

Paris Attacks to have Wide Repercussions on Refugee Situation, Syrian Policies

BEIJING - The deadly Paris attacks that killed 129 people and wounded 352 more have sent shock waves across the world as many countries beefed up security and tightened checks on refugees. The United States, widely accused of having a role in the turmoil in Syria, on Monday subjected Syrian refugees to the most intensive security checks of migrants.

"These refugees are subject to the highest level security checks of any category of traveler to the United States," State Department spokesman Mark Toner told a daily news briefing. "We think we can do this safely and in a way that reflects



American values." Also on Monday, several U.S. governors threatened to stop accepting Syrian refugees as the attacks in Paris raised security wor-

ries over Syrian migrants amid concerns that terrorists might use the refugees as cover to sneak across borders. One of the terrorists involved in

Paris attacks was found to have a Syrian passport, and likely entered the country under the cover of refugees, according to French police. The Pen-

tagon announced on the same day that it would bolster intelligence sharing with the French military "to the fullest extent ... (More on P4)...(11)

IS-Led Attacks Can't be Ruled out: India

NEW DELHI - India Tuesday said that Islamic State-led attacks are possible in this country and it needs to be on high alert. "IS-led attacks in India are possible. India needs high alert across the country," Indian Home Minister Rajnath Singh told the media in the national capital. Terming the threat from the Islamic State as a "global challenge," the minister said: "All nations must come together to fight against it." He added: "India is fully aware of the looming threat by the ISIS (IS of Iraq and Syria) and is taking precautionary steps." The minister's remarks came in the wake of the deadly terror attacks in Paris last week, in which nearly 130 people were killed. (Xinhua)

Nieghbor News

Iran Vows Continued Support for Syria: Dehqan

TEHRAN - Iran's Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan said Tuesday that Tehran will continue its support for the Syrian government and nation in their battle against terrorism. In a telephone conversation with his Syrian counterpart General Fahd Jassem al-Freij on Tuesday, Dehqan hailed the recent victories by the Syrian military and volunteer forces against terrorist groups operating in the country. The Syrian government troops have been conducting operations against foreign-backed terrorist elements across the country and succeeded in making significant advances in numerous places in the provinces of Daraa, Sweida, Homs, Aleppo, and Latakia as well as the Damascus countryside. The advances of the Syrian government forces against the Takfiri Daesh militants and other terrorist groups have been expedited by the air cover provided by Russia, which began some six weeks ago. (PressTV)

EU Finalizes Free Trade Deal with Ukraine: Kiev

KIEV - Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said Tuesday that the European Union (EU) has completed all procedures needed for the implementation of a free trade deal with Ukraine.

"The EU just informed us that all is ready to launch a free trade zone with Ukraine," Poroshenko said on his Facebook page, noting that he sees "no obstacles" to the functioning of the deal that is scheduled to start on Jan. 1, 2016.

The free trade pact, which removes tariffs on around 90 percent of goods traded between

Ukraine and the EU, was signed in June last year in the framework of the comprehensive Association Agreement, a treaty that established a political and economic association between the parties. In September 2014, the 28-member bloc postponed the implementation of the deal to Dec. 31, 2015, saying it needs time to discuss "whatever problem may arise" with Kiev and Moscow. Russia has long opposed the EU-Ukraine trade pact, warning that it would allow European products to flood Russia via ... (More on P4)...(12)

Russia Vows to Punish Terrorists as Plane Crashed by Terror Attack

MOSCOW - Russia promised Tuesday to take prompt measures to find and punish all people involved in the Oct. 31 Russian plane crash over Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, which was earlier confirmed by the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) to have been caused by a terrorist attack.

"We can definitely say that this is a terrorist act," FSB chief Alexander Bortnikov told Russian President Vladimir Putin during a meeting held late Monday evening on the outcome of the plane crash investigation.

"According to our experts, a self-made explosive device equivalent up

to 1 kg of TNT was set off on board, which explains why the fragments of the aircraft were scattered over a large area," an online transcript published by the Kremlin on Tuesday quoted Bortnikov as saying.

Bortnikov added that the investigation of aircraft debris, passengers' personal belongings and baggage revealed traces of an explosive. Putin has ordered all Russian security services to find and punish the terrorists that were involved in the plane crash.

"We must be doing this without any limitations, to know each of the terrorists by name. We will



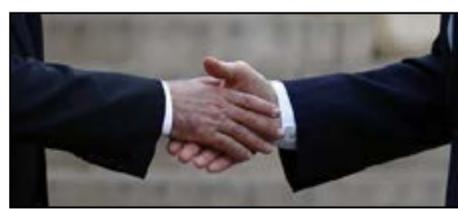
be searching for them everywhere, no matter where they hide. We will find them in any place of the world and they will be punished," Putin said. He added that Russia would also appeal to

partners, namely people who share the moral and ethical values that underlie Russian policies of foreign affairs, security and anti-terrorism, to find and punish the terrorists. (Xinhua)

EU Member States Agree to Provide Military Assistance to France

BRUSSELS - European Union member states on Tuesday agreed to offer military assistance to France, EU foreign affairs chief Federica Mogherini said at a joint press conference with French Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian. Mogherini said France had requested aid and assistance in accordance with article 42.7 of the EU Treaty after the Paris attacks. "Today, the European Union, through the voices of all the defense ministers of all the EU member states unanimously expressed its

strongest full support and readiness to provide all the aid and assistance required and needed," she said. According to the article, if a member state is the victim of armed aggression on its territory, other member states shall have towards it an obligation of aid and assistance by all the means in their power. Mogherini said there was no formal decision or council conclusion to be taken to evoke the article, which has never been used before in the history of the EU. She also clarified this does not im-



ply EU Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) mission or operation. "This calls for aid and assistance bilaterally and the European Union can facilitate this and coordinate this, whenever and however it is useful and necessary," said Mogherini.

Le Drian said the invocation of article for the first time "is a political act of important significance." EU defense ministers met in Brussels on Tuesday to discuss new defense initiatives and capacity building in support of security and development. (Xinhua)

US, Turkey Working to Finish Shutting Northern Syria Border: Kerry

PARIS - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said on Tuesday the United States is starting an operation with Turkey to finish securing the northern Syrian border, an area that Islamic State militants have used as a lucrative smuggling route. "The entire border of northern Syria - 75 percent of it has now been shut off. And we are entering an operation with the Turks to shut off the other remaining 98 km (61 miles)," he said

in an interview with CNN. Kerry arrived in Paris on Monday to pay respects to victims of Friday's militant attacks that killed 129 people. The area where the operations would take place is now controlled by the radical Islamists. The United States and Turkey hope that by sweeping Islamic State from that border zone they can deprive it of a smuggling route which has seen its ranks swell with foreign fighters ... (More on P4)...(13)

EU backs French Military Aid after Paris Attacks

BRUSSELS - European Union nations on Tuesday unanimously backed a French request for support with military missions in the wake of the Paris attacks, after France invoked a previously unused part of the bloc's treaties to seek help. France, which launched new airstrikes against Islamic State militants in Syria after Friday's bloodshed, used a little-known article in the EU's Lisbon Treaty which provides for solidarity in the event one of them is attacked. "Today France demanded the aid and assistance of the whole of Europe. And ... (More on P4)...(14)

Turkey and Greece must Work Together on Refugees: Greek PM

ISTANBUL - Greece and Turkey must fight human trafficking together and coordinate the work of their police and coast guards to help tackle the refugee crisis, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras wrote in a Turkish newspaper on Tuesday. Tsipras is due to visit Turkey later on Tuesday, where he and Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu will attend a friendly soccer match between the two countries in Istanbul. They are scheduled to hold bilateral talks on Wednesday. While the NATO allies have had difficult relations due to disputes over territorial borders in the Aegean Sea and the partition of Cyprus, Tsipras and Davutoglu have recently held ... (More on P4)...(16)

Palestine Calls upon World to Recognize Palestinian State

RAMALLAH - Palestine demanded the international community and decision making capitals in the world on Tuesday to immediately recognize the Palestinian state and combat terror, criticizing new Israeli settlement plans in Jerusalem. The spokesperson of the Palestinian Presidency Nabil Abu Rdeineh said "the international workshop to combat terror will remain short and unable to achieve its goals if it doesn't address the terror against the Palestinian people." In a statement to the official Palestinian news agency Wafa, Abu Rdeineh called upon the world not to keep the Palestinian cause "an open wound and thus a



main threat to the regional and international security and stability." "The fight against terrorism requires rooting out the real reasons of terrorism, including the Israeli occupation's eradication to the national rights of the legitimate Palestinian national rights and not just finding equations that don't provide a just and comprehensive solution," Abu Rdeineh

added. He warned against the latest Israeli "aggression," particularly against the Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem that paved the way for a religious war that would spread in the whole world. At the same time, Palestine condemned Israeli plans to build 1,500 settlement units in Jerusalem. The Palestinian Foreign ... (More on P4)...(15)

Leader Sets General Environmental Policies

TEHRAN - Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has set general environmental policies, issuing them to the heads of the executive, judiciary, and legislative branches of the Iranian government. The policies were set in line with implementing Article 110 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The letter enumerated 15 general policies to be observed in the area

of the preservation of the environment. Among other things, the policies mandate the creation of a consistent national system for environmental protection, the coordinated and systematic management of environmental resources, the criminalization of environmental damage, devising an ecology atlas for the country, and the institutionalization of environmental-friendly culture and attitude. (PressTV)

French Jets Launch Air Strikes on IS in N. Iraq

KIRKUK - French jet fighters on Tuesday carried out air strikes on Islamic State (IS) positions in Iraq's northern province of Kirkuk, a Kurdish security source said. "French warplanes affiliated to U.S.-led coalition carried out the attacks around noon on IS positions in the IS-held town of Hawijah and the areas of Rashad and Riyadh in southwest of the city of Kirkuk," the source from the Kurdish security forces, known as Peshmerga, told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The source confirmed that the air strikes, which were based on intelligence reports, killed and wounded dozens of IS militants, the source said without giving further details. The strikes against the IS came after the terrorist group claimed responsibility for Friday's deadly attacks in Paris, which left at least 129 people dead and more than 300 others wounded. (Xinhua)

Singapore, Malaysia Conclude Joint Military Exercise

SINGAPORE - Singapore and Malaysia concluded a bilateral military exercise which strengthens their defence relationship, Singapore's Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) said on Tuesday. The Chief of Army of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), Brigadier-General Melvyn Ong, and the Chief of Army of the Malaysian Armed Forces, General Tan Sri Raja Mohamed ... (More on P4)...(17)

Chinese FM Vows to Promote Strategic Partnership with Canada

MANILA - China is willing to boost the all-round development of its strategic partnership and strengthen high-level exchanges with Canada, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Tuesday. During a meeting with his Canadian counterpart, Stephane Dion, Wang said China stands ready to work with Canada's new government to expand practical cooperation and realize mutual benefits and win-win results. Chinese President Xi Jinping, arriving here Tuesday for the 23rd Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting, met with newly elected Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on the sidelines of a just-concluded Group of 20 (G20) summit in Antalya, Turkey, and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang also held phone talks with Trudeau in late October. When meeting Trudeau in Antalya, Xi

called on China and Canada to build a long-term, healthy and stable strategic partnership on the basis of mutual respect and win-win cooperation. The important consensus reached by the leaders of both countries, Wang said, has charted a course for the future development of China-Canada relations. Meanwhile, the two peoples have forged a good relationship, and bilateral cooperation in a wide range of areas can be further explored, said the Chinese top diplomat. China, which will host the G20 summit next year, is ready to maintain close communication with all related parties, including Canada, on such issues as climate change and environmental protection, he added. Dion, for his part, said Trudeau has been committed to promoting bilateral ties with China since the prime minister took office in early November. (Xinhua)

France has a Lot to Learn from Pakistan's Resilience, Ambassador Tells PM

ISLAMABAD - In a visit to the French Embassy on Tuesday, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif extended condolences for the lives lost during the Nov 13 terrorist attacks which hit Paris, said a statement issued by the Prime Minister House, Islamabad. Speaking to the Pakistani prime minister, French Ambassador to Pakistan Martine Dorance said the French people and government had a lot to learn from the Pakistani nation and

government's resilience. The premier said Pakistan shares the pain and grief of the French people. "This is an appalling incident and we ourselves are the victim of terrorism," the prime minister said. Nawaz said Pakistan was ready to assist the French government in this hour of need and will share its expertise on counter-terrorism efforts with French officials. Ambassador Dorance thanked the prime minister for this gesture. (Agencies)