acting intel chief

President Donald Trump said on Thursday that Joseph Maguire, the current chief of the National Counterterrorisi Center, will become the acting director of national intelligence. Trump's announcement on Twitter came after the deputy director of national intelligence, Sue in a note to Trump that preference," but added, You should have your team." Trump said Maguire will take over the acting post on August15, when Dan Coats steps down.

Kyrgyz court holds expresident after raid

A court in Kyrgyzstan has dead and plunged the Almazbek Atambayev and his protege-turnedfoe President Sooronbai Jeenbekov. A court in Bishkek late Thursday ordered the 62-year-old Atambayev held behind

towards China AFP, Beijing

spokesman said.

China issued a red alert for incoming Super Typhoon Lekima which is expected to batter eastern Zhejiang province early today with high winds and torrential rainfall. The ninth typhoon of the year is projected

to move northwest up China's coast today with the China Meteorological Administration (CMA) focusing its attention on Shanghai and Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangsu and Shandong provinces.



Gordon, resigned. She said stepping down was not her

president to be held in pre trial detention after he was seized from his compound Asian state, which has seen two revolutions in less than two decades, is caught in a standoff between ex-leader bars until August 26, a court

Super Typhoon barrels

ordered the country's former in raids that left one person country in crisis. The Central

"The downturn this time came very quickly. Someone described it as coming like a tsunami," Lam said. storm, the situation this time is more severe.

While Lam is a figure of hatred for many pro-democracy executive, currently chosen by Beijing.

Trump lashes out at French president

DHAKA SATURDAY AUGUST 10, 2019, SRABAN 26, 1426 BS

President Donald Trump on Thursday accused his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron of getting in the way of US policy and sending "mixed signals" to Iran. "Iran is in serious financial trouble. They want

desperately to talk to the U.S., but are given mixed signals from all of those purporting to represent us, including President Macron of France," Trump tweeted. Trump has imposed crippling sanctions on Iran and sought to sink an international deal for managing the

ountry's contested nuclear industry, but several major

allies and other partners, including France, have resisted

the US attempt to isolate the Iranians. That division over how to handle Iran appears to be frustrating Trump, who is now left with few options other than to keep adding US pressure on Tehran -- so far with little tangible benefit

Trump lashed out at Macron, saying "I know Emmanuel means well, as do all others, but nobody speaks for the United States but the United States itself. No one is authorized in any way, shape, or form, to represent us!"

As the US-Iranian standoff deepens, tensions are soaring in the strategic region, with drones downed, tankers seized by Tehran and mysterious attacks on ships

Washington and its Gulf allies have accused the Islamic epublic of the attacks on ships, which Tehran denies. In response, the US has been seeking to form a coalition whose mission-- dubbed Operation Sentinel -- it says is to guarantee freedom of navigation in the Gulf.

Pope Francis yesterday warned against European nationalism, raising the 'frightening" spectre of Hitler in comments

'Italians first", pulled his support from the coalition government

'sovereignist" front to challenge the powers of European Union authorities ahead of EU elections

nterview published yesterday in newspaper He compared the current rise

"I am concerned because we hear current coalition government

The 82-year-old pope lived through

alliance to France's far-right party leader Marine Le Pen and Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban. Far-right parties performed trongly in those polls.

but relations with other countries, with the European community must also be protected and promoted," the pope said.

He did not mention Salvini or any othe specific cases in Europe

always ends badly: it leads to war". Salvini called on Thursday for a snar change Rahul Gandhi's mind, the party could not populist M5S party, his partners in the

13 killed in landslide

landslide caused by heavy onsoon rains killed at east 13 people and injured ozens more in eastern Avanmar, officials said vesterday, as floods forced ens of thousands across the

ıntry to flee their homes The deluge of mud ngulfed 16 homes and a onastery early yesterday n Thae Pyar Kone village Mon state, district ninistrator Myo Min Tun

Thirteen people have so far been found dead and 27 taken to hospital in Mawlamyine (Mon state's capital)," he told AFP by

nave caused rivers to burst their banks across the country while coastal mmunities have been warned of looming high ides. Officials say at least 30,000 people, mainly in Bago region and Mon and Karen states, were seeking refuge from the floods,

Economic downturn to hit Hong Kong like 'tsunami'

Oadomem, in the village of Kofr Oadom in the Israeli-occupied West Bank vesterday.

An Israeli soldier hurls a sound grenade towards Palestinian demonstrators during a protest against the nearby Jewish settlement of

Lam, whose support for a bill to allow extradition to mainland China sparked the crisis, warned that the economic impact of the unrest threatened to be worse than the 2003 SARS outbreak in the

"Compared to the economic downturn caused by SARS that we handled previously, which caused an economic "In other words, the economic recovery will take a very

Pope warns against rise of nationalism

published a day after Italy's far-right interior minister bid to strengthen his hold Matteo Salvini, whose rallying cry is

He tried

The pope warned in an La Stampa that "sovereignism reveals an

nationalism in Europe to the 1930s when

speeches that resemble those of Hitler in 1934. 'Us first, We... We... ' These are frightening thoughts," the pope was quoted

years of right-wing dictatorship in his Ahead of the EU elections in May, Salvini reached out in his bid for a "sovereignist

> Antony, Ahmed Patel and KV Venugopal were at the meeting at Sonia Gandhi's 'Sovereignty must be defended, house. Sources say the leaders decided that there would be no more delay on picking the next Congress

> > For over two months, the Congress has been in a period of stasis. As its leaders tried and failed to

J&K state assembly polls soon | Pak court allows remand

Indian security personnel walk on a street in Srinagar yesterday, as widespread restrictions on movement and a

telecommunications blackout remained in place after the Indian government stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its

Promises Modi, says region will be converted to full-fledged state again REUTERS, New Delhi situation improves in the region, autonomy to the state authorities to

converted into a full-fledged state.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the people of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday that elections would be held soon in the state for the local assembly, two days after government's decision to end special status for the state and split it into two union In an address broadcast on

DHAKA SATURDAY AUGUST 10, 2019, SRABAN 26, 1426 BS

Decision on Congress chief

today: source

A new Congress president

will be chosen when the

party's top decision-making

body meets today, sources

meeting at Sonia Gandhi's

emerged as the front runner

for the post left vacant after

Rahul Gandhi quit in May,

owning responsibility for

the party's national election

A non-Gandhi may be

party president for the

first time in two decades

as the Congress Working

Committee meets today.

a former minister with

experience, is expected to

take charge at least till the

organizational elections.

In its 134-year history,

India's oldest political party

has mostly had a member

family in charge. But at a

time all three Gandhis are

in politics, Rahul Gandhi,

Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka

Gandhi Vadra have refused

The Congress Working

to be a part of the process.

Committee will formally

thank Rahul Gandhi for

his role as president, the

sources said, indicating

given up attempts to

persuade the 49-year-

old to withdraw his

resignation.

that the party had officially

Top leaders including AK

of the Nehru-Gandhi

much administrative

59-year-old Mukul Wasnik.

home. Mukul Wasnik has

said yesterday after a

NDTV ONLINE

debacle.

television and radio, the first time he has spoken to the nation on the decision, Modi painted the move as one that will benefit the people of Kashmir. The federal government would take steps to create more economic opportunities, he said. This week's move, tightening New Delhi's grip on the contested region, withdrew the Muslim majority state's

their CMs (chief ministers) like they of India provides, he said have done before," Modi said. He added that once the law-and-order constitutional provisions provided the countries

can boost climate fight: UN

Indian authorities have imposed other parts of the country from communications blackout on overrunning the state. Kashmir for a fourth straight day, stopping media from being able to 370 and 35A becoming a history, report what is happening there. Modi said the government had its negative effects," Modi said.

autonomy. Inset. An activist protests with a placard in New Delhi.

people from outside the region to buy the overall development of the region. These legal provisions created hurdles has drawn a strong reaction from remanded until August 21. The people of Jammu and Kashmir to extending legal benefits to women, Pakistan, which has taken a series of will be able to choose their leaders, minorities and students that the rest steps to exert diplomatic pressure on Introduced decades ago, the heart of 70 years of hostility between

"I am confident that with Article Jammu and Kashmir will come out of Modi said the decision to change

laws as well as to keep people from

the status of Kashmir would help government employees of Jammu and Kashmir get the benefits enjoyed by over fraud accusations at a sugar people of other federally administered He also exhorted large corporations, including information technology

right to frame its own laws and allowed 370 and 35A of the constitution for infrastructure projects in the region.

of Maryam Nawaz Jammu and Kashmir would again be a limit the implementation of Indian

Some supporters of Pakistan's largest opposition party threw punches yesterday in clashes with police as a top leader, Maryam Nawaz, was remanded to custody on corruption charges filed by a national anti-graft agency

Maryam, daughter of former prime ninister Nawaz Sharif and a scion of the family that dominated politics Minister Imran Khan and for three decades, was arrested mill her family runs, one of several cases it says are politically

"I knew that it would be companies, to invest in the state and tough situation for me to launch generate jobs for the people from a political struggle but I will not taken the decision to repeal Article the region, and promised to step up | budge," Maryam told reporters The Indian government's move the city of Lahore, to be denied bail and

"The NAB has made a baseless case against me," she added, referring to able to confirm the authenticity of the video its neighbour. Kashmir has been at the | Pakistan's National Accountability Bureau.

of the Sharif family, which runs the largest opposition party, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). Some of the hundreds of party supporter

athered outside the court engaged in fistfights with police, according to eyewitnesses and video images. Police declined to comment on the extent of the clashes. Maryam is one of the few opposition figures to openly criticise Prime

> Pakistan's powerful military, accusing them in recent weeks censoring rallies and news conferences held by her party. Maryam, who led big anti government rallies across the

country, disappeared from Pakistani media last month after shortly before she appeared in court in she made public a secretly recorded video. The video purported to show her father's

graft conviction had been the result of blackmail. Reuters was not independently Khan and the military deny any media The anti-graft agency has arrested, or ban on the party or that the cases against wants to arrest, about a dozen members the family are politically motivated

It's up to EU to avoid nodeal Brexit: UK FM

Presses the bloc to amend terms of the deal

Britain's foreign minister on Thursday pressed the European Union to amend he terms of Britain's EU withdrawal agreement, saying Brussels would have to take responsibility for a no-deal Brexit if it scrapped. does not compromise. In an interview with Reuters

during a visit to Mexico City, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said the British government wanted to leave the European Union with a deal, but would do so without one if EU negotiators did not alter their stance. "If the position from the EU

is that the withdrawal agreement can't be changed - whether it's add-ons that will have to be removed." or subtractions - full stop, which is their position today, then let's face it, they will be to move towards an "operational backstop" taking the decision to see the UK leave on that ensured that "any checks that are done no-deal terms, and that's a responsibility wouldn't be at the border" but could be they will have to bear," Raab said.

withdrawal agreement negotiated by the be re-opened, but the new government under Prime Minister Boris Johnson wants a contentious so-called Irish "backstop" A provision put forward by Brussels,

> Ireland and British-ruled Northern Ireland open, and would oblige Britain to obey some EU rules if no alternative arrangement can be Raab said "the backstop,

the backstop aims to keep the

border between the Republic of

certainly in its current form, is undemocratic and it's something The obvious alternative, Raab said, was

managed with "technology and goodwill



Abel Valenzuela, local of El Paso, meditates in front of the makeshift memorial for shooting victims at the Cielo Vista Mall Walmart in El Paso, Texas on Thursday night. The El Paso community is still reeling from the trauma of the mass shooting which left 22 dead and dozens injured.

of migrants

Speaker Nancy Pelosi criticised US treatment of migrants during a visit to Guatemala, and raised doubts about whether the Central American country could cope with a migration deal agreed with the Trump

that are heating up the Earth. "Finally, the world's top scientists recognise what we have always Pelosi, a Democrat, was known," said indigenous leaders from 42 countries in a statement coordinated by the Rights and Resources Initiative, a U.S. based coalition promoting community based forest ownership. "Failure to legally recognise

nigrants to seek asylum in

situation," he said

groups that is still publishing. With phone lines and internet services suspended, six

no restriction on the press "Even in the worst of times, the press were given curfew passes," said Morifat Qadri, executive editor of the Daily Afaaq, which usually prints 4,000 copies daily. "They don't want that anybody covers the current

and our lands vulnerable to the growing threats of agrondustrial production, destructive nining and logging practices, and large-scale infrastructure developments," they said. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, UN

special rapporteur on the rights our rights leaves our forests vulnerable to environmentally Thomson Reuters Foundation there had been "a betrayal" destructive projects that devastate forests and release and lack of political will to protect indigenous people's

The IPCC also called for more support for poor farmers, finalise the report, intended to guide governments tasked particularly women, to limit the impacts of extreme with implementing the 2015 Paris Agreement to limit weather and creeping deserts and enable them to feed their



In this photograph taken on Thursday, Indian Army personnel rescue people stranded in

flood waters after heavy rains on the outskirts of Sangli in Maharashtra state.

Marine heatwaves kill coral instantly

Marine heatwaves are killing coral reefs far more quickly than previously believed, according to a new study released

process of "bleaching," where the high temperatures kill the | from the rallies. colourful algae covering and nourishing coral. Repeated "bleaching events", such as ones which hit Australia's Great Barrier Reef in 2016 and 2017, can eventually | for fair local elections. The rallies have kill the coral in a process which takes months or years.

If sea temperatures ease, bleached corals are able to But the new study found that severe marine heatwaves can actually degrade the skeletal structure of the coral, potentially | a protest today, giving the time and location killing the organisms in a matter of days or weeks.

"The severity of these heatwave events is beyond the bleaching process, it's actually a point where the coral animal itself is dying," said Tracy Ainsworth, a co-author of the study from the University of New South Wales. The study, which also involved researchers from the Moscow rally a "call to participate... which the assets of an anti-corruption group that University of Newcastle in Britain and Australia's James | is an attempt to intervene in the affairs of Cook University used CT scans of coral reefs to monitor our country the impact of extreme temperatures.

Moscow says US backed | Man stabs 4 people opposition protests

Summons representative of US embassy

representative of the US embassy over what Scientists have known that rising sea temperatures blamed | it said were calls to take part in opposition on global warming can severely damage reefs through a protests, despite US warnings to stay away

The US and Europe have criticised Russia's crackdown on a series of protests seen thousands arrested and police hitting demonstrators with batons. Last week the US embassy issued a demonstration alert" on it website ahead of

of the march along with warnings to "avoid But the Russian foreign ministry said in a statement yesterday that it considered the posting of a map showing the location of a

Moscow earlier criticised the German public broadcaster Deutsche Welle for what t said were calls to take part in the rally. The crackdown on the protests is the

Moscow also said were encouraged by the US. Over the past few weeks, thousands of Russians have taken part in protests against the exclusion of popular opposition politicians from Moscow's parliament elections in September.

opening a probe into "mass unrest" and making nearly 2,400 arrests at two recent unauthorised rallies.

largest since demonstrations against Vladimir Putin's 2012 return to the Kremlin that

The authorities have pushed back,

others in an incident that shocked the nation. The mass stabbing in the town of Kawasaki, south of

government officials, his spokeswoman said. | had been injured in the attack.

at Japanese hospital A knife-wielding man stabbed three nurses and a policeman

at a hospital in western Japan yesterday, police said, the latest stabbing incident in the country. The nurses were stabbed in the chest and abdomen but their wounds were not life threatening, police said, adding that a policeman was also wounded in his left arm. Police arrested a 45-year-old male patient who had stabbed one nurse and ran way. The two other nurses and

Violent crime is rare in Japan where most incidents nvolve knives or swords due to the country's strict gun | to handle the agreement, In May, a knife-wielding man slashed at a group of | conference she wanted to

vorld, and there was no immediate detail on the suspect's Local media reported that the suspected attacker, a man | and Honduras, after which major opposition figure Alexei Navalny set | in his 50s, had also died of his wounds after turning the | they are scheduled to visit up to expose the questionable wealth of top knife on himself. Emergency services said at least 16 others US detention centers in

one of the lowest rates of violent crime in the developed



to handle a potential surge policeman were wounded as they tried to apprehend the | in asylum applications. Pelosi told a news

Trump says another meeting with Kim Jong Un possible FINANCIAL TERRORISM 8 charged in Rakhine

newspapers published

Kashmir has nearly 180 English and Urdu daily newspapers, but only five are publishing these days due to restrictions | Jong Un and added that he could have imposed by Indian authorities to prevent unrest after New

Indigenous peoples said on Thursday that a United Nations

report on climate change had for the first time recognised

their land rights as important for curbing global warming.

on Climate Change (IPCC), written by more than 100

scientists, called for big changes to land use, farming and

massive amounts of carbon into the atmosphere.

The IPCC met this week in Geneva, Switzerland, to

COMMUNICATIONS BLOCKADE IN KASHMIR

Only 5 of 180

The special report by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel

That is frustrating for the region's journalists, many of whom are veterans of covering a long insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir and operating under prolonged curfews. "This is the biggest story of our generation and we haven't been able to report it," said Faisul Yaseen, associate editor of Rising Kashmir, one of the handful of newspaper

newspaper editors and journalists told Reuters they have no way to access wire reports or any outside online news but progress has been scant on sources, their district correspondents, and seek comment | Washington's aim of getting the from government officials An Indian foreign ministry spokesman said there was

resident Donald Trump yesterday said he has received a "very beautiful letter" on

another meeting with him. say when such a meeting would take place. North Korea has been testing missiles despite a June 30 meeting between

Frump and Kim at which the two agreed to revive stalled workinglevel talks, which have yet to resume. Trump and Kim have met three imes since last year to discuss ways to resolve a crisis over North Korea's nuclear and missile programs,

North Korea leader to give up his weapons.

Trump also said that he agreed with Kim's of weeks. pposition to US-South Korea war games "He wasn't happy with the war games," Frump said of Kim's letter, which Trump to narrow differences over US demands for seeking ethnic minority said explained why Pyongyang had been weapons and Pyongyang's demands for | but several have agreed to conducting missile tests. "You know I've never liked it either," relief from punishing sanctions

The recent missile tests have raised

questions about the future of dialogue. Pyongyang has warned of a possible end | with financing terrorism, Thursday from North Korean leader Kim to its freeze of nuclear and long-range | including six deported from missile tests in place since 2017. Trump | Singapore last month over has repeatedly pointed to that freeze as allegations they had sent Speaking to reporters, Trump did not evidence of the success of more than a year | money to ethnic rebels in the of engagement with Kim. Keen to tout his North Korea policy

as a success ahead of his 2020 reelection bid, Trump has sought to play down the missile violate Kim's pledge to forego nuclear and long-range tests. US Secretary of State Mike vas hopeful talks would resume in coming and that the US side

Myanmar has designated the Arakan Army a terrorist was planning for negotiations in a couple The Myanmar army has A summit between Trump and Kim in Hanoi in February collapsed over a failure battled various autonomyinsurgent groups for decades North Korea to give up all of its nuclear

conflict-torn Rakhine region.

Recently, civilians have

been caught up in clashes

and the Arakan Army, an

from the mainly Buddhist

ethnic Rakhine population

and is fighting for greater

make peace in recent years.

autonomy for the state.

between the military

southern India

22,000 people displaced

At least 22 people have died in the southern Indian state of Kerala after torrential monsoon rains caused landslides

Floods kill 22 in

deaths and mass displacement across South Asia every year but they also deliver more than 70% of India's rainfall and In Kerala, the disaster forced the evacuation of more than

Seasonal monsoon rains from June to September cause

22,000 people and the closure of Cochin International insurgent group that recruits Airport, the busiest airport in the tourist state. Located along the banks of the Periyar river, the airport will be shut until at least 1500 IST (0930 GMT) on Sunday, although the Indian Navy has opened an airfield at a naval

base for use by commercial flights, officials said.

Kerala was hit by devastating floods last August that killed more than 200 people and affected more than 5 The western Indian states of states of Maharashtra, Goa

and Karnataka have also been hit this week by heavy rains and flooding. Officials said at least 38 people have been killed in the states this week due to the rains and more than 200,000 have been evacuated

Warns city's embattled leader, rules out any concession activists, her comments echo worried statements from the private sector and the tourism industry in particular. Hong Kong's leader Carrie Lam yesterday warned that Hong Kong carrier Cathay Pacific has warned bookings two months of pro-democracy demonstrations were are down, travel agencies have reported drops of up to 50 causing economic chaos in the city but ruled out making percent in group tour bookings and the tourism board concessions to "silence the violent protesters." reported double-digit declines in visitor arrivals in the The embattled leader abruptly announced a press conference after meeting business Protesters have continued to leaders as demonstrators rallied tage almost daily rallies despite at the airport, with the protest increasingly violent confrontations | Thursday and called for snap movement entering its third month. with police that have prompted elections

lemocracy protesters staged a sit-in earlier this year. at the airport to bring their message

to arriving visitors Lam has suspended the bill that sparked the crisis, but has not yet responded to protester calls to withdraw attitude toward isolation" it altogether, and she has brushed aside demands for an

several countries to issue Hong Cong travel warnings for their Yesterday, thousands of pro-

enquiry into police brutality She ruled out meeting the demands of protesters, which | the dictator Adolf Hitler came to power in election in Italy, after falling out with the also include a call for the direct election of the city's chief Nazi Germany.

siting Central America on hursday with a bipartisan ngressional delegation ust as the region was oming under pressure from JS President Donald Trump reaching the United States.

Under the threat of Guatemala late last month struck a deal with Trump to make the country a socalled "safe third country." The accord will require

Guatemala, which suffers from high levels of poverty

schoolgirls at a bus stop, killing one girl and wounding 16 know more about what the safe third country deal entailed, and described it as the Japanese capital, was a rare attack in a country with a "very difficult challenge." Pelosi and the