World News Roundup

Asia

Kem offers olive branch

North Korea

South Korean President Moon Jae-in said on Thursday that North Korea's participation in the Olympics would be a “net positive”. The North has agreed to send a delegation to the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, in February, and Moon said he hoped that this would be a “good start” to the reconciliation process between the two Koreas. He also said that the two Koreas should work together to reduce tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Delegates from North and South Korea met on Wednesday to discuss the possibility of joint participation in the Olympics. Moon said that South Korea would do everything it could to support the North during the Games.

President Moon also said that the two Koreas should work together to reduce tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Korea's nuclear weapons programme, a source of escalating tensions between the two Koreas, will be discussed during a meeting between the two leaders in February.

The two Koreas are set to hold their first official talks in eight years on January 9, to discuss ways to improve relations and reduce tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Philippines

191 hurt in revelry

Fire officials relieved of duty over ‘deadly’ blaze

Fire officials were relieved of duty on the morning of the organization’s release, 10th at the Golden Tulip in Amman on Jan 1 (AFP)

The 191 injuries sustained during traditionally noisy New Year celebratory activities in the Philippines are an “acceptable” figure, a fire official said on Monday. “We have a patchy safety record, which is why the public is so concerned about the safety of the revelry,” said Maj. Gen. Jose Dalisay, chief of the National Fire Protection Center. He added that the Philippines has the lowest number of injuries among countries in the region.

Nearly 200 people were injured during traditionally noisy New Year celebrations in the Philippines despite President Rodrigo Duterte’s order limiting the size of festivities. The official death toll stands at two, with 15 people killed by a rocket explosion.

“We are relatively pleased — relative because there are always injuries in the revelry,” said Maj. Gen. Jose Dalisay, chief of the National Fire Protection Center. He added that the Philippines has the lowest number of injuries among countries in the region.

The Philippines is a popular destination for New Year revelers as it is known for its laid-back atmosphere and economic reforms, which have helped to increase tourism.

Philippines: 191 hurt in revelry

Crimea

Crimean Forensic Unit experts racket

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