

NEWS IN brief

Turkey detains journo over tweets

AFP, Istanbul

Turkish authorities yesterday detained a prize-winning journalist over a succession of tweets and articles for an opposition daily, state media said, as alarm grows over press freedom in the country. Ahmet Sik was detained on accusations of making "terror propaganda" and denigrating the Turkish Republic, said the judicial authorities and police.

Azerbaijani forces kill 3 Armenian troops

AFP, Yerevan

Azerbaijani forces yesterday killed three Armenian troops in the latest border clash between the neighbours locked in a protracted conflict over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, Yerevan said. "In the early hours of Thursday morning, Azerbaijani armed forces attempted a subversive intrusion into Armenian territory," Armenian defence ministry spokesman Artur Hovhannissyan told AFP.

Drinking water crisis hits Indian island

AFP, Mamoutzou

The Indian Ocean island of Mayotte has been forced to impose severe water restrictions on tens of thousands of people due to the late arrival of seasonal rains. Around a third of the 200,000 residents on the island, which is administered by France, have seen their access to piped water at home cut to one day in three.

Zambia drafts in air force to combat pests

AFP, Lusaka

Zambia has ordered the national air force into action to fight a plague of pests that has invaded maize crops and threatened vital food supplies. The air force is transporting pesticides across the country so that fields can be sprayed in an attempt to combat infestations of "army worms", a type of larvae moth that can decimate crops.

World's oldest male panda dies

AFP, Beijing

The world's oldest male panda, with more than 130 descendants -- a quarter of all the captive-bred pandas on the planet -- has died aged 31, officials said. Giant pandas have a notoriously low reproductive rate, a key contributor -- along with habitat loss -- to their status as vulnerable on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List of threatened species.

Twin bombings in Philippines wound 39

AFP, Manila

At least 39 people have been injured in two separate bomb attacks in the Philippines, authorities said yesterday.

In the first incident, two bombs exploded late Wednesday in the central island of Leyte, wounding 33 people who were watching a boxing match in Hilongos, government officials said.

Another unexploded bomb was also found in the town, which is about 620 kilometres (385 miles) south of Manila, said the town's mayor Albert Villahermosa.

A bomb went off on a highway on the southern island of Mindanao barely an hour later, wounding six people, the military said.

"A lampost was catapulted from the impact of the explosion," said Lieutenant Colonel Edgar Delos Reyes.

The blast in Aleosan, hundreds of kilometres south of Hilongos, was close to the site of a Christmas Eve church bombing that injured 13.

Police said it was too early to say if Wednesday's bombings were connected or what the perpetrators' motives might be.

Mindanao has been wracked by bombings and other forms of violence carried out by Muslim extremists who consider the region their ancestral homeland, waging a decades-long independence struggle that is believed to have claimed more than 120,000 lives.

Muslim extremists have also been blamed for attacks outside Mindanao, such as the discovery of a bomb near the US embassy in Manila in November.

In the deadliest such attack recently, 15 people were killed in an explosion in President Rodrigo Duterte's home-town of Davao in Mindanao in September.



Visitors bow at the Yasukuni Shrine, which honours millions of Japanese war dead but also senior military and political figures convicted of war crimes after World War II, in Tokyo. Japan's hawkish defence minister Tomomi Inada, inset, yesterday prayed at the controversial war shrine the day after accompanying Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on a symbolic visit of reconciliation to Pearl Harbor, drawing condemnation from China and South Korea.

PHOTO: REUTERS, AFP

Fears of proxy war grow in Afghanistan

Russia, Iran, Pakistan build new axis to accommodate Taliban as a tool against IS

TNN, New Delhi

As Russia, China and Pakistan work towards building a new axis in Afghanistan to accommodate Taliban as a tool against the Islamic State terror group, it could have unforeseen consequences for the Russia-India relationship.

On Tuesday, China, Pakistan and Russia met in Moscow to discuss Afghanistan's "deteriorating" security situation, despite strong protests from the Afghan government. The three countries relented towards the end of the day's discussions and said that they would expand the group to include Afghanistan the next time. There is already a move to induct Iran into this group.

Nandan Unnikrishnan, Russia analyst at

Observer Research Foundation, said, "In the present context of limited communication between India and Russia, Russia's actions could lead to a drift in relations." India only recently reaffirmed its ties with Russia by announcing almost \$10 billion in defence purchases from Moscow.

The statement issued at the end of the meeting said, "The Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China as the UN Security Council permanent

members confirmed their flexible approach to delisting Afghan individuals from the UN sanctions lists as their contribution to the efforts aimed at launching peaceful dialogue between Kabul and Taliban."



China to hold military drills with Nepal

REUTERS, Beijing

China will hold its first military drills with Nepal next year, China's Defence Ministry said yesterday, in a move that could unnerve neighbouring India.

China is vying to increase its influence in landlocked Nepal, which serves as a natural buffer between China and India, challenging India's long-held position as the dominant outside power.

While China and India have tried to improve ties, a festering border dispute and deep mutual suspicions remain.

Speaking at a monthly news conference, Chinese Defence Ministry spokesman Yang Yujun said that China and Nepal's militaries had in recent years had many forms of exchanges.

I will throw you out

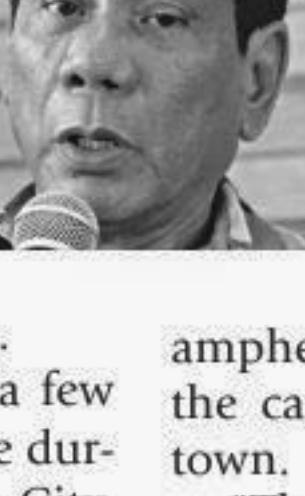
Says Philippines' Duterte threatening corrupt govt officials

REUTERS, Manila

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has threatened corrupt government officials with the prospect of being thrown out of a helicopter mid-air, warning he has done it himself before and had no qualms about doing it again.

The fiery-tempered former prosecutor said he once hurled a Chinese man suspected of rape and murder out of a helicopter.

"If you are corrupt, I will fetch you using a helicopter to Manila and I will throw you out. I have done this before, why would I not do it again?" Duterte said during a speech to victims of a typhoon on Tuesday, a clip of which is posted on a video feed of the president's office.



Duterte's latest threat comes just a few weeks after he admitted killing people during his 22 years as a mayor of Davao City, sometimes riding a motorcycle looking for "encounters to kill". Some senators have warned Duterte he risks impeachment over his comments.

He has repeatedly said those killings were

RUSSIAN MILITARY JET CRASH

'No explosion' on board: officials

AFP, Moscow

Russian officials probing the crash of a Syria-bound military plane said yesterday there was no explosion on board, but equipment was not functioning correctly when it plunged into the Black Sea.

The Soviet-era Tu-154 plane went down shortly after takeoff from Sochi airport on Sunday morning, killing all 92 on board, including scores of performers from a feted Red Army Choir troupe.

"There was no explosion on board, I can say that for certain," said Sergei Bainetov, head of flight safety for the Russian air force. "But an act of terror is not necessarily an explosion, so we are not discarding this version."

Transport Minister Maxim Sokolov said the probe had established the plane was not working normally but will not issue any conclusions before January, cautioning journalists not to jump on any theories.

"It is obvious that the equipment was functioning abnormally. Why that happened is up to experts to work out," he told reporters.

The military ensemble was due to give a concert to Russian soldiers at the Hmeimim base, Moscow's main outpost for its bombing campaign in support of President Bashar al-Assad.

Bainetov said the air force had ground the Tu-154, which is not used by commercial airlines, "until the first conclusions" are made about the crash.



Italian military corps patrol in front of the Colosseum, in central Rome yesterday. The authorities are beefing up security for New Year's eve celebrations in Rome after last week's truck attack in Germany, deploying police with machine guns and securing festive zones.

PHOTO: AFP

China cops kill three in restive Xinjiang

AFP, Beijing

Chinese police have shot dead three people who allegedly attacked a Communist Party office in the restive Xinjiang region on Wednesday, state media said, in the bloodiest such incident in months.

The three "rioters" drove up to a local party office in Moyu County and "detonated (an) explosive device", killing two and injuring three others, the official Xinhua news agency reported, citing a statement from the local authorities.

The three assailants were then "shot dead by police", Xinhua added, without specifying whether they were killed on the spot or later in the day.

A previous account had said that four attackers were shot dead after killing one civilian.

The brief report described the assault as a "terrorist attack".

Boko Haram leader appears in new video

Says group safe, not crushed

AFP, Kano

Boko Haram's elusive leader Abubakar Shekau appeared in a new video yesterday to dispute a claim that the jihadist group had been routed from its Sambisa Forest stronghold.

"We are safe. We have not been flushed out of anywhere. And tactics and strategies cannot reveal our location except if Allah wills by his decree," Shekau said in the 25-minute video, flanked by masked armed fighters.

"You should not be telling lies to the people," he said, referring to Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, who said on Christmas Eve that the extremist group had been defeated and driven from its last known bastion.

"If you indeed crushed us, how can you see me like this? How many times have you killed us in your bogus death?" he asked.

It was not immediately clear where the new video was shot, but Shekau, who spoke in both Hausa and Arabic, said it was filmed on Christmas Day.

Shekau last appeared in a video in September where he disputed a claim by the Nigerian military that he had been wounded in battle.

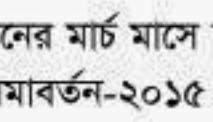
He vowed to continue fighting on until an Islamic state was imposed in northern Nigeria.

"The war is not over yet. There is still more," he said, vowing no "respite" for Nigerians.



ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

৫০তম সমাবর্তন-২০১৭



২০১৭ সনের মার্চ মাসে ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের শারীরিক শিক্ষা কেন্দ্রের খেলার মাঠে ৫০তম সমাবর্তন অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। উক্ত সমাবর্তনে ৪৯তম সমাবর্তন-২০১৫ অনুষ্ঠিত হওয়ার পর থেকে ৫০তম সমাবর্তন-২০১৭ এর আবেদন কর্ম জমা দেওয়ার শেষ তারিখের পূর্ব পর্যন্ত যেসকল খেলাগুলি প্রকাশিত হবে সেসকল খেলাগুলি প্রদর্শনের নির্মাণিত অংশগ্রহণ করার পথে।

পর্যবেক্ষণ সমন্বয়ের মাধ্যমে পূর্ণ করা হবে।

পর্যবেক্ষণ সমন্বয়ের মাধ