# ETV case

# **HC** dismisses govt attorney's plea

entertain your plea at this stage," the court told the attorney and asked him to come up with arguments.

Additional Attorney General A J Mohammad Ali submitted that the writs are not maintainable as the methods followed by the ETV's two contending chairmen in submitting applications for broadcasting licence do not have any legal bear-

He said the question of the ETV's chairmanship is yet to be decided by the appropriate civil court and the matter could not come under the writ jurisdiction

He questioned if the court should interfere in the matter of granting licence when the applications are not in accordance with the law. The licence should be awarded on the basis of merit and compliance with the existing law, he contended.

Earlier, Barrister A Hasib, counsel for Nasir A Chowdhury, contending chairman of the ETV, submitted

that Abdus Salam is not the chairman of the ETV.

majority of directors.

The inclusive hearing resumes

## Bus rams traffic police to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A traffic policeman died when a bus rammed him at Shanirakhra in Demra yesterday.

Constable Amir Hossain, 37 suffered fatal injuries as the bus knocked him down at about 10:00am when he was on duty a Shanirakhra crossing.

Amir was rushed to the Rajarbagh Police Line Hospita where he died at 11:00am.

Police seized the bus, but its driver managed to escape.

# **Fines on Beximco**

Shamil Bank took Beximco to the

British court and got the ruling. In its judgement, the court on August1 awarded US\$ 50 million to

Shamil Bank. The court said the Beximco defaulted, failing to make certain payments to the bank, and the bank

sought summary judgement. Beximco, however, contested the case, saying that the transaction

was "in effect an interest bearing loan, which had been dressed up by the claimant (Shamil Bank)".

The bank submitted that it was clear that the bank activities had been supervised by a special religious board, and that subject to Article 3 of the Treaty of Rome, the general obligations contained in the contract could not be governed simultaneously by two separate legal systems, especially since Sharia was not a national legal system.

The court in its ruling said, "It was clear that the intentions of the parties was not to ask a secular court to derive answers to their legal issue from religious writings. There would be great controversy otherwise, since a secular English court was not suited to determining principles of disputed religious law.

"While the court could be used to settle disputes of foreign law, that was not the same as attempting to determine English law principles through religious law and it was improbable that the parties would ask the court to judge matters of Islamic orthodoxy, considering that as far as the bank was concerned, passing the activities by its special board was sufficient."

It said that what the defence contended for was largely a lawyer's construct and was not arguable.

Talking to The Daily Star, Vicechairman of Beximco Group Salman F Rahman said the British court had overlooked the very fact that the loans were also to be governed under the principles of Sharia

He said Beximco still has the option to appeal against the judgement. "We even have the option of going to courts in Bahrain." he said. adding that the group is trying for a

'out-of-court settlement'. Rahman also said the ruling of

dumping him for dead. Tipu under-

went a series of surgery at home

After its 2001 elections debacle

the AL observed that the 'godfather'

image of some party lawmakers

including Hazari had contributed to

the party's poor showing in the polls.

In April 2002. Hazari was removed

from the post of general secretary of

Hazari came under criticism again

when his fellow cadres marred the

May 31 workers' meeting of the Feni

district Awami League allegedly

under his directive. Central AL lead-

ers including General Secretary

Abdul Jalil MP and Organising

Secretary Saber Hossain

Chowdhury were present at the

of the Awami League Central

Working Committee (ALCWC)

suspended 19 leaders of the party

and front organisations of Feni

district unit. Mostly close relatives of

Hazari were suspended but the

ALCWC refrained from taking any

formed a committee to probe allega-

tions of criminal activities against

Hazari. The committee sources said

a report recommending disciplinary

actions against Hazari will be sub-

The ALCWC meeting, however

immediate action against Hazari.

Following the incident, a meeting

and abroad.

the Feni district AL.

Hazari gets life

the British court hardly has any impact on his Dhaka business since the British court cannot enforce its decree in Bangladesh.

He said if the bank files for enforcing the decree of the British court then his group would take shelter of a Bangladesh court.

Salman said his company does not agree with the judgement of the British court and will not pay the amount which the British court has

Despite repeated attempts, top executives of Shamil Bank could not be reached for comments

## Cop shoots bus helper for 'not paying tolls'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The helper of a bus was shot by a policeman as the driver tried to drive away without paying tolls allegedly demanded by on-duty policemen at the Abdullahpur bus stand in Uttara in the early hours of Sunday.

Nayon, 20, the bus helper, was bullet-hit in the abdomen. He is being treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH)

Nayon alleged that the policemen demanded Tk 500 from the bus supervisor, Raju, for carrying four cages of poultry and three sacks of papaya on the roof. "The police team stopped the bus

and demanded money," the victim said. But the bus driver, Babul, tried to drive away and a policeman opened fire, injuring Nayon. Duty officer of the Uttara Police

Station said nine policemen were deployed at the Abdullahpur bus stand to check vehicles. As one of them was getting onto the bus at around 3:00am a bullet accidentally went off from a shotgun and hit Nayon.

Police filed a general diary with the Uttara Police Station mentioning that Nayon was injured in an acci-

mitted soon as he has been found

The committee also enclosed

with the report documents of about

500 pages on Hazari's criminal

activities. Illness of committee head

Syed Asharful Islam MP, also AL

joint secretary, is delaying submis-

sion of the report, the sources

highest so far. The university

remained closed for 35 days in

university, DU activities were sus-

pended for 51 days in 1990-91 ses-

sion, 94 days in 1991-92, 10 days in

1992-93, 22 days in 1993-94, 42

days in 1994-95, 55 days in 1995-96

23 days in 1996-97. 18 days in 1997-

98. 56 days in 1998-99. 23 days in

1999-2000, 22 days in 2000-2001

69 days in 2001-2002 and 72 days in

Faiz said. "We are concerned at the

loss of time...We will try our best to

resolve the session iam problem by

rearranging the postponed exami-

the student bodies who blamed the

session jams on them

A number of students criticised

DU Vice-chancellor Prof. SMA

According to sources at the

Session jam

1998-99 session for floods.

FROM PAGE 12

2002-2003.

guilty of multiple counts of crime.

## Adab slams 'attacks, harassment'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two non-governmental organisations (NGOs) yesterday condemned a series of attacks and condemned 'police harassment'

the NGO's Patuakhali President AH Mansur, repeated attacks on a Proshika office, and obstruction to ONA organised discussion on good governance

"The events in Patuakhali is a threat to civil society," ONA President and National Professor Kabir Choudhury said in the

Citing newspaper reports, both Adab and ONA alleged that these 'disgraceful acts' were being openly performed by cadres 'under the visible incitement from an influential wing within the ruling party'.

This is the latest expression of the vindictive mindset exhibited against the progressive NGOs and greater civil society.

Both Adab and ONA alleged that the recent attempt on Dr Ahmad's life followed the police harassment Dr Ahmad, ransacking of a Proshika training centre, and the harassment of various NGO leaders through state agencies

The NGOs further accused the government of being politically motivated in blocking hundreds of crores of taka in bills owed to various NGOs, including Adab and

### No salaries

FROM PAGE 12

The EC termed the CAG's move 'unconstitutional' and was trying to resolve the problems through consultation with the government. The CAG's office dismisses the EC

"The CAG's office does not have the authority to object to our salaries. It is totally unconstitutional," an election commissioner told The "We sought an advisory from the

Supreme Court through the law ministry, but the ministry did not deem it important." But the CAG's office cited a

government rule that says no one can draw their salaries simultaneously with pensions of their previous public service.

Sayed served as the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Munsef and Mohammad as district judges and Saifur as home secretary prior to joining the EC.

"But the election commissioners violation of the rule," a CAG official

Now the top EC officials are waiting for the government response to resolve the problem in consultation with it and sent a letter to the finance minister last week.

"We are waiting for response from Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman. We want to discuss the issue with him." Election Commissioner M Munsef Ali told The Daily Star vesterday.

Meanwhile, M Hafiz Uddin Khan, former comptroller and auditor general, told the Daily Star yesterday that the objection raised by the CAG's office was not applicable to the EC, a constitutional body.

"The service rule is not applicable to those who hold constitutional positions as they are not public servants," he said, referring to the Privilege and Remuneration Ordinance, 1983.

"The ordinance has inconsistency and it should be amended."

Comptroller and Auditor General Asif Ali did not comment on the issue. "I am holding a constitutional post and I cannot make any remark instantly." he said.

political truce in place since Kelly

was found with a slit wrist near his

home in Oxfordshire, southern

England just over three weeks ago

weapons expert's suicide high-

lighted a "culture of duplicity and

charged a senior member of the

The country had "a prime minis-

ter who's a stranger to the truth and

a government that's rotten to the

core," finance spokesman Michael

identified as the main source for a

highly contentious BBC report in

May claiming Blair's staff exagger-

ated intelligence data on Irag's

weapons of mass destruction ahead

revealed as having briefed Andrew

Gilligan, a BBC radio reporter who

alleged that the government deliber-

ately "sexed-up" a dossier last

Blair was the United States

closest ally in the war to unseat

Saddam Hussein, launched in

March, and repeated claims that he

September on Irag's weapons.

The weapons expert was

Kelly's death came after he was

deceit" in Blair's government,

opposition Conservative Party.

Howard said.

of the US-led war.

The run-up to the government

appeared to have be unravelling.

# AL, JP rattle sabre Criminal Kamrul

to go for gas export.

"We are not against gas export, but any export should be out of the surplus amount after meeting domestic demands by our industry and power plants and ensuring a reserve for 50 years," AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil told UNB.

He also dismissed as a mere export of gas.

cient reserve and people will not accept it either." Ershad said industrial growth in the southern and northern regions

are no gas connections. Jatiya Party Chairman Anwar Hossain Manju MP vehemently

. Manju, a former energy minister said Bangladesh has the technological know-how for hydrocarbon exploration and asked why the government now requires foreign nvestment in this sector.

"When three-fourths of the people do not have electricity, why

minister, I want to know the fate of that oil field.'

He said if any decision is taken for gas export, "this government would be held responsible," adding that "Of these two democratic has been hampered because there governments -- the AL and BNP-led alliance -- one has created the background and the other is giving opposed gas export even if there is the full shape to it (gas export)."

# Srikanta murder

Hamid, Paritosh Rakshit, Irfan Chowdhury, Jahangir Alam, Kajal Rakshit, Aparup Rakshit, Arun Rakshit, Barun Rakshit, Amit Rakshit, Saroj Guha, Elahi Jan, Dipak Dutta Bhola, Mohammad Mubarak, Shahabuddin Sabu and Kamrul Hasan Titu. The first 11 of them were accused in the first information report (FIR), said police.

Investigation Officer (IO) Sub-Inspector Abdul Latif submitted the chargesheet against 17 after 110 days of investigation beginning on April 22 this year and quizzing 48 witnesses, police said.

Srikanta Rakshit, 27, son of lawyer Mridul Rakshit, was kidnapped from city's Ice Factory Road on the evening of April 19 while he was going to Agrabad commercial area with a friend to buy computer accessories.

Police recovered the beheaded body of Srikanta from Tandrabil area of Shikarpur union under Hathazari thana the following morning. The severed head was found in Mahamaya area under Mirersarai thana on April 24.

Shikha Rani Rakshit, mother of Srikkanta, lodged a murder case on April 20 with the Doublemooring Police Station accusing 11 persons including Azimuddin Mahmud, a neighbour of the Srikkanta family at Hazarigoli, as prime suspect.

Of the 17 accused, only five are now in jail. They are Jahangir, Dipak, Mubarak, Sabu and Titu.

Sources said Jahangir, Dipak and Mubarak later gave confessional statements and the name of the Al lawmaker surfaced in the statements of Dipak and Mubarak. reportedly activists of Roazan thana chapter of the AI's student front Bangladesh Chhatra League.

The IO in the chargesheet said past enmity and greed to gobble up huge property of the Srikanta family in the city were the prime motives behind the gruesome killing

The chargesheet further said Azim, Jahangir, Dipak, Kamrul, Sabu and Mubarak executed the

FROM PAGE 12 new amusement equipment would be installed for children

Some parks are today in such a rundown condition that they may be called anything but parks. The Sayedabad park is now a wastedumping site. Part of it has been occupied by illegal businesses and a market is being planned there.

The DCC has recently leased out a park at Savedabad to a private firm, which has installed amusement equipment for children.

Another park at Jatrabari in Demra is occupied by a market. In Old Dhaka near English Road, a children's park has become a parking place and a haven for drug addicts. The Karwan Bazar park is illegally occupied by slum dwellers.

duped a sceptical nation over the

case for the conflict have caused

intelligence about Saddam's

alleged illegal weaponry will not

come under the remit of Hutton's

inquiry, which was officially opened

ministers or officials deliberately

tried to deflect attention from the

weapons row by starting a war of

words with the BBC and then sacri-

ficing Kelly would be almost as

Labour Party charged yesterday

that Kelly's death saw what was a

bitter but somewhat arcane row with

the BBC over its journalism prac-

tices spiral into a full-blown scandal

-- a process for which Blair's own

administration was entirely respon-

ment stems entirely from its obses-

sion with presentation over sub-

stance," Peter Kilfoyle wrote in the

Independent on Sunday newspa-

Barbados -- is considered very

unlikely to lose his job immediately.

Blair -- currently on holiday in

"The latest crisis for the govern-

A lawmaker from the ruling

Nonetheless, the possibility that

The veracity or otherwise of the

him severe political damage.

Probe into Kelly's death

on August 1.

damaging.

killing while the rest 11 including the AL MP had aided and abetted them

Two more suspects, Nurul Absar and Ramzan, were cleared of charges following investigations. AL lawmaker Fazle Karim Chowdhury told The Daily Star on telephone last night that his political rivals Salauddin Quader Chowdhury and Giasuddin Quade Chowdhury had the two arrested and that the police forcefully squeezed a confessional statement from them in court to frame him for the murder.

However both of them later withdrew their statements and filed a case accusing police of torturing them into giving the statements under duress, he added.

"I am a victim of an unhealthy political culture," said Fazle Karim Chowdhurv and asked for a fair trial preceded by an 'impartial inquiry'.

### Razzak Ali

able circumstances' that have lowered his dignity as one of the founder members and most senior leaders of the ruling BNP. According to sources, Ali had two

meetings with party's high command in last one week where he bargained for a suitable position both in the party and the government once he quits as high commis-Unconfirmed sources said the

party high command has agreed to give him a position to his liking in the government. He would be asked to rejuvenate the BNP's Khulna district The former Speaker is now on

eave and is expected to arrive in Khulna tomorrow for the second time in two weeks reportedly to measure the reaction of local leaders and activists of the RNP about his possible return to active politics after a nearly two-year seclusion. Ali could not be reached over

telephone from Khulna for comments on speculations about his resignation and joining the government as cabinet minister with a specific job of revamping the BNP's Khulna district committee.

Intra-party rivalry in the city BNP recently has come to a head following formation of ward committees by Ali Asgar Lobi MP bypassing its President Nurul Islam MP and General Secretary Nazrul Islam Maniu, Ward Committees formed in absence of the city president and secretary are unacceptable and extra-constitutional, said Nazrul Islam Manju, challenging the right of Lobi to form the committees.

Activists and supporters loyal to Lobi and Manju are now at loggerheads. City BNP's intra-party rivalry may culminate in clashes, insiders

However one of his most trusted

Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon

was being lined up as the govern-

ment's "fall guy" for allegedly

authorising the identification of Kelly

as the source for the BBC story, the

once presiding judge Lord Brian

Hulton delivers his concluding

out to dry in the hope that his resig-

nation will get Tony Blair off the

hook," an unnamed government

pressure yesterday to apologise

personally for comments by his

official spokesman last week com-

paring Kelly to fictional fantasist

Kelly -- no relation of the scientist --

to a journalist showed how "mali-

"The fault line goes right to the

top. It is surely Blair who must

Nonetheless. Blair was facing

source was quoted as saying.

Experts said Hoon would resign

"He (Hoon) is going to be hung

Sunday Express said.

report into the affair.

Walter Mitty.

apologise," he said.

ministers might not be so lucky,

according to reports yesterday.

# nabbed in Khulna drive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Joint forces yesterday arrested Ghazi Kamrul Islam, 50, a listed criminal of the country's southwestern zone at his residence at Diana under Daulatour thana.

He was nabbed at around Wanted in about 40 murder

cases recorded with various police stations in Khulna, he had gone into hiding soon after the launch of 'Operation Spider Web' on July 19. Kamrul leads the outlawed

Biplobi Communist Party that has at least 2,000 armed cadres and a huge possession of ammunition in 10 south-western districts. According to sources, besides being a dealer of illegal arms, he is a drug baron.

Kamrul had surrendered to police in 1999 but after being released from Khulna district jail under general amnesty, he returned to criminal life.

He is now being questioned at the Daulatour Police Station for arms and ammunition and the whereabouts of his associates, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the joint forces are gradually wrapping up their operations in the Paikgachha, Rupsha, Mongla and Mollahat upazilla

## Body formed to probe Suraiya's death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The health ministry formed a probe body to investigate the alleged laxity of duty by the doctors in the death of Suraiya Begum.

Following a press report, the ministry formed the three-member probe committee. The committee, headed by a joint

secretary of the ministry and two other officials, will submit its report on August 13. It was inquiring into the medical history of Suraiya Begum, an associate professor of Information

Department of Dhaka University said a health ministry press release. Suraiya Begum died on August 2 reportedly for neglect of doctors.

Science and Library Management

# Renaming

FROM PAGE 12

surfaced only when the RCC mayor laid the foundation stone for a new building of the college on August 9. In the invitation card for the ceremony, the college was mentioned as Housing Estate College

The RCC mayor could not be reached for comment. But, Acting Principal Shahaduzzaman confirmed it, saying it was done as per the decision of the college govern-

The Rajshahi Awami League held a meeting at its office to protest the incident, and different sociocultural and professional organisations also condemned the incident.

FROM PAGE 12 The daily quoted her saying, "Demand to cancel the exam is irrational as there was no incident of question paper leakage."

The BCS examinees continued agitation yesterday and various student organisations brought out processions on the Dhaka University campus demanding immediate cancellation of the test. The Bangladesh Chhatra

League yesterday reiterated its

demand for resignation of the BPSC

A Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) procession, marching towards the BPSC secretariat, was barred by police near Shahbagh

intersection yesterday.

The BCU leaders demanded punishment to those involved in the question paper leakage.

The 24th BCS preliminary test was first held on February 28 this vear but was cancelled due to alleged leakage of question papers.

## Frigate case

FROM PAGE 12 as well as two guarantors for each.

After a yearlong investigation the Bureau of Anti-corruption (BAC) chargesheeted the four along with former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and Chairman of Trans World Engineering and Trading Company Limited Abdul Awal Mintoo for purchasing the DW 2000H frigate for the Bangladesh Navy in 1996 causing a loss of Tk 511.17 crore to the public exchequer.

Among the nine firms that had submitted 24 quotations for the frigate deal, M/S BOMETEC PLA of China was the lowest bidder with a price of \$68 million, but M/s Daewoo Corporation of South Korea the fourth lowest bidder quoting \$99.97 million, was awarded the contract to supply the "unproven design frigate," the case alleged.

As a result, the country suffered a The words of spokesman Tom loss of Tk 511.17 crore in public money in the deal, said the BAC officer who filed the case with the cious briefings" had become part of Tejgaon Police Station on August 7 government culture, Conservative last vear. Party leader lain Duncan Smith

Ádvocate Shahara Khatun and Rezaur Rahman appeared for the defendant, while Public Prosecutor (PP) Abdullah Mahmud Hasan stood for the state

# One gets death for killing Musum

**COURT CORRESPONDENT, Dhaka** 

One person has been sentenced to death and three to life imprisonment for killing Masum in July, 2000.

Mollah Mamun, a criminal of Demra, was given death penalty while Liton alias Chor Liton, Mollah Masum and Liton were given life imprisonment.

Of the convicts, Masum and Liton have been absconding since the incident. Their punishment will be effective from the date of their surrender or arrest. The convicts can appeal to the

High Court within seven days from the date of judgement.

The fifth additional metropolitan sessions judge, Mohammad Rezaul Islam gave the verdict in a

jam-packed courtroom in presence of the two accused Mamun and

The case filed with Demra Police Station alleged that the accused persons knifed Masum to death at about 11:00 am on July 31,

2000 in the city's Demra area. The victim's father, Kabir Ahmed, filed a murder case accusing Mamun and six others the same day.

The investigation officer of the case submitted the charge sheet against Mamun and three others on June 17, 2001. On May 14 last year, the court

framed charges against the accused Seven out of 15 prosecution

witnesses were cross-examined during the trial.

### Thieves bore 3 tremors

flowed through Ashuganj station.

A government plant in Kailashtila manufactures liquid petroleum gas (LPG) from condensate for use as cooking fuel. A private firm, Super Refinery, in Chittagong purchases 600 barrels a day for the same purpose. However, there are allegations that a large part is leaked out from the refinery and used as kerosene adulterant

A Petrobangla official said racketeers dominate the Sylhet Gas Field System and investigation is underway to uncover their activities in the pilferage of condensate. The first case of pilferage by

boring holes in gas pipelines was reported in 1998 when the GTCL took over the Ashuganj pipeline from Sylhet Gas Field System. "It was a novice attempt Condensate leakage had flooded a

pond and we sealed off the leakage. But from then on, there had been sporadic cases of pilferage," a senior GTCL official noted. He pointed out that as the private security company of the GTCL and

the GTCL employees themselves

were involved in the theft, the authorities put new security arrangements in place in 2001. "But for the last six months theft has been on the rise. On average, we have detected pilferage of more

than 10,000 litres of condensate a day in recent times." he added. Two teams of GTCL officials and experts have begun patrolling the gas pipeline system in Ashugani to detect more leakage points as meter read-

ings continue showing that the thieves

are taking away the condensate.

code responsible for the damages caused by the July 27 quake that killed two people, injured another 25 and flattened 500 houses in the Chittagong region. He suggested construction of

houses in the quake-prone region

with light materials, relocation of the

homeless and immediate medical support for the victims to prevent the spread of diseases. The briefing was attended by the deputy commissioner, Director of the local Geological Survey Mir Fazlul Karim, Municipality

Chairman Habibur Rahman and

members of the taskforce Dr M

Shamsul Alam, Dr Ehsan Ahmed

Reaz Akter Mollik and Quazi Zulfiker The findings of the taskforce will be submitted to the government

FROM PAGE 1

soon, Jahangir said

anchored in mid-river. Launches plying the southern routes from Dhaka to Barisal called

During the strike, launches

M Kolimullah, president of the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport (passenger) Organisation, an association of launch owners, told the BBC Radio last night that it is an offence to call such a strike and that punitive action would be taken

incident and he submitted a written

the charges derived from statements of 22 prosecution witnesses in the case. The four others -- Badal,

Earlier, the tribunal recorded statements of 22 out of 74 prosecu-

the youngest daughter of Latifur Rahman, Chairman of Transcom Ltd. was raped and murdered at their Gulshan residence in the city on April 23, 1998.

The victim's father filed a murder case with Gulshan Police Station accusing Shahid, a domestic help at his residence the following day.

Moiibur Rahman, the then assis-

tant superintendent of police, CID,

filed a rape case with the same

The investigation officer of the case submitted a charge sheet against Shahid, Hasan, Humayun

Shahid.

1998, accusing seven including

(now dead), Badal, Shaniram, Minu and Parvin on December 12, 1998, showing 74 people as prosecution witnesses The tribunal framed charges

against Shahid and five others on

The trial of the case began on July 9, 2000 The Shazneen murder case which is pending with the First Additional Metropolitan Sessions

Judge's Court. Dhaka, was earlier

HC order will remain valid till disposal of the rape case. Special Public Prosecutors (PPs) Arfan Uddin Khan and Mahbub Ahmed appeared for the state, while Mosharraf Hossain Kajol, Mizanur Rahman and M A

Kamrul Hasan Khan Aslam

Finance Minister M Saifur

Rahman, Agriculture Minister M K

Anwar, State Minister for Power

Igbal Hasan Mahmud and Chinese

Ambassador in Dhaka Hu Quinyen

M Saifur Rahman said if waste in

# PM: Gas-fired plants

"Peaking Plant" was felt for long to meet the demand of growing requirement of electricity in Dhaka, particularly to meet the additional demand during peak hours in the

The electricity requirement during peak hours in Dhaka and surrounding areas will be met by this new gas-propelled turbine power plant in Tongi. Khaleda informed the function

ng plants in Dhaka, Khulna and Chittagong Hill Tracts to meet the extra demand of electricity. The government has taken necessary initiatives to set up 18 power plants in phases to meet an estimated demand of 6,071MW of

Necessary policy guidelines have

sibility of power transmission has been given to the newly formed Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited, which will

the power and gas sectors cannot be stopped, investment would not

pany, has been formed.

also spoke.

### Taylor to quit FROM PAGE 12

was that West African peacekeepers arrive to ensure order. The first elements of a Nigerian force flew into Monrovia last week to a heroes' welcome from weary Liberians desperate for peace and change. As well as the nearly 800 regional troops, the United States

His one condition for bowing out

anchored offshore but has not said it will commit itself to more than a backup role for the West Africans. While the shooting has died down in Monrovia itself since the peacekeepers came in, fighting

has 2,300 Marines on ships

has continued for the second city of Buchanan and in northern Liberia. There is also little sign of a letup in the desperate humanitarian crisis in Monrovia, where the

Launch

the strike in protest at fining 26 launches by a mobile court.

against strikers.

# Shazneen case

FROM PAGE 1

statement to the court The prosecution lawver read out

Shaniram, Minu and Parvin pleaded not guilty and demanded justice before the court.

tion witnesses in the case. Shazneen Tasnim Rahman, 15,

stayed by the High Court (HC). The

April 13, 1999

## police station on September 4, appeared for the accused

The prime minister said shortage of

that the government was also planning to set up more such peak-

power by 2007. These plants will be set up with the government's own resources, she added. Besides, private sector independent power plants (IPPs) would also be encour-

been formulated to encourage the production of power by the private sector and ioint venture IPPs alongside the government-funded power In this context, she said respon-

function independently. Besides, DESCO, a power distribution com-

United Nations estimates that at least 450,000 people are displaced -- many of them hungry and sick.

### against them. should the question of gas export propaganda the state minister's The meeting of the ETV board of The High Court vesterday turned In separate press releases, ever arise." he said pointing out that statement that the AL had prepared directors held in London at Hotel Association of Development down the government attorney's the northwestern and southwestern all the groundwork for pipeline plea for dismissing the writs seeking Holiday Inn where Salam took over Agencies in Bangladesh (Adab) and regions are starving for gas energy. as chairman was convened illegally return of the seized equipment and Oikyabaddha Nagorik Andolan Referring to the discovery of oil in granting of broadcasting licence to with malafide intention ignoring the Former president and Jatiya (ONA) expressed concern at the the mid 1980s at Haripur in Sylhet, Party Chairman H M Ershad echoed the ETV. company's articles of association, recent attempt on ADAB Manju said, "As a former energy "After analogous hearing from he contended, adding that Salam Chairperson Dr Kazi Farooq AL's views saying, "We are against Ahmad's life, police harassment of the contending parties, we cannot gas export without ensuring suffifailed to manage support of the