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Spain's Rajoy says budget talks with rival are first step amid deadlock

● Spain's acting Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said yesterday his People's Party (PP) and smaller rival Ciudadanos had taken a first step towards unfreezing deadlocked Spanish politics by agreeing to discuss a 2017 budget proposal due in mid-October.

Rajoy said a day earlier that Spain may have to hold its third election in under a year if parties such as the Socialists continued their steadfast opposition to his centre-right PP and its efforts to form a government.

Palma WIFI network will be the widest in Europe

● A free wifi network in Palma that will be completed by the end of year will, it is reckoned, be the widest such network in Europe, with the expectation that it will be used annually by ten million individual users.

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Flashmob stunt triggers street panic in Spain

Madrid.—Crowds ran in panic after mistaking a flashmob-style performance for a militant attack in a Spanish coastal resort, police and media said.

Scores of people responded to social media invitations to descend on Platja d'Aro on Tuesday evening and run around pretending to be paparazzi, papers reported.

Participants held tripods and selfie sticks and pretended to be chasing a celebrity. But other people in the streets mistook the objects for guns and fled, blocking traffic and sending restaurant tables flying, media reported.

Eleven people were treated for minor injuries, anxiety attacks and heart palpitations, with at least two hospitalised police said.

London police deploy extra armed officers to protect against attacks: See Inside