China to donate

China will supply Nepal

to ease crippling shortages

from India, a Nepali official

said yesterday. India has had

a monopoly on Nepal's fuel

tensions over the blockade

have prompted Kathmandu

to turn to New Delhi's rival

US 'drunk driver' kills

4 at university rally

A car travelling at high

speed driven by a suspected

drunk driver has crashed

into a crowd of spectators

during a university parade

Oklahoma, killing four

people and injuring 44

Saturday. A local woman,

**Eurosceptics poised** 

to win Polish polls

Poles began voting yester-

day in a general election

of centrist government,

with surveys showing the eurosceptic conservatives

firmly ahead. The opposi-

tion Law and Justice (PiS)

point poll lead over the

Ukraine rebels ban

MSF for 'espionage'

Pro-Russian insurgents in

Donetsk region yesterday

**Doctors Without Borders** 

area for alleged espionage

Nobel Peace Prize winning

organisation were kicked out

of Donetsk along with nine

India nods to women's

The Indian government gave

its nod Saturday for women

to fly fighter jets, paving the

combat roles for the first time

in one of the world's largest

defence ministry gave the

recruiting female fighter

Argentina votes for

Polling stations opened

and Argentines began vot-

ing for their next president

that will bring an end to 12

years under power couple

Kirchner. Their heir appar-

ent, Buenos Aires provin-

is poised to come out on

top, polling ahead of rival

and Buenos Aires Mayor

Mauricio Macri.

cial governor Daniel Scioli,

Nestor and Cristina

yesterday, in an election

next president

AFP, Buenos Aires

green light to a proposal for

pilots in the Indian Air Force.

way for them to assume

militaries. The federal

other Western aid groups.

combat role in army

AFP, New Delhi

(MSF) from working in the

said they had banned

Ukraine's eastern separatist

Platform (PO) party.

AFP, Kiev

party commands an 8-to-12

liberal, pro-European Civic

expected to end eight years

AFP, Warsaw

others, police said on

25, has been arrested.

in the US state of

China.

BBC ONLINE

supplies for decades but

after protests over a new

fuel to Nepal

AFP, Kathmandu

## NEWSIN brief EU, Balkans wrangle over refugees Thousands stranded at horders brace for winter amid horder closing threats Thousands stranded at borders brace for winter amid border closing threats

AFP, Brussels

European Union and Balkan leaders faced a make-or-break summit yesterday on the deepening refugee crisis after three frontline states threatened with 1.3 million litres of fue to close their borders if their EU peers stopped accepting migrants. constitution blocked imports

The mini summit, called by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, groups the heads of 10 EU nations, including German Chancellor Angela Merkel, plus the leaders of Albania, Serbia and Macedonia. Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia on

Saturday warned they would not accept being turned into a "buffer zone" for the tens of thousands of arrivals streaming into Europe. "If Germany and Austria and

we will be ready to also close our borders at that very same moment," Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borisov said. Over past months, non-EU mem-

other countries close their borders ...

ber Serbia has been swamped by migrants on their way from Greece and Macedonia to northern Europe. EU member Hungary has already

built a razor-wire fence on its border with Serbia, which forced the flood of migrants to seek a route through Croatia, causing a massive build-up.

putting up a fence along its border had to be "ready to react" against Schengen at risk," Juncker said, with Croatia, with the migrants rerouting through tiny Slovenia.

In an interview with the Kronen Zeitung daily, Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann said the summit

possible violence.

In an interview published yesterday by the German newspaper Bild, Juncker urged countries to stop handing on migrants to neighbour-

# MIGRANT CRISIS IN EUROPE



Children cry amongst the crowds yesterday as migrants and refugees prepare to board a train heading to Serbia from the Macedonian-Greek border.

would "either consolidate the unity of Europe or watch the slow decomposition of the EU."

Austrian Interior Minister Johanna Mikl-Leitner told the same

ing states in chaotic conditions. Member states "must take care to uphold orderly procedures and conditions," he said.

"The European Commission daily that migrants were showing expects everyone to obey the rules Budapest then promptly began growing discontent and the police of the game if we don't want to put the Red Crescent said.

referring to the EU's border-free

The EU is facing record arrivals with more than 60,000 people in the last week entering Slovenia, which has a population of just two million, and 48,000 entering Greece, which has a population of 11 million, according to official figures.

With winter looming, Amnesty International on Saturday warned of a humanitarian disaster if migrants are stranded at borders.

An unprecedented 670,000 people mainly fleeing conflict in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan have flooded into Europe so far this year in the biggest movement of its kind since World War II.

At least three migrants -- two children and a woman -- drowned yesterday when their boat sank off the Greek island of Lesbos, the coastguard said. Around a dozen others, mostly Afghans, are still missing after the rickety vessel, carrying 60 people, went down at dawn.

Meanwhile, the bodies of 29 people thought to be African migrants have been discovered on beaches around a city 160 kilometres (100 miles) east of Tripoli,

#### Arrested VP threat to national security Says Maldives president after accusing

DHAKA MONDAY OCTOBER 26, 2015

his deputy of plotting to kill him

Maldives President Abdulla Yameen yesterday branded his deputy a threat to national security after his arrest over an alleged attempt to assassinate Yameen in a speedboat bombing last month.

Soldiers and police patrolled the streets of the capital Male in stepped-up security, one day after vice president

Ahmed Adeeb's arrest as he arrived back in the honeymoon islands from an official trip abroad.

The arrest followed a series of sackings of government officials, which have fuelled political unrest and



Yameen

Adeeb further damaged the Maldives' image as an upmarket tourist

destination. "The vice president is being detained for the safety and security of the entire nation," Yameen said in a nationally

televised address. "Because of his influence over the police, it was deemed that an impartial investigation could not be carried out with the vice president remaining in office," Yameen said.

The president was unhurt in the September 28 blast on his boat, which authorities described as an assassination attempt. The explosion left his wife and two others slightly

injured. Yameen claimed bomb-making equipment had been discovered during raids on the homes of Adeeb's associates in the capital on Saturday. A court ordered Adeeb detained for 15 days to give police

more time for investigations. The government has said he would be charged with "high treason".

## Hurricane Patricia spares Mexico

AFP, Chamela

Patricia flattened a fishing hamlet on Mexico's Pacific coast, but authorities were relieved to see Saturday that the recordbreaking hurricane largely spared the country and dissipated as it moved north.

The wood and brick homes with tin and palm leaf roofs of 40 families in the village of Chamela were blown away when Patricia made landfall as a Category Five monster in Jalisco state late Friday. The families survived because they evacuated to a shelter before landfall, which occurred just 20 kilometers to the south.

The villagers returned to pick up the pieces on Saturday and complained that the government has not provided any help.

While the residents of Chamela lost nearly everything, most of the region incredibly suffered relatively little damage and the authorities rejoiced that no deaths were reported. President Enrique Pena Nieto lifted the hurricane alert

for Jalisco, Colima and Nayarit states as he visited the activity and other crimes. The region, saying that the damage was "smaller than expected. "Maybe (the warnings) were exaggerated, but it's better

> to be warned," said Ruben Fregoso, a restaurant owner who reopened his business after the storm. Transport Minister Gerardo Ruiz Esparza said Mexico

was saved because the population was well prepared and the hurricane was slowed by the Sierra Madre Occidental mountain range. "We were lucky that the impact was diverted" toward the

mountains, he said. "Nature was kind-hearted."



The Great Pyramids and Sphinx are lit up in blue light during a celebration for the 70th anniversary of the United Nations in Giza, Egypt, on Saturday. More than 200 iconic monuments, buildings, statues, bridges, and other landmarks in nearly 60 countries across the globe are lit up blue on UN Day.

# Fresh clashes despite peace push

Woman 'knife attacker' shot dead; US to cut aid to Palestinians

AGENCIES

Fresh violence flared between Israelis and Palestinians yesterday as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu agreed to install more security cameras at the flashpoint Al-Aqsa mosque compound in a bid to defuse tensions.

Israel and Jordan on Saturday strike a deal on Jerusalem holy site.

In a spate of incidents in the occupied West Bank a Palestinian woman was shot dead while trying to knife Israeli border police and a Palestinian stabbed and wounded an Israeli man before fleeing, police said.

Meanwhile a Palestinian was seriously wounded after being shot several times by an Israeli settler while picking olives, according to Palestinian security sources.

Netanyahu on Saturday agreed on new measures to allay Palestinian fears that he plans to change longstanding rules governing the site, reports AFP.

He vowed Jews would continue to be allowed to visit but not pray at the compound and agreed that 24-hour surveillance cameras could be installed, adding these were in Israel's interest.

A US diplomat said on Saturday the United States is cutting economic aid for the Palestinian Authority, partly

### **ISRAEL-PALESTINIAN** VIOLENCE

because of "unhelpful actions" by the Palestinians.

A specialised news site, al-Monitor, earlier said the US State Department intends to reduce aid for the West Bank and Gaza in fiscal 2016 from \$370 million (335 million euros) to \$290 million. Meanwhile, US Secretary of State

John Kerry on Saturday said Israel and Jordan have agreed on moves aimed at reducing tensions surrounding a prom inent holy site in Jerusalem.

Kerry was speaking after talks in

Jordan, the formal custodian of what is known to Jews as the Temple Mount and as Haram al-Sharif to Muslims, reports BBC.

"All the violence and the incitement to violence must stop. Leaders must lead," Kerry told reporters.

The steps he announced include round-the-clock video monitoring and Israel's agreement to reaffirm Jordan's historic role as custodian of the religious complex.

"There are serious additional issues, security and otherwise, between Israelis and Palestinians that must be addressed but we've agreed that this is a first step to creating some space in order to allow us to resume those steps and that dialogue," he said.

AFP, Kiev

Western-backed Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's fragile ruling coalition faced a major survival test yesterday in local elections swiftly marred by polls failing to open in the strategic port of Mariupol.

The elections come during a lull in fighting with pro-Russian rebels, who control parts of the country's east, as fears grow in Kiev that Ukraine is slipping off the global radar.

Meanwhile, direct flights between Ukraine and Russia were grounded yesterday as mistrust between the uneasy ex-Soviet neighbours boiled over into a new trade war that affects tens of thousands of families.

## Ukraine holds key local polls 'Eradicate terror' for political deal

Says Assad; rebels slam his new polls pledges as Russia steps up diplomacy

AFP, Damascus

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad yesterday said his country must "eradicate terrorism" to find a political solution to its civil war, as he reportedly expressed a willingness to hold

new elections. Meeting a Russian parliamentary delegation as Moscow steps up efforts for a political deal, Assad emphasised the need for greater security.

"The eradication of terrorist organisations will lead to

the political solution that Syria and Russia seek and that will satisfy the Syrian people and preserve Syria's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity," state news agency SANA quoted Assad as saying.

The visit by Russian lawmakers came days after Assad's own surprise trip to Moscow for talks with President Vladimir Putin.

That trip and ramped-up Russian diplomacy have led to speculation that Moscow is pushing for a new political agreement to end the conflict that began with protests against Assad's rule in March 2011. But the shape of any such

reportedly killed in Aleppo

against Moscow leading peace efforts while pursuing an air campaign it launched in support of Assad on September 30.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Saturday that Syria needed to begin preparing for new elections. But that idea has been slammed by rebels.

Rebel forces were equally dismissive of Lavrov's offer Saturday of Russian support for "patriotic" opposition

While Russia says its aerial campaign launched last month is targeting IS and other "terrorists," moderate and Islamist rebels say they have been the real focus, not the

Meanwhile, the leader of the Syrian branch of al-Qaeda

Opposition figures told The Independent that three senior members of Jabhat al-Nusra had been killed, but could not confirm if any of them were the jihadist group's

#### 'Russia planned to drop nukes on London'

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A possible Russian plot to drop nuclear bombs on London during the Cold War has been revealed. The top-secret letter of a British atomic expert warn-

ing the authorities of a possible attack in 1954 has been shown for the first time, the Mirror has reported. The National Archives released the handwritten letter from William Penney, an atomic bomb expert who died

in 1991, which alleges a Russian attack was planned. He told Atomic Energy Authority chairman Edwin Plowden that the bombs would fall on Croydon in south London, Uxbridge in the west and Romford in the east.

"Instead of using, say, 32 bombs on London, they would probably use three, four or five very powerful ones which would give the same total damage but need not be aimed accurately," he wrote according to the Mirror. The Russian head of state from 1924 to 1953 was

Joseph Stalin, and from 1954 to 1963 it was Nikita Khrushchev.

The alleged bombings would have caused "complete destruction" for three miles in every direction because they would have been more powerful than the one used by the US on Nagasaki citizens in 1945, he claimed. US atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki killed more than 129,000 civilians.

#### Saudi king facing palace coup! Report says eight brothers of King Salman want to oust him

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Eight of the 12 surviving sons of Saudi Arabia's founding monarch are supporting a move to oust King Salman, 79, the country's ailing ruler, and replace him with his 73-year-old brother, according to a dissident prince. The prince also claims that a clear

majority of the country's powerful Islamic clerics, known as the Ulama, would back a palace coup to oust the current King and install Prince Ahmed bin Abdulaziz, a former Interior Minister, in his place. "The Ulama and religious people prefer Prince Ahmed not all of them, but 75 percent," said the prince, himself a grandson of King Ibn Saud, who founded the ruling dynasty in 1932.

Support from the clerics would be vital for any change of monarch, since in the Saudi system only they have the power to confer religious and therefore political legitimacy on the leadership.

The revelation suggests there is family members and the Kingdom's increasing pressure within the normally secretive Saudi royal family to bring to a head the internal power



struggle that has erupted since King Salman inherited the throne at the beginning of this year. The prince, who cannot be named for security reasons, is the author of two recently published letters calling for the royal family to replace the current Saudi leadership.

In 1964 King Saud was finally deposed after a long power struggle, when the majority of senior royal

one voice and withdrew their support. The prince says something similar is going to happen again soon. "Either the King will leave Saudi Arabia, like King Saud, and he will be

religious establishment spoke with

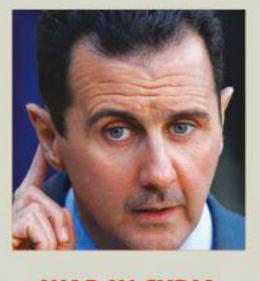
very respected inside and outside the

to be suffering from Alzheimer's disease - has been compounded by his controversial appointments, the continuing and costly war in Yemen and the recent Hajj disaster.

not respond to a request for comment.

country," he told The Independent. "Alternatively Prince Ahmed will become Crown Prince, but with control of and responsibility for the whole country - the economy, oil, armed forces, national guard, interior ministry, secret service, in fact everything from A to Z." Unhappiness at King Salman's own diminishing faculties - he is reported

The Saudi embassy in London did



**WAR IN SYRIA** Russia says ready to help rebels

against ISIS Al-Nusra chief

deal remains unclear, with Syria's opposition firmly

forces fighting against the Islamic State group.

jihadists.

has reportedly been killed in Aleppo.

leader Abu Suleiman al-Masri.