

INDONESIA

Ex-ISIS fighters cannot return



GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA

A few years ago, hundreds of Indonesians left their country to join the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS). Many burned their Indonesian passports. Since ISIS was defeated last year, about 600 of these former ISIS fighters and their families are living in refugee camps in Syria. President Joko Widodo ← has decided not to allow them to return to Indonesia.

The government is worried that these “terrorist fighters” will pose a security threat to the country. Many in Indonesia support the government’s decision. But, terrorism expert Noor Huda told *SCMP*, “These people are the product of Indonesian society whether we like it or not. We can’t just dump this (on) the global community to handle.”

NORTH KOREA

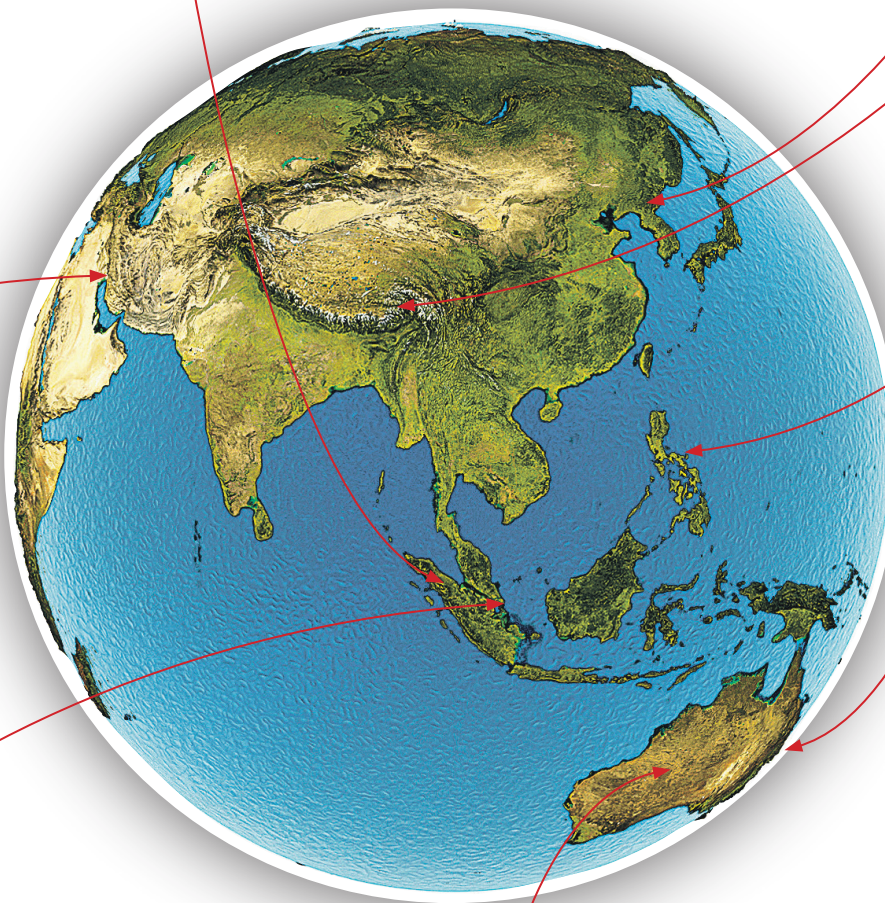
Escape
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NEPAL

Sightseeing for the blind
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PHILIPPINES

Growing cacao to fight deforestation
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IRAQ

Rare snowfall in Baghdad

People in Baghdad were pleasantly surprised to see snowflakes in February. Overnight, the city’s palm trees and cars were covered in white. Many took time to enjoy the snow, with children throwing snowballs and adults taking selfies. While it snows every year in the mountainous regions, it rarely happens in Baghdad. The last snowfall in the city was in 2008.

NEW ZEALAND

Rising temperatures kill mussels

A man who went to gather mussels along Maunganui Bluff Beach had a rude shock when he discovered hundreds of thousands of the shellfish dead and washed up on the shore. “It smelled like dead rotting seafood,” he told a news agency. A marine scientist said the mussels had died from heat stress due to rising ocean temperatures.

SINGAPORE

Hawker food heritage
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AUSTRALIA

Bullied boy’s family to give to charity

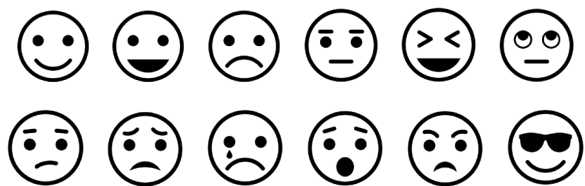
Nine-year-old Quaden Bayles suffers from dwarfism and was often bullied by other children. His mother posted a video of him crying after being bullied. The video went viral. Many people, including celebrities, wrote to support Quaden. American comedian Brad Williams started a fundraising campaign to send Quayden on a trip to Disneyland. It received over S\$600,000. Quaden’s family wants to give the

money to charity. “We want the money to go to community organisations that really need it. They know what the money should be spent on. So, as much as we want to go to Disneyland, I think our community would far off benefit from that,” Quaden’s aunt told *NITV News*.

No more climbing Ayers Rock
Page 9

YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT THE NEWS?

Read each of the news snippets on these two pages. Go to the stories tagged here as well and browse through them. Then, next to the 15 story titles, draw emojis that show how you feel.



You may use these ↑ or create your own emojis. Draw more than one for a news item if you have **mixed feelings** about it. When your mixed feelings are contrasting — for example, happy and sad at the same time — that is called **ambivalence**.

Share with a friend your feelings about these news stories. It is good to know what we feel and even better to put our emotions into words.

SOUTH AFRICA

Steroids in school rugby

The annual report of the South African Institute of Drug-Free Sports shows the list of athletes caught for doping, or taking banned drugs. The latest report had six teenage rugby players on the list. These young players had tested positive for steroids. “Steroids are going

to give you everything that a young rugby player would want — strength, power, speed,” Dr Jon Patricios told the *BBC*. “What these young players don’t realise are the side effects. Steroids can affect almost any system in the body, but most are hidden.”

UK

Big Ben's big repair bill

Big Ben's **↓** chimes are a regular feature on British television and radio. However, the grand old clock has been silent since 2017. Experts are working to restore the 177-year-old clock tower to its previous glory. They will repair the clock faces and mechanism, and cracks and corrosion in the tower. They

even plan to install a lift up the tower and replace the lights with low-energy LED lights. However, the cost of renovations has been going up, as Big Ben's condition is worse than expected. It may now cost almost \$140 million to get the job done.



PEDRO SZEKELY



newsfrom everywhere

USA

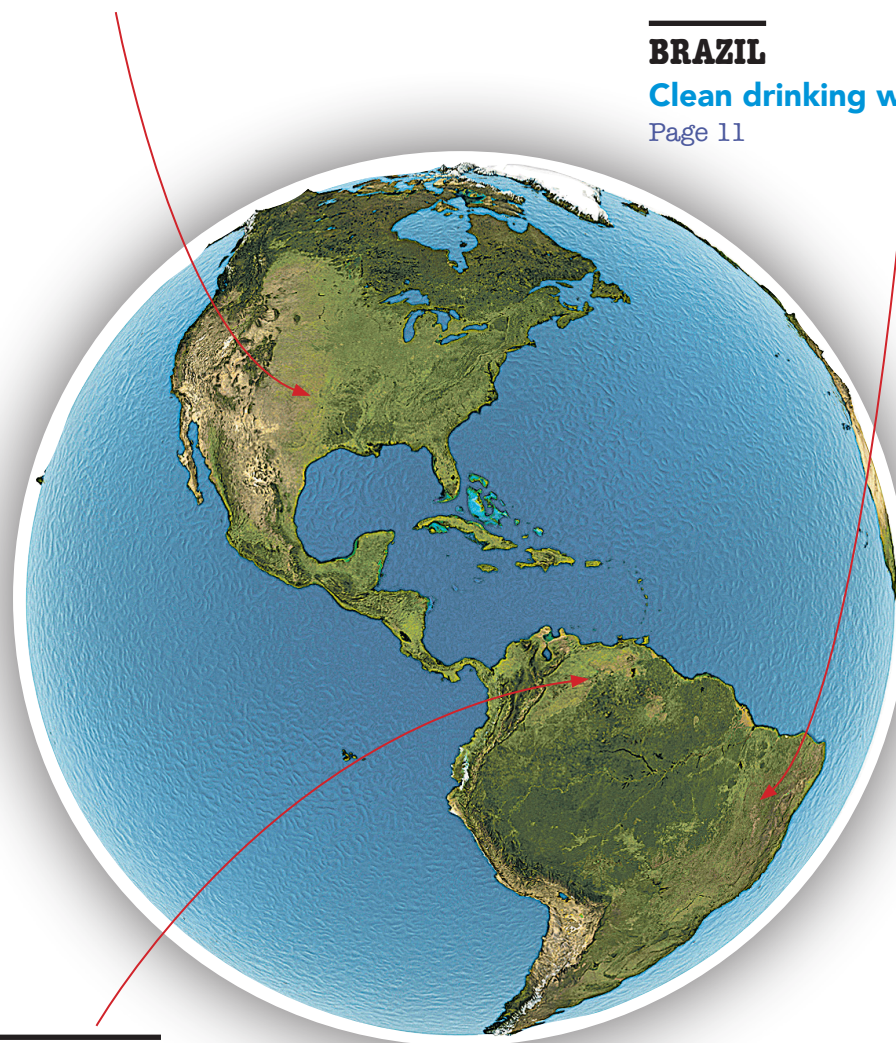
Earth's temporary mini moon

Scientists using the Gemini Observatory in Hawaii discovered a tiny "moon" circling around Earth recently. It is the size of a small car. It is unclear if the object is a small asteroid or a piece of man-made space debris.

Scientists hope to find out more about this mini moon before it leaves Earth's orbit in April.

Woman astronaut sets record

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BRAZIL

Clean drinking water

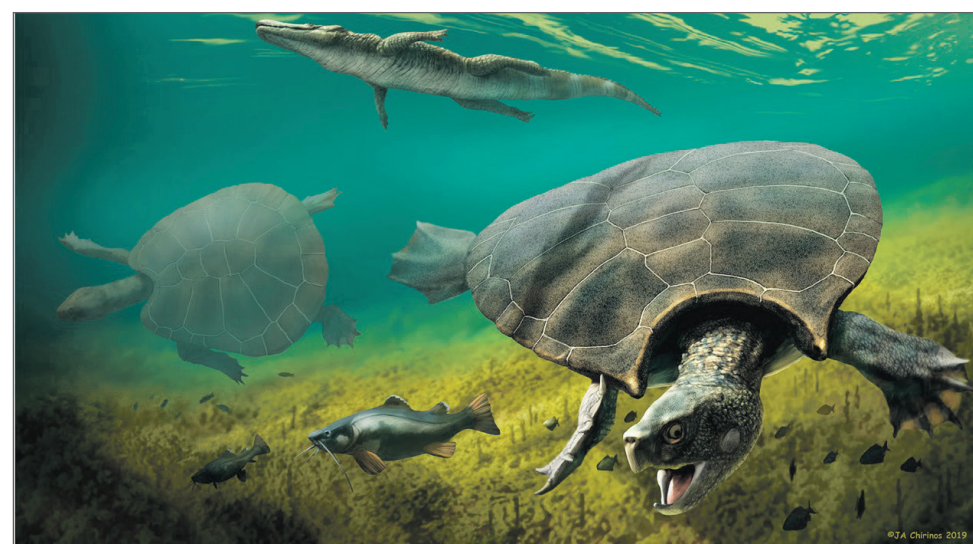
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COLOMBIA

Giant turtle fossils

Researchers found the fossils of a massive turtle **↓** in the La Tatacoa Desert. The desert used to be a swamp millions of years ago. The turtle's shell was the size of a small car. However,

it also had a formidable predator — a prehistoric crocodile that was almost the length of a big bus. Some of the turtle's fossils show bite marks from these predators.



JA CHIRINOS 2019