

Quick Read



One dead, two missing in flash floods in Spain after storm

BARCELONA: One man has died and two people are missing following torrential rains that caused flash floods in northeastern Spain, local officials said. The body of a man was found late on Tuesday in a beach in the town of Caldes d'Estrac, some 40km north of Barcelona, regional police said on Twitter. Firefighters said they were looking for two people - reportedly a mother and her son - whose prefab home was swept away by flood waters in Vilaverd, a village some 30km from the port of Tarragona. Authorities said heavy overnight rainfall in the northeastern region of Catalonia caused power cuts that affected nearly 25,000 people and forced the closure of over 40 roads due to flooding and landslides. Last month record rainfall in southeastern Spain claimed seven lives. Thirteen people died in Mallorca last year as intense rain caused rivers to overflow with raging waters that tore through streets and swept away cars. —AFP

NZ Parliament backs euthanasia referendum

WELLINGTON: New Zealand lawmakers narrowly backed a plan to hold a referendum on legalising euthanasia alongside next year's general election. The proposal to put the issue to a public vote passed 63-57 during a heated late-night debate in parliament. It means when Kiwis go to the polls late next year they will not only be voting for their preferred government but also on two referendums - one on legalising euthanasia and the other on allowing recreational marijuana use. While a final vote to confirm a referendum on the End of Life Choice Bill will be held in November, it is considered a formality after the plan won crucial backing from the New Zealand First (NZF) Party. "This is an emotive topic. It's a divisive topic ... but we should have the courage to allow the voting public to participate in this conversation," NZF's Jenny Marcroft told parliament. NZF had threatened to pull support for the bill if the referendum proposal was rejected and parliament tried to simply pass the legislation. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has publicly stated her support for euthanasia reform and reluctantly voted for the referendum, saying earlier this week that it was the only way of advancing the legislation. Members of Ardern's centre-left Labour Party were given a conscience vote on the issue, as were members of parliament's largest party, the conservative Nationals. National lawmaker Harete Hipango described the euthanasia legislation as "abhorrent, repugnant and also dangerous". "This is a kill bill. My focus and my intention is that I seek to kill this bill because of the repugnancy of what it intends to do," he said. "The state has a duty of care to protect our most vulnerable." The lawmaker behind the bill, libertarian David Seymour, said the proposal had safeguards to protect the vulnerable. —Reuters

French police detain man threatening to make museum 'hell'

SAINT-RAPHAEL: Police in southern France detained a man who had broken into a museum overnight and threatened to turn it into "hell", provoking a four-hour standoff, authorities said. The man was seized "without resistance and without violence" in the gardens of the archaeology museum in the Mediterranean town of Saint-Raphael shortly after 11am, the government's top regional official said. "We still need to determine his motives and his identity," the official, Eric de Wispelaere, told journalists. Officers from the elite RAID crisis intervention unit as well as a bomb disposal squad had surrounded the site, where several messages in Arabic, including "The museum is going to become a hell," had been scrawled on the walls, according to police

COURT NOTICE

In the court of judge, Banking Court No. V Old State Bank Building Opp. G.P.O Shahrah-E-Quaid-E-Azam Lahore Suit No.318/1/2019. Habib Bank Ltd. VERSUS M/S Hameed Rice Mills Summons U/S 9(5) of the Financial Institution (Recovery of Finance) Ordinance 2001. (Ordinance No: SL VI of 2001) Summons to: M/S Hameed Rice Mills 5KM Chunan Road Ellahabad Distt. Kasur through Proprietor, Hafeez Anwar S/O Hameed Anwar R/O 5KM Chunan Road Ellahabad Distt. Kasur, Near Bypass Pull Ward # 6 Depalpur Road Ellahabad Distt. Kasur Whereas the aforesaid plaintiff has instituted a suit against you and others for the recovery of Rs. 12510406/- along with mark up/ interest and cost etc, claimed to be payable by you. Summon u/s 10 of Ordinance no SL VI of 2001 referred to above is hereby issued requiring you to make within 30 days of the service of this summon an application for leave to defend the suit u/s 10 ibid. Take notice that on your failure to file such application within time specified above, the Banking Court shall pass a decree as prayed for in the plaint, in favour of the plaintiff Banking Company. Next date for further proceeding in the case has been fixed on 19-12-2019. Given order my hand and seal of the Court this 23-10-19

CORRECTION OF FATHER NAME

I Aqsa Munir have been passed the Secondary School Certificate Annual Examination 2019 Under Roll No 110904 From Board Of Intermediate and Secondary Education Sahiwa I.My Father,s Name is Mohammad Munir Anjum whereas on my certified my father,s name has been mentione d as Mohammad Munir which is incorrect.I want to get change my father,s name Mohammad Munir to Mohammad Munir Anjum.If any person/organization/agency has any objection the same may be intimated in writing to Secretary Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Sahiwal within 15 days. Aqsa Munir D/O Mohammad Munir Anjum R/O Chahmand Wala Behrampur P/O Pakpattan Tehsil and District Pakpattan.

CORRECTION OF FATHER NAME

I,Muhammad Awais have been passed the Secondary School Certificate Annual Examination 2015 Under Roll No. 126124 From Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Sahiwal. My Father Name is Ijaz Ahmad whereas on my certified my Father name has been mentioned as Muhammad Ijaz Ahmad which is incorrect. I want to get change my Father name from Muhammad Ijaz Ahmad to Ijaz Ahmad if any person / Organization / Agency has any objection the same may be intimated in writing to Secretary Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Sahiwal within 15 Days. Muhammad Awais s/o Ijaz Ahmad r/o Chak # 103/12-L Tehsil Chichawatni Distt Sahiwal.

COURT NOTICE

In the court Of Syed Ali Abbas Sahab ASJ Tehsil Ferozewala District Sheikhupura. Year 2019 civil appeal Suit title Mst. Noor Fatima Vs Naveed Ur Rehman, Notice To Naveed Ur Rehman S/O Ameer Ali r/o house no. 19, block y housing colony Sheikhpura presently residing at Rua Joao Villaret no. 35 Iesq 28 10-097 Al-Mada Feijo Portugal. Whereas service of defendant / respondent is not going to be effected through ordinary means. So, service of defendants be effected through proclamation in the newspaper, you defendants/respondents are directed to appear in the court in person or through counsel on 24-10-2019 at 8:00am, failing which, ex-parte proceedings shall be initiated Against You. ASJ Ferozewala

COURT NOTICE

In the Court of Madam Huma Altaf Senior Civil Judge Jhelum Javaid Iqbal Versus Jahan Zaib, Suit for Declaration. To Jahan Zeb S/o Aourangzeb resident of Thekrian Tehsil Dina District Jhelum, as there is not possible to call the defendant through Summon in the instant case so through proclamation in newspaper you are directed to appear in the court on 31-10-19 at 8:00 am otherwise ex part proceedings will be initiated Civil Judge, Jhelum

Chile president announces social measures to stem street violence

SANTIAGO: Chilean President Sebastian Pinera announced a package of social measures aimed at stemming days of protests over economic inequality that have swept the country and claimed 15 lives. Apologising to the nation for failing to anticipate the outbreak of social unrest, Pinera said his government had "received with humility and clarity the message Chileans have given us". The leader vowed to increase the universal basic pension by 20 per cent, cancel a recent 9.2 per cent increase in electricity bills and propose a law that would see the state cover the costs of expensive medical treatment. "I recognise this lack of vision and I apologize to my compatriots," Pinera said in an address from the presidential palace in Santiago. Pinera also pledged a state subsidy to increase the minimum wage to 350,000 pesos (US\$482) a month and said the government would introduce health insurance for medication, which is among the most expensive in the region.

Earlier in the day he met with the leaders of some of Chile's opposition parties as he sought a way to stem the country's worst violence in decades, initially triggered by an increase in metro fares. The protests, which began last Friday, mushroomed into a broader outcry against social and economic woes, including a yawning gap between rich and poor, in a country normally considered one of the most stable in Latin America. Pinera quickly suspended the metro fare hike, but also declared that Chile was "at war against a powerful, implacable enemy", and imposed a state of emergency in Santiago and most of Chile's 16 regions. Adopting a more conciliatory tone, he later called for Tuesday's meeting, which was boycotted by three of the largest opposition groups, including the powerful Socialist Party. The day's protests were mostly peaceful, particularly in the capital, although looting continued in other towns. But with the country's largest union, the Workers' United Center of Chile (CUT)

alongside 18 other social organizations, calling strikes and protests for Thursday and Friday, the pressure had been on Pinera to act. The protest violence - widespread looting, arson and clashes with the 20,000 security forces deployed on the streets - is the worst to hit Chile since the country's return to democracy after the 1973-1990 rightwing dictatorship led by General Augusto Pinochet. On Tuesday the army announced a night-time curfew - from 8pm to 5am - for the fourth day in a row. Before Pinera's announcement, one of Chile's largest conglomerates, Quinenco, decided to act swiftly and promised to increase its minimum salaries to 500,000 pesos a month from Jan 1 - 60 per cent more than the current minimum wage of 301,000 pesos. Chile's big business conglomerates are one of the major factors in the huge wealth disparity that has angered protesters. A 55-year-old man taking part in Monday's protests, who gave his name only as Or-

lando, told AFP that low salaries and pensions, waiting lists at hospitals and high prices for medicine, were the true reasons for the protests. The government started naming some of the dead on Tuesday. Nine had died in fires, one was electrocuted and five were shot, four of those by the security forces. Eleven of the fatalities were in the Santiago region, while a Peruvian and an Ecuadorian were among the dead. Chile's human rights institute said more than 200 people had been taken to the hospital, almost half with gunshot wounds, while many others suffered eye injuries from pellets. Since the unrest began, more than 2,600 people have been detained. Tuesday saw almost none of the violence, looting or torching of public property and private businesses that marked the first few days of protest. However, television images showed looters in one town smashing a bus into a department store before ransacking it. In central



SANTIAGO: Almost 1,500 people have been detained since Chile's outbreak of social unrest began.

US diplomat testifies Trump tied Ukraine aid to politically motivated probes

WASHINGTON: The top US diplomat in Ukraine poured fuel on Donald Trump's impeachment probe with a detailed account of how the president pushed Kiev to discredit one of his main political rivals, withholding US military aid to exert pressure. Democrats said the congressional testimony by William Taylor was a stunning confirmation of their allegations that Trump abused his office by seeking foreign help to hurt Democratic candidate Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election. "It's all there. What's there left for me to say when you have such a clear and detailed statement?" said House Democrat Tom Malinowski, a former diplomat. Senior Republicans had no immediate response but the White House rejected what it called a "co-ordinated smear campaign from far-left lawmakers and radical unelected bureaucrats." "Today was

just more triple hearsay and selective leaks from the Democrats' politically-motivated, closed door, secretive hearings," the administration said in a statement. "Every day this nonsense continues more taxpayer time and money is wasted." In a 15-page opening statement quickly leaked to US media, Taylor recounted in deep detail how Ukraine's new president, Volodymyr Zelensky, came under sustained pressure after taking office. Taylor said he was told Trump wanted Zelensky "to state publicly" that he would investigate Biden and his son Hunter for what he said was corruption in the ex-Soviet republic. He said that the US ambassador to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, told him that "everything" was dependent on such an announcement, including security assistance. Another carrot being dangled, Taylor said, was a pro-

posed summit between Zelensky and Trump. Emerging from the testimony, Democratic congressman Adriano Espaillat tweeted that "what I heard today from #BillTaylor was very troubling and explosive." "At some point we're going to have to conclude our investigation and go forward with what we have, and what we have is incredibly damning right now," another Democratic legislator, Ted Lieu, said. A new CNN/SSRS poll on Tuesday showed support for Trump's removal from office is now 50 per cent to 43 against. However, reflecting the intensely partisan divide among voters, 87 per cent of Democrats are pro-impeachment, compared to just six per cent of Republicans. Trump admits to asking Ukraine's government to probe what he says is corruption related to Biden. However, he denies Democrats' allegation that he tried to

strong-arm the Ukrainians by linking the delivery of US military aid to his request for an investigation. Trump has already branded the impeachment proceedings a "coup," a "hoax," a "witch hunt," and a variety of swear words. On Tuesday, he prompted an uproar by claiming he was the victim of a lynching, a word linked in the United States to the darkest days of slavery and its long aftermath. "All Republicans must remember what they are witnessing here - a lynching," Trump tweeted. More than 3,400 African Americans were lynched between 1882 and 1968, and congressional Democrats reacted with collective anger. "How dare you?!" seethed congresswoman Barbara Lee on Twitter as she assailed the "disturbing and ignorant message" from Trump. The White House fought back, with spokesman Hogan Gidley insisting that Trump

did not mean to compare "what's happened to him to one of the country's darkest moments." There was rare criticism from the top Republican legislator, Senator Mitch McConnell, who said Trump had made "an unfortunate choice of words." He added, however, that Trump does have a "legitimate complaint" over a "totally unfair process." Trump will rely on McConnell to deliver an acquittal in the Senate if the lower house does go ahead with an impeachment vote. Trump did urge Zelensky in July to investigate Biden and his son, according to a summary of a phone call released by the White House. Seeking help from a foreign country in a domestic election is illegal in itself, but a whistleblower complaint about the call made the more serious allegation that Trump also sought to condition nearly \$400 million in military aid to Ukraine on Kiev launching a probe.—AFP

Trial date finalised for Charlie Hebdo attacks

PARIS: Fourteen people will go on trial in Paris next May over the January 2015 attacks on the Charlie Hebdo newspaper and other targets that heralded a wave of extremist strikes on France, judicial sources said. The trial will take place from May 4 to July 10, lawyers and a judicial source told AFP. Seventeen people were killed over three days in and around Paris in January 2015 in the attacks. Cherif Kouachi and his brother Said killed 12 people on Jan 7 at the Charlie Hebdo offices in Paris, including some of France's best known cartoonists. Over the following two days, a third gunman, Amedy Coulibaly, shot dead a young policewoman and killed four people at a Jewish supermarket. All three gunmen, who had claimed allegiance to extremist groups, were killed by police. The 14 accused are suspected of having provided logistical aid to the attackers. The case will be heard by a special court seated, for logistical reasons, in a new, bigger building in the extreme northwest of Paris and not the Palace of Justice in the centre that would ordinarily have hosted it, the sources said. Eleven of the suspects are in detention, but three are set

to be tried in their absence. They include Hayat Boumedienne, the partner of Coulibaly, who Turkish authorities said at the time had crossed into Syria as her partner shot the policewoman. Also on the run are brothers Mohamed and Mehdi Belhoucine who also left for the Iraq-Syria region just before the attacks. Unconfirmed reports have said all three could now be dead after fierce bombing campaigns in the area to defeat the extremists there. Responsibility for the attack against Charlie Hebdo was claimed by Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, an offshoot of the main Al-Qaeda organisation. When it begins in April 2020, the trial of the 14 will be the first such major process against extremists in France since the 2017 trial over the 2012 attacks by Mohamed Merah. Merah killed three soldiers in March 2012 before gunning down a rabbi, two of the

rabbi's children, aged three and five, and an eight-year-old girl at a Jewish school in Toulouse. A police sniper killed him during a siege at his home. All three gunmen, who had claimed allegiance to extremist groups, were killed by police. The 14 accused are suspected of having provided logistical aid to the attackers. The case will be heard by a special court seated, for logistical reasons, in a new, bigger building in the extreme northwest of Paris and not the Palace of Justice in the centre that would ordinarily have hosted it, the sources said. His brother Abdelkader was in April handed a 30-year jail term as an accomplice in the murders. A wave of extremist attacks on France that started with the Charlie Hebdo killings have claimed 255 lives so far, including 90 at the Bataclan concert hall as part of coordinated strikes on multiple Paris targets on Nov 13, 2015. —Reuters