

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Majorca Daily Bulletin

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TODAY

AMELIE MODEL



Half of waste which is collected from sea is plastic: Inside

# 25,000 fewer tourists in October after Thomas Cook collapse

- Some hotels on the island are planning to close early and some hoteliers are calling for financial help from the Spanish government.
- Local hoteliers are still counting the cost with many left with large unpaid bills.



## Government probe launched

London.— The British parliament's business committee has launched an inquiry into the collapse of travel group Thomas Cook and will seek to question the management over issues such as executive pay and accounting practices.

Thomas Cook, the world's oldest tour operator, collapsed in the early hours of Monday, hitting hotel owners, tourist sites and resorts around the world. It also prompted the British government to launch the largest peacetime repatriation in history.

### MOROCCO SUFFERS

## \$20 million debt

● The collapse of British travel operator Thomas Cook has left Moroccan hotels facing unpaid bills of about 200 million dirhams (\$20 million), the head of Morocco's tourism federation said.

Thomas Cook operated two flights a week from Manchester to Marrakech.

## Gambia left counting the cost

● Fatou Jallow borrowed money this year to spruce up her beachside restaurant in Gambia, expecting the usual winter droves of European tourists keen to sample her hearty stews and spicy West African rice dishes. Then Monday's news hit: Thomas Cook Group, the travel operator that brought around 40% of Gambia's annual visitors seeking sun and white-sand beaches, had collapsed and was cancelling all future flights and hotel bookings. The fallout is global, with tourists and tourist destinations affected across the world.

## New Spanish poll points to another election stalemate

Madrid.— Spain's second election this year is unlikely to break the stalemate between the main right and left-wing parties, with acting prime minister Pedro Sanchez's Socialist Party falling even shorter of a full majority than in the first, a poll showed yesterday. Sanchez set the election for Nov. 10 - the country's fourth in four years - after failing to reach a deal with the far-left Unidas Podemos. The survey by GAD3 for ABC newspaper put the Socialists on 27.2%, down from 28.7% in the previous parliamentary election in April, which would give them 121

seats in the 350-seat house, two fewer than before. Podemos also fell in the poll. Spain has not had a stable government for years, with mainstream parties and newcomers that have appeared over the past five years struggling to strike deals.

A separate poll by state-run CIS pollster showed that almost half of those surveyed consider politicians to be one of the biggest problems in the election-weary country, which has not been ruled by more than one party at a time since the return of democracy in the late 1970s.

