Gangsters threaten to kill entire family of KCC engineer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A group of local gangsters who committed a daring robbery at the house of the executive engineer of Khulna City Corporation (KCC) on Saturday, have threatened to kill him, his wife and their minor son if any case in that regard is filed with the police.

Engineer Liaqat Ali Khan said eight armed men wearing masks robbed his house at 17. Nirala residential area under Khulna thana at 7:30pm on Saturday, looting money and gold ornaments worth about Tk two lakh.

Khan, who was not home at that time, said the robbers told his wife that they would kill the entire family if any case were filed with the police

Khan said he knows the identity of the robbers but decided not to file any case fearing for his and his familv's safety.

OC of Khulna thana Tozammel Hossain said he has also failed to convince the KCC engineer to lodge a case.

The same group of men also committed another robbery on the same night in the Boyrecross Road residence of one Ruby Beaum. looting money and gold ornaments worth over Taka 50,000. Ruby Begum and her family, who received similar death threats, said the robbers identified themselves as friends of a local ward commissioner

Ruby is also reluctant to lodge any case

Over the last five days, two gruesome murders were committed in city and an unidentified dead body was recovered from Nirala residential area. Nine robberies were committed in Khulna and Sonadanga thana areas over the last one and a half months.

Apart from armed robberies and murders, mugging, rape, burglaries and extortion have also increased alarmingly in the city recently, creating panic among city-dwellers. Hardly a day passes without incidents of muggings and

extortion by drug addicts and outlaws.

Armed cadres of legal as well as outlawed political parities are involved in such crimes in different areas in the city, said an official of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) who complained about shortage of police officers and constables to tackle the situation.

PM's comment on Kolaroa condemned STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different political parties vester day condemned Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's comment about Friday's attack on Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina at

Kolaroa in Satkhira. Speaking at a BNP programme in the capital Sunday, the PM accused the opposition of sponsoring the Kolaroa attack.

The Awami League (AL) General Secretary Zillur Rahman, in a statement, accused the PM of telling lies to hide the truth about the Kolaroa incident. "The nation has learnt the truth through newspaper reports. It is now clear to the people that the prime minister has lied to them in her statement.

Zillur also termed Khaleda's comments as ramblings of an insane at a time when the people are fed up with misrule by her coalition government.

"That she has lied has been proved by the statements of her party colleagues," the AL leader pointed out.

The 11-party alliance in a separate statement described the PM's remarks as irresponsi-"This will encourage the ble. criminals." it said while condemning the attack on Hasina's motorcade

The alliance also demanded arrest of and punishment to those responsible for the Kolaroa attack

Gana Azadi League also issued a similar statement.

A celebration in tear Shilpakala DG

where teenagers could express

demanded that Mukta Khobor -- 'a

leader of the opposition signed the

UNICEF proposal for 'Say yes' to the

ndow of dream' -- be resumed.

The promising journalists

"The prime minister and the

themselves, the speakers said.

3 commit suicide in Rajbari OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajbari

Three people allegedly committed suicide in Pangsha and Goalondo upazilas of Rajbari during the last 48 hours.

Police said, Bhanu Begum, 20, wife of Babul Sarder of Boyrat village in Pangsha upazila committed suicide by taking poison in her house on Sunday.

Helal Uddin 25 son of Ahmed Ali of Vander Khola of the same upazila committed suicide by taking poison the same day.

Kolabati, 55, wife of Mohadeb Chandra Biswas committed suicide on Sunday by taking poison at Chato Vakla village under Goalondo upazila over a family feud.

BSS from Feni adds: Nazma Begum, 25, a housewife committed suicide by taking poison at midnight on Saturday at Baduria village under Sonagazi upazila. Nazma was the wife of Jamal Uddin.

According to police sources she took poison when the members of her family were in sleep. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed in this connection.

Strike sours FROM PAGE 1

transport sector. To make things worse, the agencies could not arrange even their inadequate arrangement till yesterday.

Although the BRTC announced to add around 200 buses, including 50 double-deckers, to its fleet from September 1. it launched only 100 buses, some of them doubledeckers, till yesterday.

Asked, BRTC Chairman Taimur Alam Khandaker yesterday told The Daily Star that it would take a month more to launch the rest of the buses. He also said that another month

would be needed to provide the banaffected owners and employees with 500 CNG-run three-wheelers, as promised by the government before.

On August 20, the BRTA signed an agreement with 13 associations of owners, employees and spareparts traders of the two-stroke three-wheelers under the banner of the Dhaka Auto-Tempo, Auto-Rickshaw, Auto-Truck Malik-Sramik Oikya Parishad.

In line with the agreement, the BRTC was supposed to provide 500 CNG-run three-wheelers by September 1. The Bangladesh Railway, how-

ever, started its shuttle train service between Tongi and Dhaka on Sunday

herself wanted Abbasi to head the

Shilpakala Academy considering

his contribution, merit and other

qualities. She also held a meeting

Charge-sheet in baby Naushin murder case accepted

NEWS

COURT CORRESPONDENT

order

21. The two other accused are -The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Moslem alias Muslim Mia and Saiful (CMM's) Court. Dhaka vesterdav Islam Ratan. They are now detained accepted the charge-sheet in the in the jail custody. baby Naushin murder case. Marian Islam Naushin was in the

lap of her father Nazrul Islam when Magistrate Kazi Meraj Hossain, after scrutinising the case diary (CD) she was bullet-hit in the head in and statements of the prosecution indiscriminate firing by muggers at witnesses in the case, passed the Uttar Badda in the city on May 9 this year. The gang was fleeing in the The court also issued warrant of face of chase by local people after

arrest against two absconding mugging and shooting one person. accused -- Mamun alias 'Ragkata' Mamun and Sumon and ordered clinic and then shifted to the Dhaka attachment of their moveable prop-Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared her dead.

The Investigation Officer (IO) of the case submitted the chargewith Uttara thana

Technical glitch

paid service

FROM PAGE 12 was blamed for the problem, sources

said. "Only 10 per cent of the trouble in the switching system was fixed by 8:00pm." an engineer of the company, who requested not to be named. said

He said." We would have to work round the clock for restoration of the network.

The problem started after the company introduced pre-paid service with fixed line connectivity early last month, another source in the company told The Daily Star on the condition of anonymity.

The company, which operates on CDMA (code division multiple access) system, launched "Alap", a pre-paid phone service with the Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) fixed line connectivity on August 10.

The CDMA is one of the main mobile phone network technologies, competing mainly with Global System Mobile (GSM) communications.

The company in a statement said its service was temporarily interrupted in some areas of Dhaka city for a few hours in yesterday afternoon 'due to unavoidable circumstances'.

It however did not say when the network will be restored. The company earlier announced

news and consoled the bereaved

Darbar Sharif graveyard beside the

mazar of Shah Syed Abdus Salam

(RA) after a second Janaja at the

Nazre Imam performed Hajj

several times and often visited

India, Pakistan and many other

He was buried at Narinda

family members and others.

Darbar after Maghreb prayer.

Islam, family sources said.

Abdus Salam (RA).

speech on Islam.

abroad.

its plan to raise its subscriber base to Pir Shaheb

FROM PAGE 1

with high officials to know whether nessmen and thousands of his he could be given the status of secretary. But officials said it would followers attended the janaja and prayed for eternal peace of the be illogical and pointed out that departed soul.

5 hurt in land grab clash STAFF CORRESPONDENT

guilty, Purnima's A DCC Commissioner belonging to the ruling party along with his men father says in injured five members of a family in a bid to drive them out of their house at Bijli Mohalla in the city's Mohammadpur area yesterday to grab their land.

About 20 armed men led by Salimullah Salu, commissioner of ward no. 42, went to plot No. 141-144 at Bijli Mohalla. Following an altercation with the inmates of the house they started beating Momtaz Rekha Noor, 40, wife of Haji Noor Mia, now working in Saudi Arabia

They also bet Rekha Noor's son Mir Hossain 17, daughter Shan Naj Noor, 20, nephew Monir Hossain and brother Mostafa.

They were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment Hospital sources quoting the victims said the gang members pulled out 2-3 teeth of Mostafa with a weapon.

The gang tried to drive away the family and take over the one-bigha land owned by Momtaz. Source said the commissioner tried to grab the land to expand the adjacent slum owned by him.

Jainal Abedin, younger brother of Momtaz, said the attackers also abducted Mostafa, who could not be traced till 9:00 last night.

Awami League leader Marub Bin Local people rescued the victims from the attackers and sent them to Habib and Khorshed Alam. DMCH.

Witnesses said police caught three paid service. The PBTL awarded a of the attackers from the spot. US\$1.5 million contract to Local people said that Momtaz, a Singapore-based firm 'Last local Awami League leader, contested Technology' for installation of prethe last DCC election for the post of women commissioner from wards 41 The PBTL currently provides 42 and 43.

The duty officer at Mohammadpur police station last night confirmed that the commissioner attack the family. He said a team went to the spot and was yet to return to give details

Bappi murder Directive to publish ad on absconding accused

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Third Special Court for Prevention of Women and Children Repression Dhaka yesterday directed the authorities concerned to take steps to publish an advertisement in two Bangla dailies asking an absconding accused in the Bappi abduction and murder case to appear before the court.

Judge Sarkar Abdul Mansur passed the order as absconder Shariful Islam alias Badal does not appear before the court to face trial although the court earlier issued a warrant of arrest against him.

The court also fixed September 17 for submission of paper cuttings of the advertisement.

The court on August 24 took the charge sheet in the case into cognizance. The Investigation Officer (IO) of the

"We need 20 oxygen cylinders, but we have only two. And it is not always possible to attend all patients as we have to accommo-

narajee petition OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj charge-sheet of CID and observed

DHAKA TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2002

6 AL leaders not

The Special Court for Prevention of

Women and Children Repression,

Sirajganj yesterday received the

narajee petition' of Anil Chandra

Shill, father of the victim Purnima

Rani Shill, in the sensational Purnima

The court fixed the hearing date

On August 25, CID Inspector

Shahidullah Sheikh submitted the

second charge-sheet against six

Awami League leaders including

former MP Abdul Latif Mirza with 23

persons. The other Awami League

eaders are Ullapara Upazila Awami

League President Shahidul Islam

Punno, General Secretary Shafigul

Islam Shafi, former PP of Judge

Court Advocate Abdur Rahman.

Meanwhile police arrested

Shafiqul Islam Shafi from Ullapara

Bazaar who was also accused in the

CID submitted charge-sheet. District

Awami League refused to accept the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Gouranga Devnath, 30, an armed

cadre of Biplobi Communist Party

(BCP) was shot dead at about 9 pm on

Phultala thana of Khulna district

Sunday at Uttardihi village under

According to OC Shah Alam,

Gouranga alias Gora was taken from

Bhatpara ferry ghat to Uttardihi by his

three associates. They shot him in his

chest and Gora died on the spot.

Police recovered his body from near a

shop of herbal medicine at around

Ayoungman, identified as Ujjal, 26,

A case was filed accusing eight

has been arrested in connection with

the murder. He is also a BCP activist.

midniaht.

persons.

niection

ted.

beds

FROM PAGE 12

BCP cadre

shot dead

in Khulna

Rani Shill rape case

on this on September 8.

hartal in Ullapara last week. The father of Purnima, Shree Anil Chandra Shill, lodged an assault case in Ullapara police station against 17 persons of Purboo Delowa village and Purnima Rani Shill was admitted in Ullapara Hospital on October 10.

Officer in charge of Ullapara police station after investigation submitted a rape case charge-sheet against 17 persons. Meanwhile, on request from the local ruling party leadership, the Home Ministry ordered the CID to investigate the case afresh. Local CID after examining the witnesses and the medical report submitted a fresh charge-

sheet to the court. But, father of the victim submitted the 'naraiee' petition. He said in his petition that the said six Awami League leaders are not guilty and alleged that the CID in league with the ruling party submitted false charge-sheet against the Awami League leaders.

Alamgir

FROM PAGE 12 tion of ammonia plant, environment preservation and increasing production capacity of the Chittagong Urea Fertilizer Limited (CUFL).

Mohammad Abdus Sobhan, an officer of the Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAC) filed the case against Alamgir on May 13, this year. He was shown arrested in the

case on August 13. Alamgir was granted bail in the case on August 24

He was earlier granted bail in five other cases, including the Janatar Mancha Case (sedition case). But the Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on August 26 stayed the bail order till today.

Alamgir was arrested under Section 54 of the CrPC from the Zia International Airport on March 15 on his return from Singapore.

Later, he was shown arrested in the sedition case and four other cases.

DMCH in disarray

FROM PAGE 12 ing at Alam. He asked nurses to mmediately arrange saline and

said, "It is not possible to give 20 oxygen cylinders for each ward. I understand the problems very well, but my hands are tied. I cannot do more than what I have been given."

lions of taka in the past decade to

improve facilities at the DMCH. It

also got loans from the Asian

Development Bank (ADB) to equip

the DMCH with modern facilities,

which include pipeline oxygen

DMCH Brig General Nazmul Huda Meanwhile, sources pointed out that the health ministry spent mil-

ment of killers of fellow student Sabequnnahar Sony and cancellation of the BUET ordinance 1961 that barred political activities on the cam-

They also demanded withdrawal of suspension of 12 students.

However, the BUET

Mobile Phone Service) and was the first to launch cellular mobile telephony in the sub-continent in 1993. A devastating fire had burnt down the company's network control centre on the ninth floor of Pacific Centre at Mohakhali in the city in February last.

Dolphin caught from Arial Khan

sheet against four people on August

The baby was rushed to a local

Later, a murder case was filed

300.000 through launching the pre-

service to about 100,000 subscribers

with CDMA and AMPS (Advanced

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

A dolphin was caught from the Arial

Khan river at Satirhat area under Kalkini upazila vesterday. Later some local young men killed it. Kalkini upazila officials

rushed to the spot and recovered the dead dolphin.

BUET students FROM PAGE 1 ties' announced the programme at a

press conference on Sunday to press their six-point demand. Their demands include arrest and punish-

became aware of their rights by watching Mukta Khobor.

episodes so far.

Mukta Khobor, a programme jointly

sponsored by UNICEF and Save the

Children Alliance, has aired 105

among children both home and

abroad, said Sharmin. "The children

The programme created a tie

The reporters, aged between 13 to 17, who worked on Mukta Khobor, were from different social strata -- 16 from the privileged class and another 16 from the unprivileged class.

"The people of ETV never let me feel that I belong to the lower class, said Fatema Akhter, who aspires to be an engineer or a reporter.

'The ETV changed my vision of life," she sighed. A daughter of a shopkeeper and a domestic help Fatema used to pursue her study with the money she got from the ETV. She believes the FTV has helped her secure a place in the society.

Another reporter, Sajjad, recalled the day he bought the shroud for his deceased father with the money he got from the ETV. "What will I do if mv mother passes away now?" he said with tears rolling down his cheeks.

None of the juvenile journalists could fight their emotions back, when they flashed back to their achievement over the last two years.

The ETV programme set a stage

Six made OSDs

FROM PAGE 1

although Alamgir Kabir, the assistant private secretary (APS) to Food Minister Abdullah Al Noman, was named in the official probe report along with five ruling party lawmakers, no action has been taken against him so far.

The officials, who were made OSD yesterday, termed the government action 'anti-official and propolitician' action, sources said.

It is also not clear that whether the government would go for similar action against some other officials whose were identified in the official probe reports. These officials include food secretary, director general of food, several food directors and few other food officials at the grassroots.

Sources hinted that in addition to making the six officials OSD, departmental proceedings might also be initiated against them and their temporary suspensions were not unlikely too.

Earlier two food officials in charge of Bogra Sadar local supply depot and Muladuly central supply depot in Pabna were suspended while the official probe was still on.

Interestingly, ADG of food direc-

torate Entajul Hugue, made OSD yesterday and named in both probe reports for his involvement in the wheat scam, initiated the first official inquiry into the procurement irregularities. However, activities of the Entajul-led first probe committee were suspended at the initial stage.

The government has through out kept contents of the probe reports under wraps. Neither the secretarial and the ministerial probe committee reports were made public nor officials involved in preparation of the reports agreed to talk to newsmen.

Samples of wheat, collected from different government silos and tested at the state-run Wheat Research Centre at Nashipur, Dinajpur, were not home-grown, a solid proof to the scam.

Satkhira journalists FROM PAGE 12

truth" during her Sunday's public address at Paltan Maidan. In the briefing, the leaders said the PM's remarks regarding attack on the opposition leader is obscene and oid of political propriety.

They also demanded immediate investigation into the matter and arrest of and punishment to the attackers of journalists.

ildren." said here was no such preceden

reporter "Will the prime minister say 'yes' to open the window of Mukta Khobor again to ease our agony -- the agony of the children?" she asked.

riahts of

de

The audience also expressed their solidarity with the children. emanding to watch Mukta Khobor.

The programme over, the children broke down in tears again while consoling each other. The audience left the venue with a heavy heart.

Hanif hospitalised UNB, Dhaka

Former mayor of Dhaka City and president of city Awami League Mohammad Hanif has been admitted to National Heart Foundation

Mominuzzaman, said a press

pray for his early recovery.

Moreover, sources said the prime minister received a number of complaints against him regarding his performance. They said the

not approved.

concerned.

vital positions.

FROM PAGE 1

Gas price

ers to become the DG.

ROM PAGE 1

quality of most of the cultural programmes held at the state level and organised by the academy since Abbasi's appointment were not up to the mark.

Abbasi, who is now on a private visit to the US to attend the FOBANA Conference, was granted 15 days

for three more days. However, it was

According to the officials, the

prime minister then ordered cancel-

lation of his appointment as he did

not sign the contract after discuss-

ing the matter with the officials

activists have started hectic lobby-

ing with ministers and central lead-

BNP sources said a central BNP

leader of and a leader of JASAS, the cultural wing of the ruling party, are desperate to get appointment as the DG of state-owned Bangladesh

Television and Shilpakala Academy

respectively. But most of the BNP

leaders ruled out the possibility of

their getting appointed to these two

Petrobnagla buys gas from the

IOCs at \$2.5 per MCF and sells it

at \$1.3 in the domestic market.

About 13 per cent of total gas sold

by Petrobangla comes from two

gas fields operated by the IOCs.

of gas price in different sectors.

told The Daily Star yesterday.

four months in January."

Meanwhile, pro-BNP cultural

leave by the prime minister. But before leaving for the US, he sent another application seeking leave

with heart ailment. He is now under treatment of Dr

release yesterday. Hanif urged the countrymen to

> **ETV** licence FROM PAGE 1 They are scrutinising different documents to find out whether

the process can be traced back to the prime minister, added the sources. It is almost certain, however

that the finance minister and the information secretary of the previous government will be indicted.

The BAC has restarted an inquiry into irregularities in issuance of the ETV licence, which was suspended as the ETV case was pending with the High Court.

Now that the Supreme Court State Minister for Energy AKM Mosharraf Hossain said the tariff revision is aimed at rationalisation We have increased gas price for a section of consumers and at the same time for many others the price has gone down," Mosharraf

Seventeen private organisa-He, however, replied in the tions took part in the tender for negative when asked whether terrestrial link in May 1998 and another gas tariff increase is on the ETV was fifth among ten the cards in January next year. "In "ineligible" contenders after the fact, the tariff increase was schedpreliminary evaluation. uled for July. but we deferred it to

September. And we are not thinklater elevated to the top of the ing of another tariff revision after three "eligible" contenders and

Mayor of Dhaka City said they would not allow any activities Corporation and Minister for on the campus that could harm aca-Fisheries and Livestock Sadek demic activities. A large number of police were deployed on the campus. Hossain Khoka rushed to Narinda The BUET authorities banned any Darbar Sharif rearing the death

kind of procession and rally on the campus. The university reopened on August 11 after more than two months of closure following the killing of Sony.

Police attacked on the students again at about 11:30am when they tried to bring out a procession on the campus.

Shah Nazre Imam was born in a Agitating students also brought out renowned Muslim family in Bombay a procession on the campus at about in India. His family came to India 1:00 pm and tried to proceed to the from Saudi Arabia for preaching Shaheed Minar. Police intercepted them. The students then returned to He came to then East Pakistan the cafeteria premises in 1947 along with Shah Syed

They said they would continue the fast unto death if their demands are not met.

They alleged that the killers of Sony have returned to the BUET campus and said they 'would not stay with Muslim countries for delivering them'. They also accused the authorities of carrying out a 'biased' probe He has also a lot of followers into the incidents on the campus.

Shipon. The four other accused are --Ripon Kumer Roy, Sanjit Sarker, Sankar Rajbanshi and Shariful Islam alias Badal

Three arrested for attack on Puja committee office STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three people were arrested for their alleged involvement in the attack on the office of the Puja Committee at the Dhakeswari Temple at Lalbagh in the city yesterday.

The arrested are Shankar, Polton and Krisna Chandra.

According to the FIR filed by Mongal Ghosh, general secretary or the Dhaka Mahanagar Sarbojanin Puja Udjapan Committee, the attack ers ransacked the office, looted Tk 27.000 and cut off telephone lines. The case was filed under section 4 of the Speedy Trial Act.

Foodgrains transport contractors put off strike until Sept 15 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Foodgrains Transportation Contractors Federation has put off its strike until September 15.

The decision on the two-week postponement came yesterday after talks with the food ministry.

Earlier, the federation threatened to suspend transportation of foodgrains by road, water and railways from September 1, protesting an imposition of 4.5 per cent value-added tax (VAT).

At a meeting with the food secretary and the food directorate officials on Sunday, federation leaders were assured that the ministry would persuade the National Board of Revenue (NBR) to exempt the foodgrains transportation contractors from the VAT.

Federation Convenor Kazi Shahedur Rahman told The Daily Star vesterday that he federation protested the government's move to impose VAT on the contracts, which were signed two to four years back. Rahman hopes both sides would reach a solution soon.

case submitted the charge sheet date twice the normal capacity of 30 against five people, including Bappi's beds in the ward. So it is obvious maternal cousin Shahidul Alam that some patients may feel lack of care here, but we can't help it," Prof Hoque told this correspondent in reply to a question. He also said the directorate

supply system. general of health services never "We hear about important meetwants to listen to the problems in the ings and decisions on modernising DMCH. "They have no idea what hospitals. But no one knows when it happens here and how we manage will be done," a senior physician to look after the patients," he regretsaid in frustration.

Later, the two other victims -Nazmul and Kubbat - were able to communicate but were in critical condition

"We don't have any beds available now," an intern doctor said when this correspondent asked if it was possible to arrange beds for the three men. "We have to shift some of the patients to other places to accommodate the men," he added. The three were later shifted to

may have 40 to 45 members. There are chances of induction of some new faces into the cabinet. Bangladesh Jatiya Party Chairman Naziur Rahman Manjur and Islami Oikya Jote Chairman Azizul Hag are expected to be appointed as the prime minister's advisors with the rank and status

Reshuffle

FROM PAGE 12

When contacted, Director of the of a cabinet minister

Earth Summit

to ratify and apply the Kyoto Protocol.

for the US economy and unfair because it did not commit fastgrowing high-population countries such as Indian and China to join ndustrialised countries in cutting their pollution.

He contended that it was too costly

Schroeder linked the floods and drought that have ravaged parts of Europe, Asia and Africa this year to global warming, taking a position that many scientists privately share but are reluctant to embrace publicly

"There has been a dramatic increase in extreme weather conditions and it shows one thing very clearly, that climate change is no longer a sceptical forecast only, it is a reality, wherever we are on a global scale, in all of the continents and nearly in all countries by now, he said.

"This conference should therefore call on all states to ratify the Kyoto Protocol as quickly as possible so that it can enter into force before the end of this very year."

Chirac said: "Now is no longer the time for an 'every country for itself' attitude. A solemn calls should go out from Johannesburg to all the countries in the world, especially the leading industrialised countries,

Blair warned: "If climate change is not stopped, all parts of the world will suffer, some will even be destroyed." To loud applause, he said:

'Kyoto is right, and it should be ratified by all of us."

He also suggested work start as soon as possible on going beyond Kyoto's targets, under which industrialised signatories will -- if they meet their targets -- roughly stabilise their emissions by 2012 compared with the 1990 level.

"Kyoto only slows the present rate of damage. To reverse it, we need to reduce dramatically the level of pollution, and let us at least start to set that direction." Blair said.

US opposition to Kyoto spilled over in negotiations to craft a blueprint for action on poverty and the environment that the summit is due to endorse when it closes on Wednesday.

There were months of wrangling over a proposal to include words of support for Kyoto in this document, which eventually culminated on Saturday with a face-saving innocuous compromise.

However, the finance ministry partially exempted the ETV from payment for using the channel. The government is now calculating the loss the finance ministry decision imposed on the

sources

has upheld the High Court verdict declaring the ETV licence illegal, the BAC should have little difficulty in pursuing its investigation, said the BAC source. The main task for the bureau now is to identify the people involved with issuance of the icence.

Surprisingly, the ETV was

eventually issued the licence.

As part of the contract, the ETV was to pay the government charge for using the second channel of Bangladesh

Television.

exchequer, according to

Meanwhile, the ETV authorities will initiate a legal action against the government within a day or two for confiscation of its transmission equipment and

the air. They will also file for fresh licence. "The process will take some time," Head of

Proprammes Nawazish Ali Khan old Pha Daily of ar vestorday. FROM PAGE 1

Shamsunnahar Hall was 'false' and 'fabricated' but did not recommend any punitive action against the complainant.

Jannatul Kanon, an activist of JCD, ruling BNP's student wing, had filed the case with Ramna police station on the night of July 23.

forcing the television channel off