



German Chancellor Olaf Scholz delivers a speech during the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting in Davos



French gendarmes stand in front of the house of Lydie Logé, a missing person, in Saint-Christophe-le-Jajole, in the Orne dept, north-western France



Robert Morss speaks with press after being released last night after his sentence of 66 months was pardoned at the DC Central Detention Facility in Washington, DC



Britain's Prince William, Prince of Wales visits Centrepoint, a charity which supports homeless youth, in west London

# 76 dead, 51 injured in hotel fire at ski resort in Turkey

AP ANKARA: A fire raged through a 12-storey hotel at a popular ski resort in northwestern Turkey early Tuesday during a school holiday, killing at least 76 people - at least two of them when they jumped from the building to escape the flames, officials said.

At least 51 people also were injured in the fire at the Grand Kartal hotel in Kartalkaya, in Bolu province's Koroglu mountains, some 300 kilometres east of Istanbul, said Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya. The fire occurred near the start of a two-week winter break for schools, when hotels in the region are packed. "We are in deep pain. We have unfortunately lost 66 lives in the fire that broke out at this hotel," Yerlikaya told reporters after inspecting the site.

Atakan Yelkovan, a hotel guest staying on the third floor, told the IHA news agency there was chaos on the upper floors as other guests tried to escape the fire, including by trying to climb down from their rooms using sheets and



Firefighters work to extinguish a fire in a hotel at a ski resort of Kartalkaya in Bolu province, in northwest Turkey

blankets. "People on the upper floors were screaming. They hung down sheets ... Some tried to jump," Yelkovan said.

Yerlikaya said 45 of the 76 people killed have been identified while efforts to identify the other victims were continuing. Health Minister Kemal Memisoglu said at least one of the injured was in serious condition, while 17 other people were treated and released.

The hotel had 238 registered guests, Yerlikaya

said. The fire was reported at 3:27 a.m. and the fire department began to respond at 4:15 a.m., he told reporters.

The government appointed six prosecutors to lead an investigation into the blaze, which is believed to have started in the hotel's restaurant section. Nine people have been detained as part of the investigation into the fire, Yerlikaya said. Earlier, Justice Minister Yilmaz Tunc said the hotel's owner was among the people detained for questioning in

the probe.

At least two of the victims died when they jumped from the building in panic, Gov. Abdulaziz Aydin told the state-run Anadolu Agency earlier. Those killed included Nedim Turkmen, a columnist for Sozcu newspaper, his wife and two children, the newspaper announced.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced a day of national mourning to be observed on Wednesday. All flags at government buildings and Turkish diplomatic mission abroad would be lowered to half-staff, he said.

Necmi Kepcetutan, a ski instructor at the hotel, said he was asleep when the fire erupted and he rushed out of the building. He told NTV television that he then helped some 20 guests out of the hotel.

The hotel was engulfed in smoke, making it difficult for guests to locate the fire escape, he said.

"I cannot reach some of my students. I hope they are OK," the ski instructor told the station.

## Israel's top general resigns over Oct 7 failures, adding to pressure on Netanyahu

AP, JERUSALEM: Israel's top general resigned on Tuesday, taking responsibility for security failures tied to Hamas' surprise attack that triggered the war in Gaza and adding to pressure on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has delayed any public inquiry that could potentially implicate his leadership.

While a fragile new ceasefire in the Gaza Strip held, Israel launched a large operation in the occupied West Bank, killing at least eight people, Palestinian officials said.

Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi is the most senior Israeli figure to resign over the security and intelligence breakdown on October 7, 2023, when thousands of Hamas-led militants carried out a land, sea and air assault into southern Israel, rampaging through army bases and nearby communities.

The attack - the single deadliest on Israel in its history - killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and the militants abducted another 250. More than 90 captives are still in Gaza, around a third believed to be dead.

Halevi's resignation came days into the ceasefire with

Hamas that could lead to an end to the 15-month war and the return of remaining captives. Maj. Gen. Yaron Finkelman, head of Israel's Southern Command, which oversees operations in Gaza, also resigned.

Their resignations will likely add to calls for a public inquiry into the October 7 failures, something Netanyahu has said must wait until the war is over.

Halevi had appeared to be at odds with Israel's new defence minister, Israel Katz, over the direction of the war. He said Israel had accomplished most of its goals, while Katz echoed Netanyahu's vow to keep fighting until "total victory" over Hamas. Katz replaced the popular Yoav Gallant, who Netanyahu dismissed in a surprise announcement in November after growing disagreements over the war.

Halevi's resignation letter said the military, under his command, had "failed in its mission to defend the State of Israel" and noted that the military's investigations into those failures were "currently in their final stages." He said his resignation would go into effect March 6.



Britain's Queen Camilla meets therapy dog Fenton, a standard poodle, and his handler, during a visit for the official opening of the new Emergency Department at Great Western Hospital, in Swindon

## One dead, two missing in Slovenia coal mine accident

LJUBLJANA: At least one miner died and two others are missing after water and silt flooded a coal mine in Slovenia, authorities said Tuesday. Rescue teams continued their search after the accident late Monday at the Premogovnik Velenje mine, around 75 kilometres (45 miles) northeast of the capital Ljubljana. "When the flooding happened there were 14 people working in the mine. Three of them did not leave the mine and were missing" before a first body was recovered overnight, the mine said. "The chances for finding them alive are slim," the mine's director Marko Mavec was quoted as saying by the STA news agency. An investigation into the cause of the accident has been opened but the mine said in its statement that "despite all security measures such events cannot be predicted".

## Nearly 50 Rohingya found on popular Thai island: Police

BANGKOK: A group of 49 Rohingya migrants travelling by boat from Bangladesh to Malaysia was found on Tuesday near a beach on Thailand's popular island of Phuket, police told AFP. The mostly Muslim Rohingya experience persecution in their predominantly Buddhist homeland of Myanmar, with many fleeing to refugee camps in Bangladesh or risking their lives on perilous sea journeys to try to reach Malaysia or Indonesia through Thailand. The group was discovered by residents near Phuket's Ta Chat Chai temple in a "weak and frail" state, according to local media reports. "The community found 49 Rohingyas and we took them to the police station," senior police officer Sopit Ruangsri told AFP.

## DR Congo hospital treats influx of war wounded

GOMA: Reponse Izabayo managed to reach hospital after being shot as he tried to escape fighting that has flared in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. In less than three weeks, more than 200 war wounded have arrived at the hospital in the city of Goma - increasingly, they are civilians. "I was fleeing, I was hit by bullets," Izabayo, who is in his 20s, told AFP sat on his hospital bed. The region, which is rich in minerals including those used to make mobile phones and electronic devices, has been overrun by various conflicts for 30 years. But over the last few weeks, clashes between the Congolese army and M23 movement, an armed group backed by Rwanda, have escalated.

## Mali rebels say kidnapped Spanish national freed

DAKAR: Separatist rebels in northern Mali have said that a Spanish national kidnapped days earlier between Algeria and Mali has been freed thanks to their "intervention" and is in good health under their "protection". There has been no confirmation from Spanish or Algerian authorities. The Spaniard was released on Monday afternoon "thanks to the intervention of the forces of the Azawad Liberation Front", an official from the separatist coalition, Attaye Ag Mohamed, wrote on X overnight Monday to Tuesday. The Azawad Liberation Front (FLA) is a grouping of predominantly Tuareg rebel groups battling the Malian state.

## Moldova residents caught in the middle of gas fight

COCIERI: Since Russia stopped delivering gas to Moldova, Valera Alexandru Sava only heats the ground floor of his two-storey house and often wears a coat and hat inside. But like other villagers in Cocieri, he does not want more expensive energy from Europe and is eager for Moscow to turn the tap back on. While Cocieri is under the control of Chisinau, it is located just inside Transnistria, a slither of separatist territory between the Dniester river and the eastern border with Ukraine, and where Russian troops are stationed.

## Prince Harry trial against Murdoch UK tabloids delayed

LONDON: The start of a long-awaited trial initiated by Britain's Prince Harry against a tabloid publisher for allegedly unlawful information gathering stalled Tuesday as lawyers held last-minute "discussions". The High Court judge hearing the long-running case twice agreed to pause Tuesday's proceedings, eventually for the entire morning, at the request of Harry's lawyers, who said they were engaged in unspecified talks. The delay prompted unsubstantiated reports from journalists covering the case that the two sides were discussing a new settlement offer to avoid a trial.

### CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

#### SITUATIONS VACANT

Part Time Hairdresser and Beautician wanted. Contact: 9881073661

2025002365

Trained Primary Teacher wanted on contract basis (CCL) till 17.03.2025 at St. Theresa's Primary School, Candolim. Candidates having qualification as per Government Recruitment Rules, below 45 years having valid employment registration, residence certificate, required testimonials may appear for walk in interview on Monday 27.01.2025 at 9.30 am

2025002366

Wanted Tandoori Cook, Tandoori Indian Cook, All Rounder Cook for a Restaurant in Benaulim, South-Goa. Contact: 9604723014 / 7798511021

2025002368

Wanted MTS on Contract basis. Qualification X or XII with ITI in computer/office. Application are invited along with all testimonials to The Chairman Little Tots Primary School, Prabhu Nagar, Ponda Goa before 31st January 2025. Walk in Interview on 5th February 2025

2025002372

Wanted a fresher/ one time experienced Manager for a new cafe in Mapusa. Whatsapp your CV on: +91 7066013379

2025002374

Wanted Live In (24 hours) house maid or house maids for a small family at Old Goa. Knowing cooking not necessary. All facilities provided. Call 9970177962.

2025002378

Wanted Househelp (F), for cooking and cleaning. Timing 8am to 5pm, for a Catholic family in Mandop, Navelim. Contact: 8007387113

2025002379

Wanted Office Assistant to Account Manager. Location: Margao Industrial Estate. Education required: B.Com/ M.Com. Experience: 1-3 years with Tally, Tds, Gst filling, reconciliation. Benefits: Permanent job, annual increment, gratuity, bonus, paid leave. Send resume to enquiry@goasintered.com or M/S. Goa Sintered, Mugali, Goa-403709. To know about us visit our website www.goasintered.com

2025002382

Wanted Accountant for factory in Sancoale Industrial Estate, Zuarinagar Vasco. Commerce Graduate with knowledge of Tally. Contact: 7507112244.

2025002383

Wanted waiters/waitresses for a reputed Restaurant in colva beach, contact 9650363118.

2025002394

Accountant needed. Qualification: atleast B.Com. Freshers can apply. Knowledge of Tally. Mob: 9970504404/ 9834892276

2025002398

Required delivery staff (male) with LMV license for a trading firm at Gogol, Margao. Call 9604722842

2025002400

Wanted a Lady Clinic Assistant (Nurse) for a Dental Clinic in Margao to work from 9.00am to 6.00pm. Phone 9371614688.

2025002402

#### SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted Trained Graduate Teacher, B.A., B.Ed to teach English and Geography in higher Classes in Maternity Leave Vaccancy. Appear walk-in-Interview on Tuesday 28th January, 2025 at 9.30am along with testimonials at Our Lady of Divar High School, Divar (40w)

2025002403

Required Experienced female candidate as Office Assistant at sangolda, Having good communication skills and computer knowledge contact 7057924494

2025002409

#### SITUATIONS WANTED

Require 1 "Sales Executive" in Margao with 20,000+ Salary. Contact: 8007237070 (between 10:00 am to 6:00 pm). Email: margoads@gmail.com

2025002340

#### TOURS & TRAVELS

Tour to Nasik. Infant Jesus. Departure on 06/02/25 at 8:00pm 2 night stay at Nasik. Arrival back to Goa on 09/02/25 by 9:00pm. A.C. guide coach. Contact Royal Tours & Travels Patto. 9822876338 /8007554388 /9011778106

2025001967

#### VEHICLES AVAILABLE

India's Number One New Electric Scooter, No Licence, No RTO. Single Charge 80 km. Choice of Smart People. Free Transport for all at Porvorim showroom. Dealership/ Franchise open Cotact: 9822 103550

2025000827

Do Spray Booth Painting of your vehicle for full car or touch up/accident repair (insurance claim)@ reasonable rate then any company Booth painting rate with Glossy finishing professional Painting/ Denting/ Polishing/ car periodic service@ 600 brakes oh 300/ suspension/ clutch oh/etc call Ms Sunival Automobile Clinic behind Hotel Jasmine Betalbatim Call Valinton (ex Maruti Engineer/ex chowgule industries C.C. Manager) 7769811763/804.

2025002387

NRI Honda city ivetech 2013 black 42008km magwheel p/steering, p/windows, abs airbags reverse camera showroom condition 9326811763.

2025002389

Lady driven Kwid (automatic) 2018 red 45008km 20kmp/lt p/steering, p/windows, cd, abs airbags newtyre excellent condition 7769811763.

2025002391

Alto LXI 2009 Silver 75008KM 20kmp/lt p/steering cd, c/locking new tyre excellent condition 7769811804.

2025002393

#### VEHICLES WANTED

We buy all Car's & Bike's. Maruti, Toyota, Hyundai, Honda (Vintage Car's) etc, even accidental and scrap car's. Spot payment-8381027157

2025000409



Participants fly kites during the 'Qatar Kite Festival 2025' at Old Doha Port in Doha

## Blast kills one person at Barcelona port

AFP, BARCELONA: One person died and another was seriously injured in a blast on Tuesday at the port of Barcelona in northeastern Spain, one of Europe's busiest, authorities said.

Firefighters extinguished a blaze caused by the explosion which took place during maintenance work in a spot where methyl acetate - used as a solvent in glues, paints and nail polish removers -- is stored, local emergency services wrote on X.

Several other people were treated for light injuries at the scene, they added. In September two workers died and at least four others were injured after two cranes collapsed in the northern Spanish port of Gijon.

## UK teen pleads guilty to girls' murders that sparked riots

AFP, LIVERPOOL: A teenager pleaded guilty Monday to the "unspeakable" killing of three young girls in a stabbing spree last year that sparked the UK's most violent riots in a decade.

Axel Rudakubana, 18, admitted murdering the girls at a Taylor Swift-themed dance class in Southport, northwest England. The July stabbings sent shockwaves across the UK, triggering unrest and riots in more than a dozen English and Northern Irish towns and cities, amid viral misinformation that they were committed by an asylum seeker.

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer welcomed that "the vile and sick" killer would be convicted, while vowing to pursue "answers" over the case amid criticism that the full

## TERRORISM HAS CHANGED: UK PM WARNS OF THREATS FROM LONERS, MISFITS

PTI, LONDON: Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Tuesday declared that the nature of terrorism has changed, which means the UK faces an added threat from loners and misfits accessing dangerous material online. The statement came as he announced a new public inquiry into the fatal stabbing of three schoolgirls at a Taylor Swift-themed dance class at Southport in north-west England last July. On Monday, 18-year-old Axel Rudakubana pleaded guilty to the murders in court. It then emerged that the Welsh-born teenager of Rwandan heritage had been known to the local authorities for his violent tendencies and referred three times to the government's anti-extremism programme Prevent.

picture has yet to emerge.

"There are grave questions to answer as to how the state failed in its ultimate duty to protect these young girls," he said in a statement. "Britain will rightly demand answers.

And we will leave no stone unturned in that pursuit."

Rudakubana, who was born in Wales, admitted a total of 16 charges, including the three counts of murder, 10 counts of attempted murder and one count of possessing a blade.

## Taliban say 2 Americans held in Afghanistan were freed in prisoner exchange

AP, ISLAMABAD: A prisoner swap between the United States and Afghanistan's Taliban freed two Americans in exchange for a Taliban figure imprisoned for life in California on drug trafficking and terrorism charges, officials said Tuesday.

The deal came as Joe Biden, who oversaw the chaotic US withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021, handed power over to returning President Donald Trump.

The Taliban praised the swap as a step toward the "normalisation" of ties be-

tween the US and Afghanistan, but that likely remains a tall order as most countries in the world still don't recognise their rule and another two Americans are believed held.

US, Taliban and Qatar all involved in the swap

The Taliban's Foreign Ministry in Kabul confirmed the swap, saying two unidentified US citizens had been exchanged for Khan Mohammed, who was sentenced to two terms of life imprisonment in 2008.

The family of Ryan Cor-

bett, one American held by the Taliban, confirmed he had been released in a statement. Corbett, who had lived in Afghanistan with his family at the time of the 2021 collapse of the US-backed government, was detained by the Taliban in August 2022 while on a business trip.

"Our hearts are filled with overwhelming gratitude and praise to God for sustaining Ryan's life and bringing him back home after what has been the most challenging and un-

certain 894 days of our lives," the family's statement said. They thanked both Trump and Biden, as well as many government officials, for their efforts in freeing him.

Corbett's family also praised the Middle Eastern nation of Qatar "for their vital role in facilitating Ryan's release, and for their visits to Ryan as the United States' Protecting Power in Afghanistan." Energy-rich Qatar has hosted negotiations between the US and the Taliban over the years.