

# Indian PM's Visit Proof of Strong Bilateral Ties : UAE

ABU DHABI - A current visit by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is a proof of growing cooperation between India and the Gulf state, UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan said on Sunday. In a statement carried by state news agency WAM, the UAE's top diplomat said his country has placed India at the forefront of its international partnerships. Modi's two-day visit, which he started on Sunday, marks the first of an Indian head of



government to the UAE in 34 years since Indira Gandhi met with former UAE president and the Gulf state's founding father Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan in 1981 in Abu Dhabi. (Xinhua)

Sheikh Abdullah added that the UAE, a major oil supplier, and India have a robust economic relationship with a current trade balance of around 60 billion U.S. dollars. He pointed out to a number of agreements that have been signed between the two sides over the years, including a double taxation avoidance agreement and a bilateral protection of investments agreement. About 2.6 million Indians live in the Gulf state. Around 45,000 Indian firms operate in the UAE. (Xinhua)

## Hillary, Jeb Trade Jabs on Iraq as White House Race Heats up

DES MOINES - U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton Saturday hit back at her Republican rival Jeb Bush over his remarks that President Barack Obama's decision to bring back U.S. troops in Iraq led to the rise of the Islamic State. "I find it somewhat curious that Jeb Bush is doubling down on, defending his brother's actions in Iraq," Clinton said at a news conference during a campaign stop in Iowa. "If he's going to do that, he should present the entire picture. And the entire picture, as you know, includes the agreement George W. Bush made with the Maliki government in Iraq that set the end of 2011 as the date to withdraw American troops." During the past week, Republican

candidate Jeb Bush, believed by many as the front-runner in the crowded Republican field, launched aggressive attacks for at least two times at Obama and Clinton, accusing the pair of poorly handling the Iraqi war. "That premature withdrawal was the fatal error, creating the void that ISIS (IS) moved in to fill," said Bush at a late Tuesday rally in California, referring to the Obama administration's decision to bring back U.S. troops in Iraq in 2011. Currently, there are about 3,500 U.S. troops in Iraq, the majority of whom are providing military training to Iraqi forces. Jeb Bush's accusations against Hillary Clinton over Iraq came as no surprise as the Republican... (More on P4)... (23)

## Violence Erupts on Greek Island over Water for Refugees

GREEK ISLAND - The migrants climbed onto the car and scrambled to get the bottles of the water, which were piled on the back seat and boot of the car. Some clashed with others in a desperate bid to receive water, reported Reuters. One of the sailors said the chaotic scene made him question the work of the authorities dealing with the influx of migrants into Europe. "On this planet we all give 25 to 30 per cent of our taxes towards centralised governments and where are they? If they're not here to do this, to take care of these humanitarian crises then why do we have them? We need to ask ourselves where the money is going," said Syrus, an American

can sailor. The migrant camp on the island is run by Medecin Sans Frontieres (MSF) at the Captain Elias Hotel. Basic facilities like mattresses and portable toilets are provided, but authorities say they are struggling to keep up with the numbers coming in. Kos, within sight of Turkish shores, has found itself on the front line of the crisis as new migrants arrive in rubber dinghies at the rate of hundreds a day. Short of food and water, migrants have been sheltering from the intense heat in tents, cardboard boxes and makeshift reception. "This system is not good," said one Pakistani Migrant, ... (More on P4)... (24)

## U.S. Pulls Patriot-Missile Systems from Turkey

ANKARA - The U.S. has decided to withdraw its border protection mission in Turkey which was deployed against possible threats from Syria, a joint statement by Washington and Ankara said on Sunday. "The U.S. has informed the Turkish government that the U.S. deployment of Patriot air and missile defense units in Turkey which expires in October will not be renewed beyond the end of the current rotation," the statement said. The batteries will be redeployed to the U.S. for "critical modernization upgrades that

will ensure the U.S. missile defense force remains capable of countering evolving global threats and protecting Allies and partners, including Turkey," said the statement, adding that this decision follows a U.S. review of global missile defense posture. The U.S. and NATO are committed to supporting Turkey's security and regional stability, and if needed, the U.S. is prepared to return Patriot assets and personnel to Turkey within one week, noted the statement. The U.S. Navy multi-role Aegis ships in the eastern Mediterranean will con-

tinue their duty offering a range of capabilities to support the defense of Turkey and NATO missions, including support for NATO air and missile defense, it added. The U.S., along with Netherlands and Germany, each deployed two Patriot batteries in Turkey as part of a broader NATO mission in 2013, after Ankara requested Patriot batteries' deployment to areas along the Syrian border following mortar shells fired from the Syrian side killed several Turkish nationals in southern Akcakale district. (Xinhua)

## Obama Must Decide if Cuba is Enemy or Not : Cuban Expert

HAVANA - U.S. President Barack Obama must now decide whether to continue applying the Trading With the Enemy Act to Cuba since the two countries have restored diplomatic ties after 54 years, according to a Cuban scholar. Passed in 1917 shortly after the United States entered World War I, the Trading With the Enemy Act authorizes the president to impose economic sanctions in wartime and during national emergencies, and prohibits trade with enemy coun-

tries and their allies. However, on Sept. 5, Obama will have to decide whether to extend for a year of this act, with Cuba being the only target country by now. In 2008, President George W. Bush crossed the Democratic People's Republic of Korea off the list, which had previously included China, Vietnam, and Nazi Germany as well as its World War II allies. Since the White House has never declared any type of national emergency linked to Cuba,

the extension of the act only applies to Cuba. However, various analysts now see this legal document as a litmus test for how seriously Washington takes its restored relations with Cuba. "Obama's actions with this act will send a very clear signal as to whether his political stance on the blockade is real or pure demagoguery," said Esteban Morales, founder and honorary director of the University of Havana's Center for Hemispheric and U.S. Studies. (Xinhua)

## Libyan FM Sends Letter to UN for Aid Against IS

TRIPOLI - The Libyan foreign minister on Sunday said in a letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon that the residents of the city of Sirte are subjected to genocide by Islamic State (IS) affiliates. The terrorist group is using all kinds of weapons to kill dozens of innocent civilians, said the minister, Mohamed Al-Dairi, who demanded the United Nations to provide the Libyan army with weapons to combat IS affiliates. Violent clashes broke out last week in the IS-dominated city, some



500 km east of the capital Tripoli, between the extremist group and local fighters after a key Salafi preacher was assassinated. The violence killed at least 15 people, according to officials and local resi-

shelling of residential neighborhoods and the killing of captives the terrorist group has controlled since May," the UN agency said in a statement on Saturday. It stressed that a political agreement between Libya's rival political factions will help confront IS threat. Libya has been suffering a turmoil since the fall and killing of its former leader Muammar Gaddafi in 2011. The country is plagued with escalating violence and similar attacks. (Xinhua)

## Syria Not to Allow Disintegration of its Territory: Syrian Minister

TEHRAN - The Syrian people will not allow their country to be disintegrated, the visiting Syria's Information Minister Omran al-Zoubi said here on Sunday. "Although Syria has suffered a lot from damage recently, it would never die and would never be collapsed," al-Zoubi told the General Assembly meeting of The Islamic Radios and Televisions Union

(IRTUVU) that kicked off here in Tehran on Sunday. The infrastructure in Syria has been devastated by the Islamic State (IS) militants and other terrorist groups supported by the United States, Israel and Saudi Arabia, he said. "Only the Zionist regime of Israel benefits the most from these attacks on Syria ... (but) nobody dares to pull down the flag of Syria, and neither

the United States, nor Israel and other cowards from the southern region of the Persian Gulf have any power to do so," he was quoted as saying. "My country is the hotbed of Islamic world and is a member of the global Muslim family," he said, adding that "we have only one choice: to fight to the last drop of our blood ... The Syrian people would not allow

an iota of their country to be separated." The political solutions to the Syrian crisis which do not honor free election of the Syrian people and its leadership are doomed to failure, al-Zoubi concluded. Representatives attending the IRTUVU conference launched U-NEWS in Tehran on Sunday to cover the events of the Islamic states, IRIB reported. (Xinhua)

## Iran Submits Documents of Past Nuclear Activities to IAEA

TEHRAN - Iran has given the documents of its past nuclear activities to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) together with answers to relevant questions, the spokesman for Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, Behrouz Kamalvandi, said here on Saturday. "As agreed with the IAEA, Iran presented its documents and responses to the IAEA about its past nuclear program or the possible military dimensions (PMD) before the



deadline," Kamalvandi was quoted as saying by official IRNA news agency. Outlines of the agreement between Tehran and the IAEA to resolve outstanding issues on the PMD of its

past nuclear activities are confidential, Kamalvandi said. Kamalvandi praised Yukiya Amano, Director General of the IAEA, for not disclosing the agreement on PMD issue to the

U.S. Congress, saying that "It was a big test for IAEA" for keeping confidentiality. Following a meeting with the members of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee on August 5, Amano denied the U.S. Congress' request for a copy of the agreement he signed with Iran despite criticism by the Republican senators. "If I do not honor the commitment, no country will share information with us," Amano said. On the... (More on P4)... (25)

## Neighbour News

### Iran's FM to Visit Russia for Key Talks: Ambassador

TEHRAN - Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif will travel to Russia on Monday for talks with his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov on key regional and international issues, state IRIB TV quoted Iran's ambassador to Russia, Mehdi Sanaee, as saying on Sunday. "Both ministers will discuss bilateral relations, cooperation on regional and international issues including fighting terrorism and campaign against drugs," Sanaee said. Iran and Russia are neighbors and friends, and bilateral ties have considerably improved over the past years and are expected to expand further, he said. Moscow played a posi-

itive and constructive role in the past talks over Iran's nuclear issue, he added. On Saturday, Russia's Foreign Ministry announced that the upcoming meeting between Lavrov and Zarif in Moscow is aimed at discussing the recently-reached Iran's nuclear deal as well as peace efforts about Syria. Russia and Iran have common stances over some issues in the Middle East, including Syria and fights against terrorism in the country. After the deal over Iran's nuclear program last month with the prospect of the removal of international sanction against the Islamic republic, Moscow is much hopeful to enhance its cooperation with Tehran in diverse areas. (Xinhua)

### Punjab Home Minister Shuja Khanzada Killed in Terror Attack

ATTOCK - Punjab home minister Colonel (ret'd) Shuja Khanzada was killed in a suicide attack on his political office in Shadi Khan village, Attock, Sunday, along with 16 others. Punjab Police Inspector General Mushtaq Sukhera inspected the blast site later in the day and confirmed that 14 people, including the Punjab home minister, died in the suicide blast. At least 23 people were injured in the attack and are currently under treatment at different hospitals in Rawalpindi and Islamabad, said the Punjab police chief and prayed for the early recovery of the injured victims. Three injured in critical condition later passed away at DHQ Hospital Rawal-

pindi, hospital sources confirmed, raising the death toll from the attack to 17. The driver of home minister Khanzada, Ghareeb Nawaz, was also among the dead. "There were two suicide bombers, one stood outside the boundary wall and the second one went inside and stood in front of the minister," Sukhera told reporters. "The blast by the bomber standing outside ripped the wall which caused the roof to fall flat on the minister and people gathered there," he said. Sukhera added police were investigating whether the attacker inside the building detonated a bomb. (Agencies)

### Tajikistan Cracks Down on Pop Idol Traffic Rule Breakers

DUSHANBE - Police in Tajikistan are busy naming and shaming renegade members of the pop star class, who have somehow managed to accumulate dozens of unpaid fines for driving violations. Like many cities across the former Soviet Union, Dushanbe has a driving culture straight out of a Fast and Furious movie. Potholed roads encourage swerving at speed. And it is often the city's well-heeled and privileged that are the worst offenders. But running red lights and hanging illegal U-

turns is riskier than it used to be thanks to the installation of around 1,000 closed-circuit television cameras. The 'Safe City' project, which has been almost completely financed by deep-pocketed neighbor China, has transformed Dushanbe into a surveillance hotspot. Officials claim it has halved the number of traffic accidents. If the Interior Ministry is to be believed, it seems famous musicians are particularly egregious lawbreakers, and they often ignore the consequences. (Agencies)

### No Rescuers Harmed by Chemicals in Tianjin Blasts

TIANJIN - No rescuer has been made ill by chemical contamination since the warehouse blasts in north China's Tianjin port, the rescue headquarters told Xinhua. A total of 112 bodies have been found, and 95 people remained missing, including 85 firefighters, after two huge explosions at a warehouse for hazardous chemicals at about 11:30 p.m. Wednesday following a fire. Authorities are closely monitoring the quality of air and water after suspicions the warehouse stored sodium cyanide, a highly toxic inorganic com-

pound, among other dangerous chemicals. Seventy soldiers, specialist in chemical warfare, in heavy uniforms entered the core area of the blasts site on Saturday morning to search for survivors. Another 90 have since joined them. Measures have been taken to prevent secondary disasters, such as using hydrogen peroxide to reduce the amount of sodium cyanide, sending a taskforce to locate and measure the area contaminated by sodium cyanide, and prevent its spread in sewage. (Xinhua)