Britain's Johnson enters third day in intensive care

AFP | London

rime Minister Boris Johnson began a third day in intensive care vesterday battling the coronavirus, which has struck at the heart of the British government.

"I understand the prime minister is in a stable condition. he's comfortable and in good spirits," Edward Argar, a junior health minister, told Sky News.

"He has in the past had some oxygen but he's not on ventilation."

The Times reported Johnson's persistently high temperature had fallen, while the Daily Telegraph said he was being cared for by one of Britain's leading lung doctors.

Newspapers urged Britons to keep their stricken leader at the forefront of their minds, with the country in lockdown to try to stem the spread of COVID-19 in its third week.

"He stayed at work for you... now pray at home for him," The Sun tabloid splashed across its front page. "Boris 'will pull through" said the Daily Express. Deputising for Johnson, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab called him "a fighter" and predicted "he'll be back, leading us through this crisis in short order".

Johnson, 55, is the most high-profile government leader to become infected with COVID-19 and messages of support flooded in from across Britain and the world.

He was admitted to intensive care on Monday evening after spending Sunday night in hospital following concerns he still had a cough and high temperature 10 days after being diagnosed with COVID-19.

His transfer to intensive care

Since 1987-2019 Eurosceptic journalist and commentator. Makes a name for himself writing exaggerated negative claims about the European Union



1-08, 2015-to dat 2008-16 Mayor of Londo

Leads campaign for to leave EU (Brexit)

aign for Britai

prime minister remains

in intensive care

where his condition is

improving. I can also

tell you that he has

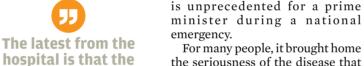
been sitting up in bed

and been engaging

positively with the

clinical teamupt people

FINANCE MINISTER RISHI SUNAK



the seriousness of the disease that has so far seen 6,159 deaths in Britain, with a record 786 more reported in a daily update on Tuesday.

'Work goes on'

Despite the record daily death toll, there was more encouraging news with the number of new daily cases remaining at a roughly stable 3,643.

Raab chaired the daily coronavirus meeting in the prime minister's place on Tuesday.

Joy, relief as exodus from Wuhan begins

AFP | Wuhan China

Voicing joy and excitement from behind face masks, tens of thousands of people fled Wu han on Wednesday after a 76-day travel ban was lifted on the Chinese city where the coronavirus first emerged. Previously quiet train and bus stations bustled as an exodus began from some passengers wearing a plane back home hazmat suits.



with queueing passengers in protective wear wheeling cases and staff spraying disinfectant on the floor.

State news agency

India considers narrowing lockdown to virus hotspots

Reuters | New Delhi

world

Foreign minister. Resigns over Prime Minister

Theresa May's soft Brexit deal with the EU

2019 Prime minister. Clinches modified Brexit deal. Decisive general election victory puts lid on political chaos over Brexit

Britain leaves the EU

ndia is considering plans Lto seal off coronavirus hotspots in Delhi, Mumbai and parts of the south while easing curbs elsewhere as a way out of a three-week lockdown that has caused deep economic distress, officials said on Wednesday.

The sweeping lockdown of India's 1.3 billion people to prevent an epidemic of COVID-19, the respiratory disease caused by the vi-

Global

1,491,465

Covid-19 Cases:

Deaths

87,444

Recovered

319,060

1,084,544

Active cases

Closed cases

New cases

New deaths

+5.401

406,417

+60,042

A second stimulus package India is poised to announce in coming days will be worth around 1 trillion rupees (\$13 billion) and focus on help for small and medium businesses weathering the coronavirus outbreak. two senior officials said on Wednesday.

rus, ends on April 14 and Modi is due to take a deci-Prime Minister Narendra sion this week on wheth-

er to extend it. More than 80 per cent of the positive cases of the coronavirus have been traced to 62 districts – less than 10pc of India's landmass – according to government data.

These are concentrated in the western state of Maharashtra, home to financial capital Mumbai, Delhi and the southern states of Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Kerala.

Many parts of the country have not reported a single case.

Countries worst affected									
Country	Total cases	New deaths	Total Deaths						
USA	418,410	+1,399	14,240						
Spain	146,690	+628	14,673						
Italy	139,422	+542	17,669						
Germany	110,483	+167	2,183						
France	112,950	+541	10,328						
China	81,802	+2	3,333						
Iran	64,586	+121	3,993						
ик	60,733	+938	10,869						
Turkey	38,226	+87	812						
Belgium	23,403	+205	2,240						
Switzerland	23,248	+72	893						
Netherlands	20,549	+147	2,248						
Canada	18,479	+21	402						
Brazil	14,152	+13	699						
Portugal	13,141	+35	380						
Austria	12,901	+30	273						
S. Korea	10,384	+8	200						
Israel	9,404	+7	72						
Russia	8,672	+5	63						
Sweden	8,419	+96	687						
Norway	6,086	+4	93						
Australia	6,013	+1	50						
India	5,749	+18	178						



BORIS

JOHNSON

BRITISH PRIME MINISTER

Hao Mei, a single parent from the nearby city of Enshi, said her two children had been home alone since she got stuck in Wuhan, where she works in a school kitchen.

"You have no idea! I was already up around 4 am. I felt so good. My kids are so excited. Mum is finally coming home," the 39-vear-old told AFP as she waited to board a train.

"At the start of the lockdown, I cried every night. train, according to govern-I was really miserable, be- ment estimates. cause my little girl is still young, she's only 10."

the city of 11 million, with A medical worker leaving Wuhan hugs colleagues before boarding



Cars queued at highway toll Previously quiet train and bus stations bustled as an exodus stations in Wuhan vesterday began from the city of 11 million night as they prepared to leave the city

Steady streams of cars at midnight.

Ferries, trams and taxis hit the road Wednesday Up to 55,000 people are morning, with barricades resumed operations and on Wednesday just by mantled after the ban on again for domestic flights, weeks.

outbound travel was lifted

hua said there would be around 200 flights on Wednesday.

A group of medics leaving Wuhan tearfully hugged colleagues from the city goodbye as they prepared to board flights home.

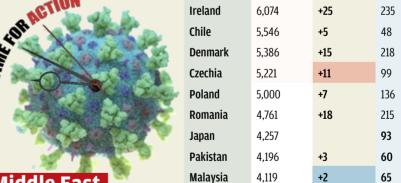
World-first lockdown

Wuhan led the world with an unprecedented quarantine lockdown on January 23 in a bid to stop the spread of the then-mysterious respiratory virus.

Chinese disease control officials said in January that the virus likely leapt from wildlife to humans at a Wuhan market that sold wild animals for food.

The rest of surrounding Hubei province quickly followed Wuhan, cutting tens of millions of people off from the world.

The officially reported number of new deaths expected to leave Wuhan on the city's outskirts dis- the airport also opened has plummeted in recent



Middle East

Figures as of closing

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases	Serious, Critical	Tot cases/1m pop
Bahrain	823	+12	5		477	341	3	484
Saudi Arabia	2,932	+137	41		631	2,260	41	84
UAE	2,659	+300	12		239	2,408	1	269
Kuwait	855	+112	1		111	743	21	200
Oman	419	+48	2		72	345	3	82
Jordan	353		6		138	209	5	35
Iraq	1,202	+80	69	+4	452	681		30
Egypt	1,450		94		276	1,080		14