



## A COLLECTOR'S TELEPHONE TREASURES

**A**LTHOUGH several inventors have the same idea at the same time, only one whose invention is successful stays in our minds. All inventions need the so-called "original idea" which Boursel's (born 28/04/1829 in Brussels) had at the beginning of the road to the telephone. It is hard to imagine that with all the ingenuity Bell and Watson had going, the first commercial telephone instrument was only a wood box about the size of a shoe box, with one hole on the end for both talking and listening. Then the instrument changed and improved gradually. In 1947, it was realised that small cells with frequency reuse could increase traffic capacity and the basic cellular concept was developed. From the box type large telephones, the minute cellular phones have emerged making communication child's play. And with all the development, Collector Ulfat Rana in Dhaka holds onto his treasures from the first telephone to the palm sized cellular set.

Photo: SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

