UN Passes Iranian-Proposed Nuclear Disarmament Resolution

TEHRAN - The United Nations General Assembly on Monday adopted an Iranian-proposed nuclear disarmament resolution, by which member states are called upon to contribute to the implementation of the non-proliferation treaty (NPT). The resolution, which was sponsored by Iran and co-sponsored by more than 90 states, was adopted by 111 votes to 31 with 45 abstentions.

Iraq's Fractured Opposition Seeks Elusive Unity Against Assad

SYRIA - Turkey's Islamist-affiliated National Front is calling for a general strike, as the moderate Sunni factions in the northwestern province of Idlib have announced plans to form a joint military offensive against Syrian regime forces. The move comes after weeks of infighting among the opposition groups, who are struggling to find a unified strategy against President Bashar al-Assad's forces.

Japan Launches Anti-Terrorism Intelligence Unit

TOKYO - Japan has established a new intelligence unit to counter cyber and hacking attacks. The unit, called the Cyber Defense Unit, will be responsible for monitoring and responding to cyber threats, including those that could affect national security.

China, US Law Experts Discuss Human Rights Issues

BAGHDAD - Experts from China and the United States discussed human rights topics during a symposium on the American Dialogue on Rights in Baghdad on Tuesday. The symposium, sponsored by the China Law Association, brought together scholars, judges, and human rights activists from both countries to discuss pressing issues such as the rights of women, children, and religious minorities.

India Takes Number of Steps to Tackle Threat of IS

NEW DELHI - India has taken a number of steps to tackle the threat of Islamic State (IS) militants in the country, broad use of drone strikes to target IS leaders and drone attacks against the IS fighters in the southern part of the country, said Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Indian government has also announced a $500 million aid package to the Islamic Republic of Iran to help the country fight the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS). The package includes $300 million in new military hardware, $20 million for economic and development projects, and $100 million for humanitarian aid.

Demarcation Crisis Won't Damage Slovakia's Nuclear Program

TEHRAN - Iran and Russia have once again announced their commitment to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which was signed on July 14, 2015. The JCPOA is a comprehensive agreement between Iran and six major world powers aimed at curbing Iran's nuclear program and lifting sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

P5+1 Draft Resolution to close PMD Issue; Iran Envoy to IAEA

TEHRAN - The P5+1 states presented the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as a crucial step in the ongoing talks with Iran. The P5+1 states have been pushing for a resolution to close the so-called possible military dimension issue of Iran's nuclear program in which Iran is accused of having a nuclear weapon program. However, Iran has always denied these accusations.

Pamir Destroys 500 Houses

DUSHANBE - Some 500 houses have been destroyed in the latest development of the ongoing conflict between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Reza Najafi, the head of the Central Bank of Tajikistan, said one person has been killed and 12 injured in the clashes.

Sindhi Assembly to Endorse Special Powers for Rangers: Khurshid

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Heads of Central Bank, Security Forces Reprimanded in Turkmenistan

ASHGABAT - Turkmenistan's Central Bank and the National Security Committee have reprimanded the heads of the two institutions for their poor performance.

Mission Syncrity Crisis Won't Damage Slovakia's Nuclear Program

KIAVA - Slovakia's nuclear program is under threat due to the crisis in Syria, which has caused international concerns. The dispute over the crisis in Syria has also caused tensions between the EU and the United States, which has led to an increase in the volume of arms and missile sales to the Middle East.

Next Syria Meeting Dependent on Flow of Events; Kerry

BOURBON - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said on Thursday that the next high-level meeting on the crisis in Syria will be dependent on the flow of events, including the situation on the ground and the willingness of the parties to engage in meaningful discussions.

Indian Air Force Continues Offensive Against IS in Iraq

BEIRUT - The Indian Air Force (IAF) has continued its offensive against Islamic State (IS) fighters in Iraq, reportedly killing at least 12 IS militants and destroying a number of tanks and other equipment in the country's northwestern province.

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