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The army was "restoring democracy" as it ousted Morsi, Washington says

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Indian composer AR Rahman is to embark on his first home tour

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TAREK, SHOOTOUT Rab continues to confuse

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab has made a fresh, confusing claim that Jahid Siddique Tarek had suffered bullet injuries in the back during the killing of Jubo League leader Riazul Haque Khan Milky. Talking to The Daily Star, Rab-1 Commanding Officer Kismat Hayat yesterday said Tarek had been hit by a bullet when his cohorts opened fire to ensure Milky's death before Shoppers World in the capital's Gulshan on Tuesday. On Tuesday and Wednesday, two top Rab officials told this paper that Tarek had been hit in the abdomen during the killing of Milky. Other newspapers, quoting Rab officials, reported that Tarek was hit in the leg. But all these claims were found to be false after

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JAMAAT REGISTRATION

Ban not on govt's plan

SHAKHAWAT LITON and HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Ministers and Awami League leaders may keep echoing the popular demand for banning Jamaat-e-Islami, but the government is unlikely to ban the party in the existing political reality. The government will instead wait for the Appellate Division's disposal of Jamaat's appeal against the High Court verdict that on Thursday declared illegal the party's registration with the Election Commission. According to a number of ministers and top AL leaders, it is for the Appellate Division to decide whether Jamaat can now contest the upcoming national polls, due between October and January. Any executive move to ban the party before the Appellate Division's verdict will prove counterproductive and trigger fresh controversies. The opposition parties, including Jamaat, will in that case spread propaganda against the government and label the move as one against religion-based politics. This will harm the AL ahead of the election, they said. One minister told The Daily Star that the AL-led government did not intend to ban religion-based politics. This is

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Eid shoppers have their iftar sitting right on the floor at Bashundhara shopping complex in the capital yesterday. With only about a week left for Eid-ul-Fitr, horrendous traffic, and way too many shoppers swarming the food court, they have nowhere else to have iftar.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BNP against banning party

Says Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir has said his party does not support banning any political party. "The government has started a mechanism to eliminate the BNP and hold a one-party election in the country," he alleged yesterday, a day after the High Court declared illegal the Jamaat-e-Islami's registration with the Election Commission.

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Action after Eid

Jamaat sends out message to grassroots; agitation today

SHAKHAWAT LITON and RASHIDUL HASAN

The Jamaat-e-Islami high command has instructed the grassroots to make all-out preparation for tougher agitations again after the Eid, without worrying about the High Court order declaring Jamaat's registration illegal. In the wake of the order delivered Thursday, the high command came up with the instructions to boost morale of grassroots level activists who waged vicious protests since February against the war crimes tribunal verdicts convicting some of its top leaders. The fierce agitation of Jamaat against the February 28 verdict in the trial of Delwar Hossain Sayedee continued for more than a week, killing over 70 people, including eight policemen. The party's current strategy is to enforce more agitation programmes including series of hartal and road blockade after its

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Step in to stop 'injustice' to Jamaat in Bangladesh

Pak Jamaat urges Muslim countries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami, Pakistan (JIIP) has sought intervention of Muslim countries against "victimisation" of Jamaat-e-Islami and its leaders in Bangladesh. Talking to BBC Bangla service yesterday, JIIP Ameer Syed Munawar Hasan said,

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WEALTH STATEMENT DISCLOSURE

Most SC judges not interested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Most Supreme Court judges have not disclosed their wealth statements, even two years after the then chief justice ABM Khairul Haque in 2011 had requested them to do so for the sake of transparency. The Appellate Division of the SC has now nine judges, including Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain. The High Court Division -- the other division of the SC -- has 90 judges. Lower court judges give their wealth statements every year in their annual confidential reports to the SC, as it is mandatory for them.

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THREAT UNSPECIFIED

US embassy shut tomorrow

STAR REPORT

The US embassies and consulates in Bangladesh and some other countries will remain closed on Sunday due to an unspecified threat. A state department spokeswoman said the order would apply to any embassy or consulate that is normally open on Sunday, reports BBC. Bangladesh, Bahrain, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Afghanistan are among those to be affected by the closure. Shortly after the announcement, the US issued a global travel alert because of an unspecified al-Qaeda threat. In a statement, the state department said the potential for an attack was particularly strong in the Middle East and North Africa. The alert expires on 31 August 2013, the department said. It recommended US citizens travelling abroad be vigilant. "Current information suggests that al-Qaeda and affiliated organisations continue to plan terrorist attacks both in the region and beyond, and that they may

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Months after the deadly Rana Plaza collapse, a mother weeps at the site in Savar holding the photo of her son, whose body is yet to be found.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Youths build monument

100 days after Rana Plaza disaster

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A group of youths has built a monument at the site of Rana Plaza in Savar yesterday in memory of the victims of the worst industrial disaster of the country. The youths, mostly students under several banners, called the monument "Protibade-Protirodhe" (in protest and in resistance). The simplistic monument is just two muscular hands, one holding a scythe and the other one holding a hammer. They are about 10 feet high. The nine-storey Rana Plaza that housed five garment factories crumbled and collapsed on April 24 killing over 1,130 people and injuring thousands more. It took the army and local volunteers 20 days to rescue 2,438 people from the rubble. Eighty of them are undergoing treatment, according to government data. While the worst industrial disaster of the country sent shockwaves and triggered international uproar about workers' safety, some families of the victims, labour organisations, civil society members and

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FELANI MURDER BY BSF

Trial to start August 13

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than two and a half years into the incident, a court formed by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) is set to begin on August 13 the trial of the murder of Bangladeshi girl Felani. The trial process began in the face of the continued efforts by the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), said a PID handout yesterday. On January 7, 2011, 15-year-old Felani was shot dead by BSF while she and her

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Investigation going on, but getting nowhere

Rab waits on DNA test results for months

SUBIR DAS

When it takes merely a week to match DNA profiles, the authorities dealing with the sensational Sagar-Runi murder case are taking months to do the job. The Rapid Action Battalion, which is investigating the case, has sent DNA samples of over 15 suspects between November last year and March this year to two US laboratories to match them with the DNA samples collected from the crime scene. To this day, the elite force claims that it has not received any results and that it is waiting on them. DNA samples of seven people were found from the victims' bodies and their clothes until January. One of these samples was taken from Runi's T-shirt. It may take up to a few months to prepare a DNA profile from a sample. However, once a profile is

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Sagar Runi

TRAIN HITS CNG AUTO

Three killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

Three people, including a couple, were killed and two others injured as a speedy train rammied an auto-rickshaw at Chandra rail-crossing in Jamalpur town yesterday. The deceased are Mahabubul Alam Don, 45, his wife Jahanara Akhter Bithi, 40, and auto-rickshaw driver Abdur Razzak, 55. The injured were identified as the couple's daughters -- Mimi Akhter, 11, and Jimi Akhter, 4, of Mahmudpur village in Melandah upazila of the district. Quoting witnesses, police said Don and

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