



8,452 undocumented migrants have reached UK this year in small boats compared with 8,417 people in 2020



Table with 3 columns: City, Weather, and another column. Cities include Beijing, Colombo, Dhaka, Dubai, Houston, Istanbul, London, Los Angeles, Melbourne, Moscow, New York, Singapore, Toronto, Washington.



People look out at cars floating in floodwaters after heavy rains hit the city of Zhengzhou in China's central Henan province on Wednesday | AFP

# 25 dead, 1 mn affected as rain pounds China

President Xi Jinping deploys army to rescue those trapped in inundated subways, hotels and public places

## BEIJING

AT LEAST 25 people, including 12 subway passengers, were killed when the heaviest rainfall in 1,000 years hit China's central Henan province, prompting President Xi Jinping on Wednesday to deploy the Army to rescue those trapped in inundated subways, hotels and public places.

to handlebars desperately waiting for help as floodwaters raised up to their necks.

Official media released videos of rescue workers helping people stuck in subway tunnels to safety.

Videos showed people trying to wade through floods in the downtown of the city while scores of cars and other vehicles washed away.



## Operation on to divert floodwaters

China's military has blasted a dam to release floodwaters threatening one of its most heavily populated provinces. The dam operation was carried out late Tuesday night in the city of Luoyang. State media showed waters at waist height, with rain still coming down.

The massive floods, described by meteorologists as a once-in-a-lifetime event, has resulted in apocalyptic scenes in the provincial capital Zhengzhou, a metropolis of 12.6 million, with its public avenues and subway tunnels getting submerged with surging waters.

Videos posted on the Chinese social media showed petrified passengers trapped in subway trains clinging

Some videos also showed people falling into the massive cave-ins of the roads. Rainwater poured into the subway tunnel of the city's Line Five, trapping an unknown number of passengers aboard a subway train.

Xi ordered the deployment of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and said that authorities at all levels must give top priority to ensuring people's safety and property as massive floods ravaged the province and Zhengzhou city.

The PLA Central Theatre Command urgently dispatched troops to a county in rain-hit Henan where a dam is under threat

of collapse due to serious damage caused by the rains. The downtown area of Zhengzhou received an average precipitation of 457.5 mm within 24 hours on Tuesday. Henan is home to many cultural sites and a major base for industry and agriculture. Reports said that Shaolin Temple, known for its Buddhist monks' mastery of martial arts, was also hit by floods.

They died when their subway train was hit with rapidly rising floodwaters on Tuesday night, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported.

Two people were also killed when a wall collapsed.

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## Former Pak diplomat's daughter murdered in Islamabad, 1 arrested

### ISLAMABAD



Noor Mukadam SOURCE: TWITTER

A FORMER Pakistani diplomat's daughter has been murdered here, according to a media report on Wednesday, just days after a major diplomatic row broke out between Pakistan and Afghanistan over the alleged abduction of the daughter of Afghanistan's Ambassador in Islamabad.

Agencies

## Trump inaugural panel head arrested

Los Angeles: Tom Barrack, 74, the chair of former President Donald Trump's 2017 inaugural committee was arrested on Tuesday on charges alleging he secretly conspired to influence US policy to benefit the United Arab Emirates, even while he was seeking a position as an American diplomat.

# GERMANY OKAYS \$470-MN IMMEDIATE RELIEF PACKAGE

## BERLIN

CHANCELLOR Angela Merkel's cabinet approved a huge emergency aid package Wednesday for flood-stricken regions of Germany and said billions would be needed to rebuild homes, businesses and vital infrastructure.

A week into the region's worst flooding disaster in living memory, which has killed at least 170 in Germany and 31 more Belgium, the right-left "grand coalition" government unlocked some 400 million euros (\$470 million) in immediate relief.

Half will come from the federal government of Europe's top economy and the rest from the 16 regional states, Finance Minister Olaf Scholz said. "We will make sure that life can go on," Scholz told reporters in Berlin. He said the coming months would bring a "bil-

lions-strong reconstruction programme to clear the devastation and restore infrastructure." "We will rebuild -- rebuild businesses, rebuild factories, rebuild buildings," he said. The damage caused by the floods is likely to cost the insur-

ance industry up to five billion euros (\$5.9 billion), the GDV insurance industry association said. However, the real cost is likely to be much higher as less than half of Germans in the affected states are insured against heavy rain and floods, the association said. AFP

## GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below categories is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/08/2021 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

Table with 2 columns: Name and ID/Details. Includes names like VINODMAHAL CENTER KHAMMAM, MANAPURAM FINANCE LTD, and various alphanumeric identifiers.

Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following:- Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) by way of Cash on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact 9388404174.