

**NEWS IN brief**

**Iraq violence killed 15,000 in 2014**

AFP, Baghdad  
Violence in Iraq killed more than 15,000 civilians and security personnel in 2014, government figures showed yesterday, making it one of the deadliest years since the 2003 US-led invasion. Last year's toll was also more than double the 6,522 people killed in 2013.

**Ebola death toll rises to 7,890: WHO**

AFP, Geneva  
The death toll from the Ebola outbreak in west Africa has risen to 7,890 out of 20,171 cases recorded, the World Health Organization said Wednesday. Ebola is spread only through direct contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person showing symptoms such as fever or vomiting.

**Netanyahu wins party primary**

AFP, Tel Aviv  
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu won another term as leader of the ruling rightwing Likud ahead of a snap election, the faction said yesterday, easily defeating his lone hard-right challenger. The results of the ballot clear the way for Netanyahu to lead his Likud party into battle for the upcoming election on March 17.

**Mamata debuts on Twitter**

THE HINDU ONLINE  
West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee yesterday debuted on Twitter and greeted the people on New Year. Her very first tweet from @MamataOfficial read: "A New Year. A new beginning for me on Twitter". Within an hour of joining the social networking site, she notched up 1,000 followers.

**Japan records only 1m birth in 2014**

AFP, Tokyo  
Japan's estimated number of newborn babies last year fell to 1.001 million, the lowest figure on record, further contributing to the ageing and shrinking of the country's population, official data showed yesterday. The number marked an all-time low for the fourth straight year, the health, labour and welfare ministry said, while the estimated number of people who died in 2014 totalled 1.269 million, rising for the fifth straight year.

**Five troops killed in Indo-Pak LoC clashes**

**India accuses Pakistan of ceasefire violations to push-in terrorists**

AGENCIES  
Indian border forces killed four Pakistani interior-ministry troops on New Year's Eve, ending a year in which clashes between the nuclear-armed neighbours have escalated and hopes for reconciliation faded. Wednesday's incident, on the international border in Jammu and Kashmir, followed the killing earlier in the day of an Indian border guard, a senior officer from India's Border Security Force said.



**BSF Inspector-General Rakesh Sharma and jawans carry the body of Ram Gawaria, who was killed in a firing by Pakistan Rangers on Wednesday, in Jammu yesterday.** PHOTO: PTI

through the night in Samba district, 41 km from Jammu, reports NDTV. Meanwhile, Pakistan said it had lodged a protest with the Indian high commissioner in Islamabad, reports BBC.

"The Indian deputy high commissioner was summoned to the ministry of foreign affairs to lodge a strong protest on the unprovoked firing," a Pakistani foreign office statement said.

Correspondents say 2014 saw an escalation in hostilities between the neighbours with some of the worst violence in a decade. Both sides have accused each other of starting hostilities.

Earlier in the summer, India's PM Narendra Modi invited his Pakistani counterpart Nawaz Sharif to his inauguration and there were hopes that relations between Delhi and Islamabad would improve.

But ties have deteriorated since then with India cancelling scheduled talks with Pakistan in August and insisting that Delhi would "not tolerate acts of border violations by Pakistan" and that "ceasefire violations must stop".

Kashmir, claimed by both countries in its entirety, has been a flashpoint for more than 60 years and the South Asian rivals have fought two wars over the region.

**Pakistan, India swap lists of nuke facilities**

AFP, Islamabad  
Pakistan and India yesterday exchanged lists of their nuclear sites under an agreement barring them from attacking each other's atomic facilities in the event of war, officials said.

The annual New Year's Day exchange was established under a 1988 agreement. The neighbours, who have fought three wars, have also set up a telephone hotline to prevent accidental nuclear conflict.

The lists were handed over to officers of the Pakistani and Indian High Commissions in New Delhi and Islamabad, according to a statement by Pakistan's foreign office.

The two countries also exchanged lists of each other's civilian prisoners under a 2008 agreement.

"The ministry of foreign affairs handed over a list of 526 Indian prisoners to the High Commission of India in Islamabad," the foreign office said.

"A similar list of Pakistani prisoners in Indian jails was handed over to High Commission of Pakistan in New Delhi," the statement added, without mentioning the figure.

**Imran Khan 'marries' former BBC presenter**

AGENCIES



**Imran Khan Reham Khan**

Cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan has secretly married a former BBC anchor Reham Khan in a hush hush wedding, according to media reports.

The 62-year-old Imran is believed to have tied the knot last weekend with Pakistani news anchor Reham, 41, who is a divorcee and mother-of-three.

She lived in Britain for part of her previous marriage, when she was a weather girl and presenter on the BBC regional news programme 'South Today'.

Imran Khan on Thursday released a statement, that did little to clarify his marital status.

In a press statement by Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf's central media cell, Imran said "marriage cannot be entered into lightly... second marriages especially need to be considered carefully as children are involved".

The PTI Chairman did however remain cryptic about whether the marriage had already taken place:

"We are all in a state of mourning at present and it is only respectful that we wait for an appropriate time," he said.

Imran was previously married to Jemima 'Goldsmith' Khan and has two sons with her, Sulaiman Isa and Kasim. The couple divorced in 2004.

Jemima had revealed in October this year that she was ditching the surname 'Khan' and reverting to her family name because her ex-husband was about to remarry.

She said at the time: "My ex-husband, Imran, recently announced that he intended to get remarried soon, which made me think it's probably time to change my name back to Goldsmith."

A family friend said that relatives including his sisters were against the marriage and were surprised he went ahead.

**Cancer is the 'best death'!**

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Dying of cancer is the "best death" and we should "stop wasting billions trying to cure" it, a leading doctor has said.

Dr Richard Smith, a former editor of the British Medical Journal, said that cancer allowed people to say goodbye and prepare for death and was therefore preferable to sudden death, death from organ failure or "the long, slow death from dementia".

Referring to the writings of surrealist Luis Buñuel, Dr Smith said that cancer was the closest thing to the filmmaker's professed wish for "a slower death".

"You can say goodbye, reflect on your life, leave last messages, perhaps visit special places for a last time, listen to favourite pieces of music, read loved poems, and prepare, according to your beliefs, to meet your maker or enjoy eternal oblivion," Dr Smith wrote in a blog published for the BMJ, a journal he edited until 2004.

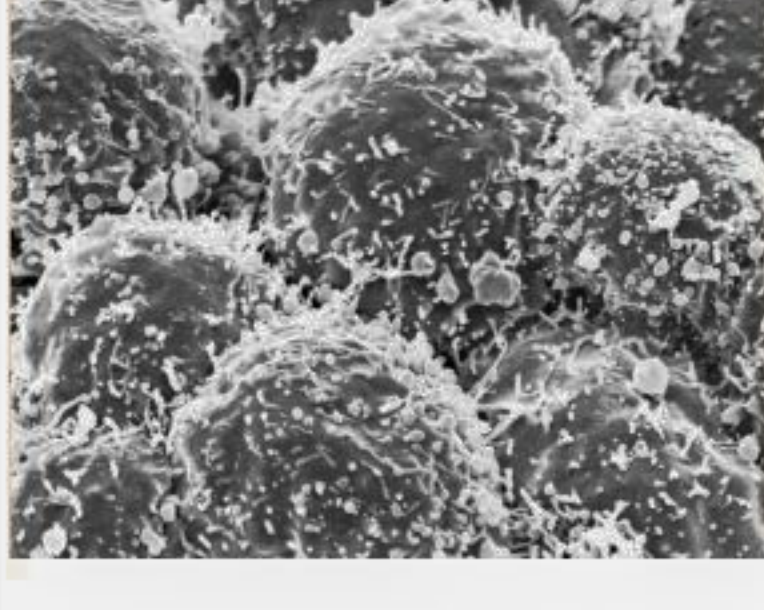
"This is, I recognise, a romantic view of dying, but it is achievable with love, morphine, and whisky. But stay away from overambitious oncologists, and let's stop wasting billions trying to cure cancer, potentially leaving us to die a much more horrible death," he wrote.

Dr Smith, who also worked as a TV doctor for the BBC and TV-AM for six years, is now chair of both the medical records company Patients Know Best and the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research.

In his blog, he argues that a quick, sudden death - despite being most people's choice - can be hard on bereaved relatives and friends, particularly where there are unresolved issues in a relationship, while organ failure can leave people "far too much in hospital and in the hands of doctors," he wrote. A death following dementia, he writes "may be the most awful as you are slowly erased".

Buñuel himself, who died in Mexico City of pancreatic cancer at the age of 83 in 1983, wrote that while he was "not afraid of death" he was "afraid of dying alone in a hotel room, with my bags open and a shooting script on the night table. I must know whose fingers will close my eyes."

Cancer remains one of the most common causes of mortality in the UK, accounting for nearly one in three deaths. Last year [2014] a major milestone was reached in the development of treatments when Cancer Research UK announced that half of cancer sufferers now survive the disease for 10 years or more.



**Lankan army scaring off Tamil voters**

ACCUSES OPPOSITION

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's opposition yesterday accused the government of deploying thousands of troops to deter ethnic minority Tamils from voting against President Mahinda Rajapakse in next week's election.

A top opposition official said the sending of reinforcements to Tamil-majority areas was part of a strategy to intimidate voters against backing Rajapakse's main challenger Maithripala Sirisena in the January 8 contest.

Ranil Wickremesinghe, one of Sirisena's main backers, told the Colombo diplomatic corps that he had information about the "use of military personnel to interfere in the electoral process to prevent people from voting in the north and the east".

Wickremesinghe, who is a former prime minister, said some 2,000 troops in civilian clothing had already been deployed in the north to deter potential voters from going to the polls next Thursday.

**Shells hit Afghan wedding party**

20 killed; army blamed for the 'mistaken attack'

AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan yesterday launched an investigation into whether the army was responsible for mortars fired into a wedding party that killed at least 20 guests in the restive southern province of Helmand.

Many of the dead were women and children and at least 50 people were injured in the incident late Wednesday in Sangin district, a Taliban stronghold where US and British troops were involved in years of fierce fighting.

The attack came during clashes in the area between Afghan forces and insurgents following the end of Nato's combat operations on December 31 after 13 years of war.

"We confirm the attack on a wedding ceremony in Sangin last night," deputy defence ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri told AFP.

"We have appointed a delegation to do their investigation. They went to the area where the attack took place. After their investigation, we will share its results."

Karem Atal, head of the Helmand provincial council, said the Afghan army was to blame for the mistaken attack.

The Taliban issued a statement also saying the Afghan army was responsible.

"Last night, puppet security forces fired mortars from so many directions on a wedding ceremony," the statement said.

"In this attack, 62 people were killed including women and children, and many others wounded. We condemn this brutal and cowardly attack."

President Ashraf Ghani said in a speech yesterday that Afghan forces were now solely responsible for security, as the country struggles with a worsening insurgency.

"Today our security forces have become successful in defending sovereignty and taking full security responsibility," Ghani, who made no mention of the wedding deaths, said.



**Cut off her nose**

Indian rape victim faces village elders' wrath

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Village elders in the state of Rajasthan, India have ruled that an alleged rape victim should have her nose cut off - reportedly following a complaint from the man accused of raping her.

According to police, the woman is from the lowest "Dalit" or "untouchable" level in the country's ancient caste system, and came to them in September to say that her husband's father had been harassing her and that he had subsequently raped her.

He was arrested, but released on bail two weeks ago - at which point he called a meeting of the local panchayat or village court. According to the Hindustan Times, they ruled that the alleged victim should be punished for fleeing from her husband's family home and sentenced her to maiming.

The woman is now in police protection, the newspaper reported, after her own mother and father took her in.

The "panchayat" system of adjudication by village elders is separate from the police in India, and is traditionally used to settle disputes among members of the same caste.

**Dhaka Water Supply & Sewerage Authority (DWASA)**

“শান্তি” পানি পান করুন সুস্থ থাকুন। “শান্তি” পানি মায়ের মমতার মত নিরাপদ।

**Invitation for Tender**

The undersigned is inviting tenders from the eligible tenderers for the following works:

Sl No	Name of the tender	Tender No. & date	Procurement method	Amount of tender security
1	Construction of 5 (five) numbers delivery line with related works at 5 (five) different places in Dhaka City Under IUWSP, Dhaka WASA, Dhaka. (Package No-W-10, Lot No-05,07,08,09,10,12 &14).	Tender No-46.113.504.10.01.086/087/07 3/088/072/074/085. 2014-050, Date: 28/12/2014	Limited Tendering Method (LTM)	N/A
2	Construction of 3 (three) Numbers 110.415KV 200 KVA Pad Mounted Sub Station at 3 (three) different DTW Compound area in Dhaka City, Dhaka WASA. (Package No-W-12, Lot No-03,07,08, 09 & 10).	Tender No-46.113.504.12.01.070/093/08 2/095/083.2014-051, Date: 28/12/2014.	Limited Tendering Method (LTM)	N/A
3	Construction of 10 (ten) Numbers Temporary Tinshed (Pump House) at 10 (ten) different places in Dhaka City Under IUWSP, Dhaka WASA, Dhaka (Package No-W-07, Lot No-03).	Tender No-46.113.504.07.01.091. 2014-052, Date: 28/12/2014.	Limited Tendering Method (LTM)	N/A
4	Construction of 5 (five) Numbers Pump House with related works at 5 (five) different places in Dhaka City Under IUWSP, Dhaka WASA, Dhaka (Package No-W-15, Lot No-03, 04, 05, & 07).	Tender No-46.113.504.15.01.055/076/08 9/090. 2014-054, Date: 28/12/2014.	Limited Tendering Method (LTM)	N/A
5	Land Development and protection work at Mirpur Rupnagar R/A DTW Compound (West side of Road No: 5&6) Under IUWSP, Dhaka WASA, Dhaka (Package No-W-17, Lot No-01).	Tender No-46, 113.504.17.01.066.2014-055, Date: 28/12/2014.	Limited Tendering Method (LTM)	N/A

Tender last selling date: 20/01/2015 during office hours.  
Tender closing date & time: 21/01/2015, 12:00 noon.  
Tender opening date & time: 21/01/2015, 3:00 pm.  
For details, visit Dhaka WASA website: www.dwasa.org.bd  
The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

**Mohd. Akhtaruzzaman**  
Superintending Engineer, Water (R & D) Circle & Project Director, IUWS Project, Dhaka WASA.  
Telephone: 02-9117301

WASA-PI-140/2014  
GD-16

**MUMBAI ATTACK**

**Pakistan court extends Lakhvi detention**

AFP, Islamabad

A Pakistani court yesterday sent the alleged mastermind of the 2008 Mumbai attacks to jail for two weeks in the latest round of a tussle over his detention that has worsened ties with India.

Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi, accused over the terror siege in India's commercial capital, was granted bail on December 18 by an anti-terror court but authorities later detained him under a public order law which was suspended by Islamabad High Court on Monday.

On Tuesday, police told a lower court that Lakhvi was accused in the kidnapping of a man six and half years ago, with the judge granting police his custody for two days to investigate.

The same court yesterday sent him for a further two weeks to Rawalpindi's Adiala jail, defence lawyer Rizwan Abbasi told AFP.

**Military Engineer Services**  
Directorate of Works & Chief Engineer (Army)

**Amendment to Invitation for Tenders**

- Tender name : Renewal/Alteration/Modification of existing JCO's/OR's Qtr (Bldg No. 529/1-10 & 267/1-10) under GE (Army) Maint South at Dhaka Cantt (Group-VII).  
Invitation for tender No. : 29 of 2014-2015/E-6 Dated 16 October 2014 Sl. No. 15 (c)  
Appeared in : Dainik Sangbad on 27 October 2014 & The Daily Star on 27 October 2014, Dainik Sangbad on 20 November 2014 & The Daily Star on 22 November 2014 and Dainik Sangbad on 10 December 2014 & The Daily Star on 10 December 2014.
- Tender name : Repair/Maintenance of Internal Building, Road, Drain, Decoration Work, Electric Line, Water Line, Sanitary Line, Gas Line, Fan Repair, Furniture, AC & Freeze and Supply of Goods (Hardware items), Bulbs, Paint/Polish, Electric, Water, Sanitary, Gas and Furniture items for CMH Dhaka under GE (Army) Maint North at Dhaka Cantt.  
Invitation for tender No. : 35 of 2014-2015/E-6 Dated 05 November 2014.  
Appeared in : Dainik Samakal on 14 November 2014 and The Daily Sun on 14 November 2014 and Dainik Sangbad on 10 December 2014 & The Daily Star on 10 December 2014.
- The following items are amended as follows:
  - Tender name : Repair/Maintenance of Building, Road, Drain, Electric, Water, Sanitary, Gas, Fan, Furniture, AC & Freeze for CMH Dhaka under GE (Army) Maint North at Dhaka Cantt.
  - Tender last selling date : 07 January 2015 upto 1430 hours.
  - Tender submission date & time : 08 January 2015, 1200 hours.
  - Tender opening date & time : 08 January 2015, 1230 hours.
  - Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting : Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW & CE (A) at GE (A) Project, Dhaka Cantt, 07 January 2015, 1000-1100 hours.
- All other aspects of the above invitation for tenders shall remain unchanged.

ISPR/Army/2014/3013  
29/12/14  
GD-5061

**DW & CE (Army)**  
Dhaka Cantt