Errant leaders

death that day, she said, "Per-

haps the Almighty saved me so

AL General Secretary Syed

Ashraful Islam said some of the

ruling party men are tarnishing

the government's image by the

expect Awami League leaders

and workers to be involved in

criminal activities. It will be a

disappointment for the nation

if a fraction of the news on

Ashraf urged the party

leaders and workers to behave

like the August 21 blasts do not

Karim Selim, Rashed Khan

Menon, Hasanul Haq Inu and

Sahara Khatun were among the

senior AL and 14-party leaders

who spoke at the programme

presided over by AL presidium

member Syeda Sajeda

Polls deliver

Fewer than 400 votes separated

him from sitting Labor MP

Sharryn Jackson on Sunday,

but Wyatt, who is of Noongar,

Yamatji and Wongi heritage,

said he was confident "we will

been very generous in the way

we've come forward over the

vote for many years, and Wyatt

will be only the third indige-

nous person elected to either

house of parliament after

Neville Bonner and Aden

Ridgeway served in the Senate

from 1971 and 1998 respec-

first speech to pay tribute to

former Labor leader Kevin

Rudd for his historic February

2008 apology to the Stolen

Generations of Aborigines

removed from their families by

address to the house that day,

being a typical macho male

really didn't think the emo-

tions would impact me as

much as they were," Wyatt told

there with tears because I knew

what my mother and her

brothers and sisters had gone

through, particularly knowing

the abuse that happened to

and (could) have seen.'

two weeks.

'I wish my mother was alive

The final result in Hasluck is

Aborigines are believed to

not likely to be known for up to

have numbered around one

million at the time of white

settlement in 1788, but there

population of 22 million, and

they are Australia's most disad-

doctors of these units are

transferred, the posts remain

equipment worth Tk 30 lakh in

February 1998 after upgrading

the hospital to 375 beds. Twelve

years have gone by and there is

still no casualty unit as yet. This

is cramping the emergency

Authorities procured

vantaged minority.

FROM PAGE 16

Ahospital

vacant, said physicians.

"I must admit I was sitting

"When he delivered his

Wyatt said he would use his

Aborigines were denied the

last 30 years," said Wyatt.

"I think Australians have

Abdur Razzak, Sheikh Fazlul

recur.

Chowdhury.

FROM PAGE 16

fall over the line."

tively.

white settlers.

the AAP newswire.

He said people do not

way they conduct themselves.

Addressing the discussion,

I could serve the nation."

FROM PAGE 1

Hasina, also president of the ruling Awami League, said her government is committed to upholding the rule of law. "But how will we control others if we fail to control our party

The prime minister's warning was aimed at a party lawmaker whose name came up in news reports on the recent killing of a Jubo League man, AL insiders later told The Daily

Hasina said the administrawrongdoings by AL men is true. tion will allow no room for injustice, militancy and crimes. It will rather strive to establish themselves. He also asked Bangladesh as the most peacethem to stay alert so incidents ful country in Southeast Asia.

She directed her party men to stand beside the poor and work to mitigate their suffer-

AL organised the discussion to mark the sixth anniversary of the August 21 grenade attack on its rally. The blasts killed 24 AL leaders and workers and injured many more.

In her speech yesterday, the prime minister blamed BNP for the August 21 blasts, the attacks on former British high commissioner Anwar Chowdhury, former finance minister SAMS Kibria and former lawmaker Ahsanullah Master, and explosions at cinemas in Mymensingh.

She said the then BNP-Jamaat coalition government had destroyed the evidence of the August 21 grenade attack to save the culprits.

The law enforcers who were on duty at the rally venue helped the attackers escape the scene. Instead of trying to catch the bombers, they obstructed those attending to the injured, she added.

The AL chief reiterated that the masterminds behind the grenade attack will be brought

Recounting her brush with

Cops foil

Bijoy Nagar, and law enforcers again barred them from holding demonstration.

Alal said they started a procession from a spot nearby Nightingale Restaurant and was supposed to end at BNP headquarters at Naya Paltan but police charged batons and fired tear gas shells to disperse

At least 30 people were seriously injured and a few activists including New Market thana Juba Dal vice president Motiar were arrested, he claimed.

However, police said they arrested five activists from the

Police official Shahidul Haque said Juba Dal activists organised the demonstration without notifying the authorities beforehand.

The activists attacked police are now just 470,000 out of a leaving four police personnel injured, he added.

Airport SI

FROM PAGE 1

ting the privileges.

August 26.

after he was found guilty through preliminary investiga-

The ASP said when the premier's staff sought VIP privileges for Joy at the airport, Khaled declined to allow saying loy would have to appear with his passport in person for get-

Immigration officials said usually VIPs stay in the lounge, while their staff complete immigration formalities for them. Joy however departed for the

US on time, the officials added.

Moulvibazar

and deputy inspector general

of police of Sylhet to arrest the

DC, Mostafizur Rahman, and

produce him before it on

the DC appears before it today

and can show satisfactory

reasons for not carrying out its

orders, it would recall the

arrest warrant. Deputy

Attorney General Nazrul Islam

Talukder told The Daily Star

vesterday this is the first time

for the HC to directly issue an

arrest warrant against any

government high official after

the judiciary has been sepa-

rated from the executive on

The HC bench on August 11

this year directed the DC to

appear before it on August 22

(yesterday) in connection with

a contempt of court petition

filed against him, but he did

not appear before it without

the court ordered the DC and

officials concerned of

Moulvibazar to immediately

accept the rents from Dilu

Mian of the district for Bengali

years 1416 and 1417 for his

plots of land, and dispose of

his application regarding

cials concerned did not com-

ply with the HC order, Dilu Mian on August 11 filed a

appear before it yesterday.

Since the DC or other offi-

dispute of the property.

against the DC.

Earlier on April 21 this year

showing any reason, he said.

November 1, 2007.

The bench, however, said if

Director Mujibur blamed the incomplete infrastructure for the hindrance in service

services and operation.

and education. "The structure of the college remains unfinished. Though it was supposed to be handed

over this month, recently we knew that it will take five months more," he said. Some 1050 students of the institution are denied proper

education as the departments of nephrology, urology and psychiatry are short of teaching

Students will pass out from the medical college without having apposite practical knowledge in managing the cardiac, neurological, neurosurgical and psychiatric patients, as there is no ward and patient in these depart-

ments, said a doctor. There are registrars at every medical college to train the students at the patients' wards, but SHMC has no post of regis-

Every department at the hospital has five units, said its authorities adding that they should have at least 20 registrars by now.

As the college goes without Intensive Care Unit (ICU), students cannot learn intensive care management. Even the college lacks morgue and its students visit other medical

colleges for that. About 1500 patients seek treatment at outdoor and emergency units of the hospital, which was 1000 a few years

the rising pressure of patients.

contempt of court petition back. The hospital authorities The HC the same day have initiated steps to set up an issued a contempt of court ICU, CT Scanner and add at rule against Mostafizur least 50 more beds to manage Rahman and asked him to

2 more die drinking toxic liquor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two more men died on Saturday night drinking illegally made local alcoholic beverages, raising the toll of such deaths to 12 in Osmani Nagar upazila since Friday.

The deceased are Shafique Miah, 40 of Purkayosthapara village and Gous Miah, 35 of Eolatoil village. People, who sold the toxic

liquor to some 15 to 20 people on Thursday night, are yet to be arrested. Five of the people who drank the moonshine were still sick last night. Sub-inspector Sukhendu

Sarker of Osmani Nagar Police

Station filed a case against the sellers, Monai Miah and Emran Miah after the deaths. Eight others were also implicated in the case. Police arrested Monai and Emran weeks ago in a case filed against them for selling

booze illegally and seized 40

litres of locally made liquor. Officer-in-charge Nirmalendu Chakravarty of the police station yesterday said none of the accused in the case could be arrested yet although they raided several places in the upazila on Saturday night and yesterday morning.

Muggers

FROM PAGE 16

Witnesses said the muggers attacked Bakhter when he was trying to rent a rickshaw around 4:00am at Abdullapur bus station, returning from his home in Lalmonirhat.

Bakhter said the muggers stabbed him more and fled the scene after he announced himself as a police.

Hospital sources said the victim sustained six stab injuries in different parts of the body.

Khoka

FROM PAGE 16

Sharif Uddin Chaklader and Justice Md Fazlur Rahman also issued a rule upon the ACC and the government to explain why the proceedings of the case should not be quashed. The bench passed the order

following a petition recently filed by the DCC mayor for quashing the proceedings of the case.

The same court on July 5

granted bail to Khoka in the Barrister Rafique-ul Huq

and Ruhul Quddus Kajal

appeared for the petitioner.

Veil can't

FROM PAGE 1

following a news item published in a Bangla daily yesterday with the headline "Rani Bhabani Mahila College Borka Na Porle Ashte Mana' meaning the students of Rani Bhabani Women's College without veils are barred from

entering the college. The news item said the Principal of the college in Natore Mozammel Haque, who joined the college two months ago, has stopped any cultural activities and sports at the college and restricted the entrance of the students (female) without borkha or

veil to the college. The HC directed the government to immediately take action against the principal for imposing restrictions on the students regarding wearing veil and stopping cultural activities

and sports at the college. The court ordered Mozammel to appear before the HC bench on August 26 to explain the matter.

It also issued a rule upon the government to explain why imposition of restriction on cultural activities and sports in the educational institutions and offices and forcing the female students to wear veil should not be

declared illegal. Secretaries to the ministries of home, education social welfare and women affairs and Mozammel Haque have been made respondents to the rule and order.

Supreme Court lawyers barrister Mahbub Shafique and advocate KM Hafizul Alam placed the matter through an application before the HC bench.

Earlier on April 8 this year, the HC had ruled that none can force women, working at public and private educational institutions, to wear veils or cover their heads against their will.

It is their personal choice, the court said, asking the education secretary to make sure that women are not harassed by their superiors at educational institutions.

SC's firm

NEWS

FROM PAGE 1

government to shut down ship-breaking yards in two weeks if they do not take environment clearance certificates.

The court also directed the government not to allow import of any contaminated ships built with toxic substances and ordered all shipbreaking yards to obtain environmental clearance certificate from the government.

However, at least 24 workers were killed, mostly due to explosions and coming in contact with toxic materials, while 24 others were maimed in 15 accidents in 15 shipyards as the HC order was not obeyed in last 16 months.

The apex court also ordered the association to comply with the HC order that had said the Department of Shipping could issue no objection certificates (NOCs) for scrap ships. But the NOCs must be issued after seeing certificates of proper authorities stating about decontamination of ships and guarantee of ship exporters saying those are not hazardous.

The Appellate Division adjourned hearing on the appeal by BSBA for four months and asked the association to move their appeal before it after implementing the HC order, advocate Iqbal Kabir Lytton of BELA told The Daily Star.

Following the court's order to take pre-cleaning certificates from exporters, the Ministry of Commerce amended the Import Policy Order, 2009-12 to comply with

This amendment was changed on request from the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) that purported to allow ships to enter Bangladesh with in-built, poisonous and cancerous substances for safe disposal, of which Bangladesh does not have minimum facilities.

With blessings from the MoEF, the ship breakers continued importing dirty ships that eventually had to stop by virtue of the order of May 11, 2010.

The BELA filed a petition with the HC in November last year seeking directive for stopping import of ships for breaking without precleaning and environmental certificates from exporting countries.

Following the petition, the HC bench of Justice Md Imman Ali and Justice Obaidul Hasan on May 11 ruled that no ship could be imported without pre-cleaning and environmental certificates.

Extension

FROM PAGE 1

and organise a protest rally in the city on August 26 to realise its demands.

On Thursday, the government cancelled Koko's parole on the ground that he violated terms and conditions of the parole.

It asked him to surrender before the court by August 31.

Koko's lawyer Khokon claimed the military backed caretaker government didn't inform Koko about the conditions of his parole. Koko, released on a two-

month parole on July 17, 2008 on medical grounds, was undergoing treatment at a Bangkok hospital. Government in last two years extended his parole 20

times. Last time the home ministry extended parole for one month from July 14 this year.

Asked how government granted the one-month parole extension without getting any updated medical certificate of Koko, a government high official said that earlier the government deliberately overlooked those issues considering his health

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, however, categorically said Koko didn't breach any condition as he was still under treat-

ment in hospital. "Despite getting all medical documents government onesidedly decided to cancel Koko's parole," he said adding the prime minister while on parole went abroad for treatment and visited a number of countries and even gave political statements.

Two factories

FROM PAGE 16

Both the factories had been warned that their gas, electricity and water supply would be disconnected unless they stop polluting immediately and comply with the environmental rules and regulations.

Sycotex Dyeing was fined Tk 67 lakh and Adhunik Paper Mill Tk 10 lakh during the drive led by Mohammed Munir Chowdhury, director of enforcement and monitoring unit of the department.

The court said the Department of Shipping could months in prison. issue NOCs only to those ships that have such certificates and comply with other legal obli-

gations. The ship exporters

have to ensure that their ships are not hazardous. Following a petition filed by BSBA on March 24, 2009, the SC stayed the HC verdict of March 17, 2009 on closure of the ship-breaking yards

verdict. The SC yesterday also adjourned hearing of the appeal of BSBA against the HC verdict of March 17, 2009.

upholding other parts of the

Azmalul Hossain, AFM Mesbahuddin, Anisul Huq and Additional Attorney General MK Rahman appeared for BSBA, while Syed Amirul Islam, AM Amin Uddin and Syeda Rizwana Hasan were present for BELA.

Govt to bear

Affairs Dr Shirin Sharmin

FROM PAGE 16

Chowdhury told the news agency. The Women and Children

Repression Prevention Act-1995 was replaced by the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act-2000 during the then Awami League government incorporating the provision in section 8(13) of the act. The act was published in the

gazette in 2003, but no step was taken for its implementation, Dr Sharmin said adding the execution of the law began with giving Tk 27,000 at a time to one Rabeya of Gopalganj to take care of her child. The state minister said

Rabeya was given the amount from subsistence fund of the ministry and every year she would be got Tk 9,000 for her child. The government has started

collecting information from respective courts regarding the cases in connection with women and children repres-"After reviewing and scrutinizing the information and

collecting data on actual number of annual births of this kind of children, we will look for adequate allocation from the government to support the children," she said. Dr Sharmin also referred to a recent court order in this connection passed by the

Women and Children

Repression Prevention Court

in Gopalganj district and said

"We have to execute the law to uphold the court verdict". Talking to news agency Barrister Shafique Ahmed minister for law, justice and parliamentary affairs, said the country's constitution stipulated that every citizen born within the territory of the country will get the basic rights

to survive. "It's the obligation of the state to ensure basic rights of a child instead of looking to how one was born as it is related to humanity and welfare," he

"Most of the moderate countries follow the law where such children are provided with food, clothing and shelter from the state to sustain their lives," the minister said adding the children also enjoy the right to use the identity of their

parents. Under section 8 (13) of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act of 2000, a mother can keep her unexpected child in her own care or any of her relations.

The children will have the right to use the identity of their mother or father or of both. The state will bear the cost of living of a male child up to 21 years and up to marriage in case of a female child.

Delwar

FROM PAGE 16

Hasina's strong leadership in consolidating democracy and combating negative impacts of the climate change when he, accompanied by his spouse Cherie Blair, met with the premier at Gono Bhaban on Saturday morning.

Delwar also criticised the government for serving foreigners saying, "It [government] is working only for those who brought them into power.

He blamed the media for conducting propaganda against party's senior vice chairman Tarique Rahman, also elder son of Khaleda Zia, for implicating him in the

At one stage of the clash, August 21 grenade attack case. "We respect you [media] but it's unfortunate if you are purchased. A few in the media are creating special situation to make guilty those who are not guilty," he said hinting at media reports published on vandalised during the clash. Saturday regarding Tarique and the 21 August grenade

politics capitalising on the August 21 grenade attack. health complex. restored on the highway around 1:30pm.

Ex-minister's

FROM PAGE 16 Tk 60,000 in default of which she has spent another nine

Farzana was sentenced to six years' of imprisonment for evading tax and not submitting her income tax return since fiscal year 2004-2005. Syed Zakir Hossain, deputy

tax commissioner of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) filed the case with the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka against her on July 12, In his complaint, Zakir said, Farzana, managing

director of Garden Fresh Preservations Ltd located in Savar, evaded income tax amounting to Tk 80.45 lakh from fiscal year 2004-2005 to 2006-2007. Farzana provided false information about her income

and expenditure to the NBR

and did not show her income

tax returns, the complainant said. She also concealed information about her actual income of Tk 2.91 crore, the

19 fall sick

complainant added.

FROM PAGE 16

Santhia upazila health and family planning officer, told the Daily Star. During the visit, the experts

sprayed anti-germ over the spot where the cow was pro-"We collected the names of

the people who came in con-

tact with the cow and kept an

eye on them," added Monsurur Rahman.

FROM PAGE 1

Md Shahadat Hossain asked Shah Alam how he came to know about the cases filed against him as he has been absconding for a long time. Shah Alam told the court

that he was abroad when the cases were filed against him during the caretaker govern-Hazera Parvin of Badda filed the case against Shah Alam on February 24, 2007 on

charge of illegal trespass,

stealing away her demarca-

tion pillars that caused a loss

of Tk 3 lakh in December Metropolitan Magistrate Dilara Alo Chandana granted another bail to Shah Alam upon a bond of Tk 10,000 with two guarantors after he appeared before it and sought bail in the case filed for grab-

bing land in November 2006. Navy Commander Kazi Sarwar Hossain filed the case against the accused on February 24, 2007.

Metropolitan Magistrate Rashed Kabir granted Shah Alam bails in two other cases filed on March 18 and April 25 in 2007 on charges of misappropriating Tk 30 lakh and grabbing land. Shah Alam's lawyers sub-

mitted petitions for exempting him from personal appearance but the courts asked him to appear on the scheduled dates for next hearing. Arrest warrants were also

issued against Shah Alam in all the cases as he went into hiding. Earlier, on August 19, Shah Alam got bail in another case

station for grabbing public properties. The case was filed on June 7, 2007 against him and three others. Shah Alam was also sued for acquiring illegal wealth and giving Tk 21 crore in bribe to save his son Shafiyat

filed with the same police

Humayun Kabir Sabbir killing Earlier, he was convicted for evading tax and possessing illegal foreign and local currencies.

Sobhan Sanvir from

Dowry drives

Salma used to work in a gar-

Rakib started torturing Salma for dowry after one or two months into the marriage,

ment factory and live with

he added. On July 16, Rakib beat her and sent her to her parents' house to bring Tk 60,000, as he wanted to start a business, Salam said. His parents however could give Tk 6,000.

Pallabi police said they will send the arrestee to a Dhaka court today.

25 hurt

FROM PAGE 16

police lobbed five teargas canisters and fired 20 round rubber bullets to disperse the agitating workers, the OC said. At least 25 people including eight policemen were injured and eight to ten vehicles were

Four workers received rubber-bullet wounds, the OC added. The injured were taken to

Dhaka Medical College Hospital and local upazila Vehicular movements were

Lebanon aid trip to Gaza delayed

AFP, Tripoli

A Lebanese aid ship for Gaza was postponed yesterday to await a green light from a third country as a transit point for the mission to the Israeli-blockaded Palestinian territory.

The Mariam, a Bolivianflagged cargo ship, was to have left from Tripoli in north Lebanon later the same day for Cyprus on the first leg of a crossing to Gaza despite an Israeli warning it could use force to keep the blockade intact. "The trip has not been

cancelled but delayed," one of the organisers, Samar al-Hajj, told a news conference in Tripoli, as efforts continued to secure authorisation from another state in the region to dock before heading for Gaza.

Lebanon and Israel remain technically at war and have no diplomatic ties or maritime links, barring the Mariam's direct depar- with Turkey. ture from a Lebanese port for Israeli-controlled waters.

The Mariam, renamed in honour of the Virgin Mary, plans to carry aid to Gaza in a bid to break Israel's fouryear siege of Gaza with more than 50 Lebanese and foreign women activists on board. Cyprus has denied the

Mariam permission to dock or use its waters and the ship has been trying to negotiate with Greece, Yasser Kashlak, another of the organisers, told report-'Contacts are under way

with Athens to receive the

ship but so far we have not

received a reply," he said. Kashlak said he would give Greece until Friday to reply after which the mission would go ahead whatever the outcome. "We will then have one plan left, to fly the United Nations flag and leave for Palestine," he

But Lebanon has said it

Murder case

FROM PAGE 1

office yesterday and released them after interrogation. But the DB authorities declined to disclose the findings.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC Mohammad Moniruzzaman of DB said they sent blood sample of Ibrahim for DNA test and the report would help them ascertain whether Ibrahim died inside the lawmaker's car Narail BCL parked at the Jatiya Sangsad

Bhaban or not. He also said that they interrogated three persons --Akhter, a former Union Parishad chairman at Lalmohan upazila in Bhola, Shaon's employee Moni, and Khokon, a local AL activist in

Bhola. Earlier, investigators summoned and interrogated six

Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban or not. He also said that they interrogated three persons --Akhter, a former Union Parishad chairman at Lalmohan upazila in Bhola, Shaon's employee Moni, and Khokon, a local AL activist in Bhola.

moned and interrogated six people including AL lawmaker Nurunnabi Chowdhury Shaon's driver Kala in this connection. DB of police said they had received the autopsy report but

they are yet to receive the

forensic and ballistic reports of

Earlier, investigators sum-

the pistol and the bullet from the CID. Ibrahim's wife Rina Islam said a rivalry developed between lawmaker Shaon and her husband over his candidacy for councillor in upcoming Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) election and some work of the government develop-

MP Shaon put pressure on Ibrahim so that he could not run for the DCC councillor from DCC ward No 56, she said and suspected these rivalries might have led to the killing of Ibrahim.

ment projects at Bhola before

his death.

Meanwhile, Shaon could not be reached over his cell phone after Ibrahim's death.

Ibrahim was left at Dhaka Medical College Hospital by some people with a gunshot wound to his head on 13th August. Later, Shaon's driver Kala

filed an unnatural death case with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar police station saying Ibrahim was handling Shaon's gun in the lawmaker's car parked near the parliament when it went off and killed him. Five days after the incident,

ing Shaon and 15 others.

Ibrahim's family filed a murder case with a Dhaka court accus-

will not allow the Mariam, which has a male crew and would also carry journalists, to head for any port with which it does not have maritime links.

Israel has been putting pressure on Cyprus and Greece not to cooperate with the Mariam, according to Kashlak. "I hope that Greece will not bow to the pressure like Cyprus did," he

Kashlak was referring to an aid flotilla caught up in a deadly Israeli naval commando raid on May 31 with which Cypriot authorities refused to cooperate. On Saturday, Transport

Minister Ghazi Aridi said

Lebanese authorities will

not authorise the Mariam to leave for the Gaza Strip "unless the legal conditions are met." Rima Farah, the aid mission's spokeswoman, told AFP on Saturday that con-

tacts were also under way

Israel came under international censure over its seizure of a six-ship aid fleet bound for the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip when Israeli commandos shot dead nine Turkish activists in a clash on the lead boat.

FROM PAGE 1

that the fire was started by an

electric short-circuit while

new aid boat to Gaza

Israel has warned it could

use force again to stop the

carpenter Nitai Mandol was working on the ground floor of the factory. Jewel received 52 percent and Nitai 70 percent burns to

their bodies. Anu Mia, a worker of the factory, had received burns on the entire body, said Touhid Belal, a physician at

the hospital. The three were injured as they rushed to douse the fire,

said a staff of the factory. Meanwhile, Shahida Begum, 35, another victim of Nimtoli fire, died vesterday at the Combined Military Hospital in the capital, raising the death toll to 124.

receiving treatment at the hospital for over two and a half months.

Shahida with 40 percent

She had lost her son Samir

burns to her body had been

Ahmed in the blaze.

FROM PAGE 16 indiscriminately at about 4:00pm while he was going through a road near Masimdia

Sultan Setu. Mukul also received serious injuries in other parts of his body in the attack.

He was first rushed to Narail Sadar Hospital and later to Khulna Medical College

NZ rescuers save 9 whales stranded on

beach

AP, Wellington

Hospital.

Crews with bulldozers buried 49 pilot whales in sand dunes on an isolated northern New Zealand beach yesterday after rescuers managed to save only nine from a group that was stranded on the

beach for two days. Indigenous Maori elders chanted prayers over the carcasses before bulldozers stripped open a trench above the waterline to bury the mammals, which died despite efforts by more than 200 rescuers.

The rescuers refloated 13

of the beached whales

Saturday after a mass strand-

ing of 58 of them on remote

Karikari Beach. Four of the 13 survivors later were euthanized after they beached again, bringing the overall death toll to 49. The survivors had headed out to sea Saturday afternoon and were monitored to

ensure they did not return to the beach, Conservation Department spokeswoman Carolyn Smith said. But within an hour four of them became stranded again, Smith said. Rescuers spent two hours

trying to help them, but as darkness fell officials decided to kill the distressed whales to prevent the nine survivors from being lured back by their distress calls.

Investigation will not be fair if it is politicised. So please don't lend colour to this incident."

He said, "None should do

attack.