



## The News

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*by Noele Bouazouni-Prier*

After the passage of cyclone Belal in the Reunion Island, 2 additional victims are reported. 2 homeless people who had refused emergency accommodations, according to the Minister of the Interior, were found dead. Gérald Darmamin is expected on site tomorrow. The airport will reopen this evening and 35 flights are planned for tonight. Reinforcements are expected on site from tomorrow. This evening 135,000 Reunionese households remain without electricity according to the latest report from ENEDIS and the situation remains complicated on Mauritius where there are 2 victims so far.

In mainland France it is the snow which raises concern: 14 departments are under orange alert this evening. The Météo France alert begins at 10 p.m. from the English Channel to the Territoire de Belfort, passing through the Paris Region. A significant episode of snowfall and freezing rain is expected throughout the night. Tomorrow the alert will concern 38 departments across the entire northern half of the country.

Announcements and objectives are expected this evening from the speech of the Head of State. Emmanuel Macron is holding a press conference at the Elysée from 8:15 p.m. He will surely return to this week's controversy, after the appointment of Amélie Oudéa Castéra to Education. The Minister sent a message of appeasement today by apologizing to the Littré school teachers in Paris. A difficult trip with boos and whistles in this public establishment that her son had briefly attended, before being transferred to the private sector.

The decline in the French birth rate is confirmed. 678,000 babies were born in France last year, this is a drop of more than 6% compared to 2022 according to the INSEE report published today. The INSEE also reports that the life expectancy of men reached 80 years for the first time in 2023, while it is over 85 old for women.