World at a glance

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UK

Karl Marx's tomb vandalised
In a targeted attack, the marble plaque on Karl Marx's tomb in London was repeatedly hit with a blunt metal instrument. The lettering and stonework of the tomb was singled out and damaged. The plaque, the monument's oldest and most fragile part, carried the names of Marx and his family.

Russia

New missile systems by 2021
In response to USA's planned exit from a landmark nuclear arms control pact, Russia, too, is aiming to develop two new missile launch systems before 2021. The military will work on creating land-based launch systems for an existing ship-launched cruise missile and one for longer-range hypersonic missiles which travel at least five times the speed of time.

China

Welcoming the year of the pig
Greeting the Year of the Pig with open arms, the Chinese community of the world celebrated the Lunar New Year with prayers, family gatherings and shopping extravaganza. Hundreds of millions of people travelled back to their hometown in mainland China in the world's largest annual migration.

Venezuela

Maduro not ruling out civil war as an option

In a TV interview, Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro has said that he is not ruling out the possibility of a civil war as pressure mounts on him to step down after opposition leader Juan Guaidó declared himself as interim President and won the backing of USA and various European countries. Maduro has retained the support of the military as Guaidó aligns himself with Air Force.

Hong Kong

WWI grenade found
A German hand grenade from World War I era was found in a shipment of potatoes delivered from France to Calbee crisp-making factory in Hong Kong. The grenade, 8 cm wide, was in unstable conditions and defused using a high-pressure water firing technique by a bomb squad.

USA

Plans to deploy 3750 troops on border
USA plans to send nearly 4000 soldiers to its border shared with Mexico, making the number of active duty forces to be around 4350. The deployed forces are to provide additional support to the border security and customs agencies, and will be working towards constructing a new barrier of 241 kms of barbed wires.

India

A separate division for Ladakh
The Jammu and Kashmir government has ordered the creation of a separate administrative division for Ladakh region, comprising of Leh and Kargil districts. The region wanted a separate division due to unique topographic and cultural conditions and its distance from Srinagar. The state will now have three divisions: Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

Ghana

New visa restrictions over deportee argument

The citizens of Ghana will have to deal with new and stricter visa restrictions to visit USA after their country refused to accept 7000 Ghanaian nationals that US wanted to deport. The country has accused USA of inhumane treatments of the deportees and not giving them enough time to confirm their nationalities. On the other hand, USA blames Ghana for not living up to its obligations under international law.

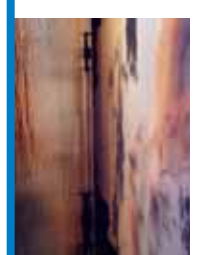
UAE

Historic visit by Pope Francis
Pope Francis, the first ever Pontiff to visit an Arabian Peninsula, landed in Abu Dhabi to be greeted by Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan. Taking part in an interfaith conference, he also held Mass, attended by more than 135,000 people.

Australia

Once-in-a-century flood in Townsville
Australia had to deploy its military services in the city of Townsville and neighbouring areas to help with the on-going flood that has inundated homes, schools, and airports, forcing many to flee the country's northeast region. Receiving more than 3.3 ft. of rain in just a week, it has beaten the previous record of 1998. More than 1100 people have called in the emergency services for help and around 400 Townsville residents had to find another shelter.

Contrary to popular belief, Brahmaputra river does not originate in India. It begins from Angsi glacier in Tibet, where it is called Tsangpo.



Brahmaputra