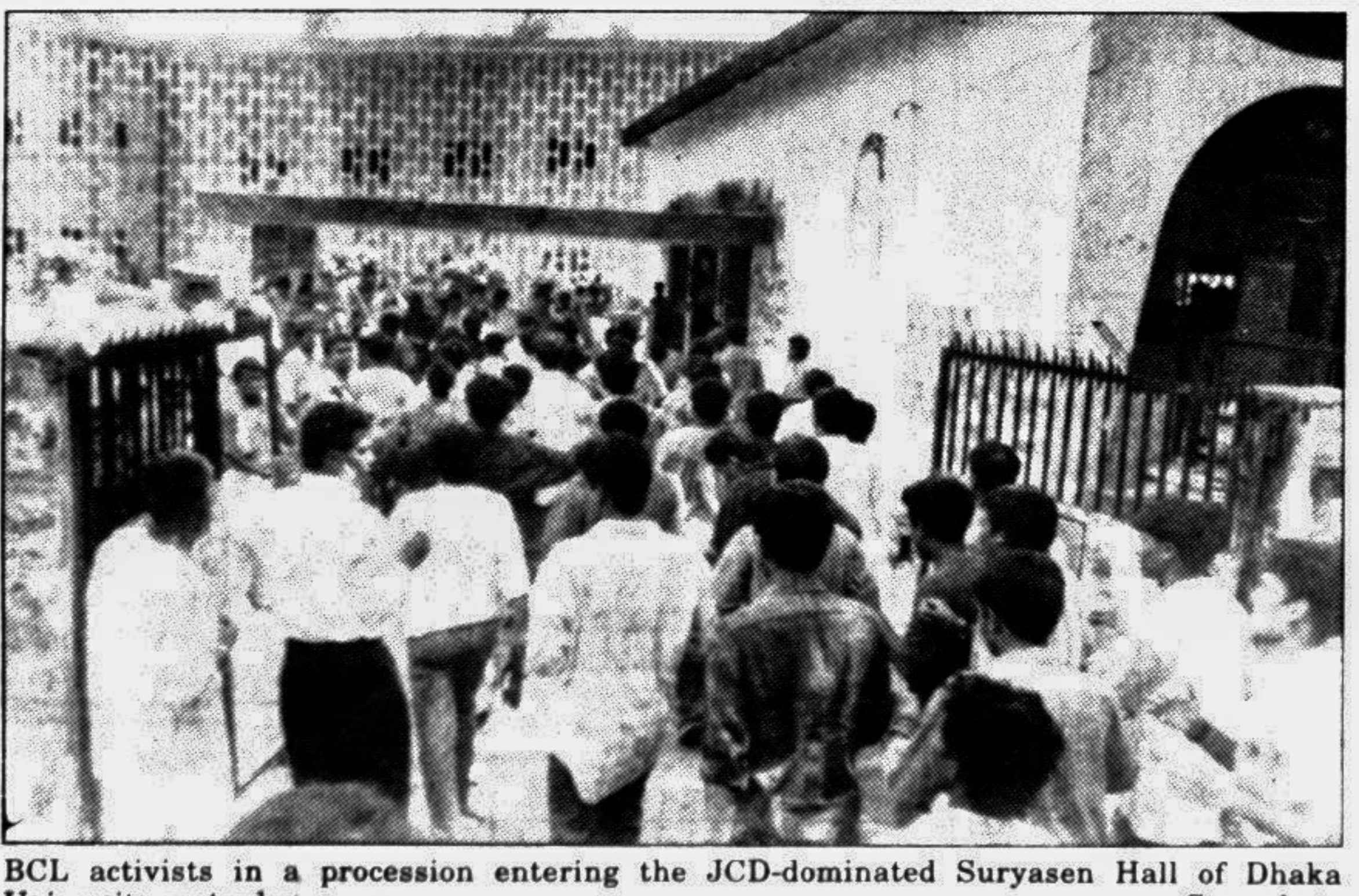
After taking control of the two camps, the refugees from Myanmar started demonstrations chanting anti-repatriation slogans, according to reports received in Dhaka.

Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong Shakhawat Hussain, Deputy Commissioner of Cox's Bazar Ali Imam Majumder and Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner AQM Qamrul Huda rushed to the camps in the afternoon and used handmikes, tried in vain to persuade the refugees to calm down.

All the officers and employees of the two refugee camps were forced out. Security was stepped up around the camps with deployment of heavy contingents of BDR and police.

After visiting the two camps at Nayapara yesterday, our correspondent and Kutupalong, Abdul Monayem Khan reported that militant refugees took control of those.

Abul Hasim, who is in charge of Nayapara camp told The Daily Star that officials there and employees were in



BCL activists in a procession entering the JCD-dominated Suryasen Hall of Dhaka University yesterday. —Star photo

## BCL captures DU hall: 10 JCD activists hurt

By DU Correspondent

The Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the student wing of Awami League captured the Surya Sen Hall of Dhaka University yesterday taking advantage of infighting in the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD).

About ten JCD activists were injured during the incident.

A tense situation was prevailing in the Surya Sen Hall area till last night as the JCD, losing one of its strongholds in the DU, was reportedly planning to hit back. A large number of police have been deployed.

At a press conference yesterday evening the JCD threatened to go for an indefinite strike from July 27 if its activists were not rehabilitated in the hall by this time.

On the other hand, the BCL at another press conference

## Battle for Asia Cup tomorrow India storm into final

COLOMBO, July 24: India beat both the weather and a stiff target to storm into the Asia Cup final with a nine-wicket victory over Bangladesh here today, reports AFP.

Set 131 to get in 20 overs to squeeze past Pakistan on run-rate, the Indians launched a spectacular scoring spree to romp home with five overs to spare.

Left-hander Saurav Ganguly led the chase with a brilliant 73 not out off 52 balls which included eight boundaries and two sixes.

Ganguly and skipper Sachin Tendulkar hammered 54 for the first wicket in just seven overs, before the Indian captain was bowled by spinner Enamul Haq for 28 off 21 balls.

Former captain Mohammad Azharuddin then chipped in with an unbeaten 23 off 20 balls, adding 78 for the unbroken second wicket with Ganguly and scoring the winning boundary off Minhazul Abedin.

Bangladesh put even men on the off-side to contain the scoring but it made no impression on the defending champions, who now take on hosts and World Cup holders Sri Lanka in Saturday's final.

The Indians, whose match against Pakistan was rained off after they had reduced their arch-rivals to 30 for five, finished the preliminary league with three points — the same as

## Fifth Plan: Tk 203400 cr outlay, 7.2 pc annual growth target

By Staff Correspondent

To achieve the targeted growth, the rate of investment from Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will have to be increased up to 22 per cent from the existing 18 per cent, the state minister said.

Of the 22 per cent investment, nine per cent will come from domestic resources, nine per cent from foreign aid and remittance while the rest four per cent will be mobilised through foreign direct investment (FDI) and growing internal savings, he added.

Of the 203400 crore targeted investment, 58 per cent will be

## Moral values fast evaporating: President

### 'Politicians do not hesitate to adopt any means for power'

By Staff Correspondent

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday accused the political parties of creating some impediments to the sound growth of a civil society in the country and called upon the leaders of civil society movements to address the problems.

"Political parties here do not hesitate to adopt any means, fair or foul, to achieve the objective of gaining control of the state machinery," said the President, adding "They use students, industrial workforce and even religion for political purpose."

Shahabuddin was speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session of the second assembly of Asia Pacific Civil Society Forum (APCSF) held in the city yesterday morning. Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, chief of the country's last non-party interim government and chairman of the National Host Committee of the APCSF second assembly, chaired the session while Dr Kamal Hossain presented the key-note paper.

The President observed, "All moral values and education itself are fast evaporating" from the educational institutions. "Labour wings of political parties are seriously hindering industrial development" and "non-payment of heavy amounts of bank loans has disrupted the financial and banking system of the country."

"Law cannot touch the bank (loan) defaulters as many of them are themselves lawmakers belonging to both the gov-

## BTV programme: Talks with BNP leaders end inconclusively

By Staff Correspondent

An hour-long meeting between the Director General of Bangladesh Television (BTV) and two leaders of BNP yesterday on Begum Khaleda Zia's planned participation in a live BTV programme *Deshbanshir Mukhomukhi* — ended inconclusively.

The two leaders, MK Anwar MP and Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain MP discussed with Syed Salahuddin Zaki BNP's pre-conditions for the party chief's participation in the programme and its earlier grievances over coverage by the government-controlled medium, meeting sources said.

They demanded "impartial coverage" of their programmes including the one planned for Begum Zia. The BTV DG assured

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## BB orders six banks to recover Beximco loans

Star Report

The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has sent orders to six commercial banks asking those to recover defaulting loans of Beximco Group within two months of receiving the notice.

Beximco Group has five members in the Boards of Directors of two of the banks. They are Salman Rahman, Sohel Rahman, Maj Gen (rtd) A R Khan, A A Quashem, and Iqbal Ahmed.

But according to the Bank Company Act as amended in 1997, a person can not be a director of a bank if he is a defaulter with any other bank.

The banks to which the BB order has been sent are: Agrani Bank, Janata Bank, Sonali Bank, State Bank of India, Bangladesh Shilpa Bank, and Dutch-Bangla Bank.

Sources said the BB is also going to serve a notice on the Eastern Bank Limited soon on the same issue.

According to BB statistics as of June 1997, Beximco Group's defaulting loans are: Agrani Bank Tk 3.70 cr, Janata Bank Tk 6.87 cr, Sonali Bank Tk 19.24 cr, State Bank of India Tk 3.46 cr, BSB Tk 0.96 cr, Dutch-Bangla Tk 1.40 cr. It also shows Tk 138.68 cr defaulting loan from EBL.

When contacted, chief executives of some of the banks told The Daily Star that they would soon serve notices on Beximco Group to repay the defaulting loans.

Meanwhile, the EBL has sent a strongly worded letter to the Governor of Bangladesh Bank protesting Law Ministry's investigation into the loan status of Beximco Group.

The BB has forwarded the

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Speed limit has been imposed on vehicles plying on roads passing by Magurchhara gasfield area. —Star photo

## Gas well fire: Citizens' group to demonstrate

From Sharier Khan and Iqbal Siddiqui

SRIMANGAL, July 24: People of Srimangal have become impatient and suspicious about the present condition of Magurchhara gas well and restoration of road and rail links.

A citizens' group has already been formed in Srimangal. The group is now planning to hold demonstrations against Occidental. Internal communication links in Sylhet division and Sylhet's rail links with rest of the country has been disrupted since June 15 when the gas well exploded causing fire. None can say when the links will be restored.

At the district administration level, grievances are

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## Aziz Mohammad Bhai barred from leaving country

By Staff Correspondent

Immigration authorities at Zia International Airport yesterday prevented Aziz Mohammad Bhai, an industrialist, from boarding an Indian Airlines flight to Calcutta.

His wife was also barred from availing the flight, according to airport sources. UNB news agency in a report said his passport was also impounded following directives from higher level. But details were not immediately available.

Aziz Mohammad has been named among ten people, by one Rizvi Ahmed in his confessional statement regarding the alleged murder of film star Salman Shah at his house in the city in October last year. Rizvi gave his statement before a Magistrate on Tuesday.

But police declined to state the reasons behind barring him from going abroad.

## Jamuna boat capsizes: 7 more bodies recovered

BOGRA, July 24: Seven more bodies of the victims of Tuesday's boat capsizing in the Jamuna were recovered today while over a hundred others were still missing, reports UNB.

With these the death toll from the ferry disaster rose to 14.

Additional police super Shahadat Hossain said the bodies found today were identified as Shaban, 4, Loveli, 9, Saha Banu, 8, Saju, 12, Kalpana, 12, Seema, 5 and Margina Khatun, 27.

## Rallies, processions around Baitul Mukarram banned

Police have imposed a ban on rallies, processions, meetings, mikiings and demonstration around Baitul Mukarram from this morning to midnight, reports UNB.

During the period — from 6 am to 12 midnight — carrying all kinds of arms, ammunition, explosives, sticks and other harmful materials has also been banned in the areas, specially at north and south gates.

The two gates of the national mosque are usually used as meeting venues of Islamic parties and religious groups.

Tension has been simmering following the disruption of Miladunabi function at the mosque premises.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner A K Al Mamun yesterday issued the prohibition under clause 28 and 29 of section III/76 of DMP Act for public safety and maintaining law and order.

## Join today's Jumma prayers: Religious Affairs Minister

State Minister for Religious Affairs Maulana Mohammad Nurul Islam has called upon the peace-loving Muslims to take part in today's Jumma prayers at the Baitul Mukarram Mosque.

"We will offer our Jumma prayers peacefully at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque tomorrow," he said while talking to BSS yesterday.

The state minister said the government is committed to upholding the sanctity of the holy mosques keeping them free from political controversies.

"We have always kept our political activities outside the holy mosques and we will uphold our tradition of keeping the mosques above all controversies," he said.

## Khatib preparing reply to showcause notice

By Staff Correspondent

Khatib of Baitul Mukarram Mosque Maulana Obaidul Huq yesterday said that he was preparing a reply to the showcause notice served on him.

The notice was sent to him by the Secretary, Islamic Foundation on Wednesday evening asking him to explain to reply within seven days why he should not be removed from his job.

"I am considering different aspects of my reply, which I will give within the stipulated time," Maulana Obaidul Huq told The Daily Star last night. He said the showcause notice contained what the State Minister for Religious Affairs Maulana Nurul Islam accused him of earlier.

The state minister had charged that the Khatib had instigated the incidents at Islamic Foundation premises during an Eid-e-Miladunabi function in which some people had created disturbance that made President Justice Shahabuddin

## Liftman trapped during power failure dies

A liftman at Shilpa Bank Bhaban in Motijheel area of the city died as he was trapped in a lift of the building during Wednesday's power failure, police said, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Omar Ali, 25, a liftman of IFIC Bank at the Bhaban. He hailed from village Chakhar of Banaripara thana in Barisal district.

A technician saw the body first at about 1:30 pm yesterday while making the lift operative. After being informed by the

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**মুন্স সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লিঃ**  
ধামরাই, ঢাকা।

**কারখানায় পুনঃ কাজ আরম্ভের বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

কর্তৃপক্ষ ধামরাইস্থ মুন্স সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লিঃ কারখানাটিকে গত ২১-০৬-৯৭ ইং তারিখ হইতে শ্রমিক নিয়োগ (স্থায়ী আদেশ) আইন ১৯৬৫ এর ৬(৬) ধারা অনুযায়ী অনির্দিষ্টকালের জন্য বন্ধ ঘোষণা করেন।

আগামী সোমবার ২৮ শে জুলাই ১৯৯৭ ইং তারিখ সকাল ৬-০০ (ছয়) ঘটিকা হইতে কর্তৃপক্ষ পর্যায়ক্রমে ও বিভাগওয়ারী ভিত্তিতে কারখানায় পুনরায় উৎপাদনের কাজ শুরু করিবার সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করিয়াছেন।

সুতরাং অত্র কারখানায় উৎপাদনের সহিত সংশ্লিষ্ট শ্রমিক ও কর্মচারীদিকে কাজে যোগাদানের সময়সূচী সম্পর্কে কারখানার "টাইম অফিসের" সহিত পূর্বেক যোগাযোগ করিবার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

—কারখানা কর্তৃপক্ষ