

China bans biz ventures by NKoreans

Beijing
China's commerce ministry has banned North Korean nationals from setting up new businesses in the country, enforcing recent UN sanctions as Washington urges Beijing to do more to curb its ally's nuclear ambitions. The ban, effective immediately, came as Pyongyang launched three short-range missiles on Saturday according to the US military.



Uber to resume Philippine service

Manila
Uber said it expects to resume operations in the Philippines "soon" after regulators agreed to lift a ban slapped against the American ride-sharing giant in exchange for a fine. The government meted Uber a one-month suspension on August 14 following a tussle over driver permits, sparking public outrage as some 66,000 vehicles were forced off the streets.



Washington would not allow the collapse of Venezuela, as such an event would endanger countries in the wider region."

-Mike Pence,
US Vice President



TIPS to buy used cars

Apart from manufacturer's, the used car market has also grown in the past decade. But buying in the second-hand market is far trickier than choosing a new vehicle. Here are a few things to keep in mind while buying a used car.

THE ENGINE

Checking the car's engine is first and foremost. Take a mechanic along when you look at the available options. The number on the odometer, by itself, might not indicate the extent of wear and tear to an engine.



TEST DRIVE

Take the cars you like for a test drive. If you're an experienced driver, this will help detect any obvious problems. Pay attention to suspension, ease of driving, noises from the engine, apart from the obvious such as steering, brakes and gears. Again, it's advisable to let your mechanic tag along on the test drive as it never hurts to get a second opinion.

MAINTENANCE

With a bit of luck, you can find a car that has been well maintained. Even if you have to spend a little effort and time, hunt around for a vehicle that has been treated well. It is a safer bet to go for a car from a manufacturer with established service networks and dealers. Avoid models that have gone out of production to avoid problems with getting spare parts.

SERVICE HISTORY

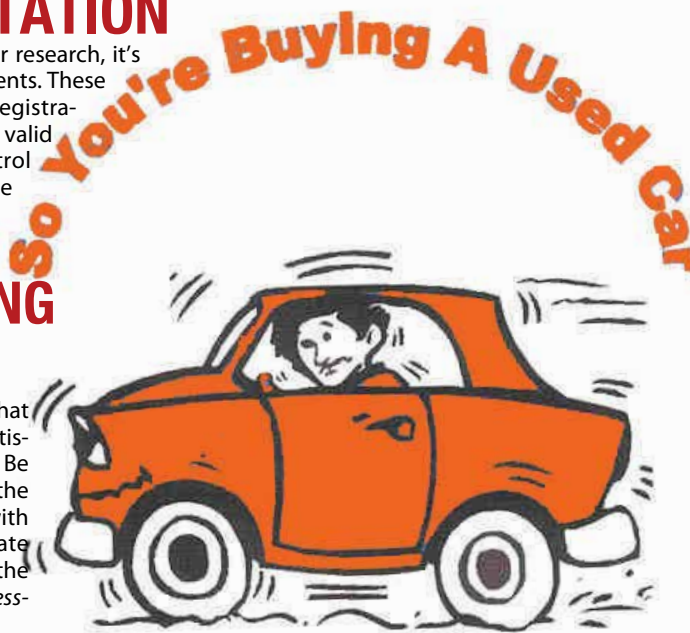
This will tell you whether the car has been serviced at regular intervals and, more importantly, if it has been involved in accidents or has had a major mechanical fault.

DOCUMENTATION

After you have done your research, it's time to check the documents. These include the original registration papers (RC book), a valid Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate, insurance papers and tax tokens.

NEGOTIATING THE DEAL

Once you've established that everything is to your satisfaction, negotiate a deal. Be confident of the price of the car when bargaining with the dealership. Negotiate hard for a discount in the used car market. (business-today)



France to loan 430 mln euros to Iraq: ministry

Baghdad
France is to grant a 430-million euro loan to Iraq whose economy has been weakened by low oil prices and its fight against jihadists, a French foreign ministry official said yesterday.

Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian made the announcement during talks in Baghdad with Iraq's Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi and said the 430 million euros (\$512-million) would be released before the end of 2017, the official said.

"France was present from the beginning of the battles against Daesh (Islamic State group) and will be present as well during time of peace," said Le Drian, who was accompanied by Defence Minister Florence Parly.

The loan is aimed at helping the war-torn country implement reforms, improve public services



French Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian (R) and French Defence Minister Florence Parly (L) attend a press conference following a meeting with Iraqi Foreign Minister in Baghdad

and boost the performance of its state enterprises. Le Drian also handed Abadi an invitation from French President Emmanuel Macron to visit Paris. The visit by France's foreign and defence ministers come as Iraqi forces

announced the ouster of the Islamic State group from the centre of Tal Afar, one of the jihadists' last remaining stronghold in the north.

The cost of reconstruction has been estimated at between \$700 billion and \$1 trillion.

General Motors addressing battery glitch in Chevy Bolts

New York
General Motors has contacted a few hundred buyers of its Chevrolet Bolt electric car to address a battery glitch that can affect propulsion, a spokesman said Friday.

The defect is present in some

of the first Bolts that were manufactured and means that a car may say that 80 miles of electric power remains when in fact the battery will only last for 20 miles, said GM spokesman Chris Bonelli.

The Bolt's progress has been closely monitored in the car

industry because it was the first all-electric vehicle aimed at the middle market. It was first launched in December 2016, currently lists at \$36,620 and is sold in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Tesla Motors is also ramping up a launch of its all-electric Model 3 aimed at the middle market. Tesla has made the first deliveries of its car and aims to hit a production level of 5,000 units a week starting this year. The Bolt's battery problem has turned up in less than one percent of the 10,000 vehicles sold.



Chevrolet Bolt (file)