

## Myanmar general departs

AGENCIES, Dhaka

Vice-Chairman of Myanmar's State Peace and Development Council General Maung Aye left for home yesterday ending a three-day visit to Bangladesh.

Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed and senior civil and military officials saw him off at Chittagong Shah Amanat International Airport in the afternoon. Maung Aye left for home in a special flight of Myanmar's Air Bagan airlines.

The Myanmar leader earlier flew to Rangamati in an air force helicopter. Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury saw him off at Tejgaon helipad.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

## Durga puja ends with immersion of idols

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The five-day Durga Puja, the biggest festival of the Hindus, ended yesterday with the immersion of idols in the rivers and sea across the country.

Devotees bade a solemn farewell to their deity Durga and her children Lakshmi, Saraswati, Kartik and Ganesh through immersion of the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## World leaders strain to quell panic

IMF asks EU to avoid all non-coordinated actions

AFP, London

Governments rushed out new emergency measures in a desperate bid to staunch underpin confidence on Thursday, rallying shell-shocked markets as the US treasury secretary warned more banks could go under.

Iceland, battling national



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

**DRIVING TO VICTORY:** Man-of-the-match Zunaed Siddiqui drives the ball towards mid-off during his patient 85 against New Zealand in the first one-day international at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

## Tigers crush Kiwis

AL MUSABBIR SADI

Bangladesh shrugged off a long lean patch and the recent players' exodus to the ICL to finally put an end to their miserable one-day run with a crushing seven-wicket victory against New Zealand yesterday to take a surprise 1-0 lead in the three-match Brac Bank Series.

Bangladesh, who had lost all

their previous 11 encounters against the Black Caps, put on a rare all-round display at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium to overhaul the visitors' unimpressive 201 for nine in an emphatic fashion.

After speedster Mashrafe Bin Mortaza's four-wicket haul under overcast conditions pinned down the New Zealand batting, opener

Zunaed Siddiqui and skipper Mohammad Ashraful smashed half-centuries to carve a memorable victory as the Tigers reached 202 for three with nearly five overs to spare.

Bangladesh have only to beat England and the West Indies to complete the full circle of victories against all Test nations.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Banks want to activate frozen IIRO accounts

BB seeks directive

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Bangladesh Bank (BB) has sought directions from the foreign ministry in regard to the suspended bank accounts of the International Islamic Relief Organisation (IIRO), which has an alleged link with the al-Qaeda.

The BB in a letter apprised the foreign ministry last month of the requests made by the two private commercial banks to resume the bank accounts of IIRO.

The US Embassy in 2006 requested Bangladesh to provide information about some alleged terrorist organisations and the IIRO.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

## JP to amend its charter to register with EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party (JP) yesterday decided to bring amendments to its constitution in order to register with the Election Commission (EC) to be able to participate in the upcoming parliamentary election.

JP Chairman HM Ershad yesterday told reporters that JP would participate in the election as part of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## AL braces for seat sharing trouble

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The Awami League might face strong opposition from grassroots level in different constituencies over seat sharing with other parties, especially with Jatiya Party (JP) in greater Rangpur.

As JP Chairman HM Ershad announced nominating candidates in different electoral constituencies in greater Rangpur on behalf of the AL-led grand electoral alliance, local AL leaders opposed

his unilateral nomination declaration.

Ershad said they would nominate candidates in 21 of the 22 constituencies in the area, triggering mixed reaction among the local AL leaders and nomination aspirants. The JP chief said only one constituency would be left for AL Publicity Affairs Secretary Asaduzzaman Noor in Nilphamari.

The AL has recently conducted a survey in the five districts -

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

## AL to keep associated organisations

Okays changes to its constitution tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League (AL) is adamant to keep its associated organisations in its constitution while bringing a few changes to it including provisions for 33 percent quota for women at all levels and giving nominations on the basis of recommendations from the grassroots level.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

## Jamaat to go for EC registration

Announces the party constitution to be amended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a major shift in stance on registration with the Election Commission (EC), Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday said it will get registered as a political party within the stipulated time, and if necessary amend its constitution for that.

Its Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami said, "We will not give anyone the chance to leave us out of election on technical grounds. We have amended our constitution

several times before, and will do it again if need be."

He was speaking to reporters at the city's Institute of Diploma Engineers after a programme of Bangladesh Rickshaw Sramik Kalyan Federation, a pro-Jamaat labour organisation.

Referring to new electoral rules, the former industries minister said, "We are not used to dodging laws. We will take necessary measures under the law."

Replying to a query, he said, "We

are always in favour of election and prepared for it. But all parties should be allowed to contest the polls."

Earlier, at talks with the EC on September 20, Jamaat said it does not accept some of the registration conditions, and demanded that those be scrapped immediately.

It went on to say the commission would better hold the parliamentary election on December 18 without enforcing the provision for mandatory registration.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

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