



THE HINDU

International News

North Korea fires mid-range missile

North Korea fired a medium-range missile on Sunday, U.S. and South Korean officials said, the latest ballistics test by a country speeding up its development of nuclear weapons and missiles. The rocket was fired from an area near the North Korean county of Pukchang, in South Phyongan Province, and flew eastward about 500 km, said South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff. The U.S. Pacific Command said it tracked the missile before it landed in the sea. White House officials travelling in Saudi Arabia with President Donald Trump said the system that was tested, which was last launched in February, had a shorter range than the missiles fired in North Korea's most recent tests. U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said both economic and diplomatic pressure would continue to be applied to North Korea. "Hopefully they will get the message that the path of continuing their nuclear arms program is not a pathway to security or certainly prosperity. The ongoing testing is disappointing, disturbing and we ask that they cease that," he said.

Swarm

Move in large numbers.

Terse

Brief and to the point.

Business News

Google woos start-ups to heat up its cloud

Google is wooing some of the world's hottest start-ups to sell its cloud computing technology. These include ventures that send satellites into the space to study the changing earth, firms that convert traditional manufacturing plants into smart factories and start-ups that are simulating entire cities. Google is offering cloud technology that combines a large amount of storage and computing. It then sells it to customers who may want to enhance or set up new data centres. Planet Labs, Inc, a start-up which is on a mission to image the entire Earth every day, and make the global change visible, said that it has switched to Google Cloud to host its imagery and do data processing. "There are a handful of companies that can offer storage and processing, we are really impressed by Google Cloud's core technology," said Will Marshall, co-founder and chief executive of Planet Labs, at Google Cloud Next conference held recently in San Francisco.

Translucent

Allowing lights to pass through diffusely.

Uncanny

Surpassing the ordinary.

State News

Crop loans: Farmers detect irregularities

The Telangana government is set to hand over 2,900 acres (1,174 hectares) to Indian Navy for building an Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) base station about 60 km from Hyderabad. The State will be left with 300 acres of the forest which will also be fenced and ringed with road by Navy. "The first stage clearance has been given and the Navy officials have deposited Rs. 133 crore and another amount of Rs. 12 lakh for fencing markers. There is no quid pro quo as is being speculated. The forest will become better with more protection as the whole area will be fenced and a road will be laid around it." said P.K. Jha Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana. The forest in question is home to wild rabbits, neelgai, chital, sambar, wild boar, peacocks besides a host of other small animals and birds. In 2007, two pairs of leopards were sighted showing the health of the forest. The density of forest ranges between above .4% in 244 hectares, between .1 to .4% in 425 hectares, less than .1% in 518 hectares.

Unpleasantly

Unpleasant to look at.

Vigilant

Careful observant.