

G-8 fails to clinch deal on global warming

Compromise reached on aid for Africa

AP, Gleneagles

World leaders, shaken by deadly bombings in London, shortened the final day of their economic summit yesterday to allow British Prime Minister Tony Blair to rush back to chair a government panel dealing with the attacks.

The Group of Eight leaders, struggling amid the attacks to keep to their meeting's mission, put the finishing touches on a major aid package for Africa. They failed to overcome stiff resistance from the Bush administration to launching a more aggressive attack on global warming.

On Thursday, Blair left the

summit for several hours to confer with officials at Scotland Yard and calm a nation shocked by the worst attacks on the capital since World War II. Though he later returned to the meeting at this exclusive resort about 450 miles from London, business was not proceeding as planned.

Blair's closing press conference was moved up by an hour so the British leader could go to London for an emergency meeting of a government committee that is dealing with the bombings. The nearly simultaneous, deadly blasts rocked London's subway and tore open a double-decker bus during Thursday's rush hour.

President Bush, who along with the other leaders gathered here had expressed strong condemnation for the attacks, was leaving for Washington earlier than scheduled. A few G-8 events also were cancelled.

Also reflecting the London attacks, the series of communiques scheduled to be issued as the Group of Eight summit drew to a close will include a beefed-up section on terrorism. Aides to the leaders worked late into the night on this document, which was described as a

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Security beefed up in wake of London blasts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police authorities have beefed up security at every key points, important places and installations across the country to avert any terror strike in the wake of Thursday's bomb attacks in London that killed at least 50 people.

The authorities have directed intelligence agencies and plainclothes and uniformed police to step up security in diplomatic zones and posh areas where government ministers and top officials reside, said a source in the police headquarters.

Instructions have also been given to the law enforcers to keep round-the-clock vigil at all airports, launch and bus terminals and railway stations across the country. "We've already deployed additional forces and increased checking

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PHOTO: STAR

Hindu devotees cheer and pull the chariot of Lord Jagannath with a colourful procession, the annual Rathayatra, taken out from Swamibagh in the city yesterday.

Innocent, yet languishing in jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

An unfortunate namesake of a notorious criminal chargesheeted in a murder case Zahidur Rahman Zahid, 24, has been languishing in Khulna district jail for the last one year for no fault of his own.

A businessman and son of Advocate Azizur Rahman and Jannatun Nahar of BK Roy Road under Khulna thana, Zahidur Rahman is serving the fate of outlaw Zahid alias Sabuj, one of the chargesheeted accused in the journalist Humayun Kabir Balu murder case.

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Int'l flights from Ctg yet to resume

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Biman's DC-10 aircraft that crash-landed on July 1 at Chittagong Shah Amanat International Airport with 215 passengers couldn't be salvaged even yesterday.

Salvage workers from Bangladesh Army, Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Biman were "trying hard", but so far there has not been enough progress to salvage the aircraft and clear the runway for international flight operations.

It is alleged that lack of proper coordination among the three authorities is responsible for the delay in rescue work.

Meanwhile, brigadier Shahidullah of the Army told reporters yesterday afternoon, "If weather favours

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PHOTO: STAR

The salvage crew start afresh building a concrete platform yesterday, after failing thrice to haul the crash-landed Biman DC-10 back to the runway at Chittagong airport.

SSC results today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination results under seven education boards will be published in the afternoon today.

The results of secondary certificate examination under Vocational Education Board and Madrasa Education Board will also be published simultaneously.

Chairmen of nine education boards will hand over the summary results to the prime minister at her office at 1:00 pm.

The results to be published at 4:00 pm will be available at all examination centres and schools concerned.

No result will be available at the education board, ministry or newspaper offices.

Guardians and students can also collect the results through the

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LABOUR MIGRATION

Saudi recruiter offers deal to reduce cost

PORIMOL PALMA

Saudi Arabia National Recruitment Committee (Sanarcom) yesterday proposed its Bangladeshi counterpart Baira to sign an agreement to reduce migration cost, which has been skyrocketing due to a huge demand for Saudi working visa.

Sanarcom Chairman Waleeda Al-Suaidan held a meeting to that end with Bangladesh Association for International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) in the capital on Thursday.

Waleeda told the meet Saudi employers directly sell working visas to the Bangladeshi recruiting agencies. This practice benefits the employers as local agencies pay

them much more than the actual prices to get the visas.

About 10 years ago, migration cost to Saudi Arabia had been fixed at Tk 50,000. But local recruiting agencies do not maintain the rate, a Baira official said, adding, "The migration cost now stands between Tk 1.5 lakh to Tk 2 lakh due to an increasing demand of Saudi visas."

If a unified contract is signed, the Saudi employers have to hand over the working visas to Saudi recruiting agencies, who will deal with Bangladeshi agencies.

In this context, a much-reduced rate for migration cost can be fixed in consultation with the two

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Wife, daughter murdered in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man strangled his wife and eight-month-old daughter at a village in Banshkhali upazila of the district on Thursday night.

Police, with the help of villagers, arrested Osman Gani, 28, a farmer, at midnight, sources said.

They (police) said the incident occurred at around 8.00pm at Saral village. Osman and his wife Rasheda Begum, 22, locked in an altercation over a family problem. A few minutes later, Osman strangled his wife and daughter Reshma Khatun.

"Osman and Rasheda had strained relations and we suspect he might have killed his wife and daughter out of frustration and anger," said the duty officer

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Prayer Timing		
July 9		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-10	4-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-57	7-00
Esha	8-17	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

TENGRATILA BLOWOUT

Shops reopen as flames shrink

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The main blaze at Tengratila gas field stopped roaring and shrunk to less than 15 feet by yesterday. Burning gas was still gushing through 30 to 35 cracks around the relief well, but with lesser intensity.

The tremor has also gone since Thursday, locals said, but gas was still bubbling up in the marshes to the north of the field.

The necessity of livelihood yesterday made a good number of

shop-owners to open up their businesses at Tengratila Bazaar adjacent to the infamous gas field.

Tengratila Dabi Aday Sangram Parishad staged a human chain and a rally in front of the gas field office in the afternoon to press home a set of demands including adequate compensations for the affected villagers.

The villagers were also worried over the move to drill a fresh relief well at a spot very near to the first

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Road crash kills two women

UNB, Comilla

Two people died and three others were injured when a passenger bus rammied a private car from behind on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Chandina upazila yesterday.

The Comilla-bound bus knocked the car, which was going towards Kurchhap in Devidwar upazila at about 1:30pm, killing two women passengers of the car on the spot and injuring two other passengers and the driver of the vehicle.

The dead are Saida Khanam, 40, wife of Mujibur Rahman Bhuiyan of Chandina, and Anwara Begum, 45, wife of Kazi Hedayetul Islam of Devidwar.

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