

British PM Warns MPs Against Blocking Brexit

LONDON - British Prime Minister Theresa May warned lawmakers on Sunday not to block Brexit, after the High Court ruled that she cannot start the process of leaving the European Union without parliament's approval.

"MPs and peers who regret the referendum result need to accept what the people decided," May said in her first comments since Thursday's controversial judgment. The Conservative government is appealing the court's finding that parliament must agree to the triggering of Article 50 of the EU's Lisbon Treaty, which begins formal negotiations on Brit-



ain leaving the bloc. The ruling prompted outrage among Brexit supporters, pro-European lawmakers would seek to water down the break with the EU and derail May's plans

to begin formal exit talks by the end of March. In a statement issued ahead of a trade mission to India, the prime minister said she was focused on getting the best outcome from Brexit following the June referendum vote. "That means sticking to our plan and timetable, getting on with the work of developing our negotiating strategy and not putting all our cards on the table," she said. The ruling sparked attacks on the judges involved, with one newspaper calling them "Enemies of the People", while one of the claimants in the case has received online rape and beheading threats. (AFP)

Iraq Forces Gain Ground in Mosul Despite Fierce Resistance

MOSUL, Iraq - Iraqi forces battled jihadists inside Mosul for the third day running Sunday while civilians risked their lives dodging bombs and snipers to slip out of the city. The Islamic State group put up fierce resistance to defend the city it seized more than two years ago and also claimed responsibility for deadly suicide attacks further south. The elite Counter-Terrorism Service has been spearheading the attack on the eastern front of the three-week-old offensive on Mo-

sul, Iraq's largest military operation in years. "Our forces are continuing to clear neighbourhoods including Al-Samah, Karkukli, Al-Malayeen and Shaqaq al-Khadra," CTS Staff Lieutenant General Abdelghani al-Assadi told AFP.

The jihadists have given up some of its bastions in Iraq and Syria with barely a fight in recent months but its men began the de-

fence of their last Iraqi hub with anger. "Resistance is very heavy and they have suffered major losses," Assadi said of IS.



- Perilous escape - Soldiers from the army's 9th armoured division also battled jihadists in the ... (More on P4)...(13)

Turkey's Pro-Kurdish Party Decides to Halt Parliamentary Works

ANKARA - Turkey's pro-Kurdish party, the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP), has decided to halt all its parliamentary works following the arrest of nine of its lawmakers, Hurriyet News reported on Sunday.

"We have decided to halt our works in the legislature," HDP spokesperson Ayhan Bilgen said Sunday, adding that this meant the party would not attend any commissions or the General As-

sembly. The decision came two days after nine of the HDP lawmakers, including co-chairs Selahattin Demirtas and Figen Yuksekdog, were arrested in a probe against the party's deputies over alleged links to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). The PKK is listed as a terrorist organization by the United States, the European Union and Turkey. (Xinhua)

Donald Trump Rushed off Stage in Nevada Amid Disturbance

LOS ANGELES - U.S. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump was rushed off stage by security Saturday night during a disturbance at a campaign rally in Reno, Nevada, but returned to the stage after a few minutes and finished his speech.

Some kind of disturbance occurred in the front of the room where Trump was giving speech. As Trump put up a hand above his eyes to peer out into the crowd, two security officials rushed

to his side and escorted him off stage. Audience in the room suddenly scattered as law enforcement agents made their way into the crowd to apprehend an unidentified man. A Secret Service spokesperson said in a statement that there was an "unidentified individual" in the crowd shouting "gun", though no weapon was found after a "thorough search." The Secret Service did not immediately provide ... (More on P4)...(14)

Germany's Social Democrats Press for New Points-Based Immigration Rules

BERLIN - Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD), junior partner in Chancellor Angela Merkel's ruling coalition, will announce a plan on Monday for a points-based system to regulate immigration, a top party official said. Thomas Oppermann, who leads the Social Democrats in the Bundestag, Germany's parliament, said the goal was to pass the new law governing migration by skilled workers from outside the European Union before national elections in September 2017. "The core of the law is a

point system modeled on the Canadian system," Oppermann told the newspaper Bild am Sonntag. The law would not change rules on refugees and migrants applying for asylum in Germany, he said.

Oppermann said the plan would assess immigration applications based on age, education, work experience, language skills and ability



to integrate into German society, with a target of allowing 25,000 immigrants to enter in the first year. The targeted number of

skilled migrants would be re-evaluated each year, depending on the needs of the German labor market, he ... (More on P4)...(15)

Turkey's Pro-Kurdish Party Decides to Halt Parliamentary Works

ANKARA - Turkey's pro-Kurdish party, the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP), has decided to halt all its parliamentary works following the arrest of nine of its lawmakers, Hurriyet News reported on Sunday.

"We have decided to halt our works in the legislature," HDP spokesperson Ayhan Bilgen said Sunday, adding that this meant the party would not attend any commissions or the General Assembly. The decision came two days after nine of the HDP lawmakers, including co-chairs Selahattin Demirtas and Figen Yuksekdog, were arrested in a probe against the party's deputies over alleged links to the ... (More on P4)...(16)

39 People Killed in Triple Attacks in Iraq's Salahudin

TIKRIT, Iraq - A total of 39 people were killed and some 40 others wounded on Sunday in two bombings and a gunfire attacks in Iraq's northern central province of Salahudin, a provincial security source told Xinhua.

A barrel filled with explosives detonated in the morning near workers repairing a bridge in Shishin area in southern the provincial capital city of Tikrit, some 170 km north of Baghdad, killing 13 people and wounding 30 others, the source said on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, a booby-trapped car went off at a parking lot in the city of Samarra, some 120 km north of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, ... (More on P4)...(18)

Plan to Ban Asylum Seekers from Ever Entering Australia "Ridiculous": Opposition Leader

CANBERRA - Australia's opposition leader labeled a government proposal to ban asylum seekers who arrive from boat from ever entering the country as "ludicrous."

Bill Shorten, leader of the Australian Labor Party (ALP), said the plan was introduced by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull to appease the conservative right-wing of the Liberal National Party (LNP).

The legislation would ban asylum seekers who have tried to enter Australia by boat since 19 July 2013 and had been sent to detention centers on Nauru or Manus Island from



ever being allowed into Australia for any reason, including as a tourist, for business or as a spouse. Shorten, who is expected to make a decision on whether his party would provide the support the bill needed to become law, said there was no sign Turnbull was

working on a resettlement program for asylum seekers on Nauru and Manus Island. "On its face, the idea you will deter people smugglers by saying a genuine refugee who becomes a citizen of another country couldn't visit in Australia ... (More on P4)...(17)

Donald Trump Rushed off Stage in Nevada Amid Disturbance

LOS ANGELES - U.S. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump was rushed off stage by security Saturday night during a disturbance at a campaign rally in Reno, Nevada, but returned to the stage after a few minutes and finished his speech.

Some kind of disturbance occurred in the front of the room where Trump was giving speech. As Trump put up a hand above his eyes to peer out into the crowd, two security officials rushed to

his side and escorted him off stage. Audience in the room suddenly scattered as law enforcement agents made their way into the crowd to apprehend an unidentified man.

A Secret Service spokesperson said in a statement that there was an "unidentified individual" in the crowd shouting "gun", though no weapon was found after a "thorough search." The Secret Service did not immediately provide further details, ... (More on P4)...(19)

Asian Political Parties Urge More Efforts to Help Refugees



ISTANBUL - The representatives of Asian political parties on Saturday called on the international community to exert more efforts to help refugees.

"No country in the world can exclude itself from the effects of migration," said Chung Eui-yong, the secretary general of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties, adding "global problems require global solutions."

Over 100 delegates from 39 political parties in Asia are gathering in Istanbul for a two-day special conference on immigration and refugees, aiming to increase global cooperation in coping with a growing refugee crisis. The meeting laid emphasis on the plight of Syrians fleeing a raging war at home, noting the number of the displaced has hit 12 million during the last five years, with five million of them being sheltered abroad. Chung drew attention to the problems facing the migrants, including starvation, health complications, physical and mental violence, and different forms of exploitation. He urged the world countries to do whatever is necessary for those in immediate need like pregnant women, children, the old and the disabled. He praised Turkey for housing 2.7 million Syrians despite limited resources and economic challenges facing the country. (Xinhua)

Nieghbor News

Iran to Stand by Turkey in Face of Regional Destabilizing Threats: VP

TEHRAN - Iran will not leave Turkey alone in the face of regional threats, even though the two countries might have different views on certain regional issues, Iran's First Vice President Es'haq Jahangiri was quoted as saying by Tasnim news agency on Sunday.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Turkey might disagree on certain regional issues, but such disagreement will never make Iran leave Turkey alone in the face of regional threats and destabilizing factors," Jahangiri said at a meeting with the visit-

ing Turkish Minister of Economy Nihat Zeybekci here on Saturday.

Iran and Turkey can thwart plots hatched by foreign powers against the region if they reach a mutual understanding of the threats, he said.

Tehran and Ankara are at odds over the Syrian political situation.

While the Islamic republic supports the government of President Bashar al-Assad as the legitimate representative of the Syrians, Turkey has cast its supports onto the moderate militant groups which seek to overthrow Assad's government. (Xinhua)

Turkmenistan to Hold Oil & Gas Conference in December

ASHGABAT - The international conference Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan (OGT 2016) will be held Dec. 7-8, 2016 in Ashgabat, said a message from the country's oil and complex.

As part of the event, a discussion will be held on the organization of financing of big oil and gas and infrastructure projects, including the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project.

Top managers of the country's oil and gas sphere will be among main speakers of the OGT 2016.

Representatives of Russian Energy Ministry, the European Commission, US State Department, Asian Development Bank

(ADB), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), as well as representatives of ministries of India, Afghanistan and Pakistan will be among foreign participants of the conference.

Afghan Gas Corporation, AREIT, BOTAS, BP, Buried Hill Energy, CIFAL, CNPC, Dow Oil, Gas & Mining, Dragon Oil, GAIL, Galkynysh Pipeline Company, Huawei Tech. Investment Co, Ltd, Hyundai Engineering Co, Ltd, LG International, Pakistan Inter State Gas Systems (Private) Limited, Petronas Carigali Sdn Bhd, Samsung C&T, Shell, SICK AG, SOCAR, Sumitomo Corporation Europe Ltd., Total and other companies will be represented during the conference. (Trend)

Bilawal Urges Sharif to Present Himself for Accountability

SUKKUR - Chairman of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari said on Saturday that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif must present himself for accountability for his alleged links to Panama Papers leaks.

Talking to reporters after reaching Khangarh, a city in the Ghotki district of Sindh, he said the PPP would organise a long march against the government if it did not accept the party's plan for the accountability of those whose names were included in the Panama Papers. According to

sources, Bilawal Bhutto was visiting Ghotki district to resolve some issues among local PPP leaders.

In Khangarh, the PPP chairman was welcomed by the Mahar brothers who wield significant political influence in Ghotki and reportedly had differences with some other heavyweights of the district. Mr Bhutto-Zardari held a meeting with the Mahar brothers - MNA Sardar Ali Gohar Khan Mahar, former chief minister of Sindh Ali Mohammad Mahar, provincial ... (More on P4)...(20)

Uzbekistan Supports Development of SCO States' Economic Ties

TASHKENT - Uzbekistan supports the development of trade and economic relations of member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), said the country's First Deputy Prime Minister Rustam Azimov. He made the remarks during the meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government in Bishkek, the Uzbek Foreign Ministry's Jahon news agency reported.

Currently, Uzbekistan, along with its partners - China, Russia and closest neighbors - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have already taken concrete steps on the development of trade and economic and investment cooperation, the search of new opportunities, mutually acceptable and mutu-

ally beneficial solutions to these issues, noted Azimov. Meanwhile, Uzbekistan is committed to broadening and deepening the constant dialogue with all partners: member and observer states at the SCO both on the interstate and regional level, which, according to Azimov, is a "major driving force for the expansion of mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation." "Our region is a global transcontinental transport corridor, and we must much more effectively use the available opportunities, including the development of transportation by providing mutual benefits and preferences, implementation of a coherent and effective tariff policy," he added. (Trend)