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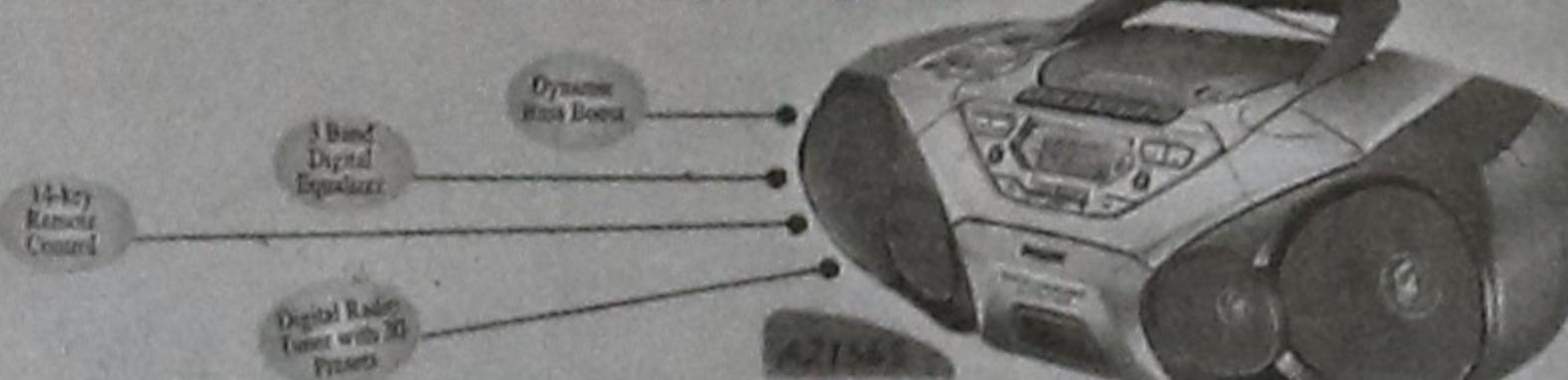
**IBRAHIM CHAMBER**  
95, Motijheel C.A., Dhaka  
Tel # 9565114, Fax : 9565112

**BANGSHAL**

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Lane lane separators... rickshaws and rickshaw-vans join the stream of motorised vehicles, ignoring lanes, separated by concrete blocks, for the non-mechanised vehicles. The DCC project has complicated the traffic movement, instead of easing the congestion, complain many. — Star photo

## Much ado about nothing

Lane separators make little difference

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) has channelled more than one crore taka from its different funds, including one for graveyard maintenance, into construction of controversial lane separators for non-mechanised and slow-moving vehicles.

According to sources, under pressure from the Traffic Department and the Military Police of the Armed Forces, a cash-strapped DCC had to prioritise the construction of lane separators, designed to "ease traffic congestion."

Tk 1.4 crore has so far been spent on these, said a DCC engineer. The corporation has plans to build more.

While police and army pressured DCC into building the separators, "they are not doing anything to compel rickshaws and other slow-moving non-mechanised vehicles to the designated lanes," he complained.

The project has come under fire not only from the city-dwellers but also the DCC.

At a meeting of the DCC Co-ordination Committee on January 18, officials of the Dhaka Urban Transport Project (DUTP) pointed out that the

## IJO : Process on for setting up a successor body

By Mustak Hossain

The International Jute Organisation (IJO) which is now in the process of liquidation is likely to have a successor organisation shortly with the International Jute Study Group (IJSG) now finalising recommendations for terms of reference.

A two-day meeting of the IJSG that began in Dhaka yesterday would adopt the recommendations and send those to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) for vetting. meeting sources said.

The International Conference

on Jute and Jute Products 2001 is to be held at UNTAD headquarters in Geneva on March 12 and 13 this year would approve the terms of reference of the proposed successor body. Then those will be sent to the UN Secretary General for final approval.

The sixth meeting of IJSG in the city is being participated by delegates from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, China, Japan, Egypt, Switzerland and 15 European Union (EU) countries.

The IJSG yesterday discussed in detail various proposals on

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**BANGLADESH INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT (Former BMDC)**  
4, Sobhanbag, Mirpur Road, Dhaka-1207.  
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2. Management Development for Executives	07-20 Feb. 16:30-21:00	Dhaka Tk. 3,400/-	Parveen Agaz
3. Freight Forwarding and Multimodal Transport	10-22 Feb. 17:00-21:30	Chittagong Tk. 3,400/-	Salahuddin Ahmed
4. Feasibility Analysis	11-22 Feb. 09:00-14:00	Dhaka Tk. 3,200/-	ABM Sayedul Kawnine
5. Motivating Employees for Better Performance	11-22 Feb. 16:00-20:30	Khulna Tk. 2,700/-	Mr. Abdur Rahman
6. Economic Analysis for Decision Making	17-22 Feb. 16:30-21:00	Chittagong Tk. 2,000/-	Abdul Quader
7. Transport Management	18-28 Feb. 09:30-13:30	Dhaka Tk. 3,200/-	ABM Shasuddin
8. Management for Rural Development	18Feb-1Mar 09:00-13:30	Dhaka Tk. 3,200/-	Selina Khatun
9. Seminar on Customer Service Excellence	26 February 09:00-17:00	Dhaka Tk. 500/-	Mohammad Salek

Courses mentioned above are suitable for Managers/Executives of public and private sector organizations including NGOs and interested educated young people not yet in service but want to develop managerial abilities.

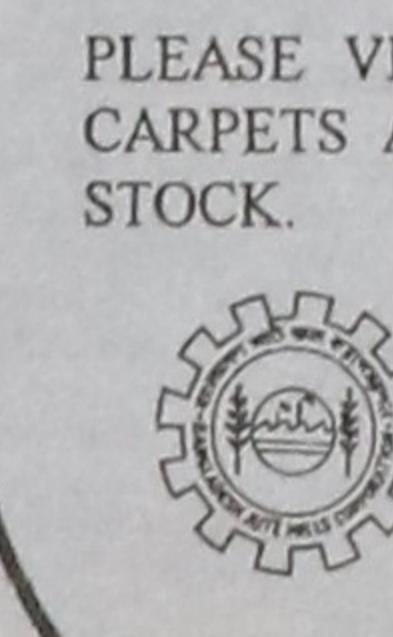
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## Violence against women to grow with globalisation

### ILO study

By Rezaul Karim

decreases chances of their marriage.

Female garment workers become victims of violence at workplaces, on streets while commuting to and from workplaces and at their residences.

Most of such incidents were reported by women workers of garment factories, the ILO report said.

But incidents of such violence remain largely under-reported as women workers are shy about disclosing those. Moreover, unmarried workers are afraid of disclosing any information on sexual harassment because that

slums and squatter settlements, relatives' houses or in messes and hostels. All these living arrangements are insecure for women.

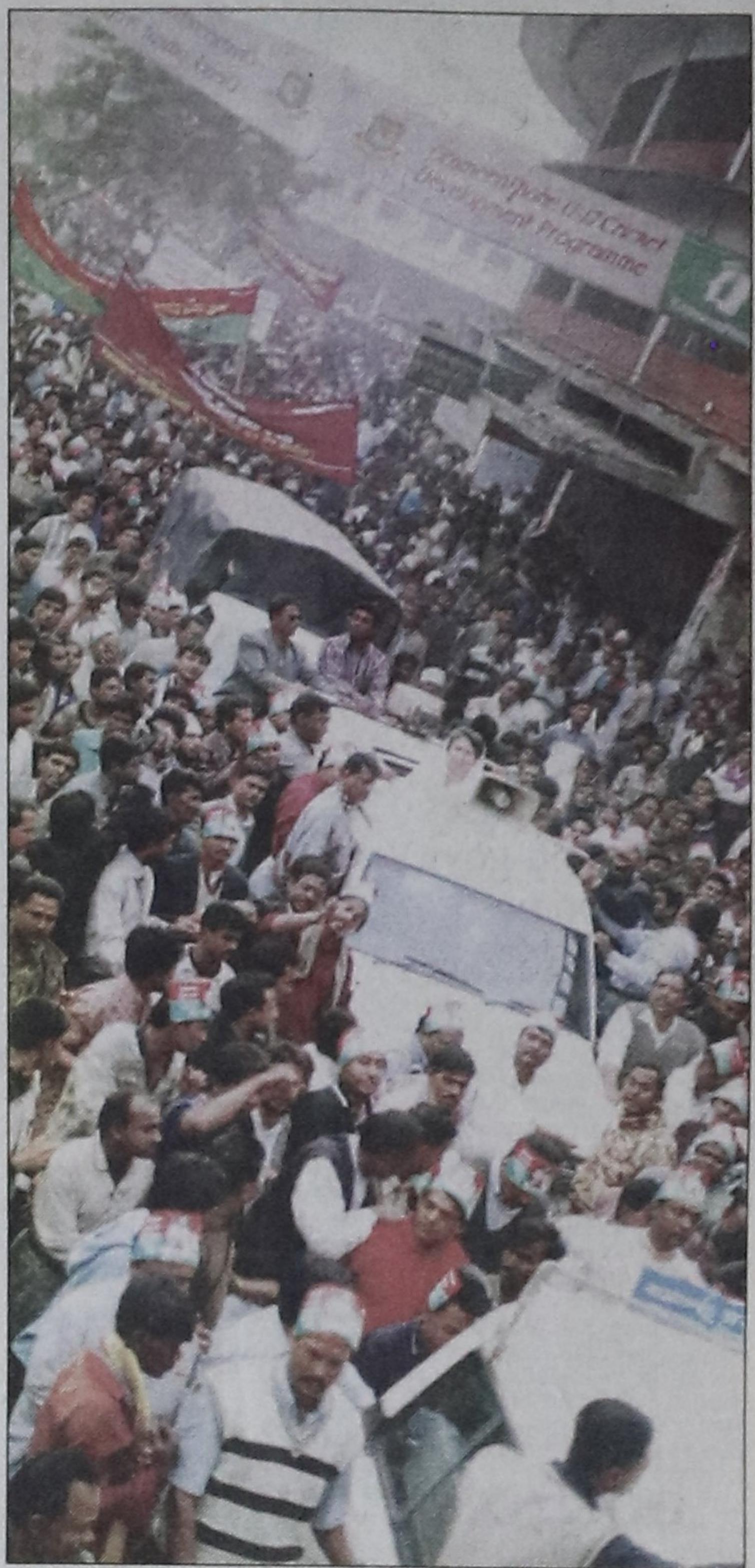
Women workers living in slums and squatter settlements always remain afraid of local touts, who regularly collect toll from them. Possibilities of incidents of rape are also there because such places lack law enforcement authorities.

Liquor and drug trading is also widespread in slums and squatter settlements.

Most workers living in relatives' houses reported that they were afraid of male relatives, who try to have 'affairs' with them. Female relatives also harass them although the workers pay handsome rent.

According to the study, 15 per cent of the women workers live in hostels or messes. But living in a

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Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia leads a Jubo Dal rally from the Paltan Maidan in the city, organised yesterday to mark the 65th birth anniversary of late President Ziaur Rahman.

— Star photo —

## Talks on Teesta water sharing in Mar likely

Drastic drop in flow raises concern

By Shehab Ahmed

water level has hit cultivation in huge areas of the greater Rangpur, Bogra and Dinajpur districts hard.

It has practically brought the Teesta barrage, commanding 381,000 acres of land, to a grinding halt.

Instead of an average flow of 5,000 cusec of water in January, it has come down to less than 700 cusec daily, leaving the country's largest irrigation project in the vital IRRI-Boro season in total despair.

Trouble started when the Indian side reportedly shut the flow at Gajalaboda, 65 kilometres

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The severe drop in the river's

## Trial of Bushra murder case begins

By Court Correspondent

Trial of the sensational Bushra Islam Phool Murder Case began at the Special Court for Prevention of Women and Children Repression, Dhaka yesterday.

The judge, Mohammad Shah Alam Miah, fixed March 11 for hearing on the "Narajil petition," submitted by the complainant of the case as another accused Mosammam Runu Kader, wife of M A Kader was dropped from the charge-sheet by the investigation officers.

Four of the accused M A Kader, Kaniz Fatema Hena, Sheikh Shawkat Ahmed, Ruhul and Sufia Begum were produced in the court while Sheikh Kabir

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## Some AL men asking DB not to take action against Sumon

By Staff Correspondent

Some influential leaders of ruling Awami League are allegedly pressurising Detective Branch police to avoid taking any action against Sumon, the principal accused in the sensational Sutrapur double murder case, according to DB sources.

A DB official requesting anonymity told The Daily Star last night that they were facing "tremendous pressure from some influential leaders of the ruling party" since Sumon's arrest on Friday.

The leaders are asking police to proceed in such a way that Sumon is acquitted of the charge, the official said.

He however said Sumon "will not be spared" as there is "no doubt" about his direct involvement in the killings.

Rabed Hasan Sumon was arrested at Comilla and brought

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## Appointment of SC judges: Hearing on writ Feb 11

By Special Correspondent

The High Court yesterday fixed February 11 for hearing a Writ Petition challenging the appointment of two judges in the Supreme Court recently.

The petition was filed by Bangladesh Manabadihikar Bastobayan Commission. Dr Kazi Aftab Hamid moved the petition saying that the two judges were appointed superseding two senior judges.

A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Abu Sayeed Ahmed and Justice Khademul Islam Choudhury fixed the date of hearing on a prayer by Assistant Attorney General Probir Neogi, a press release of the commission said.



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