

world

Egypt court frees Mubarak sons on bail

AFP | Cairo, Egypt

The two sons of former Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak were released on bail Thursday, days after being arrested for alleged stock market manipulation, according to a judicial source and their lawyer.

Gamal and Alaa Mubarak were detained Saturday and accused along with three other people of failing to notify the stock exchange of agreements to acquire majority stakes in several banks through front companies.

A Cairo court ordered their release on bail of 100,000 pounds (\$5,550, 4,700 euros), lawyer Farid el-Dib said. A new hearing is scheduled for October 20. On Sunday, following their arrest, Egypt's stock market suffered its worst day since February.

Dutch train hits daycare bike

The Hague, Netherlands

Four children from a Dutch daycare centre were killed on Thursday when a train hit their electric cargo bike at a level crossing, police said on Thursday.

A fifth child and a woman were also critically injured in the accident in Oss, a town near the German border around 110 kilometres (65 miles) southeast of the capital Amsterdam.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte tweeted his condolences from an EU summit in Salzburg, Austria, over a tragedy that has shaken the cycling-mad country.

India, Pakistan foreign ministers to hold talks

New Delhi, India

The foreign ministers of India and Pakistan will hold a rare meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly underway in New York, officials in New Delhi said yesterday. The announcement comes after Pakistani PM Imran Khan wrote to his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi calling for a resumption of talks between the nuclear-armed foes. A spokesman for India's external affairs ministry said the tete-a-tete between Sushma Swaraj and Pakistan's Shah Mehmood Qureshi did not represent a shift in New Delhi's relations with Islamabad.

"This does not indicate any change in our policy on cross-border terrorism," spokesman Raveesh Kumar told reporters.

Multiple deaths in US warehouse shooting

There were reports that the incident was a rare mass shooting by a woman

● US media said three people were killed and two others wounded in the incident

● Deadly shootings are common in the United States, where the right to bear arms is protected by the US constitution.

Seoul, South Korea

An unidentified assailant opened fire Thursday at a warehouse complex north of Baltimore, killing and wounding multiple people in the latest US mass shooting, authorities said.

There were reports that the incident was a rare mass shooting by a woman, but police would not confirm the gender of the attacker, merely reporting that they were in a critical con-



Police block off roads near the location of a shooting in Aberdeen, Maryland

dition at a local hospital.

"I can confirm multiple wounded and multiple fatalities," Jeffrey Gahler, the sheriff

of Harford County, Maryland, told reporters. US media said three people were killed and two others wounded in the in-

cident, which unfolded around 9:00 am (1300 GMT) at a distribution center for the Rite Aid drugstore chain. Johns Hopkins

Bayview Hospital spokesman Raymond Fang said four adults had been brought in with gunshot wounds, according to local station WBAL-TV. Other victims were taken to Christiana Hospital in Newark, Delaware, it said.

"The lone suspect in this incident is in custody and in critical condition at a local hospital," Gahler said.

He said the assailant was apparently armed with a single handgun "and no shots (were) fired by any officers responding to the scene" -- most likely indicating that the shooter's injuries were self-inflicted.

"We do not believe there is an additional threat anywhere to the Harford County community," Gahler added.

Police, firefighters and other emergency responders arrived within minutes of receiving a call at 9:06 am. The incident is the latest in an epidemic of gun violence that has struck schools and workplaces almost at random across the United States.

Official fired over odyssey of truck with 300 bodies

Guadalajara, Mexico

A state government in Mexico has fired a prosecutor over a spectacle in which a fetid-smelling tractor trailer carrying 273 bodies was driven around aimlessly for lack of room in the morgue.

"I am not willing to tolerate this kind of mistake, which shocks and horrifies public opinion," said the governor of western Jalisco state, Aristoteles Sandoval, as he fired prosecutor Raul Sanchez.

The state's chief coroner was fired earlier in the week over the sad drama in the state capital, Guadalajara. The bodies were in the refrigerated truck because the morgue in Mexico's second-largest city was full. Officials originally put the number of bodies at 157 but on Wednesday they raised it to 273. The truck was parked for two weeks at a warehouse in a downtrodden neighborhood on the city outskirts until residents complained of the stench.

Two Koreas' leaders in mountain show of unity

Seoul, South Korea

Kim Jong Un and Moon Jae-in visited the spiritual birthplace of the Korean nation yesterday for a show of unity after their North-South summit gave new momentum to Pyongyang's negotiations with Washington.

The North Korean leader on Wednesday agreed to shutter the Tongchang-ri missile-test-

ing site in the presence of international observers, a move the US welcomed by saying it was ready for immediate talks aimed at denuclearising the North.

Pyongyang also said it could dismantle its best-known nuclear facility at Yongbyon, if the US takes "corresponding measures", as Kim and the South Korean president held their third summit this year.

It is an important caveat -- Moon told reporters on his return to Seoul that the US would need to "end hostile relations with North Korea and provide security guarantees for the North Korean regime".

President Donald Trump welcomed the move, tweeting that Kim had "agreed to allow Nuclear inspections, subject to final negotiations", adding: "Very exciting!"

Air pressure mix-up causes mass bleeding on flight

AFP | Mumbai, India

A cockpit mix-up left more than 30 passengers on an Indian plane bleeding from their ears and noses Thursday after the crew reportedly forgot to flick a switch regulating cabin air pressure.

The Jet Airways flight to Jaipur had to turn back due to loss in cabin pressure, the airline said, with travellers describing "panic" on board. The plane carrying 166 passengers landed back in Mumbai and those affected were given medical attention while alternative flights were arranged, Jet Airways said.

The flight crew "has been taken off scheduled duties pending investigation", the company said



A screen shot of the video posted (Courtesy of livemint)

in a statement.

People on board posted photos and videos of the calamity

online, with one purported passenger, Darshak Hathi, uploading footage on Twitter showing

travellers using oxygen masks.

"Panic situation due to technical fault in @jetairways 9W 0697 going from Mumbai to Jaipur," he tweeted, adding that all passengers were safe.

Another traveller said the pilot did not make any announcement other than that the flight would turn back to Mumbai.

"I was in the business class and the oxygen mask came down suddenly. One passenger came running from the back asking everyone to put on the masks," he told the NDTV news network.

"All the passengers were panicking, those sitting at the back and who were unable to wear the masks started bleeding from their mouths and noses."

An official with India's na-

tional aviation regulator told the Press Trust of India the crew "forgot to select (the) bleed switch" to maintain the aircraft's cabin pressure.

Five travellers who suffered bleeding and were rushed to a Mumbai hospital were suffering from mild deafness that would take some 10 days to recover, a doctor told reporters.

The incident is the latest in a string of embarrassing incidents for the airline, which like other Indian carriers has been suffering financially.

In view of the latest scare, India's Civil Aviation minister Suresh Prabhu has ordered a safety audit of all airlines and airports, asking the report to be submitted within 30 days.