

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Tourists with union jack umbrellas look at the artwork "Really Good" by David Shrigley on the fourth plinth at Trafalgar Square in central London

Balearic parliament calls for last orders on British flights

● Local MPs call for an end to drunken behaviour on flights from

Britain following a rise in the number of incidents. ● See Page Three.

Spain aims to raise 8 billion euros with tax change to meet deficit

SPAIN'S acting government aims to raise 8 billion euros (\$9 billion) by year-end as it battles to meet deficit goals by requiring companies to pay more of their tax bill upfront, a spokeswoman for the Treasury Ministry said yesterday. The ministry has been briefing political parties on the plans for the tax overhaul, which is due to be signed off in a decree by the cabinet on Friday, the spokeswoman said, confirming reports in Spanish newspapers. The caretaker government, run by the conservative People's Party (PP), had previously projected it would get 6 billion euros from the tax changes.

Spain is maneuvering to avoid a potential fine from the European Commission for failing to do enough to trim its deficit at a time when a political deadlock is heightening uncertainty over how well it can control the budget.

Parties have been unable to forge a workable government for nine months after two consecutive national elections left Spain with hung parliaments. That has hampered plans to draft a new budget for 2017 in line with deficit goals and means 2016's budget will instead be rolled over.

Brussels recently relaxed Spain's deficit targets for 2016 and 2017, but even as economic growth powers ahead, doubts are growing over how even these new goals will be met.

Spain's Socialist party in crisis as rebels seek to avoid third election

Madrid.—Spain's political deadlock has taken its most dramatic turn in nine months as the main opposition Socialist party's leadership has torn itself in two, with members resigning en masse to try to unseat their leader and avoid a third unwinnable election.

A stand-off between the Socialists, headed by Pedro Sanchez, and the conservative People's Party (PP) - which won the most votes but fell short of a majority in two inconclusive elections -

has frustrated repeated attempts to form a government.

With the clock counting down to a possible third national election in December, the Socialist rebels hope they can oust Sanchez and seek ways to break the deadlock, including a potential abstention in a confidence vote to let acting Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy stay in power.

On Wednesday, the 17 rebels resigned from the Socialist's 38-strong executive committee, which was already down three

members, and called for Sanchez, who oversaw the party's worst election result in June, to stand down.

In a confidence vote in August, Sanchez refused to allow a minority government led by Rajoy, whose party he chastises as corrupt and committed to austerity.

The rebels have said the committee, the party's top administrative level, now must be dissolved and a form of caretaker administration ushered in.



Media outside the Socialist Party headquarters,