delimitation of maritime boundary

between Bangladesh and Myanma

Sources at the foreign ministry

Earlier, Iftekhar chaired a high

said Myanmar claims that it is

level inter-ministerial meeting at

the foreign ministry on follow-up

actions in the aftermath of the visit

of General Maung Aye, senior vice

general of Myanmar, and his delega-

in areas such as border trade, rice

purchase, contract farming, road

building and boundary delimita-

importance of coordinated govern-

ment and private sector actions, so

that Bangladesh can derive maxi-

mum benefits out of relations with

AKM Mosharraf

M Saifur Rahman, Ali Ahsan

Muhammad Mojahid and AKM

Mosharraf Hossain, who also

Mojahid was due to surrender

sought bail in this case, were pres

before the Special Court-2 on

November 2 as per directive of the

During the hearing at the spe-

cial court yesterday, prosecution

lawyer Mosharraf Hossain Kajal

told the court that Mojahid did not

comply with the directive of the

Mojahid, told the court that his

client did not appear before the

court as his appeal for quashing the

proceedings of the case is pending

In reply, the prosecution lawyer

said the defence lawyers did not

submit any petition seeking time

extension for appearance o

issue arrest warrants against Ali

Ahsan Muhammad Mojahid and

former finance minister M Saifur

Rahman, also an accused in the

case, as they did not comply with

court not to issue arrest warrant

against Mojahid as hearing on his

Kumar Roy of the Special Court-2,

adjourned the day's hearing as the

matter is pending with the High

Following a petition filed by

Mojahid, an HC bench on October

19 ordered him to surrender within

two weeks before the trial court

that had earlier issued an arrest

government not to harass or arrest

The HC had also directed the

On October 7, another HC

bench asked Saifur to appear

before the trial court within four

weeks. The court also directed the

warrant against him in this case.

Mojahid during the period.

The defence lawyer urged the

After hearing, Judge Amar

the high court directives.

appeal was going in the HC.

Kajal also urged the court to

Abdur Razzaq, counsel for

ent at the bench yesterday.

The foreign adviser stressed the

The meeting reviewed progress

tion of seven cabinet ministers.

exploring in its own territory.

is resolved.

tionissues.

Myanmar.

FROM PAGE 16

High Court.

High Court.

Mojahid.

Court.

with the High Court.

processions, meetings and rallies have to be election campaign related and can be held only in accordance with the amended Representation of the People Order, and Local Government (Upazila Parishad) Ordinance,

The government relaxed the EPR once before in September last year, allowing political activities on a limited scale with some condi-

MEDIA RESTRICTIONS LIFTED Yesterday, the government revoked clauses 5 and 6 of EPR 2007, removing restrictions on the media and barriers to electoral campaign rallies and processions, a govern-

restrictions on the media with clear instructions not to publish or broadcast reports on assemblies, public meetings, rallies, processions and political statements that might have gone against the gov ernment or be detrimental to its interest.

It had also banned provocative news stories, editorials, posteditorials, and cartoons and talk shows.

The relaxation comes nearly 22 months after the rules were put into effect last year.

Awami League (AL) will send letters to its grassroots level units across the country today asking them to send names of five possible nominees for the party ticket within a couple of days for finalizing the selection of candidates for the December 18 parliamentary elec-

AL Central Working Committee, the highest decision making body of the party, which sits today will finalise the process of getting grassroots level nominations. After ing, the party will start sending letters to its grassroots level committees of metropolitan cities, districts, upazilas, thanas, munici-

With the last date for submitting parliamentary and upazila elections being November 13, senior AL leaders instructed the grassroots level leaders to take preparations for holding extended meetings of the units to chose a maximum of five prospective nominees through ballots.

nominations will be largely based on the list prepared for the stalled January 22 election, there will be changes in 25 constituencies, sources said. AL's Parliamentary Board will pick one nominee from each panel upon its chief Sheikh Hasina's return from abroad.

Upazila and union committees will finalise the nominees for the upazila elections,.

nate any person who has been convicted. "We won't do anything violating the law, but the govern-

ment will have to allow the law to take its own course," AL Presidium

The Daily Star. BNP.4-PARTY Although BNP and its four-party alliance has yet to decide whether it will contest in the elections, party insiders said they are 'positive about the elections' and are likely

Four-party alliance is calculating its possible gains and losses if it contests in the polls, said alliance

to come up with a decision tomor-

Member Matia Chowdhury told

sources. All eyes are now set on tomorrow's meeting of the chiefs of four-

party alliance components. BNP standing committee will meet today in the party chairperson's office in Gulshan of the capi-

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday said all preparations are done, although there are confusions about contesting in the elections. "Our election preparations at the grassroots level are almost at the final stage," he said.

Office of graft

Besides bribed money, expensive mobile sets were seized.

As all the employees have been detained, the office went under direct authority of the AC land. As of filing the report at 8:45pm, preparations were on to file a case.

The biggest amount, Tk 86,000 was recovered from Hafez Uddin, chief of the office.

Moments after the team seized Tk 12,000 from him, he pleaded with them to let him go to the store room for Zohr prayers.

The team gave him permission and followed him. There, he was caught trying to stash Tk 74,000 in a broken safe.

When the ACC officials contacted the Hathazari AC land, he denied the allegation. He even went on to describe Hafez as the finest officer in the region.

Peon Hasan was caught with Tk 14,000 while three assistant land officials--Wadud, Taslim, and Pankajwith different amounts.

"None of the officials could answer how they got the money, Zulfikar said.

As the team continued the drive, locals thronged the office premises in their hundreds. At one stage, they gave the ACC officials flowers in appreciation of what they were

"Everyone gathered at the office seemed to have a complaint against the officials. They went on and on telling us how much trouble they usually have getting a job done. Some paid bribe in person while some on behalf of their relatives," Zulfikar added.

Referring to mobile sets seized from the officials, the ACC team told The Daily Star that throughout the day people kept calling for different work. Many said they would give the officials the money they had demanded.

SC stays bail

FROM PAGE 16 an 11-member medical board was formed which prepared a medical report on Falu's health condition on September 7 -- a time when Falu was not in the hospital.

ACC counsel Advocate MA Aziz Khan yesterday told The Daily Star that Mosaddek Ali Falu obtained bail in five cases from the HC on health grounds by submitting this false medical report.

Khan said that he has appealed to the SC to take action against those who helped Falu obtain such a false and fabricated medical report.

On October 29, during a hearing on an appeal filed by ACC against the HC bail to Falu, MA Aziz Khan prayed to the Appellate Division for scrutiny of the medical report based on which the HC granted Falu bail.

The Appellate Division on the same day directed the superinten dent of BSMMU to explain the medical report to the court.

BSMMU Registrar Muhammad Abdul Gafur on November 2 submitted a letter to the Supreme Court saying that the BSMMU authorities had formed a medical board comprising five physicians on February 5, 2008 and finalised a report Falu' health condition on the same day.

He also said that the BSMMU authorities were not aware of any medical board comprising 11 physi cians being formed for Falu.

On October 23, during a hearing on an appeal filed by Falu, the HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice Farid Ahmed granted Falu three months bail in the relief scam case filed against him.

Earlier on June 2, a special court sentenced him to five years' rigorous imprisonment in the same case. Falu filed an appeal with the HC against this verdict.

Falu was arrested at his Cantonment residence in the capital on charge of corruption on February 6 last year

Meanwhile, ACC Advocate Anisul Huq, yesterday informed an HC bench about the false medical report used to obtain bail in Falu's He brought up the matter during

the hearing of a petition filed by detained former law minister Moudud Ahmed in the Niko corrup tion case filed by the ACC. The HC bench comprising

Justice Mohammad Anwarul Haque and Justice Farah Mahbub adjourned hearing of the petition for a week.

Clarification

FROM PAGE 16

The milk collected at the chilling centres is tested again at the BRAC Dairy manufacturing plant to doubly ensure the quality. "We are open to tests being carried out regarding the quality of our finished products by any competent authority," says the company statement.

30 DU students

FROM PAGE 16 leaving at least 20 injured, the eyewitness added.

Leaders and activists o Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) student wing of BNP, from both hall units led the confronting groups, campus sources said.

The chase and counter chase continued for one and a half hours until police and hall authorities calmed the situation at around 6:00pm.

Traffic movement on the road in front of both the halls was hampered for two hours following the clashes.

The injured students were rushed to the DU Medical Centre and Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Additional police force was deployed on the hall premises. A tensed situation was prevailing.

2 more

FROM PAGE 16 Mohammad, they said.

charges.

Police Saturday arrested four people, including a couple, for selling poisonous liquor in Bogra.

They said they snapped up the toxic ethanol from the three homeopathic shops owned by Nur Mohammad's mother Nurunnahar Parul, wife Zahura Begum Shammi and sister-in-law Anjuara Begum.

An official at Shahjahanpur Police Station said they have information that the three pharmacies are also selling spirit in Gaibandha.

Narcotics officials said licences of Punam Homeo Laboratory owned by Anjuara and Shammi's Unison Homeo Laboratory had been suspended long ago for suspicious activities.

Nur Mohammad was arrested several times on drug-dealing

Nation mourns

FROM PAGE 16 Bangladesh Muktijoddha Projanmo League and Bangladesh Chhatra League, arranged various programmes.

AL leaders and activists wore black badges and placed wreaths on the graves of the national leaders at Banani Graveyard and offered special prayer, seeking eternal peace of the departed souls. Earlier, they laid wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Besides, AL yesterday held a discussion meeting at Dhaka Engineers' Institute in the capital where top leaders of the party addressed.

Myanmar defies

Dhaka and asked him to withdraw the company working for Myanmar. Martin's Island.

confronting six ships sent by Myanmar, which deployed around 50 people for oil and gas exploration

"We are sending Foreign secretary to protect our interest."

Sources said Navy official Commodore Habibur Rahman and retired commodore Khurshid Alam will also accompany the foreign secretary.

the Myanmar ambassador, who was summoned to the foreign ministry twice within 24 hours to hear the protest, the foreign adviser said several Myanmar vessels intruded into Bangladesh territorial waters for hydrocarbon exploration near deep-sea blocks 8-13 claimed by Bangladesh. But Myanmar claims those are within their territorial waters

Iftekhar said the government will take all steps to protect the sover eignty and territory of Bangladesh "We want to put an end to this situa

peace-loving nation and "we do not want to go for any confrontation as Myanmar is our friendly neigh-

The foreign adviser said Bangladesh and Myanmar will hold talks here on delimitation of boundaries on December 16-17. A deputy minister from Myanmar will lead his country's delegation as Myanmar attaches importance to the meet-

called the Myanmar ambassador to lodge Bangladesh's protest and he was asked to convey to his government Bangladesh's request to immediately suspend all activities within the declared maritime zones of Bangladesh in accordance with the Territorial Waters and Maritime Zones Act 1974 of Bangladesh.

emphasised that Bangladesh government reserves the right to protect its interests and urged the Myanmar authorities to ensure withdrawal of their vessels and stop any exploration work until the

SSF takes over

FROM PAGE 1

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was also provided with SSF security vesterday noon. Party sources said SSF members

entered the Shaheed Mainul road residence of Khaleda Zia at 12:00

next three months.

Awami League (AL), Bangladesh The EC joint secretary also the head Nationalist Party (BNP), Ershad led Jatiya Party (JP), Bangladesh Sammyobadi Dal (ML) Bikalpadhara Bangladesh, Bangladesh Workers Party, Krishak Sramik Janata League, the Communist Party of Bangladesh, Bangladesh National Awami Party

(NAP), Jatiya Party (Monju), components Nezam-e-Islami Party

Earlier, the EC handed over a registration certificate to Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Four more parties, Gono Forum, Progressive Democratic Party (PDP), Gono Front, and Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP-Andaleeb) will also get registrations within a couple of days.

The commission is also evaluating applications of 24 more parties, of which, the officials believe, only a few will be registered.

Also yesterday, the EC finalised the nomination forms and sent those all over the country, so prospective candidates may start picking them up from today. tary election held on October 1,

> 481 AROs for upazila polls. For the parliamentary election 64 deputy commissioners (DC) were appointed as ROs. Constituency wise voter lists and translucent ballot boxes are

invited tenders for supplying other election materials. The commission announced the detailed schedule for the ninth parliamentary election and the third upazila polls Sunday night. The stalled parliamentary poll will be held on December 18 while the

upazila polls will be held on

"We will get the registration December 28. The schedules were announced

56 let off

FROM PAGE 16

The ACC also decided to forward 53 more cases to the Truth and Accountability Commission (Tac) as the accused applied to make voluntary disclosures of their wealth to Tac. Former BNP state minister Maj (retd) Kamrul Islam is one of them.

mission is examining whether the allegation of laundering Tk 20.29 crore brought against ACC Chairman Lt Gen (retd) Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury by former executive chairman of Board of Investment and Amar Desh Publications Ltd Chairman Mahmudur Rahman is worth taking into cognisance.

whether the allegation is serving the interest of a person or the state, whether the complainant is affected by the offence mentioned in the complaint, whether the allegation has merit and whether there are any legal obstacles to investigate the chief of a government institution.

On October 16, the commission decided to let off 250 graft suspects including 11 former ministers and lawmakers in 121 cases due to lack of strong evidence.

"Most of the cases were not commission-initiated and lacked evidence and had technical issues," said an ACC source, adding that even witnesses in the cases could not be found.

decided to submit final reports are regarding misappropriation of relief materials, funds, bribery, deception, irregularities, abuse of power, and forgery of land docu-

was filed on March 7 last year in connection with misappropriating corrugated iron sheets meant for relief. Shamsuzzoha Khan and Gazi Nazrul Islam were accused of the same offence on September 30 and February 24 last year. The ACC had to submit final

reports in 70 other cases before for the same reasons. CASES

The ACC will charge Jahanara Begum with concealing information about wealth worth Tk 2 crore and amassing wealth worth Tk 2.34 crore beyond known sources of income.

City Corporation ward commissioner Nab Ullah Nabi is to be accused of concealing wealth worth Tk 40.49 lakh and amassing wealth worth Tk 39.04 lakh by illegal means.

Principal Appraiser Harun Ar Rahman and his wife Babli Rahman will be accused of concealing and amassing wealth worth Tk32.17 lakh.

Ctg rental power FROM PAGE 16

agreement to supply it with a 22.6mw power on rental.

The certificate has no street address or email address and the phone number mentioned in the certificate did not respond to calls.

that the proper name of the plant is "Jianmen Xinian Power Plant," which has a capacity of 5,000mw, and there is no power company named "Jianmen Power Plant'

The tender document demanded documentary evidence that the bidder has liquid fuel-fired generating units available mentioning the capacity, country of origin and etc. One page of Royce power's documents claims it has generators with 55mw capacity, in another it says it has 50mw "gasfired" engines.

equipment (which will be installed in Bangladesh) under the name of Changshu Marine Parts co. It is not clear why would Changshu company do this job, sources observe. Royce also did not submit any

environmental plan as HFO-based hazards.

power plant is HFO-based. Summit spent eight million dollars extra (not required for diesel-based plants) just to address the environmental problems caused by the Of the three local and three

foreign companies the bid drew some attractive price offers ranging between US 3.5 cents per kilowatthour to 5.5 cents per kilowatt-hour. Because of flexibility of plant installation, rental power tariffs are typically costlier than tariffs of the conventional power plants.

power plants. Compared to dieselbased plants, HFO-based plants require higher investment to set up, while the cost operation is lower as the price of diesel is almost double of HFO. As a result, in the long run the cost of power from an HFO plant is cheaper than its diesel counterpart.

The Power Cell sought proposal for this 50mw plant in Sikalbaha to be expanded to 100mw capacity in future.

US goes to vote today

FROM PAGE 1

an opponent," he added. "They support their spouse, but generally they really should be bystanders in this process, even if they're campaigning for me. ... I mean that's what you'd expect. And that doesn't make them suddenly targets."

All that's left now is for the campaigns to make sure people vote, unleashing an unprecedented getout-the-vote campaigns.

Surrogates for both men, including Democrat Caroline Kennedy and one-time Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, hopped from morning show to morning show urging voters to get to the polls if they haven't already cast ballots. More early voting is happening than ever, a process that changes the meaning of Election Day somewhat, with some 27 million votes cast in 30 states as of Saturday night. That's more than ever. Democrats outnumbered Republicans in pre-Election Day voting in key states.

All told, the election will have cost \$1 billion, and the candidates together will have spent about \$8 per presidential vote.

The candidates were sprinting across time zones and states in eleventh-hour bids to get to the magic number of 270 electoral votes the total needed to seal the presidency

McCain's journey stretched from Tampa through Tennessee, whose media market reaches into the much-coveted state of Virginia, which is trending Democratic for the first time since 1964.

McCain also was scheduled to hit Pennsylvania, Indiana, New Mexico, Colorado and Nevada before ending early Tuesday with a rally in Prescott, Arizona. He was scheduled to finish the day and the campaign at home in the Phoenix

McCain launched an electioneve sprint across seven states Monday, defiantly predicting victory despite polls showing him lagging behind Democratic rival Barack Obama.

In the shadow of the 65,000-seat Raymond James Stadium -- the sort of venue Obama has been packing regularly during his campaign --McCain told a small crowd of around 500 supporters to prepare for victory.

"There's one day left until we take America in a new direction, McCain told the crowd. "The pundits may not know it and the Democrats may not know it but the 'Mac is back' and we're going to win this election." McCain wrapped up his speech

with his now familiar rallying cry, urging his supporters to "fight" to the very end. "I'm an American and I choose to

fight. Don't give up hope, be strong, have courage and fight," he exhorted. Obama was set to make a quick

trip to Virginia and Indiana before returning to Chicago for a massive rally in Grant Park. McCain's running mate, Sarah Palin, was racing through five Bush states Ohio, Missouri, Iowa,

drawfor many GOP base voters. Joe Biden, Obama's running mate, was to campaign in Missouri,

Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Polls show the six closest states are Florida, Indiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Nevada and Ohio. The campaigns also are running aggressive ground games elsewhere, including Iowa, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Colorado and Virginia.

The final pre-election poll of Gallup-USA Today published Monday gave Obama a yawning lead of 11 points -- 55 percent to 44 for McCain.

A new Wall Street Journal-NBC

percent to 43. CNN's latest poll on Sunday had Obama with a 53-46 percent edge, a Washington Post-ABC News poll gave him 54 percent to 43, and Rasmussen said he was

at 51 percent to McCain's 46.

Obama also leads by slimmer margins in the battleground states where the election will be won and lost, including in states such as Virginia and North Carolina that have not backed a Democratic hopeful in decades. A Quinnipiac University poll

examining the three states with the largest number of electoral votes --Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida -found Obama's lead had narrowed slightly to 51-42 in Ohio and 53-41 in Pennsylvania, while Florida was too close to call. A separate poll by The

Washington Post and ABC said that in six states considered to be up for grabs, support was roughly split with 51 percent support for Obama and 47 for McCain. And a CNN/Opinion Research Corporation (ORC) survey released

Monday said that 59 percent of voters feel Obama can bring "change," while about the same number say McCain cannot, the network reported on its website. Obama exuded confidence Sunday at events in three cities in the bellwether state of Ohio, which

voted for President Bush in 2000 and 2004 but is trending Democratic this year as it struggles against an anemic economy. "We cannot afford to slow down or sit back or let up," Obama told voters at an evening rally in Cincinnati. "We need to win an

election on Tuesday."

In New Hampshire, McCain held his last town hall meeting of the 2008 campaign something of an exercise in nostalgia, as he conducted dozens of such freewheeling affairs in the months leading up to his victory in that state's primary. McCain took voter questions on

New Hampshire for rescuing his campaign in 2008 and in the 2000 Republican primary, when he briefly upended George W. Bush. "I come to the people of New Hampshire to ask them to let me go

issues like illegal immigration and

paying for college while thanking

on one more mission," McCain said in Peterborough, where he was introduced by Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling.

Oli Ahmed

"The present caretaker government has no legal authority to remain in power or compel politi-

Oli thinks there should be no caretaker government in future. He termed this system of government an 'illegitimate brainchild' of some political leaders seeking to destroy the political institution. "Political parties and leaders must learn how to trust each other and behave with responsibility. It is a shame for us. If we do not trust each other how

LDP leader said it is the duty of the Election Commission(EC), and politicians should not oppose holding the election on December He stressed that people who are

directly involved with political parties or closely linked to them must not be allowed as observers in

tions of political parties.

The main lesson for the politicians from 1/11 is that the country has not been leased to any political

Zardari warns

underplayed -- and was a sign of the increasing focus on Pakistan

and disquiet about strategy to combat insurgents in Afghanistan. By appointing Petraeus, a counter-insurgency specialist widely

"it is not winning in Afghanistan. sional, he knows it is a different war, he understands the dynamics and he may prevail upon the current and the next US administration to review the policy," he added.

"He is probably the most suited person to bring a new and fresh approach in Afghanistan and in the tribal belt." A US Embassy spokesman

Oaeda suicide attacks, civil unrest and a crippled economy. "This was a regular scheduled

man Wes Robertson told AFP. Boucher and ambassador Anne Patterson, also met Pakistan's

Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani and military top brass. Pakistan's security breakdown -

- and what to do about it -- has become an election issue in the race for the White House, which culminates Tuesday when voters go to the polls. Democratic hopeful Barack

Obama has said that US forces should act against militants inside Pakistani territory, including al-Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden, if Pakistan was "unable or unwilling to take them out." But his Republican rival, John McCain, warned against such a

strategy, instead urging cooperation and coordination between the two allies. Bilateral tensions saw Patterson herself called in to the Pakistan foreign ministry last Wednesday to register its opposition to the mis-

But just two days later, two separate strikes killed 32 mainly al-Qaeda operatives, according to Pakistani security sources. All the strikes have been blamed

sile strikes.

on US-led coalition forces or CIAoperated drones based in neighbouring Afghanistan, where US troops are engaged in escalating fighting with Taliban and other militants. A US official said last week that

Washington is looking at negotiat-

Govt to pull

FROM PAGE 1 allowing election campaign related

processions, meetings and rallies. The conditions are that the

tions.

ment announcement said. The clause 5 had imposed

AL'S POLL PREPARATION

the approval of the ALCWC meetpalities, unions and wards. nomination papers for both the

Although AL's parliamentary

Sources said AL will not nomi-

Hasina returns

forthcoming parliamentary polls, US-based Bangla news agency ANA reported quoting Hasina. "No more revenge or violence... the people of Bangladesh want peace and want to lead a decent life. For this, democracy is imperative," she said while addressing a meeting organised by Metro

Washington at hotel Virginia on November 2 marking the Jail Killing She also said the country is now in deep crisis and politics of tolerance is necessary to overcome the

"The AL does not believe in

confrontational and revengeful

politics rather it does politics for

peace, welfare and prosperity of the people," she said, adding that the country had autarky in food and other sectors during the AL Welcoming the Election Commission's (EC) announcement of detailed timetable for the December 18 parliamentary polls,

Hasina said the upazila polls should have been deferred by some The AL chief said the provision of 'no vote' surprised her and that this smelt of military dictators

being behind the arrangement. Paying respect to the four national leaders, she said the jailkilling tragedy had taken place due to revengeful politics and those who are sheltering the perpetrators of the crime are the enemies of humanity and civilisation. She urged the expatriates to

expatriates have always been beside the country whenever it faced any crisis. She also urged the EC to keep their eyes open to thwart any kind

of conspiracy.

remain alert so that nobody can foil

the upcoming election and said the

Meanwhile, AL central working committee sits at 10:00am today at AL President Sheikh Hasina's political office in Dhanmondi to set party's strategies ahead of the national election and make preparation to accord a grand reception to Hasina.

The decision came yesterday at an emergency meeting of the AL Presidium, the highest decision

making body of the party. AL central leaders will also hold a meeting with the leaders of party's Dhaka city unit, all front organisations and districts adjacent to Dhaka at 1:00pm today to take decisions on how to accord the grand reception to Hasina at Zia

International Airport on Nov 6. As part of the preparations, the respective units of AL will also hold

their extended meetings. "We have already started making huge preparation to accord a grand reception to our leader and these meetings have been called as part of it," said AL acting general secretary Syed Ashraful Islam after

the presidium meeting.

Major parties 300 constituencies. Aspirant candidates will have to submit the nomination papers by 5:00 pm on November 7.

The decision to begin distribu-

tion of nomination forms was

reached at an emergency meeting

of the AL Presidium with AL acting president Zillur Rahman in the Jatiya Party (Ershad) has asked all its members to submit nomination forms by November 8, a press

release of the party said.

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has also asked all members interested to contest the election to submit their nomination forms by November 8. LDP's nomination forms will be available at the party's Moghbazar office from Candidates of Rajshahi and

Barisal region will be interviewed

on November 9, Chittagong and

Sylhet on November 10, and Dhaka and Khulna on November 11, an LDP press release said. Major General (rtd) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim led Bangladesh Kalyan Party yesterday decided that its nomination forms will be distributed from November 9 from its Mohakhali office, a press

release of the party said.

FROM PAGE 1 the South Korean ambassador to The South Korean ships are now 50 nautical miles southwest of the St

Three Bangladesh Navy ships are

Secretary Touhid Hossain as a special envoy to lodge our protest at the highest level of Myanmar, so that the situation does not go beyond control," the adviser told reporters, adding, "We are sending the foreign

Emerging from a meeting with

tion forthwith...We want to resolve the matter diplomatically," he said. He noted that Bangladesh is a

On Sunday, the foreign secretary

' The protest note categorically

The two top leaders of the coun-

try will get special security for the

of the technical committee for party registration, Nurul Islam Khan, told reporters in his office vesterday afternoon that the commission has taken a 'positive deci-

sion' about Jamaat's registration. Sources in the commission said a registration certificate will be issued to Jamaat in a day or two. The commission, however, will hold four separate hearings in its secretariat today to resolve complications regarding registrations of Islami Okiya Jote (IOJ), its two

and Jamiate Olamaye Islam, and of Khelafat Andolon. "We will also have a hearing on National Democratic Party," said NI Khan, adding that they will complete registering parties by November 10, three days ahead of

the last date for submitting nomi-

nations.

and 25 after the final scrutiny," he said adding, "Although initially we thought the number would be between 30 and 35." A total of 55 political parties

contested in the eighth parliamen-

The EC officials said reduction

in the number of political parties

and the new electoral rules will also

reduce the number of candidates

"The number of registered

political parties will be between 20

this year. Earlier in the morning, a Jamaat delegation led by its Law Affairs Secretary Jashim Uddin Sarkar met Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda in the latter's office and submitted a written statement about the objections against their party's registration. Election Commissioners M Sohul Hussain and M Sakhawat Hussain, EC Secretary M Humayun Kabir, and NI Khan were also pres-

according to the law," Jashim told reporters after the meeting. He also said the commission assured them of the registration. He said the commission will send the registration certificate to the party office following the electoral rules.

government not to harass or arrest him during this period. Jamaat gets poll pass

> Gonotantri Party, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (Inu), Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (Rab), Oikyaboddho Nagorik Andolon (Quazi Farrok), and Zaker Party will also get the registration certificates

The EC Secretariat yesterday afternoon appointed 64 ROs and

already available across the country, while the commission also

hours after the High Court had thrown away three separate writ petitions challenging the commission's gazette notification on the recent redemarcation of parliamentary constituencies.

Hanif Iqbal also said the com-

He said they are examining

The cases in which the ACC

The case against Tarikul Islam

In another case, former Dhaka

Chittagong Customs House

Colorado and Nevada in an effort to boost conservative turnout. The Alaska governor has been a popular An enquiry in that city responds

In this regard, a certificate was issued in Chinese, again without any letterhead, with a translation on the same page stating that the Royce had purchased a piece of

plants need separate treatment facility to minimise environmental Presently, the Khulna 110mw

The project was open for both HFO-based and diesel-based

FROM PAGE 1 in limited areas like city corporation polls (held recently).

cal parties to comply with its sweet will," he said.

people would trust us," he said. On holding upazila election, the

the next election. Oli welcomed the EC's decision about front or associate organisa-

News poll put Obama ahead on 51 parties, he said.

credited for progress in the Iraq conflict, Masood said the United States was signalling that it believes "General Petraeus is a profes-

played down claims that Petraeus was here because of fears at a spiral of Islamist violence that has seen a wave of deadly Taliban and al-

visit. This is something that has been on the books for quite some time," acting US embassy spokes-Petraeus, who was joined by Assistant Secretary of State Richard

ing with "reconcilable" members of the Taliban in Afghanistan who are prepared to give up violence and respect the Afghan constitu-