

NEWSIN brief

Thai PM orders media to stop 'presenting news' on Thaksin

Thailand's junta leader yesterday threatened to tighten controls of the media unless they stop 'presenting news' about former premier Thaksin Shinawatra...

Vasan splits Congress in Tamil Nadu

Vasan splitting Congress in Tamil Nadu into two yesterday with former Union shipping minister GK Vasan quitting the party and floating a new outfit...

China unveils laser to shoot down drones

China has developed a highly accurate laser weapon system that can shoot down light drones at low altitude, state media reported...

Afghan deputy governor shot dead while in class

A deputy provincial governor was shot dead in Afghanistan's southern Kandahar province while he was sitting in class at a university...

Pakistan on high alert after border bloodshed

Pakistan was on high alert yesterday for the mourning processions of Ashura, a flashpoint for sectarian violence, a day after the country's deadliest bombing in more than a year killed 55 people...



Pakistani troops patrol a street in Quetta yesterday.

Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Mohammed. Thousands of minority Shias will take to the streets for mourning processions and the occasion has been marred by sectarian bloodshed in recent years.

EBOLA CRISIS US envoy cheers gains in battle

The US envoy to the UN, Samantha Power, on Sunday credited a reported drop in new Ebola infections in West Africa to US and other international aid efforts...

Iraq on 'high alert' for ISIS attacks on pilgrims

Iraq stepped up security amid fears of the Islamic State group launching major attacks as thousands of Shias flocked yesterday to the shrine city of Karbala for an annual pilgrimage...

DEVELOPMENTS Canada conducts first airstrikes Singapore to join coalition Al-Qaeda forces mass near Turkey crossing

government's firm resolve to tackle the threat of terrorism and to stand with our allies against ISIL's atrocities against innocent women, children and men...

Burkina army vows unity govt Protesters denounce power grab

Burkina Faso's military vowed to install a unity government after tightening its control over the west African nation on Sunday, firing tear gas and shots in the air to disperse protesters denouncing an army power grab...

after Isaac Zida -- the man it named as interim chief -- met with opposition leaders. International observers watching in alarm urged the army to return power to the civilians...

Europe warns Russia over Ukraine rebel poll

Europe yesterday blasted Moscow's recognition of separatist elections in Ukraine, saying the polls, which sought to put a legal veneer on the bloody pro-Russian rebellion, violated a peace agreement...



Daredevil Nik Wallenda wowed Chicago and the world Sunday with two hair-raising skyscraper crossings on high wires without a safety net or a harness, and performing one blindfolded...

24 killed in Turkey boat sink

At least 24 migrants, including children, drowned yesterday when a boat taking them towards European Union waters sank in the Black Sea just off Istanbul, Turkish officials said...

PROTECTING MIGRATION RULES Germany 'would accept UK exit from EU'

Chancellor Angela Merkel has reportedly warned David Cameron she would rather see the UK leave the EU than compromise over the principle of free movement. Der Spiegel news magazine quotes German government sources as saying she feared the UK was near a 'point of no return'...

The prime minister has insisted that freedom of movement of workers would be "at the very heart of my renegotiation strategy for Europe". But Merkel is said by the magazine to have made clear she will withdraw her support for the UK's continued EU membership if he continues to push for migration reform...

PRISON RAID Nigeria gunmen free 132 inmates

Gunmen armed with dynamite freed at least 132 inmates in a raid on a prison in central Nigeria's Kogi state, the same facility attacked by Boko Haram Islamists in 2012, police said yesterday. "They blew up the thing with dynamite", national police spokesman Emmanuel Ojukwu told AFP of the attack which took place late Sunday...

Terminally ill patient ends life by assisted suicide

A young woman who reopened the debate over assisted suicide after publically announcing she would take her own life, has died. Brittany Maynard, 29, who campaigned for "Death with dignity", was suffering from an aggressive malignant brain tumour and died in Oregon from taking lethal drugs prescribed by a doctor...

son for Compassion & Choices, said on Sunday that Maynard died "as she intended - peacefully in her bedroom, in the arms of her loved ones". Maynard posted a video to YouTube in October publically explaining that she had chosen to die on 1 November, stating: "I can't even tell you the amount of relief that it provides me to know that I don't have to die the way that it's been described to me, that my brain tumour would take me on its own." Maynard died on November 1. Oregon was the first US state to make it legal for a doctor to prescribe a life-ending drug to a terminally ill patient of sound mind who makes the request as part of its Death With Dignity Act...