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Trump hits out against Europe

Accuses Merkel of mistake over migrants, says Nato obsolete, praises Brexit; Europe hits back

Nato is "obsolete", Germany's Angela Merkel made a "catastrophic mistake" on refugees, Brexit will be "great" and the US could cut a deal with Russia: Donald Trump unleashed a volley of broadsides Sunday in interviews with European media.
Five days before his inauguration as the 45th President of the United States, the billionaire populist let loose a torrent of controversial comments about European allies in interviews with British newspaper The Times and Germany's Bild.
He extended a hand to Russia, which has been hit by a string of sanctions under his predecessor Barack Obama over Moscow's involvement in Ukraine, the Syrian war and for alleged cyber attacks to influence the US election.
"Let's see if we can make some good deals with Russia," Trump said in remarks carried by The Times.
The US president-elect suggested a deal in which nuclear arsenals would be reduced and sanctions against Moscow would be eased, but gave no details.

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Bangladesh captain Mushfiqur Rahim is carried off on a stretcher after being struck in the back of the head while batting on the fifth day of the first Test against New Zealand at the Basin Reserve in Wellington yesterday. It was a heroic display from the captain, as he came out to bat with injured fingers and endured a barrage of bouncers for 52 deliveries before being laid low by one that did not bounce as much as expected.

37 dead as cargo plane hits Kyrgyz village

A cargo plane attempting to land in thick fog yesterday crashed into a village near Kyrgyzstan's main airport and killed at least 37 people, with authorities blaming "pilot error".
A massive section of the aircraft's tail billowed smoke as rescuers searched for victims among the wreckage in the village of Dacha-Suu, home to the majority of the dead.
"According to preliminary information, the plane crashed due to a pilot error," deputy prime minister Muhammetkaly Abulgaziev said at a briefing broadcast on state television.
A minimum of 37 people, including the plane's four pilots, were killed in the crash and the toll may rise, said a spokesman for the country's emergency services, Muhammed Svarov.
The plane was attempting to land in thick fog yesterday.

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Tangail AL to expel Rana

Seeks approval from central committee

Tangail Awami League has decided to expel Amanur Rahman Khan Rana, ruling AL lawmaker from Tangail-3 (Chatail) constituency, and his three brothers from the party over various allegations.
"The decision of cancelling primary memberships of the lawmaker and his brothers from the district unit Awami League will be communicated to the party's central committee for the final approval," said Joaherul Islam Joaher, general secretary of the AL unit.



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Eight richest as wealthy as half of humanity

Says Oxfam report; a company CEO earns as much in a year as 10,000 garment workers in Bangladesh

Just eight individuals, all men, own as much wealth as the poorest half of the world's population, Oxfam said on Monday in a report calling for action to curtail rewards for those at the top.
As decision makers and many of the super-rich gather for this week's World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting in Davos, the charity's report suggests the wealth gap is wider than ever before, with new data for China and India indicating that the poorest half of the world owns less than previously estimated.
Oxfam, which described the gap as "obscene", said if the new data had been available before, it would have shown that in 2016 nine people owned the same as the 3.6 billion who make up the poorest half of humanity, rather than 62 estimated at the time.

AGENCIES, DAVOS, Switzerland

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NASIRNAGAR MAYHEM Rasraj Das gets bail, finally

A CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Rasraj Das, who was arrested in connection with an attack on the Hindus in Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar upazila last year, was finally given bail yesterday.
Judge Md Ismail Hossain of Brahmanbaria District and Sessions Judge's Court granted him bail more than two months after the bail petition was filed.
Referring to a forensic report, Rasraj's lawyer Nasir Mia said there was no evidence that he had posted any photograph on Facebook that hurt religious sentiments.
He added the court granted him bail till submission of a police report in this connection.
Earlier on October 30, around 200 religious bigots attacked at least five temples and vandalised and looted about 100 Hindu houses in several localities in Nasirnagar.
Jahangir Alam, owner of Al-Amin Cyber Point and



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'Top outlaw' killed in 'shootout'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A "top outlaw" was killed in an alleged shootout with Rapid Action Battalion in Santhia upazila of Pabna early Monday.
Abdur Razzak, 42, of Bilshalangi village in the upazila, was a regional leader of a faction of outlawed Purba Bangla Communist Party, according to Rab.
Bina Rani Das, commander of Rab-12 (Pabna camp), said acting on a tip off that Razzak and his accomplices were preparing for a robbery, a Rab team raided Haludgar Bazar area around 4:00am on Monday.
Sensing Rab presence,

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PHOTO: STAR

Overgrown weeds in front of the worn-out ancestral home of actress Suchitra Sen in Pabna town. Due to absence of monitoring, petty criminals stole some of its doors and windows. Local addicts also use the house as a den. The photos were taken a couple of days ago.

Suchitra Sen's house in a shambles

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna
The ancestral house of legendary Bangla film actress Suchitra Sen in Pabna town has decayed without proper care, since it was freed from occupiers in July 2014 on orders of the Supreme Court.
A museum was to be set up at the property following the evacuation, according to an SC verdict. However, nothing but signs of neglect are visible there as Bangalees across the border observe the third death anniversary of the film icon today.
It feels like the premises have long been left uncared for as grasses have grown wild on the lawn, some doors and windows gone missing and garbage have been thrown everywhere.
Moreover, drug addicts use the place as a safe haven for their illegal activities, local people said.

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ZIA'S ACCIDENT Actor Kalyan gets bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to actor and model Kalyan Corraya, accused in a case filed over a hit-and-run incident that left chief photojournalist of Bangla daily Prothom Alo Zia Islam injured.
Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Md Kaisarul Islam passed the order after Sub-inspector Omar Faruk Khan, investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted a progress report on the interrogation of the accused at jail gate.
In the report, the IO said he interrogated the accused at the jail gate and gathered important information which was being verified. So, he needed to be in jail custody until the investigation was completed.
On Sunday, Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Abdulla al

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Flowers from spent bullets?

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK
The US army is hoping to create biodegradable bullets in an effort to minimise the impact that empty ammunition has on the environment.
The Department of Defence sent an official request to create bullets with seeds inside, which, after being in the ground for a few months, would grow.
It stated: "[The DoD want to] develop biodegradable training ammunition loaded with specialised seeds to grow environmentally beneficial plants that eliminate ammunition debris and contaminants."

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