

# THE DAILY Star ON FRIDAY

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24 PAGES PLUS THE STAR PRICE : Tk 12.00

## WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

A Weekly Publication of The Daily Star  
**theSTAR**  
 stories behind the news

## PICKING UP THREADS

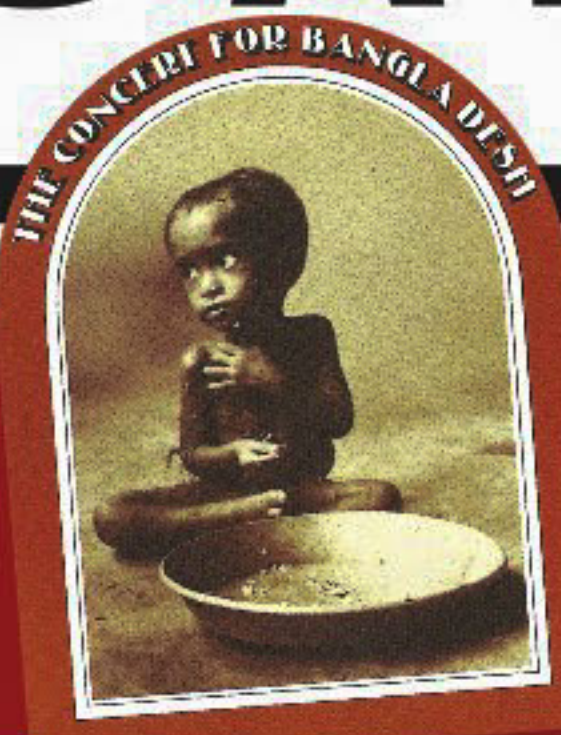
New Indian foreign secy hints of resuming talks with Pakistan

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## ROCK 'N' MIRACLE

Today's Wide Angle features the first Rock act of philanthropy

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# Jamaat unfit for polls

HC declares its registration illegal; EC to act after receiving verdict copy

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court yesterday declared illegal the Jamaat-e-Islami's registration as a political party with the Election Commission.

When the military-backed caretaker regime in 2008 introduced the registration system, 38 political parties, including Jamaat, were registered with the EC.

Jamaat in phases amended its constitution massively to meet the registration requirements, as no unregistered political party is allowed to take part in elections.

For the first time, Jamaat made mention of

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## PETITION CLAIMS

- Jamaat is a religion-based, communal party
- It does not believe in democracy, independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh
- It has party offices abroad in violation of the country's constitution
- The party charter does not allow any non-Muslim or woman to hold the position of ameer in contradiction to the RPO.

## Charter change only way out

SHAKHAWAT LITON and PRABIR BARUA CHOWDHURY

The cancellation of Jamaat's registration with the Election Commission (EC) will put the party in jeopardy, as it will not be able to contest the next general elections.

This is unless it rewrites its constitution and register freshly or until the Appellate Division of the High Court overturns yesterday's verdict.

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## CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION Jamaat dodging EC for 3 years

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The nemesis of Jamaat-e-Islami began in 2008 when the Election Commission changed the Representation of the People Order (RPO), the legal framework for conducting parliamentary polls, and set a registration criterion for all political parties.

Jamaat had promised to amend its charter in line with the RPO by January 24, 2010 to retain its registration but did not deliver on the pledges.

Even on expiry of the deadline it kept ignoring the EC's repeated calls for amending its charter in last three and a half years.

As per the EC's findings, a number of provisions in

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## Jamaat calls hartal for Aug 12-13

BNP silent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday called a two-day country-wide hartal from August 12, protesting the High Court verdict that declared illegal the party's registration with the Election Commission.

Jamaat acting secretary general Rafiqul Islam Khan made the call hours after the HC judgment.

The announcement of the shutdown has created

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Wasim Bin Habib talks with eminent citizens, who hail yesterday's verdict that declared illegal the registration of the Jamaat-e-Islami with the Election Commission.



SHAHDEEN MALIK

In the recent past, the Election Commission refused to register a number of political parties because they had not fulfilled the requirements. And a number of writ petitions regarding parties'

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AKBAR ALI KHAN

The former adviser to a caretaker government spoke on the political dimension after the verdict.

Jamaat can act constructively by changing its constitution in line with the country's

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SHAHRIAR KABIR

The High Court through its judgement upheld the dignity of the constitution, said war crimes researcher Shahriar Kabir.

But Jamaat will remain a political party and can continue its

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NASIRUDDIN YOUSUFF

The cultural activist and freedom fighter expressed satisfaction over the verdict but said the question lies whether the party will still be allowed to do politics. If so, the government will have to

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## EXTRA-JUDICIAL Killing worries rights groups

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) yesterday expressed deep concern over the recent incidents of extra-judicial killing.

In a press release it said the commission had observed that suspected criminals had been killed in crossfire and encounters, and incidents of

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## Rab claim found all too confusing

Criminals throng Jubo League committees

STAR REPORT

Rab's previous claim that Jahid Siddique Tarek had been hit by bullet at the time of the killing of Jubo League leader Riazul Haque Khan Milky was found to be false, after Tarek's autopsy yesterday.

A magistrate's inquest report, prepared after Tarek's death on Wednesday night, said Tarek's body bore seven bullet marks -- four in the abdomen, two in the head and one near the chest.

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Tarek

## Rab set up the killing

Say Suranjit, Hannan  
STAR REPORT

Two leaders of the ruling Awami League and the opposition BNP yesterday termed the killing of Jubo League leader Jahid Siddique Tarek in a "shoot-out" a "stage-managed drama."

While minister without portfolio Suranjit Sengupta blamed the Rapid Action Battalion for staging the

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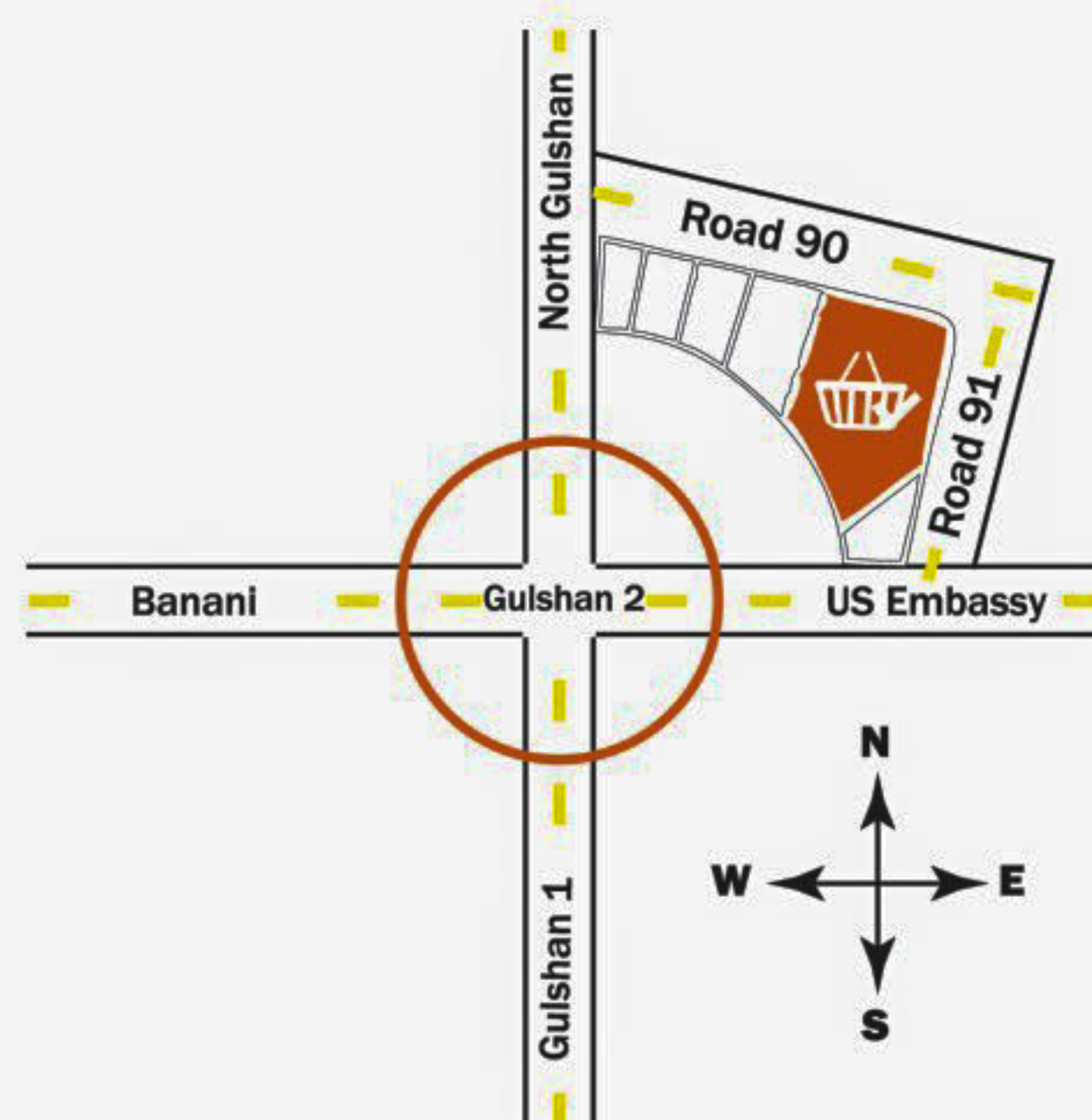
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