Int'l community needs to work together for food security

Says finance minister

UNB, Washington

Finance Minister AMA Muhith said the international community needs to work together to ensure food security for all.

The food security remains a priority area for the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government that has been taking steps to ensure that, he said at a roundtable on Food Security hosted by US Secretary of Treasury Timothy Geithner in Washington on Thursday.

The international community also has a role in this vital area, he added.

The roundtable was attended by policy makers, bankers and academics.

Timothy Geithner said the Obama administration attaches great importance to ensure food security for all and with this goal in mind the US government has organised the roundtable

ঢাকা জেলার কেরাণীগঞ্জ খানায় ২জনকে নির্যাতন করে হতা,

গোতম বায়তে গল করে হত্যা সহ দেশের সর্বর সম্ভাসীকর্ম

वयर जनिविवस्य २०।कारी ४४नकारी इकिन्जानि

Bangladesh Minority Sangram Parishad forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Extortionists assaulted a

physician at Sunderganj

Upazila Health Complex and

ransacked its emergency unit

Thursday afternoon as he

leader of the gang Rafiqul

money in toll from Dr Abdul

Police arrested alleged

Gaibandha

denied to pay toll.

Extortionists assault

doctor in Gaibandha

the scene.

Police said Rafiqul together areas. He was wanted in other

with his accomplices similar cases. A fresh extortion

demanded a good amount of case was filed in this connec-

Relatives console a woman, who lost her near one in a clash

between the activists of Awami League and BNP over a land

dispute at Keraniganj yesterday, at Dhaka Medical College

As Momeen refused to pay

Police said Rafiqul's gang

has been creating panic in the

demanding arrest of the killers of Sub-Inspector Gautam Roy.

Abducted expat,

cattle trader

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

The police rescued an expatri-

ate and a cattle trader in

Meherpur district on

Thursday night, about 24

hours after they were abduc-

was abducted by a gang led by

Jahid and Rony on Wednesday

demanded Tk 5 lakh ransom

the police raided the Notun

town area after Thursday

midnight and found Mahirul

with his hands and legs tied at

Mahirul, 45, returned

home from Malaysia recently

for the marriage ceremony of

his daughter. He along with his

relative Alauddin went out on

Wednesday evening to buy

things for the marriage sched-

uled for Friday. But the abduc-

tors picked up Mahirul from

the bus stand area at about

not arrest any abductors.

Meherpur sadar upazila.

The police, however, could

In another incident, the

police rescued cattle trader

Ziarul Islam, 39, from a house

at village Chandpur in

house at about 11:00pm on

Thursday and found Ziarul

confined to an abandoned

Ziarul was abducted by a

gang when he was returning

home after selling cows at a

local market on Wednesday

1.11 lakh from him

to arrest the abductors.

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

C'nawabganj

yesterday.

Mahalla.

The gang also snatched Tk

However, the police failed

Fugitive arrested

in C'nawabganj

Police arrested a fugitive in an arms case from Lakherazpara

in Chapainawabganj town

The arrestee was identified

as Sarwar Rahman alias

Shimul, 25, son of Zillur

Rahman, of Lakherazpara

Acting on a tip-off, a police

team arrested Sarwar from his

house around 2:00pm, said

Fazlur Rahman, sub-inspector

arms case with Putiya Police

Station of Rajshahi on July 15,

He was an accused in an

of Sadar Police Station.

Police said the raided the

The abductors also

On receiving information,

evening.

from his family.

Sahid Gafur road.

7:30pm.

night.

Expatriate Mahirul Islam

rescued in

Meherpur

The roundtable was followed by a press conference. Muhith was the only representative from the recipient countries who attended the press conference along with Secretary Geithner, World Bank President Robert Zoellick and US Philanthropist Bill Gates.

At the press conference, Muhith stressed the need for more allocation in research and development to increase food production.

To cope with the shortage of food, he said, it is important to ensure storage facilities to meet such shortage in different countries.

said the Bangladesh government has put in place a public distribution system which has been functioning effectively.

On the necessity of minimum price Foundation \$30 million.

for the food producers, the finance minister called for finding ways to strike a balance between ensuring a minimum price for food producers and a fair price for the consumers.

Muhith is now in Washington on an official visit.

As part of G-8 and G-20 initiatives to advance food security, donors have invested in the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme, a new trust fund administered by the World Bank.

Initial donors to the fund include the USA, Canada, Spain, South Korea and the Gates Foundation. The donors disclosed the amount of the money they Citing Bangladesh's experience, he committed to the fund.

> The USA committed \$475 million, Canada 230 million, Spain \$95 million, South Korea \$50 million and the Gates

> > Jeweller



Dhaka city BNP stages a demonstration at Sabujbagh in the city yesterday demanding uninterrupted power and water supply.

STALKING OF GIRL found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of a jewellery shop employee was recovered yesterday morning in the capital's Bangshal area.

Criminals strangled Ganesh Chandra Dey, 50, of VK Jewellers at Tantibazar. They wrapped the body in a sack and dumped it in a roadside drain on Lutfar Rahman Lane, said police.

The victim's relatives said यार्जायम् सार्वेजाविकिन्द्रिया Ganesh went out of his Tantibazar residence at about 9:00pm and had been missing since then.

The motive behind the murder remains unknown.

10 injured in Ctg as locals, police clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

At least 10 people, including three policemen, were injured in a clash between police and locals during an open-air concert at Sea World of Concord Water Park at Foy's Lake here yesterday.

the money, the extortionists Police arrested five people assaulted him and ransacked emergency unit of the hospifrom the spot as they attacked the visitors coming to the venue demanding more pass On information, police cards to enjoy the concert free rushed in and arrested Rafiqul of cost. while others managed to flee

Sources said the park authorities offered some 70 cards to local people to enjoy the concert scheduled to be held in the afternoon.

Officer-in-Charge Iftekhar Hasan of Khulshi Police Station said some locals were locked into an altercation with the security guards around 3.00pm demanding more cards.

Later, more people from the adjoining Biswa Colony gathered there to lock down the entry gate of the park and resisted the visitors from entering the perk resulting in a clash, he added.

The injured policemen were identified as second officer of Khulshi Police Station Sub-Inspector (SI) Enam Ahmed, SI Momen and SI Javed.

> DHAKA ODA

Roundtable

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) organises a roundtable titled 'The pros and cons of decentralising labour courts'. Venue: Dhaka Reporters' Unity. Time: 3:00pm.

Reception

Patua Quamrul Hassan Art School will accord a reception to Prof Zillu Rahman Siddiqui on his winning the Swadhinata Purashkar. Venue: Public Library seminar room. Time: 5:00pm.

Seminar

Amar Odhikar Campaign organises a seminar on standard primary education for all children and necessary budget allocation Venue: National Press Club. Time:

Documentary A documentary titled 'Birangana der Kanna o Naybichar er Dabi' will be launched and a photography exhibition will be held. Venue:

National Museum. Time: 4:30pm. Seminar

The monthly Legal Aid organises a seminar on 'Accountability in parliamentary democracy: A Bangladesh perspective'. Venue:

Cirdap auditorium. Time: 9:15am.

Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30pm.

Rotary Dhaka Central The regular meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held.

Student beats up teacher for giving punishment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A student and his family members beat up a school teacher in Chuadanga on Thursday as he punished the student for stalking a girl student. The teacher, Yahya Khan, 43, of Karotoa High

School in Jibonnagar is now undergoing treat-Police arrested the student, Abdul Gaffar, and his two brothers Enamul and Azizul. Enamul

was a teacher of the same school but he had been suspended from the same school five months ago for stalking a girl student. According to the police, Abdul Gaffar, a student of class ten, has been stalking a girl student

of the school for a long time. As the guardians of the girl made a complaint,

the school authorities formed a committee on Wednesday to look into the matter. Teacher The committee decided that Gaffar would be

Yahya Khan was a member the committee.

caned and he would make apology to the girl. On Thursday afternoon, Gaffar, his elder

brother Azizul and Enamul and two other accomplices attacked Yahya Khan at Habibpur field at Benipur when he was returning home afterschool.

ing him seriously injured. On receiving information, the police rescued

They beat up the teacher with iron rod, leav-

the teacher from the spot and rushed him to Jibonnagar upazila health complex. After the incident, the school authority filed a

case with the police. At night, the police raided the house of Gaffer

and arrested the three.

The arrestees were produced at a Chuadanga court yesterday and the court sent them to jail.

Baira Election Today

Vow to tap into overseas job market

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The much-expected elecof the international recruittoday amid candidates' labour markets where overthe recent years.

Two panels -- Sammilita Gonotantrik Front led by Ghulam Mustafa, incumbent president of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) and Sammilita Samannaya Front led by Abul Bashar, owner of Sarkar Recruiting Agency, -- will lock horns against each other.

independent candidates participating in the poll, which is crucial to the recruiting agents who think a strong and learned leadership could help bring reforms in the overseas recruitment sector and help increase the outflow of labourers.

Eskaton in the city.

Sammilita Gonotantrik Front also include Kazi Mohammad Mofizur Rahman, Mohammad Shamsuzzaman,

SKM Abdul Jalil, Shahadat Hossain, Mozammel Haque Bhuiyan, Syed M Saiful tion of Baira, the apex body Haque, Golam Mainuddin, Ruhul Amin Shapan, ing agencies, will be held Shameem Ahmed Chowdhury Noman, Abdul promises to restore the Alim, Abdul Hye, Joynal Abedin Jafar, Abul Kashem, seas jobs have declined in Dr KM Sultanul Aziz, Enamul Haque, Shah Alam Rari, Omar Faruk, Mujibur Rahman Beg, Jasim Ahmed, Sirajul Islam, Moniruzzaman Khan, SMA Salam, Zakir Uddin Patwari, Redwan Khan and MM Mizanur Rahman.

The candidates of

Sammilita Samannaya Front include Reazul Islam, MA Sobhan Bhuiyan, Ali Haider Chowdhury, Sirajuddin Besides, there are seven Ahmed, Golam Mostafa, Mansur Ahmed Kamal, Golam Mawla, AHM Golam Kabir, MA Salam, Noman Chowdhury, Nasiruddin Majumder, Abul Barakat Bhuiyan, Mohammad Abul Bashar, AKM Nazrul Islam, Emdad Ullah, Faruk Al-Mahmud, Shahid Ullah, The polls will be held at Mofizur Rahman Chowdhury, Baira Bhaban at 130 New Khalilur Rahman, Yakub Sharafati, Mostaq Ahmed, The candidates of Monirul Haque, MA Hamid, Shawkat Hossain Shikder, Tayeb Ali Sarker and Aminul Haque Bhuiyan.

Sammilita Samannaya Mohammad Nurul Amin, Front is focusing on restoring the labour markets in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Malaysia through stronger lobbying.

On the other hand Sammilita Gonotantrik Front is focusing on regulatory reforms, including arrangements for the agencies to carry foreign remittance abroad for promotional activities, and help the government bring back and punish the criminals who destroy Bangladesh's image abroad. "If we can eradicate the

bad practices in the sector, we can automatically restore the labour markets and do good business," Sammilita Gonotantrik Front leader Ghulam Mustafa told The Daily Star.

Meanwhile, at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity last Thursday, Sammilita Samannaya Front leader Abul Bashar said their panel has some dynamic leaders who have experiences in businesses with Malaysia and Saudi Arabia and can play a significant role in restoring these markets. Bangladesh's overseas

jobs declined to 4.75 lakh last year from 8.75 lakh in 2008 mainly because of decline in these markets.

SUHRAWARDY HOSPITAL

Lift man held for trying to sexually harass nurse

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Suhrawardy Hospital in the city was arrested on charges of attempting to sexually harass a nurse yesterday. Lift man Shah Alam tried to

A lift man of Shaheed

sexually harass the nurse inside the lift when she was going to join her duty on the second floor of the hospital at around 2:00pm, police said. As soon as the lift reached

the floor, the nurse started screaming while the liftman tried to flee. But visitors and hospital

staffs caught the lift man and handed him over to the police, sources said. In protest against the inci-

dent, nurses of the hospital stopped their work for a few A case was filed with Sher-

e-Bangla Nagar Police Station in this connection.

Officer-in-Charge of the police station Reazuddin said the lift man confessed to his guilt during preliminary interrogation.

Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Md Tozammel Hossain Toja, a language movement veteran, died at Bangladesh Medical College Hospital in Dhaka on Thursday night at the age of 81.

He left behind a son and two daughters and a host and relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

He was buried at Faridpur graveyard in Dinajpur with state honour.

Born on January 3, 1929 at Munsipara village in Dinajpur, Tozammel played a key role in the language movement in 1952. He was also jailed for his

involvement in the movement.

Amzad Hossain Khan METRO DESK

Amzad Hossain Khan, a

retired administrative officer of Gopalganj Deputy Commissioner's office, breathed his last at Faridpur Diabetic Hospital yesterday, says a press release. He was jailed in 1971 for

organising the collectorate employees in favour of the Liberation War. He left behind his widow,

five sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.



The National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports takes out a procession from Muktangan in the city yesterday in protest against leasing of oil and gas fields to multinational companies.

Thundershowers likely UNB, Dhaka

Hospital. (Story on Page 16)

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Sylhet division and the regions of Tangail, Mymensingh, Dhaka and Comilla in the next 24 hours as of 6:00pm today. Weather may remain dry elsewhere over the country, Met

Office said in a forecast. Mild to moderate heat wave, which is sweeping over Khulna division and the regions of Dhaka, Tangail, Faridpur,

Rajshahi and Ishwardi may continue. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital at 6:24pm today and rises at

5:29am tomorrow. Yesterday's highest temperature of 39.3 degree Celsius was recorded at Rajshahi and the lowest of 19.9 degrees at Sylhet.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Humidityin City/Town Temperature in Celsius percentage

Min

Max

Morning

Evening

Dhaka 36.2 28.7 56 Chittagong 32.0 27.0 73 76 Rajshahi 79 47 39.0 27.5 Khulna 73 60 36.3 28.5 72 Barisal 34.4 73 28.0 75 Sylhet 30.5 19.9 87 Cox's Bazar 27.0 69 35.0 67