

**STOP!**  
What are you eating?  
Do you know what  
chemicals are added  
to your food?  
Do not panic, but work  
together to change.

# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

24 PAGES PRICE : Tk 12.00



## MURTAZA BASEER'S DECADES

Show features drawings, oil paintings and collages spanning 1954-2014

PAGE 9

## PARTNERS IN POWER

Syed Badrul Ahsan reads work on two most powerful figures in history

PAGE 12

## IN AMY'S MEMORY

A statue of late Amy Winehouse unveiled on the singer's 31st birth anniversary

PAGE 8

## FAKE FREEDOM FIGHTERS

# 5 high govt officials lose certificates

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to revoke the freedom fighters' certificates of five top bureaucrats for forgery and not following proper procedures in obtaining those.

The Liberation War Affairs ministry at a meeting with Jatiya Muktiyoddha Council yesterday made the decision, following recommendations from the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

The five are Privatisation Commission Chairman Molla Waheeduzzaman (former secretary of the Prime Minister's Office), Health Secretary Niaz Uddin Mia, Public Service Commission Secretary AKM Amir Hossain, former Liberation War Affairs secretary KH Masud Siddiqui (currently an OSD) and former joint secretary of the Liberation War Affairs ministry Abul Kashem Talukder (now an OSD).

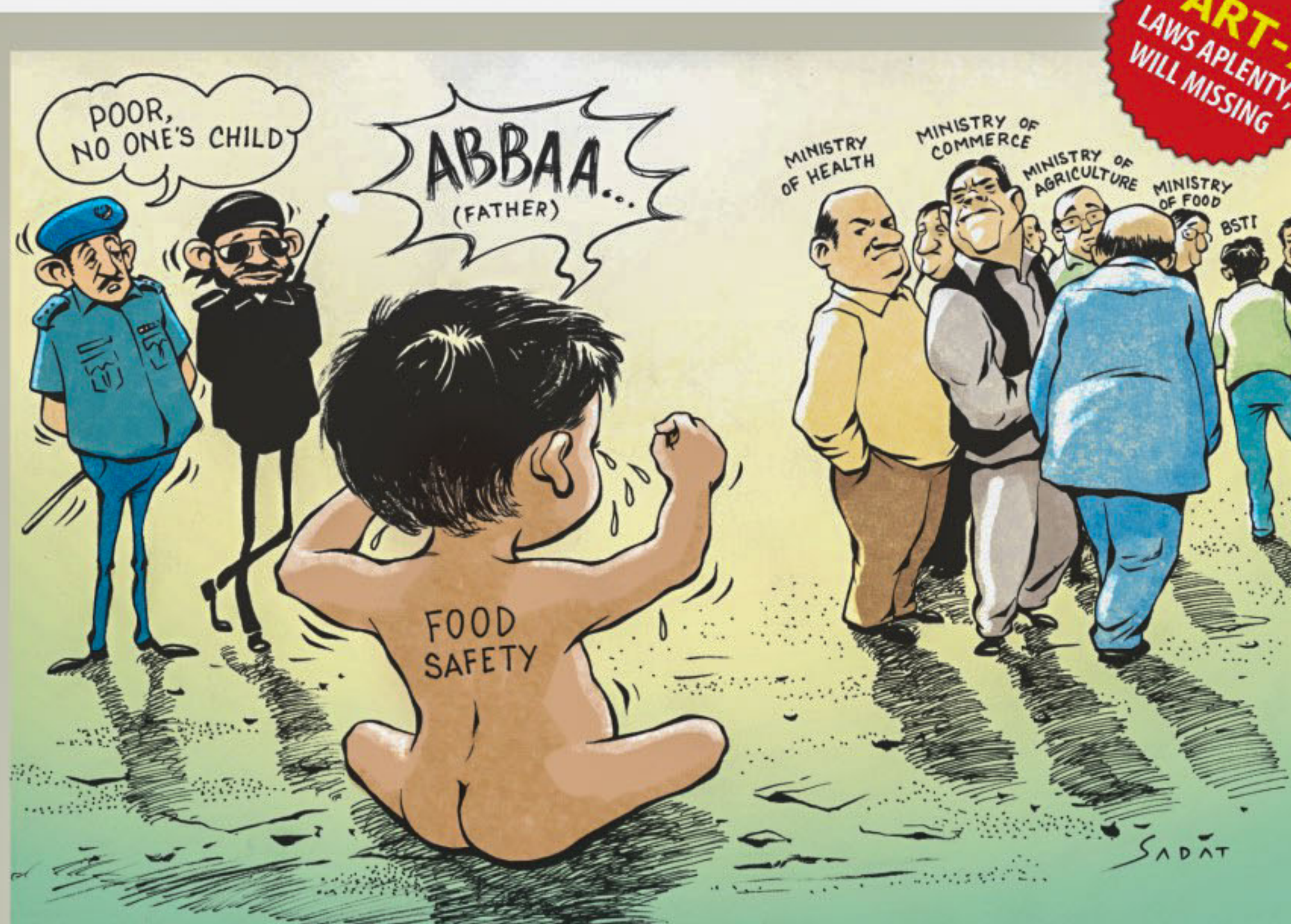
The top officials at the fag end of their service life obtained the certificates last year to extend their job tenures.

The Liberation War Affairs ministry will inform the five bureaucrats of its decision through letters soon.

Following the meeting at Muktiyoddha Council's Moghbazar office in the capital, Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque told journalists of the decision to revoke the certificates and cancel the relevant gazette notifications.

"All my ministry can do is cancel their certificates. It is the public administration

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



# TOO MANY COOKS spoil the broth

WASIM BIN HABIB with BISHAKHA DEVNATH

Laws abound, but they have failed to ensure food safety mostly for a lack of enforcement and coordination among the government bodies responsible for preventing food adulteration.

As many as 15 ministries and their agencies are tasked with enforcing more than a dozen laws to check contamination in the production, processing and marketing of food items.

Besides, the roles and responsibilities of the government authorities are not clearly defined in the laws, said people working on food safety issues.

Above all, there is neglect on the part of the regulatory authorities in enforcing these laws.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

# Evil rules as state sleeps

SHAKHAWAT LITON

To ensure safe food for people, the legal provision could not have been any more stringent than what it is now. But non-enforcement of the laws is all to blame.

Whoever adulterates any food item or drink and sells them shall be sentenced to death or be imprisoned for life, the Special Powers Act of 1974 has provision for this harsh penalty for food related offences.

But the way unscrupulous traders and companies have flooded the market with noxious food items, it is obvious they care little about the death penalty.

The sheer indifference of successive governments in enforcing the law has given the offenders the freedom to make a market where profit takes priority over people's lives.

Like the Special Powers Act, 1974, more than a dozen legislations, made since the days of Pakistan, still exist to ensure food safety.

The laws made during the Pakistan period largely dealt with the issues of regulating production, transport and sale of

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

- Over a dozen laws in place
  - 15 ministries, agencies involved
  - 'Who to do what and how' not outlined
  - Inadequate manpower for monitoring
  - Bribe makes all wrong right
- RESULT: ALMOST ZERO**

## WHAT NEEDS

## TO BE DONE?

➔ Strict enforcement of laws

➔ Strong coordination among ministries, depts concerned

➔ Sangsad watch on enforcement of laws

➔ Numerous laws on food safety should not exist

➔ MPs should raise their voice

➔ Sangsad should propose necessary measures

➔ Offenders must not go scot free

# Arrest order for Fakhrul

*Charges: assaulting cops, torching vehicles during 2012 blockade*

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued an arrest warrant for BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir on charges of assaulting police and torching vehicles during an opposition blockade in 2012.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Yunus

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



# Amendments hurt judiciary

*JS body report says about 4 previous changes to article 16 of constitution*

SHAKHAWAT LITON and RASHIDUL HASAN

The constitutional amendments made by the governments of Awami League, BNP and Jatiya Party have undermined the independence, transparency and image of the Supreme Court, a House committee has said.

The parliamentary standing committee on the law ministry has come up with the observation, describing the four amendments to article 96 of the constitution that deals with retirement age of judges and their removal on grounds of misconduct or incapacity.

The committee in its report prepared on scrutiny of the constitutional amendment bill blamed the amendments of 1975, 1979, 1986 and 2004 when the AL, BNP, JP and again BNP were in office respectively.

The report, placed in parliament yesterday, said the original constitution empowered the House to impeach SC judges and the provision was more

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

# JP turmoil intensifies

*Ershad, some MPs boycott parliamentary party meet*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Intensifying the intra-party rift, Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad and some of his party colleagues boycotted an emergency meeting of the JP parliamentary party yesterday.

Leader of the Opposition Raushan Ershad on Saturday night convened the meeting to discuss issues including relieving LGRD State Minister Moshir Rahman Ranga and Opposition Chief Whip Tajul Islam of their presidium membership in the party.

About 28 MPs attended the meeting at the leader of the opposition's office on the second floor of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with Raushan in the chair. Starting around 3:45pm, it continued till around 5:15pm.

Ershad and more than seven JP lawmakers held a separate meeting from 4:00pm for about one and a half hours at his office on the first floor, according to sources. As the special envoy to the prime minister, he was given an office at the Jatiya Sangsad.

The lawmakers, including JP

Secretary General Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu, Water Resources Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud, Abu Hossain Babla, MA Hannan, Munim Chowdhury, Md Noman and Salma Islam, were with the JP boss.

Some other MPs met Ershad before attending the parliamentary party meeting, sources added. There are 40 lawmakers in the party and five of them skipped both the meetings.

Briefing reporters at the Jatiya Sangsad Media Centre after the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

# ISIS executes UK aid worker

*Shows new video tape; Cameron vows justice*

CNN ONLINE

British aid worker David Haines has been executed by ISIS militants, according to a video posted Saturday to a website associated with the group, making him the third Western captive to be killed by the Islamist extremist group in recent weeks.

The ISIS video post showing Haines' beheading called his execution "a message to the allies of America."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



David Haines

# Questions over a 'gunfight'

*Family alleges DB arrested, tortured him in custody*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was killed in a "gunfight" between criminals and members of the Detective Branch of police in the capital's Mugdah yesterday morning.

The family of the victim, Masud Tarek, 26, a garment worker at Adamjee EPZ in

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

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