Daily Star

FROM PAGE 16 former bureaucrats made the celebration remarkable.

Speaking on the occasion, Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam said, "In the last 19 years the ethos we tried to represent is journalism without fear or favour. It is our duty to represent public interests, it is the public interest that makes the nation and it is the public interest that ultimately makes a newspaper. And we have tried the best of our abilities to represent the public interest.'

He appreciated and expressed gratitude to the readers, advertisers, columnists and patrons for their continuous support and help to the newspaper to move forward.

"We feel in The Daily Star our obligation to national interests above all sorts of vested interests," said Mahfuz Anam. "It is you [readers and patrons] to judge whether we have succeeded or not."

your support and I thank all the readers on behalf of The Daily Starteam.' He also recalled the contributions of founding editor SM Ali, founding managing director

executive editor Tawfiq Aziz Chairperson of the Media World, the owner organisation of The Daily Star, Rokia Afzal Rahman welcomed and

Prof Rehman Sobhan, Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, Chief Election Commissioner ATM Shamsul Huda, Election

Commissioner Sohul Hossain. former caretaker government advisers M Hafizuddin Khan and Rasheda K Chowdhury, Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury, Commerce Minister Col (retd) Faruk Khan, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Quader, Awami League leaders Amir Hossain Amu, Obaidul Quader, BNP leader MK Anwar, Communist Party of Bangladesh Secretary General Mujahidul Islam Selim, Workers Party chief Rashed Khan Menon, daily Prothom Alo Editor Matiur Rahman, daily Independent Editor Mahbubul Alam, daily Manabjamin Editor Motiur Rahman Chowdhury, Ambassador Muhammad Jamir, Maj Gen (retd) Muhammad Ibrahim, Syed

Abul Maksud Iftekharuzzaman, Manusher Jonno Executive Director Shaheen Anam, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad General He said a newspaper cannot Secretary Ayesha Khanam, Prof exist if it does not have readers. Badiul Alam Majumder, Ainun "So, we are delighted to have Nishat, Jaglul Ahmed Chowdhury, PSC Chairman Sadat Hossain, barrister Rafiq Ul Haque, noted singer Runa Laila, actor Alamgir, actresses Suchanda, Babita and Champa, singer Samina Chowdhury, AS Mahmud and founding among others, were present at the reception.

> A large number of professionals, officials from development agencies and nongovernment organisations also attended the colourful function that ended with a dinner party.

Executive Editor of The Daily Star Syed Fahim Munaim conducted the function.

work sincerely to build a mod-

ern, prosperous "Digital

Bangladesh", the most peace-

ful country in South Asia free

from corruption, militancy

language martyrs, the PM said

her government will inaugu-

rate tomorrow the

International Mother

Language Institute, which

would work for the rights of all

mother tongues in the world.

AL General Secretary Syed

Ashraful Islam said those who

had opposed Bangla as the

country's mother tongue also

opposed the country's

Liberation War and establish-

ment of democracy in the

Nuremburg war crime trials,

he said not only the war crimi-

nals but also their organisa-

4-party revival

leaders will sit when the proper

But Bangladesh Jatiya Party

Chairman Andaleeve Rahman

Partho yesterday told The Daily

Star, "We should face the gov-

ernment united from now on

as it is clear that the govern-

ment will conduct an all out

drive against the opposition to

establish one party rule." A

Jamaat leader said time has

come to make the four-party

alliance active and hoped top

leaders of the alliance will

make their decision in this

General Abdul Latif Nezami

said now all can understand

thinks the revival of the alliance

is now a matter of time.

Islami Oikya Jote Secretary

regard in time.

time comes," he said.

tions must face trial.

Referring to the

AL Presidium members

Addressing the discussion,

Paying tributes to the

and criminal activities.

PM accuses BNP

thanked the guests.

The Zia International Airport was recently renamed Hazrat Sahjalal (R) International Airport by the government.

The cabinet with the PM in the chair decided last Monday to rename institutions and structures named after late president Ziaur Rahman and those the names of which were "illegally" changed by the BNP-Jamaat coalition government during 2001-2006.

The Awami League organised yesterday's discussion to mark the International Mother Language Day tomorrow. AL Presidium member and Deputy Leader in parliament Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury chaired the programme.

At the discussion Hasina held the opposition responsible for manipulating price hike of essentials, especially rice. She said the country has a huge stock of rice.

About the trial of war crimi-Matia Chowdhury, Yusuf hals, she said the trial must be Hossain Humayun and Satish held in the country. She said, Chandra Roy, advisory council "Until the trial takes place, the member Prof AK Azad souls of thousands of freedom Chowdhury, Dhaka University fighters who sacrificed their Professor Begum Jahanara, lives for the country's liberaparty leaders Mahbubul Alam tion will not get peace and the Hanif and Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, among goal for which Bangladesh emerged will not be fulfilled. others, were present at the discussion.

Coming down heavily on Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia for changing her birthday to August 15, Hasina said the opposition leader observes her birthday on that day in a bid to encourage the killers of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman. "They [BNP-Jamaat] awarded the killers and gave them jobs in Bangladesh

missions abroad," she said. The opposition has not yet commented on the execution of Bangabandhu's killers because of a severe pain in their heart as they tried all their best to save the killers",

said Hasina.

The collaborators of the killers of Bangabandhu could not bring any good for the country, its people and the necessity of the alliance. He democracy, she said. "Rather they created militancy and destabilised the country. So,

An opposition leader who you [people] will have to be recently met Khaleda said he careful about them." and a few others had an informal meeting with her and they Hasina directed party eaders to work for the welfare discussed the issue. "It is true of the people who voted the AL we have to go for movement to power and always hope that but now we have to work on our own to make our respective the AL will stand beside them party strong," he quoted in times of crisis and need.

Khaleda as saying. She also directed them to BNP leaders said the party is strengthen the organisation. fully focused on completing its She said her government will reorganisation process as well as that of its front and associate bodies. If the situation arise, the party would think about a common anti-government Ihenidah Police Super Rezaul platform after the reforms, they

> They hoped to complete the BNP reorganisation, with formation of new committees, by this month. The party will also hold grassroots representatives' conference to boost field-level leaders' and work-

> ers' morale. Besides, the party high command announced the new committee of Jatiyatabadi

> Chhatra Dal, pro-BNP student body, and Chhatra Dal has decided to form new committees at all levels in the next six months.

Khaleda recently said the committees for Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal and Mahila Dal would

be announced soon. The BNP-led four-party alliance became inactive after the humiliating defeat it had sustained in the December, 2008, general elections.

FROM PAGE 1 branches of six trees and a few branches of another Palash tree on the south part of the pre-

The PWD authorities might have chopped off the branches on request of law enforcement agencies, said Saiful, also the member secretary of Amar Ekushey Udjapon Committee, He said law enforcers in

sure that no trees and their leaves create obstacles to their activities. Also known as flame of the forest, the trees were planted to carry the spirit of the month of

several meetings asked to make

February. And their flowers represent the colourful and joyous season of spring. Prof Syed Hadiuzzaman, director of the arboriculture department at DU, said every

year ahead of February 21 these

trees lose their branches. Prof Md Abul Hasan, chairman of Botany department at DU said, this is the blooming season for Palash and cutting branches in this period is not acceptable.

The current loss might hamper the blooming of flowers next year, he added.

On February 21, government high-ups, including president prime minister, ministers, will pay their tribute to the martyrs of the Language Movement, 1952 by placing wreaths.

Khulna AL

FROM PAGE 1

their followers went to the office of sub-divisional engineer a around 10:00am and prevented them from dropping bid papers.

Nine contractors, who hold different positions in Khulna district and city Awami League, submitted bids under three Dabiruddin declined to

disclose the names of the contractors or the firms. Wishing anonymity, one of

the nine contractors said the 80 other contractors would get back the money they spent for buying tender schedules. "It is not true that we pre-

vented anyone from dropping bid papers," he said ruling out the allegation of tender manip-However, Mustafizur

Rahman Firu, general secretary of Khalishpur Awami League, admitted the incident of tender manipulation and demanded fresh floating of tenders.

Long queues

FROM PAGE 16

queues of visitors reached upto TSC intersection in the north and Doel Chottor in the south.

Visitors faced sea of dust while passing through the thin lanes of the premises. The stalls witnessed a very

good sale as the sellers were struggling to manage a large number of buyers. During children's hours, a good number of children visited

the premises with their parents. They were moving from one stall to another with joy and excite-Meanwhile, the authorities

announced the names of the winners of Bangla Academy Literary Award 2009. The winners included-Arunav Sarker and Rabiul

Hossain in poetry, Anwara Syed Haq and Sushanto Majumder in novel, Abul Ahsan Chowdhury in research and Rafigul Hag in children's books. As many as 206 new titles

arrived at the fair yesterday which included--Pagla Manik by Shawkat Ara Begum, Kabbo Samogra by Baitullah Kaderi, Kemon Kore Parli Tora Bol by Muhammad Habibur Rahman Shapnera Thake Shapner Odhare by Mustafa Jaman Abbasi.

Mosquitoes

FROM PAGE 16

"I have never seen such mosquitoes in my life which I face every day in my home especially in the evening," said Habib, a resident of Uttara sector-14.

An official of DCC said short age of adulticide, negligence of duty of field workers, lack of proper monitoring and cleaning drive in water bodies are the main reasons of the rise of

mosquito menace. The under construction buildings often block the drains creating new breeding ground

for mosquitoes, he said. The DCC authority did not allocate fund for cleaning the city's water bodies timely which is also the reason for increasing number of mosquitoes, said another official of DCC.

He stressed the need for cleaning a total of 5,142 bighas of water bodies regularly to destroy mosquito breeding grounds, he said.

DCC Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka said effectiveness of adulticide to kill mosquito has been reduced and DCC cannot use more effective adulticide due to protest from environmentalists that also has led to the aggravation of the menace.

He said DCC is also going to conduct another anti-mosquito drive soon to destroy mosquito breeding grounds. Khoka said a huge number of

mosquitoes come to the city from the breeding grounds outside the DCC area. He said they have written to

the LGRD ministry requesting them to take proper steps to destroy mosquito breeding

grounds outside the DCC area. DCChasaTk16crorebudget for mosquito control activities for 2009-2010 fiscal.

Shaheed Minar | Environment

NEWS

FROM PAGE 1

cleaning certificate to ship breakers but the system failed to prevent environmental pollution and reduce the number of accidents.

The last major accident occurred on December 26 last year at Rahim Steel, which had a cleaning certificate from the Department of Explosives. Six people were killed and 12 others sustained severe burn injuries in the incident.

Export or import of foreign ships without cleaning them is a violation of Basel Convention 1989, which Bangladesh has already ratified.

Sources said the environment and forest ministry made the move after ship breakers from Chittagong held talks with Environment and Forest Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud, who hails from the port city. In its directive on the gov-

ernment on March 18, the court asked the environment and forest ministry to formulate within three months necessary rules on shipbreaking in line with Bangladesh's obligations under the Basel Convention, 1989, the Environment Conservation Act, 1995 and the Environment Conservation Rules, 1997.

But the ministry did not take enough measures to control the ship breakers.

None of the 36 shipbreaking yards at that time took clearance certificate in accordance with the environmental law, rather the number of illegal yards doubled in the last 10 months. Many of them were set up clearing mangrove forests in Sitakunda.

Several visits to shipbreaking yards in Sitakunda revealed that none of the yards had any mechanism to deal with toxic wastes, which they directly dump into sea.

Over 30,000 workers are engaged in ship scrapping in Chittagong's Sitakunda, which houses the world's second largest ship-breaking industry. At least 250,000 people in the country live off the industry directly and indirectly, according to experts.

3 injured **FROM PAGE 16**

Chowdhury Shuvra, 23.

Sub-Inspector Abdul Hye of Government Railway Police said an Akhaura-bound local train from Kamalapur Railway Station hit the microbus around 9:30pm when the microbus tried to cross the level crossing.

Witnesses said the gateman being oblivious lifted the bar soon after another local train passed the crossing.

Two pedestrians also sustained injuries as the microbus hit them after it was tossed by the train, they said adding that the vehicular movement was not interrupted, as the accident caused no obstacle on the road

However, the SI visited the spot but could not ascertain whether the bar was lifted.

Labour Organisation report, 551 minor and 42 major accidents took place in the country's 36 ship-breaking yards from 1996 to 1998. The recent report of a

In 2008, 84 vessels were

scrapped in Sitakunda.

According to an International

survey, conducted by Greenpeace and International Federation for Human Rights, said on average at least one worker is injured a day and one dies a week.

Dhaka, Delhi

led the Bangladesh side at the

secretary level meeting. He also said the required investment for the plant will be between \$1.5 billion to \$1.7 billion. "We are not able to give you the exact figure until the feasibility study is finished," he however added.

Azad said although usually it takes around four years to set up such a power plant, they are optimistic about starting power generation in the new plant within three years of issuing the work order. Replying to questions from

reporters on what will be the unit price of the generated power and what will be the per unit cost of the generation, Azad said that also cannot be determined until the feasibility study is done. He also said coal for the plant will be imported, but from where that has yet to be determined

The cross-border power grid will take two years to be set up after the work order is issued. Forty five kilometres of the power line will be in Bangladesh, and the remaining 85 kilometres will be in

'It might be possible to begin importing 250MW of power from India from June 2012," said Azad.

About the per unit cost of importing power from India, its Power Secretary HS Brahma said power will be sold to Bangladesh at the rate paid by the state governments of India, which may range between 2.5 and 4 rupees, depending on factors such as generation cost, and the state where the power is being generated.

The Bangladesh power secretary indicated that the final cost of per unit power imported from India might stand at Tk 3.5 for Bangladesh.

He also said the crossborder power line could be used for importing power from the private sector of India as well, since the agreement allows private citizens and companies of both countries to invest in the power

sectors of each other. Talking at the briefing, the Indian power secretary said he hopes that the cooperation in power sector will be a good step forward for bilateral relations between the two countries.

PDB Chairman Alamgii Kabir, and other senior officials of both countries were also present at the briefing.

Climate change

another thick layer of problems for the UN as it grapples with what many experts describe as the greatest challenge of this century.

"There is drift and hesitation, and the resignation will add to the mood," said a senior European diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The December 7-19 conference in Copenhagen bitterly disappointed those clamouring for a new offensive against climate change.

It was supposed to unlock a historic pact that, from 2012, would unite all nations in rolling back greenhouse gases and defending poor countries from the damaged weather

systems. But it ended in near-fiasco. Desperate for a face-saving result, the leaders of the major carbon emitters cobbled together an outcome of the

lowest common denominator. Warming should be limited to two degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) and 30 billion dollars would be mustered in aid by 2012, with potentially hundreds of billions more by 2020, they declared.

But the agreement set down no roadmap for reaching the goal and in any case, the pledges made by nations are simply voluntary.

Barely was the ink dry on the accord than countries began to tiptoe away from it. China and India have so far failed to endorse the document, which entails declaring that they wish to be "associated" with it.

Today, momentum and direction seem to have ministerial level. drained out of the climate

process, say negotiators. The Copenhagen Accord lacks traction, for it raises suspicions of a rival forum,

driven by an elite group, to the global format. And hopes that the United

States, the world's second biggest polluter, will give a dynamic push are fading as President Barack Obama's domestic political problems

There is a post Copenhagen daze. Everyone is trying to take stock of what's going on," said Laurence Tubiana, director of the Institute of Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) in Paris.

After initially talking up the outcome of Copenhagen as a useful consensus, some governments are now openly admitting it was a setback.

"We need to admit that it was a failure," Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said on Thursday. "But at the same time it was a lesson. Such events require a different kind of preparation in the European Commission

chief, Jose Manuel Barroso, in a letter to the 27 leaders of the European Union (EU) described Copenhagen as "a reality check" for the EU's ambitious -- but unilateral -climate strategy. But these are only the first signs of what could be a long,

messy rethink about how to

put the UNFCCC process back together, a business that will be further complicated by the choice of the right individual to take the helm. Only two meetings have meeting. been scheduled this year -one in Bonn, at the relatively

low level of technocrats, the Commissioner of the district other in Mexico, climaxing at Saurendra Nath Chakravarty, Chairman of Bangladesh "The real problem is a lack Fisheries Development of political guidance. Who is Corporation Khurshida giving the lead?" complained a Khatun, among others, were European climate negotiator. present.

Outlaw leader China at odds killed in

Chinese rule.

tions".

House meeting.

affairs would fail".

unveiled.

nations.

'shootout'

An outlawed party was killed in a "shootout" between his accomplices and the Rapid Action Battalion members while a constable was injured at Bangram village in Sadar upazila Thursday midnight. The deceased was identified

UNB, Rajbari

as Samad Mollah alias Samad Member alias Aziz commander of the banned Purbo Banglar Communist Party (ML-Janajuddha). Rab sources said a gang of

outlaws was holding a secret meeting on the embankment of the Padma River near Laxmikol Govt Primary School to carry out terrorist activities in the Acting on a tip-off, a team of

the elite force rushed to the spot and urged the outlaws to surrender. Sensing their presence, the criminals opened on the law

enforcers forcing them to fire back that triggered a tenminute long gunfight. "Samad, also chief of Samad Bahini, was wounded in the

the spot," said a spot account. Constable Kamaluddin was wounded in the gunfight, Rab

gunfight while his cohorts fled

Sadar Hospital where the doctors declared him dead. A pistol, a revolver, six rounds of bullet and six bottles of phensidyl syrup were recov-

Rab members took Samad to

ered from the spot. Samad was wanted in number of cases, including

No respite

FROM PAGE 16 were killed in custody since the

November 17 suo moto rule upon the government for an explanation on this issue. The same day Mahbubey Alam assured the court that he

would personally ask the Rab director general to take measures so that such killings do not take place in the elite force cus-He said, "I have instantly informed the authorities concerned of the government about

He also said that he did not know whether any extra-judicial killing took place after the HC had expressed concern over the

The hearing on the suo moto

rule, which was to be held on

the High Court's concern over

the killing incidents in custody."

January 10, has not yet taken place due to reconstitution of HC benches early January. Asked whether there was any possibility of holding the hearing at the HC soon, the attorney general said he did not know

about it. He also said that he did not know the latest status of the case.

In December, human rights organisations Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust and ASK submitted separate statements on extra-judicial killing to the HC. According to the statement, over 1,000 people have been killed in custody in "so-called" crossfire, encounter or gunfight since the Rab formation in 2004.

BSF tortures

came to Bangladesh following the torture.

Golam said the BSF arrested him and cut off his left wrist at one stage of brutal torture when he was returning to Bangladesh on the night after buying cattle.

The victim later reached Bangladesh territory on the night by crossing bordering Sonai river.

In another incident, cattle trader Nur Islam was tortured by BSF troops of CS Khali camp while he was returning to Bangladesh with four cattle on the same night.

After torturing him, BSF personnel threw him into the bordering Kalindi river near Banshjhharia in Kaliganj upazila. Local people later rescued him. Both the cattle traders were crossing the borders illegally.

When contacted, Major Jahangir of 41 Rifle Battalion and Major Tareq of 7 Rifle Battalion at Nildumur said they have heard of the incidents.

Dredging

the Kaptai Lake area here in the morning.

The minister also said different projects would soon be undertaken to ensure employment of people, associated with different activities near the water body. Vulnerable Group Feeding

aid of fishermen during the ban period of fishing, said Dipankar Talukdar, state minister for CHT Affairs. Later, the minister inaugurated a two-day health service camp on the premises of the

Cards would be provided in

district civil surgeon office at Old Hospital Road at the town. Rotary Club of Rangamati Lake City and University of Science and Technology, Chittagong, organised the

Rangamati Hill District Council Chairman Nikhil Kumar Chakma, and Deputy

FROM PAGE 16 of dialogue with the Chinese

A US embassy spokeswoman

use the "Dalai Lama issue to

interfere in China's internal

and no specific reprisals were

believe China's protests may be

geared more for domestic con-

sumption and that it is not inter-

ested in upsetting cooperation

between the world's largest

developed and developing

with the Dalai Lama, the USS

Nimitz aircraft carrier arrived for

a visit in Hong Kong. Beijing had

vowed to cut off military ties after

the Obama administration last

month agreed to sell 6.4 billion

dollars in weapons to Taiwan

Obama had put off key steps

that would anger China in his

first year in office, hoping to work

together on issues ranging from

reviving the global economy to

president's first trip to Beijing.

Dalai Lama has now met every

The Dalai Lama also met

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

and was greeted across

Washington by hundreds of flag-

waving Tibetans who chanted,

"Long live the Dalai Lama!" and

"Thankyou, President Obama!"

After his meetings, the Dalai

George H.W. Bush in 1991.

Obama did not meet with the

fighting climate change.

which China claims as its own.

Just hours before the meeting

However, he gave no details

Some US-based analysts

government," Gibbs said. The Dalai Lama, who fled his homeland for India in 1959, advocates a "middle way" of seeking greater rights for Tibetans while accepting

Beijing accuses the Dalai Lama of plotting to split up China, dismissing his conciliatory approach as insincere.

China said Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai summoned US ambassador Jon Huntsman said. to lodge "solemn representa-

told AFP that Huntsman replied thinktime will tell. by telling Cui "now is the time to move forward and cooperate in ways that benefit our two countries, the region and the world."

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Ma demanded that the United States take immediate steps to "eliminate the perni-

cious impact" of the White Ma added that any attempt to Different organisations will

> day of 1952 Language Movement. Multi-layer security arrangements have been made in and around the Shaheed Minar for peaceful observance of the day

be deployed at the main venue of the programme. Salam, Barkat, Rafiq, Jabbar, Safiur and other brave sons of the nation sacrificed their lives on this day in 1952 to establish Bangla as the state language of the then Pakistan. Since then the day has been observed as

Cultural Organisation (Unesco) declared the day as the International Mother Language

press release yesterday. A 39-member team of India-

tribute to the language martyrs. Ekushey Padak Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over the Ekushey Padak-2010 to 15 eminent

The accolade comprising Tk lakh, a citation and a gold medal weighing three tolas will be given to each of them in recognition of their outstanding

Bureau of Investigation.

nearby airport.

were injured.

The pilot, identified as

Joseph Stack, was believed to

on fire before heading out in

his personal plane from a

which tore through the build-

ing, Acevedo said it was a

blessing that so few people

heroic actions this morning,'

he said, praising people in the

building and the emergency

signed Joe Stack was discov-

ered online that blamed the

government for an unfair tax

system which he apparently

concluded that "violence not

only is the answer, it is the only

The unverifiable note

The writer said he hoped

crews who responded.

said ruined his life.

answer.

"I believe there were some

A rambling suicide note

Given the massive fireball

US pilot flies

The plane struck the sec- have set his own Austin home ond floor of the seven-story building housing an Internal Revenue Service office in Austin, Texas at 9:56 am (1556 GMT) and burst into flames in a massive explosion that forced people to flee out of the windows, witnesses and offi-

Austin police chief Art

Fighter jets were scrambled in response to the incident, while the shocking images stirred for many Americans bitter memories of the September 11, 2001 attacks by al-Qaeda.

"Today in the city of Austin, we saw a deliberate and intentional attack against the federal building," said US congressman Michael McCaul, who represents the district where the attack occurred. "It is something that exposed the weakness we have seen since 'This was a Piper Dakota,

one of the smallest private aircraft manufacturers. When you look at the devastation behind me, almost bringing down the entire building, it is really extraordinary." Claire Cowand was driving

into the building with its wings on a slight angle.

Officials stressed that the attack did not appear to be linked to international terrorism, although White House spokesman Robert Gibbs pointed out that it could still be considered an act of domestic terrorism.

Tibet is part of China.

"We are fully committed to remain within the People's Republic of China, for our own interest," he told reporters. "Tibet is a landlocked country and, materially, very, very back-

He also supported US efforts to seek friendly ties with Beijing and voiced understanding for Obama's decision not to see him

last year. "It is wrong when some say, contain China. It is wrong," he

The Dalai Lama did not specify how he expected Obama to support Tibetans, saying: "I

"Fifty years have passed. We have never given up hope."

Amar Ekushey FROM PAGE 1

Shaheed Minar.

Social, cultural, academic and professional bodies and individuals will also pay homage to the martyrs at the venue.

About 8000 police and Rapid Action Battalion personnel will

hold programmes marking the

the Language Martyrs' Day. In 2000, United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Bangladesh Betar will broadcast the whole programme of the Central Shaheed Minar live, said a PID

Bangladesh-Pakistan People's Forum led by Disaster Dalai Lama last year ahead of the Management Minister of West Bengal Dr Mortuza Hossain With Thursday's encounter, the arrived in Bangladesh to pay sitting US president since

> persons at Osmani Memorial Auditorium today.

Lama reiterated his stance that contributions in different fields.

FROM PAGE 16 "They are not identified at this

cials said. "This appears to be an intentional act by a sole individual and it appears this individual was targeting federal offices in that building,

Acevedo told reporters.

to work when she saw the plane fly overhead and veer

"There was a huge fireball, a huge explosion," she told AFP. "It was incredible. It was unreal. It was terrifying, actually."

"I am going to wait though for all the situation to play out

people escape, she said. Congressman McCaul said an act of terrorism.

through the investigations people at a military installa-

before we determine what to label it," Gibbs said, adding that President Barack Obama was being kept informed on the investigation, which is

his actions would cause a "knee-jerk government reaction that results in more stupid draconian restrictions (that would make) people wake up and begin to see the pompous political thugs and their mindless minions for what they

fireball and sent black smoke billowing into the sky. "The building shook, it was almost like an earthquake," a witness named

Cynthia who was in a neigh-

bouring building in the com-

"People were on the second

floor. They couldn't get out.

The crash produced a huge

plex told CNN. She and her office mates left the building and saw people running towards the building that got hit by the

They were hanging out the windows screaming for help." Luckily there was a truck from a glass company nearby so people grabbed the ladders and were able to help the

the attack could be considered "It is like when you kill 13

tion, that is an act of terrorism, but when you fly an airplane into a federal building to kill people, it depends how you define terrorism, but it sounds being headed by the Federal like (it) to me."

while trying to save her husband. Locals took Sharmila to Pirganj Health Complex where she succumbed to her injuries at about 3:30am. The fire soon spread to the

worker in Dhaka.

FROM PAGE 1

2 outlaws

Karim said Shariful had served

an 18-year sentence and was

freed from jail four months

several cases. Masud, the

other outlaw, was a mosaic

Elderly couple

Shariful was accused in

adjacent houses and gutted about 40 houses.

Fire fighters brought the plaze under control after two hours of desperate efforts with the help of local people.