Taliban to try Laden 'if **US** provides proof'

REUTERS, Islamabad

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban are prepared to put Osama bin Laden on trial in an Afghan court if the United States provides solid evidence against him, Afghan Ambassador to Pakistan Mullah Abdul Salam Zaeef said yesterday.

"We are prepared to try him, if America provides solid evidence of Osama bin Laden's involvement in attacks in New York and Washington," Zaeef told Reuters.

Asked if the Taliban was prepared to allow a trial of bin Laden in another country, he said: "We are willing to talk about that, but the first is that we must be given the evi-

The hunt for Laden took a major step forward when Pakistan said he was probably behind suicide plane attacks on America and the United

Armed forces to be withdrawn from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed forces personnel deployed throughout the country for election purpose are scheduled to be with-

drawn from today.
A total of 51,261 armed forces personnel and 10951 members of paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) were deployed in aid of the civil administration to ensure a congenial atmosphere for the October 1 general election.

The deployment began on September 22.

Additional law enforcers that were kept standby at the police control room remained idle as there was no demand for them from any part of the metropolitan area during the elec-

As per the requirement, police, Ansar, BDR and army were deployed in different parts of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) area to maintain law and order during the

"We did not receive any call for sending an additional force to maintain law and order as there was no untoward incident in the metropolitan area during the voting time," a senior DMP official said.

The law and order situation during the polls was quite satisfactory and as such we did not ask for additional forces," said the officer on

post-75 regimes. "But unfortunately, the hard-earned voting right of our

people has been trampled through

massive rigging sponsored by the

caretaker government," she told the

them various documents and photo-

graphs of how the votes were rigged

and said, "We have many docu-

ments and more are coming from

different constituencies of rigging

that since the October 1 elections.

BNP-Jamaat terrorists have

workers and the minorities. The

terrorists also damaged the portraits

of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman captured dormitories of

educational institutions and termi-

party has already announced a street agitation until October 9.

Tuesday Group, expressed concern

over violence and intimidation

against Awami League leaders and

activists by the winning party's

activists in different places and

against Awami League," EC head of

delegation Ambassador Antonio De

Souza Menezes told UNB after their

meeting with AL President Sheikh

Hasina yesterday.

He said the matter of violence

and intimidation was also raised

during their meeting with BNP

chairperson Khaleda Zia on

Thursday, when she assured that

such acts of revenge would be

"We deplore this violence

The Awami League chief said her

The envoys, known as the

Hasina also told the diplomats

and manipulation.

nals, she said.

called for a halt.

The former premier showed

States revealed it had an inkling of where he was hiding.

Britain released a document, supported by the United States, which detailed evidence against bin Laden and concluded the Saudiborn extremist, as well as his Shadowy al Qaeda network, had the will and resources to carry out

AP from Dubai says, New images of Osama bin Laden appeared yesterday on an Arab television station, showing the terror suspect somber and composed amid a celebration by his followers at an arid mountain base.

The station, Al-Jazeera, said it believed the video was made recently. The Qatar station did not say whether the footage was shot before or after the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the United States, or how he station obtained it.

The video has bin Laden standing side by side with his top lieutenant, Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahri. Al-Jazeera said the footage was believed to record a celebration of the union of bin Laden's al-Qaida network and al-Zawahri's Egyptian

The gathering, at an al-Aqida camp with dry, rugged mountains in the background, also marked the graduation of a group of newly rained fighters into al-Qaida, Al-Jazeera said. Singing and the beating of drums ring out in the

One hurt as rival BNP activists exchange fire

STAFF CORRESPONDET

A BNP activist was hurt in a shootout between two groups of BNP at Naya Bazar party office yesterday.

Masum, who was bullet-injured in the head, was admitted to a local

The incident occurred after Juma prayers. An altercation arising from a political debate between the two groups inside the BNP office led to he gunfight in which Masum was njured, sources said.

The feuding groups slipped away before police rushed to the spot, the local people said.

But the duty officer of Kotwali Police Station, when contacted at 10:00 last night, said he was not

5 killed in post-polls clashes They also attacked and took away Tk 2.70 lakh from a businessof Awami League activists. Hearing the news, BNP activists

hospital and clinics.

and brought the situation under

reports: An Awami League activist BNP supporters at village Ahmadpur under Sonagazi thana on Thursday

The dead was identified as Shafiullah, 50.

Police and villagers said BNP men attacked the house of Shafiullah on Thursday night. They beat up Shafiullah and ransacked

on way to hospital.

till 6 pm yesterday. In separate incident, BNP activ-

ists attacked and ransacked residence of a Jubo League worker Karimullah Azad in Baligaon union at noon yesterday.

FROM PAGE 1

He said the diplomats listened to

They told the Awami League leadership that the question of rigging and irregularities in the elections should be resolved by constitutional means

Peters. Canadian High Commissioner David Preston and

AL agitation FROM PAGE 1

Party leader Motia Chowdhury said that in its 52-year life, AL spent 40 years by agitating on the streets for establishing rights of the people. She called for another movement to regain their rights.

The rally was also addressd by narty leaders Abdul Jalil, Sajeda Chowdhury, Abdur Razzak, Suranjit KM Jahangir, Abdul Mannan, Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Kamal Ahmed Majumdar and Haji Md Selim. City AL President and DCC Mayor Mohammad Hanif presided.

Later, a procession was brought out from the rally venue. It paraded up to the Jatiya Press Club raising slogans like "we don't accept the

US, European envoys They also called for a dialogue between the two sides to prevent backlash following the October 1

> the grievances of Awami League against irregularities and rigging during the polls

The envoys who met Hasina

ncluded US Ambassador Mary Ann British High Commissioner Dr David

election results.

writes: At least 75 were injured in clashes between AL and BNP activnear Bashpara under Feni ists in different parts of the Pabna district. Of them, 25 were injured at Dewghori and Tebaria villages

rushed to the spot and locked in a clash with AL activists, leaving Moktar dead and five others injured. They were admitted to nearby

Kapasia police rushed to the spot

Our Correspondent from Feni was beaten to death allegedly by

his home. Shafiullah succumbed to injuries

Police sent the body to Feni Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. No case was filed in this connection

Speaker

or two days", Hamid said.

However, BNP in a press release esterday asked all newly elected MPs from the four-party alliance to be present at the Sangsad Bhaban at 9.30 am on Sunday to take oath.

Asked whether he would administer the oath, veteran parliamentarian Abdul Hamid said his party was yet to decide on it. "If my party does not opt for taking oath, how can I for oathkina or adminis tering the oath?" the Speaker posed a counter question.

According to the Rules of in absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker may administer the oath. If the Deputy Speaker is not available, the President may appoint a person who can administer the oath.

Meanwhile, sources in the Election Commission pointed out some errors in the official result of the election and sent it to the press last night, making a little delay. The EC Secretary usually signs the

In Monday's election, the BNPled four-party alliance got 201 seats in the 300-member parliament.

Awami League has decided not to take oath and go to parliament. alleging "crude rigging" in the polls. It demanded scrapping of the

election results and re-polling in all the 300 constituencies and threatened to launch a "non co-operation movement" for non-compliance. Amid Awami League's rigid

position, Abdul Hamid, who was elected Speaker immediately before expiry of the tenure of Seventh Jatiya Sangsad, has set his mind to administer oath to the newly

not make it in the wake of terror

attacks in the United States on

September 11. He had earlier visited

deliberations and sound policy-

August, he said he was impressed

with the evenhanded, impartial

preparations for the election being

made by the caretaker government

and the electoral authorities laying

the foundation of free and fair elec-

"I congratulate the Election

Commission for the central role it

played in ensuring the peaceful, free

Referring to his Dhaka visit in

Bangladesh in August.

sadar at about 10 am.

The namaj-e-janaza of Alema Bhashani, who died on Thursday night, was held at the Baitul Mukarram National

According to our Kushtia Correspondent: A Chhatra League activist was stabbed to death by some unidentified assailants or

He was identified as Ziku, 23, son of Anwar Hossain of housing area in Kushtia town.

The victim's father said Ziku was abducted from housing area by some unidentified men at night. They took him to an unknown place and stabbed him to death. His body was found on a road in

the town yesterday morning.
BCL blamed Chhatra Dal activists for the murder. A case was filed with Kushtia

sadar thana in this connection. In Narayanganj, at least 20 people were injured, five with bullets, in a gunfight between two rival groups outside a mosque at East Masdair area in Fatulla upazila vesterday.

Rimon, 15, Kalam, 35, Palash, 18, Paran, 20, and Montu Mia, 40 were admitted to local hospital with bullet wounds. Witnesses said, the supporters

of Awami League-backed Gulzar group and pro-BNP Ratan group clashed each other over appointment of Mutwalli (caretaker) of Al-Amin Jame Masjid soon after the Juma prayers.

Six houses and shops were ransacked during the clash, witnesses said.

Locals said, Ratan was removed from the post of Mutwalli five years ago when Awami League came to power. The clash ensued as Ratan again wanted to become Mutwalli replacing Gulzar after BNP won Monday's national election.

The gunmen fled the scene police rushed to the spot.

In Magura, post-election clashes between the supporters of Awami League and BNP in a remote area of Sreepur upazila on Thursday left 40 Witnesses said, the trouble

erupted at about 5 pm in Amalsar

area. Both sides used lethal weapons and ransacked some houses and shops in the area. Nine of the injured Sheikh, Bishu Sheikh, Zahir, Jasim Mohsin, Ahmad, Abu Bakar, Asgar

Sheikh and Bashir Ahmed - were admitted to Sadar Hospital. In addition, over a hundred

people were injured in separate clashes hetween Awami League and BNP activists in different parts in the district yesterday. Our Pabna Correspondent

Gesture

FROM PAGE 1 racy and we have to accept it. From

now on, we will work together for the development of the city.'

Earlier, Khoka embraced Mayor Hanif and his son, and stayed at the latter's Nazirabad residence for over

"These reports run counter to

public statements of massive rig-

ging, the statement said, adding

political culture away from the

course of violence and vengeance

at this critical moment in the coun-

Khaleda FROM DAGE 1

under Bera upazila yesterday and

In another clash between the

supporters of Awami League and

BNP at Tebaria left 20 injured. Of

them, 12 were admitted to Bera

Clashes between AL and BNP were reported from Chhaikola,

Foiljana, Haripur, Mulgram,

Pashdanga and Gunaigachha union

under Chatmohor upazila of Pabna-3 constituency. At least 30 people

Our Sirajganj correspondent says: At least 32 people were injured

in clashes between the supporter of

BNP and Awami League in different

parts of the district on Thursday

night and yesterday. The supporters

of both parties also ransacked nearly 25 houses. The clashes

occurred at Lahiri Mohanpur of

Ullapara, Soanmukhi Bazar, Meghai

Bazar, and Harshira of Kazipur

upazila and Rothankhandi of sadar

hana. Minority community in these

areas alleged that the BNP extor-

tionists were demanding money and

threatening them. However, the

ready to forgive Pakistan's lapse

from democracy and trust Musharraf to fulfil his promise to

ment through general elections in

bloodless coup, despite its wide-

spread support among ordinary

Pakistanis who saw the ousted

government of Nawaz Sharif as

endemic corruption, revive Pakistan's debt-ridden economy

and restore "genuine democracy

but he has insisted on working at his

deciding to join the international fight against terrorism, despite the

powerful religious groups and pro-

made the right choice. The result will

ening of the outside world's relations

with Pakistan," Blair said. He said Pakistan could now

expect the resumption of defence

"cooperation" with Britain, which

was suspended after the coup, as

well as London's support for

Islamabad's efforts to secure loans

from the International Monetary

Fund and gain greater access to

Blair was scheduled to leave for

be a significant and lasting strength-

Blair praised Musharraf for

of domestic unrest from

believe that Pakistan has

Musharraf has tried to wipe out

Britain had been one of the

BNP leaders denied the allegation.

Blair

FROM PAGE 1

October next vear

hopelessly corrupt.

Taliban elements.

European markets.

New Delhi last night.

own pace.

were in these clashes.

the day before

Most of the newly elected MPs belonging to BNP and the alliance reached Dhaka yesterday and the rest will reach today, BNP sources

Meanwhile, the Cabinet Division has almost completed all preparations for the oath-taking ceremony at the Bangabhaban. It has pre-

More than 1000 guests are expected to be invited. The Cabinet Division has sought a list of guests

Members of parliament, advisory council of the caretaker govern-ment, political leaders, judges, intellectuals, diplomats, high civil and military officials, journalists and elite of the city will attend the oathtaking ceremony on Monday.

Khulna AL

gunpoint and shrimp cultivation in the forcibly occupied paddy fields by AL and Jubo League leaders with the help of armed cadres annoyed the voters of rural areas, said political insiders. Some party leaders said the

unwanted campaigning by the field workers of two NGOs in favour of AL candidates displeased the elector-

Moreover, candidates of the fourparty alliance cashed in on the AI 's

JCD vows

FROM PAGE 12

from July 29 to press a five -point demand including resignation of the VC and called off it on August 12 when their 'ousted' activists were rehabilitated' in dormitories.

Then it enforced strike again from August 17 when BCL activists 'ousted' JCD leaders and workers Hall.

Academic and other activities at the university were disrupted for 64 days due to the strike in two phases.

JCD leaders present at the press briefing included Shahabuddin Ahmed Laltu, Monzur Elahi, ABM Mosharaf Hossain, Monir Hossain, Mostafizul Islam Mamun, Sultan Salauddin Tuku, Azizul Bari Helal, Farhad Hossain Azad Asaduzzaman Asad, Haidar Ali Lelin and Benzir Ahmed Tito.

Uzbekistan

East and Central Asia to build support for the international battle against terrorism, said Thursday the battle may involve less use of military force than is commonly

He offered the strongest suggestion yet that while the US military will play a role, its contribution may be relatively small. Some also believe military action may not come soon. The French defense minister said no retaliation is expected for several

not rule out the possibility of taking military action to ensure that the Taliban's air defense forces not pose a threat to the delivery of American food aid to parts Afghanistan. He said Thursday US military planes would make airdrops of food, but said details were being worked out.

Rumsfeld, however, seemed to indicate that the first purpose of that would eventually succeed.

CHOGM likely to be Alema Bhashani | held March 2-5

Australia has suggested that a meeting of 45 national leaders from British Commonwealth nations cancelled last week should be rescheduled for March, Prime Minister John Howard said on

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and 45 leaders from Britain and its former colonies were due to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government, Meeting, or CHOGM, from today, in Brisbane, the capital of Queensland state.

However, the meeting was postponed when it became clear that the British, Canadian and Indian prime ministers would be unable to attend, due mainly to the fallout from last month's terrorist attacks in the United States

Howard said he was working with the Commonwealth secretary-

general Don McKinnon, who he met with Tuesday, to get the meeting rescheduled for March 2-5.

"That is a date which is acceptable to us, it's acceptable to the Commonwealth Secretariat, it's acceptable to the Queensland government," Howard told Sydney radio station 2UE.

"Right as we speak, he's (McKinnon) in the process of talking to other Commonwealth leaders so that we can get the meeting reinstated," Howard said.

Encompassing almost all of the British Empire's former colonies and dependencies, the Commonwealth has 54 member states accounting for 30 per cent of the world's population. Members include Britain, Australia, Canada, India, Pakistan, New Zealand, a range of Pacific and Caribbean Island nations and many African states.

Two die in oil tanker explosion at Joypurhat

UNB, Joypurhat

Two people died on the spot when an oil tanker exploded near the district bus terminal yesterday. The dead were identified as Tanjil Hossain, 22, a welding worker, of village Rasulpur in Panchbibi upazila and Shahadul Islam, 26, the tank lorry helper of village Hanail in Sadar upazila.

Witnesses said the empty oil tanker suddenly exploded at about 5:10 pm as gas welding was being done on it.

Hall capture FROM PAGE 12

Mohakhali bus terminals, Syedabad and Fulbaria bus terminals are now being controlled by new groups.

The group led by commissioner Chowdhury Alam has taken control of the Fulbaria Bus Terminal ousting Nuru-Kamrul group. Munna-Nasir group has also taken over the Syedabad bus terminal earlier controlled by Khairul-Masoom

A pro-AL leader at the Fulbaria Bus Terminal told The Daily Star that such practices have been going on for years. " Now they (BNP-led alliance) are going to form the government and it is not possible for us to maintain our supremacy at the

During the extended meeting of the AL Working Committee on Thursday, Sheikh Hasina alleged that even before the formation of a new government, supporters of the four-party alliance had started occupying university student halls as well as bus and launch terminals

Bogra-6

FROM PAGE 12

biggest winning margin of 1,72,573 Bogra-6 is one of the five parliamentary seats from where

Khaleda's contested the election She won in all five seats. In the last general election, the BNP chief got 1,36,669 votes against 88,059 polled by Mukul who

was then an Awami League nominee in the Bogra seat. Interestingly, an independent candidate. Mohammad Ali has been elected from the Noakhali-6 constituency by polling 37,475 votes, defeating his strongest contender Prof Waliullah of AL who got 33,021

Among the losers in the October 1 polls, the person who bagged the highest number of votes in any given seat is Kamal Ahmed Majumdar of AL with 1,63,659 votes in Dhaka-11. He was defeated there by BNP's SA Khaleque who got 1,94,944 votes.

Three brothers

night against three brothers of former whip Mostafa Rashidi Suja on charge of intimidating voters. The accused persons are Moazzem Rashidi Doja, general secretary of Khulna District Sports Association, Mozaffar Rashidi Reza,

and Murtaza Rashidi Dara, member of Khulna city Awami League. None of the accused was

KCC commissioner of ward no 35

dence yesterday morning and expressed the hope that under her

The sources further said and conveyed through him her greetings to all members of the army for their role in ensuring peaceful holding of the election. The nation will remember them for maintaining neutrality and ensuring law and order on the polls day and

Turncoats

FROM PAGE 12

and contested from Laxmipur-4 Mahbubul Alam Tara joined AL from BNP and Col (retd) Zafar Imam

Fazle Rabbi guit JP (Ershad) Mubin Choudhury and Nasir Choudhury joined BNP from JP-Ershad and participated in the electoral race from Habiganj-3 and Sunamganj - 2 respectively. All the

Voters say 'no'

FROM PAGE 12 terrorism and corruption by rejecting

Pintoo in Dhaka-8 and Joynal Abedin Faruque in Noakhali-1. Many people feel that the newly elected MPs should keep in mind that the ordinary people would no longer hesitate to punish their MPs of choice by rejecting them if the crime of their predecessors were

Dengue under control

regions around the world, predomi-

nantly in urban areas. There are four types of Dengue virus. Aedes mosquito acquires the virus by feeding on blood of an infected person. It can transfer the virus to its next generation by laving eggs, which can remain dormant for

up to a year. Humans are the main host of the virus that is circulated in the blood of an infected person for 2 8 days

approximately. Dengue infection causes mild fever and pain behind eyes, muscles and joints, and often causes

DHF, a complicated form of the infection, can be fatal. It is characterised by high fever, bleeding with plasma or fluid loss and often with enlargement of liver. Commonly, the fever causes sudden temperature accompanied with facial flush.

Recovery from infection provides lifelong immunity from that particular type of virus but gives partial and temporary protection from the other three types.

"There is no specific treatment for dengue. With proper management, even a DHF patient can recover if the loss of body fluid is

is difficult because any one of the four types of virus may cause the disease, and protection against one or two could actually increase the risk of more serious disease. Nonetheless, efforts are underway to develop vaccines against Dengue," said one expert studying the viruses.

The mosquito breeds in fresh water in containers like earthen jars, empty pots, old tyres and flowerpots and not in stagnant drain water. In Bangladesh, dengue was first

detected in early 50s and subsequently in late 1970s. It re-appeared in mid-80s. Dhaka City Corporation (DCC)

Chief Health Officer Dr Mohammed Ashraf Uddin said, "This year, we are well prepared to deal with Dengue. We have moved all our resources for a massive awareness campaign and I believe since there is no cure, it is best to prevent it." The Asian Development Bank

provided four million dollars to four city corporations recently for their emergency mosquito control programmes under the Urban Primary Healthcare Programme.

Chittagong AL

party high command and will not go for a separate programme." Meanwhile, AL stalwarts here led by Mohiuddin Chowdhury organised a protest rally at Laldighi

programmes announced by the

Maidan on Thursday, urging peo-

ple to join the movement launched

by the party. A meeting of polling

agents of AL was also held

here earlier to collect information about crude rigging and irregulari-Of the 15 seats in Chittagong district, AL won two seats, BNP-led alliance 12 and Jamaat-e-Islami one, Chittagong-14 (Satkania). Jamaat candidate Shahajan

In 1996 polls, BNP leader Oli Ahmed won this seat (Chittagong-In that election, AL won 5 seats

defying the alliance decision.

Chowdhury contested for the seat

one in the city and four in the district. BNP got 10 seats out of the 15 in the district. AL insiders said party stalwarts here, particularly Mohiuddin Chowdhury had assured the party

chief and former prime minister

during her recent visit to the port city

that the party would secure 10 seats

in the district. However, some of the AL leaders here have remained tight-lipped and are maintaining low profile after the

BNP's Abdullah Al Noman defeated him.

Islam, BSc, told this correspondent that faulty nomination, terrorism by party activists and more female voters in favour of BNP-led alliance were the factors behind AL's debacle here. He had filed nomination as rehel AL candidate from Chittagong-9 (Kotwali) constituency but later withdrew at the request of the party

local AL leaders are trying to stage a movement to restore the morale of party activists and to organise them

election debacle of the party. Talking to this correspondent. former minister and city AL president M A Mannan said, 'Though I could not see any trouble in my constituency (Chittagong-9), it seems that something happened somewhere that led to our

AL city unit Vice President Nurul

and fair conduct of the elections on October 1," he said. Some AL insiders said that the The former US president in his statement referred to the international and domestic observers' reports on the election and said. "It now appears that the elections were

Act responsibly & accept polls Bangladesh as leader of the US were conducted generally in accorelection observer team, but could dance with international standards.

"any complaints should follow He said Bangladesh has many normal legal channels of appeal friends around the world who are rather than a complete refusal hopeful that democracy could take to recognise the elections' legitihold and that the poverty and suffering of many Bangladeshi people He said Bangladeshi leaders could be alleviated through good have a serious obligation to future governance, meaningful political generations to turn Bandladesh's

> try's history. In the backdrop of the present international scenario, Carter observed that it would be especially damaging and destabilising for Bangladesh to enter into a protracted post-election crisis. The candidates and their parties have the power to avoid such a crisis by adhering to the commitments that they made in August.

He said, "They agreed to

renounce the use of hartals, vio-

lence and intimidation." "Living up to

this commitment will require clear,

public statements to supporters to

avoid demonstrations, strikes and

Carter said during his visit to Dhaka the party leaders, including

former prime minister Sheikh

Hasina, also pledged not to boycott

the next parliament and to help

ensure that the opposition plays a

meaningful role in the new legislature, no matter which party formed the government. He said he had called on Khaleda Zia to respect fully the preelectoral agreements to ensure a full and legitimate role in opposition under the new government, espe-

cially in parliament and with respect

to the role of the speaker.

However, he said, Sheikh Hasina's recent vow to boycott parliament runs counter to her August pledge and has the potential not only to destabilise this new parliament but also to unravel the delicate fabric of the Bangladeshi democracy.

Carter expressed the hope that parties in Bangladesh would carry out the commitments made in August and move Bangladesh toward a peaceful, cooperative and prosperous future.

of Alema Bhashani.

laid to rest

Alema Bhashani was buried beside

the grave of her husband Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani at

Santosh in the district yesterday.

Alema Bhashani died

Thursday night at the age of 94 at

Bangabandhu Sheikh Muiib

Medical University Hospital. She

was suffering from cancer and old-

Her first namaj-e-janaza was held at the Baitul Mukarram national

mosque and the second one at

Bindubashini Boy's High School

1907 at Panchbibi of Joypurhat

district. In 1925, Alema got married

to Maulana Bhasani. She donated

all her assets to Panchbibi Haji

daughters, grandsons and grand-

Latifur Rahman yesterday

expressed deep shock at the death

and Awami League president

Sheikh Hasina also expressed her

deep shock at the death of Alema

daughters and a host of admirers

She left behind one son, two

BSS adds: Chief adviser Justice

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia

Alema Bhasani was born in

UNB, Tangail

age complications.

premises in Tangail.

Mohsin College.

party's Banani office and houses of top leaders and Khaleda's influential aides. The top leaders are now busy meeting new MPs and aspi-

rants for ministerial posts.

pared about 60 files for would-be ministers and state ministers.

FROM PAGE 12 The occupation of fish farms at

JCD went for the indefinite strike

from dormitories following the killing of a BCL leader at Ziaur Rahman

FROM PAGE 1

On the other hand, Rumsfeld did

The United States has assembled more than 30,000 troops in the region around Afghanistan, including two aircraft carrier battle groups, a contingent of Marines, hundreds of land-based warplanes and preparations for Army special operations soldiers to conduct hit-and-run raids inside Afghanistan.

growing military might is to apply pressure as the freezing of terrorist groups' money is applying a financial squeeze rather than to launch a major attack. He stressed that it could take unexpected turns, but

of Suja sued for intimidating voters Four separate cases were filed with

STAFF CORRESPONDENT. Khulna

Khulna police station on Thursday

arrested till filing of this report at 4 pm yesterday.

Army chief FROM PAGE 12

dynamic leadership, the country would march towards peace, progress and prosperity. Khaleda Zia thanked the army chief

security to the voters, she added

joined AL from Jatiya Party (Ershad). Both were defeated in the electoral battle in Feni-3 and Feni-1 constituencies respectively. ioined AL and contested the polls from Gaibandha-5. Abu Leich Md

three suffered defeat.

them and want peace and prosperity in the society. Some other infamous godfathers who have allegations of terrorism against them however got elected with the BNP ticket. They are: VP Joynal Abedin in Feni-2, Nasiruddin