THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

SAFAR 5, 1437 AH

Govt health insurance for expats to stop

in three years?



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015

Marriott buys
Starwood
Hotels for
\$12.2 billion



Veteran Indian-British actor Saeed Jaffrey dies



No pay, less power: Bahrain sheikh's FIFA presidency pitch

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CIA CHIEF EXPECTS MORE IS ATTACKS IN 'PIPELINE'

US STATES SHUN SYRIAN REFUGEES AFTER PARIS CARNAGE

Min 12°

Min 12° Max 25° High Tide 01:48 & 16:20

09:27 & 21:27

Low Tide

HOLLANDE OUTLINES FIGHTBACK AGAINST IS

PARIS: President Francois Hollande unveiled France's riposte to Islamic State yesterday after its atrocities in Paris, vowing tough new anti-terror measures and intensified bombing of Syria in a historic speech to parliament. Describing the coordinated attacks that killed 129 people as "acts of war", Hollande urged a global fightback to crush IS and said he would hold talks with his US and Russian counterparts on a new offensive.

Friday's "acts of war... were decided and planned in Syria, prepared and organised in Belgium (and) perpetrated on our soil with French complicity," Hollande told an extraordinary meeting of both houses of parliament in Versailles. "The need to destroy Daesh (IS) ... concerns the entire international community," he told lawmakers, who burst into an emotional rendition of the La Marseillaise national anthem after his speech - only the second time in more than 150 years a French president has addressed a joint session of parliament.

On the domestic front, Hollande called for an extension of the state of emergency by three months and announced 8,500 new police and judicial jobs to help counter terrorism. France and Belgium staged dozens of raids on suspected extremists as the manhunt continued for an eighth jihadist, including in a known radical hotspot in Brussels where some of the attackers are thought to have lived. With emotions running high, thousands paused in the streets of Paris for a minute's silence to remember those killed at nightspots and at the national stadium in the worst-ever attack on French soil.

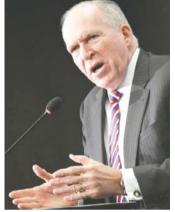
Continued on Page 13



VERSAILLES: French President François Hollande and members of parliament sing the French national anthem during an exceptional joint gathering of parliament yesterday. — AFP

WASHINGTON: CIA director John Brennan warned yesterday that the attacks in Paris were likely not a "one off event" and that he expects the Islamic State group has more operations in the pipeline. "Security and intelligence services right now are working feverishly to see what else they can do in terms of uncovering it," he said at a Washington think tank. The CIA chief said Friday night's attacks by gunmen in suicide vests in the heart of the French capital were carefully planned and executed.

"This was not something done in a matter of days. This is something that was carefully deliberately planned over the course of several months in terms of whether they had the operatives, weapons, explosives, suicide belts. I would anticipate that this is not the only operation ISIL has in the pipeline," he said, using an alternate acronym for IS, the militant group that



John Brennan

has seized large areas of Syria and Iraq.

At least 129 people were killed in the attacks carried out by at least eight gunmen nearly simultaneously at a stadium, a concert hall and restaurants as throngs of Parisians were enjoying a night out. The attacks were the latest in a burst of horrific attacks attributed to IS - following the apparent bombing October 31 of a Russian

airliner over the Sinai with 224 people aboard and twin

suicide bombings that killed 44 people in Beirut on Thursday.

Continued on Page 13

News

in brief

US approves \$1.29bn sale of bombs to Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON: The US government has approved a request from Saudi Arabia to buy more than 19,000 bombs and smart bombs for its air force, the State Department said yesterday. Congress will have to green light the deal, but the \$1.29 billion sale is likely to go through, with Saudi jets in action against rebel forces in Yemen. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency said the Saudi air force's arsenal is low "due to the high operational tempo in multiple counter-terrorism operations". The order includes 5,200 Paveway II laser-quided bombs in their GBU-10 and GBU-12 variants, along with 1,100 of the more modern, longer range GBU-24 Paveway III. There are 12,000 general purpose bombs weighing between 500 and 2,000 pounds and 1,500 devastating 2,000-pound "bunker busters," the BLU-109 penetrator. These are designed to smash hardened concrete structures. In addition to the bombs themselves, the Saudis will receive thousands of "tail kits" to convert dumb munitions into satellite-guided smart bombs.

Some Saudi schools close ahead of rains

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia's Civil Defense crews have raised their preparedness levels ahead of expected heavy rains and thunderstorms as some schools suspended classes in some areas along the kingdom's Red Sea coastline. The schools were closed yesterday and today. The US Embassy in Riyadh also warned American citizens that heavy rainfall, high winds and rough seas are expected to last until tomorrow. The statement said dust storms could make for dangerous driving conditions. Areas most likely to be hit by significant rainfall include the western regions of Makkah and Madinah and the northern regions of Tabuk and Jawf. Severe thunderstorms are also expected in southwestern Iraq and eastern Jordan.

40 Islamists on trial in UAE linked to Nusra

ABU DHABI: Forty Islamists charged with attempting to overthrow the Emirati regime are linked to Syrian Islamist militants and have smuggled in weapons for attacks, a court heard yesterday. The defendants include 38 Emiratis, the English-language Gulf News daily reported in its online version, without giving other nationalities. The trial of the group known as Al-Manara opened in August at the state security court in Abu Dhabi, but the international press is barred from attending. The group smuggled in weapons, ammunition and detonators "obtained in collaboration with Syria's Al Nusra Front", an Al-Qaeda affiliate, as well as militants in Iran, witnesses told the court, quoted in the daily. They said the suspects planned to overthrow the government, assassinate leaders, attack malls and hotels and to declare an Islamic state in the Gulf country.

IS TAKES WAR TO FOES AFTER SETBACKS

TOP COURT AFFIRMS CLOSURE OF WATAN

MP ASKS ABOUT SURPLUS FUNDS

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The cassation court yesterday upheld the rulings of the lower and the appeals courts upholding the government decision to shut down Al-Watan newspaper for failing to fulfill financial requirements. The ministry of commerce and industry revoked the commercial license of the newspaper in January after it lost more than 75 percent of its capital. The action was followed by the information ministry withdrawing the media license of the newspaper after it lost its commercial

The lower court supported the government's decision and this was confirmed by the court of appeals. Owners of Al-Watan then challenged the rulings at the cassation court, whose rulings are final. The newspaper is owned by former oil and finance minister Sheikh Ali Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah, a member of the ruling family. Since its closure in January, the daily stopped publishing its print edition and has been

updating its electronic website after substantially reducing its content. Authorities in June also shut down Al-Watan satellite TV, which is part of the same organization, citing similar rea-

In another development, National Assembly Speaker Marzouk Al-Ghanem said yesterday that the grilling filed by MP Saadoun Hammad against Minister of Public Works and Electricity and Water Ahmad Al-Jassar is constitutional. He said the grilling has been placed on the agenda of the Dec 1 session for a possible debate. Jassar has tendered his resignation to the government, which has not yet made any decision on it, but the minister has been away from office. Ghanem said the government has three options to deal with the issue. It can either accept his resignation and the grilling ends, the minister ends his holiday and comes back, or he can ask for the grilling to be delayed for a certain duration.

Continued on Page 13

BEIRUT: Facing military setbacks in its self-declared caliphate in Syria and Iraq and intensified air strikes from a US-led coalition, Islamic State may have decided in September to take the fight to France and elsewhere. The ultra-hardline group has frequently threatened to strike inside Western countries since it established itself amid Syria's civil war and then spread to northern Iraq last year, but one fighter reached inside Syria said its spokesman Abu Mohammad Al-Adnani

had issued an instruction to act abroad.

"He sent a written order to all sectors

and security brigades to start moving, including in Lebanon and Turkey," the Syrian IS fighter said via social media from northern Syria. "Lebanon and France and other places are all part of the operations ordered two months ago." Islamic State has said it was behind Friday's killings of at least 132 people in Paris in revenge for France's air strikes against it as well as twin suicide bombings which killed 43 people on Thursday in a Beirut stronghold of Lebanon's Shiite Hezbollah, which is fighting the group in Syria.

Continued on Page 13



This undated image from the Islamic State's English-language magazine Dabiq shows Belgian national Abdelhamid Abaaoud, who was identified by French authorities yesterday as the presumed mastermind of the terror attacks in Paris. — AFP

MORE THAN \$1BN IN 'SKIPS' HIT UAE BANKS

DUBAI: Banks in the United Arab Emirates are working together to try to stem the number of small business owners fleeing the country with unpaid debt, a trend that has already reached around 5 billion dirhams (\$1.4 bln) this year, a senior banking official said. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have come under pressure in recent months amid a gradual drying up of liquidity in the banking system due to the weak oil price and slowing economic growth.

As a result, some business people have chosen to "skip" the country, leaving behind unpaid debt, a situation that bankers say has grown significantly from last year, although they did not provide precise figures. In a country where under existing legislation, a bounced cheque risks landing the issuer in jail, many

of those absconding fear the consequences if they stay

"We want to take coordinated action on risk management," UAE Banks Federation chairman Abdul Aziz Al-Ghurair told reporters on the sidelines of a banking conference yesterday. "The idea is to allow the customer to pay for his debt and stay in town if they have a good intention. If they don't have a good intention, then it is no good (the bank) spending time (with them), it doesn't help."

In recent years, the UAE government has been keen to encourage banks to lend to SMEs, which account for around 60 percent of the country's gross domestic product. But third-quarter earnings from some of the smaller lenders pointed to problems in

these loans. UAE central bank governor Mubarak Rashid Al-Mansouri, at the same conference earlier yesterday, said the government was keen to press ahead with a new bankruptcy law to help support SMFs.

Current bankruptcy rules are considered by lawyers to be outdated and largely untested, with few struggling companies using the legislation. The cabinet approved a draft law in July but it still needs the support of the Federal National Council, the country's legislative body, and the president. Mansouri also said the UAE would set up a credit guarantee scheme to help reduce the risk of default for potential lenders. He didn't elaborate on the specific details of the plan. — Reuters

MICROSOFT, DIYAR UNITED OUTLINE GAME CHANGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR GOV'TS, ENTERPRISES DURING EGOV3

KUWAIT: For the third consecutive year, Microsoft was a key participant of the E-Government Forum (EGOV3). Microsoft was Platinum Sponsor of the forum, held from 15th to 17th November 2015 at Arraya Ballroom, Courtyard Marriott hotel, Kuwait.

During EGOV3, the Microsoft team showcased how Microsoft is helping clients plan for, endorse, and benefit from the trends affecting the way business is done and phenomena's like cloud computing, big data and analytics, mobility, and social networking alongside its technology partner Diyar United Company.

Commenting on this participation, Charles Nahas, General Manager, Microsoft Kuwait, said, "Microsoft's commitment to EGOV3 stems from our commitment to Kuwait, and the fact that we see ourselves as business enablers to the government, businesses, and individuals in the nation. EGOV3 is a trigger for many information technology initiatives and programs that will aid the Kuwaiti government's transformation plans into the digital era. At Microsoft, we are proud to participate with our best technical and leadership teams, are excited about our partnership with CAIT to make EGOV3 a success."

He further added: "This is by far one of the most notable IT event in Kuwait. We hope that we can make EGOV3 a knowledge sharing platform where we, as an industry, can exchange ideas and build connections. Our customers are the key drivers of our innovation, and it is our responsibility to showcase technology advances and educate each oth-



Sanjay Jacob is awarded during the event.

er on trends and industry directions."

During the Forum, Diyar United Company showcased its cloud computing services including disaster recovery, device management (on mobiles, tablets and PCs), and backup solutions using Microsoft platforms. Diyar also showcased a selection of its self-services kiosks using smart civil ID, which can enable innovative, safe, easy-to-use services for all segments of society. Apart from the showcase, Diyar conducted a session focused on Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) for E-Government Services and its benefits.

One step ahead

Bashar Atout, CEO, Diyar United Company said: "Along with Microsoft, we at Diyar United Company are very proud



Charles Nahas, General Manager, **Microsoft Kuwait**

to be a part of this EGOV3 Forum for the third consecutive year. In order to adapt to changes of technologies' fast-paced environment, leaders of technological



Sanjay Jacob, Global Head, Cloud and Enterprise, Worldwide Public Sector at Microsoft

industries and entities must stay a step ahead. The forum is an event we look forward to every year as the value of knowledge gained cannot be taken for granted. Our sponsorship demonstrates our committed support to help develop and progress national information and communication security in Kuwait. We are looking forward to continue our successful partnership with the government of the state of Kuwait through identifying the trends that are evident in the IT industry now."

EGOV3 tracks Information management and Information Security which are the two essential ingredients of e-government programs and any automation practice. Microsoft has a strong legacy of robust technologies, consulting services, and business practices around informa-

KUWAIT FORGING AHEAD TOWARDS BUILDING

tion management and security to help governments and enterprises. Microsoft is proud that Kuwaiti government agencies have endorsed Microsoft technologies for e-government programs being developed by the Central Agency for Information Technology. A number of government departments in Kuwait already use Microsoft Cloud Azure and Office365 platform as their office collaboration and messaging systems. Though this step is aligned with future technology trends, it only came after rigorous due diligence exercise through which the government departments could ascertain the robustness and relevance of Microsoft's cloud offering, and that it negates any IT security uncertainties that have traditionally accompanied cloud implementations.

'#KUWAIT' CONFERENCE UTILIZES SOCIAL MEDIA TO SERVE SOCIETY

KUWAIT: Kuwait's first social networks conference '#Kuwait' will be an excellent opportunity to allow prominent experts in the field of social media to shed light on the growing importance of social media on day-to-day life, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah said yesterday.

Sheikh Salman told KUNA that the conference will take place on December 6-7 under a sponsorship of his Ministry and a support from the public sector. The conference will be the avenue for discussing the positive utilization of social media and technology to serve the society

The event will include workshops and interactive seminars on electronic media role in dealing with crises, social networks







KUWAIT: This file photo shows an activity from Kuwait's Fifth Heritage Festival held last year at Sabah Al-Ahmad Heritage Village. — KUNA

KUWAIT'S SIXTH HERITAGE FESTIVAL KICKS OFF TODAY



Mohammad Dhaifallah Sharar



Sheikh Sabah Fahad Sabah Al-Sabah

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Sixth

Heritage Festival, patronized

by His Highness the Amir

Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-

Jaber Al-Sabah, kicks off today

at Sabah Al-Ahmad Heritage

Village, with participation of

heritage devotees from Kuwait

the festival, Amiri Diwan

Advisor Mohammad Dhaifallah

Sharar, in press remarks yester-

day, expressed pride of His

Highness the Amir's sponsor-

ship for this event, expressing

gratitude to His Highness the

Amir for the great support and

care "to one of the most impor-

tant rallies of heritage admirers

in Kuwait and the Gulf region."

year a quantum leap with

diverse activities and competi-

tions of beauty and endurance

of goats, horses, falcons,

besides the marine heritage

held at fishermen "diwans", he

Festival's Higher committee

and head of the festival's com-

petitions committee. Sheikh

Sabah Fahad Sabah Al-Sabah,

said the jury of each competi-

tion were chosen according to

high qualifications of efficiency

and integrity. — KUNA

Vice Director of the

The festival witnesses this

The General Supervisor of

and other Gulf states.

future more secure and prosperous.

Information society

Meanwhile, the Forum Chairman Abdullateef Al-Suraie said that working to build an information society is one of the main signs of the real development in modern states. Information security is an important element for securing Kuwait society and the state development march, he said, stressing the need of beefing up efforts to counter the piracy and hacking operations. The e-government programs focus on information management and availability of information in the required time which have a great impact on the decision-making process in any institution, he said. He reiterated that information security is important for the state national security as well as economic and social stability. It is of a great importance to address systems loopholes to avoid any hacking and stealing of personal, banking, health information or the state secrets, he said.

Suraie underlined the need for cooperation and coordination among all state agencies to address the growing challenges in this regard.

World-class services

Mike Weston, CISCO's Vice President and Middle East Regional Director also spoke at the event. He said that Kuwait is well-placed and qualified for achieving the optimal benefit from the internet in providing world-class services to various domains.

Kuwait also is able to take effective initiatives to use the new generation of internet services, he said in a speech. Weston pointed out that the use of smart technology would help the Kuwaiti government cut spending, increase productivity, diversifying income resources and providing distinguished services to citizens. Weston also advised government agencies to develop software applications to provide better, time and cost-effective services.

Meanwhile, EMC Vice President and Gulf and Pakistan Regional General Manager Habib Mahakian said the cloud service and big data are the main pillars of the smart cities across the globe as they boost efficiency and availability of e-government services.

EMC is a global leader in enabling businesses and service providers to transform their operations and deliver information technology as a service (ITaaS). Mahakian noted that the e-government services help create job opportunities, harness the skills of human resources and boosting economic development plans.



Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said. Building information society paves the way for significant development in different aspects of modern life and helps states secure decent life for their citizenry, so Kuwait is forging ahead with its plans for the development of the information sector, Sheikh Jaber said in a speech read out on his behalf by Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and the Chairman of the Central Agency for Information Technology Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Sabah at the inaugural session of the Third E-government Forum (EGOV3 Forum).

He went on to say that e-government programs are one of the main tools of modern states to upgrade their services. He added that the forum, held under the patronage of His Highness the Prime Minister and themed "Information Management and Security," focuses on the security threats facing the information society due to the growing information systems hacking and piracy problems.

Any breakdown or hacking of the information systems of the security and border crossings or the wiretapping of the phone calls is a major threat to the whole state and should be prevented, he stressed. The forum provides a great chance to put in place and develop Kuwait's e-government programs, he said. He promised that the government would offer support and meet all the requirements to materialize the forum goals. He urged participating agencies to do their best to help make Kuwait's

Meanwhile, General Manager of Microsoft

Kuwait Charles Nahas stressed that Microsoft is



KUWAIT: Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah delivers a speech on behalf of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah at the inaugural session of the Third E-government Forum. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat and KUNA

committed to cooperation with Kuwaiti government to develop information technology infrastructure and encouraging invention and creativity through the technological solutions it offers. He stated that Microsoft help Kuwait develop the skills of national cadres in charge of information technology sectors.

In the meantime, Regional Vice-President-ME Fortinet Alain Penel said that the information security threats to the government agencies is one of the major challenges facing the government around the world. He underlined the urgency of finding effective solutions to such threats.

Penel cautioned that these threats are no longer accidental, but rather deliberate and smart as many are trying to infiltrate into the stored data for different purposes. Failing to discover such hacking operations at the appropriate time has grave ramifications, he added.

The three-day forum, themed "Information Management and Security," focuses on the security threats facing the information society due to the growing information systems hacking and piracy problems. It lured a large number of information management and security experts and representatives from diverse government agencies to mull range of information management and security technologies and solutions to help governments provide leading-edge, thought-leadership, and a valuable information-sharing opportunity on Big Data, Data Warehousing, business Intelligence.

The conferees will also explore new information management and information security developments that will impact E-Government program development and deployment; means to improve productivity, efficiency and effectiveness with current technologies and best-practice solutions, and the best practices to protect information assets; and present new approaches and solutions for information management and security. — KUNA

VIVA SPONSORS THE 51ST NUKS UK, IRELAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

KUWAIT: VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, announced its sponsorship of the 51st annual national conference of the National Union of Kuwaiti Students (NUKS) - United Kingdom and Ireland branch (UK), under the patronage of Prime Minister, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. The event will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre in London on 20 and 21 November 2015.

VIVA sponsors the national annual conference of the NUKS - UK and Ireland branch, for

the third year in a row. This event gathers young Kuwaitis studying abroad in various British and Irish cities in a fun academic, cultural, and social atmosphere. VIVA endeavors to support and sponsor various events and initiatives that interest students and enrich their experience and knowledge."

Kuwaiti celebrities and public figures will attend the annual conference working in culture, sport and art domains that gathers more than five thousands students in UK and



Manpower development

cloud computing, big data analysis, and social

networking systems would improve efficiency

and creativity of public and private companies. He

pointed out that the world is undergoing a pro-

gramming revolution that necessitates huge

efforts to cope with.



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah chairs yesterday's cabinet meeting. — KUNA

CABINET CONDEMNS PARIS, BEIRUT ATTACKS

KUWAIT: The cabinet yesterday sharply condemned recent attacks in Paris, which left 129 people killed and 352 others wounded. At its weekly meeting chaired by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the cabinet offered sincere condolences to French President François Hollande and the people of France over the victims of the attacks that targeted several sites in Paris, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah said in a press statement following the meeting.

The cabinet denounced such criminal acts that run counter with all heavenly religions and human values, while reiterating Kuwait's support to France's measures to maintain its security and stability. It also condemned recent attacks in Beirut, and supported all measures taken by the Lebanese government to ensure the country's security and stability. It reaffirmed Kuwait's condemnation of all forms and manifestations of terrorism, wishing those injured in the attacks swift recovery.

Amir's visit

At the onset of the meeting, the ministers welcomed His Highness the Amir's return following his recent official visit to Russia where he had held official talks with President Vladimir Putin. In this context, First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah briefed the ministers on the outcomes of talks which focused on existing economic, investment, oil and military cooperation, the Middle East and anti-terrorism efforts.

standing, friendship and existing good relations between Kuwait and Russia, voicing willingness to raise them up to the level that could fulfill the ambitions of both countries' people.

His Highness the Prime Minister then apprised the cabinet of the outcomes of the fourth Arab-South America summit recently held in Riyadh, noting that bilateral relations have been largely developed over the last 10 years in all realms. He said bilateral economic, cultural, educational and technological cooperation had been discussed during the Riyadh summit. His Highness the Premier thanked Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz for hospitality and the proper and successful organizing of the summit.

Jaber Stadium

Afterwards, First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah briefed the cabinet on a recent inspection tour made by a ministerial committee he leads, to the Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium in order to check on preparations for the opening of the stadium officially. He hailed the stadium as a sports edifice that fulfills world development specifications and standards, and appreciated the efforts of the Amiri Diwan, Public Authority for Sports and other concerned state bodies in this regard.

The cabinet congratulated Omani Sultan Qaboos bin Said on the occasion of his country's National Day, hailing the distinguished achievements accomplished under his leadership in all fields. — KUNA

HEALTH MINISTRY CONTINUES TO SEND PATIENTS TO FRANCE DESPITE ATTACKS

KUWAIT: The Health Ministry will continue sending patients to France to receive medical treatment despite the latest Paris attacks, Ministry of Health Undersecretary Dr Khaled Al-Sehlawi stressed yesterday. The Ministry of Health has not received any instructions for stopping sending patients to France, Sehlawi told the press, after attending a parliamentary committee for social and health affairs, noting that there are still patients receiving treatment in France at the moment.

On the spread of swine flu at schools Sehlawi clarified that according to World Health Organization (WHO) swine flu is merely a seasonal flu. He added that it is normal that flu swiftly spreads among students, reassuring that there is nothing to fear. The committee meeting also discussed health insurance for retirees, pointing out that there are two insurance companies that will take over this file and it will be completed within the next few months. — KUNA

PARLIAMENT SPEAKER RENEWS CONDEMNATION OF PARIS ATTACKS

KUWAIT/ABU DHABI: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem yesterday reiterated his strong condemnation of the terrorist attacks that targeted Paris on Friday. He said that His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah was one of the first world leaders to condemn the ter-

Ghanem added in a press statement at the Assembly that he was among the world's first parliament speakers who condemned the attacks, disapproved by all faiths, not only as a National Assembly Speaker, but also as a President of the Arab Inter-parliamentary Union (AIPU). The speaker pointed out that it is "unfair and unacceptable" to link terrorism to the religion of Islam.

Most leaders are certain that the Paris attacks had nothing to do with Islam and that Muslims, especially in France, will bear the brunt, the Speaker said, noting that "Zionist media" is promoting lies and allegations throwing responsibility of the terrorist attacks on Islam and Muslims. Islam decries such acts, he said, stressing the necessity of further global cooperation to counter terrorism. Failure to combat terrorism in the region will lead to explosions that will be felt in world capitals, Ghanem said. Terrorism is a cross-border industry and nowhere around the globe is safe from it. A series of concurrent attacks hit the French capital late on Friday killing 129 people and wounding 352

UAE visit

Later yesterday, Ghanem met with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi yesterday. During the meeting, they discussed several regional issues of mutual interest and Kuwait-UAE relations, the assembly's secretariat said in a statement. Ghanem arrived in the UAE earlier in the day for a short visit. — KUNA



ABU DHABI: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem meets with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. — KUNA

PARIS ATTACKS PROVE 'ALL OF US ARE TARGETS FOR TERRORISTS' - JARALLAH

'Vienna talks reached some sort of agreement over Syria's future'

KUWAIT: Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah said that the series of terror attacks that rocked the French capital Friday have proved that terrorism is a global phenomenon and innocent people anywhere are targets for terror-

"Paris terror attacks vindicated our conviction that all of us are targeted and that terrorism is a global phenomenon," Jarallah said in a statement to reporters on the sidelines of his participation in the Palestinian Embassy's celebration of Palestine's 27th Declaration of Independence.

"The world is in an open war with terrorism and that war will not stop till defeating it," he said, pointing out that Kuwait has expressed its heartfelt sympathy over the tragedy and solidarity with the friendly country France.

"Such attacks will only increase French people's resolute and determination on combating terrorism," Jarallah said. He recalled that His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud have underlined the need to intensify international efforts to eradicate terrorism in their cables to the French President Francois Hollande following the attacks.

Vienna talks

Meanwhile, Jarallah said that Vienna-hosted talks on Syria have reached some kind of compromise over the future of Syria. "What was leaked about the outcome of the talks indicates that there was some sort of joint vision among participants on the future and solutions of the Syrian crisis," Jarallah told reporters. He, however, said that resolving the conflict requires more consultations to persuade various parties of any compromise. He pointed out other meetings would be held to build up on the achievements of the two previous ones.

On His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's recent visit to Russia, Jarallah said that it was "historic and an important step in the Kuwait-Russian relations." "The Russian side was "eager to listen to the view and vision of His Highness the Amir regarding the developments in the region, and they indeed lis-



KUWAIT: Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah (right), Palestinian Ambassador to Kuwait Rami Tahboub (center) and the ambassador's wife Rima Al-Khaledi attend the Palestinian Embassy's celebration of Palestine's 27th Declaration of Independence. — Photos by Fouad Al-Shaikh

tened very carefully to this view," he said, adding that "the Kuwaiti side also listened to the vision of the Russian side which was headed by President Vladimir Putin."

Jarallah said Kuwait and Russia shared the view that the Syrian conflict should be resolved peacefully. He said last week's visit to the Russian resort city of Sochi was "constructive and fruitful," resulting in the signing of cooperation agreements in diplomatic, military, oil, cultural, investment and transport domains. The visit was an opportunity to exchange views over the threat of terrorism, said Jarallah.

Palestinian cause

During the event, Jarallah reaffirmed Kuwait's firm support to the fair cause of Palestine, and the legitimate struggle of Palestinians for selfdetermination and statehood.

"Kuwait always stands by the Palestinian peo-

ple in their political struggle, supported the Palestinian revolution and contributes to the efforts being made to revive the Middle East peace process and reach a fair, permanent and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian cause," he said.

"The leaders of the Palestinian revolution started their drive from Kuwait and continued their legitimate struggle for liberation over the last decades," he pointed out. He added that preparations are underway for holding the session of the Kuwaiti-Palestinian joint commission which will discuss a host of political issues, including the Arab lobbying for Palestinian statehood. The Palestinian Declaration of Independence was proclaimed by late president Yasser Arafat during the 19th Palestinian National Council - the legislative body of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), on November 15, 1988. — KUNA

BIG SPORTS EVENT TO BE HELD AT JABER STADIUM BY YEAR'S END: CABINET MÍNISTER

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled commends stadium



KUWAIT First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah (fourth from right) and senior government officials are pictured during a tour at Jaber Stadium Sunday night.

KUWAIT: Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Muharak Al-Sabah said yesterday that a big sports event would be held at Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium by year-end at the behest of His Highness the Amir and His Highness the Crown Prince.

Speaking to KUNA on the sidelines of yesterday's cabinet meeting, the minister said: "We are planning to hold a sports event at Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium by year-end."

A ministerial committee, chaired by First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah inspected on Sunday the international stadium, which fulfills high specifications and technology and is supplied with sophisticated equipment, facilities and safety and security systems.

The committee said a grand ceremony would be organized for the opening of the Kuwaiti stadium. The committee comprises Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Director-General of the Public Authority for Sports Sheikh Ahmad Mansour Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and senior

Latest technology

On Sunday, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said Jaber International Stadium was built in line with international standards and was equipped with latest technology. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, who chaired a ministerial committee inspecting the stadium, told reporters that he was happy with what he has seen in the venue, which was equipped with modern safety and security systems. He thanked the Amiri Diwan, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Sabah and the Public Authority for Sports (PAS) for contributing to the Jaber stadium.

Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah said meanwhile that the political leadership was keen on supporting the sport sector through the development of sport facilities. He thanked all authorities for their efforts to make Jaber stadium, named after late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, ready to host sport events.

Sheikh Salman said that Kuwaitis "can be proud that the stadium was among the best in the Middle East technically wise." He said the stadium encountered some technical and administrative problems "but this chapter is over now." Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Sabah said "once the international ban on Kuwait sport is lifted, we will

Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah drives a golf cart carrying senior government officials during a tour at Jaber Stadium Sunday night. — Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh

seek to host international teams to play in this

9 out of 10

stadium."

PAS Director General Sheikh Ahmad Mansour Al-Sabah expressed gratitude for His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister for their relentless support for sport and sport projects. He said a delegation from the world's football governing body (FIFA) rated the Jaber stadium nine out of 10. PAS Deputy Director General Dr Hmoud Fulaiteh said the authority's sport facilities sector completed the maintenance of the Jaber stadium which has thus become ready to host games. Jaber International Stadium, 12 kilometers southwest of Kuwait City, is built over 400,000 square meters and can house 60,000 fans. The stadium, which looks like a sail ship from the outside, is equipped with LED screens and spider cams, and is the only stadium in the Middle East with a Goal Control technology.

Fans will be able to select their seats when they buy the tickets, and the stadium is equipped with screening machines for bags, monitoring cameras of parking lots and seating areas, as well as special rooms for firemen, policeman and paramedics. The stadium has 300 seats for the disabled, rooms for the press and news conferences. — KUNA

PARLIAMENT SPEAKER EULOGIZES FORMER CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY MP

KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem expressed yesterday deep sorrow and grief over the death of the iconic parliamentary personality Yousef Khaled Al-Mekhled Al-Mutairi, the formember of the Constituent Assembly-the first legislative body to be formed in the country.

The deceased was one of prominent Kuwaiti figures who loved their country and served it sincerely, Ghanem said in a Mekhled's unforgettable serv- **Mekhled Al-Mutairi** ices for Kuwait. History will

always remember Mekhled's persistent efforts

and hard work for his country, he said, noting his demise "is a loss for Kuwait for his long record of national and political services for

Mekhled, one of Kuwait's veteran legisla-



tors, passed away yesterday. The deceased was an iconic parliamentary personality who had worked with fellow activists, many years ago, for laying the country's basis of democracy and 'constitutional

One of his major initial political activities was his participation in the formation of the "constituent council," following Kuwait's Independence. He had served in up to five legislative assemblies. Mekhled, statement, emphasizing The late Yousef Khaled Al- born in Sharq in 1923, was a member of the first legislative body, the "constituent council"

between 1962 and 1963. When the National Assembly (the Parliament) was established replacing the council, Mekhled served as member in the 1963-1967, 1967-1970, 1971-1975, 1975-1976 and 1985-1986 legislative terms. — KUNA

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MANPOWER AUTHORITY, INTERIOR MINISTRY DISCUSS LABOR MARKET

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Acting director of the Manpower Public Authority Ahmed Al-Mousa said that he had recently met Interior Ministry's Assistant Undersecretary for Passports and Residency Affairs Major General Sheikh Mazen Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, adding that they both agreed on a number of suggestions to organize the labor market. Moussa explained that the suggestions included allocating police detective offices at some labor departments with the aim of having more control over visa issuance and detecting any violations. He added that the suggestions also included following up on suspended companies to set special mechanisms to deal with the workers registered with them, in addition to absconders.

In another development, informed sources said that on instructions from Minister of Social Affairs and Labor, Minister Hind Al-Subaih, Kuwait Municipality's Acting Director Ahmad Al-Manfouhi visited the Hawally labor department to handle the problem of lack of staff, by transferring some employees from other over-staffed departments.

Court order

The criminal court yesterday acquitted former MP Mubarak Al-Duwailah in a state security case and charges of slandering Egypt. The court also decided abstaining from punishing Nasser Al-Duwailah and Dr Tareq Suwaidan over the same charges. Meanwhile, lawyer Mutlaq Al-Jed'ee recently filed a case against journalist Bader Al-Musa'eed, accusing him of slander.

Camping sites

Kuwait Municipality's Acting Director Ahmad Al-Manfouhi said that four new camping locations would be open for camping after coordinating with relevant authorities to make sure they were not close to any oil, military or power facilities. Notably, the municipality had stressed that camping was open for both citizens and expats according to regulations.

Municipal Council

The Municipal Council once more reduced the number of its committees' members from nine to seven in order to achieve the quorum needed for each committee to convene, especially in view of the withdrawal of some members.

CITIZENSHIP WITHDRAWAL



KUWAIT: The picture shows a fourth-storey apartment heavily damaged following an explosion yesterday.



former MP Abdullah Al-Barghash on Sunday night to express solidarity with him and protest the withdrawal of Kuwaiti citizenship from him and his family members. The sit-in was attended by a number of former MPs who stressed that withdrawing Barghash's citizenship was unlawful. "Somebody claimed that our citizenships were fake...I am ready to be executed or go to jail, but my family has nothing to do with it," said Barghash, noting that what happened was the result of a dispute and that this means that any citizen could lose his citizenship because of disputes. The appeals court last week overturned a lower court verdict ordering the government to reinstate Barghash's citizenship and ruled that it was not competent under the law to handle sovereign issues. The government revoked the citizenship of the former Islamist lawmaker along with 56 members of his family.

Investing in co-ops

The Fatwa and Legislation Department approved a request by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor to allow private sector companies to invest in some co-op stores. Informed sources said that once the needed procedures are completed, the new project would be experimentally put into practice at Jleeb and Dasma co-ops that were already having financial problems and are indebted by millions.

Jabri in Yemen

Speaker of the Arab Parliament MP Mohammed Al-Jabri visited the Arab coalition troop headquarters in Aden in Yemen after it was liberated from the Houthis. "We are here today to express full support to the 'Restoring Hope' operation led by Saudi Arabia to help subject all Yemeni territories to Yemeni sovereignty," he said, expressing strong belief that Yemen would come out this dilemma victorious.



Firefighters tackle a blaze reported in Jabriya yesterday.

EXPLOSION FORCES TENANTS OUT OF SALMIYA BUILDING

Two people injured in fire

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Two people sustained burns and bruises after an explosion shattered their apartment in Salmiya. Their conditions were later described as stable. A preliminary investigation indicated that a gas leak caused the explosion. The tenants had reportedly switched the lights on, which provided the spark that set apartment on fire, according to investigations. The building was evacuated before firefighters managed to extinguish the flames. A team of specialists later arrived to the scene and determined that the building needs to

remain evacuated for at least a month for safety reasons, saying that the explosion may have damaged its foundations. Based on that, all tenants were told to stay away from the building until further notice. In a separate incident, Hawally and Salmiya fire centers responded to a call about a fire in a Jabriya apartment. The fire was put out quickly and no injuries were reported.

Vice crimes

Electronic crimes' combating police arrested an Iraqi man for uploading video clips on YouTube that include insults and urging the commitment of vice crimes.



CORRECTION

KUWAIT: The picture above was published in Kuwait Times' November

16th issue under 'Photo of the day,' and the caption mistakenly referred to

Jamal Abdul Nasser Road shown in the picture as 'Jahra Road.' We apolo-

BEIRUT: Kuwait Red Crescent Society has continued delivering relief aid to Syrian refugees settled in the country. Ahmad Al-Fegaan, an envoy of the society, told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) vesterday that 250 food rations and 250 cartons filled with detergents have been distributed to Syrian families in the town Hasbaya, located in southeastern Lebanon.

gize for the error.

The society has provided the refugees with various kinds of assistance including, dialysis for kidney patients. The number of Syrian refugees in Lebanon has reached more than 1 million-most of them in northern Lebanon. There are no official Syrian refugees in Kuwait, which has decided not to open its borders to



RIYADH: KRCS' Deputy Chairman Anwar Al-Hasawi attends a workshop on determining relief needs for Yemen, organized by the GCC General Secretariat. —KUNA

KUWAIT KEEN ON SUPPORTING GULF **RELIEF EFFORTS IN** YEMEN: KRCS

RIYADH: The State of Kuwait is so keen on supporting the efforts exerted by relief organizations and Red Crescent societies in GCC States in providing humanitarian and relief aid in Yemen, the Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) affirmed yesterday. "The aid reflects the keenness of His Highness the Amir and the Kuwaiti government and people on backing the Yemeni people," KRCS' Deputy Chairman Anwar Al-Hasawi stated to KUNA.

Hasawi made his remark after the conclusion of a workshop on determining relief needs for Yemen, which was organized by the GCC General Secretariat with participation of various Gulf relief and Red Crescent bodies. He also commended the efforts exerted by Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah in organizing and sponsoring relief trips to Yemen.

Kuwait has provided a number of donations and relief projects to Yemen under the supervision of the Kuwait Relief Society, including food baskets, medical relief, and water, in addition to urgent aid in facing Chapala hurricane. —KUNA

'SECURITY PERSONNEL CAPABLE OF MAINTAINING SECURITY NATIONWIDE'

KUWAIT: Interior Undersecretary Lieutenant General Sulaiman Al-Fahad said Sunday security personnel were capable of maintaining security and stability nationwide, and were vigilant vis-a-vis any threat. Fahad, in a meeting with senior Ministry officers, urged importance of cooperation among different sectors within the ministry, as well as providing full services for the citizens and expatriates, a ministry statement said. He said the public should be encouraged to interact more with the security institution and to feel free to report anything to the operations room. —KUNA



ABU DHABI: Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah meets Kuwaitis studying in different universities in the UAE. —KUNA

Interior Minister meets Kuwaiti students in UAE

Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah met with Kuwaitis studying in different universities in the UAE. During the meeting late Sunday, Sheikh Mohammad conveyed the greetings of His Highness

ABU DHABI: Kuwait's Deputy Prime the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak

Al-Sabah to the Kuwaiti students. Sheikh Mohammad called on the students to exert huge efforts to achieve success in their studies, adding that students in military schools have a higher responsibility in representing Kuwait in the best ways possible. Moreover, the minister also discussed the difficulties facing students and

means of resolving them.

Sheikh Mohammad is visiting the UAE to participate in the second international summit on protecting children against cyber abuse held on Monday and Tuesday with the participation of representatives of about 50 countries. —KUNA



KUWAIT: The attendees at the 6th Islamic and Financial Institutions Conference are pictured in a group photo. —KUNA

6TH ISLAMIC FINANCIAL CONFERENCE UNDERWAY

KUWAIT: The 6th Islamic and Financial Institutions Conference kicked off here on Monday, seeking to restore the leading role of Islamic economy, President of the event Dr Ojail Al-Nashmi told the opening session. The conference will also try hard to counter the challenges facing the application of Islamic financial tools as a "top priority," he added.

According to Nashmi, Islamic economy has transcended the introduction and the social entry stages, as well as that of rivalry with traditional banks to attract accounts. It has reached an area of coexistence and competition.

He referred to several leading world economists who consider the crisis of the global economy, led by wild liberalism, puts it on the "brink of a volcano. 'Thus, the economy is likely to collapse under the brunt of a doubling crisis, namely debts and unemployment.

The two-day conference is co-hosted by Shura Sharia Consultancy Company and the Islamic Development Bank, under patronage and attendance of Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait Dr Mohammad Al-Hashel. The event is attended by a multitude of sharia scientists and experts of Islamic financing. Addressing the conference, Hashel reiterated the CBK's keenness on playing its control and supervisory role objectively and professionally, in line with the world's best practices. Hashel referred to the comprehensive manual for Islamic banks the CBK had issued, comprising detailed policies, criteria and disciplines that embody the application of advanced control methods. He said that estimates suggest that the global market for Islamic financial services, as measured by sharia compliant assets, has exceeded \$2 trillion by the end of 2014, compared to \$1.8

trillion a year earlier, marking a rise of 16.6 percent. Total value of Islamic banking assets hit a growth rate of 17.9 percent over the period 2009-2013, reflecting a rising strength of Islamic finance worldwide, he said. He also underlined the prior importance of sharia control and monitoring for promoting the business and activities of the Islamic financial and banking institutions so that they could achieve their goals and deliver their message. The CBK Governor emphasized the fact that Kuwait guarantees independence of the sharia control and monitoring bodies, by law. —KUNA



GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE FOR EXPATS TO STOP IN THREE YEARS?

INSURANCE HOSPITALS, PRIVATE SECTOR TO COVER FOREIGNERS' TREATMENT

By Ahmad Jabr

KUWAIT: Nearly 3 million expatriates may face difficult healthcare challenges in three years' time under a proposed government plan to close access to public health services. Government officials recently suggested that a timetable has been established for the creation of expat-only hospitals accessible by higher-cost private health insurance. The shift would create a cascade of consequences for expatriates and citizens in Kuwait as well as the local public and private health sector.

Plans on paper

The Health Ministry is already making plans for a possible eventual ban on expats using public health facilities. "There are two categories of expatriates in Kuwait," said Dr Khaled Al-Sehlawi, the ministry's undersecretary was quoted in a local Arabic daily yesterday. "The first includes nearly 2 million foreigners working in the private sector. If the current health insurance is canceled, they will be treated at the health insurance hospitals that will be built within three years." Already there are plans in the works to establish expat-only hospitals. In 2014, the government established a shareholding company to build three 700-bed hospitals and 15 polyclinics to provide integrated medical services to foreigners in Kuwait. The company was estab-

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lished according to the public-private-partnership (PPP) model with a KD 230 million capital. The government owns 24 percent of the company's shares, while 26 percent are owned by strategic investor, Arabi Holding Group. The remaining 50 percent will be offered in an initial public offering. A second class of foreigners, those who work in the public sector as well as domestic servants, will possibly fall under an alternative health plan. This group, approximately 1 million foreigners in Kuwait fall into this category, would be treated in private medical facilities. The exact mechanism for providing them health insurance coverage, however, is unclear. Last week's news also raised questions regarding the capability of the private health sector in Kuwait to absorb the large number of expatriates expected to be shifted there once health insurance is canceled. Sehlawi reassured that the private medical sector is 'well prepared' for that task.

Timetable

The three-year timetable that Sehlawi mentioned seems to give an indication of when the government might seriously consider closing access to the public health services to expatriates. When the new hospitals are established, expatriates' annual health insurance fee is expected to triple to not less than KD 150 compared to the current KD 50. Furthermore, the current plan indicates that foreigners will have to purchase the health insurance policy from the same company in order to have access to medical services at the three hospitals, unless plans change. Whether buying this specific policy would be mandatory or expatriates would be given the choice to purchase policies from other insurance companies is not yet known.

The recent developments come as the cabinet has reportedly assigned the finance ministry, oil ministry, commerce ministry, General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development, Fatwa and Legislation Department and the privatization bureau to study a recommendation made by the Supreme Council for Planning and Development (SCPD) to cancel subsidization of health services for expatriates.

The recommendation came in a recent study for the SCPD on ways to reduce the government budget in light of the drop in oil international prices. The report has described expats' health insurance as 'harmful subsidies' to the state budget, and suggested imitating an example followed in the 1990s when the Kuwaiti government scrapped free education for expatriates, thus banning foreigners from studying at public schools and forcing them to enroll in private schools.

The action led to a boom in the private sector and the skyrocketing of private school tuition fees. The consequence of this, however, impacted both locals and expats as many citizens also send their children to Kuwait's private schools.

FOUR ARABS, FOUR KUWAITIS WIN KUWAIT. SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION PRIZES 2015: KFAS

KUWAIT: Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Yagoub Al-Sane has affirmed his guest to minimize time wasting paper work, on basis of relevant legislations and executive resolutions. The laws regulating judicial disclosures, along

with signing the regulating rules for electronic announcements as well as other legislations related to disclosures, would be made in the coming days, Minister Sane said on the side-

lines of a ceremony to inaugurate the litigation center of the KUWAIT: Minister of Justice and Ministry of Justice at Minister of Awqaf and Islamic headquarters of Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sane speaks at Kuwait Society of

Lawyers, late on the event. -KUNA Sunday. He affirmed that the judicial disclosures, in the conventional methods, have

been time consuming. The newly-erected litigation center will provide services to all litigators through their representatives at the courts, namely lawyers. "Slow justice is one of the worst injustices," he said, affirming the approach to use all possible and available electronic means in the sector, following enactment of the necessary legislations. Litigators and lawyers, with the new improvements, can now use SMSs for inquiries and applications. —KUNA

KUWAIT: Four Arab researchers and four Kuwaiti ones have been awarded the 2015 Kuwait Prize and Scientific Production Prize. the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) announced yesterday.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah has endorsed recommendations of KFAS board of directors on winners of the two prizes 2015, KFAS Director General Dr Adnan Shehab-Eddine

Four Arab researchers were awarded the Kuwait Prize this year; Syrian Huda Fakher Akel, Syrian, Basic Sciences; Egyptian Hesham Mohammad Al-Tuni, Applied Sciences (water); Palestinian Sari Abdulrahman Hanafi, Economics and Social Sciences, and Mona Al-Said Baker, Art and Literature, Shehab-Eddine said. Four Kuwaiti researchers were offered

the Scientific Production Prize 2015; Abdulazeem Mohammad Marafi, Engineering Sciences; Dina Musa'ed Al-Mailm, Biological Sciences; Fahd Rashed Al-Mullah, Medical Sciences and Osman Humoud Al-Khedr in Social Sciences and Humanities.

The Kuwait Prize was established in 1979, in line with KFAS goals to support scientific researches in various fields, and to encourage Arab scholars and researchers. KFAS has dedicated prizes in five fields; four are announced annually - Basic Sciences, Applied Sciences, Economics and Social Sciences, Art and literature- while the fifth field, Arabic and Islamic Scientific Heritage, is announced every three years. The topics of

intended to encourage the elite of the Kuwaiti scientific community to further pursue research for the benefit of the society.

KFAS offers the Prize in each of the following six areas in accordance with the require-



Dr Adnan Shehab-Eddine

the fields are subject to change annually. As for the Scientific Production Prize, it

was established in 1988 in response to an initiative by His Highness the Amir to honor distinguished Kuwaitis holding a doctorate degree in various fields of knowledge. It is ments approved by its Board of Directors: Physical Sciences and Mathematics, Engineering Sciences, Biological Sciences, Medical Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities, and Administration and

OIL REVENUE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE FACING KUWAIT'S ECONOMY: EXPERT

KUWAIT: The main challenge facing the Kuwaiti economy lies in "how to manage oil revenues and prepare for the post-oil era," an international economic expert said in remarks published on Monday.

The budget deficit for the current and next years is not a real problem, but the real challenge is in the post-oil period that "we must prepare for with a clear vision," Shanta Devarajan, Chief Economist of the World Bank's Middle East and North Africa Region, told the Kuwaiti Arabic-language daily newspaper Al-Qabas, which published his remarks in its yesterday's edition.

Kuwait's economy needs further reforms in the infrastructure, as the local market is dominated by monopoly, he said, and stressed the need for "opening wider prospects in the market, leading to diversity in different sectors."

The business environment in Kuwait is relatively limited where the "solution is similar to what some of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are doing to open the doors for competition and give small and medium companies the opportunity to grow," Devaraian said.

Kuwait's economy needs to re-direct the national labor where 90 percent of the jobs are concentrated in the government apparatuses, "which is not correct," he said, noting that Kuwait has to create a competitive economy for the involvement in the private sector rather than the public.

He also called for matching graduates' specialties with the national economy requirements, adding that "Kuwait spends more on education but should look at the efficiency of the output for enhancement of the economy with skilled employees."

The banking sector needs more real competition with allowing foreign banks to open several branches instead of one branch, which will reduce competition in the market, he said, calling to facilitate the procedures for obtaining adequate funding for small and medium projects. —KUNA

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REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON PRIMARY, FAMILY HEALTH OPENS IN YARMOUK

KUWAIT: In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), Abdullah Yusuf Al-Abdulhadi Health Center is organizing a training workshop for leading officials of the family medicine and primary health centers in the Middle East.

Addressing the opening ceremony at the center - based in Al-Yarmouk Area - on Sunday, Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health Dr Mohammad Al-Khashti voiced joy for the WHO selection of the center as a model provider of primary healthcare service in the region. He said the Ministry of Health is looking forward to organizing similar workshops at other primary health centers in the future.

Meanwhile, Director of the center Dr Huda Al-Duwaisan the hosting of this regional event materializes the care of the political leadership of Kuwait to healthcare as backbone of human development. "Kuwait has always been a main contributor to sustainable develop-

Dr Duwaisan noted that the workshop will see the launching of a new program of cooperation between WHO and Al-Abdulhadi Health Center geared to organize training courses for leading officials of the family healthcare and primary health centers in the Middle East.

"The new program will open new horizons for cooperation with WHO meant to realize the common goals, give quantum leap to primary health services in the Arab countries, ensure high quality of healthcare and build the capacity of medical personnel," she

Meanwhile, Director of the Primary Health Dept. of the Ministry Dr Rehab Al-Watyan said the workshop followed the endorsement of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda by the world leaders at the UN in last September.

"The agenda set forth 17 goals for global sustainable development until 2030 among which 16 goals focus on health," she said, noting that the Kuwaiti Ministry of Health played a clear role in identifying the third target relating to quality health and welfare for all.

Dr Watyan urged developing a new vision for primary and family healthcare for 2015-30 in keeping with the UN Development Goals with emphasis on the improvement of maternal health and child health, and the sixth goas which is to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. —KUNA

ment at the regional and international levels," she said.

CEF, ARAB FUND TO HOST SEMINAR

WITH NYT'S THOMAS FRIEDMAN

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: Thomas Friedman, Pulitzer Prize winning author and columnist at the New York Times, will visit Kuwait tomorrow to attend an economic symposium. This was announced by Oussama Kanaan, Director of the IMF Middle East Center for Economics and Finance (CEF), at an event held at the CEF headquarters at Symphony Mall yesterday. Kaanan said this year's symposium, titled 'The World is Fast: How to Understand it and Thrive in it', will tackle economic and social implications of economic reforms in Arab countries.

The symposium, which is the second part of a new series organized by the CEF, will be jointly presented by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development. Friedman was invited since he is the most prominent economic writer in the world today and his opin-

ions matter in many countries. He has been tasked to discuss issues related to economic challenges in the world today.



KUWAIT: Oussama Kanaan, Director of the IMF Middle East Center for **Economics and Finance (CEF), speaks** at the event yesterday.

—Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

"With Friedman, we want to encourage a debate on many economic issues at hand. We want to have somebody here with us to discuss issues which will benefit us and share with the people in the region," Kanaan said. Discussing the role of CEF, Kanaan noted the institution has been providing education and training in economics and finance to officials from all Arab countries since 2011.

"We don't make any recommendations, but what we want is to get something from our speakers and ignite a debate that will enrich ideas. We do not go to governments in the Arab world and tell them that this is best for their countries - CEF is more into research," Kanaan explained. The CEF curriculum continues to provide great benefits with courses in areas to which Arab policymakers are according greater attention, such as health and education.

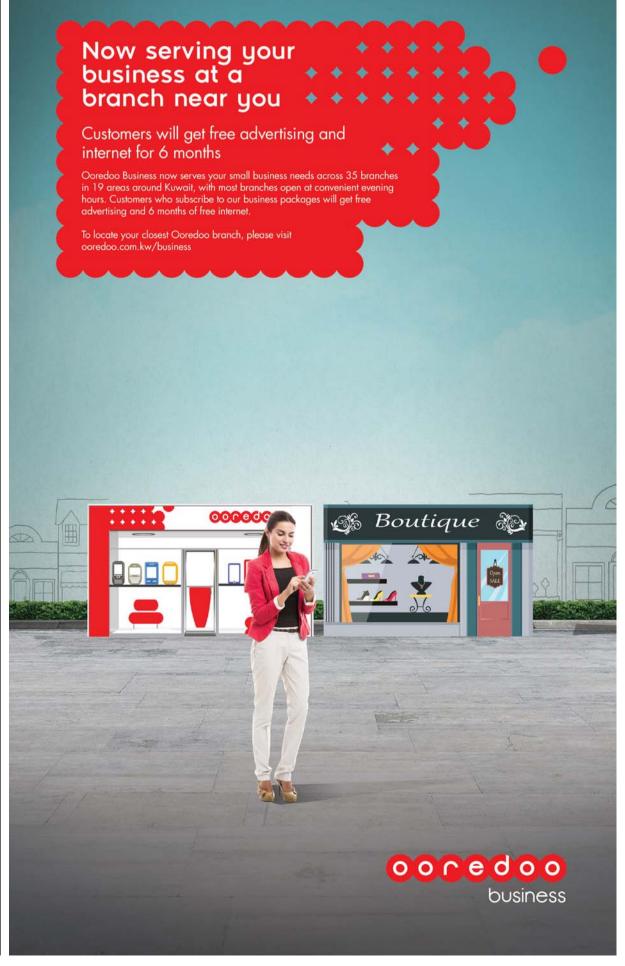
BAYT ABDULLAH CHIEF: AWARD FRUIT OF EFFORTS OVER 25 YEARS

DUBAI: Head of Kuwait Association for Children in Hospital (KACCH) at Bayt Abdullah Dr Hilal Al-Sayer said Sunday winning the 'award of excellence' in health and children was fruit of efforts, and persistence, exerted over 25 years.

In a news conference held for the winners of the "Takreem Arab Achievement Awards' distributed in a ceremony held late Saturday attended by UAE's Minister of Culture, Youth, and Social Development Sheikh Nahyan Al-Nahyan, Sayer said Margret Al-Sayer, his wife and the association's director, contributed greatly to establishing Bayt Abdullah and winning the award of excellence. Sayer, who is also Board Chairman of the Kuwait Red Crescent Society,

added that Bayt Abdullah started its work with one room in a hospital and evolved until it has become a matchless institution in the Middle East. He earlier added that His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah provided a plot of land on which the house (or bayt in Arabic) was built and inaugurated under his patronage in 2012.

Bayt Abdullah is specialized in alleviating suffering of children patients and providing them with medical care in their last days. Bayt Abdullah consists of wards to help mothers stay with their sick children, and offers 24 hour medical care including in-home services. —KUNA





Al-Qabas

GOD BLESS KUWAIT

By Ahmad Shamseddien

went to Marina Mall in Salmiya on Friday. This beautiful commercial complex faces, rather cradles our magnificent blue sea and the fantastic panoramic scene on which the marina sits on, where there are restaurants and ships and seagulls fly amidst the clear skies, screeching with a beautiful sound whenever they touch the seawater with grace and beauty that add to the images of pleasure and happiness that are apparent on the faces of many patrons who fill the place and restaurants that stretch all over the place.

It was 4:30 in the afternoon, when I took a place, like others, next to the fence that separates the beautiful lake, so I was happy for the amount of smiles on all faces (citizens and expats) during those wonderful moments while the sun was about to set, and telling us goodbye with the hope of another meeting in the country of love, security and peace.

Such locations like Marina Mall, and the fantastic panorama attached to it, the wonderful sea view and towers, must be used as touristic and entertainment areas, as much as they are commercial, frequented by the lovers of shopping and spending great hours with their families who inhale the clean breeze that is free of impurities and smell of killer smoke.

We, at the beautiful juncture, propose to Minister of Information and State Minister for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud, who is concerned with tourism issues in the country, to include the Marina lake and the area facing the sea as a touristic destination, so small steamships get active and make family sea tours for those wishing to spend a few minutes or hours in the sea, going out of the Marina Mall to Kuwait Towers, for example, or even to Kuwaiti islands here and there. We also propose that his excellency create a touristic program in the same locations to seek opinions and views, through meeting Marina Mall patrons, especially in such a beautiful atmosphere.

We also propose to Sheikh Abu Sabah, with the agreement of the Marina administration, to create sites near the lake for lovers and keepers of Kuwaiti heritage and antiques in general to display them for the crowd at the weekend, then we will hit more than one bird with just a stone, your excellency the minister.

This is Kuwait, may Allah keeps its pride, and keep it always shrouded with peace and security, and may He keeps the evils of the lovers of division among citizens of the country. May He protect our dear Amir, Crown Prince and the ruling family. — Translated by Kuwait Times



Report

MAN ARRESTED FOR MAKING FALSE POLICE REPORT

KUWAIT: Rumaithiya police arrested a man after making a false police report. The man who just finished processing a transaction at the service center found his car blocked by another, so he called the police. Police called a tow truck to remove it, but it was late in arriving, so the man ran to the police station and told them his car was on fire. Policemen rushed with their fire extinguishers but found out that there was no fire. The man told them he acted this way to draw their attention.

Body found

A man was found dead in his apartment recently. The man was identified as a 27-year-old Jordanian national. His body was taken to the coroner, and an autopsy was ordered to determine the time and cause of death.

Phone stolen

A man who works for the information ministry told Farwaniya police that two men on a motorcycle approached and hit him on the neck, causing his iPhone 6 to fall on the ground. They snatched the phone and sped away. Meanwhile, a bedoon man who works for the defense ministry told police that two unidentified persons stopped him at dawn. One of them stabbed him with a sharp object, while the other took two phones in addition to KD 30 before escaping.

Insult

A Hadiya detective accused two brothers of insulting him although he showed them his ID. In Mubarak Al-Kabeer, a female citizen accused a woman of beating her after a domestic dispute. Another citizen in Jabriya accused an Arab male nurse of insulting her at Mubarak Hospital. Meanwhile, a Kuwaiti housewife told Khaitan police she was threatened by phone at the gas cylinder branch of Khaitan co-op. She said the threat came through WhatsApp Thursday evening.

Public drunkenness

Jahra police sent a Gulf national and an Arab girl to Qairawan police station for public drunkenness. Police noticed a car being driven erratically and was stopped, and the two were arrested.

Family feud

Jahra police received a call about firing in Nahdha, and when they arrived, the caller, a Kuwaiti citizen, said he had differences with his father-inlaw, who fired two rounds in the air from a pistol. Investigations are underway.

— Al-Anbaa and Al-Rai



اللئنباء

Al-Anbaa

CAUSE, NORMALIZATION AND REMOTE FREEDOM FIGHTERS

By Sami Al-Nisf

n a recent TV interview, my interviewer Ammar Taqi insisted on asking me whether I was for normalizing relations with Israel based on an article I wrote a few days earlier about China and Taiwan, in which I compared the ways the Chinese treated Taiwan to that of the Arabs with Israel. In the article, I argued that although China possesses mighty powers, nuclear weapons, a population of over a billion and the fact that those who recognize Taiwan are only a handful, China never thought of invading the island of Formosa that won its independence from China in 1949, nor threatens to throw its people in the sea. It never allowed a 'freedom fighter' like Abu Ammar to embrace the cause then pass it down, along with millions collected in its name, to his wife in inheritance.

As usual, it is difficult to comment on part of an article. What is even harder is to comment on a comment made according to how the commentator perceived what he read. To start with, I would like to point out that I have paid several visits to Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza over the past few years. Therefore, I am talking according to firsthand experience with the changes taking place in the occupied Palestinian territories. An experience that those wishing to 'remotely' fight Israel until the last drop of blood in the last Palestinian child's veins and to the last stone in a house inhabited by a wretched Palestinian family know nothing about.

The disaster about the Palestinian cause is that some politicians have been addressing our emotions and openly demanding to wage war only to make personal gains, but they would secretly confide to some people

that they are incapable of achieving what they say and call for. Actual visits and mingling with the people there enables one to see for himself that destructive victories they had been declaring were cursed by Palestinian citizens who lost their houses without the least hope to restore or repair them.

Citizens who have lost family members and cannot speak about it because they would be accused of treason and executed. Those citizens wonder if that was 'victory', what would 'defeat' look like. They eventually keep silent because silence is gold.

On the other hand, due to being neighbors to our countries for long enough, the Israeli people shifted from liberalism, secularism, communism and leftism of the Israeli Labor party to supporting more radical religious parties that elect more radical leaders, making Netanyahu seem moderate compared to them. Some Israeli thinkers and politicians argue that the Israeli people lean to moderation and elect moderate parties that call from withdrawal from Palestinian territories, establish an independent state in return for having an embassy there that could be closed down at any moment or in return for a peace paper that can be annulled or torn by some angry slogan-focused leader-

Those Israeli peace advocates see normalization as the only alternative to shift public opinion and elect moderate parties instead of repeatedly electing radical ones that call to Judaize the state and transfer Arabs to the lands between the river and Jordan and Sinai!

— Translated by Kuwait Times

EXPATS WERE RAISED BY US

By Mudaffar Abdullah

arious officials have recently made statements about expats living in Kuwait and massively insulted them. The last of these statements was the one about 'free dinners at wedding halls' which was made in an even worse way by pointing such 'accusations' only to marginal laborers. Test balloons occasionally announcing increasing fees and stiffening penalties against expats are no less insulting, at least when approaching them in a way that claims those people have been 'devouring' Kuwait's wealth and calls to deport masses of them as if they had appeared in Kuwait out of the blue!

Most officials have been using insulting phrases that indicate Kuwait has been supporting both expats and bedoons for free. A few days ago, a news story about cancelling health insurance was denied. Earlier, there was dreadful talk about allocating Jaber Hospital only for Kuwaitis. A year ago, some weird instructions were given to deport expats molesting women. Things even went as far as restricting camping to citizens.

Sweden has a population comprising of people belonging to over 200 nationalities who all receive clear written and printed instructions about the favored and most desirable conduct they ought to follow in Sweden, including taking a number to be served on doing certain transactions so that they could learn some patience and undergoing the SFI course to learn Swedish. Such measures seem to have slipped the minds of our immigration officials here in Kuwait, and consequently, we see that many newcomers act like 'Kuwaitis' do in terms of wasta, violating traffic rules and forgery, which are all phenomenal indicators of weaknesses in law enforcement. Some Kuwaiti sponsors also contribute to breaking laws if they are imposed on laborers working for them like drivers and others. That is why they are 'raised by us', after all!

Some people might argue that I have gone too far in the comparison with Sweden. Well, I have every right to do so because my government always describes itself as 'wise' in all public addresses. We have been complaining about the growth of some communities forgetting that they are 100 percent Kuwaiti-made. Expats do not get into Kuwait by force. They come in accordance to its laws with documents signed by its officials. Nowadays, Indians and Egyptians alone form 48 per cent of manpower in Kuwait (454,000 Indians and 419,000 Egyptians). These huge numbers are not matched with other nationalities and pose both demographical and security threats. Despite such facts, we are still the ones to blame because of the many illusionary companies, the enslaving sponsorship system and forging stamps and visas.

Expats' role in building modern Kuwait has been so essential since the beginning of the oil era. We cannot do without them as long as Kuwaitis refrain from doing certain jobs. Any talk about being fed up with their growing numbers should be directed to visas traffickers and forgers instead. They are the ones behind flooding Kuwait with laborers we do not actually need. So, let us stop talking with racial discrimination about them! —Translated by Kuwait Times

OOREDOO KUWAIT CONTRIBUTES TO THE GLOBAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON WORLD DIABETES DAY

KUWAIT: Ooredoo Kuwait, a member of the international Ooredoo Group, has organized an internal initiative to contribute to the global awareness campaign on World Diabetes Day, offering its employees complementary diabetes testing and consultation, in collaboration with Salhiya Clinic and Kuwait Medical Lab.

In collaboration with both organizations, Ooredoo Kuwait has arranged for diabetes testing for all employees in its headquarters in Kuwait city on Sunday, 15 November 2015, as well as special rates on dentistry, dermatology, general medicine, dietitian services and one to one consultation and fat analysis from Salhiya Clinic for Ooredoo employees, and discounted rates on all blood tests and lab work for them from Kuwait Medical Lab.

Mijbil Alayoub, Director of Corporate Communications at Ooredoo Kuwait stated: "Pleased to support such a vital global initiative which is the World Diabetes Day, aiming at raising awareness of diabetes around the globe. We do care about our employees and feel responsible for their well-being; we believe that this session created the needed awareness on diabetes and the right lifestyle everyone should follow in order to live a healthy life."

Ooredoo's support to the event comes in line with its continuous contribution to international causes which come in line with its corporate social responsibility towards the community.



An Ooredoo employee at the blood testing session



KUWAIT: The Interior Ministry held a cerebration recently to mark the International Day for Tolerance, attended by senior ministry officials.

KD 6.2 BILLION SPECIAL **DEFENSE BUDGET PROPOSED**

KUWAIT: The government plans to present a proposed law to withdraw KD 6.2 billion from the state's general reserve in order to create an exceptional budget for 10 consecutive years allocated for defense. The budget would cover the defense ministry's needs of arming and equipment, provided

that the annual allocations agree with the country's financial status, Al-Qabas daily reported yesterday quoting sources.

The Higher Defense Council authorizes the necessary amounts for each fiscal year for a period of 10 years starting with the 2015/2016 fiscal year. — Al-Qabas

CHILDREN WITH REVOKED CITIZENSHIPS ALLOWED TO **ENROLL IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

KUWAIT: The education ministry complete all school stages. decided to allow children of people whose nationalities were revoked to register in public schools and receive education until the end of high school. An educational source said the ministry followed the legal procedures in this matter before making its decision, and sought the opinion of the Fatwa and Legislation Department which allowed them to

Education Ministry's Undersecretary Dr Haitham Al-Athari had issued a circular in which he said that children of Kuwaiti women will be allowed to register in public schools and complete all stages. But in case the mother was not Kuwaiti, then her registered children will be allowed to complete their school stages. — Al-Qabas

Kuwait Times International

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015

Israelis kill 2 Palestinians in clashes to raze home

Needing 'clean cash,' mobsters hungry for Rome's eateries

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ANTALYA, Turkey: A family photo, signed by the leaders, is displayed at the Group of 20 (G20) summit yesterday. — AFP

WORLD LEADERS TO STEP UP EFFORTS TO FIGHT IS

G20 backs drive for Paris climate deal

day committed to join forces to bring peace to Syria and destroy the Islamic State jihadist network, hoping to curb the extremist menace after the Paris attacks. Leaders of the Group of 20 top economies meeting in Turkey described the Paris gun and bombing assaults as an "unacceptable affront to all humanity", according to a rare separate statement accompanying the final communique after their annual summit.

Concretely, they will share intelligence to crack down on the movement of foreign fighters across borders, the statement said. They also urged "all states" to come to share the burden of refugees, with hundreds of thousands pouring out of war-torn Syria to take the often dangerous path to Europe. Western leaders sought in particular to narrow important differences with Russian President Vladimir Putin on resolving the conflict in Syria and fighting the Islamic State group.

G20 leaders showed "our resolute stance in the fight against terrorism," said host Turkish President Recip Tayyip Erdogan at a news conference wrapping up the summit. The urgent need to coordinate action on Syria after the Paris attacks that killed 129 people dominated the summit's agenda, but leaders also pressed ahead with a drive to stave off catastrophic climate change.

'Still a Big Gap'

British Prime Minister David Cameron said the split between the West and Russia on Syria narrowed during talks in Vienna this weekend but more work needed to be done to unify positions. "There is still a very big gap but I think there is still some hope that this process could move faster in the future than it has in the past," he said after a bilateral meeting with Putin. But he lamented how the "body count had piled up in Syria" over the course of several international summit meetings since the start of the war. "The faster we can degrade and destroy (IS) the safer we will be," he said.

Russia has refused to abandon its support for Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad in the four-year civil war, which has claimed more than a quarter of a million lives and displaced millions. Moscow recently stepped up its involvement in Syria with a bombing campaign of its own that has been welcomed by the regime but

greeted with suspicion in the West.

Coffee Table Summit US President Barack Obama on Sunday held one of his most intimate discussions yet with Putin, both men seen hunched over a coffee table in animated, impromptu talks on the sidelines of the summit. US officials said the two leaders agreed on the need for a political transition for Syria that would be set up by a ceasefire and UN-brokered talks. The Kremlin said the two sides shared the same goal of fighting Islamic State but differed on tactics.

The stepped-up diplomacy came after world powers agreed in the Vienna talks at the weekend on an outline for political transition for Syria, but crucially not on what should happen to Assad. Erdogan on Monday reiterated his tough stance against Assad "who massacred his own people", saying the Syrian leader had "no place" in the country's future. In the special statement at the end of the G20 gathering, world leaders raised the alarm over an "acute and growing flow of foreign terrorist fighters". They vowed to share intelligence, track border crossings and boost aviation security to halt the movement

of jihadist fighters. German Chancellor Angela Merkel called for "intensive cooperation" between intelligence agencies as well as the military in the fight against terror. Britain is to host a major donor conference in London in Feb 2016 to rally aid for Syrian refugees, she added in comments confirmed by Cameron. Despite the heavy shadow cast by the attacks in Paris, world leaders pressed on with their original agenda, pledging in a draft to agree legally-binding goals on climate change at a conference in Paris later this month but making no mention of whether they will help developing

countries meet the targets. Negotiators haggled into the early hours as Saudi Arabia and India initially refused to include specific goals such as limiting global warming to less than two degrees Celsius above pre-industrialised levels, sources said. France, backed by the European Union, is working furiously to make the climate talks a success and Paris officials bristled at the reluctance of some countries to include its basic objectives in the statement.

"Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time," said the communique marking the end of the

summit in Antalya. "We reaffirm the below 2C degree climate goal," it said, underlining a "determination" to adopt a deal with legal force. The blockbuster climate meeting will assemble 195 countries outside Paris from Nov 30 to Dec 11 in a bid to reach a post-2020 pact to try to stem global warming. The 2C goal has guided the long-running talks - held under the auspices of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change - since 2009.

'Elephant in the Room'

France is eager to avoid the fate of the Copenhagen talks in 2009 that also sought to craft a world climate rescue pact, but ended in near-fiasco amid splits between rich and emerging countries. "At a certain point there was a feeling that we were not living on the same planet," an exhausted European negotiator told reporters after more than 20 hours of talks with his G20 counterparts. "The idea was to just state that the G20 countries will be committed to a regular process, to get to the numbers of the target, with regular steps, that was the

idea. This is common sense," he said. Activists said the statement still offered nothing new and criticised a worrying lack of leadership just two weeks ahead of the Paris talks. "They have done nothing to bring the 20 most powerful countries in the world closer to consensus," said John Kirton, codirector of the G20 Research Group at the University of Toronto. Observers denounced the failure of the G20 leaders to offer details on financing for developing countries to make the transition to clean energy.

Developing nations are looking to rich countries to show how they intend to meet a promise made in 2009 to mobilise \$100 billion per year in climate finance from 2020. The funds will help poorer economies make the shift from cheap and abundant fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, and shore up national defences against climate change-induced superstorms, drought, floods and sea-level rise. France insists this will be key to getting an agreement in December. It is "difficult" to see success in Paris "without climate finance on the table," said Tristram Sainsbury, analyst at Lowy Institute in Sydney. "That is the big elephant in the room for the G20," he said. The G20 summit next year moves to China, followed by Germany in 2017. —Agencies

Burgan Bank would like to advice all our esteem customers that the instructions stated by the Central Bank of Kuwait with regards to "Furnishing of supporting documents" for the purpose of Loan(s) facilities aren't new, but were in effect since 12/12/1995 as per the circular issued by the Central Bank of Kuwait and its following amendments.

In order to avail a loan facility, customers are requested to furnish the following documents:

- Latest Salary certificate/ certificate from the Public Institution for Social Security stating the monthly pension
- Bank Statement
- Purpose of the loan and supporting documents for end usage of the loan. (In line with Loan purpose)

Type of Loan Facilities & guidelines:

Consumer Loans:

- Medium term personal loan.
- · Max Tenor: 60 months
- Max Amount: KD 15,000
- Purpose of Loan
- Education
- Treatment Expenses
- Personal consumables and durables
- Debt Burden Ratio
- Employed Customer(s): 40% of the net monthly salary (after deductions) - or continuous monthly income
- Retired Customer(s): 30% of the net monthly salary (after deductions) - or continuous monthly income

Installments Loans:

- Long term personal loan.
- Max Tenor: 180 months
- Max Amount: KD 70,000
- Purpose of Loan
 - Purchase of a private house.
 - Refurbishment of private house.
- Debt Burden Ratio
 - Employed Customer(s): 40% of the net monthly salary (after deductions) - or continuous monthly income
 - Retired Customer(s): 30% of the net monthly salary (after deductions) - or continuous monthly income



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(Left) Cameramen stand in front of the great pyramid of Khufu illuminated with the French, Lebanese and Russian flags in Giza on the outskirts of Cairo on Sunday. (Right) The world's tallest tower, Burj Khalifa, is lit in the colors of the French flag in Dubai on Sunday. —AFP/AP

GREAT PYRAMID BATHED IN NATIONAL COLORS OF VICTIMS

CAIRO: The Great Pyramid in Egypt was and Russia and the green cedar of bathed Sunday in French, Lebanese and Russian colours in homage to the victims of attacks in Paris and Beirut and the Sinai plane crash. The Great Pyramid of Khufu, the only one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world still standing, was illuminated by projectors reproducing the flags of France

Lebanon. Young Egyptians were staging an overnight candle-lit vigil at the foot of the more than 4,500-year-old giant monument on the Giza plateau on the outskirts of Cairo.

The tourism and antiquities ministries organised the ceremony to "mourn the innocent lives lost around the world", paying tribute "to the victims of the crash of the Russian airplane and attacks in Lebanon and France". Late Friday, gun and bomb attacks in Paris claimed by the Islamic State group killed 129 people and wounded 350. On Thursday in Beirut, twin bombings claimed by IS killed 44 people in southern Beirut, a stronghold of the Shiite

Hezbollah organisation that backs the embattled Syrian regime.

The jihadist group has also said it was behind the Oct 31 crash in the northern Sinai of a Russian Metrojet Airbus A-321, killing all 244 people on board. London, Washington, Moscow and many experts believe the disaster was caused by a bomb, but Cairo has

refused to rule on the cause until the investigation is complete. In Dubai, meanwhile, the world's tallest building the Burj Al-Khalifa was lit up Sunday in the colours of the French national flag. Elsewhere in the Gulf, Kuwait City's landmark towers were also illuminated in the red, white and blue of France. —AFP



SANAA: Director of the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs John Ging attends a meeting with Yemeni officials and human rights organizations in the Yemeni capital vesterday.—AFP

YEMEN, ALLIES IN TAEZ OFFENSIVE

ADEN: Yemeni loyalists and Saudi-led coalition forces launched an offensive Monday to retake the key battleground province of Taez from Iran-backed rebels, as uncertainty surrounded the fate of UN-brokered peace talks. At least 30 fighters were killed yesterday, including 16 soldiers after their vehicle hit a landmine, military sources said. Taez is seen as a gateway to the capital Sanaa, which has been held by the Shiite Huthi rebels since September last year. It is located at the crossroads between Sanaa, Yemen's second city and main port of Aden

and Mocha on the Red Sea coast. Forces loyal to President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi have been pressing to recapture parts of Yemen seized by the Houthis and their allies, including forces loyal to ousted ex-president Ali Abdullah Saleh. They have been backed by a Saudi-led coalition that launched air strikes in March and began a major counter-offensive in July that has since reclaimed five southern provinces.

"The military operation to liberate Taez has begun after the arrival of military reinforcements from the Arab coalition, resistance forces and the national army in the south and west of Taez province," General Ahmed Al-Yafie. commander of the fourth military region, told AFP. The region includes Taez as well as Aden in the south. Clashes in Waziaa, southwest of Taez, left nine rebels and five loyalists dead, while pro-Hadi forces advanced backed by air strikes, military sources said.

The rebel-controlled Saba news agency said the insurgents repelled attempts to

advance on four fronts towards Waziaa Military officials have said the coalition sent major reinforcements before they advanced towards Taez, Yemen's third-biggest city. Armoured demining vehicles and other reinforcements arrived in the Shuraija region, between the loyalist-controlled Lahj province and Taez in the southwest, said the officials based in Aden. Dozens of coalition armoured vehicles were taking part in the three-pronged offensive, the sources said. Arab coalition planes carried out several strikes against rebel positions and checkpoints in the regions of Rahida, south of Taez, and Mocha to facilitate the advance of the ground troops.

Uncertainty over Peace Talks

Sudanese forces from the strategic Al-Anad airbase in Lahj were taking part in the Taez operations, according to the sources. Taez has seen heavy fighting in recent months between the Huthis and forces fighting for Hadi's internationally recognised government. Loyalist forces are inside Taez, where they have been besieged by rebels who control the main roads into the city.

Along the coast, coalition troops deployed in Dhubab in a bid to advance onto rebel-held Mocha, which also lies in Taez province, the sources said. On Sunday, military officials spoke of major coalition reinforcements of troops and equipment arriving in Taez from Aden. A 400-strong Sudanese force arrived in Aden this month in support of loyalist forces, joining 500 who arrived in October. —AFP

SYRIAN REFUGEE POLICY TAKES FOCUS IN US RACE

WASHINGTON: The bloody attacks in Paris the US should admit Syrian Christians, are putting the Syrian refugee crisis at center stage in US politics as migrants from that war-torn comtry surge toward the West and security concerns rise. Republican presidential contender Marco Rubio on Sunday said the United States should no longer accept Syrian refugees because it's impossible to know whether they have links to Islamic militants - an apparent shift from earlier statements in which the Florida senator left open the prospects of migrants being admitted with proper vetting.

"It's not that we don't want to, it's that we can't," Rubio said Sunday on ABC's "This Week." "Because there's no way to background check someone that's coming from Syria. Who do you call and do a background check on them?" The question of admitting Syrian refugees has for months been part of the national security discussion among 2016 candidates that cuts to the heart of the American identity as a refuge. Former Florida governor Jeb Bush on Sunday told NBC's "Meet the Press" that after proper vetting. Other Republican candidates have called for a ban on allowing Syrians into the US All three Democratic presidential candidates have said they would admit Syrians but only after thorough background checks.

But Friday night's mass killings in Paris, which left at least 129 people dead, offered evidence that may have backed up what many, including Rubio, had been warning: People with secret ties to Islamic militants could flow across borders within the waves of refugees. Authorities said a Syrian passport found near one of the Paris suicide bombers that had been registered last month and traveled through three European countries along a busy migrant corridor known for lax controls. It was not clear whether the document was real or forged, or whether it belonged to the suicide bomber. Officials on Sunday were still trying to identify people involved in the conspiracy. They said as many as three of the seven suicide bombers who died in the attacks were French citizens.—AP

ISRAELIS KILL 2 PALESTINIANS IN CLASHES TO RAZE HOME

UN SLAMS PUNITIVE DEMOLITIONS

QALANDIYA: Israeli forces shot dead at least two Palestinians when heavy clashes erupted yesterday during an operation to destroy the West Bank home of an alleged attacker, the latest in a series of punitive demolitions. In a bid to halt a wave of knife, gun and car-ramming attacks since the start of October, Israeli authorities have moved to expedite demolitions of suspects' homes, a controversial measure meant to act as a deterrent.

Confrontations and clashes have erupted in the past over such demolitions, but they have rarely been as deadly as yesterday's at the Qalandiya refugee camp, just beyond a checkpoint leading from east Jerusalem to the occupied West Bank. According to the Israeli military, hundreds of Palestinians threw rocks and firebombs at security forces, while some opened fire. A resident who gave his name as Abu Amr said he heard noises at around 2:00 am and opened his window to check. "There were hundreds of soldiers everywhere," he told AFP. "I told my children not to move. Later there was an explosion, then afterwards there was shooting. The shooting lasted about 30 minutes."

Israeli forces shot three Palestinians, with two confirmed dead by Palestinian hospital sources. Israeli military spokesman Peter Lerner spoke of a third death, but Palestinian hospital sources had not confirmed it. Palestinian medics identified those killed as Ahmed Al-Ayesh, 28 and a father of three, and Laith Manasra, 21. Residents said those in the building were forced to leave to allow for the demolition, which went ahead despite the clashes. The home on the top floor of a three-storey building was destroyed with explosives, residents said, causing damage to the other floors and nearby residences.

'15 Minutes to Get Out'

The home targeted was that of Mohammed Abu Shahin, accused of shooting dead Danny Gonen, a 25-year-old Israeli hiker, in June. His wife and two daughters were living there, residents said. Crumbled concrete was later piled on the ground and onlookers arrived to view it along Qalandiya's densely populated and narrow streets. Hundreds also gathered for the funeral for the two Palestinians killed nearby. The brother of the alleged attacker who lived in the next building said that "after midnight Israeli forces came and told my family we have to leave immediately because of a court decision to destroy (the house)". "They gave us only 15 minutes to get out," said the brother, who gave his

The camp, established in 1949 in the wake of the creation of Israel and which has grown into a town, includes 11,000 registered refugees. The UN says nearly one in five residents is unemployed and around 60 percent are under 25. Adnan Al-Husseini, the Palestinian governor of Jerusalem, blamed Israel's occupation for the violence. "I am sure if they are continuing with these processes, there will be reactions like this," he said.

name only as Abu Shahin.

The shooting dead of Gonen, in an attack that also wounded another Israeli, led to outrage among Israelis. The two victims were not settlers but hikers who had come from Lod in central Israel. Shahin's arrest was announced in July, with Israel alleging he belonged to an armed group linked to Fatah, the party of Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas.

Deterrent or Collective Punishment?

The shooting occurred before the current wave of violence that began in October, but Israel has sought to expedite demolitions for a range of attacks on Israelis. Violence since the start of October has killed 83 people on the Palestinian side - including one Arab Israeli - and 12 Israelis. Many of the Palestinians killed have been alleged attackers, while others were shot dead during clashes with Israeli forces. Israel argues that the demolition policy is effective as a deterrent, but critics say the main victims are relatives forced to pay for others' actions.

On Saturday, Israeli troops razed the West Bank homes of four Palestinians accused of attacking Israelis, hours after an Israeli father and son were shot dead near the flashpoint city of



QALANDIYA: Palestinians carry the bodies Ahmed Abu Al-Aish, 28 and Laith Manasrah, 21, during their funeral in this refugee camp on the outskirts of the West Bank city of Ramallah

Hebron. Those operations also sparked clashes in which nine Palestinians were wounded.

"I am distressed by reports of punitive demolitions carried out by Israeli security forces of five homes in the Jerusalem, Nablus and Ramallah governorates in the last few days," Robert Piper, UN coordinator for humanitarian aid for the occupied Palestinian territory, said in a statement. "Werecognize Israel's serious security challenges today, but any law enforcement response must be consistent with international law.

Punitive demolitions are inherently unjust, punishing innocent people for the acts of others."

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Yaalon defended the demolitions vesterday and said they would continue, adding that "our forces acted professionally" during the operation in Qalandiya. He cited the case of a Palestinian arrested over Friday's murders, after Israeli security forces said the suspect's father and brother turned him in, fearing their home would be

US SENDS 5 GITMO DETAINEES TO UAE

WASHINGTON: The United States has transfered five detainees from Guantanamo Bay to the United Arab Emirates, the Pentagon said Sunday, another step in a long-delayed plan to close the controversial military prison. The move means that 107 detainees remain at Guantanamo Bay, the Pentagon said in a statement, adding that it was "grateful to the government of the United Arab Emirates for its willingness to support ongoing US efforts to close the Guantanamo Bay detention facility."

The men were "lower-level" Yemeni detainees and each had been held for nearly 14 years without charge, The New York Times said. The UAE had previously taken in just one former Guantanamo detainee - a citizen of its own - in 2008, the newspaper said. The Pentagon named the five as: Ali Ahmad Mohammed Al-Razihi, Khalid Abd-al-Jabbar Mohammed Uthman Al-Qadasi, Adil Said al-Hajj Ubayd Al-Busays, Sulayman Awad Bin Uqayl Al-Nahdi and Fahmi Salem Said Al-Asani.

The United States opened Guantanamo to hold terror suspects following the Sept 11, 2001 attacks, and photos of shackled men in orange jumpsuits became a defining image of US foreign policy in the early 2000s. Inmates were called "enemy combatants" and denied standard US legal rights, meaning many were held for years without charge or trial. The Guantanamo population has dwindled, and prisoners no longer deemed a risk have either been repatriated or sent to a host country.

The Guantanamo prison costs the US taxpayer around \$400-450 million annually, according to estimates. "The United States coordinated with the government of the United Arab Emirates to ensure these transfers took place consistent with appropriate security and humane treatment measures," the Pentagon added, saying the five had been cleared for transfer after thorough security

The US keeps a "very close eye" on those who have been released, but some figures have estimated that up to 30 percent return to militant groups with the aim of carrying out attacks on Western targets. But a US official has said that figure includes both confirmed and suspected cases. He said 16 percent of freed inmates were confirmed to have returned to the battlefield, while about 12 percent are suspected of having done so.

Election Pledge

The latest transfers come with the Pentagon poised to release a much-anticipated report on shutting down Guantanamo Bay, even as Congress battles to block the transfer of the military prison inmates from eastern Cuba to US soil. President Barack Obama made closing Guantanamo a key election pledge, but lawmakers have repeatedly thwarted him. The report's findings are sure to fuel debate on the fate of dozens of longtime captives from America's "War on Terror" who may well spend the rest of their lives behind bars.

The Pentagon this year sent a team of experts to review US sites that could house dozens of the most dangerous detainees following the closure of the prison. Guantanamo still houses five accused plotters of the Sept 11, 2001 attacks. Among them is the self-proclaimed mastermind, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed. Guantanamo is also home to the man accused of masterminding the attack on the USS Cole in 2000, Abd al-Rahim Al-Nashiri. He was captured in 2002 and transferred to Guantanamo in 2006. All six face the death penalty if convicted. —AFP

US ADDS FOREIGN STUDENTS, BUT FEW AMERICANS STUDY ABROAD

BOSTON: The number of international students studying at US colleges increased by 10 percent last year, marking the largest single-year gain in 35 years, according to new federal data. Meanwhile, the number of Americans studying abroad grew by only 5 percent, falling short of expectations. The findings were released yesterday from an annual study by the nonprofit Institute of International Education and the US Department of State.

Of almost 1 million students that came to the US in the 2014-15 school year, about a third came from China, the most from any country. But much of last year's growth is credited to a surge in the number of students who came from India, drawn by strong research programs, experts say. In all, the number of Indian students in the US grew by 30 percent to more than 130,000, the biggest jump since the nonprofit started collecting data in 1954.

"That increase has been primarily at the graduate level, and we know that Indian students have always been very attracted to the availability of excellent science and research facilities on US campuses," said Rajika Bhandari, the nonprofit's deputy vice president for

research and evaluation. Numbers coming from Brazil spiked, too, from 13,000 to 23,000, but Brazilians still made up only 2 percent of international students

For the second consecutive year, New York University hosted the largest number of international students, at more than 13,000. It's followed by the University of Southern California, Columbia University and Arizona State University, which each hosted more than 11,000 international students last year. At the University of Southern California, the number of Indian students has gone from 1,300 to more than 2,000 since 2012. At other schools like Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, populations of Indian students have increased over time but held steady in recent years.

The Institute of International Education reported that international students contributed \$30 billion to the US economy last year. The US remains the top destination for international students, but relatively few Americans study abroad. About 300,000 US students left the country to study in the 2013-14 school year, the most recent year for which figures for Americans are

available, a number that has risen steadily but still accounts for less than 2 percent of all US undergraduate students. "This rate of growth is not good enough," Bhandari said. "We really do need to double or even triple this rate of

To boost those numbers, the US Department of State said it's opening a new study abroad office offering information on programs and scholarships. "We are going to be working very actively on outreach to explain the benefits of study abroad and encourage more Americans to participate," said Marianne Craven, the acting deputy assistant secretary of state for academic programs. The office plans to launch its website this week, Craven said.

In particular, the office hopes to help more low-income and minority students. About 75 percent of US students who studied abroad last year were white, a number that has decreased only slightly over the past decade. Black students made up 6 percent of students who studied abroad last year. Top destinations for US students are the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain. European countries drew half of all US students who studied abroad.



LONDON: This March 12, 2012 file photo shows Timothy P White, Chancellor of the University of California, Riverside, visiting UCR students who are studying

Colleges, too, have been pushing students to study abroad for years, citing the benefits of cultural exchange. Dozens have signed on to a national campaign encouraging all students to get passports. Universities have also

ramped up efforts to recruit international students, especially in growing regions. "They know that attracting international students to their campuses makes for a better student body," Craven



ROME: In this photo taken on Nov 4, 2015, Gianfranco Romeo speaks to AP as he sits a table of II Barroccio restau-

NEEDING 'CLEAN CASH,' MAFIA HUNGRY FOR ROME EATERIES

Tourists unaware of money laundering moves

ROME: Gianfranco Romeo sits at a table at his trattoria off the Pantheon, casting scorn over the idea that he's a frontman for a feared mafia clan. "I always had a passion for restaurant work, I began as a dishwasher," Romeo told AP at II Barroccio, as pizza-makers prepared to fire up the oven and shovel in the pies for the evening crowd of tourists. Romeo is among several people under investigation for suspected false property registration in one of a growing number of investigations in which mobsters are suspected of systematically buying up Roman tourist restaurants to launder cocaine profits, allegedly installing people like Romeo as figurehead owners.

Romeo contended bitterly that investigators were targeting him and others merely because they are natives of Calabria, the southern region that is home to the 'ndrangheta, one of the most feared global crime syndicates. In seizing restaurants from hard-working people like himself, he said, authorities are essentially alleging that all Calabrians in Rome are crooks. He's looking forward to his day in a court so he can ask prosecutors: "Why do you say I'm a figurehead when I paid with my own money?"

Prosecutors are confident they'll have the right answer. Along Rome's narrow Via dei Pastini, a street thronging with tourists in search of quaint restaurants, authorities raided three trattorias, including Il Barroccio, this year as alleged fronts for money-laundering operations for the 'ndrangheta. Authorities say the financially savvy 'ndrangheta is hungry for legitimate businesses to launder the billions it rakes in from cocaine trafficking. Elsewhere in Rome, the Naples-based Camorra is allegedly following a similar recipe, prosecutors say.

The restaurants and cafes targeted in the probes still operate. Many are near landmarks such as Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona. As chefs dish out pasta and waiters pour wine, anti-Mafia investigators - huddled in their offices - scrutinize tax returns and property deeds and leases. Beyond mob-owned restaurants, tourists also stand a good chance of sleeping in hotels where more than sheets are being laundered. In one case, prosecutors alleged that a convent turned into a hotel was acquired by the 'ndrangheta just in time for the 2000 Holy Year - when millions of devout pilgrims poured into Rome. "We can seize 10 businesses a day," said anti-Mafia prosecutor Michele Prestipino. "And they can buy up 10 more in a day."

What's more, the restaurants don't suffer any hit to their business from the mafia taint, since most tourists are blissfully unaware of the probes. Romeo recounted how police roused him from sleep the morning two Via dei Pastini restaurants were seized. Two days later, the doors reopened, and tourists flocked back. That, however, hasn't been the case with the lawmakers at parliament, a short walk away from II Barroccio. "The politicians used to come here," said Romeo, his face glum. "Now they say they can't come any more."

Connections

While a few lawmakers might be avoiding the trattoria, Rome's status as the Italian political and administrative capital is an added attraction for the mob. "You make connections, important friendships," Prestipino, the anti-Mafia prosecutor, told The AP in his Rome office. And Rome offers the right ingredients for mobsters, being hundreds of kilometers from their centuries-old power bases. "It's a place where even conspicuous wealth blends in with other wealth," said Prestipino. Restaurants and hotels in Milan, Turin and other northern cities, including in the prosperous regions of Veneto and Emilia Romagna, are also becoming 'ndrangheta properties, according to Prestipino, who used to fight the 'ndrangheta on its home turf in impoverished Calabria, the toe of Italy's boot. Alfonso Sabella, a former Sicilian magistrate who battled Cosa Nostra, has urged Rome to create a mechanism to help spot anomalies like frequent ownership changes. Sabella recently served as Rome's first "legality commissioner" to help City Hall root out corruption and discourage infiltration by mobsters in the capital's economic fabric.

The lobby group for Rome's 15,000 restaurants is alarmed by organized crime infiltration, saying that mobsters unlike honest restaurateurs - have nearly unlimited funds to make establishments successful as eateries, not just fronts for organized crime. "There are locales seized in the past years that were flourishing," Fabio Spada, president of the FIPE Confcommercio Roma lobby, told AP. "They raked in a lot, independent of their vocation as money-launderers."

Technique

Indeed, in recent years, organized crime has been increasingly aiming to "make clean money from dirty money" by investing illicit revenues into legitimate sectors of the economy, said Lt Col Gerardo Mastrodomenico of the organized-crime squad of Italy's tax police. The first two Via dei Pastini trattorias - La Rotonda and Er Faciolaro - were seized in March. Il Barroccio was seized in July.

Money for laundering is usually moved through several often sophisticated financial channels, to make it harder for investigators to keep up with the money trail. To sniff out possible frontmen, accountants and other financial experts who work for a special anti-organized crime unit of Italy's tax police sift through property sale and lease records, comparing the profession and income declared on tax returns.

That technique led to what so far has been the most high-profile anti-laundering seizure - the 2009 sequester of Cafe de Paris, a Via Veneto hangout made famous in "La Dolce Vita", Federico Fellini's classic film. The owner on property deeds was a modestly-earning barber from a tiny hamlet in the Aspromonte mountains of Calabria, an 'ndrangheta stronghold.Fanning out from that probe, investigators checked out friends, and friends of friends - anyone who had any connections with those thought to be really running the Cafe de Paris. One man who caught investigators' attention was a Calabrian-born Rome businessman, Salvatore Lania. Intercepted phone calls indicated that he has links to suspected members of a powerful 'ndrangheta clan, said Carabinieri Col Renato Chicoli, with a special anti-Mafia investigative unit in Rome. When police started looking into Lania's background, they found that his income tax returns declared "almost nothing", Chicoli said in an interview. So how, investigators wondered, could this man suddenly start snapping up restaurants, and even a building, along pricey Via dei Pastini?

Lania, 47, is being investigated for false registration of property ownership. But he isn't suspected of belonging to the 'ndrangheta, said Chicoli. According to court documents filed in connection with the first Via dei Pastini seizures, none of those under probe are suspected of actually being an organized crime member. In these documents, Romeo is described as being a "hidden" partner in running Er Faciolaro, while his shares are officially in the name of a brother-in-law. The court document ordering the seizure also describes Romeo as "physically representing Salvatore Lania inside the restaurant, in running the business activity, in which he's listed as an employee."

Lania, Romeo and more than a dozen others, including family members, are suspected of playing roles in the alleged scheme to hide the real owners of the restaurants. According to investigators, a 29-year-old Egyptian waiter and 22-yearold Ukrainian waitress agreed to be named as the owners of one restaurant. Chicoli said.—AP

PROTESTS AFTER POLICE SHOOT BLACK MAN IN MINNEAPOLIS

investigating the shooting by a Minneapolis police officer of a black man suspected in an assault, an incident that sparked protests and prompted a community forum with the mayor and police chief. Accounts from some witnesses that the man was handcuffed when he was shot early Sunday morning led to outrage. Police said their preliminary investigation shows the man was not handcuffed, but the investigation is ongoing.

A large, agitated crowd gathered at the scene and demonstrations endured throughout the day. Witnesses said police used a chemical irritant to subdue the protesters. About 10 protesters spent a rainy and windy Sunday night outside a police precinct station not far from the scene of the shooting, and vowed to stay until the officer was arrested or indicted.

Jason Sole, chair of the Minneapolis NAACP's criminal justice committee, said Sunday that many black residents

MINNEAPOLIS: A Minnesota agency is of north Minneapolis are upset. "We have been saying for a significant amount of time that Minneapolis is one bullet away from Ferguson," he said, referring to the police shooting last year in the St. Louis suburb that prompted nationwide protests. "That bullet was fired last night. We want justice immediately," Sole told Minnesota Public Radio

> The shooting happened after police said they were called to north Minneapolis around 12:45 a.m. Sunday for a report of an assault. When they arrived, the man had returned and was interfering with paramedics who were assisting the victim, police said. Officers tried to calm him, but there was a struggle. At some point, an officer fired at least once, hitting the man, police said. Authorities have not released any information on the officer, including name and race. Authorities have also declined to release the name of the man who was shot, but the Minneapolis NAACP cited family members and witnesses in

identifying him as Jamar Clark.

Life Support

Martez McKnight, 22, told AP that Clark, his uncle, was put on life support after he was taken to a hospital. "The family is heartbroken and traumatized by the whole event," McKnight said. A statement Sunday night from state Rep Raymond Dehn, who represents the area, said Clark was on life support. Police and a spokeswoman for the Hennepin County Medical Center said they could not comment on the man's condition. Protesters organized by the group Black Lives Matter Minneapolis marched through the streets Sunday afternoon. Some beat drums and others carried banners. The group went to a police precinct, where they banged on the door and demanded to be allowed inside. Raeisha Williams with the Minneapolis NAACP told the AP protesters plan to stay at the precinct until the names of the officers involved are released.— AP



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BELGIUM CONNECTION UNDER SPOTLIGHT AFTER PARIS ATTACKS

BRUSSELS: Prosecutors on Sunday disclosed a growing Belgian connection to the Paris attacks as Premier Charles Michel conceded that a Brussels neighborhood is a "gigantic problem" given its past links to international terrorism. Belgian prosecutors cooperating with their French counterparts said two assailants killed in Friday's attacks were Frenchmen who had lived in Brussels, that two cars tied to the attacks found in Paris were rented in Belgium, and Belgian police have detained seven people. At least one of the dead assailants and five of the people arrested in raids Saturday had spent time in the poor immigrant Brussels district of Molenbeek, officials said.

Belgium also issued an international warrant for the arrest of Salah Abdeslam, who lived in Molenbeek, while his brother Mohammed, who was arrested in this neighborhood while returning from Paris, is still in custody, officials said. A third brother Brahim died after having set off his explosives-laden suicide belt near a cafe in Paris' 11th district, investigators

The trail led to the three brothers following the discovery of two cars registered in Belgium, one of them near the Bataclan concert hall where 89 people were gunned down, and the other in a Paris suburb, Belgian prosecutors said. The results of the probe so far highlight how

Molenbeek has for two decades lodged Islamist extremists who have fought or supported wars in Algeria, Afghanistan and Bosnia as well as in Syria and Iraq, analyst Claude Moniquet told AFP.

Jihadist 'hotbed'

"It's not the only one in Belgium, it is certainly not the only one in Europe, but it is a hotbed for jihadism," Moniquet said. Belgium as a whole has spawned nearly 500 jihadists for Syria and Iraq from a population of only 11 million-the highest figure per capita in the European Union, security services said. What is striking is that Belgium and more specifically Molenbeek remain a haven for extremists despite the toughening of anti-terrorist legislation as well as the dismantling of recruitment networks since the 1990s.

"Europe no longer has borders and it is therefore logical that (extremists) benefit too," Brussels mayor Yvan Mayeur said Sunday. "But we must stop being a base for those who make war in Europe," he said. Molenbeek, where a large Muslim community lives, including a radical minority, is more than ever in the eye of the storm.

"Among this small minority, there are figures known at the European and international levels," according to Moniquet, CEO of the Brussels-based European Strategic Intelligence and Security Center.



ROME: People mourn during a Europe-wide minute of silence to honor the victims of the terror attacks in Paris, in front of the French Embassy, in Rome, yesterday. — AP

They lure people online, he added, comparing the neighborhood's jihadist influence to that of Finsbury Park in London about 15 years ago. Part of the reason Molenbeek became such a hotbed is because local politicians failed for years to face up to extremism in order to keep "social peace" and continue getting elected, Moniquet said. Belgium's Premier Michel acknowledged the problem on

Sunday. "I have noticed there is almost always a link to Molenbeek, that there is a gigantic problem there," he said. "In the last few months, many initiatives have been launched in the fight against radicalisation, but there should be a greater crackdown," Michel added. "We are going to work more intensely with the local authorities. The federal government is ready to provide more means."

'Anonymity easier'

In 2001, it was in Molenbeek where the assassins of Afghanistan's anti-Taleban commander Ahmad Shah Massoud had stayed. It was also home for a while for Hassan El Haski, who was found guilty of being one of the masterminds of the 2004 Madrid train bombings.

Mehdi Nemmouche, the main suspect in the Jewish Museum attack in Brussels in May last year, also stayed there. Ayoub El Khazzani, the perpetrator of the foiled attack in August on the Paris-bound train from Amsterdam, stayed in Molenbeek with his sister before boarding the locomotive in Brussels.

Belgian authorities have also established links with the jihadist cell that police smashed in the eastern Belgian city of Verviers in January. "They do not all come from here, and most of the time, they are just travelling through," according to Molenbeek Mayor Francoise Schepmans, a member of Michel's liberal party MR. "In some districts, the population is very dense, with 80 percent of the people of north African origin. Anonymity is easier for people passing through with very bad intentions," she said.

"They also land in districts which are breeding grounds for radicalization," she said, before taking a dig at her socialist predecessor: "One should have been firmer from the start." — AFP



MANILA: A woman stands in front of police as Filipino laborers clash with police in the Makati section of Manila yesterday during protests to raise issues as world leaders arrive for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit this week. — AFP

OBAMA TO VISIT PHILIPPINE NAVY FLAGSHIP

visit the Philippine Navy's flagship, the White China Sea would be a "central issue" during House said, seeking to highlight American commitment to regional maritime security.

Obama will board the US-made Gregorio del Pilar shortly after arriving in the Philippine capital of Manila for annual trade talks with Asia-Pacific leaders, including China's Xi Jinping.

"In the afternoon, the president will tour the BRP Gregorio del Pilar," a White House statement said on Monday as it detailed Obama's plans for his first of three days in Manila.

Obama's aides had earlier said the president planned an event that showcased "US maritime security assistance to the Philippines and the region". The White House statement detailed the venue, with the frigate a symbolic choice as it was formerly a US Coast Guard cutter that was

acquired by the Philippines in 2011. Obama's move risks irking China, which is embroiled in a bitter territorial row over the South China Sea with the Philippines and some of its other Asian neighbors. China had made clear it hoped the focus of the two-day APEC summit, which starts on Wednesday, would solely be on trade talks and not touch on the South China Sea.

But US National Security Advisor Susan Rice

MANILA: US President Barack Obama will today said in Washington last week that the South Obama's time in Asia. After Manila, Obama will travel to Malaysia for another regional summit. In the same briefing as Rice, national security aide Ben Rhodes said Obama's visit to the thenunnamed maritime facility was aimed at comforting nervous Asian allies.

> "Clearly, in our alliance with the Philippines and our focus in the region, we have been committed to maritime security, to principles like freedom of navigation, and to the peaceful resolution of disputes," Rhodes said. "This event will be an opportunity for the president to showcase some of that maritime security assistance."

China claims nearly all of the South China Sea, even waters approaching the coasts of its neighbours. China's building of artificial islands in waters close to the Philippines, a longstanding US ally, prompted the American military to recently deploy a missile destroyer and B-52

China regularly insists the United States has no role to play in the territorial dispute. Washington says it takes no sides, but that freedom of navigation must be maintained in the sea, which is home to some of the world's most important shipping routes. — AFP

bomber planes to the area.



LIVERPOOL: The French flag flies at half-mast above the Town Hall in Liverpool, northwest England yesterday in memory of those killed in the November 13 Paris terror attacks. — AFP

FRENCH MUSLIM LEADER CALLS ON MOSQUES TO PRAY FOR PARIS VICTIMS

PARIS: The rector of the Great Mosque of Paris called yesterday on all French imams to lead the faithful in Friday prayers for the victims of the country's worst ever terror attacks.

"I appeal to imams to take part in a solemn prayer to show our compassion and share in the families' sorrow," rector Dalil Boubakeur told reporters. He was speaking after a minute of silence was observed across France and Europe in honour of the 129 victims of the gun and sui-

cide attacks that rocked Paris at the weekend. Boubakeur voiced "horror" at the "unspeakable acts" which had targeted "absolutely innocent" Parisians. "We, Muslims of France, can only insist on the need for national unity in opposing this misfortune which has afflicted us and which attacks indiscriminately," he said. "We are all victims of this barbarity," he said, repeating a call made by religious and political leaders after a series of jihadist attacks in January for people not to tar all Muslims with the same brush of extremism. The suicide bombers behind Friday's attacks on the national stadium, a packed concert hall and bars and restaurants were "people who call themselves Muslims but who should, by rights, be called barbarians", he said. Boubakeur observed the midday minute of silence on the steps of the Great Mosque, together with a handful of worshippers. Afterwards, they said a prayer before listening in silence to a rendition of the Marseillaise, the French national anthem. — AFP

US-CHINA RIVALRY, PARIS ATTACK IN FOCUS AT APEC

Leaders meet under extra-heavy security in Manila

MANILA, Philippines: Tensions with China and the Paris attacks could upstage trade issues at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, being held under extra-heavy security in the Philippine capital this week. President Barack Obama and the leaders of China, Japan, Mexico and other nations in the 21member APEC bloc are converging with 7,000 officials, CEOs and other participants at a convention center by Manila Bay.

The meetings culminate in a 2-day summit of leaders beginning tomorrow. Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, is skipping the Manila meetings, partly to focus on an investigation into the Oct. 31 crash of a Russian passenger jet in Egypt that killed all 224 people on board. He will be represented by Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo will likely stay home to deal with domestic problems, according to Philippine officials.

Founded in 1989 in Canberra, Australia, APEC aims to demolish barriers to trade and investment through nonbinding accords. The unwieldy grouping of countries and self-governing territories that range from liberal democracies to dictatorships accounts for 3 billion people, half of global trade and 60 percent of world GDP. Critics say APEC, which has focused mainly on economic and trade issues, has few concrete achievements because of its nonbinding status. They dub it a talk shop and joke the acronym means "A Perfect Excuse to Chat." But proponents believe those qualities are its strengths.

"That's exactly the beauty of APEC, you don't have to worry about committing yourself to anything because it's non-binding," said Philippine Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima. "It gives leaders the freedom to bounce ideas, new ideas.

Though members tend to shy away from divisive security and geopolitical issues, rifts and political strife often overshadow the annual show of unity that is symbolized by the photo-op of leaders dressed in quirky or traditional shirts provided by the host country. Friday's attacks in Paris that killed at least 129 people have already created a dilemma for APEC. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attacks on a stadium, a concert hall and

Behind closed doors, senior diplomats were divided over whether to issue a statement on the attacks or let each leader speak on his or her own. The compromise: a paragraph on terrorism is being added to the APEC summit statement. One diplomat rejected any mention of the attacks in the statement, fearing it would draw the Islamic State group's attention to APEC, said a Southeast Asian diplomat who attended the meetings. The diplomat spoke on condition of anonymity because the conversations were not intended to be public.

The diplomat said the United States wanted a strongly worded response and APEC's response could still change when the leaders meet. They have a precedent. APEC leaders issued a statement in Shanghai in October 2001 to condemn the attacks in the U.S. the month before and vowed to help

Including any security-related topic in APEC's formal talks is touchy for China, which fears that could pave the way for discussion of territorial conflicts in the South China Sea. Beijing says the disputes are an Asian problem that outsiders such as the US have no business dabbling in.

The Philippines has been the most outspoken among five APEC governments that have formal territorial disputes with Beijing in the South China Sea. Yesterday, as economic ministers met ahead of the summit, anti-Chinese protesters burned a Chinese flag to vent their anger over the territorial standoff.

"Boycott all China products," said a banner at the protest, which took place outside the US Embassy in Manila - not in front of the Chinese Embassy. China's top diplomat, Wang Yi, visited Manila last week and asked the Philippines not to raise such contentious issues during the APEC summit for the sake of the "political dignity" of Xi's visit, Philippine diplomats

China and the US are constantly jockeying for economic and political clout in the region, during APEC summits and other occasions, and at the moment Xi is battling headwinds given the friction over territorial spats. Massive Chinese construction work aimed at turning seven disputed South China Sea reefs into islands that could be used militarily have raised alarm. In contrast, two US military patrols in seas claimed by China, including flights



MANILA: Delegates attend Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Manila yesterday. The Philippines put its military and police on full alert and vowed to upgrade security for world leaders meeting in Manila after gunmen killed more than 120 people in Paris. — AFP

last week by a pair of B-52 bombers near the artificial islands, were welcomed by America's allies in

"The US image in the region is again on the rise and China's has taken a bit of a battering due to its actions in the South China Sea, the slowing growth of its economy," said Malcolm Cook of the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore. The recent success in wrapping up protracted talks on a freetrade deal called the Trans-Pacific Partnership has also boosted Obama's prestige, said Ernie Bower, director of the Southeast Asia program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The deal includes the US and 11 other Pacific Rim countries, but not China. "Obama and the White House have done everything they need to do to be well prepared for a strong Asia trip," Bower said. "Obama will be received in Manila as an American leader who 'gets Asia' and is emphasizing US longterm interests." — AP

FOCUS ON PASSPORT HIGHLIGHTS LACK OF MIGRANT CHECKS IN EU

BELGRADE: The focus on a Syrian passport found near the body of a suicide bomber in the Paris attacks highlights an uncomfortable reality: European authorities are completing few checks on the hundreds of thousands of people moving across their territory fleeing war and poverty.

Paris prosecutor's office said yesterday that the man who blew himself up outside the national soccer stadium was found with a Syrian passport with the name Ahmad Al Mohammad, a 25-year-old born in Idlib. It said fingerprints from the attacker match those of someone who passed through Greece in October.

Besides Greece, the passport was registered in October in Serbia and Croatia, all three countries on the corridor that crosses the Balkans and is known for lax controls and ease in obtaining transit documents. The owner was allowed to proceed because he passed what is essentially the only test in place - he had no international arrest warrant against him, police in the states

It was not clear whether the passport was real or fake, but trafficking in fake Syrian passports has increased as hundreds of thousands of people try to get refugee status, the chief of the European Union border agency Frontex has said. Most of those who enter countries on the socalled Balkan corridor for migrants - Greece, Macedonia, Serbia and Croatia - are registered with authorities. Their data are checked against Interpol records, and their fingerprints and photos are taken. But, many people tell officials that they've lost their identity papers, and they can give false names and other information, including their country of origin. A large majority of migrants declare themselves as Syrians from the war-torn country, although they have no documents to prove it, Serbian police say. Syrian refugees have a better chance of getting asylum in Germany than those classified as economic migrants from Afghanistan, Iraq or Pakistan.

In Serbia, some 490,000 migrants have passed through this year, and many say they don't have documents - making it impossible to check for terrorist connections or criminal histories, to verify their backgrounds, Serbian officials said Sunday. There are no recorded cases of people being turned away after random checks anywhere in the Balkan migrant corridor. That may be because the corridor states want migrants to pass through quickly, without getting stuck in their territory for a long time before reaching rich EU states such as Germany, Sweden or France.

"No one can know for certain where they come from, their true identity or if their documents are genuine," Serbian labor minister Aleksandar Vulin said. "The Paris suspects have not been registered anywhere as terrorists, so Serbia could not have known that they represent a danger." Frontex spokeswoman Ewa Moncure told The Associated Press that "among some 500,000 people, you will find some with false documents." "There is always a certain percentage of false Syrian passports and identity documents revealed on the Greek border," she said.

The holder of the passport found next to the bomber's body is registered as entering Greece on Oct. 3, Greek officials said, adding that the passport owner entered the country through Leros, one of the eastern Aegean islands that tens of thousands have been using as a gateway into the European Union.

The owner of the passport then formally requested asylum in Serbia Oct. 7, according to a Serbian police statement. The document allowed him three days to pass through the country on his way to Croatia. Police did not give a name, identifying the passport's owner only as A.A.

The passport-holder entered Croatia from Serbia on Oct 8, Croatian police spokeswoman Helena Biocic said Sunday. The owner was not flagged as suspicious and then proceeded to Hungary and Austria. The passport was found after Friday's attack on France's national stadium, next to the body of one of three suicide bombers who blew themselves nearby. In all, 129 people were killed in Paris in the violence, the worst in France in decades. Authorities said three teams of attackers were involved in the gun and bomb attacks on the stadium, a concert hall and Paris



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PERSECUTED ROHINGYA SEE A RAY OF HOPE IN SUU KYI WIN

SITTWE, Myanmar: Noor Bagum carry a political cost at home. The group man Phone Minn, using the governwould have liked to have voted for Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) but, like the majority of Myanmar's persecuted Rohingya Muslim minority, she took no part in the historic election the Nobel laureate won by a landslide.

Stripped of their right to cast ballots by the current government, many Rohingya now hope that, with the NLD able to rule largely on its own, a Suu Kyiled government will work to restore their lives and many of the rights they have lost. "I hope that things will get a little bit better," said Noor Bagum, a 28year-old mother-of-five, whose village was destroyed during violence between Buddhists and Muslims that swept through Myanmar's western Rakhine State in 2012.

Dealing with the Rohingya will be one of the most controversial - and unavoidable - of a long list of issues Suu Kyi will inherit from the current government. Feted by many in the West for her role as champion of Myanmar's prodemocracy movement during long years of military rule, she has been criticized overseas, and by some in Myanmar, for saying little about the abuses faced by the group.

When an NLD government takes power in March, she will come under mounting international pressure to take a definitive stance in their defense. But speaking out for the Rohingya would

is widely disliked in Myanmar, where they are seen as illegal immigrants from Bangladesh - including by some in Suu Kyi's party. She risks haemorrhaging support by taking up the cause of the beleaguered minority.

LOCAL RIVAL

The NLD also faces a powerful local rival - the Arakan National Party (ANP) that has been accused of stoking anti-Muslim sentiment and has called for the deportation of Rohingya. The ANP won 22 of 29 national level seats in Rakhine and took 22 of the 35 elected seats in the state's regional assembly, one of the strongest showings by an ethnic party in the election.

"We'll be damned if we do, and we'll

be damned if we don't," said Win Htein, a senior NLD leader, adding that standing up for the Rohingya would give the ANP "ample reason to criticize the NLD". Although many have lived in Myanmar for generations, the Rohingya are not one of the 135 ethnic groups recognized under the country's citizenship law and are thus entitled to only limited rights. Many Rohingya held temporary citizenship documents, known as "white cards", that allowed them to vote before they were nullified by President Thein Sein this year. "We won't be able to solve the problem as long as the international community is supporting and standing for the Bengalis," said ANP vice-chair-

ment's term for the group, which insinuates they are illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. Phone Minn was elected to a Rakhine regional parliament seat on Sunday. Noor Bagum, and thousands of other Rohingya are now kept as virtual prisoners outside the state capital of Sittwe in refugee camps like Thae Chaung, a dusty sprawl of listing bamboo huts covered with patchworks of tarps and relief agency rice bags.

'This time, we would have voted for the NLD," she said, a sentiment widely reflected across the camp.

CITIZENSHIP LAW

So far, the NLD has offered little in the way of concrete policy that would tackle Rohingya citizenship status or their resettlement and integration back into the communities they were forced to flee. But the first post-election comments by the party's senior leader Win Htein on the 1982 Citizenship Act that denied Rohingya full citizenship rights showed that their hope may be justified.

"It must be reviewed because it's too extreme...review that law and make necessary amendments so that we consider those people who are already in our country, maybe second generation, so they will be considered as citizens," Win Htein told Reuters.

Win Htein said that he wanted the NLD administration to allow the Rohingya to settle anywhere in the



YANGON: Novice Buddhist nuns line up after walking the streets to collect alms in central Yangon.—AP

country to "lessen the burden on Rakhine State". It was not clear if Win Htein, one of the most influential politicians in the party, was speaking on behalf of the party or giving a personal

ANP's Phone Minn has a different view. He said that the law was "the solution". "If they followed that law, the problem will be solved...if these Bengali people deserve citizenship according to the law, they can get it," said Phone Minn. Suu Kyi has never visited the refugee camps that house some 140,000 people, mainly Rohingya. Still, many believe her government will be more sympathetic than the outgoing Union Solidarity and Development Party, which was created by the country's former junta and led by retired military officers.

Mohammed Solim, 32, who like many camp residents was angry at being deprived of the right to vote, said: "We hope that since the NLD won, we will get freedom." —Reuters



YANGON: Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi receives flowers as she signs on the registration book upon arrival at parliament to

WINNERS AND LOSERS RETURN TO MYANMAR PARLIAMENT

ELECTION LOSERS CAN STILL MAKE LAWS FOR 21/2 MONTHS

NAYPYIDAW, Myanmar: Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi returned to parliament yesterday along with dozens of rivals freshly hammered by her pro-democracy party's landslide election victory as the legislature begins overseeing the country's delicate transition.

Suu Kyi is constitutionally barred from top political office but has vowed to rule "above" the next president, who she will select following her National League for Democracy's formidable win in the November 8 polls. The NLD bulldozed the current army-backed ruling party in polls set to dramatically reshape the country's political landscape.

But it will be the lawmakers from the military proxy Union Solidarity and Development Party-still smarting from their election drubbing-who will continue to dominate parliament as the pre-election legislature returns for a final session that will last until at least the end of January.

Suu Kyi was mobbed by dozens of journalists as she arrived at the parliament yesterday, but declined to make any comment as she takes a low profile approach to victory. She is banned from becoming president by the junta-era constitution because she married and had children with a foreigner. The Nobel laureate has nevertheless pledged to rule an NLD government through a puppet president, without revealing a candidate or setting out how the arrangement would work.

Suu Kyi has the power to select a president because of her party's parliamentary majority, with the candidate chosen in a vote of the new NLD-dominated legislature in February. Observers predict a fevered period of political horse-trading, centered on the uncertainty over the presidency as the country creeps out of the shadow of the military.

NLD spokesman Win Htein told AFP that the party was acutely conscious that the size tions, which were ignored by the then ruling generals who clung to power for another two decades. "This time, although we are quite glad that we won, we worry that history may repeat itself. We don't think the transition will

Path to power

Suu Kyi, 70, has sought to take a conciliatory approach following the elections, dampening victory celebrations and requesting talks with President Thein Sein, army chief Min Aung Hlaing and parliament speaker Shwe Mann-heavyweights from the former junta.

All three have accepted the invitation but only Shwe Mann, whose eagerness to work with Suu Kyi made him enemies among the military elite, has already set a date for his meeting-Thursday.

On Sunday Thein Sein, whose quasi-civilian government has opened the hermit nation to the world since taking power in 2011, said the would be smooth.

the constitution that proscribes it "very silly".

"This is quite incredible; nowhere else in the world is there such a gap between the end of the elections and the forming of the new administration and certainly it is something about which we should all be concerned," she told reporters ahead of the elections. —AFP

SENT BACK FROM EUROPE, SOME AFGHANS PREPARE TO TRY AGAIN

KABUL: Last year, Hamid Rostami, a 28year-old from Wardak in western Afghanistan, was expelled from Denmark after years trying to stay in Europe. Jobless and cut off from his family, he now sits in wintry Kabul wondering how to go back.

Jobless and unwilling to go home to a district where he says a dozen people from the Hazara ethnic minority to which he belongs have been killed by Taleban militants in recent weeks, his choices are bleak. "If I can get enough money I'll go again. It is hard to survive here," he said. "The situation is bad in Kabul. There is no security, no job. If you go out of your house it's unclear what may happen to you. You can't go anywhere."

Rostami's predicament underlines the problem for European countries that promised to send back failed asylum seekers in the face of growing public alarm at the numbers arriving.

"The truth is that most Afghans who are forced to return will try to leave again, whatever policy makers intend," said Ceri Oeppen, from the University of Sussex in Britain, who has worked extensively on the problems of Afghan migrants.

Accurate statistics on the number of Afghan migrants and asylum seekers to Europe are hard to come by. But since the start of the year, almost 150,000 have arrived in Greece, the usual entry point to Europe, the second largest number of any country after Syria, according to the United Nations refugee agency.

Despite billions of dollars in aid to support Afghanistan over the past 14 years, in the first six months of 2015, around 40,000 Afghans applied for asylum in the European Union, according to EU statistics agency Eurostat.

"Aside from the very wealthy, the only ones who are not thinking of leaving are the destitute," said Liza Schuster, a migration specialist at City University in London, who has just completed three years' fieldwork at Kabul University.

"Part of it is driven by an unrealistic idea of life in Europe, but a huge part is driven by how difficult it is in Afghanistan," she

BLEAK PROSPECTS

Even before Friday's attacks in Paris increased sensitivity around the issue, pressure was rising on European governments to limit numbers allowed to stay. Germany and Sweden, among the most liberal countries towards refugees, have signalled a tougher stance in the face of growing public disquiet.

The Afghan government has been torn between the need to satisfy aid donors that it is trying to keep citizens from emigrating en masse, and alarm at the prospect of having to resettle thousands of returnees sent back from Europe.

This week, Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani and Sayed Hussain Alemi Balkhi, Minister for Refugees, met EU ambassadors

to plead for generous treatment of refugee applicants given unstable security and the approaching winter. Behind the requests lies a stark reality, said Abdul Ghafoor, a former migrant who runs an information service in Kabul for Afghans thinking of leaving or returnees trying to adjust.

"Afghanistan is simply not ready to take all the returnees back," he said. "It's not just basic security, it's about work and prospects for the future."

The economy has been hit by a sharp fall in aid money, and jobs are in short supply. Security has also worsened since NATO allies ended combat operations, with the insurgency spreading to a point where the Taliban briefly seized the northern city of Kunduz in September.

Bomb attacks regularly hit Kabul, and according to United Nations figures from August, 1,592 civilians were killed and 3,329 wounded in fighting since the start of the year.

KABUL OVERCROWDED

A large demonstration in Kabul last week, sparked by the gruesome execution of seven Hazaras by Islamist militants, underlined the fear and anger that President Ashraf Ghani has been unable to

With more of the country under Taleban control, returnees end up stuck in an overcrowded Kabul, far from family networks essential to survival in Afghanistan. European governments have devoted major efforts to helping returnees resettle, providing travel assistance, cash bonuses and retraining opportunities for those willing to go back.

Many observers who work on Afghan migration say repatriation aid can go towards financing fresh efforts to leave, but Masood Ahmadi, who heads the resettlement program operated by the International Organization for Migration, said tight controls on how the money is used limit that risk.

"There are a lot of reasons for us to believe that reintegration support will not finance remigration," he said in his Kabul office. With the cost of a single trip around \$7,000-8,000, the price of migration is high, but the promise of a better life in Europe is a powerful attraction, despite well-known risks of the voyage and the grinding struggle that awaits those who make it.

Ahmadi said the expectations of many migrants were unrealistic and more effort should go towards persuading people there are better opportunities at home rather than accepting emigration is inevitable. "With \$7,000 or \$8,000, you can make a good business in Afghanistan."

For Rostami, however, the lure of Europe is already too strongly anchored and most of his friends have left. "If I tell my story about how I was deported to other people, they don't believe me. If you tell them that living conditions are very bad in Europe, they won't believe you." — Reuters

elections were the result of his sweeping S KOREA ON ALERT FOR SIGN reforms and sought to reassure Myanmar's nervous populace that the handover of power OF NORTH'S MISSILE TEST Myanmar's complex political system is the brainchild of the former junta, which has lowed by a missile test, but Seoul said it was incrementally loosened its suffocating grip in remaining vigilant. "We are closely watching the situation ... recent years with stark changes, including and closely monitoring related factors from a releasing political prisoners and welcoming military standpoint," a defense ministry foreign investment. The army, which retains a spokesman said, without elaborating. The isoquarter of parliamentary seats and other lated, nuclear-armed North regularly test-fires political and economic privileges, has also short-range missiles into the East Sea as part pledged to support the transition. Suu Kyi has Wonsan from November 11 to December 7. of scheduled military drills, or as a show of criticized the long handover process, calling

MAZAR-I-SHARIF: Afghan laborer Dawod, 7, harvests cotton as he works on his family's farm on the outskirts of Mazar-i-Sharif.—AFP

SEOUL: South Korea said yesterday it was

"closely watching" for any signs of an imminent North Korean missile test after Pyongyang reportedly issued a no-sail zone off its east coast. The South's Yonhap news agency had quoted a government source on Sunday as saying the North had imposed the no-navigation zone off the coastal city of

The Defence Ministry in Seoul said no formal notification had been filed with South Korea or the International Maritime Organization, suggesting that the advisory was for domestic shipping only.

The Japanese government also said it had received no official warning. Similar advisories in the past have not always been folforce at times of heightened tensions. The North is banned from tests using any ballistic missile technology under UN Security Council resolutions. The North claims it has developed long-range missiles capable of hitting the US mainland, but many experts say Pyongyang is still years away from obtaining a credible ICBM capability. — AFP

of its victory mirrors its success in 1990 elecbe 100 percent perfect," he told AFP.





Emirati children practice a traditional dance for the celebrations of the upcoming 44th anniversary of the establishment of the United Arab Emirates in Sharjah yesterday. — AFP

TOP COURT AFFIRMS CLOSURE OF WATAN

Continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, MP Askar Al-Enezi yesterday sent a series of questions to the finance minister about the size of surpluses amassed by Kuwait due to high prices of oil since the 2009/2010 fiscal year. The lawmaker asked the minister about the amount of the surplus in each year and what has the government done with it. He asked if the government has embarked on development projects utilizing the budget surplus when oil prices rose above \$100 a barrel. He demanded a list of those development projects if they exist, otherwise he asked the minister to provide him with an explanation about the fate of the funds.

The Assembly's health and labor committee yesterday gave the government two weeks to send answers on a number of questions on the proposed health insurance scheme for citizens and the medical insurance policy for expatriate visitors. Head of the committee MP Saadoun Hammad said the panel discussed the health insurance scheme for all citizens.

CIA CHIEF EXPECTS MORE IS ATTACKS IN 'PIPELINE

Continued from Page 1

'They are looking abroad to have these spectacular attacks to further their narrative that the caliphate is growing and is successful." Brennan said.

Intelligence services were aware that IS was planning attacks outside their strongholds in Iraq and Syria, particularly targeting Europe, Brennan said. "I can tell you it was not a surprise that this attack was carried out, from a standpoint that we did have strategic warning, we knew plans, plotting by ISIL was underway, looking particularly at Europe as a venue for carrying out these attacks," he said.

But the large numbers of individuals who have gone to Syria and Iraq and then returned to Europe, he said, has strained the capacity of European intelligence services to monitor them all. The fact that such a complex plot was carried out without being detected also shows IS has "gone to school on what they need to do in order to keep their activities concealed from the authorities", he said.

Brennan made a pitch for reviewing curbs placed in recent years on the intelligence services' surveillance capabilities, saying "unauthorized disclosures" and "handwringing" had made international efforts to track down terrorists "much more challenging". The Paris attacks show IS is shifting its sights to the West, raising questions about a US-led strategy that has focused on air strikes on its strongholds in Syria.

Brennan, however, argued that containing the group in the region remains the most effective strategy, and said there have been notable successes in disrupting the flow of people and material needed to carry out attacks. Likewise, he cautioned that closing borders either in Europe or the United States was inconsistent with western values and "not sustainable". "We don't want to have these terrorists succeed in taking away the freedoms and liberties that we pride ourselves on, whether it be here in the United States or in Europe." But he said no country was "immune from ISIL's touch".

Meanwhile, at least eight US states are seeking to block a program to resettle Syrian refugees within their borders, citing security fears in the wake of the Paris attacks. The movement swelled Sunday and Monday, prompting President Barack Obama to push back by urging the United States to "step up and do its part" to help those fleeing war-torn Syria. The discovery of a Syrian passport near the body of one Paris assailant, has revived Europe's debate on how hard a line to take on record migrant

In the United States, Republican presidential hopefuls Marco

لست best

Rubio and Jeb Bush said outright America must not take in Syrian refugees because they might include Islamic State militants. And Republican state governors lined up to reject plans to resettle Syrians on US soil. "Given the tragic attacks in Paris and the threats we have already seen, Texas cannot participate in any program that will result in Syrian refugees - any one of whom could be connected to terrorism - being resettled in Texas," Governor Greg Abbott of the large southern state wrote yesterday in a let-

Abbott urged the president to halt his plans to resettle thousands of Syrian refugees in the United States, arguing the government could not provide safety guarantees. "As such, opening our door to them irresponsibly exposes our fellow Americans to unacceptable peril," he said. Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant issued a similarly blunt statement, saying "I will do everything humanly possible to stop any plans from the Obama administration to put Syrian refugees in Mississippi." Obama's policy of welcoming such individuals "is not only misguided, it is extremely

Alabama and Michigan announced their opposition to Syrian refugees on Sunday. In addition to Mississipi and Texas, they have been joined by Arkansas, Indiana, Louisiana and Illinois. All eight states are led by Republican governors. Alabama Governor Robert Bentley opposed Democrat Obama's plans, saying "I will not stand complicit to a policy that places the citizens of Alabama in harm's way."

Governor Rick Snyder, whose state of Michigan is home to one of America's largest concentrations of Middle East immigrants, said he had decided to suspend arrivals of Syrian refugees under Obama's program until the Department of Homeland Security completes a "full review" of security clearances and procedures. Michigan's leading newspaper, the Detroit Free Press, reported that between 1,800 and 2,000 refugees have resettled in the state over the past year, about 200 of whom were from Syria.

Another US governor, Louisiana's Bobby Jindal who also is running for the Republican Party's 2016 presidential nomination, wrote Obama Saturday expressing "grave concern" about allowing Syrian migrants into the country, and saying it would be "prudent to pause the process". "Authorities need to investigate what happened in Europe before this problem comes to the United States," Jindal wrote. Jindal complained he was kept in the dark about Syrian refugees as they began arriving in New Orleans earlier this month. "It is irresponsible and severely disconcerting to place individuals, who may have ties to ISIS, in a state without the state's knowledge or involvement," he said. — — Agencies

IS TAKES WAR TO FOES AFTER SETBACKS

Continued from Page 1

The ultra-hardline militants have also claimed responsibility for bringing down a Russian airliner over the Sinai Peninsula on Oct 31 which killed all 224 people on board after Russia began its own campaign of air strikes in Syria. Turkish authorities suspect a high-profile British jihadist detained in Turkey last week may have been planning attacks in Istanbul similar to those in Paris, two security sources told Reuters on Sunday. The group has also threatened to attack Saudi Arabia, United States and Russia.

It was not immediately possible to verify the reported order, which Islamic State supporters and fighters said was given to dormant cells in several places. "Their messages to us are sent by blood and carnage so we send them their messages back in the same way, it is simple," the northern-Syria-based fighter said.

The group operates in a very secretive way and has a complicated structure. In general, its Caliph Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi is the ultimate decision maker but his deputy is also powerful. They both consult a Shura Council which is comprised of military, religious and other leaders who give advice to Baghdadi on strategy and military plans. It practices a strict version of Islam which considers all those opposing it as infidels who should be killed.

The younger jihadi generation looks up to Baghdadi as a

powerful leader who will help establish a greater Islamic State that will conquer the world to spread Islam. It has drawn thousands of jihadists from across the world including Europe. But tighter security restrictions imposed by several European countries have prevented would-be jihadists from traveling and joining the group in Syria and Iraq.

To overcome this, the group has established contacts from its bases in the Middle East with these jihadists and encouraged them to operate as "lone wolves" or in small cells to carry out individual attacks inside countries where they live or work. According to one of the fighters, the dormant cells have no contact with each other but all answer to a special apparatus in charge of "foreign operations", from which they take orders to attack. He did not elaborate.

Little is known about the head of this apparatus, who the fighter said is a Jordanian national who works closely with the leadership in Syria and Iraq and travels between the two countries. He is only known by a nickname. "He masterminds these operations, gets in touch with the followers and supporters there, guide them in training and operations and targets," said a jihadi source close to the group. His account could not be independently verified. The New York Times cited officials on both sides of the Atlantic saying that the attackers in France had communicated at some point beforehand with known members of Islamic State in Syria. — Reuters

Hollande outlines fightback against IS

Continued from Page 1

Investigators identified two more extremists involved in the assault, including a Frenchman previously charged with planning a terror attack and a suicide bomber found with a Syrian passport, which has yet to be authenticated. Russia's President Vladimir Putin, speaking at a G20 conference in Turkey, said the attacks proved the need for an international anti-terror coalition. "I spoke about this at the United Nations... and the tragic events that followed have confirmed that we were right," he said. US President Barack Obama, also in Turkey, said a new deal had been agreed with France to speed up intelligence sharing.

During predawn raids in the southeastern French city of Lyon, police found "an arsenal of weapons," including a rocket launcher and Kalashnikov assault rifle. More than 100 people have been placed under house arrest, 23 arrested and 31 weapons seized, Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said. As authorities scrambled to find those responsible, the grieving French tried to return to the humdrum of daily life. Mountains of flowers and candles have been laid at the scenes of the attacks and in front of businesses that lost loved ones.

"We need to understand how this barbarism can exist and why France is paying this heavy price," David Boy, a 52-year-old advertising agency boss said, his lips trembling as he lingered at one of the memorials on his

way to work. Metro trains were packed with commuters, pupils returned to schools and museums reopened, although a national state of emergency remained in place. A social media campaign urged everyone to visit cafes and bars tonight. In the face of "barbarism... culture is our biggest shield and our artists our best weapon," said Culture Minister Fleur Pellerin.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls steeled the nation for more bloodshed, telling RTL radio that more operations "are still being prepared, not only against France but other European countries too". Late on Sunday, French planes bombed the stronghold of the Islamic State iihadists. French jets hit an IS command post, a recruitment centre, a munitions depot and a training camp in Raqa, northern Syria, and more raids were reported on Monday.

The manhunt continued for 26-year-old Salah Abdeslam, one of the three brothers linked to the attacks. One brother blew himself up in the Bataclan and was identified from a severed finger, while the third was arrested in Belgium but released without charge. The brothers lived in the rundown Brussels neighbourhood of Molenbeek, which has a reputation as a hotbed of Islamic militancy and where police have made several arrests. Abdelhamid Abaaoud, 27, a Belgian of Moroccan descent also from Molenbeek and thought to be fighting with IS in Syria, is considered a possible mastermind of the attacks. — AP





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Focus

PARIS HIGHLIGHTS CLINTON FOREIGN POLICY RECORD

By Lisa Lerer

ow the West should respond to the threat posed by the Islamic State in the wake of the attacks in Paris appears likely to become the dominant question of the next phase of the 2016 race for president, perhaps for no one more than Democratic frontrunner Hillary Rodham Clinton. The attacks that killed 129 people, fueling a fresh wave of anxiety about the threats posed by Islamic State militants, highlight Clinton's tenure as a former secretary of state and her argument that she is the 2016 candidate most ready to sit in the Oval Office. But in her role as President Barack Obama's top diplomat, Clinton was deeply involved in crafting the Middle East policy that critics say contributed to the rise of Islamic State extremists. That dual dynamic played out Saturday night during the second Democratic presidential debate, which began with a moment of silence and 30 minutes of questioning focused exclusively on the attacks and unrest in the Middle East. Clinton cast herself as a strong leader in a scary world, attributing the chaos in the Middle East not to US policy failures but a decades-long "arc of instability, from North Africa to Afghanistan." Yet she also grappled with tough criticism of her approach to more than a decade of unrest across the region. Vermont Sen Bernie Sanders blamed her 2002 vote for the war in Iraq for the rise of Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State group, saying the decision to invade "unraveled the region completely." Former Maryland Gov Martin O'Malley offered his own condemnation, painting a picture of a world in flames and an Obama-led strategy that's been "not so very good at anticipating threats". "Libya is now a mess. Syria is a mess. Iraq is a mess. Afghanistan is a mess," he said.

Differences

While Clinton has highlighted her differences with the Obama administration on their approach to the civil war in Syria in the past, she now largely declines to criticize his strategy. After using her opening statement to make the point that the Islamic State group "cannot be contained, it must be defeated"- a dig at Obama's description of the group as "contained" in an interview a day before the attacks - Clinton was quick to align herself with administration policy. She passed up opportunities to mention her support for a more aggressive strategy in Syria that includes a no-fly zone, a policy backed by her Republican rivals and opposed by the Obama administration. Disputing a charge the White House repeated the mistakes of the war in Iraq in Libya, she argued the administration had a plan for the ousting of Muammar Gadhafi. And she supported the White House's argument that the president does not need a formal declaration of war from Congress to go after the Islamic State militants, disagreeing with some prominent congressional Democrats who've split with Obama over whether his constitutional powers cover the new conflict. When asked whether Obama underestimated the threat of Islamic State militants, she dodged the question, saying simply, "what the president has consistently said, which I agree with, is that we will support those who take the fight to ISIS". Obama remains a popular figure in the Democratic Party and Clinton's ability to capture the White House will depend in large part on whether she can win over the coalition of minority, women and young voters that twice catapulted him to victory. But his foreign policy remains deeply unpopular. An Associated Press-GfK poll released earlier this month found more than 6 in 10 Americans reject his handling of the threat posed by the Islamic State. Republicans are eager to tie Clinton to the legacy of her former boss. "The president has admitted he does not have a strategy as it relates to ISIS. Hillary Clinton last night said that it's not our fight," said former Florida Gov Jeb Bush in a Sunday morning interview on CNN's "State of the Union." "It is our fight."

Weakness

They jumped on her refusal, like Obama, to label the efforts to fight terrorism as a war against "radical Islam", a rhetorical choice Republicans frequently cite as a sign of weakness. "That would be like saying we weren't at war with Nazis, because we were afraid to offend some Germans who may have been members of the Nazi Party but weren't violent themselves," said Florida Sen Marco Rubio said in an interview on ABC's "This Week". Republicans are in for their own reshuffling in the wake of the attack. For months, GOP primary voters have favored outsider candidates with little public policy experience, most notably billionaire businessman Donald Trump and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson. New worries about future attacks may prompt them to reassess the field. There's little question the West will take a more aggressive stance against the Islamic State group, a shift described by White House national security adviser Ben Rhodes as an "intensification of our efforts" and by a stunned French President Francois Hollande as being "unfor-

giving with the barbarians". —AP

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GUNS, GOD, GRIEVANCES IN ISLAMIST 'AIRBASE'

By Robert-Jan Bartunek and Alastair Macdonald

breeding ground for violence" the mayor of Molenbeek called her borough on Sunday, speaking of unemployment and overcrowding among Arab immigrant families, of youthful despair finding refuge in radicalism. But as the Brussels district on the wrong side of the city's post-industrial canal becomes a focus for police pursuing those behind Friday's mass attacks in Paris, Belgian authorities are asking what makes the narrow, terraced streets of Molenbeek different from a thousand similar neighbourhoods across Europe.

Three themes emerge as Molenbeek is again in a spotlight of Islamist violence, home not just to militants among Belgium's own half a million Muslims but, it seems, for French radicals seeking a convenient, discreet base to lie low, plan and arm before striking their homeland across the border. Security services face difficulties due to Belgium's local devolution and tensions between the country's Frenchand Dutch-speaking halves; the country has long been open to fundamentalist preachers from the Gulf; and it has a thriving black market in automatic rifles of the kind used in Paris.

"With 500-1,000 euros (dollars) you can get a military weapon in half an hour," said Bilal Benyaich, senior fellow at Brussels think-tank the Itinera Institute, who has studied the spread of radical Islam in Belgium. "That makes Brussels more like a big US city" in mostly gun-free Europe, he said. Two of the attackers who killed over 130 people, 270 km away in Paris on Friday night were Frenchmen resident in Belgium. Belgian police raided Molenbeek addresses and seven people have been arrested in

Belgium over the Paris attacks.

"Almost every time, there is a link to Molenbeek," said 39-year-old centrist prime minister Charles Michel, whose year-old coalition is battling radical recruiters who have tempted more than 350 Belgians to fight in Syria - relative to Belgium's 11 million population, easily the biggest contingent from Europe. But "preventive measures" of the past few months were not enough, Michel said, describing Molenbeek as a "gigantic problem" and saying: "There has to be more of a crackdown."

His interior minister, Jan Jambon, vowed to "cleanse" the district personally. Conservatives

blamed lax oversight on left-wing predecessors, nationally and in Molenbeek town hall, and duelled over whether Dutch-speaking Flanders or mainly French-speaking Brussels and the south did more to curb the radicals. Such differences, which have translated into a profusion of layers of government and policing in an effort to appease centrifugal forces that long threatened to break Belgium apart, have created problems for intelligence and security services. Jambon has complained himself of a profusion of police forces across state and language lines, including six in Brussels alone, a city of just 1.8 million.

Police Lack'Grip'

"Belgium is a federal state and that's always an advantage for terrorists," said Edwin Bakker, professor at the Centre for Terrorism and Counterterrorism at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. "Having several layers of government hampers the flow of information between investigators." Contrasting Belgium with its centralised Dutch neighbour, he added: "It's much more difficult for groups to disappear from the radar just by moving 10 kilometres."

Given the difficulty of gathering intelligence in places like Molenbeek, a borough of 90,000 where some neighbourhoods were up to 80 percent Muslim, any gaps in the information chain were problematic, Bakker said: "In parts of Brussels there are areas on which the police have little grip, very segregated areas that don't feel they're a part of the Belgian state.

"In such a case it's very difficult to get feedback from the community. That means while the neighbours may have seen something going on, they're not passing it to the police. Then it becomes very tough for intelligence agencies as only relying on them and not local police is not sufficient."

Political complication is also blamed for slowing the passing of new laws, for example to rein in the preaching of hate in mosques or recruitment for and travel to the Syrian war. While some of Molenbeek's old factories - it once enjoyed the industrious nickname "Petit Manchester" - have made it a smart address for bohemian loft living, areas tumbling out from the ship canal, offering halal butchers, street stalls and backstreet mosques are some of the poorest in northwest Europe.

The 25 percent jobless rate, rising to 37 percent among the young, is significantly higher than other parts of Brussels, also home to a thriving, cosmopolitan middle class drawn by the European Union institutions on the other side of the city. Belgian officials are also increasingly concerned about the influence of radical versions of Islam. They remain a minority taste; the Muslim Executive of Belgium, an umbrella group, spoke of its support for democratic values and condemned "barbarism". Molenbeek, which notably in 2012 saw street protests against enforcement of Belgian law on Muslim face veils, has, however, been among areas where fundamentalist preachers have flourished.

Fundamentalist Pedigree

George Dallemagne, a centre-right opposition member of the federal parliament, traces some problems back to the 1970s when resource-poor, heavily industrial Belgium sought favour with Saudi Arabia by providing mosques for Gulf-trained preachers. These brought with them fundamentalist teachings then alien to most of Belgium's Moroccan immigrants. Pointing at Molenbeek, Dallemagne said: "The very strong influence of Salafists ... is one of the particularities that puts Belgium at the centre of terrorism in Europe today."

Molenbeek is not unique in Belgium. The highest profile radical group taken on by the state has been sharia4belgium, a social media savvy organisation whose leader and dozens of members were convicted early this year in the Flemish city of Antwerp of recruiting dozens to fight in Syria. But, as Prime Minister Michel said, a Molenbeek connection keeps coming up in cases of Islamist attacks in Europe going back at least to the 2004 train bombings in Madrid, where one of those jailed for planning them was a Moroccan from the borough.

Over little more than a year, it has figured repeatedly. In August 2014, a Frenchman of Algerian origin was living there when he gunned down four people at Brussels' Jewish Museum. In January, when Belgian police killed two men in the eastern town of Verviers, foiling what they said was a plot to kidnap and behead a policeman on camera, many leads led back to Molenbeek. French police investigating after the shootings in January at Paris magazine Charlie Hebdo and a kosher grocery suspect one of the killers acquired guns via

Molenbeek. So too, prosecutors say, did the Spanish-based Moroccan overpowered on a Brussels to Paris train in August. He had an AK-47 and nearly 300 bullets.

'Airbase for Jihadists'

"Molenbeek is a pitstop for radicals and criminals of all sorts," said Benyaich, of the Itinera Institute. "It's a place where you can disappear." Dallemagne added: "Terrorists are radicalised in France, go to Syria to fight and when they come back they find in Molenbeek the logistical support and the networks they need to carry out terrorist attacks, be it here in Belgium or abroad. "It's like an airbase for iihadists."

One of the main attractions, investigators say, is weaponry. Some of that, said Nils Duquet, a researcher at the Flemish Peace Institute, dates back to before 2006 when Belgium, whose state-owned FN Herstal sidearm manufacturer supplied many of the world's armies, also had a relaxed approach to gun ownership. "With the right connections, it's quite easy to find illegal weapons in Belgium," Duquet said. "Criminals used to come to buy weapons legally. And they kept coming because they found the right networks and people here to get weapons, even after 2006."

Kalashnikov assault rifles of the kind used in the attacks in Paris in January and on Friday, were mostly from stocks left after the war in the former Yugoslavia and mostly reached western Europe in the back of a car, he said. Investigators are looking into links between the Paris attacks and a man from Montenegro arrested with guns in his car in Germany this month.

European Union interior ministers will hold an emergency meeting in Brussels on Friday at France's request and will deal yet again with longstanding concerns about traffic in firearms. However, just as a lack of coordination among the EU's 28 states is blamed by many for a flourishing trade across their open borders, Belgium's extreme form of decentralised government makes it hard to crack down on dealers even in one small state. "In Belgium, there's a problem with data management. Nobody knows how many illegal weapons there are in Belgium," said Duquet. "The reality is we have no idea." —Reuters

HOLLANDE PRESSED TO AMEND FOREIGN POLICY

By Paul Taylor and John Irish

rench President Francois Hollande is under pressure to change policy in Syria's civil war and work more closely with Russia after a wave of deadly attacks in Paris but he seems determined to stick to his guns and escalate military action. France has become arguably the most exposed Western nation to Islamist militants because of its activism in the Middle East's many conflicts, and its rigorous secularism at home, while the United States and Britain - burned by their experience in Iraq - have taken a more cautious approach.

Hollande's response to Friday's attacks was to declare that France is at war with Islamic State, which claimed responsibility for the Paris carnage, and to launch a major air strike on IS targets in its Syrian stronghold of Raqqa. While vowing national unity, his conservative opponents criticised the Socialist president for ostracizing Russia, shunning Iran and insisting that President Bashar Al-Assad must go as a pre-condition for any Syrian peace settlement. He has also faced criticism from within his own party. "We must draw the lessons on the situation in Syria," ex-president Nicolas Sarkozy, leader of the main centre-right Republicans party, said after meeting Hollande on Sunday, calling for "an inflection of our foreign policy". "We need everyone's help to exterminate Daesh (Islamic State), notably the Russians. There cannot be two coalitions in Syria," Sarkozy told

Within the French foreign policy establishment, some veteran diplomats accuse Hollande of pursuing a "neo-conservative" foreign policy at a time when the United States and Britain have pulled back from foreign adventures. Like other Western powers, Paris has distanced itself from Russian President Vladimir Putin and joined sanctions against Moscow

over its annexation of Crimea last year and its role in destabilising eastern Ukraine. Hollande scrapped the sale of two warships to Russia which Sarkozy had initiated while in office. Putin's intervention in the Syria conflict last month with air strikes on anti-Assad forces, including "moderate" Islamist groups armed and trained by the West, wrongfooted the French and U.S. governments.

High and Dry

The renewed policy debate in Paris echoes similar arguments being thrashed out in Washington and London. Republican US presidential candidates are demanding much tougher action against IS than

President Barack Obama has undertaken so far, while British Prime Minister David Cameron is struggling to convince lawmakers to authorise British participation in air strikes in Syria. Unlike the United States, France has generally had a bipartisan consensus on foreign policy and the differences over Syria policy may be less deep in France than they appear.

French officials say Paris was left high and dry when Obama reversed course and cancelled a plan to strike Assad's forces in Aug 2013 over the use of chemical weapons. French warplanes were ready on the runway when the word came from Washington that the U.S. president had decided against action. "We wanted to go all the way in 2013, but in the end



French President Francois Hollande arrives for a speech at an exceptional joint gathering of parliament in Versailles yesterday. —AFP

we got slapped by Barack Obama and we found ourselves alone," a senior official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "We lost influence and now we don't scall you have to move forward there."

we don't really see how to move forward there." Paris recently joined coalition air strikes in Syria after more than a year of bombing in Iraq. But until last night it had carried out just five strikes, mostly to try to ensure a seat in any negotiation, officials acknowledge. Just before the Paris attacks, Hollande ordered the aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle to the eastern Mediterranean. When it arrives in early December, it will treble French air power in the region to 36 aircraft. In a sign of how Hollande may proceed in the coming weeks, some 10 French fighter jets struck multiple targets at Islamic State's Syrian bastion Raqqa on Sunday night. Officials say it's unlikely Paris will put boots on the ground, although it could, like the United States, deploy special forces. The government's critics say France should be working with Moscow, Tehran and Damascus for a politi-

cal compromise. Former centre-right Prime Minister Francois Fillon said it was time for France to "get over its vapours about Russia, understand that we need to work with Iran and even agree to work for a while with the Syrian regime". Veteran experts in the ruling Socialist party, such as former Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine, are also urging Hollande to shift to a more "realist" approach. "The principled position that Assad must go because of the atrocities committed since the start of the civil war... is understandable and respectable, but perhaps it can be turned into a form of leverage in the (diplomatic) process which is just starting," Vedrine said before the Paris attacks. "Let's not forgot that when we fought Hitler, we had to make an alliance with Stalin who had killed more people than Hitler."—Reuters

MORATA NOT THINKING ABOUT REAL RETURN

MADRID: Juventus forward Alvaro Morata has not considered a possible return to Real Madrid despite reports in Spain claiming the La Liga heavyweights were keen to lure him back. Morata, who turned 23 last month, joined the Italian champions in July last year for a fee of 20 million euros (\$21.5 million) and scored some crucial goals as Juve won a domestic double and reached the Champions League final. Real have been struggling to find

the net under new coach Rafa Benitez and Cristiano Ronaldo's run of poor form together with Karim Benzema's legal problems have prompted speculation they could move for Morata in January. It is unclear whether any repurchase clause was included in the deal for the Spain international, whose Juve con-

tract runs until 2019. Speaking on Spanish radio late on Sunday, Morata said the only communication he has had with Real were messages of support from club director Emilio Butragueno.

"A return to Madrid is something I cannot think about," he told Onda Cero. "It would be showing a lack of respect to Juventus, they paid a very high price for me. — Reuters

EURO 2016 WILL NOT BE MOVED FROM FRANCE

HANOVER: The 2016 European Championship soccer tournament will take place in France despite Friday's deadly attacks in Paris, which could have happened anywhere, Germany coach Joachim Loew said today. The German, whose team were playing France in a friendly international in Paris when at least 132 people were killed in attacks across the French capital, said he expected the tournament to go ahead as planned. "I am certain that the Euro will take place in France," Loew, whose team have qualified for the June 10-July 10 finals, told reporters. "I am sure the (French) government and security forces will provide security, it will make sure the event is safe."

Loew said moving Euro 2016 to another country would not guarantee the safety of the event as attacks have been staged in other countries as well. "It makes no sense to start talking about different countries now. What happened in Paris is something that can happen in any other country as well. We expect the Euro 2016 will be in France and that everything will be done to safeguard the tournament." Loew and his players spent Friday night inside the stadium as the attacks took place before leaving straight for the airport on Saturday morning. Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attacks, in which more than 350 people were also wounded, saying it sent militants strapped with suicide bombing belts and carrying machine guns to various locations in the heart of Paris. There was one bombing near the Stade de France, killing three people, during the game inside the venue, site of the Euro 2016 final. — Reuters

MANNING BREAKS ALL-TIME PASSING YARDAGE RECORD

LOS ANGELES: Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning surpassed Brett Favre as the NFL's all-time passing yardage leader on Sunday with a four-yard toss in the first quarter of yesterday's game against Kansas City in Denver.

Manning connected with Ronnie Hillman to boost his career yardage total to 71,840 surpassing former Green Bay great Favre's record of 71,838. The contest was stopped momentarily to acknowledge Manning's feat. Hillman returned the ball to Manning as a keepsake and it was taken out of the game. Manning, the NFL's only five-time Most Valuable Player, is in his 18th season in the league.

He spent his first 14 years in the league with Indianapolis, where he won a Super Bowl as a member of the Colts.

The passing yardage mark was not the only record with in Manning's reach yesterday. He is tied with Favre for most career regular-season wins with 186. Apart from Manning and Favre, Dan Marino is the only other quarterback in NFL history to have topped 60,000 career passing yards. — AFP

SHORTENED RACE ENDS EDWARDS' CHASE DREAMS AT PHOENIX

PHOENIX: Carl Edwards drove around in a holding pattern as the rain started to fall, ready to wash away his Chase chances at any second. "We can't let it end like this," Edwards told his team on the radio.

Unfortunately for them, it did. Five points from earning a spot in the finale of the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship, Edwards came up just short last night at Phoenix International Raceway when the race was called after 219 laps due to rain.

Instead of racing for a long-awaited championship next week in Miami, Edwards will be playing out the string on a solid-just-not-great season. "Just very disappointing for this whole Stanley Toyota team, how hard they've worked all year to come down to something as simple as a rain out," said Darian Grubb, Edwards' crew chief. "We feel like we could have raced our way back in there and had a shot at it."

Edwards entered the Phoenix race fifth in the Chase standings behind Jeff Gordon, Kyle Busch, Kevin Harvick and Martin Truex Jr. Gordon was already in the finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway after winning at Martinsville two weeks ago.

That left seven drivers vying for three spots. A rain delay that lasted nearly seven hours included numerous trips back and forth from the garage added to the pressure of the race and the Chase. Edwards started fourth Sunday and lingered around the lead most of the night until a caution came out with about 120 laps left. Crews took a while to get the track cleaned up, leading to an extended caution, and NASCAR officials kept the drivers circling in a yellow-flagged holding pattern as more rain started to move into the area.

Tough situation

The race was red-flagged after several laps and the cars were parked on pit road, with NASCAR officials telling the drivers not to go too far in case the track could be dried quickly. Instead, a downpour followed and the race was called with 93 laps left to the scheduled finish. Dale Earnhardt Jr won the race, with Harvick second, Joey Logano third and Kyle Busch fourth. Harvick, Busch and Truex, who finished 14th, advanced on points.

Edwards and his team were left wondering what might have been had the race continued. "We were still five points out, just like we were five points coming in," Grubb said. "We knew that was going to be a tough situation, but it ended up that it bit us and I just hate it for these guys."

Team Penske was left out in the cold rain after nearly locking both drivers into the finale the past two weeks. Brad Keselowski had his berth into the finale snatched away last week at Texas when he was passed by Jimmie Johnson in the closing laps and entered yesterday's race sixth in the standings.

Starting 18th yesterday, he lingered around the top 10 most of the night and was ninth when the race was called. That left him eight points out of the final four. "I don't think it matters what's fair," Keselowski said. "It matters what entertains the fans and if the fans are happy, that's what it's all about."

Logano had hoped to entertain them with a victory after being intentionally wrecked by Matt Kenseth while in the lead at Martinsville two weeks ago. He had a strong run at Phoenix, putting himself in position to win, right behind Earnhardt and Harvick. He never got a chance to track them down on the restart.

"That's the way this game is played," Logano said. "That's the way this Chase is." Busch put himself into a tough spot at the drop of the opening green flag, sent to the back for jumping the start. He worked he way toward the front and was seventh when the race was called, but need a win to advance. "I had no reason to jump the start, no reason to get excited," Busch said. "We had 312 laps to go race today." — AP



AVONDALE: Kurt Busch waves to the crowd during driver introductions before the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Phoenix International Raceway, Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015, in Avondale, Ariz. Busch is one of seven drivers looking to clinch a spot in the final Chase for the Cup Championship race in Homestead, Fla. — AP



MCILROY-CHASERS CLOSE IN AS SEASON HEADS FOR FINALE

SHANGHAI: Rory McIlroy still has his nose in front in the Race to Dubai but the 2015 European Tour season is set for a sprint to the line after his challengers closed in at the weekend. Second-placed Danny Willett narrowed the gap yesterday to an almost negligible 1,613 points after McIlroy's decision to skip Shanghai's \$7 million BMW Masters, the last event before this week's season-ending DP World Tour Championship in Dubai.

"It's going to be close, but regardless of what happens I guess I have to beat Rory in Dubai," said Willett, whose bogey on the par-three 17th at Lake Malaren Sunday left him tied 28th and cost him the chance to tee up on Thursday as the race leader.

Willett's fellow Englishman Justin Rose moved up to third in the standings after a final day five-under 67 in Shanghai enabled him to finish tied seventh, two strokes behind playoff winner Kristoffer Broberg of Sweden. "Close but no cigar around this course," said world number six Rose, who is 650,999 points adrift of McIlroy with 1,333,330 available to the winner in Dubai.

"Tied seventh is obviously a decent week but I don't know if it makes it easier or harder next week," added Rose, who won the old European Tour Order of Merit and the Harry Vardon Trophy in 2007, two years before it reincarnated into the Race to Dubai. "I caught up a bit of ground on Rory and Danny. I think I'm going to have to win in Dubai now to have a chance." McIlroy will be hard to beat around Dubai's Earth course on which he has finished in the top five in all but one of his six appearances,

winning the title in 2012. "Yeah, I'm going for a Dubai double after winning earlier in the season (at the Dubai Desert Classic)," McIlroy told AFP before leaving Shanghai at the end of the WGC-HSBC Champions a week earlier. "I love the golf course and, yeah, I've done well there before." The world number three, who has topped Europe's standings since April 12 when he took fourth place in the US Masters, has already arrived in Dubai to prepare, flying in on Saturday.

'Regroup, chill out'

Willett was clearly disappointed with his week's work in Shanghai. "Putted pretty poorly for four days. Never really got anything going," Willett said. His two-under par 70 left him on seven-under for the tournament, 10 shots behind the winner. "I've got a day-and-a-half off to regroup and chill out, and I know I'm going to have a

chance next week," he said. Others who can still win the Race to Dubai missed a golden opportunity to go top in McIlroy's absence

Ireland's Shane Lowry and South Africa's Louis Oosthuizen needed second places, but they never got in the mix, finishing well down at 56th and 37th in the 78-player field. Branden Grace needed to win to take over at the top but ended up 22nd. South Korea's An Byeong-Hun gave himself an outside chance with tied third in the BMW Masters to move to seventh in the standings, 1,254,567 behind McIlroy.

A victory for any of them could secure the Race to Dubai title next Sunday, but they would also need McIlroy and Willett to finish well down the elite 60-player field. Their biggest problem is that McIlroy rarely does. — AFP

PARK HOLDS OFF CIGANDA TO CLAIM OCHOA INVITATIONAL

MEXICO CITY: Park In-Bee capped her final round with back-to-back birdies yesterday to win the Lorena Ochoa Invitational, setting up a tantalizing showdown with world No. 1 Lydia Ko in next week's LPGA Tour Championship.

The 27-year-old South Korean fired a 64 to reach a 18-under 270 total and finish three strokes ahead of playing partner Carlota Ciganda for her fifth title of the year. Spain's Ciganda closed with a nine-under 63 while US LPGA Tour rookie-of-the-year Kim Sei-Young (66), who was the other player in the final group, finished third, five strokes behind Park.

"It was close to a perfect day," Park said. "I didn't make many mistakes and I was able to focus on my game." Park is playing her first event since withdrawing from the Blue Bay tournament on Hainan Island in China earlier this month because of a cyst on her left hand.

Park needed to finish eighth or better at the Club de Golf Mexico course to remain in the Player of the Year chase. She is aiming to take top honours for the LPGA season and to do that she needs to regain the number one ranking from New Zealand's Ko.

Park also is chasing Ko for the most money won on the Tour this season. Ko did not play this week. She and Park will square off at the season-ending Tour Championship in Florida, where Ko will be defending her 2014 title. "It is a big motivation," Park said of going for the Player-of-the-Year award. "You love to have it when you finish your season but if I don't get it, it is still a great season as I have two majors.

"This is my ninth year on the tour. I have definitely achieved a lot of things. It has been a thrill." Park rolled in a four foot putt on the 72nd hole for the win. Her bogeyfree round included eight birdies.

"My putter was really good this week. I made some 30 footers out there," she said. Ciganda got off to a hot start with an eagle and four birdies in her first seven holes. Her only blemish on the day was a bogey at the par-three 16th

which came as she was trying to chase down Park for the lead. Like Ciganda, Kim eagled the par-five second hole. She also had three straight birdies around the turn, beginning at the ninth. Kim was coming off her third win of the season

at the Blue Bay event which saw her clinch rookie-of-theyear honours. South Korea's Ryu So-Yeon finished solo fourth after shooting a 67 for a 11-under 277 while Japan's Sakura Yokomine was alone in fifth at nine-under. — AFP



MEXICO CITY: South Korea's Inbee Park kisses the trophy at the end of the LPGA Lorena Ochoa Invitational in Mexico City, Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015. Inbee Park won the Invitational, holding off Carlota Ciganda for her fifth victory of the season and 17th LPGA Tour title. —AP



Under scrutiny Umar Akmal denies wrongdoing

LAHORE: Pakistan's talented but controversial batsman Umar Akmal yesterday denied any wrongdoing in a party which led to his axing from the Twenty20 team for the three-match series against England later this month.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) last week said Umar was in contention for the 16-man squad but was dropped over an incident in Hyderabad in which he was alleged to have "misbehaved" with women at a to the 25-year-old batsman whose career has been chequered with disciplinary problems.

Umar, younger brother of Kamran and Adnan Akmal who also played for Pakistan, Monday responded to the PCB show cause notice.

"I attended a dinner party after being granted official permission by my team manager," said Umar in his response to the PCB notice. Last year Umar was

party. The PCB has also served a show cause notice jailed in Lahore after he had a scuffle with a traffic warden over running a red light.

He was also left out of the team after the 2015 World Cup, with head coach Waqar Younis complaining about his insubordination during the event. PCB chairman Shaharyar Khan last week said Umar would be given an opportunity to defend himself. Umar meanwhile has labelled the allegations baseless.

"I am not answerable to anyone apart from the

department I am playing for," Umar told reporters. "Cricket is my love and I want to represent Pakistan for a long period of time." Pakistan's Twenty20 captain Shahid Afridi has also reportedly backed the embroiled batsman, asking the PCB to clear Umar and then reinstate him in the squad.

Pakistan play England in a three-match T20 series with matches in Dubai (November 26 and 27) and Sharjah on November 30. — AFP



Perth: Australia's Steve Smith plays a shot against New Zealand during their cricket test match in Perth, Australia, yesterday. — AP

AUSTRALIA STRIKE BACK FTER TAYLOR'S EPIC 290



PERTH: New Zealand's Ross Taylor raises his bat as he leaves the field after being dismissed for 290 runs on day four of the second cricket Test match between Australia and New Zealand in Perth yesterday. — AFP

PERTH: Steve Smith and Adam Voges scored the fifth and sixth centuries of the second test to give Australia a lead of 193 after Ross Taylor's epic 290 brought New Zealand back into the contest on day four yesterday.

Smith hit his eighth century in 13 tests over the last 12 months, and his fourth in five tests as captain, while western Australian Voges delighted the WACA crowd with his first on home soil to take the hosts to 254 for two.

The skipper will resume on 127 not out and Voges unbeaten on 101 in a partnership of 208 that steadied the innings after New Zealand had removed openers Joe Burns (0) and David Warner (24) cheaply.

That drove home the tourist's advantage after Taylor's mighty 374-ball knock, which featured 43 fours, had dragged his side back into the match with a first-innings lead of 65.

Although he fell 10 runs short of the triple century, the 31-year-old's innings was the highest score by any visiting batsman in Australia, bettering the previous record of 287 set by England's Tip Foster in Sydney in 1903.

It was also the third highest innings by any New Zealand batsman in a test match and eclipsed the 253 contributed by Warner to Australia's first innings tally of 559-9 declared, which had looked almost unassailable on day

MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH

Just before lunch and after more than nine hours at the crease, Taylor miscued a slogsweep to substitute fielder Jonny Wells off the bowling of Nathan Lyon to bring an end to New Zealand's innings on 624.

Breaking Australia's opening partnership, which had put together century stands in the first three innings of the series, was an achievement in itself but also removing Warner with just 46 runs on the board was a major breakthrough.

Southee had Burns caught at first slip by Taylor, while Warner, who also scored centuries in both innings in Brisbane, fell to Trent Boult and a sharp catch from Tom Latham at cover.

SCOREBOARD

PERTH, Australia: Scores at the close on the fourth day in the second Test between Australia and New Zealand at the WACA Ground in Perth yesterday.

4-0-16-0.

Australia 1st innings (559-9 declared) New Zealand 1st innings: M. Guptill Ibw Starc T. Latham c Smith b Lyon 36 K. Williamson c Johnson b Hazlewood 166 R. Taylor c sub b Lyon 290 B. McCullum b Marsh B.J. Watling c Lyon b Starc 1 D. Bracewell c Neville b Johnson M. Craig c Johnson b Lyon M. Henry b Starc 6

T. Southee c and b Starc 21 T. Boult not out 23 Extras (b7, lb11, w5, nb3) Total (all out, 153.5 overs) 624

Fall of wickets: 1-6 (Guptill), 2-87 (Latham), 3-352 (Williamson), 4-432 (McCullum), 5-447

Bowling: Southee 13-3-40-1, Boult 10-0-50-1, Bracewell 10-3-34-0, Henry 12-3-45-0 (1w), Craig 17-0-81-0 (1nb), Williamson 1-0-8-0.

Australia second innings:

S. Smith not out 131

A. Voges not out 101

Extras (w1, nb1) 2

J. Burns c Taylor b Southee 0

D. Warner c Latham b Boult 24

Total (2 wickets, 63 overs) 258

Fall of wickets: 1-8 (Burns), 2-46 (Warner)

Smith came out at number three because of the hamstring injury to Usman Khawaja, who will miss Australia's next two tests, and quickly showed his desire to get in on the WACA run-fest, which has seen 1,441 scored on the first four days.

He raced to his half century in 57 balls and, after being dropped by New Zealand wicketkeeper BJ Watling on 96, reached his 12th test century with a four behind point, the 13th of his innings.

(Watling), 6-485 (Bracewell), 7-525 (Craig), 8-554 (Henry), 9-587 (Southee), 10-624 (Taylor)

Bowling: Starc 37-7-119-4, Hazlewood 32-2-

134-1 (1nb), Johnson 28-2-157-1 (1w), Lyon

37.5-6-107-3, Marsh 15-1-73-1 (2nb), Smith

Voges, who hit a century on debut against West Indies earlier this year, scored at a more pedestrian pace and reached the milestone with his 15th boundary in the penultimate over of the day. — Reuters

PAKISTAN REJECTS INDIA OFFER, SERIES IN JEOPARDY

NEW DELHI: Next month's scheduled series between India and Pakistan remains in doubt after both sides again failed to reach an agreement on where the matches should be played.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) wants to stage the matches in the United Arab Emirates, which has been the team's "home" base since 2009 because of ongoing security concerns in their homeland that prevents international teams from visiting. But the Indian cricket board (BCCI) said the Indian government would not permit its team to play Pakistan in the UAE, so the series would have to be played in India. The two countries, bitter rivals on and off the cricket field, signed a memorandum of understanding in 2014 that Pakistan would host their next series after India had staged their previous two meetings.

The PCB chairman Shaharyar Khan, speaking to ESPNcricinfo yesterday, said he was still waiting for an explanation as to why the Indian government was opposed to its team playing in UAE but was adamant that Pakistan would not go to India. "There is no question of playing in India. I'm still awaiting the reason of not playing in UAE," Khan said. "We went there in 2007 and 2012. This time not again. It is our series and we will play at our home venue which is the UAE. "What is the problem playing in UAE as they had also played their IPL (Indian Premier League) there as well so why not Pakistan series?"

The BCCI did not immediately respond to the PCB's comments yesterday. — Reuters

BANGALORE: The second Test between India and South Africa in Bangalore was headed for a tame draw after bad weather washed out play for the second successive day yesterday. The umpires called off the scheduled third

day's play, without a ball being bowled, during the lunch break as incessant rain left large puddles of water on the outfield at the Chinnaswamy stadium.

The entire second day's play was also

abandoned on Sunday and more wet weather is forecast over the southern city, caused by a cyclonic depression over the Bay of Bengal.

On the rain-free first day, South Africa were shot out for 214 after being sent in to bat in overcast conditions and India replied with 80 for no loss by stumps. India lead the four-match series after securing a 108-run win in the first Test in Mohali last week The third Test is to be played in Nagpur from November 25. — AFP

Galaxy Ons Ona Hero 12 Hero BANGALORE: Groundsmen walk over plastic sheets covering the pitch area and outfield near the empty stands displaying portraits of Mahatma Gandhi, left, and Nelson Mandela, center, after the play for the third day of second cricket test match between India and South Africa was called off due to persistent rains in Bangalore, India, yesterday. — AP

RAIN RUINS INDIA, S AFRICA TEST AGAIN

AUSTRALIA'S COACH CHEIKA RULES OUT ENGLAND JOB

LONDON: Australia coach Michael Cheika insisted chief executive Ian Ritchie making it clear he make me change my mind." yesterday he had no interest in taking over the vacant England position as he joined a growing list of high-profile figures in ruling himself out as a successor to Stuart Lancaster.

Last week saw Lancaster quit as England coach as he paid the price for a poor World Cup which saw England become the first host nation to fail to get out of the group phase.

"No one from there (England's governing Rugby Football Union) has contacted me and they know they can't contact me because I am committed to Australia," Cheika, who led the Wallabies to last month's World Cup final at Twickenham, told reporters in London.

"That's where I want to be coaching." With RFU

wanted a coach of "proven international experience" to replace Lancaster, Cheika's name was mentioned following his success in guiding the Wallabies to the southern hemisphere Rugby Championship title and the World Cup final in barely a year since taking charge.

Ritchie also made it clear that money was no object. However Cheika-back in England for the temporary role of coaching the Barbarians in the multi-national invitational side's matches against Gloucester and Argentina later this week-was adamant nothing could tempt him away from the Wallabies.

"I'm an Australian coaching Australia-it's like the dream," he said. "There's nothing that would

New Zealand's Steve Hansen and fellow Kiwis Warren Gatland and Joe Schmidt, in charge of Wales and Ireland respectively, have also said they are not interested in the England job.

Graham Henry, New Zealand's World Cup-winning coach on home soil four years ago, is another to insist he has no interest in the England role, with compatriot Wayne Smith-who helped the All Blacks to World Cup glory this year-equally emphatic that the Red Rose post is not for them.

Meanwhile Australia's Eddie Jones, the man behind Japan's stunning World Cup win over South Africa last month, has insisted he is committed to his new role with the Western Stormers.

The only major overseas coach to declare his

interest in the England job is South Africa's Jake White, who hasn't been in charge of a Test side since guiding the Springboks to World Cup glory in 2007. Cheika, whose current contract with the Australia Rugby Union expires in 2017, made it clear he was determined to stay with the Wallabies for as long as possible.

"I never thought I'd be coaching Australia," said Cheika, who as a player never won a Test cap for the Wallabies. "I'm enjoying that and I want to do the best I can in that role for as long as I can.

"You want to make sure that you give everything when you have the opportunity," he added. "When the chance comes to coach Australia, you don't say no to that. I've enjoyed the first year of doing it, it's been fantastic." — AFP

FUTURE OF DOPING WAR IN SPOTLIGHT AT WADA MEETING

LOS ANGELES: The World Anti-Doping recognition that the body required Agency (WADA) is expected to rule against Russia's anti-doping body at a key meeting in Colorado tomorrow which will aim to map out future strategies for the global war on drugs. WADA's hierarchy meets to assess the findings of its independent panel, which uncovered a wide-ranging state-supported doping program in Russia that has plunged athletics into the biggest crisis in its history. The IAAF on Friday provisionally suspended Russian athletes from international competition, potentially putting their participation at next year's Rio de Janeiro Olympics in jeopardy.

WADA's executive committee will meet in Colorado Springs, outside Denver on Tuesday before a full meeting of the agency's foundation board on Wednesday, where officials are expected to rule that Russia's anti-doping body (RUSADA) has been non-compliant with its code.

The board will also consider a range of recommendations made by the independent panel to strengthen WADA. The global anti-doping body had already suspended Moscow's main drug-testing laboratory, whose director resigned last week. WADA President Craig Reedie said in a statement on Friday the current scandal represented the "tip of the iceberg" and that a new approach was needed to keep drugs cheats firmly on the defensive.

"To truly tackle the scourge of doping, the anti-doping community must further improve the approach that has been employed to date; and, above all, the resources that are attributed to it," he said.

'PUNCHING ABOVE WEIGHT'

Reedie said while WADA had "punched above its weight" in the first 16 years of its existence, there was broad greater resources to tackle doping effec-

WADA obtains its funding equally from the International Olympic Committee and state governments around the world.

However the level of annual fundingaround \$26.8 million in 2015 — has remained largely flat over the past decade, barely keeping pace with inflation and leaving WADA struggling to keep up.

WADA director general David Howman has repeatedly complained that funding has failed to reflect the vast amounts of cash pumped into all sports over the past decade, and recently contrasted the rise in salaries paid to top footballers over the same period.

"When I started at WADA, Wayne Rooney was being paid \$4 million a year by Manchester United," Howman told the BBC in an interview. "He's now being paid something like \$30 million. We were getting \$20m when he first started, we're now getting \$30m. Sport is saying to us 'Your money should be increased' but they are not doing it in the same proportion." As well as the funding issue, WADA officials this week will also discuss ways of strengthening its international investigations unit and improving the system set up to encourage whistleblowers.

The independent panel last week recommended that greater protection needed to be offered to anonymous sources that may be willing to come forward. The panel also took aim at the "inherent conflicts of interest" that existed between WADA's Executive Committee and larger Foundation Board, which includes many government representatives. The panel recommended WADA consider setting up a separate disciplinary body with the power to make rulings on non-compliance. — AFP



LONDON: Switzerland's Roger Federer reacts after being present with two awards, the Fans' Favourite award, and the Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship award, following his victory over Tomas Berdych in their men's singles group stage match on day one of the ATP World Tour Finals tennis tournament in London. Federer won the match 6-4, 6-2. — AFP

DJOKOVIC AND FEDERER STROLL TO EASY WINS

demonstrated again when dismantling Iomas Berdych as the ATP World Tour Finals began on Sunday. World number one Djokovic extended his latest winning sequence to 23 with a 6-1 6-1 hammering of world number eight Nishikori who was powerless to stop the rampant Serb. Far from easing up with the finish of his best ever year a week away, Djokovic clearly wants to lay down a marker for next year's assault on the top silverware and showed Nishikori no mercy.

"No question, it felt like the best tennis I played this year," the 28-year-old, aiming for a fourth consecutive title at the O2 Arena, told reporters. "I was at my best and it was an incredible performance." Djokovic and Nishikori had stood heads bowed before their match to respect a minute's silence in a darkened arena for the victims of

LONDON: Novak Djokovic looked unstoppable Friday's Paris attacks. Following his immaculate Group today, if his level for most of a 6-4 6-2 achieved for the fourth time in five seasons.

Home fans were given some early excitement when Jamie Murray, older brother of Andy, marked his debut at the tournament when he and Australian partner John Peers beat Italian duo Fabio Fognini and Simone Bolelli in a thriller. But the atmosphere was subdued later as Djokovic snuffed out any chance of a shock when he thrashed a helpless Nishikori. "He played unbelievable tennis. I'm very ashamed with this score," second-time qualifier Nishikori, who will hope for a better showing in his next two round robin matches, said.

DAZZLING SHOW

Federer will provide Djokovic with a far sterner test when they meet in the "Stan Smith"

when trouncing Kei Nishikori but for sheer swag- performance he was presented with a trophy for defeat of Berdych was anything to go by. The ger Roger Federer remains unrivalled as he the year-end number one ranking he has 34-year-old, cheered on by a sizeable army of Swiss fans in various sorts of red and white attire, made a mess of his opening service game, falling 0-2 behind after serving two consecutive double-faults to gift Berdych a break. But he responded with a break to love and then from 3-4 down in the opening set he produced a dazzling show reel of his favourite tricks to win seven games in a row-throwing in a couple of his trademark half-volleyed returns for good measure. "Was one of the worst starts I've had in years," Federer told reporters. "No first serves, two double-faults, nothing coming from the baseline. So it was rough. "But thankfully I was able to pick it up." Play begins in the Ilie Nastase Group yesterday with Andy Murray up against David Ferrer and Rafael Nadal taking on French Open champion Stanislas Wawrinka. — Reuters

RUSSIAN STARS SLAM 'UNFAIR' SUSPENSION

including pole vault star Yelena Isinbayeva yesterday denounced as "completely unfair" the decision by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) decision to provisionally suspend Russia.

"Why do people like me have to suffer from the mistakes of irresponsible athletes?" three-time Olympic medallist Isinbayeva told reporters. A World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) independent commission last week published a damning report that alleged Russian athletics were plagued with state-sponsored doping and large-scale corruption, and recommended that track and field athletes be barred from international competition. The IAAF on Friday handed the Russian athletics federation a provisional suspension, sparking indignation among the country's brightest track and

Isinbayeva, 33, for whom the upcoming Rio Olympics would be her fifth and a finish of her career, wrote Saturday on Instagram she was "shocked" by the decision, after having implored world athletis' governing body for leniency. Russian sporting officials have announced a three-month plan to revamp athletics in time for track and field stars to participate in the Rio de Janeiro Games in August

MOSCOW: Russian track and field stars 2016. Former WADA head Dick Poundwho served as the head of the independent commission-said that Russia's participation in Rio would depend on its ability to promptly clean up its act. "Pound said it was a shame that I was a victim of the system," Isinbayeva said. "But I am not a victim of the system. I am outside it." Isinbayeva's coach, Yevgeny Trofimov, told Russian press on Saturday that the four-time Olympian could ponder competing as an independent athlete under the Olympic flag, a prospect the International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Thomas Bach dismissed as

"speculation." "There are discussions going on about this in sporting circles," Isinbayeva said of the prospect of Russian track and field athletes competing as independents in Rio. "But I don't know whether this is even possible." World champion hurdler Sergei Shubenkov-the 25-year-old son of prominent Soviet heptathlete Natalya Shubenkova-deplored he could relive his mother's exclusion of the 1984 Los Angeles Games, which the Soviet Union boycotted.

"What have I done?" asked Shubenkov, the two-time European champion who clocked a national record of 12.98 to take gold at the IAAF World Championships in Beijing in August. — AFP



MOSCOW: Russia's high jump athlete Anna Chicherova answers journalists' questions during a press conference in Moscow yesterday following Russia's provisional suspension from athletics by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF). — AFP

'UNIQUE' PATRIOTIC CHORE FOR TEAM PLAYER SHARAPOVA

PRAGUE: Maria Sharapova failed to lift the Fed Cup as Russia lost to defending champions the Czech Republic in Prague on Sunday, but she did her patriotic duty and said she enjoyed it. In only her fifth Fed Cup appearance, world number four Sharapova won both singles matches, beating 11th-ranked Karolina Pliskova in straight sets on Saturday and sixth-ranked Petra Kvitova in a three-set thriller on Sunday. "Personally it's an incredible achievement for me because I've never been in a Fed Cup final and I won two of my matches," Sharapova said. After winning five Grand Slam titles, Sharapova is still seeking two other global trophies-the Fed Cup and Olympic gold. Next year, she will be in contention for the Olympic title, after winning bronze in London 2012 — representing Russia despite having lived in Florida since age seven. "There's no better feeling than being out on the court having so many people fly here from Russia to support you," Sharapova beamed on Sunday as the Fed Cup final was under way.

"In an event like this you're just not playing for yourself, you're playing for your teammates, for your country. "It's a very unique feeling and it's so special." Yet questions over her team spirit continue to follow her. She has played only five Fed Cup ties since earning professional status in April 2001, two of which were this year.

A decade ago, she was involved in a rift with her teammate and now Russia captain Anastasia Myskina, who threatened to boycott the Fed Cup if Sharapova was selected for the Russian team, complaining about her father's behaviour in the stands.

Myskina, the 2004 French Open champion, also slammed Sharapova for being "more American than Russian," accusing her of speaking Russian "with a coarse accent."

END OF THE STORY

Former fellow Russian player Elena Dementieva once said that Sharapova "grew up

in America and trains there, so we don't have anything in common." This week, Myskina waved the spat aside, saying she was happy to have Sharapova on the team. "Definitely it's very important to have Maria on the team and I want to say thank you," Myskina said. But after the Fed Cup final, she declined to comment on Sharapova's presence on the team.

"We lost. That's the end of the story," she said. Adding fuel to the fire, Czech media said Sharapova had shunned the rest of the team and stayed in a different Prague hotel to the others. "Is that a serious question? Next question," Sharapova snarled at a local reporter when asked to comment.

On court, she was all smiles, and not only because she won twice. "The team supported me so well today," she said. "I really felt like I would look over to them and every time they are standing up and that's the meaning of this event." On Sunday, her previous problems appeared to be behind her with the star joining her teammates for a post-final dinner.

"Love my team," tweeted teammate Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova who posted a photo of all the squad, name-checking the rest of the Russian squad for good measure. "Girlzzzz," tweeted Sharapova in reply. — AFP



PRAGUE: Czech Republic's Fed Cup team players (I-r) Tereza Smitkova, Lucie Safarova, Petra Kvitova, Denisa Allertova, captain Petr Pala, Barbora Zahlavova Strycova, Karolina Pliskova and Lucie Hradecka pose with the trophy after the International Tennis Federation Fed Cup after the International Tennis Federation Fed Cup final match between Czech Republic vs Russia in Prague. — AFP



DR CONGO, MOROCCO ADVANCE IN WORLD CUP QUALIFICATION

CAPE TOWN: Morocco and the Democratic Republic of Congo both advanced towards another World Cup finals appearance on Sunday but without much conviction as they booked places in the final phase of African qualification for the 2018 tournament in Russia.

Morocco lost 1-0 away to Equatorial Guinea in Bata but qualified 2-1 on aggregate after winning the first leg on in a disappointing result on their return to

Thursday. This keeps them on course for a fifth World Cup finals appearance but their first since France in 1998. They are joined in the final group phase by Guinea, Uganda, Zambia and the Congolese, who, as Zaire, played at the 1974 finals in West Germany.

DR Congo qualified despite being held 2-2 at home by tiny neighbours Burundi Kinshasa's newly-refurbished Martyrs Stadium. Two late goals gave the Congolese a 3-2 away win in Thursday's first leg and they were expecting an easy return match, scoring first through French-born Jordan Nkololo. But striker Dieumerci Mbokani, back to help defend a corner, skewed the ball into his own net for an equaliser that suddenly offered Burundi some hope. Yannick Bolaise's

77th minute penalty put the Congolese back ahead but Burundi ensured an anxious finish when they equalised near the end with a spot kick of their own, converted by Fiston Abdul Razak.

Seventeen-year-old Farouk Miya netted two of Uganda's three first-half goals in a 3-0 win in Kampala, ensuring a 4-0 aggregate triumph, while Winston Kalengo's 81st minute goal sealed

Zambia's 2-0 win over Sudan in Ndola to advance 3-0 over the two legs.

Guinea, forced to host their tie against Namibia in Morocco because of the Ebola ban, were 2-0 victors in Casablanca to also advance in convincing fashion. Gabon qualified on Saturday with the remaining 14 places to be decided on Tuesday at the conclusion of the second round of knockout matches. — Reuters

CELTICS GET SMART TO SILENCE THUNDER IN OKLAHOMA CITY

a career-high 26 points to lead the Boston Celtics to a 100-85 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder. Smart, who also had to guard Oklahoma's Russell Westbrook, was still able to shoot 9-of-14 from the field and haul in eight rebounds. Guard Isaiah Thomas scored 20 points and handed out eight assists. Westbrook had a game-high 27 points.

Knicks 95, Pelicans 87

The New York Knicks, aided by strong play from their bench, won for just the second time at home this season, with a 95-87 victory over the New Orleans Pelicans. The Knicks are now 2-4 at Madison Square Garden. New York were led by forward Carmelo Anthony's 29 points and 13 rebounds, but it was their reserves who made the difference. Backup point guard Langston Galloway scored 15 points and power forward Kevin Seraphin added 12 points. Forward Anthony Davis showed no ill effects from a hip contusion that kept him out for two games as he scored 36 points, pulled in 11 rebounds and blocked four shots.

Grizzlies 114, Timberwolves 106

Forward Jeff Green led the Memphis Grizzlies with 21 points in a 114-106 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves. Mike Conley added 20 for Memphis, who had six players in double figures. Guard Zach LaVine scored 25 points while Andrew Wiggins finished with 21 but the Timberwolves could not match the Memphis shooters, falling to 0-5 at home with their fourth consecutive loss.

Hornets 106, Trail Blazers 94

Guard Nicolas Batum and center Al Jefferson combined for 62 points as the Charlotte Hornets built a big lead and held on for a 106-94 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Charlotte used a dominating performance from Jefferson (29 points, five

OKLAHOMA CITY: Marcus Smart scored rebounds) and Batum (33 points) to seize a lead in the second quarter they would not relinquish. The Hornets had built a 71-45 advantage by halftime and led by as many as 29 points, before Portland used a 16-0 run in the fourth quarter to close the gap.

Jazz 97, Hawks 96

Forward Derrick Favors scored 23 points and grabbed nine rebounds to lead the Utah Jazz to a 97-96 win over the Atlanta Hawks. Favors, who grew up in Atlanta and played one season at Georgia Tech before turning professional, gave the Jazz a five-point lead at 93-88, a margin from which the Hawks could not recover. He scored 17 points in the second half.

Kings 107, Raptors 101

DeMarcus Cousins scored a gamehigh 36 points, and guard Ben McLemore's acrobatic layup with under a minute left lifted the Sacramento Kings to a 107-101 victory over the Toronto Raptors. Cousins produced his third consecutive game of at least 30 points, while Sacramento held Toronto to 12 points over the final 10:23 to win for the third successive game. Kings forward Rudy Gay added 27 points and forward Omri Casspi contributed 14.

Lakers 97, Pistons 85

Forward Kobe Bryant compiled 17 points, nine assists and eight rebounds, and the Los Angeles Lakers snapped a four-game skid with a 97-85 victory over the Detroit Pistons at Staples Center. Guard Jordan Clarkson also had 17 points for Los Angeles (2-8). Bryant made just 6-of-19 shots from the floor but was effective in involving his team mates. Guard Nick Young came off the bench to score 13 points for the Lakers, whose only other victory was over the Brooklyn Nets. Center Roy Hibbert chipped in 12 points and seven rebounds. — Reuters

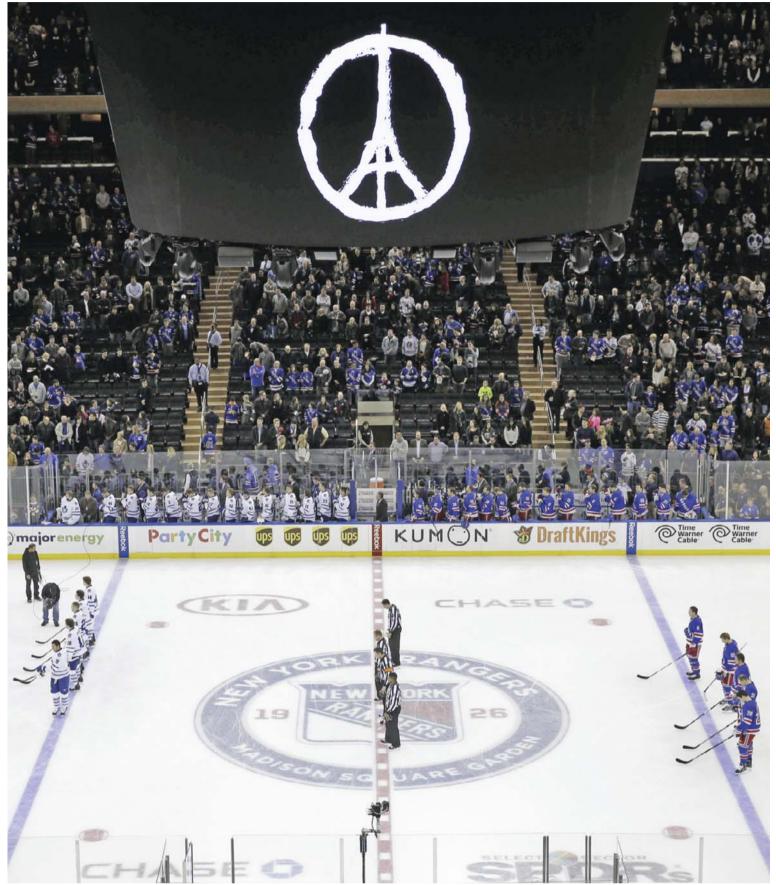
NBA Results/Standings

NY Knicks 95, New Orleans 87; Memphis 114, Minnesota 106; Charlotte 106, 94; Utah 97, Atlanta 96; Boston 100, Oklahoma City 85; Sacramento 107, Toronto 101; LA Lakers

		n Confe		==:	Western Conference Northwest Division						
	W	L	PCT	GB	Oklahoma C	ity	6	4	.600 -		
Toronto	7	4	.636	-	Utah	5	5	.500	1		
Boston	5	4	.556	1	Denver	5	5	.500	1		
NY Knicks	5	6	.455	2	Minnesota	4	6	.400	2		
Brooklyn	1	9	.100	5.5	Portland	4	7	.364	2.5		
Philadelphia	0	10	0	6.5		Paci	fic Divi	sion			
	Cent	ral Divis	ion		Golden State		0	1.000	_		
Cleveland	8	2	.800	-	LA Clippers	6	4	.600	4.5		
Chicago	6	3	.667	1.5	Phoenix	5	4	.556	5		
Indiana	6	4	.600	2		4	7		7		
Detroit	5	5	.500	3	Sacramento		-	.364	-		
Milwaukee	5	5	.500	3	LA Lakers	2	8	.200	8.5		
							west Di	vision			
Atlanta	8	4	.667	_	San Antonio	7	2	.778	-		
Miami	6	3	.667	0.5	Dallas	6	4	.600	1.5		
Charlotte	5	5	.500	2	Memphis	5	6	.455	3		
Washington	4	4	.500	2	Houston	4	6	.400	3.5		
Orlando	5	6	.455	2.5	New Orleans	1	9	.100	6.5		



OKLAHOMA CITY: Boston Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas (front) passes in front of Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook in the second quarter of an NBA basketball game ON Sunday. Boston won 100-85. — AP



NEW YORK: A moment of silence is observed for the victims of the French terrorist attacks, before an NHL hockey game between the New York Rangers and the Toronto Maple Leafs, Sunday, in New York. — AP

STRUGGLING BLACKHAWKS DOUSE CALGARY FLAMES

CHICAGO: Patrick Kane continued his torrid point-scoring streak with a goal and an assist as the Chicago Blackhawks used a secondperiod offensive barrage to beat the Calgary Flames. Chicago goaltender Scott Darling made 25 saves.

Calgary grabbed a 1-0 lead less than four minutes into the second period when right winger David Jones pushed a shot under Darling, who made the start after Corey Crawford made 29 saves in the Blackhawks' 4-2 win over St. Louis on Saturday. The Blackhawks responded by scoring three times in a span of just under two minutes to take a 3-1 lead, with Kane scoring a goal for the seventh successive game and extending his points streak to 13 games.

Right winger Marian Hossa followed up about a minute later before Artemi Panarin finished off the scoring flurry with a goal at the 8:32 mark of the period. Blackhawks center Jonathan Toews capped the scoring with an empty-net goal with 38 seconds remaining.

Rangers 4, Maple Leafs 3

Right winger Mats Zuccarello capped a three-point performance with a goal with less than a minute left in regulation as the New York Rangers beat the Toronto Maple Leafs. Defenseman Ryan McDonagh and centers

for New York, who have won nine successive games. Goaltender Antti Raanta stopped 23 winning streak end. Goaltender Jonathan of 26 shots. Center Peter Holland, left winger

scored for Toronto, who had a three game Bernier made 26 saves. — Reuters

NHL Results/Standings

NY Rangers 4, Toronto 3; Chicago 4, Calgary 1.

Western Conference Central Division												
	W	ntrai I	OTL	ion GF	GA	PTS						
Dallas	14	4	0	65	47	28						
Minnesota	10	3	3	48	43	23						
Nashville	10	3	3	50	38	23						
St. Louis	11	5	1	47	41	23						
Chicago	10	7	1	49	44	21						
Winnipeg	8	8	2	48	59	18						
Colorado	7	9	1	49	45	15						
	Pa	cific	Divisi	on								
Los Angeles	11	6	0	43	36	22						
Arizona	9	7	1	48	49	19						
Vancouver	7	6	5	52	46	19						
San Jose	9	8	0	45	43	18						
Anaheim	5	8	4	29	45	14						
Calgary	6	12	1	45	72	13						
Edmonton	6	12	0	47	58	12						
			:onfer									
		antic	: Divis									
Montreal	13	3	2	63	39	28						

Ottawa	8	5	4	51	53	20							
Tampa Bay	8	8	3	46	48	19							
Boston	8	7	1	52	49	17							
Detroit	8	8	1	37	42	17							
Buffalo	8	8	1	40	46	17							
Florida	7	7	3	48	45	17							
Toronto	5	9	4	41	54	14							
Metropolitan Division													
NY Rangers	14	2	2	57	32	30							
Washington	11	4	1	50	37	23							
New Jersey	10	6	1	44	40	21							
NY Islanders	9	6	3	49	42	21							
Pittsburgh	10	7	0	36	37	20							
Philadelphia	6	8	3	33	50	15							
Carolina	6	9	2	34	49	14							
Columbus	6	12	0	45	62	12							

Note: Overtime losses (OTL) are worth one point in the standings and are not included in the loss column (L)

KENYA LEAVE FOR CAPE VERDE AFTER PAY DISPUTE DEAL

NAIROBI: Kenya finally left Nairobi yesterday for their 2018 World Cup qualifier in Cape Verde after settling a pay dispute with the national football federation.

The Harambee Stars were scheduled to leave on Saturday and will now arrive only 24 hours before Tuesday's second round return leg tie. The players had boycotted training following the Football Kenya Federation's (FKF) failure to pay their outstanding allowances and refund expenses for the overseas-based

A special flight carrying the team left the Kenyan capital Monday afternoon for the eight-hour trip to the capital of Cape Verde, Praia. "It is good that we shall arrive late in Cape Verde. The players will not affected by the weather changes before the match," team manager Willis Waliaula told AFP.

Kenya coach Bobby Williamson has made

two changes to the team which beat Cape Verde 1-0 in the first leg in the Kenyan capital last Friday.

He has brought in Zambia-based striker David Keli and defender Brian Mandela of the South African premier league side Maritzburg United to replace Allan Wanga, who is unavailable and suspended Teddy Okumu. Kenya need a draw in Praia to reach the World Cup group qualifying phase. — AFP



PACIFIC ISLANDERS GUAM BARE TEETH IN RUSSIA QUEST

TOKYO: More famous for its sun-kissed beaches Micronesia's ancient Chamorro society-have conand coral reefs than its football, the tiny Pacific island of Guam is making waves in Asian qualifying for the 2018 World Cup. Coached by Englishman Gary White, Guam have put the rugby-score losses of the past behind them with some giant-killing performances and face Iran on Tuesday determined to preserve a remarkable unbeaten home record.

"Mathematically we're still in it," White told AFP by telephone on Monday, defiant despite last week's disappointing 1-0 defeat by India.

"We need to get a minimum of four points from the next two games to have a sniff but in football anything is possible. This is not an easy place for anybody to come. We've won two and drawn one at home so we want to try to keep it as a fortress." He added: "We've already achieved one of our team goals by reaching the final round of 2019 Asian Cup qualifiers, which is an amazing achievement."

Guam's population is just 170,000 but White's "Matao"-a name derived from the noble classes of sistently punched above their weight, with victories against Turkmenistan and India, a country of 1.2 billion. By far the smallest of Asia's 47 national and territorial teams, the state of football in the tiny United States territory was so precarious barely a generation ago that the islanders did not even bother entering the World Cup qualifiers. And when they did, they would often lose in an avalanche of goals.

Before their 1-0 victory over Turkmenistan at home in June, the last time Guam played a World Cup qualifier was in 2000 against Tajikistan when were hammered 16-0. Three days earlier, Iran smashed 19 goals past them.

"We're not going into games to sit back and hope we don't get beat by 10," said White, who took charge of Guam in 2012. "That's not how the game's supposed to be played."

Top of Group D after their first two games, a 6-0 defeat in Iran brought Guam down to earth with a bump before they held Oman to a goalless draw. Narrow defeats in Turkmenistan and India

saw White's side slip to fourth on seven points Cunliffe and winger Ryan Guy. from six games.

ANCIENT CULTURE

"The only way to approach it is to go for it," said the 41-year-old, looking ahead to Tuesday's rematch with Iran. "I'd prefer that if we are going to go down, we go down fighting-rather than sitting back and being cowardly."

White, who formerly played for English nonleague club Bognor Regis, began coaching in 1998 when he was living on a council estate in Luton, north of London, and faxed every national association in the world looking for work.

After spells with the British Virgin Islands and Bahamas, White has worked a minor miracle on the palm-fringed honeymoon island of Guam, located 1,600 miles (2,600 kilometres) south of

"A lot of coaches come into these environments and look at it as an obstacle. I look at it as a benefit," said White, whose methods have helped tease some sparkling form from captain Jason

"You have to find something that pulls at the heart strings of a country and its culture and history, you can utilise that because it's bigger than anybody," he added.

"We use the Chamorro background, the deep history of Chamorro people, who have been here for thousands of years and survived numerous takeovers from other countries, whether it's the Spanish or the Americans."

At 155th in the FIFA world rankings, Guam will look to psyche out Iran, Asia's top-ranked team at 43rd, before a ball has been kicked when they perform the traditional "inifresi" war cry, the island's version of the New Zealand haka.

Win or lose, White's team have already left their mark on the World Cup qualifying competition. "What's funny is the fact that a country of 170,000 people went to a massive country like India with a population of 1.2 billion and were completely devastated because we lost 1-0," said White. "That really shows exactly how far we've come." — AFP

NO PAY, LESS POWER: BAHRAINI SHEIKH'S FIFA PRESIDENCY PITCH

MANAMA: A Bahraini sheikh is going for simplicity and fan-appeal with headline pledges to transform a discredited FIFA: Relinquish much of the power Sepp Blatter built up over 17 years at FIFA and take no salary. Sheikh Salman bin Ibrahim Al-Khalifa was a late, seemingly reluctant candidate to lead FIFA's recovery from a corruption crisis that is likely to see fresh revelations of wrongdoing emerging long after election day in February. "I don't want too much power with the president - the power has to be shared," Sheikh Salman said in an interview with AP. "I believe in doing things in a different way, not being centralized where the president has to do every detail in running the business."

That means taking no money for being the face of FIFA. "I don't want to be an executive president," the sheikh said. "And if I'm not an executive president I don't see how I do deserve to be paid." Rather than a bitter election fight until Feb 26, the sheikh hopes there is a smooth succession, with the five candidates currently vying to run football whittled down before election day. "I'd like to see most of the continents agreeing on a single candidate but we have to work for this in the next few weeks," the sheikh said during an hourlong interview in the Bahraini capital

Had it not been for Michel Platini injudiciously claiming 2 million Swiss francs (\$2 million) from FIFA four years ago, this Manchester United-supporting member of Bahrain's royal family would not now be a front-runner to become the first Arab leader of FIFA. Having been among Platini's early campaign champions, Sheikh Salman entered the race once it became clear the UEFA president's suspension over that 2011 payment made the election outcome far more uncertain. The Asian Football Confederation president would not have wanted Prince Ali bin Al-Hussein of Jordan to have a clear path to the presidency.

Platini is out of contention while awaiting the full verdict from FIFA's ethics judge which could result in a long ban for the former France captain. "I think damage has been done," Sheikh Salman said. "But he has the right as well to defend himself. We cannot judge." The sheikh has already faced the judgment of many. With little name recognition profile among football fans outside the Asian region he has led for barely two years, his international spotlight usually comes when challenged on human rights abuse allegations he denounced as lies. Despite complaints against his candidacy from rights groups, the sheikh was last week approved as a candidate by FIFA's election watchdog alongside four other men: Prince Ali, UEFA General Secretary Gianni Infantino, former FIFA official Jerome Champagne and apartheid-era former Robben Island prisoner Tokyo Sexwale.

Agreement

How many names are on the ballot paper in Zurich in February could depend on whether Platini defies expectations and is cleared before election day. "If he comes back and he still wants to run, I think we would have to sit together ... and assess the situation," Sheikh Salman said. "I am sure there will be an agreement. At the end of the day we all need to support each other ... (and) come with a compromise to hopefully have a good solution for everybody."

Whether that agreement could include the 49-year-old sheikh quitting the campaign is unclear. "Anything is a possibility if it's for the good of the cause," he said. "But I didn't go in and commit myself to give a full presumption I might withdraw. I'm in to go for the election." The sheikh had expected to gain Europe's support until UEFA surprisingly endorsed Infantino on candidate deadline-day last month. Infantino, who will stand aside for Platini if his boss his cleared before election day, has been touted for a potential role running the FIFA administration under a Sheikh Salman presidency. "I'd like to feel like we are working together, not against each other working for one cause to make that change," the sheikh said. "We have to sit and talk and come to a solution of what's best."

A Salman presidency would look very different from Blatter's reign, potentially blander in terms of public statements. Expect fewer rash pronouncements on changes to the game and awkward asides in speeches. The sheikh is yet to produce his manifesto, but said he would consult the confederations before emulating Infantino and pledging to expand the World Cup by eight teams to 40. Discussing whether the use of technology should be expanded beyond ruling on disputed goals, the sheikh said: "The simple it is the better it is."—AP



HEMPSTEAD: Spanish soccer star Raul (R) holding trophy celebrates with his teammates after the NASL Championship Final match between the NY Cosmos and the Ottawa Fury Saturday in Hempstead, NY. Raul has planned to retire after the match. — AFP

HICS COMMITTEE BANS EXECUTIVES FROM NEPAL, LAOS

ZURICH: World soccer body FIFA announced yesterday it had banned two officials from Nepal and Laos for taking cash during FIFA elections, extending moves to root out corruption that has shaken the international game. Ganesh Thapa, president of the All-Nepal Football Association (ANFA), was banned for 10 years and fined 20,000 Swiss francs (\$19,870), while Viphet Sihachakr, president of the Laotian Football Federation, received a two-year ban and 40,000 franc fine.

FIFA was thrown into turmoil in May by US indictments of 14 football officials, including two FIFA vice-presidents and sports marketing executives, for alleged corruption. President Sepp Blatter has been suspended ahead of February elections for a new leader who will face the task of cleaning up the game. FIFA's ethics committee said Thapa, during 2009 and 2011 elections for the FIFA Executive Committee at the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) congress, "committed various acts of misconduct ...including the solicitation and acceptance of cash payments from another football official, for both personal and family gain".

Sihachakr solicited and accepted a payment from another football official during 2011 elections, it said. Thapa denied wrongdoing in a statement. "I am very disappointed and I do not believe that justice has been served. I have fully cooperated with FIFA during their investigations since the last four years," he said, adding he was seeking the reasons for FIFA's step and would file appeals.

COURT BATTLE

In Nepal, ANFA Chief Executive Indra Man Tuladhar said: "We must accept the decision of FIFA. An ANFA executive meeting will meet within the next 14 days and take a decision about its

KATHMANDU: In this March 8, 2012 file photo FIFA President Joseph S. Blatter, left, and All Nepal Football Association President Ganesh Thapa, right, applaud during the AFC Challenge Cup football tournament opening ceremony in Kathmandu, Nepal. FIFA's ethics committee yesterday announced that Thapa has been banned for ten years from all football activities at both national and international level. — AP

future course."

Ganesh Thapa, a member of parliament from the pro-monarchy Rashtriya Prajatantra Party (Nepal), is brother of Kamal Thapa, a new deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs. Karma Tsering Sherpa, a vice president of ANFA who has been fighting a court battle against Thapa over the way ANFA is run, saw the ban as an opportunity for change. "Now is the time for us to take Nepali football in a new direction. We begin with the meeting of the executive committee but there is a lot of work ahead," he said. In October Nepali police arrested five former and current national team players, including the captain, on match-fixing charges.

They remain on bail and a trial date has not been set. Suspended FIFA President Blatter is facing criminal investigation in Switzerland over a 2 million Swiss franc payment from FIFA to UEFA head Michel Platini. Both men have been provisionally suspended and have denied wrongdoing. — Reuters

Cup qualifying match amid "unprecedented" security as fears of militant attacks escalate in the Muslim-majority country. "The team has landed and was taken to a hotel with heavy security," Abu Nayeem

SOCCEROOS LAND IN DHAKA

AMID HEAVY SECURITY

Sohag, general secretary of the Bangladesh Football Federation, told AFP. The match, scheduled for Tuesday, was thrown into doubt after Australia's national cricket team cancelled their tour of Bangladesh over secu-

rity concerns.

DHAKA: Australia's national football team

arrived in Dhaka yesterday to play a World

Australian football officials also flagged their concerns to world football governing body FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation. Two Football Federation Australia security officials, in Dhaka since November 9, and a FIFA security official met Bangladesh's home affairs minister and law enforcement agencies before giving the match the go-ahead.

The chief of the police station at Dhaka airport Kamal Uddin told AFP that more than 100 armed policemen and officers were deployed at the airport to ensure security for the visitors and "four layers of protection" were provided when the team departed the airport for their hotel.

"The Australian team got a level of security

that is specially reserved for a visiting head of state or the Bangladesh Prime Minister," Uddin said. "They are pleased with the security arrangements." Dhaka's deputy police chief on Sunday announced "unprecedented" security measures for the Socceroos match, saying markets would be sealed off and sniffer dogs and bomb disposal units deployed at Bangabandhu National Stadium where the match will be held.

The match is crucial for Australia who are second in their group-one point behind leaders Jordan-and cannot afford to forfeit three points by failing to fulfil a fixture.

Australia thrashed Bangladesh 5-0 in September's home qualifier in Perth. Bangladesh are at the bottom of their group with just one point from six matches.

Australia's cricketers had been due to play a two-Test series in Bangladesh in October but the tour was scrapped after a security alert was issued by officials. The alert was followed by the killings of two foreigners and deadly blasts at a Shiite shrine-attacks claimed by the Islamic State group (IS).

Although local officials have steadfastly rejected the presence of foreign jihadist groups including IS, the US State Department has issued a travel alert, warning that foreigners could be targeted in attacks. — AFP

FRIENDLY WILL BE 'SYMBOL OF FREEDOM': GERMANY'S LOEW

BERLIN: Joachim Loew says Germany's friendly against the Netherlands today will be "a symbol of freedom", with the result of little consequence in the wake of the Paris terror attacks. The German Football Association (DFB) had been considering cancelling the friendly in Hanover, but took the decision over the weekend to go ahead with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and her cabinet set to attend the match. The shaken German team spent Friday night in the Stade de France stadium after playing a friendly against the French the same night when 129 people died and 350 were injured in a series of violent attacks across Paris. Loew says security will be top priority in Hanover, but the political importance of the match, as a

statement against terrorism, outweighs the fixture's sporting value. "It's a clear message and symbol of freedom and a demonstration of compassion, as well as sorrow, for our French friends-not only in France, but throughout the world," said Loew.

Loew has stood six players down for the game. Germany captain Bastian Schweinsteiger, Lukas Podolski and Manuel Neuer are rested, while Jerome Boateng and Jonas Hector are injured and Leroy Sane will play for Germany Under-21.

Schweinsteiger wrote that he is "speechless" on Twitter and Facebook on Sunday and called for unity in the wake of the Paris attacks. "No matter where you come from and what religion you follow-we are united,"

he wrote. Team manager Oliver Bierhoff says the DFB are considering ways to show solidarity with France, but could not confirm whether the French national anthem, 'Les Marseillaise', will be sung in the Hanover stadium. "We have had a few ideas, but we want to talk to the Dutch about them first," added Bierhoff. Against the background of Friday's events in Paris, Loew said "the much-touted sporting rivalry between Germany and Holland fades into the background".

'WE WERE AFRAID'

The head coach looked drawn during yesterday's press conference and brushed off questions of a sporting nature, but spoke at length about why the Germans want the friendly to go ahead.

"We want to play the game and behave very professionally, but I believe that the result will not be an important factor," said Germany's World Cup-winning coach.

"During the terrible, shocking night, which we experienced in the dressing room (in Paris), came the question: 'can the game on Tuesday take place?' and we talked about it to the players "I had the feeling when we arrived back on Saturday that the game couldn't, and shouldn't, take place.

"We had to get over the shock and we were afraid. "But we talked about it again on the Sunday and it was clear that the game had to take place. It's a clear statement about freedom and solidarity. "Clearly, we will be thinking of the victims and their families." With Merkel set to attend, the DFB has said security will be a high priority and Loew said there was no fear in the team of a repeat of what they experienced in Paris.

"I believe everything will be done to make the game as safe as possible," said Loew. "I have already spoken to our psychologist. We have to be sure that when we stand on the pitch, we are all fully concentrated, but sport will take a bit of a back seat.

"This game won't be the yardstick it would normally be for me." Loew was very clear when asked if the game would be a celebration of life after the horror scenes in Paris: "A party atmosphere wouldn't be appropriate" he said tersely. — AFP

Kuwait Times

Djokovic and Federer stroll to easy wins



FIFA ethics committee bans executives from Nepal, Laos



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AUSTRALIA STRIKE BACK AFTER TAYLOR'S EPIC 290

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BUDAPEST: Orjan Nyland, left, of Norway and Gergo Lovrencsics of Hungary clash during the Hungary vs Norway soccer European Championship qualification playoff second leg match in Groupama Arena in Budapest, Hungary, Sunday.— AP

HUNGARY QUALIFY FOR EURO 2016

BUDAPEST: Hungary's 30-year wait to play on the major championship stage will end in France next year after their 2-1 victory over Norway ensured that one of football's most storied nations qualified for the Euro

The triumph, which sealed their 3-1 victory on aggregate in front of an ecstatic crowd in the Groupama Arena, guaranteed Hungary's first appearance in any championship finals since the 1986 World Cup in

"I have to congratulate my team, the association president Sandor Csanyi, and also Pal Dardai, who I took

over from and he left this team for me," said Hungary's German coach Bernd Storck who took charge in July.

"The players' approach was fantastic during those two games, they fought well and deserved to qualify to France." The Hungarians built on their first-leg win in Oslo when Tamas Priskin curled in a delightful 14th-minute opener and Markus Henriksen's own goal on 83 minutes made the tie safe. Henriksen atoned with a late goal but it was scant consolation for the Norwegians as the home side celebrated qualifying for the European Championship finals for the first time since 1972.

The toast of Budapest was Hungary's 39-year-old

Gabor Kiraly, who made a series of superb saves over the two legs. Ferencvaros's home ground erupted almost like never before when Priskin curled in a fabulous strike from 16 metres after a quick counter-attack to put Hungary ahead. Kiraly had to make a fine save from Haitam Aleesami's low shot in the 27th minute after a flowing passing move from the visitors and Norway came even closer when Even Hovland's header from a corner hit the post in the 45th minute.

Balazs Dzsudzsak's deflected shot struck the crossbar in the 58th minute after a rare counter-attack by the hosts, who dropped deeper to defend their overall two-

goal advantage. Kiraly made another excellent save in the 76th minute when he parried Marcus Pedersen's close-range shot before the tie was effectively sealed seven minutes from time as Dzsudzsak's corner was bundled under pressure into his own net by Henriksen. The AZ Alkmaar man then pulled one back for Norway in the 87th minute but it was too little, too late. "Congratulations to Hungary, they were better than us over the two legs," said Norway coach Per-Mathias Hogmo. "I am deeply disappointed with our performance, we could not score in Oslo, that was a big setback. All in all, we came up short." — Reuters

ARGENTINA HOPE TO KICK-START CAMPAIGN IN COLOMBIA HEAT

BARRANQUILLA: Troubled Argentina, without talisman Lionel Messi, will look for a victory against Colombia today like the one four years ago that launched them on the road to the 2014 World Cup final. Argentina return to the hot and humid Caribbean port city of Barranquilla desperate for a win after their worst start to a World Cup qualifying campaign with two points from three games. They stand second-bottom of the 10-team South American group, seven points behind leaders Ecuador who have nine. Copa America holders Chile are two points off the pace in second ahead of their highly-charged visit to Uruguay, who are a further point back in third.

who are a further point back in third. In November 2011, former coach Alejandro Sabella's side arrived at the Metropolitano stadium with four points from three matches fresh from a humiliating 1-0 defeat in Venezuela. Down 1-0 at halftime, and with defender Nicolas Burdisso sent off, Sabella threw caution to the wind, took off a midfielder and sent on Sergio Aguero to partner Messi and Gonzalo Higuain up front. The trio inspired a 2-1 victory. "This team was born in Barranquilla," midfield general Javier Mascherano, who again stands in for Messi as captain, said before they met Germany in the final in Rio de Janeiro. "Now, again, we're obliged to win in Barranquilla," he said on Friday after Argentina's 1-1 draw at home to Brazil gave Gerardo Martino's side their second point. The difference this time is that neither Messi nor Aguero, the scorers in Barranquilla in 2011, are there to help Higuain and Colombia are a better side, having enjoyed their own renaissance after that match.

Colombia sacked coach Leonel Alvarez and replaced him with Jose Pekerman, Argentina's 2006 World Cup coach, and qualified for their first finals in 16 years before reaching the last eight in Brazil.

DANGERMAN JAMES

Radamel Falcao was Colombia's danger man then, before a knee ligament injury two years later put him out of the World Cup. Now their main threat comes from forward James Rodriguez, who equalised in the 1-1 draw away to Chile on Thursday. "Everyone wants to play against Argentina, it's match that motivates," he said. "Messi isn't here and neither is Aguero, but they have a very good squad. The standard of our opponents doesn't change, we have to go out to win." Argentina also have to contend with the heat, which can top 30 degrees Celsius and which Colombia try to benefit from by staging the match in mid-afternoon (1500 GMT). Unbeaten Chile face Uruguay in Montevideo for the first time since June's Copa America quarter-final in Santiago when Edinson Cavani was sent off for striking at Gonzalo Jara after the Chile defender stuck his finger up the forward's backside. Uruguay captain Diego Godin, playing down any suggestion of targeting Jara, said: "We haven't talked about the issue or any specific Chile player... All we have talked about as a group and with the master (coach Oscar Tabarez) is how to beat Chile." Uruguay welcomed striker Cavani back from suspension for their visit to Ecuador on Thursday and although he scored they lost 2-1 as the Ecuadoreans continued to surprise everyone with their perfect, best-ever start to the qualifiers. Ecuador visit bottom team Venezuela, fourth-placed Brazil are at home to Peru and Paraguay host Bolivia in the rest of Tuesday's qualifying programme. — Reuters



SANTIAGO: Colombia's James Rodriguez misses the ball and kicks Chile's Matias Fernandez between his legs during a 2018 World Cup qualifying soccer match in Santiago, Chile. Rodriguez went on to score in the 67th minute to lift Colombia to a 1-1 draw. — AP

Kuwait Times BUSINESS

Crude Prices fail to Sustain Upswing

Kuwait inflation eases to 3.1% in September

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G20 approves crackdown on tax avoidance

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Japan dips into recession in stumble for 'Abenomics'

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NEW YORK: The logo for the W Hotel, owned by Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, is seen in New York's Times Square. Marriott International (inset) announced yesterday, it is buying rival hotel chain Starwood for \$12.2 billion in a deal that will secure its position as the world's largest hotelier. —AP

MARRIOTT BECOMES WORLD'S LARGEST HOTELIER

Marriott International buys rival Starwood for \$12.2bn

Starwood for \$12.2 billion in a deal that will catapult it to become the world's largest hotelier by a wide margin. The stock-and-cash deal, if completed, will add 50 percent more rooms to Marriott's portfolio and give it more unique, designfocused hotels that appeal to younger travelers.

The new company would have 5,500 properties with more than 1.1 million rooms around the world, uniting Starwood's brands, which include Sheraton, Westin, W and St. Regis, with Marriott's two dozen brands including Marriott's Courtyard, Ritz-Carlton and Fairfield Inn.

The deal is supposed to close in the middle of 2016. The next-largest hotel company is Hilton Worldwide with 4,500 properties and about 735,000 rooms.

"To be successful in today's marketplace, a wide distribution of brands and hotels across price points is critical," Starwood CEO Adam Aron said on a call with Wall Street analysts. "It appeals to travelers wherever they may go, leverages marketing and technology spend and strengthens frequent traveler loyalty. Today, size matters." Marriott and Starwood - like other hotel chains - own very few individual hotels. Instead they manage or franchise their brands to hundreds of individual owners, often real estate development companies. Those individual hotel owners are responsible for setting nightly room rates. It isn't

NEW YORK: Marriott International is buying rival hotel chain uncommon for a developer to own a Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt and Sheraton in the same city.

More leverage

The merger will give Marriott 30 brands and more leverage with corporate travel departments who often look for one giant chain to house all of their employees. Frequent business travelers will also be closely watching the deal. Starwood has a beloved frequent guest program with partnerships with American Express, Delta Air Lines and Uber. Marriott has a much larger program with partnerships with Chase and United

Back in April, Starwood announced its board was exploring strategic options for the hotel company. The Stamford, Connecticut, company has struggled to grow as fast as its rivals, particularly in "limited service hotels," smaller properties which don't have restaurants or banquet halls. They are often located on the side of the highway, near airports or in suburban office parks. There was speculation in the markets about a potential deal with Holiday Inn owner Intercontinental Hotels Group and more recently Hyatt Hotels Corp. But in the end, it was Marriott who prevailed.

Starwood's strong international presence will aid Marriott. In the past few years, Starwood has made a strong push to grow

in China, India, the United Arab Emirates as well as more-established European destinations. Marriott, in turn, has a well-established network of hotels including deep coverage of small towns and cities with its Fairfield Inn, Courtyard and Residence

Inn brands. The deal comes at a time of record hotel occupancy and



Arne Sorenson, President and CEO of Marriott International Inc.

rates. During the first nine months of this year, guests filled 67.3 percent of the available rooms in the US, according to research firm STR. That's the highest level since STR started collecting data in 1987. Guests paid an average of \$120.35 a night so far this year. The prior record, adjusted for inflation, was \$119.70 in 2008. Marriott, based in Bethesda, Maryland, has been aggressively growing. In April, it acquired Canadian chain Delta Hotels and Resorts, helping it become the largest hotel company in

The boards of both companies approved the acquisition unanimously, which now must be approved by investors in both hotel chains. Arne Sorenson will be president and CEO of the combined company and the headquarters will be in Bethesda. Marriott's board of directors following the closing will increase from 11 to 14 members, with the expected addition of three members Starwood's board.

Marriott said it expects to deliver at least \$200 million in annual savings in the second full year after closing. Last month, Starwood announced the sale of its timeshare unit to Interval Leisure Group, with its shareholders retaining a 55-percent stake in the company. That deal is expected to close before the Marriott acquisition, with Starwood shareholders receiving additional compensation for their stake in the timeshare busi-

GLOBAL MARKETS RESILIENT IN FACE OF PARIS ATTACKS

LONDON: In their first response to the attacks in Paris, which omy of France and Europe by discouraging people from killed 129 people, markets proved to be more resilient yesterday than many analysts had anticipated. Though Friday's atrocities on the streets of Paris could hurt consumer sentiment across Europe in the short-term and raise concerns over longer-term geopolitical risks, investors are so far managing to hold their nerve. "In a sign of resilience, there is no sign of the panicked trading that could have been justifiably expected," said Connor Campbell, financial analyst at Spreadex.

After opening modestly lower following the earlier retreat in Asia, most stock markets in Europe were trading higher. Germany's DAX was up 0.1 percent at 10,722 while the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares rose 0.4 percent to 6,144. Even the CAC-40 in Paris had clawed back most of its early losses to trade just 0.2 percent lower on the day at 4,796.

Travel and tourism stocks were faring worst - Germany's TUI AG was down 4 percent, while Britain's Thomas Cook fell 4.6 percent. Wall Street was poised to open modestly higher, with Dow futures and the broader S&P 500 futures up 0.2 per-

Though stocks are holding up overall, there are some signs that investors are concerned about the longer-term geopoliti-

cal ramifications, particularly in the Middle East, from which a large part of the world's oil comes from. Gold, which investors traditionally buy as a safe haven, was in demand - the price of an ounce was up 1 percent at \$1,091. And a barrel of benchmark New York crude oil was up 2.5 percent at \$41.76 a barrel. The attacks could also have an impact on the fragile econspending on nights out, travel and entertainment. The euro was down 0.4 percent at \$1.0733. "While not wanting to second guess the effect of the events of the weekend the closure of France's borders, along with other security measures, the impact on consumer confidence could well be considerable in the coming days and weeks," said Michael Hewson, chief market analyst at CMC Markets.

Consumer spending was the main driver of economic growth for the 19-country eurozone in the third quarter. The currency bloc grew by a mere 0.3 percent, leaving it exposed

Analysts say the Paris attacks make it even more likely that the European Central Bank will expand its stimulus program at the conclusion of its December meeting. There's even speculation that the attacks may be enough to put a brake on a rate hike from the US Federal Reserve in December, which would be its first in more than nine years.

"At this juncture, it is easy to see that the Fed's intentions to 'normalize' monetary policy could be derailed by a combination of adverse domestic economic and external events," said Neil MacKinnon, global macro strategist at VTB Capital. Earlier, the selling was more pronounced in Asia, Earlier in Asia, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 fell nearly 1 percent to close at 19,393.69. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 lost nearly 1 percent to 5,003.80. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 1.7 percent to 22,010.82, while the Shanghai Composite added 0.7 percent to 3,606.96. - AP

SAUDI, UAE MARKETS REBOUND AFTER CRASH

MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS

DUBAI: Markets in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates rebounded yesterday as some investors bought back stocks at lower prices following a broad sell-off a day earlier, but Egypt extended declines to hit a new 23-month low. Saudi Arabia's benchmark had tumbled to a 35-month low on Sunday and Dubai's close was its lowest since last December following an 8 percent decline in crude benchmarks the previous week that deepened a prolonged oil

Gulf investors seem to have belatedly realized that the consequent hit to state finances would also impact listed companies' earnings, especially as most blue chips are at least partly government-owned, but a slight rebound in oil prices then convinced some to buy back regional equities.

"For long-term investors and stock pickers, markets have started throwing up interesting investment opportunities," said Shakeel Sarwar, head of asset management at Securities & Investment Co (SICO) in Bahrain. Dubai's index rose 0.9 percent. Contractor Arabtec jumped 8.4 percent, although it remains 84 percent below a May 2014 peak. The firm's chairman said yesterday it had proposed building 13,000 homes in Egypt. Abu Dhabi's index rose 1 percent. Aldar Properties, which has reported higher profits in nine of the past 10 quarters, was the main support with a 3.3 percent gain.

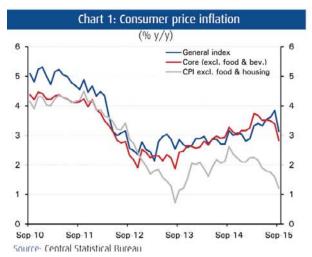
"I think it's a bit of a dead cat bounce; the fundamentals haven't improved from yesterday but people just felt the drop was too steep," said Sanyalaksna Manibhandu, head of research at NBAD Securities. "It's a temporary relief. If anything negative happens by tomorrow morning, we could see more selling."

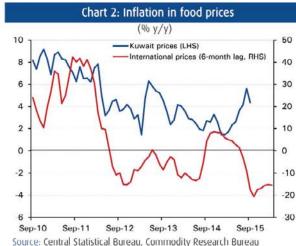
SAUDI RALLY

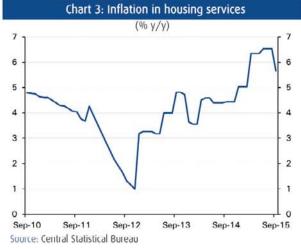
The Saudi benchmark rose 1.1 percent to trim its 2015 losses to 16.5 percent. Manibhandu said the trigger for the recent drop in Gulf markets was Standard & Poor's downgrade of its ratings on Saudi Arabian sovereign debt on Oct. 30 and Fitch Ratings' revision the following week of its outlook for three Saudi banks to negative.

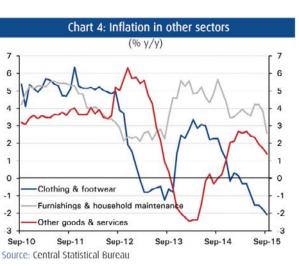
"There's a lot of concern the agencies will now turn to other Gulf countries including the UAE," added Manibhandu. Heavyweights Saudi Basic Industries Corp (SABIC) and National Commercial Bank rose 3.3 and 1.5 percent respec-

Egypt's benchmark fell 0.6 percent to its lowest close since December 2013 despite gainers outnumbering losers 19 to eight. Commercial International Bank, the Cairo bourse's largest listed company with a market value three times that of its nearest rival, fell 2.8 percent. — Reuters









KUWAIT INFLATION EASES TO 3.1% IN SEPTEMBER

NBK ECONOMIC REPORT

KUWAIT: Inflation in consumer prices slowed in September, from 3.8 percent year-on-year (y/y) in August to 3.1 percent y/y, as inflation in most of its components, including housing, retreated. Housing inflation eased for the first time in a year. As a result we saw core inflation (excludes food) slip from 3.4 percent y/y to 2.8 percent y/y during the same period. Food price inflation also reversed its upward trend in September. Slowing inflation in most components and a stronger dinar against major currencies (excluding the US dollar), are poised to keep any significant gains in headline inflation in check. Thus, we expect annual inflation to average close to 3.5 percent in 2015 and to ease towards 3 percent in 2016.

Inflation in food prices fell from 5.6 percent y/y in August to 4.4 percent y/y in September as global food prices continued to decline. Local food inflation receded as fish prices were lowered following sharp hikes over the summer, and as international food prices remained in decline. According to the Commodity Research Bureau's global commodity index, international food prices were down by around 16 percent y/y in September. With international food prices set to soften further in the near-to-

medium term, upward pressures on local food inflation will be limited.

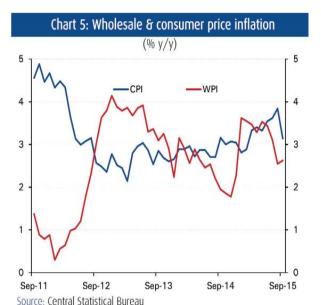
Inflation in housing services eased for the first time in a year, sliding from a six-year high in June of 6.5 percent y/y to 5.7 percent y/y in September. After witnessing strong gains for a year, particularly in 4Q14 and 1Q15, inflation in this component (mostly comprised of rents) appears to have peaked and we may see it continue to soften in the months ahead.

Inflation in clothing & footwear, and furnishings & household maintenance continued to edge lower in September. Clothing & footwear inflation fell for the sixth consecutive month in September. Inflation in this component continues to see a large correction, following a high base around the same period last year. The stronger dinar is also helping keep inflationary pressures down in this component (most goods in this component are imported). Inflation in furnishings & household maintenance slowed from 3.8 percent y/y in August to 2.6 percent y/y in September.

Inflation in the 'other goods & services' segment also receded further in September. Inflation in this segment, which includes prices of personal care products and jewelry and certain business charges, is witnessing a downward correction. The slowdown can also be explained by the stronger dinar, as most of the items in this segment are imported.

Wholesale price inflation eased in the third quarter of this year, mainly as upward inflationary pressures from its manufacturing component subsided. Inflation in the wholesale price index (WPI) fell from 3.4 percent y/y in June (its last update) to 2.6 percent y/y in September, as a slowdown in inflation in its manufacturing component offset inflationary gains in its agriculture, livestock & fishing and mining & quarrying components. WPI inflation is updated once every quarter. The agriculture, livestock & fishing component gained some ground in 3Q15 on the back of a hike in fish & seafood prices during the same period. However, inflation in this segment is forecast to subside in 4Q15 after fish & seafood prices were lowered.

Inflation in the WPI components is forecast to be moderate in the near-to-medium term. This will help keep inflation in the consumer price index in check and lead to an annual average close to our 3.5 percent projection in 2015.



News

in brief

US dollar stable against KD at 0.303

KUWAIT: The US dollar was stable vis-a-vis the Kuwaiti dinar yesterday exchanging at KD 0.303 while the euro was down to 0.325 as compared to Sunday's rates, the Central Bank of Kuwait said. The sterling pound was stable at KD 0.462 and the Swiss franc at KD 0.301 while the Japanese yen remained at KD 0.002.

Mumtalakat to buy 49% stake in Aleastur

MANAMA: Mumtalakat plans to buy a 49 percent stake in Spanish aluminum products group Aleastur, an executive at the Bahraini sovereign fund said yesterday. "We are taking a minority stake and helping the company to expand into the Gulf," Joseph Kirikian, head of industries and services at Mumtalakat, told Reuters on the sidelines of an aluminum conference. He declined to give a value for the investment but said the deal would hopefully close soon.

Orascom Telecom posts 9-month net loss of \$383m

CAIRO: Egypt's Orascom Telecom Media and Technology Holding reported a net loss of 3 billion Egyptian pounds (\$383.14 million)in the nine months ending September compared with a net profit of 603 million a year earlier, it said in a statement on the Cairo bourse yesterday.

Telecom Egypt posts 360% jump in Q3 net profit

CAIRO: Telecom Egypt, the country's state-owned landline monopoly, posted a 360 percent jump in third-quarter net profit, the company said in a statement yesterday, attributing the increase to corporate tax changes. Telecom Egypt achieved a profit of 1.2 billion Egyptian pounds (\$153.3 million) in the three months through September, compared with 262 million in the same period a year earlier. "We experienced a significant increase in net profit, which was primarily attributable to amendments to the corporate tax law," the statement said. "As a result, the company had to reverse a deferred tax liability amounting to 613 million pounds," it added.

UAE ECONOMY TO GROW 3% IN 2015: CB

DUBAI: The economy of the United Arab Emirates is expected to grow 3 percent in 2015, the central bank governor said yesterday, adding the country would reconsider any investments considered unnecessary.

"The government is still continuing with its spending, though they will rationalize any unnecessary investments," Mubarak Rashid Al-Mansouri told reporters on the sidelines of a banking conference in Dubai.

The central bank had said in July that the UAE government was expected to trim state spending by 4.2 percent this year in response to reduced revenue because of the lower oil price. Economists polled by Reuters expect the Gulf Arab state to grow by 3.6 percent.

There would be an "appropriate adjustment" in interest rates in the United Arab Emirates following any hike in rates in the United States, the governor of the central bank said.

Al-Mansouri also told a banking conference in Dubai it was closely monitoring the banking sector to ensure risks, including lower oil prices and customer deposits, do not escalate into a wider problem. Speaking on interest rates, Mansouri said the "immediate impact on our side will be an appropriate adjustment of our ... rates, especially at the short end." Upward pressure on rates was expected to increase if and when the US Federal Reserve starts tightening monetary policy in coming months.

their currencies to the US dollar, limiting their room to pursue independent monetary policies, and the UAE governor reiterated its "continued commitment" to the peg yester-

Gulf Arab states including the UAE tie

Not all countries in the region have been as explicit in following US moves as the UAE though: Qatar's central bank governor said last month it saw no reason to imitate any US hike due to rising liquidity in the local banking system. Three-month money market rates in the UAE have been rising due to lower liquidity in the system, hitting its highest level since at least mid-2013 last week.

BANKING SYSTEM

Mansouri also said the central bank was watching the local banking system for signs of stress.

"With the major stakeholders, the central bank is closely monitoring the financial soundness indicators for the banking sector to make sure potential vulnerabilities are identified and appropriate measures are taken on time to hedge against risks that could escalate to a full-blown crisis as our experience has taught us," Mansouri said.

UAE banks at the end of the last decade were hit by a local real estate crash and a debt crisis at Dubai state-linked companies, which forced them to set aside significant cash for bad loans, crimped profits for a number of quarters, and increased loan rates.

Mansouri added that among the main challenges for the banking system were a global economic slowdown, lower oil prices, which could lead to further fiscal consolidation, and further tightening in bank liquidity due to a slowdown in customer deposit levels. While system-wide deposits continue to grow-rising 1.6 percent year on year in September, according to the latest central bank data-a number of local banks have seen a decline as lower oil revenue has reduced the amount of cash being placed on deposit. National Bank of Abu Dhabi, the UAE's largest bank by assets, said last month government deposits dropped by 48 billion dirhams (\$13.1 billion) in the past 12 months. — Reuters

GEOPOLITICAL WORRIES LIFT OIL, BUT GLUT WEIGHS

LONDON: Oil prices edged up yesterday on geopolitical concerns after Friday's deadly attacks in Paris claimed by Islamic militants, but gains were muted due to a global crude glut.

France carried out large-scale air strikes against Islamic State sites in Syria overnight, giving oil market investors reason to step up buying activity after a week in which crude benchmark prices fell as much as 8 percent. "Some risk premium is factored into the market after the terror attacks in Paris. We had an oversold market, so it is a technical recovery as well," said Frank Klumpp, oil analyst at Stuttgart-based Landesbank Baden-Wuerttemberg.

Front-month Brent crude prices were up 34 cents at \$44.81 a barrel at 0915 GMT. U.S. futures traded 36 cents higher at \$41.10 a barrel.

An OPEC delegate from a Gulf producing country said he believed that in the mid-term oil prices could get some support due to rising tensions especially if the internation-

al community takes more steps to reduce smuggling of oil and hits oil facilities under Islamic State's control in Syria and Irag. But oil and other commodities could also come under renewed pressure on fears the attacks will further slow the global economy. Many analysts also continue to believe prices will remain under pressure due to abundant stocks of oil and slowing economic growth.

"Our outlook is skewed negative into (the first half of next year). Macro headwinds remain, crude oil inventories are building," Morgan Stanley said.

Oil prices have dropped more than 60 percent since June last year as high production and inventories have coincided with an economic slowdown in Asia, particularly in China but also Japan, which slipped back into recession in the third quarter.

"The fact that both crude oil and combined crude and product stocks are near record levels is a reason for concern," Barclays bank said in a research note. —Reuters

INTEREST IN SELECT SHARES BUOYS KSE

KUWAIT: KSE session yesterday witnessed trading in select shares, cheap stocks in particular, along with liquidity hike as well as the investors' anxiousness for possible emergence of stimulus. Profit fall by some companies for Q3 (2015) contributed to the market instability, along with targeting of brokers' chips. The indices varied since the session opening till its closure due to investors' wait-and-see attitude for positive motives following the quarterly financial disclosures and price stability of most stocks.

Speculations were noticeable till the pre-closing twominute auction. The market was affected with geopolitical events and such interaction was recorded among companies with regular performance, namely those enlisted in the Kuwait-15 index. The KSE closed yesterday's session with the three indices posting gains. The benchmark rose 3.09 to 5,703, while the weighted index inched up by 0.26 and the Kuwait-15 index put on 2.85 points. Value of traded shares amounted to KD 14.6 million, volume of exchanged stocks reached some 165.8 million, done in 4, 191 transactions. —KUNA

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

	ASIAN COUNTRIES
Japanese Yen	2.488
Indian Rupees	4.606
Pakistani Rupees	2.888
Srilankan Rupees	2.152
Nepali Rupees	2.882
Singapore Dollar	214.540
Hongkong Dollar	39.310
Bangladesh Taka	3.855
Philippine Peso	6.454
Thai Baht	8.480

GCC COUNTRIES Saudi Riyal 81.283 Qatari Riyal 83.730 Omani Riyal 791.710 Bahraini Dinar 809.490

ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash Egyptian Pound - Transfer 38.974 Yemen Riyal/for 1000 Tunisian Dinar 150.630 Jordanian Dinar 429.300 Lebanese Lira/for 1000 2.031 2.172 Syrian Lira Morocco Dirham 30.960

OPFAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

EUROPEA	N & AMERICAN COL
US Dollar Transfer	304.650
Euro	327.960
Sterling Pound	465.050
Canadian dollar	229.660
Turkish lira	105.780
Swiss Franc	304.040
Australian dollar	218.280
US Dollar Buying	303.450

GOLD 20 gram 223.56 10 gram 114.47 57.92 5 gram

UAE EXCHANGE CENTRE WIJ

	UAE	EXCHANGE CENTRI	z WLL
	COUNTRY	SELL DRAFT	SELL CASH
	Australian Dollar	203.63	
	Canadian Dollar	233.24	
	Swiss Franc	307.65	
	Euro	330.39	
	US Dollar	304.95	
	Sterling Pound	463.23	
Ì	Japanese Yen	2.51	
	Bangladesh Taka	3.902	
	Indian Rupee	4.599	
	Sri Lankan Rupee	2.160	
	Nepali Rupee	2.873	
	Pakistani Rupee	2.887	
	UAE Dirhams	0.08298	
	Bahraini Dinar	0.8104	
	Egyptian Pound	0.03789	
	Jordanian Dinar	0.4337	
	Omani Riyal	0.7919	
	Qatari Riyal	0.08408	

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

0.08128

Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	304.900
Canadian Dollar	232.105
Sterling Pound	463 020

Saudi Riyal

Swiss Frank 307.005 Bahrain Dinar 809.245 **UAE Dirhams** 83.310 Qatari Riyals 91.340 Saudi Riyals 82.030 Jordanian Dinar 429.635 **Egyptian Pound** 37.861 Sri Lankan Rupees 2.153 **Indian Rupees** 4.601 Pakistani Rupees 2.890 Bangladesh Taka 3.883 Philippines Pesso 6.450 580.745 Cyprus pound 3.475 Japanese Yen Syrian Pound 2.610 Nepalese Rupees 3.860 Malaysian Ringgit 70.705 Chinese Yuan Renminbi 48.285 Thai Bhat 9.485 Turkish Lira 104.935

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

COUNTRY	SELL CASH Europe	SELLDRAFT
British Pound	0.456399	0.465399
Czech Korune	0.004125	0.016125
Danish Krone	0.039821	0.044821
Euro	0.320895	0.328895
Norwegian Krone	0.031047	0.036247
Romanian Leu	0.087392	0.087392
Slovakia	0.009111	0.019111
Swedish Krona	0.030926	0.035926
Swiss Franc	0.295568	0.305768
Turkish Lira	0.101225	0.111525
	Australasia	
Australian Dollar	0.20829119791	

	America	
Canadian Dollar	0.223208231708	
US Dollars	0.300550	0.305050
US Dollars Mint	0.301050	0.305050
	Asia	
Bangladesh Taka	0.003512	0.004112
Chinese Yuan	0.046442	0.049942
Hong Kong Dollar	0.037207	0.039957
Indian upee	0.004411	0.004801
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002407	0.002587
Kenyan Shilling	0.003166	0.003166
Korean Won	0.000250	0.000265
Malaysian Ringgit	0.066035	0.072035
Nepalese Rupee	0.002919	0.003089
Pakistan Rupee	0.002741	0.003021
Philippine Peso	0.006411	0.006691
Sierra Leone	0.000068	0.000074
Singapore Dollar	0.210688	0.216688
South African Rand	0.015155	0.023655
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001803	0.002383
Taiwan	0.009209	0.009389
Thai Baht	0.008171	0.008721
	Arab	
Bahraini Dinar	0.800879	0.808879
F	0.007467	0.040207

Taiwan	0.009209	0.009389
Thai Baht	0.008171	0.008721
	Arab	
Bahraini Dinar	0.800879	0.808879
Egyptian Pound	0.037467	0.040297
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000086
Iraqi Dinar	0.000211	0.000271
Jordanian Dinar	0.425697	0.433197
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000153	0.000253
Moroccan Dirhams	0.020683	0.044683
Nigerian Naira	0.001260	0.001895
Omani Riyal	0.784878	0.790558
Qatar Riyal	0.082968	0.084181
Saudi Riyal	0.080603	0.081303
Syrian Pound	0.001292	0.001512
Tunisian Dinar	0.147165	0.155165
Turkish Lira	0.101225	0.111525
UAE Dirhams	0.081964	0.083113
Yemeni Riyal	0.001377	0.001457

Kuwait Times ______ DIICINICC _____ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015

JAPAN URGES CHINA TO GO SLOW ON YUAN REFORM

TOKYO: Japan has expressed concern to China about the pace of capital outflows from the country and has suggested Beijing moves very slowly in reforming its currency system to avoid repeating Japan's past mistakes.

amount of foreign currency coming into the economy as it built a huge export engine. But since China surprised world markets by devaluing its currency around 2 percent in August, net capital outflows have reached

After a summer of market turmoil, China now appears to be at a critical juncture as capital outflows reach hundreds of billions of dollars and Beijing draws down heavily on its, albeit large, currency reserves to offset the impact of the money moving offshore.

The stocks slump of more than 40 percent in a matter of a few months and the shock devaluation of the yuan acted as a reminder of how quickly Beijing could lose control of its markets if it moves too quickly to open up to market forces, Japanese officials say.

"The pace of capital outflows is alarming," said a senior official with knowledge of Japan's currency diplomacy. "If China's financial system is destabilised, the effect on Japan and the rest of Asia would be enormous." Publicly, Japanese officials have urged China to proceed with reform and expressed confidence that Beijing has the tools and expertise to manage. But privately, they have adopted a different tone, cautioning Beijing against moving too quickly to free up the yuan when large capital outflows could make the currency a target for speculators.

Japan has conveyed its concerns to Chinese officials at various meetings this year, including at the G20 financial leaders' meeting in Turkey in September.

China took a big step towards internationalising its currency on Friday, when IMF staff and the institution's head Christine Lagarde endorsed the inclusion of the yuan in the fund's benchmark foreign exchange basket, known as Special Drawing Rights (SDR). Analysts estimate inclusion could lead to demand for the yuan worth more than \$500 billion.

"It should be the other way around," said a Japanese official, who declined to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter. "Reforms come first, then you debate whether the yuan can join the SDR." China is trying to engineer a shift in the economy away from manufacturing and towards consumption and services while promising to fully liberalise the yuan by 2020 - a goal some Japanese officials feel is to ambitious.

Japan's cautious tone is at odds with the more robust calls from Washington - underlined last week with comments from US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew urging Beijing to press ahead with its reform plans. But Japan's views carry weight with Beijing, which has long taken a close interest in how Japan emerged in the past three decades as a global economic power.

It views Japan's handling of capital flows and the yen as key factors that led to its asset bubble blow-up in the early 1990s that led to nearly two decades of deflation Japan is still struggling to eradicate.

For decades, China's main concern was the

amount of foreign currency coming into the economy as it built a huge export engine. But since China surprised world markets by devaluing its currency around 2 percent in August, net capital outflows have reached \$200 billion, while Beijing appeared to have spent \$229 billion in foreign exchange intervention to prop up the yuan in the third quarter, a US Treasury Department report showed last month.

"WORST THING IS TO MOVE TOO QUICKLY"

Japanese policymakers are not suggesting there is an immediate risk of a financial crisis, but they say China's heavy intervention in markets to offset the capital outflows shows Beijing is worried.

If China liberalises its currency too quickly and before it fixes other problems in the economy, such as high debt, Beijing may struggle to contain capital outflows and that may take a toll on its \$3.5 trillion in currency reserves, Japanese officials say. "Market liberalisation sounds nice. But it could cause various problems," said Eisuke Sakakibara, who as a senior Japanese finance ministry official wrestled to contain volatile yen swings with heavy intervention in the late 1990s.

"When an economy moves from fast-growth to stable growth, you're bound to have some market turmoil. The same thing could happen in China, so the worst thing to do is to move too quickly to a free-floating currency regime." China said the devaluation of the yuan reflected market forces, but the move jolted global markets on fears it meant the economy was in worse shape than previously thought. China is Japan's biggest trading partner and its markets have become susceptible to big swings caused by Chinese policy decisions. Any repercussions to Asia also affect many Japanese firms and banks operating in the region

Such impact was highlighted when China's yuan devaluation sent Japanese and global stock prices tumbling, as investors initially struggled to understand Beijing's motives.

"There was lot of second guessing over China's policy intention and that was because the communication was poor," said a Chinabased Japanese government official.

BANKING WOES LOOM

Both Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Finance Minister Taro Aso have called on China to address structural problems in the economy, such as bad loans and excess industrial capacity, and to provide transparency of policymaking.

If China fails to tackle these problems, the risk is that it will not be just China that will feel the impact. "The biggest risk for Japan is a hardlanding in China," said Naoyuki Shinohara, a former IMF deputy managing director who retains close contacts with incumbent Japanese policymakers. "China's real 'black swan' is its badloan problems." —Reuters



ANTALYA: German Chancellor Angela Merkel (left) arrives for the Working session-1 on the "Inclusive Growth: Global Economy Growth Strategies, Employment and Investment Strategies" during the G20 Turkey Leaders' Summit yesterday in Antalya. —AFP

WORLD LEADERS AGREE TO CLOSE MULTINATIONALS' TAX LOOPHOLES

G20 approves crackdown on tax avoidance

ANTALYA, Turkey: World leaders yesterday approved a crackdown on tax avoidance by multinationals such as Google, Apple and McDonald's whose rock-bottom tax bills have provoked widespread outrage.

Heads of the Group of 20 top economies put their final seal on a plan to close loopholes that let some big companies shift profits to low-tax nations so as to slash their bills, leaving ordinary tax payers fuming. It comes a year after the "LuxLeaks" revelations that some of the world's biggest companies-including Pepsi and Ikea-had lowered their tax rates to as little as one percent in secret pacts with tax authorities in Luxembourg.

US President Barack Obama, Chinese leader Xi Jinping, and Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron joined fellow leaders in endorsing a clampdown drawn up by the wealthy nations' Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. In a joint statement delivered after a two-day summit at the Turkish

Mediterranean resort of Antalya, leaders tax status in two places at once.

declared that they "strongly urge the timely implementation of the project and encourage all countries and jurisdictions, including developing ones, to participate".

The OECD calculates that national governments lose \$100-240 billion (89-210 billion euros), or 4-10 percent of global tax revenues, every year because of the tax-minimizing schemes of multinationals.

Its 15-point plan, adopted after years of negotiations, seeks to oblige multinationals to pay tax in the country where their main business activity is based.

'Step forward'

The package represents "the first substantial-and overdue-renovation of the international tax standards in almost a century," the 34-nation, Paris-based OECD says.

The OECD says its scheme will: Stop companies exploiting differences in national tax rules and bilateral treaties, for example to win no-

Prevent companies from shifting profits to lower-taxation countries where their foreign subsidiaries are based, or from using technicalities to declare they are based in low-tax juris-

Close loopholes that let companies shift debt within a group towards higher-tax countries, allowing them to declare lower profits there. Oblige multinationals to detail their business country by country to the tax authorities. The British-based charity Oxfam said the plan was a "step forward".

"But until the G20 supports a reform process that truly tackles harmful tax competition, tax havens and multinationals will continue to gain most from this system, and the poorest countries will be the biggest losers," Oxfam said in a statement. The charity urged the G20 to work with the United Nations, International Monetary Fund and World Bank along with the OECD on a second generation of tax reforms to build on the crackdown. —AFP



NEW YORK: Specialist John McNierney (center) works with traders at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange yesterday. —AP

GOLD REBOUNDS ON FLIGHT TO SAFETY

LONDON: Gold rebounded yesterday from last week's six-year low as the attacks in Paris prompted a bout of global risk aversion. Spot gold rose as much as 1.4 percent to a 10-day high of \$1,097.90 an ounce, with US gold futures gaining more than 1 percent to a session high of \$1,097.40.

In the first 10 minutes of yesterday trade, nearly 3,000 lots changed hands, almost 10 times the 300-lot average for the opening 10 minutes over the past two months, Reuters' calculations showed.

"Gold opened higher early this morning on the back of what happened over the weekend on perceived geopolitical risk, but it seems to be already short-lived because the bigger macroeconomic issues are the dollar's strength and the (expected) US rate hike," Citi strategist David Wilson said.

Prices were up 0.2 percent at \$1,085.81 at 1433 GMT. "The metal is struggling to make it back above \$1,100," Saxo Bank senior manager Ole Hansen said.

Before Monday's gains, gold had fallen for 12 sessions out of 13 on increasing bets

that the Federal Reserve would raise US interest rates next month, which would increase the opportunity cost of holding the non-yielding asset. It hit a near-six-year low of \$1,074.26 on Thursday.

European shares steadied, although travel and leisure stocks slumped, while the euro was pinned near seven-month troughs against the dollar, as investors concerned about the economic impact on the euro zone from Friday's Paris attacks steered clear of the common currency.

Gold is typically seen as a safe refuge during times of uncertainty. However, there has not been an increase in demand from retail investors since the Paris attacks, German coin dealer Degussa said in an emailed statement. "(Buying was) already relatively high throughout last week, but the reason for that was clearly the most recent price drop," it said.

Tracking gold, other precious metals all gained. Silver rose 0.2 percent to \$14.27 an ounce, platinum was up 0.3 percent at \$858.90 and palladium climbed 1.6 percent to \$544.50.—Reuters

NEARLY \$3BN LOST FROM TRAVEL SHARES AFTER PARIS ATTACK

LONDON: European shares were steady yesterday, supported by gains in the energy sector that helped offset a slump in travel stocks following Friday's attacks in Paris that killed at least 129 people. Energy shares outperformed the broader market because of a rally in oil prices that followed French air strikes against Islamic State targets in Syria.

French shares slightly underperformed as markets opened for the first time since the co-ordinated attacks on Friday evening in Paris by Islamist militants. Around 2.6 billion euros (\$2.79 billion) were wiped off the STOXX 60 Travel & Leisure index amid fears that the sector could be impacted by loss of consumer confidence.

Shares in French hotel group Accor fell 5.1 percent, Air France fell 6.5 percent while shares in Eurotunnel and Aeroports de Paris, the operator of Paris' Charles de Gaulle and Orly airports, were down more than 4 percent. Luxury stocks were also under pressure. Hermes, LVMH and Kering, which get a large part of their sales from foreign tourists in Paris, were all down more than 1 percent. "Paris is one of the most important cities worldwide in terms of luxury spending and the timing is not good too - a few weeks before Christmas, the most important period for retailers," said Gregoire Laverne, fund manager at Roche Brune Asset Management.

"Those attacks will definitely have a long-term negative impact on the tourism sector in France, and all sectors (which depend) on tourists, but it cannot be measured yet although the market tends to forecast

the worst case scenario." Some highlighted France's Showroomprive.com as an outperformer in the fashion sector, up 0.3 percent, with Internet-only retailers seen as more insulated from the drop in confidence.

"Companies that retail over the web could outperform," said Clairinvest fund manager Ion-Marc Valahu. Outside of retail and travel stocks, European stock markets were broadly resilient to the fallout from the attacks, and it was seen as strengthening the case for the European Central Bank to provide further monetary stimulus. The pan-European FTSEurofirst 300 index edged up 0.2 percent and France's CAC was down 0.1 percent.

ENERGY SHARES FIRM

Energy stocks were the leading sectoral gainers, rising 2 percent, as crude oil prices edged up after France launched large-scale air strikes against Islamic State in Syria. Basic resources stocks also firmed. KBC rose more than 3 percent after the Belgian financial group posted a bigger-than-expected net profit, as a strong performance in its traditional banking and insurance businesses made up for a weaker showing of its dealing room. Among outstanding losers, Sonova fell 7.5 percent as the hearing aid maker cut its sales and profit forecasts after weak cochlear implant sales, sluggish business with US veterans and a squeeze on overseas earnings from the strong Swiss franc.—Reuters

BANGLADESH ASKED TO RAISE INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING TO \$12 BILLION ANNUALLY

DHAKA: Bangladesh should raise spending on infrastructure to \$12 billion annually, particularly in energy, transport and ports, development partners have told it, Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith said yesterday. Bangladesh currently spends just 3 percent of GDP in this sector. About 40 representatives of organizations including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the European Union attended a two-day meeting on development issues in Bangladesh.

Muhith told reporters: "Our aim is to raise economic growth to 8.0 percent by 2020 from 6.5 percent now, to become a middle-income country." He said several new projects would be reflected in the budget for the next fiscal year beginning in June 2016. Jin Liqun, president-designate of the Chinabacked Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, said: "Bangladesh is our new, important member and our aim will be to support it to boost the economy." But he said Bangladesh needed better infrastructure to achieve industrial growth.

Wencai Zhang, Vice-President of the Asian Development Bank, told reporters the bank would provide \$5 billion in assistance to Bangladesh. The meeting also called on Bangladesh to reduce its dependence on foreign aid, to work more closely with the private sector on major projects and to ensure good governance to maximize the use of resources.—Reuters



KARACHI: Pakistani stockbrokers monitor the latest share prices during trading at the Karachi Stock Exchange (KSE) in Karachi yesterday. Asian markets mostly fell following the deadly weekend terror attacks in Paris — with airline stocks taking a beating on concerns over the tourism industry. —AFP



ASIA MARKETS RETREAT, AIRLINES TUMBLE

HONG KONG: Asian markets mostly fell ous markets, which ended last week on a China Eastern Airlines, Air China and yesterday following the deadly weekend terror attacks in Paris-with airline stocks taking a beating on concerns over the tourism industry.

The late-night assault on Friday in the French capital, which killed 129 people, also sent the euro tumbling on fears for security in Europe and its effect on the already struggling euro-zone economy.

It added to uncertainty in already nerv-

low owing to increasing worries about the state of the global economy.

While losses rippled across Asian stock markets, airlines were among the worst hit. Japan Airlines sank almost three percent and rival ANA was 3.5 percent off, while in Sydney Virgin Australia plunged 6.5 percent. Indonesian flag carrier Garuda fell 1.3 percent.

In Shanghai there was big selling in

China Southern Airlines, while tourist firms also retreated, with China CYTS Tours Holding and China International Travel Service each down more than one percent.

"There will definitely be a negative psychological impact in the short term in tourism-related sectors. Airlines are particularly affected," Zhang Qi, a Shanghaibased analyst with Haitong Securities, told

Bloomberg News. The situation in France is "still quite uncertain now, so investors seem to be broadly risk-off today."

Regional stock indexes were also mostly lower, with Hong Kong 1.6 percent off in the afternoon, while Tokyo fell more than one percent and Sydney gave up 0.9 percent. "There is no doubt that the attacks in Paris will contribute to short-term investor nervousness," Shane Oliver, Sydneybased strategist at AMP Capital Investors, said.

However, he said he expected the Paris-linked losses to be brief and pointed out that markets had bounced back from initial selling following past terror attacks.

Euro selling

Selling also hit the euro, which was already under pressure from expectations the European Central Bank will loosen monetary policy to shore up the euro-zone. High-risk emerging market currencies such as the South Korean won and Indonesian rupiah also fell as investors looked for safer bets such as the dollar and yen.

The search for lower risk also saw a jump in the price of gold. Adding to selling pressure in Tokyo Monday was data showing the Japanese economy had slipped into recession for the second time in three years, throwing into question the government's much-vaunted

drive to kickstart growth and inflation.

The news comes as the central bank prepares for a policy meeting this week. The soft results continue to flow despite Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's big-spending three-year plandubbed "Abenomics"-to revitalize the torpid economy and end years of debilitating deflation.

Taro Saito, director of economic research at NLI Research Institute, told AFP: "Companies are reluctant to invest despite their sound profits." He added that while consumer spending improved "its overall trend still remains weak".

In China, authorities doubled the deposit required for investors to borrow funds to trade stocks-known as margin trading-as they try to limit a practice that led a massive market bubble and summer rout. The minimum requirement for margin trading was hiked to 100 percent from 50 percent, meaning traders must have the same level of funds in their accounts as the amount they want to borrow.

Margin trading was behind a stock market rally that sent the Shanghai index up 150 percent in a year, before it crashed in June.

The move comes as Shanghai rebounds from the summer volatility, with the benchmark index now up 22 percent from its August low. Yesterday it reversed early losses to end the day 0.7 percent higher. —Reuters

Daily Ku Monday 16 No				nge Repor	t							C	Glo	_{لوبل} ba	<u>.</u>		
Index		Cha	inge	Closing	Las	t Closin	g		High	Low							
Price index		A .	3.09	5,703.16	Ę	5,700.07			5,718.35	5,660.03		Volume			166,309,367		
Weighted Index		A-	0.26	392.68 392.42	392.42 393.58 389.95	392.42 393.58			Value (KWD)			14,691,234					
KSX 15		A .	2.85	943.27		940.42			946.45	933.04		Number of 1				4,205	
				Trades					1				Trades				
Security	High	Low	Volum	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	C	hange	Security	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	CH	hange
MARIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	114	_	0.0	SOKOUK	48.0	46.0	2307824	108,139	74	48.0	-	-0.5
IKARUS	94	91	233,82		13	92		-4.0	KRE	61	61	440,600	26,877	12	61	_	0.0
IPG	265	240	121,28		9	240		-8.0	URC	95	95	2,775	264	3	95	_	0.0
NAPESCO	600	600	2,000	1,200	1	600	_	0.0	NRE	87	83	3,097,575	267,674	81	87		5.0
ENERGYH	45.0	44.0	16,396		4	44.0		-2.5	SRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	340	_	0.0
GPI	51	46.5	7,080,5	8 344,243	153	51		2.5	TAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	510	-	0.0
ABAR	89	89	117,21	8 10,432	7	89	A	5.0	AREEC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	182	_	0.0
011.0.0			7 774 0	407.050	407	700 70		0.04	MACCALEU	47.0	47.0	40.450	4 007	0	47.0	94.50	0.1

Security	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	C	hange	Security	High	Low
				11/11/4					-		
MARIN IKARUS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	114	-	0.0	SOKOUK	48.0	46.0
IPG	94 265	91 240	233,825 121,284	21,488 29,163	13	92 240	*	-4.0 -8.0	URC URC	61 95	61 95
NAPESCO	600	600	2,000	1,200	1	600	_	0.0	NRE	87	83
ENERGYH	45.0	44.0	16,396	723	4	44.0		-2.5	SRE	0.0	0.0
GPI	51	46.5	7,080,528	344,243	153	51		2.5	TAM	0.0	0.0
ABAR	89	89	117,218	10,432	7	89	A	5.0	AREEC	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas			7,571,251	407,250	187	763.78	A	0.84	MASSALEH	47.0	47.0
KEOLIC	0.0	0.0				220	- 10-11	0.0	ARABREC	33.0	30.5
KFOUC BPCC	0.0 560	0.0 560	73,832	0 41,346	6	238 560	-	-10.0	MABANEE	64 890	63 880
ALKOUT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	610	_	0.0	INJAZZAT	84	81
ALQURAIN	190	188	240,256	45,468	19	188	-	0.0	INVESTORS	30.0	29.0
Basic Materials			314,088	86,814	25	1026.24		-6.72	IRC	33.0	33.0
N. Concession	10000		201						ALTIJARIA	84	83
KCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	405	-	0.0	SANAM	42.0	42.0
REFRI CABLE	0.0 395	0.0 370	0 26,601	10,011	15	320 395	_	0.0	AAYANRE AQAR	0.0	80 0.0
SHIP	158	146	383,037	59,662	13	150	A	10.0	ALAQARIA	26.5	25.0
PCEM	1,140	1,120	5,250	5,885	2	1,140	_	0.0	MAZAYA	110	106
PAPER	415	390	20,010	7,804	2	390	22	0.0	ADNC	26.5	25.0
MRC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	64	_	0.0	THEMAR	0.0	0.0
ACICO	280	280	1,865	522	1	280	A	5.0	TIJARA	42.5	42.5
GGMC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	495	_	0.0	TAAMEER	0.0	0.0
HCC	130	130	10,000	1,300	1	130	*	-4.0	ARKAN	0.0	0.0
KPAK KBMMC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	365 210	=	0.0	ARGAN	174 30.5	174 29.5
NICBM	216	210	24,016	5,147	5	216	_	6.0	MUNSHAAT	87	84
EQUIPMENT	63	60	4,553,628	279,049	129	61	Ā	1.0	FIRSTDUBAI	54	52
NCCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	84	-	0.0	КВТ	45.0	41.5
GYPSUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	_	0.0	REAM	0.0	0.0
SALBOOKH	84	83	145,000	12,170	11	84		2.0	MENA	26.5	25.5
AGLTY	510	500	3,215,370	1,625,604	99	510	A	10.0	ALMUDON	35.5	34.0
EDU	0.0	0.0	752.600	0	0 22	226	-	0.0	MARAKEZ	26.0	25.0
CLEANING	45.0 390	43.0 390	753,600 54	32,947 21	1	44.0 390	<u> </u>	1.0	REMAL MASHAER	38.5 106	37.0 104
KGL	49.0	48.0	15,991	769	4	49.0		2.0	Real Estate	100	10-4
KCPC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	222	_	0.0			
HUMANSOFT	760	760	10	8	1	760		20.0	KINV	100	100
NAFAIS	162	150	211,053	33,940	12	162	•	2.0	FACIL	184	182
SAFWAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	330	-	0.0	IFA	0.0	0.0
GFC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	89	_	0.0	NINV	108	104
MAYADEEN CGC	24.0 800	23.0 750	8,746,931 8,700	207,866 6,560	117	24.0 800	¥	-1.0 10.0	COAST	600 35.0	590 32.0
MTCC	69	66	722,048	49,582	41	69	Ā	3.0	SECH	49.5	48.0
UPAC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	700	_	0.0	SGC	120	114
ALAFCO	228	220	97,487	21,509	6	228	A	4.0	ARZAN	41.0	39.0
MUBARRAD	80	79	347,000	27.718	8	80	-	0.0	MARKAZ	104	104
LOGISTICS	72	63	5,202,039	352,266	174	70	4	2.0	KMEFIC	31.5	31.0
SCEM	88	85	69,003	6,045	3	88	A	1.0	ALAMAN	60	58
QCEM QCEM	0.0	0.0	37,000	3,104	0	84 80	A .	1.0	ALOLA	65 0.0	0.0
FCEM	75	75	10	1	1	75	_	1.0	GIH	34.0	31.0
RKWC	110	110	300	33	1	110	A	8.0	AAYAN	50	48.0
SPEC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	87	_	0.0	BAYANINV	37.5	35.0
Industrials			24,596,003	2,749,521	674	1049.22		9.86	OSOUL	37.0	37.0
				190					KFIC	45.5	43.5
KSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	220	-	0.0	KAMCO	114	114
NSH PAPCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	62 104	=	0.0	NIH	63 33.0	61 31.0
CATTL	140	130	112,437	15,474	22	138	_	2.0	MADAR	0.0	0.0
DANAH	94	88	960,360	87,657	44	94	•	4.0	ALDEERA	37.0	35.5
POULT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	176	-	0.0	ALSALAM	41.0	39.5
FOOD	2,360	2,280	5,156	11,756	3	2,280	_	0.0	EKTTITAB	34.0	32.5
Consumer Goods			1,077,953	114,887	69	1107.26	A	4.42	QURAINHLD	6.5	6.5
				140	-		.010		ALMADINA	49.0	47.0
MHC ATC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190 920	_	0	NOOR TAMINV	0.0 320	0.0 320
YIAGO	122	122	10,000	1,220	2	122	_	0	EXCH	0.0	0.0
Health Care	722	12.0	10,000	1,220	2	948.58	_	0.00	TAIBA	0.0	0.0
				"					KSHC	28.5	28.0
KCIN	970	970	45,000	43,650	1	970	_	0	STRATEGIA	0.0	0.0
KHOT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	196	-	0	ASIYA	38.5	37.0
SULTAN	75	71	68,500	4,915	15	72	_	0	GNAHC	33.0	32.5
CABLETV	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	27.5 310	1 7.00	0	AMWAL	0.0 76	0.0 75
EYAS IFAHR	0.0	0.0	156,778	18,643	9	122	_	2	MANAZEL	28.5	28.5
OULAFUEL	116	112	49,130	5,643	15	112	_	0	NIND	144	140
MUNTAZAHAT	102	98	11,200	1,102	5	98	*	-1	BIIHC	34.0	31.0
JAZEERA	460	455	171,798	78,826	13	455		-10	SENERGY	14.0	13.0
SOOR	114	110	259,522	29,546	25	114	A	2	AGHC	84	84
FUTUREKID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	110	-	0	KPPC	54	51
ALNAWADI	80	80	20,000	1,600	1	80	A	5	TAHSSILAT	49.5	49.5
ALRAI ZIMAH	164 116	160 104	57,001 4,212,217	9,124 464,866	6 207	160 114	_	8	JEERANH EKHOLDING	57 0.0	56 0.0
UFIG	0.0	0.0	4,212,217	464,866	0	150	_	0	GFH	36.0	35.0
KOUTFOOD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	620	Ξ	0	INOVEST	59	55
Mezzan	1,080	1,080	117,500	126,900	5	1,080	*	-20	Financial Service	1,5,5,5	
Consumer Service	os		5,168,646	784,816	302	1003.05	A	8.01			
									Investment Instru	uments	
ZAIN	370	365	4,799,583	1,752,332	83	365	-	0	100	-	0.444
OOREDOO HITSTELEC	1,040	1,040	11,090	11,534 276,872	7	1,040	_	1	ASC OSOS	0.0 81	0.0
VIVA	930	28.0 910	9,609,345 1,508,366	1,388,284	109	920	A	20	FUTURE	0.0	0.0
Telecommunication			15,928,384	3,429,021	330	576.66	A	7.82	HAYATCOMM	49.0	44.0
									Technology		
NBK	850	840	850,075	716,772	32	850	-	0			.,,
GBK	280	275	128,159	35,809	12	280	-	0	BAREEQ	0.0	0.0
CBK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	510	_	0	AFAO	0.0	0.0

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16,875

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199,521

101,808

154,024

2,038,534

7,194

10,028

CBK

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BOUBYAN

WARBABANK

ALMUTAHED

THEMAR					77.2			12.22
	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	-	0.0
TIJARA	42.5	42.5	9,900	421	1	42.5	-	0.0
TAAMEER	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	28.0	_	0.0
ARKAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	110	_	0.0
ARGAN	174	174	103,710	18,046	11	174	_	0.0
ABYAAR	30.5	29.5	2,550,482	75,902	34	30.0		0.5
MUNSHAAT				100000000000000000000000000000000000000		84	Ŷ	
and the latest terminal and the second second	87	84	2,250,205	191,670	65			-4.0
FIRSTDUBAI	54	52	418,610	21,925	24	52		-1.0
KBT	45.0	41.5	6,617,655	292,340	148	44.0		1.5
REAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	140	_	0.0
MENA	26.5	25.5	298,644	7,786	21	26.5	_	0.0
ALMUDON	35.5	34.0	2,037,244	71,031	48	34.5	_	0.0
MARAKEZ	26.0	25.0	10,050	251	2	25.0	-	0.0
REMAL	38.5	37.0	1,552,200	58,272	49	37.5	-	0.0
MASHAER	106	104	1,600	169	2	104	_	0.0
Real Estate			42,156,057	1,881,458	869	951.63		-4.17
(INV	100	100	20,000	2,000	1	100	_	0.0
ACIL	184	182			5	184		2.0
			24,866	4,532				
FA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	31.5	_	0.0
VINV	108	104	145,301	15,324	13	108		2.0
(PROJ	600	590	879,051	527,280	39	600	_	0.0
COAST	35.0	32.0	873,746	29,736	31	34.0		-0.5
SECH	49.5	48.0			58	49.5		0.5
			2,290,952	112,226				
3GC	120	114	288	33	2	120	-	0.0
ARZAN	41.0	39.0	19,661	793	3	41.0	A	2.0
MARKAZ	104	104	500	52	1	104		-2.0
KMEFIC	31.5	31.0	2,500	78	3	31.0		-0.5
ALAMAN	60						100	
		58	22,700	1,362	3	60	-	0.0
LOLA	65	64	715,500	46,243	9	65	-	0.0
LMAL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	32.5	_	0.0
3IH	34.0	31.0	1,566,189	50,903	42	33.0	•	-0.5
AAYAN	50	48.0	7,356,387	363,764	148	50		2.5
The property of the second	100000					100000		
BAYANINV	37.5	35.0	1,252,495	46,047	46	37.5	A .	1.0
OSOUL	37.0	37.0	500	19	1	37.0		-1.5
KFIC	45.5	43.5	32,500	1,417	19	43.5		-2.5
KAMCO	114	114	10	1	1	114		10.0
NH	63	61	213,925	13,252	11	63	A	1.0
SKAN	33.0	31.0	1,141,358	36,904	33	33.0		0.5
MADAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	20.5	-	0.0
ALDEERA	37.0	35.5	47,380	1,706	10	36.0	-	-2.0
LSALAM	41.0	39.5	5,615,231	224,702	123	40.0		-1.0
KTTITAB	34.0	32.5	1,197,887	40,004	44	34.0	A	0.5
QURAINHLD	6.5	6.5	668,438	4,345	8	6.5	-	0.0
ALMADINA	49.0	47.0	11,062,231	531,067	150	49.0		1.0
NOOR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	55	_	0.0
AMINV	320	320	25,000	8,000	4	320	_	0.0
							OE.	
XCH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	130	_	0.0
TAIBA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	88	-	0.0
SHC	28.5	28.0	57,000	1,596	4	28.0	A	0.5
STRATEGIA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	38.0	_	0.0
ASIYA	38.5	37.0	1,333,565	50,094	50	37.5		-2.0
			290,182				10.00	
SNAHC	33.0	32.5		9,458	14	33.0	_	0.0
MWAL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	31.0	-	0.0
ALIMTIAZ	76	75	674,450	50,691	14	76	_	0.0
MANAZEL	28.5	28.5	60,250	1,717	8	28.5		-2.5
NIND	144	140	1,201,920	170,522	39	144	_	0.0
		- Control of the cont						
BIIHC	34.0	31.0	2,524,562	81,894	70	33.0	-	0.0
SENERGY	14.0	13.0	1,938,500	26,107	27	13.5	A	0.5
AGHC	84	84	2,000	168	1	84		2.0
(PPC	54	51	1,473,838	78,388	39	54		1.0
AHSSILAT	49.5	49.5	500	25	1	49.5		-0.5
EERANH	57	56	22,708	1,275	13	57		1.0
	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	180	-	0.0
						35.5	•	-2.0
KHOLDING	36.0	35.0	16,810,042	593,105	271	33.3		-3.0
KHOLDING 3FH	36.0 59	35.0 55	16,810,042 100,020	593,105 5,501	271 4	55		
ekholding 3fh Novest	59						*	- nuinenn
KHOLDING BFH NOVEST	59		100,020	5,501	4	55		- nuinene
KHOLDING BFH NOVEST Financial Service	59 s		100,020	5,501	4	55		-2.8
KHOLDING BFH NOVEST Financial Service nvestment Instru	59 s iments	55	100,020 61,664,133	5,501 3,132,329	4 1,363	55 631.55 1081.97		0.00
EKHOLDING 3FH NOVEST Financial Service nvestment Instru ASC	59 siments	0.0	100,020 61,664,133 0	5,501 3,132,329 0	4 1,363 0	55 631.55 1081.97 345	-	0.00
EKHOLDING OFH NOVEST Financial Service Investment Instru USC DSOS	59 s ments 0.0 81	0.0 80	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 328,374	5,501 3,132,329 0 0 0 26,398	4 1,363 0 0 5	55 631.55 1081.97 345 81	- -	0.00 0.00 -4.0
KHOLDING BFH NOVEST Financial Service Investment Instru ASC DSOS EUTURE	59 s ments 0.0 81 0.0	0.0 80 0.0	0 0 328,374	5,501 3,132,329 0 0 0 26,398 0	4 1,363 0 0 5 0	55 631.55 1081.97 345 81 122	- - - -	0.00 0.00 -4.0 0.0
KHOLDING BFH NOVEST Financial Services Investment Instru ASC DSOS EUTURE IAYATCOMM	59 s ments 0.0 81	0.0 80	0 0 0 328,374 0 361,700	5,501 3,132,329 0 0 26,398 0 16,216	4 1,363 0 0 5 0 27	55 631.55 1081.97 345 81 122 49.0	- - - - - -	0.00 0.00 -4.0 0.0 2.5
KHOLDING BFH NOVEST Financial Services Investment Instru ASC DSOS EUTURE IAYATCOMM	59 s ments 0.0 81 0.0	0.0 80 0.0	0 0 328,374	5,501 3,132,329 0 0 0 26,398 0	4 1,363 0 0 5 0	55 631.55 1081.97 345 81 122	- - - -	0.00 0.00 -4.0 0.0 2.5
EKHOLDING 3FH NOVEST Financial Service INVEST INV	59 s ments 0.0 81 0.0	0.0 80 0.0	0 0 0 328,374 0 361,700	5,501 3,132,329 0 0 26,398 0 16,216	4 1,363 0 0 5 0 27	55 631.55 1081.97 345 81 122 49.0	- - - - - -	0.00 0.00 -4.0 0.0 2.5 -8.89
EKHOLDING BFH NOVEST Financial Service INVEST SSC DSOS FUTURE IAYATCOMM Fechnology BAREEQ	59 suments 0.0 81 0.0 49.0	0.0 80 0.0 44.0	0 0 0 328,374 0 361,700 690,074	5,501 3,132,329 0 0 26,398 0 16,216 42,614	4 1,363 0 0 5 0 27 32	55 631,55 1081,97 345 81 122 49.0 891,11		-2.86 0.00 0.0 -4.0 0.0 2.5 -8.88
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For more information, call Global Investment House on 1 80 42 42, www.globalinv.net

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J		At	02:00 PM	Previous	Day				
		Glo	bal St	ock In	dices				
Index	Previo	us Close	Last	Price	Cha	inge	Performance %	Yearly Performance	
Dow Jones	17,4	48.07	17,2	45.24	-202.83		-1.16	-3.24	
NASDAQ	5,00	5.08	4,92	7.88	-77.20	•	-1.54	4.05	
S&P 500	2,04	15.97	2,02	3.04	-22.93	•	-1.12	-1.74	
Financial Times	100.00	18.28	11.525.100	6.68	8.40	•	0.14	-6.69	
DAX		08.40		27.91	19.51	_	0.18	9.41	
CAC 40 Swiss	100000	07.95 19.84	66.5	1.05	-6.90 2.58	_ *	0.03	12.36	
Nikkei 225		96.91		93.69	-203.22	÷	-1.04	11.13	
Topix		35.83	-	1.53	-14.30	*	-0.90	11.65	
Hang Seng		96.14		10.82	-385.32	*	-1.72	-6.75	
Straits Times	2,92	25.68	2,91	5.73	-9.95	*	-0.34	-13.36	
		ME	NA Sto	ock In	dices				
Index	Drovis	us Close		Price		inge	Daily Performance	Yearty	
		10000000	12000			Be	%	%	
Kuwait		00.07		3.16	3.09	A	0.05	-14.66	
Saudi Arabia		31.42	V-8,8300	2.03	30.61	•	0.44	-17.42	
Dubai Abu Dhabi	107994	16.21 96.58	S02110.00	4.27	28.06 39.41		0.89	-16.63 -9.55	
Bahrain	- 001000	21.26	77.00	8.87	-2.40	_ A	-0.20	-9.55	
Qatar		60.28	1000	10.37	-49.91	· ·	-0.46	-11.60	
Oman		37.87		5.52	-2.35		-0.04	-7.97	
Lebanon	1,14	13.74		5.13	-18.60	*	-1.63	-3.39	
Jordan	2,00	02.68	2,01	0.12	7.44	A	0.37	-7.52	
Egypt	6,52	22.12	6,47	6.57	-45.55	*	-0.70	-26.94	
Могоссо	9,26	51.07	9,25	8.77	-2.30	•	-0.02	-3.73	
Tunisia	4,87	73.42	4,90	0.10	26.68	A	0.55	-4.25	
	Glot	oal Cu	rrenci	es Exc	change	Rate	₽		
Currency	Kuwaiti Dinar	Saudi Riyal	US Dollar	Euro	Sterling Pound	Swiss Franc	Japanese Yen	Australia: Dollar	
Kuwait Dinar		12.2296	3.2749	3.0527	2.1544	3.2959	402.72	4.6041	
Saudi Riyal	0.08177		0.2678	0.2496	0.1762	0.2695	32.93	0.3765	
US Dollar	0.30535	3.7343		0.9321	0.6579	1.0064	122.97	1.4059	
Euro	0.32758	4.0062	1.0728		0.7059	1.0796	131.96	1.5095	
Sterling Pound	0.46416	5.6765	1.5201	1.4166		1.5306	186.97	2.1390	
Swiss Franc	0.30341	3.7106	0.9936	0.9263	0.6533		122.20	1.3969	
Japanese Yen Australian Dollar	0.00248	0.0304 2.6562	0.0081	0.0076	0.0053	0.0082	87.47	0.0114	
Australian Dollar	10,000	CONT. 1 (1965)	10/40	101 (0)	(6)	20000 100			
		NA Cur		es Exc	nange	Omani	Emirates	Egyptian	
Currency	US Dollar	Dollar	Saudi Riyal	Dinar	Riyal	Riyal	Dirham	Pound	
US Dollar		0.30535	3.7343	0.3744	3.6271	0.3831	3.6574	7.7201	
Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2749	0.05	12.2296	1.2260	11.8785	1.2548	11.9777	25.2828	
Saudi Riyal	0.2678	0.08177	0.0740	0.1003	0.9713 9.6885	0.1026	9.7695	2.0673	
Bahraini Dinar Qatari Riyal	0.2757	0.81564	9.9749 1.0296	0,1032	9.0885	0.1056	1.0084	20.6216	
Qatari Riyal Omani Riyal	2.6100	0.08419	9.7466	0.1032	9.4668	J. 1036	9.5459	20.1496	
Emirates Dirham	0.2734	0.08349	1.0210	0.1024	0.9917	0.1048		2.1108	
Egyptian Pound	0.1295	0.03955	0.4837	0.0485	0.4698	0.0496	0.4738		
		Glot	oal Int	erest	Rates				
Currency	1-Week	1-Month	The second second	onth		onth	1-1	Year	
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.00	0.94		19		44	_	.69	
US Dollar	0.15	0.19	0.	36	0.	60	0.	.93	
Euro	-0.17	-0.14	-0.	.09	-0.	.02	0.	.07	
Sterling Pound	0.48	0.51		57	25.5	73	- 0	.03	
Swiss Franc	-0.80	-0.79		.78		-0.76		.67	
Australian Dollar	2.06	2.12		07		04	_	.00	
Canadian Dollar	0.00	0.82		82		90	0.	.95	
			obal B						
Country	-	rear 86		ear 65	10000	Year 26		Year .04	
United States		17.03	1200	22)	1772	250		2762	
Europe	-0.38 0.65			.11	0.	56	1.42		

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Commodities

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Yearly

-33.01

-33.21

-31.20

-9.30

-10.32

Previous Close

38.44

41.64

1083.26

14.24

United Kingdom

Kuwait Oil

APEC WARY TRADE PACT COULD BECOME 'RICH-ECONOMY CLUB'

MANUFACTURING IN NEW YORK

SHRINKS FOR FOURTH MONTH

INSURANCE SOFTWARE MAKER

EBIX APPROACHES XCHANGING

MANILA: APEC does not want to see a United States-led free-trade agreement become a "rich-economy club", a senior forum official said yesterday. Speaking ahead of an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in the Philippine capital Manila, Alan Bollard, executive director of the APEC secretariat, said the organization's 21 members had already entered into a "noodle bowl" of about 150 trade agreements and the TTP needed to be compatible with those deals.

The proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) would be the world's largest, grouping the US with 11 other APEC member countries including Japan, Australia, and Canada.

"APEC... has not been involved formally in TPP but of course we've observed progress and of course we'll all be pleased to see the text out in the public arena now so that we can judge that," Bollard told a news conference. "And I think it's fair to say that APEC doesn't want to see different trade agreements going off in different directions, wouldn't want to see TPP as a rich economy club going off like that."

The terms of the TPP, which also includes Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam,

WASHINGTON: Factory activity in New

York state contracted for the fourth

straight month in November, as a strong

dollar and slow overseas growth contin-

ued to drag down manufacturers. The

New York Federal Reserve's Empire State

manufacturing index, released Monday,

edged up slightly to minus 10.7, from minus 11.4 in October. Still, any figure

jobs for the third straight month. New

orders also fell, though at a slower pace. US manufacturers have been hammered

this year by a slowdown in China, the

world's second-largest economy, weak

growth in Europe and a stronger dollar,

which makes US goods pricier overseas.

Falling oil prices have also cut into orders

for steel pipe and other drilling equip-

BENGALURU: Insurance software maker

Ebix Inc said it made a 450 million-pound

(\$684 million) takeover approach for

Xchanging Plc, making it the latest company

to show an interest in the provider of servic-

es to the insurance industry. Xchanging's

shares rose as much as 9.8 percent to 185

pence, a six-month high, after Ebix's

announcement yesterday. They later gave

up some gains to trade up 5.2 percent at

177.25 pence. Ebix said it made a potential

cash offer valuing Xchanging at 175 pence

per share, representing a 3.9 percent premi-

Xchanging had last month agreed to a

um to the stock's close on Friday.

There are signs the manufacturing

slowdown could be bottoming out. The goods. —AP

The survey found that factories cut

below zero indicates contraction.

were released earlier this month.

Fellow APEC members South Korea and Indonesia have also both signalled interest

However the deal excludes APEC member and US rival China. Beijing is seeking to push its own vision of an Asia-Pacific trade pact, and began campaigning for a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) when it hosted the APEC summit last year.

Last week Chinese Vice Commerce Minister Wang Shouwen said in Beijing that China would "actively work for the establishment of the FTAAP". APEC accounts for more than half of global economic output and nearly half of world trade. Bollard said APEC was studying how all these trade agreements in the region impact on each other and how they could be integrated. The study is being led by the US and China. "Progress will be reviewed by ministers this afternoon and tomorrow. This report will be finalised next year," he said.

"We see (the) study as the way where we'll be able to judge where all those are going, how they fit together, could they conflict with one another, and what might come to help integrate all that," he added. —AFP

overall index and measures of shipments

and new orders rose last month, even as

they stayed in negative territory. Other

recent data have also suggested that factory output could turn around. The

Institute for Supply Management, a trade

group of purchasing managers, said earlier this month that its measure of new

orders received by US manufacturers

jumped in October. And a gauge of pro-

In the Empire State report, a measure of employment ticked up slightly to

A separate category showed that New

York manufacturers are cutting back

sharply on their stockpiles, which can

slow production in the short run. But

reducing excess goods in warehouses

and on store shelves can set the stage for

a future rebound if customer demand

stays high, forcing companies to restock

takeover offer from outsourcing company

Capita Plc worth 160 pence per share, or 412

million pounds. Xchanging has also been the

subject of interest from private equity firm

Apollo Global Management LLC and technol-

ogy consulting services provider Computer

Sciences Corp. Computer Sciences made a

170 pence proposal to Xchanging last week,

a week after Apollo dropped out of the race.

Under UK takeover rules, Ebix now has three

weeks to make a firm approach for

Xchanging. Xchanging's shares have risen

more than 50 percent since the company first

made public Capita's and Apollo's offers in

early October. —Reuters

duction rose for the first time since July.

minus 7.3, from minus 8.5.



TOKYO: This picture shows the Tokyo's Shinjuku skyscrapers (top) and the planned construction site (bottom) for the new national stadium for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo yesterday. Japan's economy slipped into recession for the second time since Prime Minister Shinzo Abe came to power nearly three years ago on a vow to revive growth and end chronic deflation, gov-

ernment figures showed yesterday. —AFP

JAPAN DIPS INTO RECESSION IN STUMBLE FOR 'ABENOMICS'

TOKYO: Japan's economy slipped into recession for the second time since Prime Minister Shinzo Abe came to power nearly three years ago, data showed yesterday, dealing a fresh blow to his drive to kickstart weak growth and end years of deflation. Abe has staked his reputation on a policy blitz of fiscal spending, aggressive monetary policy easing and structural reformsdubbed Abenomics-aimed at reviving the world's third-largest economy Japan's economy, once Asia's biggest, has been overtaken by rival China, while it struggles with a challenging demographic outlook that is expected to see its population shrink by the tens of millions in coming decades.

Still, it boasts some of the world's biggest companies, including in the automotive sector, and banks, and its domestic technology plays a key role in powering a wide array of global industries, including vehicles, electronics and high-end machinery.

But the Cabinet Office said Monday that gross domestic product (GDP) shrank 0.2 percent in the July-September period, or an contraction of 0.8 percent, marking the second straight quarterly decline-considered a technical

It was also below the 0.1 percent forecast in a Bloomberg News survey. The economy contracted in 2014 after consumers tightened their belts following an increase in the country's consumption tax, which put a dent in a nascent recovery. That downturn spurred the Bank of Japan to sharply increase its already massive bond-buying program, effectively printing money to spur lending. In a bright sign, the government slightly improved its April-June data to a 0.2 percent contraction from 0.3 percent shrinkage previously estimated.

The latest figures will turn attention back to the BoJ ahead of a policy meeting this week to see whether it adds to its 80 trillion yen (\$653 billion) annual stimulus program.

'Economy at standstill'

The data offer a mixed snapshot of the economy, with improving consumption countered by weakening corporate investment caused by uncertainty over the global outlook, particularly China, experts said. "The real economy is at a standstill, even though other aspects of 'Abenomics'-corporate earnings and stock prices-are improving," Taro Saito, director of economic research at NLI Research Institute,

"Companies are reluctant to invest despite their sound profits," he said, adding that while consumer spending improved "its overall trend still remains weak".

charge of revitalising the economy, put a largely positive spin on the result, saying that the

Akira Amari, the government minister in

with the Paris terror attacks adding to investor unease in Asia. Still, analysts broadly expect the economy to pick up in coming quarters, with the BoJ seen further loosening monetary policy and Abe tipped to unveil fresh stimulus.

et, however. The benchmark Nikkei-225 stock

index fell 1.04 percent by the end of trade,

"Details are not as bad as the figures might suggest," Junichi Makino, economist at SMBC Nikko Securities, said in a note, citing declines in inventories and increasing imports.

For technical reasons those results nega



TOKYO: Pedestrians walk past a share prices board of the Nikkei 225 at the Tokyo Stock Exchange in Tokyo yesterday. —AFP

"business climate is expected to recover gradually", citing rising wages as a bright factor. But he openly voiced frustration towards businesses that have shied away from fresh invest-

"Having made record profits, with their equipment becoming older, what kind of business decision is it to still forgo investment?" Amari told a news conference. Amari said the government was drafting an extra budget, not as a "pure" stimulus, but to offer social programs and deal with the 12-nation Trans-

Pacific Partnership free-trade deal. He declined to discuss the size of the budgtively affect GDP but can actually imply increasing demand.

But Marcel Thieliant, economist at Capital Economics, said any recovery should be viewed with caution. "Looking ahead, the economy should start to recover this quarter, but we think that growth in the current fiscal year will be closer to 0.5 percent rather than the 1.2 percent projected by the Bank of Japan at its end-October meeting," he wrote in a note to clients.

Thielient said he expected the BoJ to hold off further easing for now but expand it early next year. —AFP



LONDON: New Director-General of The Confederation of British Industry (CBI), Carolyn Fairbairn poses for a photograph during a photo-call in central London yesterday. —AFP

WB SIGNS \$250M DEAL TO **UPGRADE AFGHAN HIGHWAYS**

KABUL: The World Bank has formally signed off a \$250 million grant to upgrade roads crossing Afghanistan's Hindu Kush mountains, crucial trade links that are often closed in winter by snow. The money will be used to improve the Salang highway, which connects Kabul and northern Afghanistan to Central Asia. The highway, an important trade route with neighboring Tajikistan, cuts through the mountains of the Hindu Kush and rises to 3,400 meters. The World Bank grant will also fund work to the road linking Baghlan to Bamiyan, also in

northern Afghanistan. Both roads "will be accessible during all four season of the year including the winter time with minimum interruption,"

World Bank official Raouf Zia told AFP. "Harsh winters often force closures of the Salang pass," Bob Saum, World Bank director in Afghanistan, said when the grant was approved in October. "And so upgrading alternative roads at lower altitudes, such as from Baghlan to Bamiyan, is important to secure traffic flows and economic activities throughout the year," he added. The \$250 million will be delivered in March to upgrade the 152-kilometre Baghlan to Bamiyan highway, which will be paved with asphalt, and to improve an 87-kilometre section of the Salang highway, including the 2.6-kilometre Salang tunnel.

The deal between the Afghan government and the World Bank's International Development Association arm was signed on Sunday. In February 2010, a series of avalanches along the Salang highway killed 169 people. —AFP

KENYA ARRESTS COMPANY HEADS, PROCUREMENT OFFICERS

NAIROBI: Kenya's anti-graft commission Kenya Pipeline Company, and three otharrested 20 people yesterday, including the heads of two state-run companies and the suspended head of a third, in one of the biggest sweeps in the commission's three-year history, the commission said.

Another seven individuals, including a regional governor, have not yet been arrested, but are being sought for "corruption-related charges." Fresh cases of graft have led to public and media calls for resignations and put further pressure on President Uhuru Kenyatta to tackle Kenya's rampant corruption. Last week, Kenyatta convened a joint government and private- sector team to draw up strategies to fight corruption.

The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) said most of the 27 individuals had turned themselves in on Monday and are expected to appear in court on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The 27 included Silas Simiyu, the managing director of the Geothermal Development Company, along with eight other people from the company, and Evans Ngibuini, the managing director of the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corp, and five others from that company.

It also included Charles Tanui, the suspended managing director of the

er officials from the company. Most of those accused work in pro-

curement, the EACC said. Attempts to reach the Geothermal Development Company, the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corp and the Kenya Pipeline Company were

unsuccessful. The EACC said the Isiolo Governor Godana Doyo - who the commission had sought to arrest on charges related to the county's budget - "has gone into hiding." But a spokesman for the governor denied Doyo was at large, saying he was in fact in the capital Nairobi and intended to appear in court in the coming days. "Of course he is saying he is innocent," the spokesman said.

Last week, the United States, Britain and nine other countries pledged to help Kenya fight corruption, promising to step up efforts to prevent funds leaving the country and pushing for those involved in graft to be prosecuted. EACC says 70 percent of all corruption in the country relates to procurement, especially in government ministries and departments.

During a visit to Kenya this July, US President Barack Obama said corruption "may be the biggest impediment to Kenya growing faster." —Reuters

NYSE-OWNER ICE TO BUY COMMODITIES TRADING PLATFORM FOR \$650M

NEW YORK: Intercontinental Exchange Inc, the owner of the New York Stock Exchange, said it would buy commodities trading platform Trayport from BGC Partners Inc and GFI Group Inc for about \$650 million in stock. ICE said the deal would help it to provide new services to the European overthe-counter energy markets, including power, natural gas and coal.

The exchange and clearing house operator said it also planned to extend the platform to cater to over-the-counter energy markets in Asia. GFI will receive 2.5 million ICE shares as part of the deal. ICE may substitute cash for part or all of the stock consideration, BGC said in a statement.

ICE, which began as an energy exchange in 2000 and expanded through acquisitions of companies including the New York Board of Trade, said the deal would not have a material impact on its 2016 earnings. Trayport is a subsidiary of GFI Group, which was acquired by BGC Partners in

ICE's financial adviser is Goldman Sachs & Co and its legal adviser is Shearman & Sterling LLP. Cantor Fitzgerald & Co is financial adviser to BGC, while its legal adviser is Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. —Reuters





MOHAMED NASER AL-SAYER, YOKOHAMA ANNOUNCE WINNERS OF FIRST DRAW

YOKOHAMA 'SAVE & BE SAFE' PROMOTION

KUWAIT: Mohamed Naser Al- Sayer & Sons Co.(MNSS), one of the Al Sayer Group of Companies held the first draw to select the winners for "Save & Be Safe" promotion at the Yokohama Center in Canada Dry, on 9 November 2015. The draw was organized in the presence of Abdul Aziz Ashkenani - Representative from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry - for Consumer

protection affairs along with Krishna Kumar General Manager Tires, Oil and Paint (TOP) Division MNSS, Inderpal Singh Senior Manager, Tire Sales from Al Sayer Yokohama and Mohammad Amin Nasimi Senior Manager After-Sales Marketing. Yokohama tires are the finest offering responsiveness, dependability and durability. The leading Japanese technology that

goes in to the design and build means you get no unwanted surprises on road, just great grip, stability and tread life.

According to Krishna Kumar GM TOP Division "The success of Yokohama promotions is backed by the high quality and durability of Yokohama tires. They are designed with superior Japanese technology to offer a

safe and stable drive at all times. Yokohama is protected against the extreme summer heat and remains cool throughout the season".

Yokohama "Save & Be Safe" promotion is valid from 4 October 2015 to 4 January 2015. During the offer period for every KD 20 spent on purchasing Yokohama tires customers will get a coupon entitling them to enter one of the three

World Oil Demand - 2015/2016, mb/d

Q1-16

YOKOHAMA

monthly draws to win fabulous cash prizes.

All Yokohama models are included in the promotion. Customers can take advantage and benefit from the two remaining draws of this promotion which will be held on 9 December 2015 and 7 January 2016 respectively. Last date to enter the draw is the 3rd of each respective month.

CRUDE PRICES FAIL TO SUSTAIN UPSWING

KAMCO RESEARCH REPORT

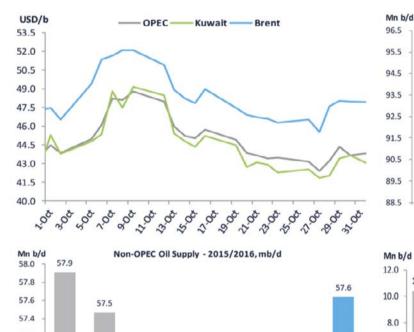
KUWAIT: Oil prices went spiraling down during October-15 and November-15 after a number of reports showed a sharp increase in oil inventories and a rising inventory glut in the global oil market. Oil market had a strong start in October-15. During the first week Brent touched the psychological important mark of \$50/b and closed at a 10-week high level of \$52.13/b whereas OPEC oil reached \$ 48.79/b during the same time. As the inventory data was released, prices started declining, and in November-15 it recorded the worst weekly decline in over eight months for the week ending 12-November-15, barely holding above the \$ 40/b level. Both Brent and WTI fell 8 percent during the week, the highest weekly decline since mid-March-15.

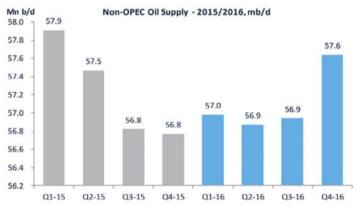
According to the US EIA, commercial crude oil inventories in the US increased by 4.2 million barrels during the week ending 12-November-15 to reach 487.0 million barrels primarily due to higher imports. Although refiners in the US unexpectedly increased their output by almost 0.8 percentage points to the highest point recorded at this time of the year as they came out of maintenance shutdowns, this could only have a temporary impact on oil prices. In a related development, inventory data released by the American Petroleum Institute (API) surprised investors as it reported 6.3 million barrels increase in inventories. Furthermore, rig count data released by Baker Hughes showed that US oil rig count rose for the first time in 11 weeks, although marginally, by two to a total of 574 rigs, adding more pressure to oil price.

Average monthly OPEC oil price saw marginal gains during October-15 after four consecutive months of decline. The average for the month stood at \$45.02/b as compared to \$44.83/b for September-15 recording a gain of 0.4 percent. However, during November-15 average OPEC oil price stood at a much lower \$ 43.02/b by 11-November-15 after it reached \$41.53/b, the lowest point in over two months. Kuwait Blend Spot Price FOB also declined for the fifth consecutive month and averaged at \$43.6/b during October-15, a decline of 0.8 percent as compared to the previous month's average. The decline continued during November-15 as average month-to-date prices reached \$41.55/b, a decline of 6.9 percent as compared to the average in October-15.

World oil demand

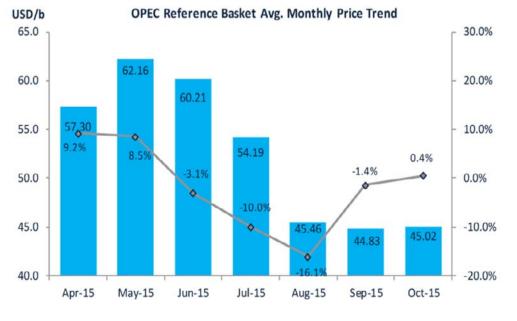
Total world oil demand growth for 2015 was kept unchanged from the last month at 1.5 mb/d to reach 92.86 mb/d as trends continue to point towards the same factors of growth. According to the latest data, oil demand in the US grew by approximately 0.4 mb/d until October-15 primarily led by higher demand for gasoline. In terms of oil demand in the OECD Americas region, Mexico recorded solid demand growth for the third consecutive month in September-15 recorded at 0.05 mb/d or 3 percent year-on-year. Demand for gasoline and jet fuel has seen an increase primarily due to the improving economy as well as due to lower fuel prices. On the other hand, Canada saw a fall in oil demand in August-15 as gains in

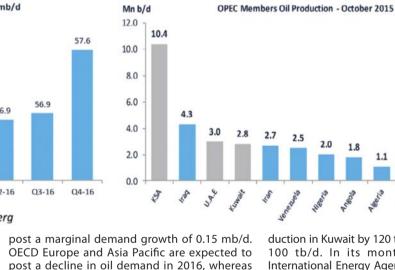




Source for the above charts : OPEC and Bloomberg

LPG demand was more than offset by decline in demand for gasoline, gasoil and fuel oil. In OECD Europe, oil demand growth in Germany, France, UK and Italy was small at 0.03 mb/d in September-15 as the decline in demand in Germany was offset by higher demand in Italy and UK. Nevertheless, European auto sales remained upbeat in September-15 with an increase of 10 percent year-on-year. Expectations for oil demand for the remainder of the year have improved since last month led by faster economic growth, low historical baseline and low fuel price environment. In Latin America, oil demand continued to shrink during September-15 with a decline of almost 5 percent or 0.13 mb/d. In the Middle East, oil demand remained particularly strong in Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Saudi Arabia saw a demand growth of nearly 8 percent or 0.21 mb/d driven by transportation fuels as travel activity increased during the summer vacation that coincided with the Hajj season. On the other hand, Iraq benefited from the low baseline effect. In Asia, oil consumption in China remained upbeat with a growth of 0.49 mb/d mostly on the back of higher diesel consumption. Oil demand growth in 2016 was also kept unchanged from the last month and is expected to reach 1.25 mb/d to average around 94.14 mb/d. The growth would be primarily on the back of higher demand in non-OECD countries (expected to be at 1.1 mb/d) whereas OECD countries are expected to





World oil supply

Non-OPEC oil supply growth in 2015 was kept unchanged from the last month is expected to grow at the same rate of 0.72 mb/d to average at 57.24 mb/d. There were small changes to oil supply projections for the remainder of the year for OECD, Developing Countries, China and the FSU. An expected fall in US tight oil production owing to persistently low oil prices is expected to be the

Middle East, Other Asia and China are expected to

show strong growth.

to persistently low oil prices is expected to be the biggest factor for the decline in supply from the region. However, overall world oil supply was positively impacted by higher-than-expected production from non-OPEC producers outside of the US during 2Q-15 and 3Q-15. Oil supply from OECD Americas saw a downward revision of 0.2mb/d and is now estimated to average at 20.56 mb/d in 2015. US total crude oil production decreased by 45 tb/d to average 9.32 mb/d in August-15 led by a decline in Texas. Meanwhile, oil supply from OECD Europe is expected to expand by 60 tb/d to 3.66 mb/d led by higher supply from UK and Norway. Oil supply from the Middle East is expected to decline by 0.09 mb/d to average at 1.25 mb/d in 2015 as increase in supply from Oman is expected to be offset by a

decline in supply from Bahrain and Yemen.

Non-OPEC oil supply was also kept unchanged from the last month and is expected to contract by 0.13 mb/d as compared to 2015 levels to average at 57.11 mb/d. According to the OPEC's monthly report, almost 5 mb/d of projects have been deferred or cancelled globally due to the low oil price environment in addition to capex reduction at existing fields. The total decline in capex cutbacks is pegged at \$ 200bn for 2015 and 2016 that would lead to a supply hole in the coming years.

OPEC oil production & spare capacity

OPEC oil production & spare capacity
OPEC oil production increased during
October-15 by 74 tb/d or 0.2 percent to 32.21
mb/d after a decline during the previous month.
The increase in production was primarily on the
back of higher production in Libya and Saudi
Arabia that increased production by 80 tb/d each
followed by 53 tb/d increase in production in Iraq.
This increase was partially offset by decline in pro-

duction in Kuwait by 120 tb/d and in Iran by 100 tb/d. In its monthly report, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said that OPEC's oil production is almost 1.1 mb/d higher than a year ago led by Saudi Arabia that pumped oil at more than 10 mb/d for

the eight consecutive month. Moreover, an

expected fall in non-OPEC oil supply growth as producers cannot sustain production at such low oil price has provided a positive push to demand forecast for OPEC's crude in 2016. The IEA said that instead of cutting production, the OPEC could increase total production by the group to accommodate Indonesia that has applied to rejoin the group.

Meanwhile, in its monthly report, OPEC said that surplus oil inventories are at the highest level in at least a decade owing to increased global oil production. OPEC said that inventory in developed economies are 210 million barrels higher than their fiveyear average, much more than the glut that accumulated in early 2009 after the financial crisis. However, a slowdown in non-OPEC supply and rising demand for winter should take away some of the inventory build-up and support prices. In a separate event, the secretary general of OPEC said despite Iran coming to the oil market, global demand for crude would bring more balance to the oil market as early as next year. Supporting this view, the vice chairman of IHS said that oil market will rebalance in 2016 or 2017 as demand grows between 1.2 mb/d and 1.5 mb/d till 2020. Similarly, the IEA also believes that the oil market will rebalance at \$ 80/b price level in 2020.

During October-15, OPEC produced at 88.4 percent of its capacity, an increase of 20 bps from the previous month. Saudi Arabia continued to account for the lion's share of the total output by the group, pegged at 32.2 percent followed by Iraq at 13.3 percent and UAE at 9.2 percent. Meanwhile, the decline in monthly production in Kuwait during October-15 (-120 tb/d) came as a result of less number of rigs in operation ie 40 rigs during October-15 as compared to 43 rigs during September-15.

AUB ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-HASSAD PROGRAM

KUWAIT: Ahli United Bank held its weekly draw of Al-Hassad Islamic Saving program on November 11, 2015. This program offers the biggest prize amount to the largest number of winners. The prize program succeeded in becoming the first and only prize account in Kuwait compliant with the Islamic Shari'a principles. The program has been developed to fulfil the needs of the Bank customers and increase their opportunities in winning sizeable and attractive prizes in addition to enjoying the latest banking advantages that Ahli United Bank provides.

On this occasion, the bank issued the following press release: Al-Hassad Islamic Saving program offers the highest amounts of prizes which amount to KD 3.4 million per year. This Program also offers 26 weekly prizes, with the highest number of weekly winners. The Islamic Hassad Saving Account may be opened by the lowest amount to open an account, which is KD 100.

account, which is KD 100.

The winner of the weekly grand prize in the amount of KD 25,000 is: Aliaa M A Al-Houli. The winners of the KD 1,000 prize each Murtaza Mohamad Husein, Talal Othman Khalid, Eyad Fawaz Al-Mahmoud, Jaber Ahmad Al-Sarraf, Mohammad Saud Al-Ajmi, Fahad Eissa Al-Khudhur, Yousef Ahmad Al-Mailam, Yaqoub Yousif Al-Meshari, Bader Mansour Al-Safar, Emad Hassan Ali Al-Asousi, Ahmad Khaleefa Al-Khader, Abdulla Mohammed Al-Qoud, Shafei Mohammad Al-Awadhi, Hanadi

Fakhruddin Adenwala, Jassem Mohd Ahmed, Jaman M H Al-Azemi, Talal Mohd Al Shemallan, Mohamed Essa Al Rasheed, Mona Husxsain Ali, Ghallah Khalaf Shebeeb, Husain Abdulla Saud, Faisal Abdulla Hashim, Hanan Mohammed Ahmed, Ahmed Tawfiq Hasan.

The Prize program of "Al- Hassad Islamic Saving" from Ahli United Bank offers a weekly grand prize worth KD

البتك الاهتان المتجد ahli united bank

25,000 in addition to 25 weekly prizes worth a total of KD 25,000 distributed to

25 prizes, KD 1,000 for each winner. In addition, prizes of Al-Hassad Islamic saving program from Ahli United Bank offer 4 quarterly grand prizes announced in quarterly draws. Each is a "Salary for Life" prize which is worth KD

In general, Ahli United Bank continues to offer innovative tools and means to meet the needs of its customers to match the Bank's long history of distinctive services which extend over 73 years during which the Bank managed to take the lead among local banks. For further information about "Al-Hassad Islamic Saving" account, customers may call at any Ahli United Bank branch.

EMC PARTICIPATES IN THIRD E-GOVT FORUM

By Islam Al-Sharaa

KUWAIT: EMC is participating in the third E-Government Forum (EGOV3) that is being held in Kuwait from Nov 15-17 to discuss the future of effective and secure government services. Held under the patronage of HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the third edition of the largest e-government event in Kuwait brings together over 3,500 prominent senior dignitaries, ministers and government officials in addition to visionary heads of enterprise, decision makers and CEOs from across the region to share ideas and best practices to build a sound foundation for the advancement of government serv-

Hosted in collaboration with the Central Agency for Information Technology (CAIT), EGOV3 features a series of keynotes and presentations by a series of prominent speakers to offer insights that are aimed at helping government entities in Kuwait reinforce service strategies in an era of digitization and heightened connectivity.

Kuwait Times spoke to Habib Mahakian, Vice President, Gulf and Pakistan, and Samer M Saber, Country Manager, Kuwait.

Kuwait Times: How do you view EMC's participation in the third E-Government Forum (EGOV3) in Kuwait?

EMC: We are very excited to participate as a diamond sponsor in this event, because a lot of government



Habib Mahakian Vice President, Gulf and Pakistan

services need to go to the next level and EMC is offering solutions. I believe this platform is the best place to present the new transformation happening in IT. Our participation here is mainly about smart cities. We discussed that a lot of cities, especially in the GCC region, are leading the way in the Middle East and even outside the Middle East when it comes to smart cities' initiatives, and in this forum we can help show governments and cities across the region and in Kuwait what to do in a different way to incubate such ideas.

KT: What is EMC's role in the creation of smart cities and how is it going to help Kuwait government in its efforts to build a sound foundation for the advancement of government

REDEFINE HYBRID CLOUD

Samer M Saber Country Manager, Kuwait.

EMC: Firstly, we tell them what is the best way to plan for this, which has three perspectives - infrastructure, the platform and the application layer. This is where we can help the Kuwaiti government, followed by the implementation of the project. Hopefully we will be announcing certain new initiatives very soon about smart cities inside and outside Kuwait.

KT: What are the cornerstones of smart cities and how are they helping local governments' needs for innovations?

EMC: The main thing is to have the right strategy and laws to help the government put the right data laws and how to share the data, so this is the first milestone in setting up the

right platform or the blueprint of the platform, and then the execution. The three main layers of the platform as mentioned are the infrastructure layer, the platform layer and the application layer, and the three should work together, which EMC provides for.

KT: What are the potential challenges enterprises face today in building smart cities?

EMC: Having the right laws to regulate all what has to do with smart cities, because it has to be smart but also has to be controlled. It has to have the right discipline, and these are related to security, so we have to be innovative. In addition to this, you have to have the right infrastructure in the country or in the place where you want the smart city initiative. You have

to have the telecom infrastructure, connectivity infrastructure and the IT infrastructure, so it's a mix between communication and IT infrastructure.

KT: How do you look at the impact of growing social media adoption in this context?

EMC: Social media is a great source of data, and smart cities mainly depend on how big the data that is available is and the diversification of the data. According to IDC reports, by 2020, you will have 40+ zettabytes coming from different sources like traditional systems and from social media, so all this mix of data is the main base for taking the decision in a smart city, like healthcare and transportation. All of these are connected and communicated over social media, so our role here is to help the government and the cities because of this data, whether it's coming from official transactional data of the organizations of the citizens in that city.

EMC in Kuwait took the decision long time ago to give more dedication and investment in Kuwait, and we have a big team and all kinds of EMC services serving our customers here. We work with different sectors, whether government or private, and EMC decided to be more committed to Kuwait as a market to see the potential in Kuwait. We see that Kuwait already took the decision to grow the IT business. That's why a company like EMC has opened its offices in Kuwait and with a good amount of resources with the best quality of people in the region.

IN KENYA, A DIGITAL CLASSROOM IN A BOX

NAIROBI: At the Lighthouse Grace Academy in Nairobi's downmarket Kwangware suburb, yellow school t-shirts carry the slogan 'To Fear God is Wisdom', but in their hands pupils clutch a more worldly path to knowledge: tablet comput-

The hand-sized tablets are part of the 'Kio Kit', a digital classroom in a suitcase designed by local technology company BRCK, which two years ago launched the hard-wearing, brick-sized modem that works as a wifi hotspot.

"The Kio Kit is a way to turn any classroom into a digital classroom," said Nivi Mukherjee of BRCK Education, the subsidiary that launched the product in September.

"You open the box and there are 40 tablets inside, there is a BRCK inside and on the BRCK there is a Linux [open-source] server - so we can locally cache educational content, and serve it up to the tablets."

In her crowded cement-floored, tinwalled classroom with a stopped clock on the wall, seven-year-old Blessing taps away on her new tablet, learning to spell. Unusually for a child in school, she's smiling. "It's fun," she said.

Her teacher Josephine Boke, who has taught primary school for 12 years, says the kit "is nicely designed for the young hands, and it's easy to use and easy to adapt to the technology." "To the kids, they get excited when they are using it. It gives me an easy time as a teacher."

Kenyan problem, Kenyan solution

Kenya has a thriving tech start-up scene, including the enormously successful M-Pesa mobile money transfer system which allows clients to send cash with their telephones

The tablets and the BRCK are symbiotic: the modem is fixed into a watertight, hard-ened-plastic wheeled suitcase which has slots for the tablets and acts as a wireless charging station for both.

New digital learning materials are uploaded to the BRCK wirelessly during quiet times of the night when more bandwidth is available, and then shared with the tablets during classes.

Thieves with an eye on the bright yel-

low, tough and dust-resistant tablets will be disappointed, as they cannot browse the internet nor be charged independently.

Like the BRCK, the tablets are designed to solve Kenyan problems. "Intermittent power, intermittent internet connectivity, those are just the realities of our infrastructure, so we have to build solutions for those realities, rather than import solutions from other places," said Mukherjee.

At \$5,000 (4,500 euros) a piece the price of the kit seems high, given the ambition to provide access to quality education to all in some of the world's poorest places.

But with many schools lacking electricity, let alone facilities to teach computing, Mukherjee says it is not only intended for the private and donor-backed schools in which it is currently being used.

"We see this kit being rolled around from one classroom to the next throughout the day, throughout the week, children sharing it, having access to the kind of content and e-textbooks they wouldn't otherwise have access to," she said. "We don't think it's beyond the reach of public schools to spend \$5,000 giving digital access to 400 children"

Just five primary schools and libraries are currently using the Kio Kit, but BRCK Education already has 300 pre-orders and Mukherjee hopes to be producing "thousands each month by next year".

In South Africa, the continent's most advanced country, Gauteng province which houses Johannesburg and Pretoria, started rolling out tablets to 375 high school pupils earlier this year.

The plan is to hand out 17,000 tablets to pupils in their final year of high school, and swap teachers' chalkboards with smart interactive boards targeting especially the poverty-stricken township and rural schools.

The tablets come with free data bundle which is active between 5:00am and 9:00 pm while access to social networks is blocked. The scheme was initially hit by theft in the crime-ridden country, forcing authorities to install tracking devices on them, officials said.

And authorities came under fire for giving ICT a priority when some schools still lack basics such as flush toilets. —AFP



REDWOOD CITY: In this photo taken Friday, Oct. 9, 2015, a crowd of people watch the MegaBots 15-foot tall, piloted Mk.II robot in action at the Pioneer Summit in Redwood City, Calif. Let the giant robot wars begin. A team of American engineers challenged a group in Japan to a battle for robot supremacy, and the Japanese said bring it on. —AP

US STARTUP CHALLENGES JAPAN TO ROBOT BATTLE

OAKLAND: They've been popularized in movies, television and video games, but giant fighting robots still haven't left the realm of science fiction. That will soon change. Megabots Inc., an Oakland, California-based startup, has built a 15-foot (4.5-meter) mechanical gladiator called the Mark II and challenged a Japanese firm to an international battle for robot supremacy.

Tokyo-based Suidobashi Heavy Industries, maker of the 13-foot (4-meter) Kuratas, accepted the challenge, setting the stage for the first giant robot battle of its kind next year. The exact date and location are yet to be determined.

Win or lose, it's all part of Megabots' plan by to make gladiator-style robot combat into big-time entertainment - a mix between Ultimate Fighting Championship and Formula One auto racing - while developing new industrial technologies and inspiring a new generation of engineers.

The Megabots founders envision a sports league where teams from around the world build huge humanoid robots that throw each other down in stadiums filled with screaming fans.

"Everyone wins as long as there is robot carnage," said Megabots co-founder Matt Oehrlein, an electrical engineer. "People want to see these things fight. They want to see them punch each other, they want to see them ripped apart and they want to be entertained."

Megabots was launched in 2014 by Oehrlein, Gui Cavalcanti and Brinkley Warren, who grew up playing video games like "MechWarrior" and "BattleTech," and wanted to fulfill their dreams of watching massive machines fight.

"We want to bring the giant robots from science

"We want to bring the giant robots from science fiction and movies and video games to life because now we have the technology," said Cavalcanti, a robotics engineer. "It's really about: How do we put on the best show? How do we make the coolest fight?"

Inside a cavernous Oakland workshop, the Megabots founders built the Mark II - a 12,000-pound (5,443 kilograms) behemoth with tank treads, two-pilot cockpit and missile launcher that fires canon ball-sized paintballs.

Then Oehrlein called out Suidobashi in a YouTube video: "We have a giant robot. You have a giant robot. You know what needs to happen. We challenge you to a duel." Suidobashi's founder Kogoro Kurata accepted in his own video: "We can't

let another country win this. Giant robots are Japanese culture. Yeah, I'll fight. Absolutely."

Kurata also taunted the Megabots team: "Come on guys, make it cooler. Just building something huge and sticking guns on it, it's super American."

The Megabots robot isn't quite ready to take on Kuratas, a more polished fighting machine with a big, agile hand that mimics the movements of the pilot's hand. "Our current robot, the Mark II, looks pretty intimidating," Oehrlein said. "The truth is, it's pretty slow. It's top-heavy. It's rusty, and it needs a set of armor upgrades to be able to compete in hand-to-hand combat,"

That's why Megabots launched an online Kickstarter campaign and raised more than \$550,000 from robot fans to turn the Mark II into a

real fighting machine - faster, tougher, more balanced and equipped with detachable weapons such as a giant chain saw or punching fist.

The startup has enlisted the help of engineers from NASA, software maker Autodesk, the TV shows "Mythbusters" and "BattleBots." "We're absolutely confident that Team USA can beat Japan. We've assembled the best of the best of this country. We're not going to let our country down," Calvalcanti said.

Robot enthusiasts like Gordon Kirkwood are eagerly anticipating the fight. "I think it's going to be a smash hit," said Kirkwood, a robotics engineer in San Francisco. "This has the potential to be a fantastic spectator sport that people would really pay good money to see." — AP

AS BOEING BOOMS, ROBOTS RISE AND JOB GROWTH LAGS

NEW YORK: For most of its 100-year history, when Boeing turned out more planes, employment soared and the Seattle-area economy prospered. When the rate of production fell, layoffs followed and the local economy crashed.

The cycle was so predictable that Boeing workers had a phrase for it: "Headcount goes by rate."

Now that longstanding cycle has broken down.

The world's largest plane maker is in the midst of its biggest peacetime boom, churning out 20 percent more planes than when the last big cycle peaked in the 1990s. But it is doing so with one-third fewer workers. In their place, Boeing is turning to robots and outsourcing.

In the past year, Boeing installed four banks of two-story riveting machines at the factory that makes its 737 aircraft in Renton, Washington. When it switched them on in May, the age-old clatter of hand-held rivet guns gave way to the whispery hiss of the 60-ton robots, which Boeing says can work twice as fast as people, with two-thirds fewer

defects. At its sprawling plant in Everett, Washington, Boeing has installed robotic arms to drill and rivet together fuselages for the 777 jetliner.

The machines are "taking what is in the neighborhood of 50,000 to 70,000 fasteners in the 777 fuselage that are today applied by hand and automating them," Boeing Chief Executive Dennis Muilenburg said in a speech at an aerospace trade fair in Seattle in September.

It's a "huge transformation in how we build airplanes." Boeing says automation is essential to improve quality and worker safety, lower costs and keep up with its European rival Airbus, which also is automating and churning out more planes to meet worldwide growth in air travel.

But while Boeing says the robots have not caused any layoffs, the company is not predicting significant job growth either. "Increased automation means we can go higher in rates with a stable workforce," Barry Lewis, head of wing manufacturing operations at Boeing's 737 plant, said during a recent factory tour.—Reuters



NAIROBI: Teacher Josephine Boke assists pupils from the Light House Grace academy in using the Kio tablet created by the local technology company BRCK Education, during a class sesssion in Kawangware, Nairobi, on October 16, 2015. —AFP

MISUNDERSTANDING OF ANTIBIOTICS FUELS SUPERBUG THREAT, WHO SAYS

'Drug resistance could end modern medicine as we know it'

LONDON: People across the world are alarmingly confused about the role of antibiotics and the right way to take them, and this ignorance is fuelling the rise of drug-resistant superbugs, the World Health Organization said yesterday. "The rise of antibiotic resistance is a global health crisis," WHO Director-General Margaret Chan told reporters in a telebriefing from the organisation's Geneva headquarters. She said the problem was "reaching dangerously high levels" in all parts of the world and could lead to "the end of modern medicine as we know it".

Antibiotic resistance happens when bac-

teria mutate and adapt to become invulnerable to the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause. Over-use and misuse of antibiotics exacerbates the development of drug-resistant bacteria, often called superbugs. Publishing the results of a survey of public awareness, the United Nations health agency said 64 percent of those asked believed wrongly that penicillin-based drugs and other antibiotics can treat colds and flu, despite the fact such medicines have no impact on viruses. Around a third of people surveyed also wrongly believed they should stop taking antibiotics when they feel better,

rather than completing the prescribed treatment course, the WHO said.

"The findings ... point to the urgent need to improve understanding around antibiotic resistance," said Keiji Fukuda, the WHO's special representative for antimicrobial resistance. "One of the biggest health challenges of the 21st century will require global behavior change by individuals and societies." Superbug infections, including multi-drugresistant typhoid, tuberculosis and gonorrhoea, already kill hundreds of thousands of people a year, and for now the trend is still

Worrying misconceptions

Fukuda described it as a "race against the pathogens", adding that if everyone steps into action now, it will probably take five to 10 years to turn the situation around. The WHO surveyed 10,000 people across 12 countries-Barbados, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, Serbia, South Africa, Sudan and Vietnam-and found many worrying misconceptions. Three-quarters of respondents think antibiotic resistance means the body is resistant to the drugs, for example, whereas in fact it is the bacteria themselves that become resistant to antibiotics, and their

spread causes hard-to-treat infections. Some 66 percent believe individuals are not at risk of a drug-resistant infection if they personally take their antibiotics as prescribed. And nearly half of those surveyed think drug resistance is only a problem in people who take antibiotics often. In fact, anyone, anywhere, of any age, can get a superbug infection. Chan urged doctors to dissuade patients from demanding antibiotics for infections they can't treat, and persuade them to use the drugs strictly according to their prescription. "Doctors need to treat antibiotics as a precious commodity,"



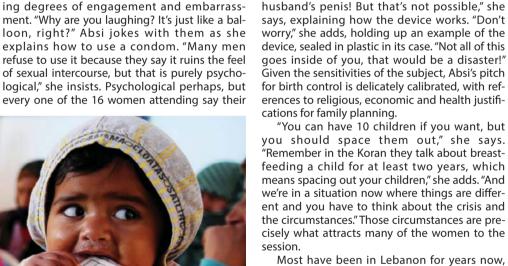
TAYBEH, Lebanon: Syrian refugee women and children sit under a tent as they attend a class on family planning organized by Doctors Without Borders (MSF) at a makeshift camp by Taybeh village, in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley.—AFP photos

FUTURES UNCLEAR, SYRIAN REFUGEES IN LEBANON START FAMILY PLANNING

TAYBEH, Lebanon: In a tent in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, Sanaa Al-Absi extracts a condom from its is the first time some of the women have seen the contraceptive, which they are learning about as part of a rare program teaching Syrian refugees family planning in Lebanon. The subiect is a sensitive one, strewn with cultural, religious and even political landmines. In much of the Middle East, large families are seen as a blessing from God, and contraception is regarded with skepticism or outright hostility. And in Lebanon, where an influx of 1.1 million Syrian refugees has strained resources and tempers, family planning can be misconstrued as a way to stem the growth of the displaced population.

Absi, herself a 30-year-old Syrian refugee husbands will not use condoms, and are more wrapper in front of a group of giggling Syrian confident as she talks the women through differrefugee women and begins explaining its use. It ent contraceptives in a tent used as a classroom.

from southern Daraa province, is careful but She is a volunteer with Doctors Without Borders (MSF), which provides the women with free contraceptives as well as pre- and post-natal care. In the tent in the makeshift camp by Taybeh village in eastern Lebanon, the women listen with varving degrees of engagement and embarrassment. "Why are you laughing? It's just like a balloon, right?" Absi jokes with them as she explains how to use a condom. "Many men refuse to use it because they say it ruins the feel of sexual intercourse, but that is purely psychological," she insists. Psychological perhaps, but



Most have been in Lebanon for years now, some since the Syrian conflict began with antigovernment protests in March 2011. They scrape by with aid and occasional work, and their children have patchy access to education. The camp they call home is searingly hot in the summer and covered with snow in the winter. "In Syria, everything was easy, everything was cheap, but here we have to rely on aid, and it's not coming anymore," says 35-year-old Shamsa, a mother of 11, whose smile reveals two gold teeth. "People say that when a baby comes it's a blessing and God will provide for it, but the reality is that it is hard to provide for them, so family planning is a

interested in other contraceptive methods.

Clearing up misconceptions Absi shows them different varieties of the pill.

as well as the contraceptive injection and the

intrauterine device (IUD), aiming to clear up

some misconceptions along the way. "Some

people come to me and say, the IUD trapped my



Shamsa opted for tubal ligation after her last child was born, nine months ago. "If the situation was good, I would have continued having children, but under the circumstances, I decided to stop." Her husband was opposed but eventually consented. He wanted more boys, since of her 11 children nine are girls. MSF has been offering family planning sessions since April 2013 in four areas, mostly in around 15 makeshift campsites. The sessions are also available for men, and some women say their husbands support spacing out children. Fatima Al-Abdullah, an 18-yearold who married six months ago, is trying for her first child, but eventually plans to decide on a contraceptive method with her husband. "We want four or five children, but he doesn't want a child year after year," she says. But other women's husbands are less supportive. "My husband says it is religiously forbidden, and that what God gives is good," says Huriyeh, a 27-year-old who is five months pregnant with her fifth child. She has four girls, and had a boy who was disabled and died as a toddler. I'm hoping this pregnancy will be a boy, I think if it was a boy I would stop after that." As she speaks, her husband wanders over and laughs, dragging on a cigarette. "Don't believe her, she wants at least a dozen children!"



Bangladesh less than a week after they were born, the hospital treating them said yesterday. Thousands of people had flocked to visit the twins, who were born with two heads and two hearts but just one body, after news spread of the "miracle newborn" last week. They were taken into intensive care at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Bangladesh's biggest public hospital, which set up a team of specialists to treat them. But the head of the intensive care unit said they died late on Sunday after apparently suffering from heart failure. "She was not in a stable condition since she was born. She died before we could intervene," said Abid Hossian Molla.

"She was a rare conjoined twins with two heads. She had two hands and two legs like any normal baby, but inside she had two hearts, two sets of lungs and shared pelvic organs." The twins' father Jamal Mia said he had buried her at a public graveyard in Dhaka. "I can't afford to hire an ambulance to take her back home. So the doctors gave me some money to bury her in Dhaka," Mia said. "I feel sad for her as we could not do much to save her." Mia said he had not yet told his wife of the twins' death because she was still "very sick" after giving birth by Caesarian section.

Conjoined siblings are identical twins who in rare cases are born with their skin and internal organs fused together, according to the University of Maryland Medical Centre website. About half are stillborn and the survival rate is between five and 25 percent. They develop from a single egg, which splits in the case of healthy twins, but not fully in the case of conjoined sib-



DHAKA: In this photograph taken on November 12, 2015, Bangladeshi conjoined twins receive medical care at a hospital in Brahmanbaria, some 120 kms east of Dhaka.—AFP

ON WORLD TOILET DAY, ONE BILLION PEOPLE HAVE NOWHERE TO GO

LONDON: Some 2.4 billion people around the world don't have access to decent sanitation and more than a billion are forced to defecate in the open, risking disease and other dangers, according to the United Nations. Launching its World Toilet Day campaign for Nov 19, the UN said poor sanitation increases the risk of illness and malnutrition, especially for children, and called for women and girls in particular to be offered safe, clean facilities. "One out of three women around the world lack access to safe toilets," UN Secretary General Ban Kimoon said in a statement. "As a result they face disease, shame and potential violence when they seek a place to defecate."

Even where there are toilets around the world, some hardly warrant the name, as illustrated by Reuters in a photo essay from around the world. In a Syrian refugee settlement camp in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, for example, toilets surrounded by graffiti-covered corrugated sheet sit right up against flimsy tents. In the Marcory district of Abidjan, Ivory Coast, a "private" stall is simply built of spare bits of lumber and metal.

The UN says that while there is sufficient fresh water on the planet for everyone, "bad economics and poor infrastructure" mean that every year millions of people most of them children - die from diseases linked to poor sanitation, unhygienic living conditions and lack of clean water supplies. "We have a moral imperative to end open defecation and a duty to ensure women and girls are not at risk of assault and rape simply because they lack a sanitation facility," Ban said.—Reuters

CLINTON, DIGGING AT SANDERS, SAYS DON'T SCRAP HEALTH LAW

AMES, Iowa: Fresh from the second Democratic presidential debate, Hillary Rodham Clinton has suggested that Bernie Sanders would raise middle-class taxes and "scrap" President Barack Obama's health care law, in an escalating critique of the Vermont senator. Joined by her husband, former President Bill Clinton, at a fall barbecue, the front-runner said Sunday that middle-class families "need a raise, not a tax increase" and she was the lone Democrat in the debate to

commit to raising wages "and not your taxes." Without mentioning her main rival by name, Clinton said Democrats should work to build on Obama's health law and not suggest "we scrap it and start all over again." During the debate, Clinton questioned Sanders' 2013 health care legislation, saying it would dismantle the law and empower Republican governors like Terry Branstad of Iowa to administer the health care system in each state. Sanders envisions a "single-payer" system that would be run by the states under federal rules. Sanders, in a brief interview following a town hall meeting at Simpson College in Indianola, said he could pay for his agenda without raising taxes on middle-class families. "Our agenda is the most progressive in terms of demanding that Wall Street, large corporations and the wealthy finally start

paying their fair share of taxes," he said. During the event, he said he had helped write Obama's health care law. "We are the only major country on earth that does not guarantee health care to all as a right. We have got to end that embarrassment," he said. Even as the field responded somberly to the deadly attacks in Paris, the debate Saturday night marked a feistier phase in the Democratic campaign. Helped by a strong autumn, Clinton has built a small lead in Iowa and is trying to stave off Sanders in the Feb. 1 presidential caucuses.

Shamefully hiding

Sanders put Clinton on the defensive in the debate when he said Wall Street had been the major contributor to her campaigns in order to get support in return. Clinton responded that Sanders was trying to "impugn my integrity" and said that as a New York senator, she helped New York City's financial hub rebuild after the Sept 11 attacks. Her invoking of 9/11 received an incredulous response on social media and Republicans accused her of shamefully hiding behind the attacks to deflect attention from her ties to her wealthiest donors. Taking the stage in Ames, former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley said Clinton brought up 9/11 to try to "mask her proximity to Wall Street and the huge amount of contributions and the dollars she has received personally from the major banks of Wall Street."

"She doesn't have to mask it. It is what it is," O'Malley said. "That is the sort of company, that is the sort economic advice that she would follow." Sanders campaign manager Jeff Weaver said following the debate that the senator's proposals would be paid for with higher taxes on the wealthy and large corporations. "He's raising taxes to pay for relief for middle-income and working people," he said. Sanders noted his support of legislation backed by Sen Kirsten Gillibrand, Clinton's successor as New York senator, to provide 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave. He said it would be paid for by adding about \$1.38 a week to payroll taxes for the average worker. -AP



TAYBEH, Lebanon: A child sits under a tent with Syrian refugee women attending a class on



TAYBEH, Lebanon: A Syrian refugee girl stands at a makeshift camp by Taybeh village.

HEALTH & SCIENCE



Cotopaxi, ECUADOR: View of the Cotopaxi volcano spewing ashes on October 30, 2015 in Cotopaxi province, Ecuador.—AFP photos



Cotopaxi, ECUADOR: The director of the Geophysical Institute of Ecuador Cotopaxi, ECUADOR: View of the Cotopaxi volcano spewing ashes on Mario Ruiz (center) and technicians install monitoring equipment in October 29, 2015 in Cotopaxi province. Cotopaxi province.



FEAR AND BEAUTY AT FOOT OF ECUADOR'S COTOPAXI VOLCANO

COTOPAXI, Ecuador: Since it awoke in August from a 138-year slumber, Ecuador's Cotopaxi volcano has become one of the most-watched in the world, holding wary locals and fascinated scientists in thrall. Cotopaxi, whose snowy peak rises majestically from the patchwork quilt of central Ecuador's high plains, rumbled to life on August 14, belching a column of ash in its first major eruption since 1877. President Rafael Correa declared a state of emergency as authorities warned the volcano was one of the most dangerous on Earth because of its big snow cap and the relatively large population

So far, the fiery explosion of lava and cataclysmic snow-melt the government feared have not materialized. But scientists are keeping a wary eye on Cotopaxi. A team from Ecuador's Geophysics Institute recently climbed to the last shelter before the crater and installed wind-powered generators to keep their monitoring equipment running in case it gets covered by volcanic ash. "This is the most monitored volcano in South America. We can't rule out any scenario," said the institute's director, Mario Ruiz.

Touring the ruddy terrain around the volcano's base, where herds of wild horses run amid the meadows and lakes, Ruiz pointed out the deep grooves carved by the 1877 eruption. "In the 10 kilometers (six miles) immediately surrounding Cotopaxi there's almost no one and nothing," Ruiz told AFP. "But there's a possibility the volcano could generate pyroclastic flows-a mix of gas, ashes and rock fragments-that could melt the glacier and form rivers of mud and debris, or lahars, which could affect the surrounding population for

dozens of kilometers."

A powerful eruption is unlikely, he said. But if it happened, it would have a devastating impact on an area that is home to 325,000 people, an oil pipeline and a key agriculture industry and sits just 45 kilometers south of the capital Quito.

'Marvelous' but scary

During the August eruption, authorities evacuated hundreds of people and closed tens of thousands of hectares (acres) of the national park that surrounds the 5,897-meter (19,347-foot) volcano. President Correa also decreed a controversial "prior censorship" measure that barred the media from releasing any unauthorized information on the volcano. Residents who live near the volcano have grown used to living in a state of "yellow alert," the second scale on Ecuador's four-level warning system. They go about their days as Cotopaxi spits large volumes of ash and gas into the sky. "I live with the joy of having this marvelous volcano nearby, but with the fear that it could turn destructive," said Roberto Veloz, who lives in the small town of El Pedregal, 10 kilometers from the volcano. The three states considered to be at risk-Cotopaxi, Napo and Pichincha periodically organize eruption drills. But they have not released estimates of the economic impact an eruption would have.

'Reducing uncertainty'

Visitors to the Geophysics Institute's headquarters in Quito are greeted by a map of mainland Ecuador's 84 volcanos, color-coded as dormant, potentially active, active or erupting. A monitoring room receives real-time data from 60 stations installed around Cotopaxi, which is analyzed 24 hours a day by a team of 80 experts. "Volcanic processes develop underground. We can't measure them directly," said Ruiz as he watched a panel of six large screens with data from instruments like infrared cameras and level gauges.

"We measure the number and the intensity of seismic events, the deformation or leak of gases... and try to establish a scenario of how it could evolve," he said. Ruiz, a 30-year veteran of the Institute, said there was little time for a breather even though Cotopaxi's risk level was recently downgraded from moderate to low. "We've entered into the stage of uncertainty. Our work now is to reinforce what we know with more data to reduce that uncertainty," he said.—AFP

TRANSPLANT GIVES NEW FACE, SCALP TO BURNED FIREFIGHTER

NEW YORK: A volunteer firefighter badly burned in a 2001 blaze has received the most extensive face transplant ever, covering his skull and much of his neck, a New York hospital announced yesterday. The surgery took place in August at the NYU Langone Medical Center. The patient, 41year-old Patrick Hardison, is still undergoing physical therapy at the hospital but plans to return home to Senatobia, Mississippi, in time for Thanksgiving.

The surgery has paved the way for him to regain normal vision, and in an interview last week he said that will let him accomplish a major goal: "I'll start driving again." More than two dozen face transplants have been performed worldwide since the first one in France in 2005. Dr Eduardo Rodriguez, who led the surgical team that did Hardison's transplant and recently wrote a review of the field, said Hardison's is by far the most extensive performed successfully in terms of the amount of tissue transferred.

The transplant extends from the top of the head, over Hardison's skull and down to the collarbones in front; in back, it reaches far enough down that only a tiny patch of Hardison's original hair remains - its color matched by the dark blond hair growing on his new scalp. The transplant includes both ears. The surgery began Aug. 14 and lasted 26 hours. It left no scars on Hardison's new face because the seam of the transplanted tissue runs down the back of his skull.

Skin grafts

The donor was 26-year-old New York

artist and competitive bicyclist David P Rodebaugh. He had died of injuries from a biking accident on a Brooklyn street. Hardison was burned Sept 5, 2001, in Senatobia in northwestern Mississippi. A 27-year-old father of three at the time who'd served for seven years as a volunteer firefighter, he entered a burning house to search for a woman. The roof collapsed, giving him third-degree burns on his head, neck and upper torso. He spent about two months at a Memphis, Tennessee, burn center. Doctors used a layer of skin from his legs to cover his wounded head, but he had lost his ears, lips, most of his nose and virtually all of his eyelid tissue. Since he could not blink, doctors used skin grafts to reinforce what remained of his eyelids and sewed them nearly shut to protect his eyes. That left him with only pinhole vision. "I was almost totally blind," he recalled. "I could see just a little bit."

His face was "one huge scar," Rodriguez said. Hardison still went to baseball games and did other things outside, although people stared. He playfully told curious children that he had fought a bear. Still, he said, life was hard. He endured 71 surgeries. Eventually a church friend of his wrote to Rodriguez, who had performed a 2012 face transplant at the University of Maryland Medical Center. The doctor said he would try to help, and in August 2014 Hardison was placed on a waiting list.

Ideal donor

"We were looking for the ideal donor," one who matched Hardison on biological traits to minimize the risk of his body's

rejecting the new tissue, as well as things like skin and hair color, said Rodriguez, who by then had moved to NYU Langone. A year later, Rodebaugh was identified as a potential donor by LiveOnNY, the nonprofit organization that seeks transplant organs and tissue in the New York City area. A native of the Columbus, Ohio, area, he had signed up to donate organs. His mother gave permission to use his face, noting that Rodebaugh had always wanted to be a firefighter, said LiveOnNY president Helen Irving.

The hospital paid for the transplant operation, which included attaching four bone segments to Hardison's skull, as anchors to prevent the face from drooping. Now, three months later, the lower part of his face remains swollen, but Rodriguez said that will go away in a few months. With his new eyelids and more surgery, he's expected to regain a normal field of vision for the first time in more than a decade. He will have to continuing taking medications to prevent his body from rejecting the transplant. Eventually, "a casual observer will not notice anything that is odd" in Hardison's new face, which will blend features of his original face and the donor's, Rodriguez said. Hardison said his new face has already made a difference when he goes outside. "I used to get stared at all the time, but now I'm just an average guy," he said. He's been told he can't return to firefighting because of insurance concerns, but he has another plan: motivational speaking or something similar, perhaps for wounded veterans. His message? "Just how there is hope."—AP



Aug. 31, 2015

Aug. 15, 2015











Aug. 24, 2015



Nov. 11, 2015

NEW YORK: This combination of Aug 15, 2015 to Nov 11, 2015 photos provided by the New York University Langone on of Patrick Hardison after his facial transi



NEW YORK: This combination of photos provided by the **New York University Langone Medical Center shows Patrick** Hardison before and after his facial transplant surgery.



NEW YORK: This 1999 family photo provided by Lori Taylor shows her brother Patrick Hardison, with his two daughters, Averi, left, and Alison.



Kuwait 🗪 Times 248 33 199





KKIC HOLDS ISLAMIC STUDENTS CONFERENCE

Disseminate true message of Islam: Al-As'oui



By Sajeev K Peter

■he inaugural session of the twoday Islamic Students Conference (ISCON) witnessed an overwhelming participation of students and general public in which eminent Kuwait dignitaries participated as key speakers. Inaugurating the conference on Friday at Ihyauthuras Hall in Qortoba, Sheikh Dawood Al-As'oui, Assistant undersecretary, Awqaf ministry said, Islam advocates peace and it disseminates the message of peace and tranquility among people. "Islam never encourages terrorism or extremism but a harmonious life. But unfortunately, Islam is misunderstood by many today. It is your duty to spread the true message of Islam among the expatriate community in Kuwait. It is the only way to spread the great message of Islam," he told the

student community.

The conference, organized by Kuwait Kerala Islahi Center (KKIC) was held under the patronage of Ministry of Awgaf in cooperation with Grand Mosque. The motto of the conference is 'Knowledge for Peace.'

Sheikh Tareq Al-Essa, chairman of Ihyauthuras Al-Islami felicitated the conference said: "It is necessary to impart education for the development of growing children. Only then, the children will grow up learning the essence of holy Quran and the teachings of Prophet (PBUH)." He appreciated the activities of Islahi Centre.

Awards have been distributed to the top winners of madrassa for the final year examinations. Sheikh Tareq Al-Eissa released a souvenir on the occasion giving a copies to Saad Al-Shuwaib, the Grand Mosque supervisor

and FIMA president Siddique Valiyakath. Sheikh Dawood Al-As'oui released a 'wisdom book pack' handing over a copy to Saad Al-Shammari, Managing Director of Al-Sumavva Educational institution. Amjad Madani, Prof Haris bn Saleem and Mujahid Balussery delivered lectures on various topics.

A session on 'An effective parenting' has been presented by well-known trainer Prof Jouhar Munawar and 'Kalichangadam' for children below 10 years has been conducted under KISM organizers. PN Abdullatheef Madani presided over the function and TP Abdul Azeez delivered a welcome note. Sakeer Koyilandi, Abdul Azeez Narakot TP. Anwar, Sunash Shukoor, Abdussamad AM, Azhar Atheri, PN Abdulrahman and Aslam Kapad were in the presidium.

CANON MIDDLE EAST TRAINS FILMMAKERS AT **BROADCASTING FILM AND MUSIC AWARDS**

anon Middle East, a leader in imaging solutions, was part of the Broadcasting Film and Music Awards (BFMA) held from October 27-29 in Nairobi, as it organized a film-making workshop to train aspiring film-makers in new African markets using its latest technologies.

BFMA is the continent's only business and technology event to serve the creative content and electronic media industry through an integrated educational and marketing platform. Office Technologies (OTL), Canon's local distributor in Kenya, also supported the event, which was organized by AITEC.

Creative talent

The two day videography workshop which was conducted by Raul Gabat, Business Development Manager, Canon Middle East, and Danilo Rodriguez, a Dubai- based film director and producer, had over 70 participants and is testimony to Canon's commitment to training creative talent in new African markets. Gabat introduced the audience to the technicalities of professional videography, and conducted a session on hardware and software, in an effort to strengthen awareness of Canon's services and solutions amongst media and production houses, governmental and non-governmental institutions. Other sessions included filmmaking, live shooting and post-production by Rodriguez

Anurag Agrawal, Managing Director, Canon Middle East said: "Canon is keen to introduce new and exciting technologies in African markets and train aspiring filmmakers across the region. The technology we develop for our cameras has highly advanced features. With our professional video workshops, emerging communities have an opportunity to enhance their skills and learn more about film-

Greater awareness

Basil Serrao, Managing Director, Office Technologies said: "We are delighted to work with our partner, Canon, to spread even greater awareness

about their professional video cameras. This is a growing market and we look forward to being a part of the larger region's success as a creative hub."

In keeping with Canon's Kyosei philosophy of live ing and working together for the common good, Canon Middle East has built a primary school in Senegal as part of its wide range of community activities addressing the environment, healthcare, sports and personal development. The company has been awarded for its CSR efforts by the Dubai Chamber and has also received the CSR Label for the third consecutive year.

Canon Middle East serves as an active partner in the communities it operates in, by working with governments, scientific, academic, humanitarian, and arts and culture organisations, to integrate corporate social responsibility across all elements of the busi-

For further details of Canon Middle East, global operations, products and services visit www.canonme.com















Il roads led to Indian Community School, Khaitan, venue of Kala(Art) Kuwait "Metro Medical Care - NIRAM 2015" Children's Day Painting Competition on Friday, 13th November 2015. There was a festive air prevailed over and the sunny and serene weather with cool breeze was also a great blessing to the event. A world filled with colors and lines were blooming.

"NIRAM-2015" the popularly known painting competition on the occasion of Children's Day celebration by marking the 126th birth day of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the First Prime Minister of India. Kala(Art) Kuwait is delighted to celebrate 11th Anniversary of "NIRAM" Painting Competition with elegance and glory which is opened for all students of Indian Schools in Kuwait. There were more than a Total of 2400 entries out of which 2115 children took part in the competitions. The parents actively participated in the open canvas and Clay Sculpture was also a competition item for the students. Various Gift items were distributed to all participants immediately after the competition.

A. K. Shrivastava, Second Secretary, Indian ${\it Embassy}\ {\it Kuwait, in augurated the program.}$ Kala(Art) President K. Jaison Joseph, General Secretary Ragesh P.D., Program General Convener Sivakumar, Indian Community School Honorary Secretary, Vijayan Karayil, Indian Community School Principal Gangadhar Shirshad, Metro Medical Car C.E.O. Hamza Payyannur, Prominent Community Leaders Ramdas Chilamban, Raju Sakriya, Chacko George Kutty, Fathah Thayyil, Basheer Batha, Sathar Kunnil, Arun, Iqbal Kuttamangalam, C. Bhaskaran, Mukesh V. P., Sharif Thamarassery, Rishi Jacob, Najeeb and A. Samuel were also attended the inaugural function.

Well Known Artists John Mavelikkara, Sasi Krishahan, Shammy John, Nikesh and Sunil were supervised the competition. The program was controlled by Rathidas, Aboobacker, Sameer, Samkutty Thomas, Hassan Koya, Johney, Sunil Kumar, Babu, Shyjith, Santhosh, Aneesh, Shamsu, A. Mohanan, Vipin, Priyesh, Haneef, Ramakrishnan, Mustafa, Renuka, Biji, Thasleena, Aneecha, Vani,

Safreena, Ambili, Jothi, Bindhu, Sneha, Shahana, Rani, Santhosh Joseph, Bharathan, Anil V., Rijo, Nitin, Sarath, Naithan, Sajeesh, Kanakaraj, Kunjiraman, Ullas, Shibin Rajan, Sunil chacko, Sanju Mathew etc. Divya Kiran and Nisha Dileep did the Compeering. The result of the Competition will be announced by organizing committee as well as the judging committee on 1st December 2015 through leading newspapers and also websites. Prize Distribution Ceremony will be held at Indian Community School Khaitan on 11th

December 2015 at 2:30pm. Kala(Art) Kuwait, highlights the exclusive prizes for the winners as first place with gold medal, second place with silver medal and third place with bronze medal along with memento and certificate. Besides the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, there will be Merit Prizes and Ten (10) percent of the participants will be awarded with consolation prizes.

In addition to those prizes Metro Medical Care offered free consultation for all participants, one year free treatment for 1st place winners and six months free consultation for the parents of main winners. The organizers have expressed their entire satisfaction on the successful completion of the Competition and take this opportunity to thank all Children, Parents, Management and Teachers of all Indian schools in Kuwait, Representatives of various Indian socio-cultural organizations in Kuwait and all our Sponsors for their active participation and wholehearted support for making the event as a grant success. Kala(Art) Kuwait has once again proved beyond doubt that it upholds the interests of all Art lovers in Kuwait and will continue its support for promotion of Art (Kala). Students and parents are familiar with 'NIRAM', and they can no longer be hoodwinked, as this is the 11th consecutive year Kala(Art) Kuwait has been successfully conducted this prestigious painting Competition on the occasion of Children's day.

A large number of prominent leaders of various Indian socio-cultural organizations, media persons and sponsors were also witnessed the competition.



SPLASH OF COLORS AT ILOA

hursday 5 November 2015 was not just another working day at the Indian Learners Own Academy Kuwait (ILOA Kuwait), but it was a school day with a very pleasant, colorful twist to it.

As more than 200 students assembled in the school auditorium under the guidance of LOA's dynamic and brilliant Principal, Asha Sharma, LOA Art teacher and internationally acclaimed world art specialist Sasikrishnan, in the presence of Suhail, the Marketing Manager of Faber-Castell, the scene was set for an active participation by the students in an art workshop held under the patronage of Faber-Castell, world leaders in the manufacture of art supplies, pens, pencils, high-end writing instruments, luxury leather goods and office supplies.

Asha Sharma, inaugurated the Workshop and what followed

were a few hours of sheer creative indulgence, learning and fun using Faber-Castell Connector Pens under the guidance of Artist Sasikrishnan who explained the

different techniques of drawing using Connector Pens. Through an interactive session, the art maestro not only educated the little artists in the art of creating artistic



masterpieces but also explained the importance of art education as a tool to remove fear in children and instill confidence in them. He shed light on various art techniques through which concentration and focusing ability can be improved in youngsters, in order to enhance their academic performance. Within the short span of the Workshop the Master shared priceless knowledge gained through more than two decades lived as an artist and art educator who has travelled all over the globe as an art spokesperson at various vistas.

Sohail, introduced to the students and teachers, the different products of Faber-Castell that can be used for doodling, squiggling, drawing etc. The workshop wound up with a question and answer session for the students and winners were rewarded with gifts sponsored by Faber-Castell.





Kuwait University's College of Engineering and Petroleum celebrated its 40th anniversary in a recent ceremony held under the patronage of His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.
Oil Minister Dr Ali Al-Omair represented His Highness at the event.





GUST MBA ORGANIZES SEMINAR BY DR SAAD AL-BARRAK

ulf University for Science and Technology MBA Program organized a seminar yesterday entitled "Leading Change", presented by former CEO of Zain Telecom, and Chief Executive Officer of ILA Group, Dr Saad Al-Barrak, on its campus. The seminar discussed various types of change within an organization, along with its benefits and possible pitfalls.

The aim of the seminar was to link the theories students learn in the classroom to real life situations. This would enable students to

gain more insight into those theories, and have the ability to apply them into different situations in the workplace.

Dr Saad Al-Barrak, Chief Executive Officer of ILA Group, said: "My participation in this seminar stems from my belief that it's important for businessmen to interact with the community, and in particular, in the field of education. I chose this topic because I am convinced that leading change is one of the most crucial and most important tasks of any management position".

He started the seminar by explaining a well-established change model called Kotter's 8-Step Change Model. This model, developed by Harvard University Professor John Kotter, was applied by Zain Telecom to take it from the local to the international playing field. Dr Al-Barrak went through the model in detail and also highlighted important elements for companies to apply in order to change successfully.

Dr Antonis Simintiras, GÚST MBA Director, said, "We are always delighted when we get

the opportunity to share unique business experiences from world renowned figures such as Dr Saad Al-Barrak. Our program has been developed to ensure direct relevance to today's changing world of business and exposure to such forward thinking seminars helps us to cultivate tomorrow's business leaders."

Dr Saad Al Barrak is a Kuwaiti business man and investor. He is best known for his role as the CEO of Zain Group, where he was instrumental for the growth of the company and its expansion into new markets. Following his tenure at Zain, Dr Al-Barrak started ILA, an advisory firm in December 2010.

The MBA Program at GUST has been developed to ensure that it meets the highest international standards, and ensure the growth of its students to reach their full potential. The program also plans to organize more seminars and events with renowned speakers of vast experience, which will not only benefit students, but the community as a whole.

KIPCO ANNOUNCES PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP OF NUKS-USA CONFERENCE FOR FIFTH YEAR

IPCO - the Kuwait Projects
Company - has announced its
Platinum Sponsorship of the
32nd Conference of the National
Union of Kuwaiti Students - USA
Branch (NUKS-USA). The event, sponsored by KIPCO for the fifth consecutive year, will be held on November
25-28 in San Diego, California. This annual conference, the largest gathering of Kuwaitis outside of their homeland, is being held this year under the slogan 'Awakening Kuwait's Dream'.

Eman Al-Awadhi, KIPCO's Group Communications Director, said:

"With more than 3,700 students participating in last year's NUKS-USA Conference, KIPCO's sponsorship of this event has become increasingly important. Every year, representatives of our Group companies share their experiences with the students to encourage them to seek a career in the private sector. This year in partic-

ular, we will be increasing efforts to actively seek and recruit promising young Kuwaiti talents into our Group



Eman Al-Awadhi

companies. We are looking forward to this year's conference and to interacting with the students in the different events in which we will be involved."
As a Platinum Sponsor, KIPCO will be addressing students during the Opening Ceremony and will also be the sponsor of the Closing Ceremony.

Burgan Bank - KIPCO's largest investment - and United Facilities Management - KIPCO's property management arm and a subsidiary of United Real Estate - will be interviewing select students for positions in the two companies.

KIPCO and Burgan Bank will be taking part in the Job Fair. Besides highlighting the career opportunities for graduating students, this year's Job Fair promises to be more engaging for the students.

To prepare students to embrace their careers after graduation, KIPCO is holding a workshop entitled 'Campus to Corporate'. The workshop is co-organized by Burgan Bank and the Center for Continued Education at the American University of Kuwait.



The Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) celebrated the graduation of staff members from a special new employees development program, during a recent ceremony attended by bank a number of bank officials.











The sports committee at the council of the Jordanian community in Kuwait recently organized an open day at the Public Authority for Youth and Sport's fields in Bayan. The event took place under the patronage of Jordanian Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammad Al-Kayed. Deputy Ambassador Shakir Al-Amoush attended the event on his behalf. —Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Kuwait Times

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MELANIE BERNIERI

00:50 Gator Boys 01:45 Call Of The Wildman

02:15 Call Of The Wildman 02:40 Bondi Vet

03:35 Tanked 04:25 Ten Deadliest Snakes 05:15 Gator Boys

06:02 Treehouse Masters 06:49 Gangland Killers 07:36 Call Of The Wildman

08:00 Call Of The Wildman 08:25 Dog Rescuers

09:15 Ten Deadliest Snakes 10:10 Treehouse Masters

11:05 Tanked 12:00 Dog Rescuers 12:55 Bondi Vet

13:50 Bondi Vet 14:45 Ten Deadliest Snakes 15:40 Treehouse Masters

16:35 Tanked 17:30 Gangland Killers

18:25 Austin Stevens: Snakemaster 19:20 Biggest And Baddest 20:15 Tanked

21:10 Shamwari: A Wild Life 21:35 Shamwari: A Wild Life 22:05 Treehouse Masters

23:00 Biggest And Baddest 23:55 Austin Stevens: Snakemaster

Discoveru

00:20 Fast N' Loud 01:10 Deadliest Catch **Outback Truckers** 02:50 Manhunt With Joel Lambert

03:40 Auction Hunters 04:05 Garage Gold 04:30 Baggage Battles 05:00 Backyard Oil 05:30 How It's Made

Alaskan Bush People 06:50 Classic Car Rescue Fast N' Loud 08:30 Auction Hunters 08:55 Garage Gold Baggage Battles

09:45 Backyard Oil 10:10 How It's Made Deadliest Catch **Outback Truckers** 12:15 Manhunt With Joel Lambert 13:05 Auction Hunters 13:30 Garage Gold

13:55 Baggage Battles Alaskan Bush People 15:10 Classic Car Rescue 16:00 Fast N' Loud 16:50 Backyard Oil

17:15 How It's Made 17:40 Ed Stafford: Into The Unknown 18:30 Kings Of The Wild 19:20 Dual Surviva 20:10 Garage Gold

20:35 Baggage Battles 21:00 Ed Stafford: Into The Unknown

21:50 Boy To Man 22:40 River Monsters 23:30 Classic Car Rescue



00:40 Storm Chasers 01:30 You Have Been Warned 02:20 Home Factor 02:45 Home Factory

03:10 NASA's Greatest Missions 04:00 Mythbusters 04:48 NASA's Unexplained Files Home Factory 06:00 Home Factory

06:24 NASA's Greatest Missions 07:12 You Have Been Warned 08:00 Storm Chasers

Food Factory 09:15 Food Factory 09:40 How It's Made 10:05 How It's Made 10:30 NASA's Unexplained Files

11:20 Race To Escape 12:10 NASA's Greatest Missions 13:00 Mythbusters 13:50 How It's Made

14:15 How It's Made 14:40 Food Factory 15:05 Food Factory Race To Escape

16:20 NASA's Greatest Missions 17:10 You Have Been Warned 18:00 How It's Made 18:25 How It's Made

18:50 Food Factory 19:15 Food Factory 19:40 You Can't Lick Your Elbow 20:05 You Can't Lick Your Elbow 20:30 What Could Possibly Go

21:20 Mythbusters 22:10 NASA's Unexplained Files 23:00 You Can't Lick Your Elbow 23:25 You Can't Lick Your Elbow 23:50 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?

00:00 Violetta 00:45 The Hive 00:50 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:15 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:40 Wolfblood 02:05 Wolfblood

02:30 Violetta 03:15 The Hive 03:20 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 03:45 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 04:10 Wolfblood

04:35 Wolfblood

05:00 Violetta

05:45 The Hive

05:50 Mouk

06:00 Lolirock

07:40 Jessie

Teenage Witch

Teenage Witch 09:45 Austin & Ally

10:10 Austin & Ally

Jessie

12:20 Hank Zipzer

12:45 Gravity Falls

13:10 Good Luck Charlie 13:35 I Didn't Do It

14:00 Dog With A Blog

15:45 Girl Meets World

17:25 Mako Mermaids 17:50 Girl Meets World

18:15 Dog With A Blog

20:20 The Next Step

20:45 Good Luck Charlie

Good Luck Charlie

21:35 Wizards Of Waverly Place 22:00 Binny And The Ghost

Teenage Witch 22:50 Sabrina: Secrets Of A

00:00 E! Entertainment Special 00:55 The Grace Helbig Show

01:25 Kourtney And Khloe Take

04:10 E! Entertainment Special 05:05 E! Entertainment Special

06:00 Keeping Up With The

06:55 Kourtney And Kim Take

14:30 H2O: Just Add Water

The Next Step

18:40 Gravity Falls 19:05 H2O: Just Add Water

11:50 Jessie

14:55 Lolirock

16:10 Violetta

19:30 Violetta

Teenage Witch

The Hamptons 02:20 E! News

Kardashians

07:50 Style Star

09:15 Giuliana & Bill

10:15 Giuliana & Bill

12:05 E! News 13:05 House Of DVF

14:05 Fashion Bloggers

08:20 E! News

03:15 Escape Club

23:10 Wolfblood 23:35 Wolfblood

15:20 Austin & Ally

06:25 Hank Zipzer 06:50 Girl Meets World

07:15 H2O: Just Add Water

08:55 Sabrina: Secrets Of A

09:20 Sabrina: Secrets Of A

10:35 H2O: Just Add Water 11:00 H2O: Just Add Water

08:05 Wizards Of Waverly Place

08:30 Wizards Of Waverly Place

CHOICE

11:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To

14:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

18:00 Jenny And Reza's Fabulous

18:30 Trisha's Southern Kitchen

21:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 21:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

20:00 Guy's Grocery Games

22:00 Man Finds Food

15:00 Guy's Grocery Games

13:00 Guy's Big Bite 13:30 Guy's Big Bite

16:00 Chopped

Food Academy

19:00 Chopped

17:00 The Kitchen

Basics 12:00 Chopped

01:05 Harry At 30 02:00 Emmerdale 02:25 Eggheads Coronation Street

03:25 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime 04:20 The Jonathan Ross Show 05:15 Take On The Twisters

06:10 Harry At 30 Coronation Street 07:05 07:30 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime 08:25 The Jonathan Ross Show

09:20 The Chase: Celebrity Specials 10:15 Harry At 30 11:10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night 12:30 Take On The Twisters

13:25 Emmerdale 13:50 Eggheads Coronation Street 14:20 14:45 The Chase: Celebrity Specials 15:35 Seven Days With,Ķ
16:30 I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out

Of Here! 17:50 Eggheads 18:20 Take On The Twisters 19:10 Coronation Street Seven Days With,Ķ 20:30 I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!

21:50 Eggheads 22:20 Eggheads 22:50 The Chase: Celebrity

23:45 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night

OM FIRST HD COMEDY

04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Late Night With Seth Meyers 11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon

17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers 19:00 Hot In Cleveland 20:00 The Tonight Show Starring 22:00 Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll

23:30 Late Night With Seth Mevers

ON FIRST

00:00 Salem 01:00 Quantico Homeland 06:00 Parenthood 12:00 Emmerdale

14:30 Fashion Bloggers15:00 Kourtney And Khloe Take The Hamptons 16:00 Kourtney And Khloe Take The Hamptons 17:00 Giuliana & Bill 18:00 House Of DVF 19:00 WAGs

20:00 Hollywood Cycle 21:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians 22:00 E! News 23:00 Dash Dolls



00:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

02:30 Mystery Diners 03:00 Man Fire Food 03:30 Man Fire Food 04:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 04:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 05:00 Guy's Grocery Games 06:00 Chopped

09:00 Guy's Grocery Games

11:00 Barefoot Contessa: Back To

08:00 Chopped

10:00 The Kitchen

00:00 Diners. Drive-Ins And Dives 01:00 Food Court Wars 02:00 Mystery Diners

07:00 Man Fire Food 07:30 Man Fire Food

12:30 Coronation Street The Ellen DeGeneres Show 16:00 Emmerdale 11:10 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills 11:35 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills

16:30 Coronation Street 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 19:00 The Voice

21:00 Blood & Oil 22:00 Downton Abbey

OM FIRST MORE

07:00 Emmerdale 07:30 Coronation Street 10:00 Emmerdale 10:30 Coronation Street

00:00 The Bag Man 02:00 The General's Daughter Son Of Batman 06:00 Born To Race: Fast Track 08:00 Man Of Tai Chi 09:45 Percy Jackson And The

Lightning Thief 11:45 The Bag Man 13:45 Absolute Killers 15:30 Man Of Tai Chi 17:30 Days Of Thunder 19:30 The Hunger Games: Catching Fire

22:00 The Assault ON MOVIES HID ACTION

00:00 The General's Daughter-18 02:00 Son Of Batman-PG15

04:00 Born To Race: Fast Track-

06:00 Man Of Tai Chi-PG15 07:45 Percy Jackson And The Lightning Thief-PG15 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

09:45 The Bag Man-PG15 11:45 Absolute Killers-PG15 13:30 Man Of Tai Chi-PG15 15:30 Days Of Thunder-PG15 17:30 The Hunger Games: Catching Fire-PG15

20:00 The Assault-PG15 **OVI** MOVIES HD COMEDY

00:00 Bulletproof 01:45 Renaissance Mar 04:00 The Nutty Professor (1996) Napoleon Dynamite 08:00 Roommates 10:00 The Nutty Professor (1996)

14:00 The Love Punch 16:00 Roommates 18:00 A Valentine's Date 20:00 Delivery Man 22:00 Behaving Badly

> MOVIES) **DRAMA**

01:00 Draft Day-PG15 03:00 For Greater Glory-PG15 05:30 Stash House-PG15 Yellow Rock-PG15 09:00 The Last Days On Mars PG15

13:00 Breathless-PG15 15:00 Song For Marion-PG15 17:00 The Last Days On Mars-PG15 19:00 Two Men In Town-PG15 21:00 Devil's Knot-PG15

23:00 Only Lovers Left Alive-18

11:00 Stash House-PG15

01:30 The Invisible Woman 03:30 The Alamo 06:00 Evita

08:30 A Secret Promise 10:30 The Alamo 13:00 Se Puder... Dirija! 15:00 Half Of A Yellow Sun

17:00 A Secret Promise 19:00 We Gotta Get Out Of This 21:00 Awakenings 23:00 Cold Creek Manor

OM MOVIES HD

01:00 Non-Stop-PG15 03:00 Hercules-PG15 04:45 Miss Julie-PG15 07:00 Chef-PG15 09:00 The Signal-PG15

11:00 A Gift Of Miracles-PG15 13:00 Non-Stop-PG15 15:00 Need For Speed-PG15 17:15 The Signal-PG15

19:00 If I Stay-PG15 21:00 Adore-PG15 23:00 Revenge For Jolly!-PG15

01:00 Hammer Boy 02:45 Miffy The Movie 04:30 Marco Macaco

06:00 Scooby-Doo! Frankencreepy 08:00 Egon And Donci 10:00 Worms 11:30 Christmas Is Here Again

14:30 Hiroku: Defenders Of Gaia 16:00 The Olsen Gang In Deep 18:00 Worms 20:00 The Elf Who Stole Christmas

22:00 Hiroku: Defenders Of Gaia 23:30 The Olsen Gang In Deep

MOVIES **PREMIERE**

00:00 Deliverance Creek-PG15 02:00 Lucy-PG15 04:00 Planes: Fire And Rescue-PG 06:00 40 Days And Nights-PG15

08:00 Maleficent-PG 10:00 Recoil-PG15 12:00 Fatal Instinct-PG15 14:00 10 Years-PG15 16:00 Maleficent-PG 17:45 Ender's Game-PG15 19:45 Snowpiercer-PG15

22:00 300: Rise Of An Empire-18

03:14 Groiband 03:35 Johnny Test 05:05 Total Drama: All Stars 05:27 Total Drama: All Stars 05:50 Regular Show 06:00 The Amazing World Of Gumball

THE ASSAULT ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION 07:00 Uncle Grandpa The Island 07:25 Adventure Time 02:03 Total Drama: Revenge Of 07:50 Teen Titans Go! 08:35 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu 02:26 Total Drama: Revenge Of The Island

02:51 Groiband

VINCENT ELBAZ GREGORI DERANGERE

09:00 Ben 10 Omniverse 09:45 Regular Show 10:30 Clarence 10:55 Dreamworks Dragons: Riders Of Berk 11:20 Total Drama World Tour

11:40 Total Drama World Tour 12:05 Johnny Test12:50 New Steven Universe 13:02 Steven Universe 13:15 Uncle Grandpa 13:40 Regular Show

14:25 Adventure Time 15:10 New The Amazing World Of Gumball 15:21 The Amazing World Of Gumball 15:35 The Amazing World Of

Gumball 16:00 Ben 10 Omniverse 16:45 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu 17:10 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu 17:30 Teen Titans Go! 18:20 Regular Show 19:05 New The Amazing World Of Gumball

19:16 The Amazing World Of Gumball 19:30 The Amazing World Of Gumball

19:51 Adventure Time 20:15 New Steven Universe20:27 Steven Universe 20:40 Uncle Grandpa 21:00 Teen Titans Go! 21:50 Ben 10 Omniverse 22:40 Adventure Time 00:10 Regular Show 01:40 Total Drama: Revenge Of 04:00 California Investigator California Investigator Who On Earth Did I Marry? 04:25 04:45 05:10 Who On Earth. 05:30 The Haunted 06:20 Forensic Detectives 07:10 True Crime With Aphrodite

DISCOVERY

03:10 True Crime With Aphrodite

Jones 08:00 Nightmare Next Door 08:50 On The Case With Paula

09:40 Fatal Encounters 10:30 Murder Shift 11:20 Forensic Detectives12:10 True Crime With Aphrodite 13:00 The Will

13:50 I Almost Got Away With It 14:40 California Investigator 15:05 Nightmare Next Door Fatal Encounters 16:45 On The Case With Paula Zahn 17:35 Murder Shift

18:25 I Almost Got Away With It 19:15 Forensic Detectives 20:05 True Crime With Aphrodite 20:55 California Investigator 21:20 The Will

22:10 Who On Earth. 22:35 Who On Earth... 23:00 Deadly Affairs 23:50 Deadly Women 00:40 Who On Farth 01:05 Who On Earth.. 01:30 The Haunted



03:05 Calimero 03:20 Zou 03:30 Loopdidoo 03:45 Art Attack

04:20 Calimero

04:35 Zou 04:45 Loopdidoo 05:00 Art Attack 05:25 Henry Hugglemonster 05:35 Calimero 05:50 Zou

04:10 Henry Hugalemonste

06:35 Henry Hugglemonste 06:50 Calimero 07:00 Zou 07:20 Loopdidoo 07:35 Art Attack

06:00 Loopdidoo

06:15 Art Attack

08:00 Calimero 08:10 Zou 08:25 Limon And Oli 08:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates

09:05 Sofia The First 09:30 Miles From Tomorrow 10:00 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 10:30 Doc McStuffins

Pirates 11:55 Miles From Tomorrow

11:30 Jake And The Never Land

11:00 Sofia The First

12:25 Doc McStuffins 22:40 Phineas And Ferb 12:55 Loopdidoo 13:10 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 23:30 Phineas And Ferb 00:00 Programmes Start At 7:00am 13:35 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

MONDAY DECEMBER 26TH 1994. MARIGNANE AIRPORT.

15:30 Zou

17:10 Aladdin

18:55 Cars Toons

19:30 Sofia The First

19:55 Doc McStuffins

21:35 Sofia The First

22:00 Aladdin

23:30 Lilo & Stitch

00:20 Calimero

00:50 Loopdidoo

01:05 Art Attack

01:45 Calimero

02:15 Loopdidoo

02:30 Art Attack

07:25 Supa Strikas Supa Strikas

08:40 Lab Rats

08:15 K.C Undercover

09:35 Kirby Buckets

12:10 Super Matrak

12:40 Mighty Med

13:30 Supa Strikas

14:25 Pokemon: XY

16:35 Kirby Buckets

17:25 K.Č Úndercover

18:20 Lab Rats: Bionic Island

17:00 Mighty Med

17:55 Supa Strikas

18:45 Mighty Med

20:05 K.C Undercover

20:30 Supa Strikas

21:25 Kirby Buckets

22:15 Mighty Med

20:55 Lab Rats

21:50 Kickin' It

19:10 Annedroids 19:40 Kickin' It

14:50 Phineas And Ferb

15:40 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero

16:10 Star vs The Forces Of Evil

15:15 Rocket Monkeys

14:00 Kickin' It

13:05 Ultimate Spider-Man

10:55 Rocket Monkeys

10:00 Annedroids

11:20 Boyster 11:45 Super Matrak

10:30

02:00 Zou

00:35 Zou

00:00 Nina Needs To Go

00:05 Henry Hugglemonster

01:30 Henry Hugglemonster

02:55 Henry Hugglemonster

07:00 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero

09:10 Star vs The Forces Of Evil

Phineas And Ferb

Pirates

Bears

Pirates

Pirates

Bears

16:15 Sofia The First

16:45 Jake And The Never Land

17:40 Adventures Of The Gummi

18:40 Jake And The Never Land

19:00 Miles From Tomorrow

20:15 Jake And The Never Land

20:45 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

21:05 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse

22:30 Adventures Of The Gummi

227 HOSTAGES. 1 SWAT TEAM.

14:00 Sofia The First 14:30 Henry Hugglemonster NAT GEO 14:45 Calimero 15:00 Doc McStuffins 15:45 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse

BASED ON TRUE EVENTS

03:45 Predator CSI 04:40 Animal Fight Club

05:35 The Pack 06:30 Dangerous Encounters 07:25 Predator CSI 08:20 The Incredible Dr. Pol 09:15 Unlikely Animal Friends

18:10 Chip n Dale Rescue Rangers 10:10 Expedition Wild 11:05 Swamp Men 12:00 Monster Fish 12:55 World's Deadliest Animals

13:50 Dangerous Encounters 14:45 Predator CSI 15:40 The Incredible Dr. Pol

16:35 Unlikely Animal Friends 17:30 Expedition Wild 18:25 Swamp Men 19:20 Predator CSI

20:10 The Incredible Dr. Pol 21:00 Unlikely Animal Friends 21:50 Expedition Wild 22:40 Swamp Men 23:00 Chip n Dale Rescue Rangers 23:30 Monster Fish



00:20 World's Deadliest Animals

01:10 Dangerous Encounters

02:00 Brutal Killers

03:40 Ultimate Shopper 04:30 Jon & Kate Plus 8 05:00 Little People, Big World 05:30 Cake Boss 06:00 Say Yes To The Dress 06:25 Bakery Boss 07:15 Toddlers & Tiaras

08:05 Perfect Look 08:55 Our Little Family 09:20 Our Little Family 09:45 Jon & Kate Plus 8 10:10 Little People, Big World 10:35 Sister Wives

11:25 Cake Boss

11:50 Perfect Look 12:40 Bakery Boss 13:30 Oprah: Where Are They 14:20 Oprah's Master Class 15:10 Jon & Kate Plus 8

15:35 Little People, Big World 16:00 Toddlers & Tiaras 16:50 Sister Wives 17:40 Cake Boss

18:05 Say Yes To The Dress 18:30 Ultimate Shopper 19:20 Say Yes To The Dress: Randy Knows Best 19:45 Say Yes To The Dress:

Randy Knows Best 20:10 Bakery Boss 21:00 Diagnose Me 21:50 My Baby Has Two Heads: Body Bizarre 22:40 Psychic Matchmaker

23:05 90 Days To Wed 23:55 Diagnose Me 00:45 My Baby Has Two Heads: Body Bizarre

01:35 Psychic Matchmaker

02:00 90 Days To Wed 02:50 Sister Wives



THE BAG MAN ON OSN MOVIES ACTION



CLASSIFIEDS

Kuwait Times

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015



Kuwait

KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (12/11/2015 TO 18/11/2015)

		(12/11/201	<i>3</i> 10 1	0/11/2013)	
SHARQIA-1		PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	9:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	2:00 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	12:15 PM	PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	12:45 AM	SPECTRE	4:15 PM
		PARAMORINAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	12:45 AW		
ATOMIC EDEN	2:15 PM	FAMAR 4		SPECTRE	7:15 PM
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	4:00 PM	FANAR-4	40.00.014	NOTHU	= 4 = 514
ATOMIC EDEN	6:00 PM	SPECTRE	12:30 PM	SPECTRE	7:15 PM
arba'a kotchina	8:00 PM	PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	1:30 PM	SPECTRE	10:15 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	10:00 PM	SPECTRE	3:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	1:15 AM
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	12:05 AM	SPECTRE	6:30 PM		
		SPECTRE	9:30 PM	AVENUES-5	
SHARQIA-2		SPECTRE	12:30 AM	UNCONSCIOUS	12:00 PM
SPECTRE	12:30 PM			PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	2:00 PM
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	1:30 PM	FANAR-5		PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	5:15 PM
SPECTRE	3:30 PM	SPECTRE	11:30 AM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	8:30 PM
SPECTRE	6:30 PM	SPECTRE	2:30 PM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	11:45 PM
SPECTRE	9:30 PM	SPECTRE	5:30 PM	TREMINATAN DITANTATO	11.45 110
				AVENUES 6	
SPECTRE	12:30 AM	AKHIL	6:00 PM	AVENUES-6	44.20.444
		SPECTRE	8:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	11:30 AM
SHARQIA-3		EVERYDAY I LOVE YOU	8:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	1:30 PM
GOOSEBUMPS	11:45 AM	SPECTRE	11:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	3:30 PM
SPECTRE	2:00 PM			ATOMIC EDEN	5:30 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	5:00 PM	MARINA-1		ATOMIC EDEN	7:30 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	8:15 PM	UNCONSCIOUS	12:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	9:30 PM
SPECTRE	11:30 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	2:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	11:30 PM
		UNCONSCIOUS	4:30 PM		
MUHALAB-1		UNCONSCIOUS	6:30 PM	AVENUES-7	
ATOMIC EDEN	12:45 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	8:30 PM	BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	1:30 PM
			10:30 PM		
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	2:45 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA		BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	3:45 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	4:45 PM	UNCONSCIOUS	12:30 AM	BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	6:00 PM
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	6:45 PM			BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	8:15 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	8:45 PM	MARINA-2		EVERYDAY I LOVE YOU	8:00 PM
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	10:45 PM	SPECTRE	12:00 PM	BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	10:30 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	12:45 AM	SPECTRE	3:00 PM	BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	12:45 AM
		SPECTRE	6:00 PM		
MUHALAB-2		SPECTRE	9:00 PM	360°- 1	
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	1:00 PM	SPECTRE	12:05 AM	GOOSEBUMPS	11:30 AM
SPECTRE	1:30 PM	31 ECTIVE	12.05 / (14)	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	1:45 PM
AKHIL	4:15 PM	MARINA-3		PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	5:00 PM
			12.15 DM		
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	4:15 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	12:15 PM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	8:15 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	7:30 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	2:00 PM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	11:30 PM
SPECTRE	11:00 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	4:00 PM		
		ATOMIC EDEN	6:00 PM	36°- 2	
MUHALAB-3		ATOMIC EDEN	8:00 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	11:30 AM
SPECTRE	12:00 PM	SPECTRE	10:00 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	1:30 PM
SPECTRE	3:00 PM	ATOMIC EDEN	1:00 AM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	3:30 PM
SPECTRE	6:00 PM			ARBA'A KOTCHINA	5:30 PM
SPECTRE	9:00 PM	AVENUES-1		ARBA'A KOTCHINA	7:30 PM
SPECTRE	12:05 AM	STEVE JOBS	12:15 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	9:30 PM
31 ECTILE	12.03 AW				
FANAR-1		STEVE JOBS STEVE JOBS	2:45 PM 5:15 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	11:30 PM
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STEVE JOBS	12:45 PM	STEVE JOBS	7:45 PM	360°- 3	12.00.514
ATOMIC EDEN	1:30 PM	STEVE JOBS	10:15 PM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	12:00 PM
STEVE JOBS	3:15 PM	STEVE JOBS	12:45 AM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	3:15 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	5:45 PM			HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	5:15 PM
STEVE JOBS	7:45 PM	AVENUES-2		PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	7:15 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	10:15 PM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	1:00 PM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	10:30 PM
ATOMIC EDEN	12:15 AM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	4:15 PM		
		VEDHALAM	6:15 PM	AL-KOUT.1	
FANAR-2		EYAL HAREEFA	9:15 PM	SPECTRE	12:15 PM
BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	12:30 PM	PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	11:30 PM	SPECTRE	3:15 PM
		I NEW INDIAN DUAN FAIO	11.30 FM		
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	2:30 PM	AVENUES 2		SPECTRE	6:15 PM
BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	4:30 PM	AVENUES-3		SPECTRE	9:15 PM
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	6:30 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	12:30 PM	SPECTRE	12:15 AM
ARBA'A KOTCHINA	8:30 PM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	2:30 PM		
Arba'a Kotchina	10:30 PM	Arba'a Kotchina	4:30 PM	AL-KOUT.2	
BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	12:30 AM	Arba'a Kotchina	6:30 PM	BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	12:00 PM
		ARBA'A KOTCHINA	8:30 PM	UNCONSCIOUS	2:45 PM
FANAR-3		ARBA'A KOTCHINA	10:30 PM	BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	4:45 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	11:45 AM	ARBA'A KOTCHINA	12:30 AM	UNCONSCIOUS	6:45 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO			12.30 /101		
	3:00 PM	AVENUES-4	1.15 DM	BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA	8:45 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	6:15 PM	SPECTRE	1:15 PM	UNCONSCIOUS	10:45 PM

URGENTLY REQUIRED

In need of a professional manicurist/ masseuse for home services

- Skills

 has good padi/mani skills

 understands how to work with different types of hair
- · has proficient experience in hair massage
- manages time properly
 good communication and interpersonal skills
 ability to work under pressure
 able to work independently

For more inquires please contact 97565695

SITUATION VACANT

Wanted Indian female cook for a small Kuwaiti family. Contact: 99574355 (C 5077) 17-11-2015

name as Rasheed Usman Walile, Indian Passport No. G5617919, VPO Rajawadi TK. Mahad, Raigad DT. MS. (C 5071) 14-11-2015

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Varikkody Nazar, Varikkody House, P.O Vengalam, Kozhikode holder of Indian Passport No. H8465519 hereby change my name as Abdul Nazar Varikoly with immediate effect. (C 5078) 17-11-2015

I, NAGOOR GANI AHAMAD SALIH, S/o Thiru. Nagoor Gani, Muslim, born on 21st April 1960, Passport No. J5551958 (native district: Thanjavur), residing at No. 158, Kandiyan Street, Chakkarapalli Post, Papanasam Taluk, Thanjavur Dist - 614211, shall henceforth be known as N. MOHAMED SALIH S/o Nagoor Gani Ahmad Salih. (C 5073)

I, Abdul Rasheed Usman Walile changed to new

15-11-2015

SITUATION WANTED

Accountant (Indian) having 23 years of experience in Middle East doing all kinds of Accounts up to Finalization & Audit Reporting, looking for a placement with transferable Iqama. Contact: 97934610. **(C 5075)** 16-11-2015

MATRIMONIAL

Seeking for Marthoman Groom, Alliance invited for Kerala Marthoman family for their daughter, 26 years, 165 cm, Bsc Nurse, MÓH Kuwait, from Marthoman boys from Kuwait or Western countries and Europe age limit 28 to 31 years, Btech, MBA etc. from God fearing family. Contact email:

benjaminbabu57@gmail.com (C 5074) 15-11-2015

EMERGENCY



Praver timings

ayo.	9
Fajr:	04:51
Shorook	06:13
Duhr:	11:33
Asr:	14:32
Maghrib:	16:52
Isha:	18:12





Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

In case you are not travelling, your proper cancellation of bookings will help other passengers to use seats

Part		100														
186			rival Flights on Tuesday 17/11/2015								parture Flights on Tuesday 17/11/2015					
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12			Sohag								Amman	00:15	FDB	058	Dubai	15:10
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DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Kuwait Times

p34_p34 stars 11/16/15 7:42 PM Page 1

CROSSWORD 1082

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DOWN

1. (trademark) A tinned luncheon meat made

3. An organization of countries formed in 1961

to agree on a common policy for the sale

2. Plant with an elongated head of broad

stalked leaves resembling celery.

4. United States writer of poems and plays

about racial conflict (born in 1934).

6. Small terrestrial lizard of warm regions of

8. An Asian river between China and Russia.

10. A radioactive transuranic element that is

11. Attack someone physically or emotionally.

12. An ancient city in Asia Minor that was the

13. English writer of stories for children (1882-

14. God of earth's fertility and peace and pros-

23. Locate and correct errors in a computer

28. An automatic signal (usually a sound)

30. Large recently extinct long-horned

24. A public square with room for pedestrians.

31. A unit of absorbed ionizing radiation equal

33. Large African antelope having a head with

horns like an ox and a long tufted tail.

35. United States naval officer and historian

39. A drug (trade names Atarax and Vistaril)

40. A promontory in northern Morocco oppo-

46. An aggressive remark directed at a person

like a missile and intended to have a

50. Any of various edible seeds of plants of the

55. A small hairpiece to cover partial baldness.

59. King of Saudi Arabia since 1982 (born in

60. (of persons) Highest in rank or authority or

62. A White Protestant of Anglo-Saxon ances-

66. (British) Colloquial terms for an umbrella.

45. An unaccompanied partsong for 2 or 3

used as a tranquilizer to treat anxiety and

36. Complacently or inanely foolish.

site the Rock of Gibraltar.

48. A period of time spent sleeping.

to 100 ergs per gram of irradiated materi-

5. West Indian tree having racemes of fragrant

white flowers and yielding a durable tim-

largely from pork.

of petroleum.

the Old World.

9. Cut off from a whole.

1956).

perity.

21. A woman sahib.

warning of danger.

29. Reason by deduction.

European wild ox.

(1840-1914).

motion sickness.

telling effect.

57. Fiddler crabs.

1922).

office.

try.

49. An artificial language.

family Leguminosae.

64. Type genus of the Anatidae.

68. Preserve of crushed fruit.

65. A small cake leavened with yeast.

69. Black tropical American cuckoo.

37. Be in accord.

similar to uranium.

site of the Trojan War.

ber and resinous juice.

7. A branch of the Tai languages.

ACROSS

- 1. A person regarded as arrogant and annoy-
- 5. Tree of the genus Catalpa with large leaves and white flowers followed by long slender pods.
- 12. A United Nations agency to promote trade by increasing the exchange stability of the major currencies.
- 15. An informal term for a father.
- 16. (of reproduction) Not involving the fusion of male and female gametes reproduc-
- 17. (Irish) The sea personified.
- 18. Someone who copies the words or behavior of another.
- 19. A basketball shot made with one hand from a position under or beside the basket (and usually banked off the back-
- 20. A facial expression characterized by turning up the corners of the mouth.
- 22. Covered with paving material.
- 25. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- 26. A painter or drawer of portraits. 27. A member of an agricultural people in
- southeastern India. 32. Fermented alcoholic beverage similar to
- but heavier than beer. 34. Type genus of the Amiidae.
- 38. A member of an agricultural people of southern India.
- 41. Ctenophores lacking tentacles.
- 42. A special way of doing something.
- 43. (of champagne) Extremely dry.
- 44. A bachelor's degree in music. 47. A region of southern Italy (forming the
- instep of the Italian 'boot'). 51. A green transparent form of beryl.
- 52. A person who acts and gets things done.
- 53. (meaning literally `born') Used to indicate the maiden or family name of a married woman.
- 54. Remote and separate physically or socially. 56. (Babylonian) God of wisdom and agriculture and patron of scribes and schools.
- 58. The second largest city in Tunisia. 61. A resident of Iowa.
- 63. Open-heart surgery in which the rib cage is opened and a section of a blood vessel is grafted from the aorta to the coronary
- artery to bypass the blocked section of the coronary artery and improve the blood supply to the heart. 67. The sense organ for hearing and equilibri-
- 71. Psychoactive substance present in mari-
- iuana. 72. Oldest known reptiles.
- 74. A defensive missile designed to shoot
- down incoming intercontinental ballistic missiles. 75. Hormone secreted by the posterior pitu-
- itary gland (trade name Pitressin) and also by nerve endings in the hypothalamus. 76. Stone post at side of a road to show distances
- 77. A watery solution of sugars, salts, and minerals that circulates through the vascular system of a plant.

70. The seventh and last day of the week. 73. An honorary degree in science.

Yesterday's Solution

F	L	0	P		G	A	D	I	D	Α	Е		Е	G	G
L	Α	С	Е		0	G	Α	L	Α	L	Α		P	Е	Е
О	Т	T	Α	W	Α		D		M	Α	R	S	Н	Α	L
S	Н	Α	Н			K	Α	В	0	В		С	Α	R	D
S	I	D	Е	В	Α	R		I	S	Α	I	Α	Н		
			N	Α	D	Α			E	M	I	R		D	В
U	T	U				K	0	Α	L	Α		Е	В	R	О
L	I	Z	A		I	Α	M	В			С		Α	E	С
N	Е	В	Е		С	U	В			T	Α	M	В	Α	С
Α	D	Α	G	E			U	G	L	I		Α	Α	R	Е
		K	Е	В	Α	В		Α	Α	R	0	N			
M	Α		Α	В	С		Α	В	Y	Е		D	Α	В	Α
S	С	Α	N			С	Е	R	Е	S		Α	Н	Α	В
Α	N	Y		Α	V	Α	R	I	Т	I	Α		U	С	Α
S	Е	Α		P	Α	R	I	Е	Т	Α	L		R	0	Т
Α	D	Н		Т	R	Е	Е	L	Е	S	S		Α	N	Е

STAR TRACK

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Smoother sailing in your interactions with others today sets the stage for what's to come next — and you may already be dreaming about the future. You can't help but envision so many wonderful possibilities ahead. Unfortunately, trouble arises pretty quickly if you're not focusing on your current obligations. Slow down; even if you have moved on in your mind, you will still need to be patient while reality catches up to your fantasy.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Although you sometimes can be quite obstinate in your communication with others, you might be tempted to bring inflexibility to a whole new level of expression today. Unfortunately, your unwillingness to bend may create more problems than solutions, even if your intentions are pure. The most effective tactic now is to state your position clearly and then negotiate as needed. Meeting a worthy opponent halfway also demonstrates your respect for someone else's point of view. Common ground is better than no ground at all.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You're tempted to keep all your great ideas to yourself today because you believe it will take too long to justify your plans. You might even assume that others will reject your logic while interactive Mercury rubs friendly Venus the wrong way. Nevertheless, it's a bad idea to overreact and go silent when you could be busy improving your delivery. Don't waste this opportunity; breaking down your recipe for success into bite-sized pieces will move you along in the direction of your goals.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You are so wary about everyone's reactions to what you share now that it's tricky to get your tone to match your intent. No matter how much you try to fine-tune your delivery, you may feel as if you're overstating your case or not saying enough. Still, you're determined to get it right. If you don't give up and walk away, the cosmos just might surprise you and give you what you want. Thankfully, your tenacity is working in your favor now.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Your peers seem set in their own ways today, leaving you with little room to express your opinion. If you say what you really feel, a conflict could ensue; but if you don't speak your piece, you may end up dealing with misplaced anger or resentment later on. Handling your emotions calmly in the here and now is a less stressful strategy than pretending all is well for the sake of expediency. Do what it right, not what is easy.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Although you wish you could take the day off, there are just too many tasks for you to finish. You could try to forget about your responsibilities and not show up, but it's not your style to leave everyone else high and dry. There's really no point in running away since you won't be able to stop thinking about your chores until they are done anyway. Bite the bullet and get to work. The fun can wait and will be even more enjoyable if you're free of your obligations.

WORD SEARCH

NAUTICALLY YOURS WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

K	С	S	Т	Ε	Р	Н	W	Н	L	X	0	G	U	Α	S	Ν	В	Р
X	٧	Е	С	Υ	S	Н	K	R	В	K	Ν	R	Н	Н	Р	Ρ	F	K
Υ	Р	Т	K	F	Z	Α	U	С	U	1	G	F	U	Z	Ν	R	Ν	Α
X	R	1	0	0	J	R	R	Н	G	D	В	R	1	D	G	Е	W	Ν
F	0	J	Т	R	F	В	Ν	G	1	Т	D	D	Υ	U	Υ	Z	1	С
Q	Р	Χ	С	Ε	K	0	1	В	G	С	Ρ	Е	М	D	S	Α	U	Н
S	Е	В	С	S	1	R	Ν	Е	Υ	D	S	0	R	G	Т	D	K	0
Т	L	G	J	Α	М	Т	Т	Α	K	S	0	Р	٧	Ρ	0	R	Т	R
Α	L	S	U	1	F	Т	S	С	X	R	P	Ν	Α	1	S	C	K	Е
R	Е	J	G	L	Ε	X	Р	0	Е	Ν	Р	С	Α	Т	Т	R	Н	Е
В	R	S	D	0	0	Α	Н	Ν	1	Р	S	S	С	S	Е	L	G	U
0	1	L	S	J	М	Ν	1	Α	Υ	L	Υ	S	G	U	R	Α	L	Р
Α	Е	K	Н	М	S	G	W	Н	L	Υ	В	С	Z	Z	Ν	G	W	Z
R	Υ	С	C	Z	Ν	S	G	Q	Υ	Υ	Q	0	С	Ν	W	1	J	Ν
D	D	Υ	X	Ε	Т	Ν	1	Е	Z	G	I	U	U	Ρ	C	G	Q	Q
Ν	S	Р	М	Α	1	Ν	М	Α	S	Т	D	D	L	Н	U	Z	Z	Х
K	Р	Q	0	D	Υ	Z	1	W	1	D	Т	W	Т	С	0	L	J	М
В	Α	В	С	R	0	W	S	Ν	Ε	S	Т	Υ	W	Н	Z	D	Н	D
В	R	Р	S	1	Т	G	Α	Ν	G	Р	L	Α	Ν	Κ	J	М	В	W

ANCHOR BEACON **BOATSWAIN** BRIDGE CAPTAIN

CROW'S NEST DINGHY DUNNAGE **ENGINE ROOM FORESAIL**

GANGPLANK HARBOR MAIN MAST **PORT PROPELLER**

RIGGING RUDDER SPAR STARBOARD STERN

Libra (September 23-October 22)

At first blush you may feel uncomfortable and doubt your abilities, but as the day wears on you begin to believe you can set your mind to nearly anything and accomplish it. In fact, your spirits soar today as the Moon dances into your 5th House of Creativity, even if you have an intense situation unfolding in your life. You have the gift of gab on your side now, enabling you to talk your way through almost any crisis. Use your infamous charm to work through any potentially embarrassing moments and don't let up until you see your magic beginning to work.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You must be methodical in your communication today or your plans may backfire on you. Think through everything you want to say before you open your mouth. The less you leave up in the air, the better it will be for everyone involved. Although you might be tempted to reveal your feelings, try to be as logical and rational as possible. A cool, calm and collected approach isn't your normal style, but will work wonders for you now.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Your subconscious mind is releasing powerful images now, but it can be all too easy to miss the show because of the activity in your immediate environment. You must block out the distracting noise so you can sink into the language of myth and symbol. In order to tune into this subtle dimension today, you need to set more practical thoughts aside. Relying on your intuition to interpret the messages allows you to discover new ways to maximize your current



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You may take your own beliefs a bit too seriously now, but your friends will appreciate your honesty, nonetheless. You are at the top of your game when communicating with your peers while the Sun-Mercury conjunction lights up your 11th House of Social Networking. Don't water down your message to make it more palatable. Saying exactly what you feel today is the most effective path to move toward the success you seek.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

There's something about your interactions with others that helps you maximize your current capabilities. You have the sense to know what you want to do, but it is the back and forth of collaboration with your peers that can turn a good idea into a great project. Instead of presenting a finished product, share a bit of your vision and then let everyone jump in with their thoughts. Helen Keller wrote, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

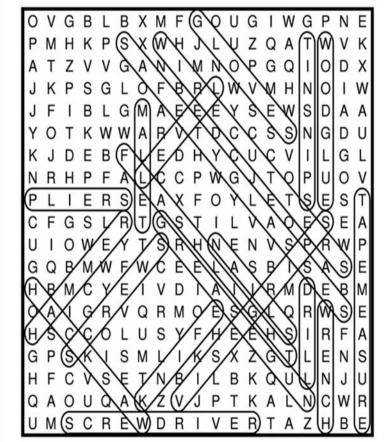


Pisces (February 19-March 20)

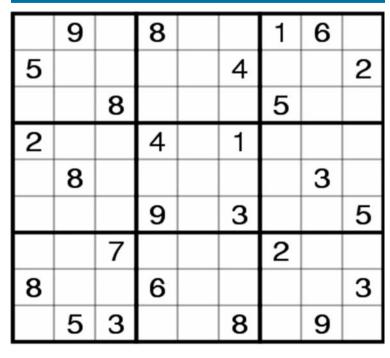
Although you are more than willing to drift into your dreams, it's better to focus on the existing circumstances today as much as possible. However, the Moon is meandering through your 12th House of Escapism, confusing your thoughts with fantasies. Nevertheless, incorporating your imagination into your personal life can be rewarding. Each time you catch your mind wandering, bring your attention back to the here and now. Exploring your subconscious is fine as long as you take care of business in the present moment.

Yesterday Solution

SOLUTION TO IN THE TOOLBOX PUZZLE



Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution 3 2 4 5 6 5 3 2 8 6 7 4 9 9 3 8 6 5 4 5 9 3 8 6 5 4 8 3 2 9 6 1 2 6 9 5 8 4 3 8 5 9 6 3 4 2 9 8 5 7 3 6 4 3 5 9 8

Sabah Hospital

Amiri Hospital

Chest Hospital

Adan Hospital

Ibn Sina Hospital

Al-Razi Hospital

Kaizen center

Rawda

Adaliya

Khaldiya

Shamiya

Shuwaikh

Nuzha

Qadsiya

Dasmah

Shaab

Qibla

Mirqab

Sharq

Salmiya

Jabriya

Bayan

Mishref

Sabah

Jahra

W Hawally

New Jahra

West Jahra

South Jahra

North Jahra

North Jleeb

Ardhiya

Firdous

Omariya

N Khaitan

Fintas

Bneid Al-Gar

Ayoun Al-Qibla

Maidan Hawally

Abdullah Salem

Industrial Shuwaikh

Kaifan

Physiotherapy Hospital

Maternity Hospital

Farwaniya Hospital

Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital



For labor-related inquiries and complaints:

Hospitals

Clinics

24812000

22450005

24843100

25312700

24849400

24892010

23940620

24840300

24846000

24874330/9

25716707

22517733

22517144

24848075

24849807

24848913

24814507

22549134

22526804

24814764

22515088

22532265

22531908

22518752

22459381

22451082

22456536

22465401

25746401

25316254

25623444

25388462

25381200

22630786

24810221

24770319 24575755

24772608

24775066

24775992

24311795

24884079

24892674

24719048

24710044

23900322

Soor Center

Tel: 2290-1677

Fax: 2290 1688



PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan	Fahaeel Makka St Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23915883 23715414 23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92	24575518 24566622
Capital	Ahlam Khaldiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khaldiya Coop	22436184 24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan	Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11	24734000 24881201 24726638
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Salmiya-Amman St Hawally-Beirut St Hawally & Rawdha Coop Jabriya-Block 1A Jabriya-Block 3B Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	25726265 25647075 22625999 22564549 25340559 25326554 25721264 25380581 25628241

STATE OF KUWAIT

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw



Liberia

Libya

Lithuania

00231

00218

00370

Zambia

Zimbabwe

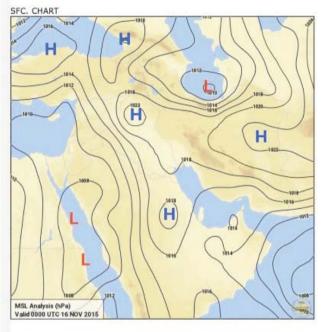
00260

00263

Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours Issued 16/11/2015-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

MAX Temperature 26 °C

By Day: Sunny with light variable wind changing to light to moderate south easterly later on wind, with speed of 06 - 20 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear
By Night: Clouds will increase gradually with light to moderate south easterly wind, with speed of 08 - 28 km/h



Four-Day	Forecast

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	*	*	*	**
Expected Weather	partly cloudy + scattered rain	clouds to decrease + scattered rain	sunny	clouds to increase + chance for drizzle
Min Temp °C	11	12	11	11
Max Temp °C	26	26	28	27
Wind Direction	south easterly	south easterly changing to north westerly	north westerly	north westerly
Wind Speed km/h	15 - 40	15 - 40	10 - 32	15 - 38

Warnings NO CURRENT WARNINGS

Station	MIN °C REC	Max °C EXP
KUWAIT CITY	15	25
KUWAIT AIRPORT	10	26
ABDALY	10	26
BUBYAN	12	25
JAHRA	13	26
FAILAKA ISLAND	14	25
SALMIYAH	19	24
AHMADI	18	24
JAL ALIYAH	12	24
QAROH ISLAND	23	24
UMM AL-MARADEM	22	24
NUWAISIB	14	27
WAFRA	09	26
MANAGISH	12	24
SALMY	12	23
MUTRIBA	11	25

Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport	
Max Temp (°C)	25
Min Temp (°C)	11
Max Rel Hum (%)	79
Min Rel Hum (%)	23
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	39 NW
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm

06:13

16:53

Prayer Times	
Fajr	04:51
Sunrise	06:13
Zuhr	11:33
Asr	14:32
Sunset	16:53
Isha	18:13

PRIVATE CLINICS

	Ophthalmologists			
Dr. Abidallah Al-Mansoor	25622444			
Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea	25752222			
Dr. Masoma Habeeb	25321171			
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy	25739999			
Dr. Mohsen Abel	25757700			
Dr Adnan Hasan Alwayl	25732223			
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly	25732223			
Ear, Nose & Throat	(ENT)			
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner	24555050 Ext 510			
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali	25644660			
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel	25646478			
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah	25311996			
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daaory	25731988			
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620166			
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426			
General Practitioners				
Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi	24555050 Ext 123			
	24740242			
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar	24719312			
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem	23926920			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem	23926920 25730465			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi	23926920 25730465			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah	23926920 25730465 25655528			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi	23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae	23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists	23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy	23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501 22641534 22639955			
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul	23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501 22641534 22639955 ii 22616660			

Psychologists

/Psychotherapists

Plastic Surgeons			
Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf	22547272		
Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari	22617700		
Dr. Abdel Quttainah	25625030/60		
Family Doc	tor		
Dr Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581		
Psychiatris	its		
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047		
Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0		
Gynaecologists & Ol	bstetricians		
DrAdrian arbe	23729596/23729581		
Dr. Verginia s.Marin	2572-6666 ext 8321		
Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan	22655539		
Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliytami	25343406		
Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly	25739272		
Dr. Salem soso	22618787		
General Surg	eons		
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044		
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Bash	er 25327148		
Internists, Chest & Heart			
Dr. Adnan Ebil	22639939		
Dr. Mousa Khadada	22666300		
Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan	25728004		
Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra	25355515		
Dr. Mobarak Aldoub	24726446		
Dr Nasser Behbehani	25654300/3		

info@soorcenter.com

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Paediatricians			
Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898		
Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300		
Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444		
Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099		
Dr. Snaa Maaroof	25713514		
Dr. Pradip Gujare	23713100		
Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282		
Dermatolog	ıy		
Dr. Mohammed Salam			
Bern University	23845955		
Dentists			
Dr Anil Thomas	3729596/3729581		
Dr. Shamah Al-Matar	22641071/2		
Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed	22562226		
Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer	22561444		
Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan	22619557		
Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash	22525888		
Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan	25653755		
Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111		
Neurologists			
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324		
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875		
Gastrologists			
Dr. Sami Aman	22636464		
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030		
Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali	22633135		

Kaizen center

25716707

Noor Clinic

23845955

	Endocrinologist					
_	Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330				
	Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888					
	Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924					
	Physiotherapists & VD					
	Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291					
	Dr. Musaed Faraj Khamees	22666288				
	Rheumatologists:					
	Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060					
31	D. W. J. J. J. M. J III	2572222				
	Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290				
	Internist, Chest & I					
	Internist, Chest & I	Heart 24555050 Ext 210				
	Internist, Chest & I DR.Mohammes Akkad Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCPC, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicin Head, Division of Cardiology	24555050 Ext 210 ne 25339667				
	Internist, Chest & I DR.Mohammes Akkad Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCPC, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicir Head, Division of Cardiology Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital	24555050 Ext 210 ne 25339667				

William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677

Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677

INTERNAT CALL			1
Afghanistan	0093	Luxembourg	00352
Albania	00355	Macau	00853
Algeria Andorra	00213 00376	Macedonia Madagascar	00389
Angola	00244	Majorca	0034
Anguilla	001264	Malawi	00265
Antiga Argentina	001268 0054	Malaysia Maldives	0060 00960
Armenia	00374	Mali	00223
Australia Austria	0061 0043	Malta Marshall Islands	00356 00692
Bahamas	0043	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh Barbados	00880 001246	Mauritius Mayotte	00230 00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize Benin	00501 00229	Moldova Monaco	00373
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia Bosnia	00591 00387	Morocco Mozambique	00212 00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei Bulgaria	00673 00359	Nepal Netherlands	00977 0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia Cameroon	00855 00237	New Zealand Nicaragua	0064 00505
Canada	001	Nigar	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands Central African	001345 00236	Niue Norfolk Island	00683 00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile China	0056 0086	North Korea	00850 0047
Colombia	0057	Norway Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo Cook Islands	00242 00682	Palau Panama	00680 00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba Cyprus	0053 00357	Peru Philippines	0051 0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark Diego Garcia	0045 00246	Puerto Rico Qatar	001787 00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic Ecuador	001809	Rwanda Saint Helena	00250 00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503 0044	Saint Lucia Saint Pierre	001758
England (UK) Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	00508 001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia Ethiopia	00372 00251	Samoa West San Marino	00685 00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tone	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji Finland	00679 00358	Scotland (UK) Senegal	0044 00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia Gabon	00689	Singapore Slovakia	0065 00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany Ghana	0049 00233	Somalia South Africa	00252 0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain Sri Lanka	0034
Greenland Grenada	00299 001473	Sri Lanka Sudan	0094 00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland Swadan	00268
Guatemala Guinea	00502 00224	Sweden Switzerland	0046 0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands) Honduras	0031 00504	Taiwan Tanzania	00886 00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	00255
Hungary	0036	Toga	00228
Ibiza (Spain) Iceland	0034 00354	Tonga Tokelau	00676 00690
India	00354	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia Iran	0062 0098	Turkey Tuvalu	0090 00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Italy Ivory Coast	0039 00225	United Arab Emirates United Kingdom	00976 0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay	00598
Japan	0081	USA	001
Jordan Kazakhstan	00962 007	Uzbekistan Vanuatu	00998 00678
Kenya	00254	Venezuela	00582
Kiribati	00686	Vietnam	0084
Kuwait Kyrgyzstan	00965 00996	Virgin Islands UK Virgin Islands US	001284 001340
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Gossip



Katona mourning marriage

erry Katona feels like "there has been a death" in her family following the breakdown of her third marriage. The Atomic Kitten singer recently called time on her marriage to George Kay - who was charged with assault by beating and unlawful possession of a stun gun last month - and is in mourning but feels responsible for the end of their union. She said: "I am heartbroken... George was with me 24/7. It's like somebody has died. He was my best friend. "I just feel like there's been a death and I feel like it's my fault. Like I've done something wrong." The 35-year-old star-

who has kids Molly, 14, Lilly, 12, Heidi, eight, and Max, seven, from past relationships and 19-month-old Dylan-Jorge with George - will "always love" her estranged husband but thinks it's for the best their marriage is over. She said: "I think there will always be a part of me that will love George. I think the hardest thing is walking away from somebody you love so much, but it's the right thing to do... "I have worked hard to get my life back on track. I really wanted our marriage to work. I miss him every day but I know it's not healthy." The 'Whole Again' singer feels "embar-

rassed and ashamed" at the end of her marriage and is particularly uncomfortable that it has been so public. She told the new issue of OK! magazine: "I feel completely embarrassed and ashamed. "It's so hard. I just wanted the marriage to work... "I wish it wasn't so public. I know I'm sat here doing an interview but I wish it wasn't so out in the open."

Chris Hemsworth

feels like he has six kids

■he 'Thor' actor - who has daughter India, three, and twin sons Tristan and Sasha, 19 months, with wife Elsa Pataky - admits raising "three under three" means life is incredibly hectic but has finally taught him the "full gamut" of emotions. He explained to Australia's Daily Life newspaper: "It feels like I have six. They're non-stop, active kids. The biggest thing I've learned by having kids is that now I know what love is. I know what frustration is. I know the full gamut of emotions, good and bad. I feel I had just scratched the surface prior... "Each time you add one, it feels like three more." The 32-year-old actor and his 39year-old wife keep their family out of the spotlight by living in Byron Bay, Australia and appreciate being able to have a "very normal" existence where people are happy to leave them alone. He said: "We have a very normal existence. "Here, if someone recognizes you, it doesn't tend to be as big a deal. People are like, 'Oh yeah, cool,' then onward with the day. "If you are living in Hollywood, people have travelled from around the world to see people in the entertainment business and they've got the cameras ready and a bigger deal is made of it. "Here, we have a very normal existence, people are very respectful, and that was why we chose to come here."



Disick's son upsEt by split

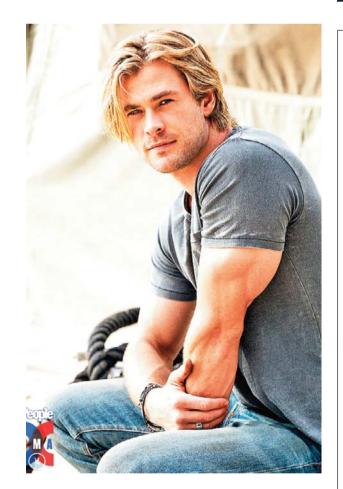
Scott Disick's son worried his dad was "gone for the whole wide world". The 32-year-old star split from long-term partner Kourtney Kardashian - with whom he has kids Mason, five, Penelope, three, and Reign, 11 months - earlier this year and his children are finding the situation tough. Kourtney's sister, Kim Kardashian West told her mother Kris Jenner than Mason had asked her: "Is [dad] ever coming home? Is he gone for the whole wide world?" Though Kourtney insisted she is "so done" with Scott and his wild partying, she vowed he would always be around for the sake of their children. Speaking on the premiere of the new season of 'Keeping Up With the Kardashians', she said: "We're trying to be the best that we can to be a team living apart.. "He's going to be in our lives. We have three kids together." But the 36year-old beauty admitted there is "nothing" she can do to help Scott, who is currently undergoing treatment in rehab. She said: "This is what he wants to be doing, so there's nothing I can do at this point. "I just want to care for my kids." And Kourtney is trying her best to embrace the positive side of single life. She quipped: "Let's look on the bright side. Now I have a huge closet... "There's actually a lot of bright sides. The closet is number one."



Kris Jenner

explains ESPY absence

ris Jenner didn't support Caitlyn Jenner at the ESPY Awards because it would have been "awkward". The 60-year-old matriarch decided against joining her five daughters at the awards show - where her former spouse picked up the Arthur Ashe Courage Award - earlier this summer because she didn't want their first meeting since the 'I Am Cait' star's transition from Bruce to take place at such a high-profile event. She explained: "I haven't met Caitlyn yet and I think it would be so awkward to meet her under these circumstances." And the situation was also tough on Kim Kardashian West, Khloe and Kourtney Kardashian, and Kendall and Kylie Jenner but they felt their loyalties were divided. As a compromise, the sisters agreed to attend the ESPYs but not the dinner afterwards, opting to take Kris out instead. Kim explained on the premiere episode of the new season of 'Keeping Up With the Kardashians': "We want to go to the ESPYS. We want to support her. "I also am really sensitive to my mom, though, because Caitlyn just did a Vanity Fair article that wasn't so nice to my mom. But I just have to balance out both people so they both feel supported." And though Kris was happy with the decision, Caitlyn wasn't so impressed. Kendall told Kim and Kourtney: "Dad and Mom put me and Kylie into this weird position of choosing between them. "Dad wouldn't talk to me." Meanwhile, Khloe has admitted she had a "hard time" processing the news of Caitlyn's transition because she only learned while filming the reality show what her stepfather was planning to do. She told talk show host Ellen DeGeneres: "I had a hard time because I found out on camera like while we were filming and I felt like we kept asking him, 'Bruce, like what's going on? We're hearing all these rumours." "And he kept telling us one thing, but really he knew he was transitioning and wouldn't be honest with us. "So we felt like we were kind of the last to know so that was hard for us. Especially me."



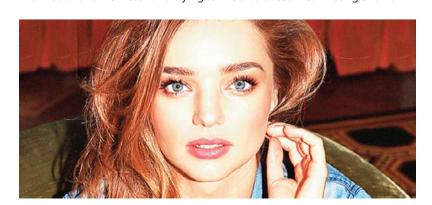
Hudson speaks to dead mother

ennifer Hudson speaks to her dead mother "all the time". The 34-year-old singer was left devastated in 2008 when her mom Darnell Donaldson, brother Jason and seven-year-old nephew Julian King were murdered by her sister's estranged husband William Balfour, but she still tries to retain a connection to her News if she ever has conversations with her mother in her head, she said: "All the time. And my brother, if he was here, if I was sitting up crying, he'll say, 'Jenny, knock it off. Knock it off!" Jennifer - who has six-yearold son David Jr. with fiance David Otunga - testified during the murder trial, and attended every day of the case, though she admits it was the "toughest thing ever". However, the 'Spotlight' singer had the strength to attend court because God "came to her" and told her to "keep going". She said: "I remember God came to me, like, right when everything happened, because I was like, 'What do I do?!' And He said, 'I want you to get up and keep going." And you don't question God. I said, 'Okay, let's go." And the Grammy Award-winning star has learned to accept waves of grief when they come along. She said: "It's one of those things where it comes in flashes." "I try to allow myself to let it do, be, bring whatever it brings. Because it's too much. And when it's more than one person, you don't know who to grieve for first, or how. So when it comes, it comes."



Miranda Kerr: I change my fashion depending on the city I'm in

iranda Kerr changes her fashion depending on the city she is in. The Australian model has revealed she loves wearing winter clothing in New York, but in Malibu and at home in Sydney, her style is so much more "relaxed". She said: "In New York I feel like anything goes. In LA, it's definitely a lot more casual. "In New York, I love to dress up for the winter season and really embrace the layers and have over-the-knee boots, where if I wore that in Malibu, people would think I was crazy. "So in Malibu I try to keep it really simple. I honestly wear a lot of tights and sneakers. Australia is also very quite relaxed - kind of like the Malibu vibe - depending on if I have a business meeting." Meanwhile, the brunette beauty also revealed her top beauty secret is having cold showers. She told PEOPLÉ magazine: "I put coconut oil all over my body and have a cold shower. It's a really great way to wake up and get the circulation going." Miranda also revealed she puts coconut oil in her mouth to cleanse. She added: "You put cold-pressed, organic coconut oil in your mouth and swish it around for ten minutes - don't ever swallow it - and then spit it out. "I spit it into my garden, rinse my mouth out, brush my teeth, then you do mouthwash after." "It's really, really good for the body. I love anything to do with health and wellness - and trying to live a balanced life." — Bang Showbiz





Payne buys Harry Potter's flying car

iam Payne paid a six-figure sum to buy a flying car that featured in 'Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets'. The 22-year-old singer is a self-confessed 'Harry Potter' fanatic, having celebrated his most recent birthday with a Hogwarts-themed bash, and has revealed the lengths his obsession has stretched to. Liam - who is the proud owner of the battered Ford Anglia 105E used in the 2002 film - shared: "I bought the Harry Potter car and I put it in my garden. "You know the blue car, the flying car? I bought one because I'm a bit of a geek." Liam also revealed he's a fully fledged member of Harry's famous school house, Gryffindor, after taking an online exam. He told BBC Radio 1: "I did the test on the website. "My friend got Hufflepuff and I got Gryffindor. He was so annoyed." However, Liam isn't the only member of One Direction who is obsessed with the 'Harry Potter' stories, as his bandmate Niall Horan previously admitted after taking a tour of the studios where the films were shot. He wrote on Twitter: "Not gona lie, I'm obsessed with Harry potter now, I've watched 5 movies in 3 days since I've been to the studio tour! (sic)"

Bieber wins HALO Hall of Fame Award

ustin Bieber was the inaugural winner of the HALO Hall of Fame Award on Saturday. The 21-year-old singer was honored at the Nickelodeon HALO Awards in New York, where he used his acceptance speech to pay tribute to the victims of the Paris attacks on Friday, in which 129 people died. He said: "There's been some sad things happening in the world right now, and I think that we should all honor that and just take one moment of silence for that, if you guys could." The awards honor young people in the US who are responsible for "helping and leading others" and Justin was chosen for his work with the Make-A-Wish foundation and Pencils of Promise, a charity which builds schools and increases educational opportunities in the developing world. It was recently revealed that Justin has made over 250 wishes come true so far through Make-A-Wish. Nick Cannon hosted the ceremony and previously explained why Justin was chosen for the prestigious award. He told Variety: "There's no better way to begin the holiday season than by celebrating the amazing work of these teens and our first HALO Hall of Fame recipient Justin Bieber at the Nickelodeon HALO Awards. Justin's commitment to granting wishes for kids is unparalleled, and his ability to inspire and lead others through his positive actions is at the core of what HALO is all about." Joe Jonas and his band DNCE performed at the ceremony, which will air on Nickelodeon on November 29.



Gossip

Veteran Indian-British actor Saeed Jaffrey dies aged 86

British-Indian cinema and television, has died at the age of 86, his family said. The Indian-born British actor appeared in the biopic "Gandhi" as well as many Bollywood films and British television productions Among his screen credits in a career spanning more than 50 years, were roles in director John Huston's "The Man Who Would Be King" and Indian director

aeed Jaffrey, one of the best-known faces of Satyajit Ray's "The Chess Players", as well as the BBC television series and the film versions of "A Passage to India".

Other roles included parts on the long-running British soap opera "Coronation Street" as well as starring roles in the British series "Tandoori Nights" and "Little Napoleons". Jaffrey was born on Jan 8, 1929 into a Muslim family in Malerkotta, Punjab, and started his acting career by setting up his own theatre company in

New Delhi. His death was announced on Sunday by his niece, Shaheen Aggarwal, in a posting on Facebook in which she said: "Today, a generation of Jaffreys has passed away. Saeed Jaffrey has joined his brothers and sister and is rejoicing in the lap of his Heavenly Father, eternally."— Reuters





In this Thursday, Aug 13, 2015, file photo, Jay Leno participates in the "Jay Leno's Garage" panel at the The NBC Universal Summer TCA Tour at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in

Jay Leno to host Nobel Peace Prize concert on Dec 11

ormer "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno is set to host the Nobel Peace Prize concert next month. Organizers for the event announced yesterday that Leno will host the Dec 11 event at the Telenor Arena in Oslo, Norway.

The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet was named the 2015 winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for its "decisive contribution to the building of a pluralistic democracy in Tunisia in the wake of the Jasmine Revolution of 2011," the Nobel Peace Prize jury said last month. For a first time, the concert will be live-streamed and available on YouTube. — AP

Israel accidentally finds 'impressive' ancient mosaic

srael will present to the public for the first time this week an "impressive" mosaic accidentally discovered in what was a wealthy neighborhood in Roman and Byzantine times, officials said yesterday. The colorful mosaic measuring some 11 by 13 meters (36 by 43 feet) discovered in Lod in central Israel is believed to have been the courtyard pavement of a "magnificent villa," the Israel Antiquities Authority said. It is the second such mosaic found in the area, following another uncovered in the 1990s that was the floor of the villa's living room 1,700 years ago and has since been exhibited in prestigious

museums worldwide. The authority called the first mosaic "breathtaking" and "among the most beautiful" in Israel. It depicts roaring lions, elephants in battle, giraffes and dol-

The recent excavation in 2014 was to prepare for the construction of a visitor center to house the first mosaic, currently on display at the Palazzo Cini Gallery in Venice, when it returns. Scenes in the newly discovered mosaic include hunting and hunted animals, fish, flowers in baskets, vases and birds. "The quality of the images portrayed in the mosaic indicates a highly developed artistic ability,"

Amir Gorzalczany, excavation director, said in a statement.

The authority said that numerous fragments of frescoes discovered also "reflect the decoration and the meticulous and luxurious design, which are in the best tradition of the well-born of the period". It said that "in light of the new discoveries, this part of the villa will also be incorporated in the visitor center". Lod was known as Diospolis at the time, and served as a district capital. Today it is located near Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion international airport. — AFP





A worker of the Israel Antiquities Authority cleans a 1,700-year-old mosaic, which served as pavement for the courtyard in a villa during the Roman and Byzantine periods, as it is presented to the public and the press for the first time yesterday, in the Israeli central city of Lod. — AFP photos

The Dixie Chicks to launch US tour next summer

he Dixie Chicks are ready to party in the USA. The Grammywinning group will kick off its "DCX MMXVI World Tour" on June 1 in Cincinnati. It wraps up the tour Oct 10 in Los Angeles. Tickets go on sale Friday. The group will visit more than 40 cities, including New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Detroit, Dallas, and Toronto.

The Dixie Chicks are Natalie Maines, Emily Robison and Martie

Maguire. Their last album - "Taking the Long Way" - was in 2006. Robison and Maguire, who are sisters, teamed up to form the duo Court Yard Hounds and released two albums. Maines released a solo album in 2013. The Dixie Chicks' North American tour will follow the group's European tour that begins in April. — AP



The Dixie Chicks, Emily Robison, left, Natalie Maines, center, and Martie Maguire, who earned five Grammy nominations, arrive for the 49th Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles. — AP

Egyptian Museum marks 113th anniversary amid tourism slump

gyptian authorities sought to project an upbeat tone as the country yesterday narked the 113th anniversary of its famed Egyptian Museum, the home of the world's largest collection of Pharaonic-era antiquities, amid a slump in tourism and massive tourist cancellations. Battered by years of political turmoil, Egypt's tourism sector took another blow after the Oct 31 Russian passenger plane crash in the Sinai Peninsula that killed all 224 people on board, mostly Russian vacationers returning home from a Red Sea resort. An investigation into the crash, which Western officials say may have been caused by a

bomb, is still ongoing.

As celebrations got underway outside the landmark museum building in the heart of the Egyptian capital, Cairo, officials, band players and performers outnumbered the tourists. As he spoke to local TV stations, Antiquities Minister Mamdouh El-Damaty offered a traditional greeting for visitors: "Welcome to Egypt." He promised there will be more attractions and breakthroughs, referring to last week's ministry announcement that thermal scanning results on the Great Pyramid in Giza revealed some anomalies that could lead to new discoveries about its construction

"We always have new things when it comes to antiquities," El-Damaty said. El-Damaty said the new, Grand Museum of Egypt, which is still under construction, will partially open in May 2018. The sprawling complex, being built adjacent to the Pyramids in Giza, is now scheduled to be finished in November 2022. It's meant to house artifacts, including the famed King Tutankhamun's full collection. The new museum was initially slated to open this year but the project has been delayed.—AP



French architect Jean-Pierre Houdin, right, and Egypt's Antiquities Minister Mamdouh El-Damaty, second right, stand near the limestone rocks that are displayed on the screen showing varying temperatures represented by different colors with live footage from a thermal camera, in front of the Khufu pyramid in Giza, Egypt, yesterday.—AP

UK fans try to push Eagles of Death Metal to No 1

of Death Metal, which was playing at a Paris concert hall targeted in Friday's attacks, have started a social media campaign to push one of its songs to number 1. "Get Eagles Of Death Metal to the No.1 this week as a statement of support and peace," read the description of the campaign @EODMforNo1 on Twitter yesterday. A Facebook page calling on supporters to download the song "Save a Prayer", a cover of Duran Duran's hit single of the same name, had more than 6,500 "likes".

Campaign organizers said that the downloads would be "a nice gesture" and stressed they were not representing the band, who escaped unharmed, and their initiative was not being done for profit. The song is at number 96 in Britain's charts and

ritish fans of the US rock band Eagles climbing, with a new ranking set to be released later yesterday ahead of the official ranking on Friday. The campaign "has started gathering momentum," the Official Charts Company said in a statement. The song is already at number three on the Amazon UK singles chart and number 1 on the iTunes rock chart. It was at number 35 on the main iTunes chart.

> Gunmen attacked an Eagles of Death Metal gig at the Bataclan in Paris on Friday, gunning down fans and blowing themselves up as police stormed the building. The attack claimed 89 lives-by far the worst loss of life of the night. The band, which was formed in 1998 in Palm Desert, California, was celebrating the October release of their album "Zipper Down" with a European tour. The band's previous highest

UK single's chart position was number 73 with 2006 record "I Want You So Hard (Boy's Bad News)". The video featured Josh Homme-frontman of Queens of the Stone Age-along with former Nirvana drummer Dave Grohl and Hollywood comic actor Jack Black, all of whom have made live cameos with the band. Messages about the campaign were being retweeted on the official account of the British band Duran Duran. It was unclear who would receive the royalties from the increased sales of the single. — AFP

> **US rock band Eagles of Death**



Features

The nine lives of Russia's Hermitage cats

or more than a century visitors have marveled at the Hermitage Museum's precious collections, and for just as long dozens of cats have prowled the Saint Petersburg palace's sprawling cellars. The felines has one main task-to root out unwanted guests: rodents. The 70-odd brigade have their claws so deep into the history of Russia's largest museum-and one of the world's oldest-that there is even a special feline unit dedicated to their welfare. "Our cats are as well-known as our collections," beamed Irina Popovets, who runs the unit.

Every morning, art lovers from the world over arrive at the gates of the Hermitage complex on the Neva River housing a collection that spans ancient Egyptian and Renaissance art to modern masters like Cezanne, Gauguin and Degas. Meanwhile, 45-year-old Popovets heads down below to feed her purring charges, a mixed batch of colors, breeds and temperaments who are always overjoyed to see her. Some days, she brings along three assistants to help her vaccinate new arrivals and treat the sick.

As with humans, love alone is not always enough. "Most of them are in bad shape," Popovets admits, adding that many have been brought in by people who can no longer take care of them. Her office is located near the massive underworld inhabited by the cats and its walls are hung with portraits of the beloved animals. "People very often discreetly bring us their cats," she said, and the museum sometimes struggles to keep the everexpanding feline staff. Cats first found a home at the Hermitage long before it became a museum open to the public in the 1850s.

museum open to the public in the 1850s.

In 1745, Peter the Great's daughter Empress Elisabeth issued a decree ordering that "the finest cats of Kazan (a city on the Volga river) be found, the biggest, the ones best-suited to catching mice, so that they can be sent to Her Majesty's court." By the time Catherine the Great took power in 1762, the

felines had become official residents. They were even dubbed the Winter Palace cats, after the royal residence that has now become part of the museum. They survived successive wars, invasion by Napoleon's forces and even the revolution that overthrew Tsarist rule.

The cats, however, did not make it during the 1941-1944 Nazi siege of Leningrad, the city's name under Soviet rule. The city's famished population had no choice but to eat all their pets in order to survive. Legend has it that the palace's feline guard was brought back to life when World War II ended, when new recruits were brought in by train from all over Russia. By the 1960s, there were so many cats at the Hermitage that the authorities decided it would be best to abandon them.

Holidays and postcards

Yet the rat population proliferated and a few years later the cats again found their place. Though they are no longer allowed into any of the museum's 1,000 halls showcasing more than 60,000 masterpieces, staff say the cats have won the fight against the rodents. And they have become stars in their own right, hugely popular with some three million tourists who visit each year and snap up souvenirs and postcards adorned with cat pictures on sale in the museum's shops. "Given the Hermitage cats' popularity, we have decided to kickstart a process to copyright their name," museum director Mikhail Piotrovsky said. There is even an annual holiday in the felines' honor once a year, as well as a website inviting residents of Saint Petersburg to adopt one. Popovets picks up her office phone to answer queries from a man keen to take home a kitten whose picture he has seen online. "You're right, it is an honor to adopt a Hermitage cat," Popovets tells him. — AFP









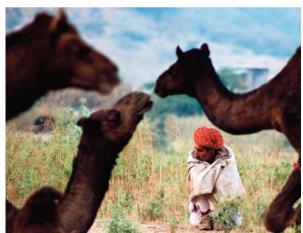
The cats at the State Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg guard the artworks from mice and are hugely popular with some three million tourists who visit each year.



A cat is seen in front of the State Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg. — AP photos







Indian camel traders arrive with their herd for the annual cattle fair in Pushkar, in the western Indian state of Rajasthan, Saturday. Pushkar is a popular Hindu pilgrimage spot that is also frequented by foreign tourists who come to the town for its annual cattle fair. —AP photos

Igor Moiseyev Ballet vows to wow Kuwait



Kuwait Times: You are a legendary and an internationally acclaimed dance company that was established in 1943. Could you please explain the secret of your success and the role you played in the development of the company?

Elena Scherbakova: The State Academic Ensemble of Popular Dance was founded by the great Russian choreographer Igor Moiseyev back in 1937. At that time it was the first and the only ensemble of popular dance in the entire world.

Given the success of the first five years of its existence, Moiseyev came up with the initiative of opening a special ballet school for training talented youth. This initiative turned out to be a smart strategic move as 95 percent of the Igor Moiseyev ballet team has always been made up of its school graduates, including myself by the way.

In our days, the Igor Moiseyev Ballet has become a household name in Russia. Being an artistic director of the ensemble, my goal is to treasure and preserve the traditions of Moiseyev and ensure that the bar set by the maestro is held up high.

KT: This is your first time in Kuwait. Why Kuwait and what are your expectations from the upcoming event?

Scherbakova: The word "Kuwait" itself sounds mysterious and attractive to Russians. So when we received a phone call from the Russian embassy in Kuwait with the proposal to organize a performance here under the auspices of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, it did not take us long to make up our minds and accept the invitation.

We have always proceeded from the belief that the more countries we cover, the more experience we get and the more nations we make familiar with the Russian unique culture.

We really hail the support provided by the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters along with the Russian Ministry of Culture in cooperation with the Russian Embassy in Kuwait that helped to fulfill our plans.

In light of the recent visit of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to Russia and his meeting with Vladimir Putin, we consider the upcoming show in Kuwait as a next step forward in developing friendly ties between our two countries.

KT: What program the Igor Moiseyev Ballet will show in Kuwait?

Scherbakova: We will be holding two shows in Kuwait - Nov 24 and Nov 25. both at the Salmiya Theatre, which is also known as the Abdulhusain Abdulridha Theatre.

We have prepared a special program for the occasion, which is titled "The Classics of Igor Moiseyev". The program is made up of a bunch of terrific dances. I am not going to disclose the whole of it, but for sure the Kuwaiti audience will be much impressed by the traditional Russian dance "Summer", the dance of Bessarabian gypsies, the Greek "Sirtaki", the dance of Argentinian cowboys "Gaucho" and the fascinating Russian marine dance "Yablochko".

I do not want to go further into details as I would rather suggest people come and see it.

KT: How many national dances do you currently have in your repertoire? And how do you get your inspiration for choreography of traditional dances from various countries?

Scherbakova: Our repertoire is the personal choreographic works of Moiseyev. He was a real genius. He used to travel a lot around the world with his ballet. Whichever country he went to, he would spot the specifics of its people, dress and traditions, in particular the specifics of its basic dance moves. On his return back home, he would develop these basic

moves into a comprehensive choreographic work.

As a matter of fact, Moiseyev would only stage a dance of the nation that would really impress him by its energy and passion. For instance, the French or the British folk dance would have never drawn his attention because of its slowness in comparison to the Mexican, Argentinean or even Arabian ones.

For his great success and the achievements in world choreography, Moiseyev was awarded with more than thirty orders and medals of different countries



KT: How many hours do your dance company members train daily?

Scherbakova: We start at ten in the morning with the so-called one-hour "classical choreography" warm-up. Then we proceed to the studio and carry on for another four hours. After that we have a break and meet again in the studio at seven in the evening for another two-hour practice. I really make our dancers push hard as it is the only way to be a professional and to achieve something valuable in one's career.

The same system existed at the time when Moiseyev was the director of the ballet. Nothing has changed since he passed away in 2007.

KT: Where have you toured with the dance company this year? And where are you going after Kuwait?

Scherbakova: We try to tour a lot. Actually the international tour records of our ensemble boasts 65 countries including experiences in Great Britain, France and USA in the late 1950s when the "Cold War" was in full swing.

This year we have toured a lot around Russia. We also had a great success at Expo Milano in September, had five full-houses in Poland and enjoyed a hearty welcome in Jordan in October. After Kuwait, we will be heading to Latvia and will end this year with performances in Saint Petersburg and Moscow.

KT: What is your personal goal as the director of such a legendary ensemble?

Scherbakova: It is to do my best for this legend to live forever. To ensure that the new generations of our dancers well realize the importance and the uniqueness of the Igor Moiseyev Ballet and maintain the high level of its professionalism.

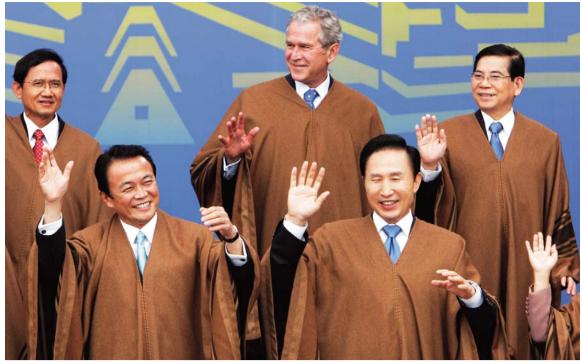
And in a short term - it is to come back to Kuwait with a new program. I really hope to see Kuwait Times readers on Nov 24-25 at the Salmiya Theatre. No one will regret.



Fashion



In this Nov 14, 2009, file photo, US President Barack Obama poses with APEC leaders in traditional shirts for a group photo at the APEC summit in Singapore. — AP photos



In this Nov 23, 2008, file photo, wearing traditional Peruvian ponchos, Thailand's Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat, top left, US President George W Bush, top center, Vietnam's President Nguyen Minh Triet, top right, Japan's Prime Minister Taro Aso, bottom left, and South Korea's President Lee Myung-bak, bottom right, wave during the official group photo of the APEC summit, in Lima, Peru.

Shirt photos offer sometimes awkward moments of APEC unity



In this Sept 8, 2007, file photo, US President George W Bush, right, wears a Drizabone jacket with APEC leaders during a photo opportunity at the Sydney Opera House in Sydney, Australia.

he Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summits, which draw the US president and 20 other regional leaders, are sometimes memorable for just one moment: The leaders posing for a group photo in unexpected attire. Former President Bill Clinton started the tradition in 1993, when he handed out leather bomber jackets similar to those worn by American fighter pilots. The US leader apparently wanted his fellow VIPs to feel relaxed at

Dubbed the "silly shirts" photo by some, the occasionally awkward ceremony became a signature event at most annual APEC gatherings, elevating native garb of the host countries to a brief moment of world fame. The 21 APEC leaders have posed for together in batik shirts (Malaysia in 1998), Chinese jackets (Shanghai 2001), flowing ponchos (Chile 2004) and in Vietnamese "ao dai" - elegant silken tunics in which several of the leaders were visibly ill at ease - in 2006.

The tradition had a three-year hiatus - in Yokohama, Japan, in 2010, Hawaii in 2011 and Vladivostok, Russia, in 2012 - when the leaders donned regular Western business attire. Then Indonesia and China revived the group photo in traditional garb at the last two APEC summits. The Philippines' barong tagalog, a partially see-through shirt sewn from pineapple fiber and silk that was used at the 1996 summit, may have a re-run when Manila hosts APEC this week. — AP



In this Nov 19, 2005, file photo, dressed in Korean traditional "durumagi" silk robes, APEC leaders pose for an official group photo in Busan, South Korea.



In this Nov 25, 1996, file photo, APEC leaders wearing the traditional "barong tagalog" from the In this Nov 21, 2004, file photo, US President George W Bush, Philippines wave during a group photo in Subic Bay, west of Manila.



left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin wave to photographers prior to the leaders' group photo at the APEC summit in Santiago, Chile.



In this Nov 19, 2006, file photo, wearing traditional "ao dai," US President George W Bush, top row left, Russian President Vladimir Putin, top row center, Thai Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont, top row right, Chinese President Hu Jintao, bottom row left, and Chilean President Michelle Bachelet wave during a group photo with APEC leaders in Hanoi, Vietnam.



In this Oct 27, 2002, file photo, US President George W Bush waves as he poses for a group photo along with Singapore's Trade Minister George Yeo, back left, Prime Minister of Russia Mikhail Kasyanov, front left, Lee Yuan-tseh of Taiwan, front center, and Prime Minister of Vietnam Phan Van Khai, far right, during the APEC summit in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.



In this Oct 21, 2003, file photo, US President George W Bush, center top row, smiles with other leaders during a group photo session of the APEC summit in Bangkok, Thailand.



In this Nov 16, 2000, file photo, Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, greets US President Bill Clinton, second right, as Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, second left, and Taiwanese representative Perng Fai-nan watch as they wear traditional shirts during the APEC group photo session at Jerudong Polo Club in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei.



In this Nov 25, 1997, file photo, APEC leaders, wearing matching jackets, laugh during a group photo opportunity on the campus of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.



In this Nov 18, 1998, file photo, dressed in traditional Malaysian batik shirts, from left to right: Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov; Singaporean Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong; Taiwan Chairman of the Council for Economic Planning and Development, Chiang Pin-kung; Thailand Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai; and US Vice President Al Gore, applaud after the reading of the declaration at the conclusion of the APEC summit in Cyberjaya, Malaysia.



In this Oct 21, 2001, file photo, Australian Prime Minister John Howard, left, and US President George W Bush, wear traditional Chinese jackets as they chat during a group photo session at the APEC summit in Shanghai, China.



'Kuwait Fashion Week' kicks off next Monday at Symphony Style Hotel

Under the patronage of Sheikha Bashayer Nayef Jaber Al-Sabah

fter huge fashion events held fashion weeks in the world. recently in New York, Paris and Milan Fashion Week kicks off next Monday, November 23, featuring the biggest fashion houses and elite designers from Kuwait and the Arab World who will showcase a brand new selection of creative designs in an unprecedented event in Kuwait.



Photo shows Sheikha Bashayer Nayef Jaber Al-Sabah at a press conference in Symphony **Style Hotel on Sunday.**

The three-day event, organized by Merril Lynch under the patronage of Sheikha Bashayer Nayef Jaber Al-Sabah, takes place from the 23rd to the 25th of November at Symphony Style Hotel, becoming a stable in the calendar of main

Commenting on this event, Sheikha where designers showcased their Bashayer Nayef Jaber Al-Sabah says: "This fall/winter 2016 designs, the Kuwait international event will have a deep impact on Kuwait's fashion industry. It is wellknown that Kuwaiti women are always keen on carefully selecting their apparel, and standing out in their choices of unique dresses from local and international fashion houses, especially that the Kuwaiti woman is known for being well up-to-date

"Fashion shows for designers' groups will be organized in the presence of local and international media, while the designs will be presented by international models. Kuwait Fashion Week's organizing committee is keen on organizing the event on par with the same standards of famous fashion weeks in Paris, London and Milan," she

"Kuwait has always been a pioneer in fashion in the Gulf region, and we believe that Kuwait is capable of participating in the fashion industry, and even becoming a fashion exporter," she said.

The event is covered by international fashion media outlets including Fashion 4K TV and Fashion One TV, and features participation of fashion houses and beauty salons including, TM Fashion Group (Tariq Edez, Saied Qubaisi), Gosacci, Atelier Lab (Nizar Romani), Atelier Lioness, Juliette and White, Fadi Nahlah, Atelier Al-Sultana (Haya Al-Bughaili), Anfal AL-Saleh, Brigitte Salon, Elham Shalabi Salon.



Photo shows Sheikha Bashayer Nayef Jaber Al-Sabah (center), Rabab Mouhamad, Marketing and Public Relation Manager and event consultant of 'Kuwait Fashion week' (right), Tarek Ammar, Director of Sales and Revenue Generating at Symphony Style Hotel (second left) and Peter Sculler, General Manager of Symphony Style Hotel at a press conference in Symphony Style Hotel on Sunday. — Photos by Joseph Shagra





Photo shows media attending the press conference in Symphony Style Hotel.

New York art season chalks up solid sales

he autumn art auction season has wrapped up in New York with successful sales of just over \$2 billion albeit in a more cautious market than the bonanza records chalked up in the spring. The star of the season was an Amedeo Modigliani nude, "Nu Couche"-which went for an eye-watering \$170.4 million at Christie's. The second most expensive piece of art ever sold at auction, the Modigliani nude was bought by Chinese taxi driver turned billionaire Liu Yiqian, one of his country's biggest art collectors. The record, also set by Christie's earlier this year, is held by Pablo Picasso's "The Women of Algiers (Version 0)," which fetched a staggering \$179.4 million in a record-breaking spring season.

The fall's second highlight was Roy Lichtenstein's iconic pop art "Nurse," which Christie's sold for \$95.37 million in the same auction. Sotheby's parted with \$1.15 billion of Impressionist, modern, post-war and contemporary art, narrowly beating Christie's \$1.1 billion, but there were fewer star lots than in May and a smattering of empty seats.

The rival houses, both founded in 18th-century London, claimed success and dismissed talk that the art market was in jeopardy due to a flagging Chinese economy and a plunge in world markets in September. But on Friday Sotheby's announced it was offering staff voluntary severance packages following a summer review that decided "the company

would benefit from a lower and more flexible cost structure." "We elected to begin limited cost reduction with voluntary separation programs that enable staff who choose to leave to do so with enhanced benefits," it said in a statement. Sotheby's paid tribute to the "tremendous talent" within the firm and said it looked forward "to entering the promising new year fresh, optimistic, and ready to invest to realize even more success." After the company's evening sale of post-war and contemporary art on Wednesday that well surpassed conservative estimates, Sotheby's auctioneer Oliver Barker rejected talk of a stagnating industry.

Bit of readjustment

"A lot of money has traded hands over the last 10 days and I think actually in many ways, that is proof enough that the market is still very strong and resilient," he told AFP. The November sales set new auction records-for Modigliani, as well as for a string of 20th century artists including Cy Twombly, Lucio Fontana, Louise Bourgeois and Lichtenstein. "The market is strong," Christie's auctioneer and global president, Jussi Pylkkanen, told CNBC television. "But there's also a little bit of readjustment," he said. "People are a little bit more rational, perhaps a little bit more cautious, which I think is a very good

Among the other big sellers were Picasso's "La Gommeuse" and a Vincent van Gogh, "Paysage sous un ciel mouvemente," which sold for \$67.4 million and \$54 million respectively at Sotheby's. But the week began and ended with a whimper. Sotheby's laid on great fanfare, donning black tie and offering drinks and canapes before the sale of art collected by its late chairman, Alfred Taubman, who served time in jail for price fixing in 2002. The two and a half hour auction saw strong bidding but it just scraped the bottom end of its pre-sale estimate, and top lots failed to sell-an Edgar Degas and a Jasper Johns, both valued at \$15-20 million.

Christie's final Impressionist and modern art sale on Thursday scored no records and exacted some criticism for not including any lots with estimate prices in the \$10 million or above category. But much of the most dynamic bidding of the season was at the lower end of the market, where some works valued \$1-3 million or less went for way over their pre-sale estimates. "Clearly, there is a longer, stronger" clientele at the lower value range, Barker



Dancers Matthew Baker and Jeremy 'Jae' Neal with Abraham performing a scene from 'The Gettin' during a dress rehearsal before opening night at the Joyce Theater in New