

Exciting new developments at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Village



Putin scraps plutonium deal with 'unfriendly' US



Facebook expands reach with buy-and-sell 'Marketplace'



World boxing champion Fury makes U-turn on retirement



# GOVT CHALLENGES VERDICT AGAINST PETROL PRICE HIKE

WEDNESDAY'S MEETING CRUCIAL TO RESOLVE CRISIS: MP



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High Tide 01:14 & 14:03  
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## KUWAIT'S EXPORTS DOWN 25.8% IN Q2

KUWAIT: Kuwait's exports hit KD 3.5 billion in the second quarter of 2016, down 25.8 percent compared to April-June 2015, according to the country's Central Administration of Statistics (CAS). In the same period, volume of trade decreased 17.6 percent compared to the second quarter of 2015. Volume of trade was KD 5.9 billion in April-June 2016, while it was KD 7.1 billion in April-June 2015, it said in a press statement to KUNA.

Coverage rate was 150.8 percent in April-June 2016, while it was 200.6 percent in April-June 2015. In the second quarter of 2016, coverage rate (excluding oil) was 15.6 percent, while it was 20.1 percent in the second quarter of 2015, it added. For April-June 2016, the top categories for exports were mineral fuels and oils (KD 3.1 billion) with a share of 89.7 percent, organic chemicals (KD 77.9 million) at 2.2 percent and plastics and articles thereof (KD 60 million) at 1.7 percent.

In the same period, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances and parts thereof had by far the highest value of imports (KD 327.4 million) with share of 13.9 percent, followed by vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock and parts thereof (KD 279.3 million) at 11.8 percent, electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles" (KD 272 million) at 11.5 percent, and articles of iron and steel (KD 135.6 million) at 5.7 percent, it said.

In April-June 2016, the main partner country for non-oil exports was India (KD 62.5 million), followed by Saudi Arabia (KD 52.6 million), UAE (KD 48.1 million) and China (KD 37.2 million). The top country for Kuwait's imports was China (KD 361.1 million), followed by United States of America (KD 217.2 million), UAE (KD 215.6 million) and Germany (KD 160.5 million), it noted.

Continued on Page 13



PARIS: Cameras are set up as police officers stand guard at the entrance to a hotel residence on Rue Tronchet near Madeleine yesterday, where US reality television star Kim Kardashian (inset) was robbed at gunpoint by assailants. — AFP/AP

## KARDASHIAN HELD AT GUNPOINT, JEWELRY WORTH \$10M STOLEN

### REALITY STAR TIED UP IN BATHROOM

PARIS/NEW YORK: Reality TV star Kim Kardashian returned to New York "badly shaken" yesterday after being robbed at gunpoint in her Paris residence by masked men who stole some \$10 million worth of jewelry from her. Kardashian, wearing sunglasses and with her head bowed, was pictured entering her Manhattan apartment with her rapper husband Kanye West. She had left Paris by private jet hours after robbers tied her up in the bathroom and put a gun to her head.

Kardashian, who her publicist said was "badly shaken but physically unharmed," said nothing to waiting media

upon her arrival. "What happened is very unfortunate and those responsible must be severely punished," French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault told TV5 Monde. "We are fully mobilised to ensure the safety of the French people, as well as all those who visit France, and in particular tourists."

A Paris police source earlier told Reuters that five attackers, wearing ski masks and clothes with police markings, struck around 3 am (0100 GMT) inside the exclusive apartment block where Kardashian, 35, was staying while attending Paris Fashion Week. — Reuters (See Page 40)

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The government yesterday submitted an appeal against the administrative court verdict which ruled that the increase in petrol prices was "unlawful" due to procedural flaws. The appeals court will now set a date to start hearing the case. Its decision is crucial to the fate of the hike in petrol prices, which went into effect on Sept 1. In its appeal, the government's legal department insisted that the decision is legal and followed the proper procedures, and demanded that the court overturn the lower court ruling.

The administrative court said last week that the hike decision breached the law because the government did not take the approval of the Supreme Petroleum Council (SPC), the highest oil decision-making body in the country. The court said that the opinion of SPC in oil-related issues is essential for any decision to be in line with the law. The court also rejected a request to implement its ruling immediately to scrap the price hike. But if the court of appeals upholds the ruling, the price hike will be suspended immediately pending a revision of the ruling by the court of cassation, the country's supreme court, whose rulings are final.

Meanwhile, a crucial meeting is scheduled to take place tomorrow between the government and lawmakers to discuss measures to compensate Kuwaiti citizens affected by the petrol price hike. The meeting was called by Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem to replace a request by 35 MPs to hold an emergency session of the National Assembly to debate the issue. The Assembly is currently on summer recess and will open its new term on Oct 18. Holding any session requires the signature of the majority of its members. Ghanem said that an informal meeting with the government will serve the purpose of the emergency session in resolving the standoff between the government and the assembly over the petrol price hike.

MPs are insisting that Kuwaiti citizens must not be affected by the increase and as such the government should find a mechanism to compensate them. MP Abdullah Maayouf said the meeting is crucial to resolve the petrol price issue and "reach an efficient solution for the two sides". He said the meeting is not being held for election purposes but to deal with any negative impact against Kuwaiti citizens. Maayouf said that the meeting will not end before reaching a solution in favor of Kuwaiti citizens, adding that he is hopeful the petrol crisis will be resolved.

## JAPANESE WINS NOBEL FOR CELL 'RECYCLING'

STOCKHOLM: Yoshinori Ohsumi of Japan won the Nobel Medicine Prize yesterday for his pioneering work on autophagy - a process whereby cells "eat themselves" - which when disrupted can cause Parkinson's and diabetes. A fundamental process in cell physiology, autophagy is essential for the orderly recycling of damaged cell parts and understanding it better has major implications for health and disease, including cancer. Ohsumi's discoveries "have led to a new paradigm in the understanding of how the cell recycles its contents," the jury said.

"Mutations in autophagy genes can cause disease, and the autophagic process is involved in several conditions including cancer and neurological disease," the jury added. Ohsumi told reporters in Tokyo that winning the Nobel "was my childhood dream, but it has not been the focus of my concern since I got into research - I don't like competing". Researchers first observed during the 1960s that a cell could destroy its own contents by wrapping them up in membranes and transporting them to a degradation compartment called the lysosome - a discovery that earned Belgian sci-



Yoshinori Ohsumi

entist Christian de Duve a Nobel Medicine Prize in 1974.

It was de Duve who coined the term "autophagy", which comes from the Greek meaning self-eating. In what the jury described as a "series of brilliant experiments in the early 1990s", Ohsumi used baker's yeast to identify genes essential for autophagy. He then went on to explain the underlying mechanisms for autophagy in yeast and showed that similar sophisticated machinery is used in human cells. Ohsumi was able to build on de Duve's work and prove that the lysosome "wasn't a waste dump, it was a recycling plant," Karolinska Institute professor Juleen Zierath explained.

Ohsumi's findings opened the path to understanding the importance of autophagy in many physiological processes, such as how the body adapts to starvation or responds to infection. When autophagy breaks down, links have been established to Parkinson's disease, type 2 diabetes and other disorders that tend to appear in the elderly. Intense research is now under way to develop drugs that target autophagy in various diseases.

Continued on Page 13

## News

in brief

### Woman dumps dead newborn in mosque

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: The body of a newborn baby was found in a bag dumped at a Salmiya mosque, said security sources, noting that worshippers called the police after suspecting the bag. Commenting on the case, the interior ministry's relations and security media department said that the baby had been dumped in a donation storage area in the women's section of the mosque. Detectives later found that a 34-year-old citizen living in a nearby building had given birth a few days earlier to a child outside wedlock, and with the consent of her Kuwaiti boyfriend and the child's father, who is in jail, got rid of the baby.

### 24 Kuwaitis arrested in US over mobile content

KUWAIT: Well-informed sources said around 24 young citizens, mainly students and some tourists, had been arrested in the US over the past few months over the contents of their mobile phones or laptops. The sources added that in view of the different rules followed in some states, many of the arrested citizens did not know the laws and regulations concerning what customs officers described as illegal content on their devices, and deemed such content as a threat to US security. Further, the sources explained that one of the detainees was a 19-year-old student who has been detained for over a month now because of having "indecent photos of minors under 18" on his mobile phone. — Al-Rai

### Saudi Cabinet abandons Hijri calendar for wages

RIYADH: Saudi government workers will be paid according to the Gregorian calendar instead of the Islamic Hijri calendar, making the working month longer as part of cost-cutting measures, newspapers reported yesterday. The change, approved by cabinet last week, brings civil service pay in line with the government's January-December fiscal year, the Arab News and Saudi Gazette reported. The reports said the latest austerity measure took effect on Oct 1. The Hijri calendar consists of 12 months of 29 or 30 days depending on the sighting of the moon, meaning the Islamic year is several days shorter than the Gregorian calendar. Last week, cabinet also cut by 20 percent the salaries of ministers and froze the wages of lower-ranked civil servants. Almost twice as many Saudis are employed in the bloated public sector - where hours are shorter and leave longer - than in private firms.



BOGOTA: A woman stands near a white flag splashed in red as if it were blood after knowing the results of a referendum on whether to ratify a historic peace accord to end a 52-year war between the state and the communist FARC rebels on Sunday. — AFP

## SHOCK AS COLOMBIA PEACE DEAL REJECTED

### GOVT, FARC RUSH TO SAVE ACCORD

BOGOTA: The Colombian government and FARC rebels scrambled yesterday to save a peace deal after voters narrowly rejected it in a referendum, throwing the four-year-old peace process into uncertainty. The shock result prompted the government's chief peace negotiator to offer his resignation - possibly paving the way for fresh talks - as the leader of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) vowed the rebels were prepared to "fix" the deal.

Both President Juan Manuel Santos and Rodrigo Londoño, the top FARC commander better known by his nom de guerre Timochenko, put a brave face on the referendum setback after their teams had negotiated for four years in Havana. They vowed to keep working together. "I will keep seeking peace until the last minute of my term," Santos said. "Count on us, peace will triumph," Timochenko added.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, who had offered a UN team to oversee the disarmament process, said he had "urgently" sent his Colombia envoy to Havana, where the peace talks were held, for new consultations. Still, the outcome left no clear way forward to end a half-century conflict that has claimed more than 260,000 lives. "Colombia is in uncertain territory," said Angelika Retteberg, an expert on the peace process at the University of the Andes in Bogota.

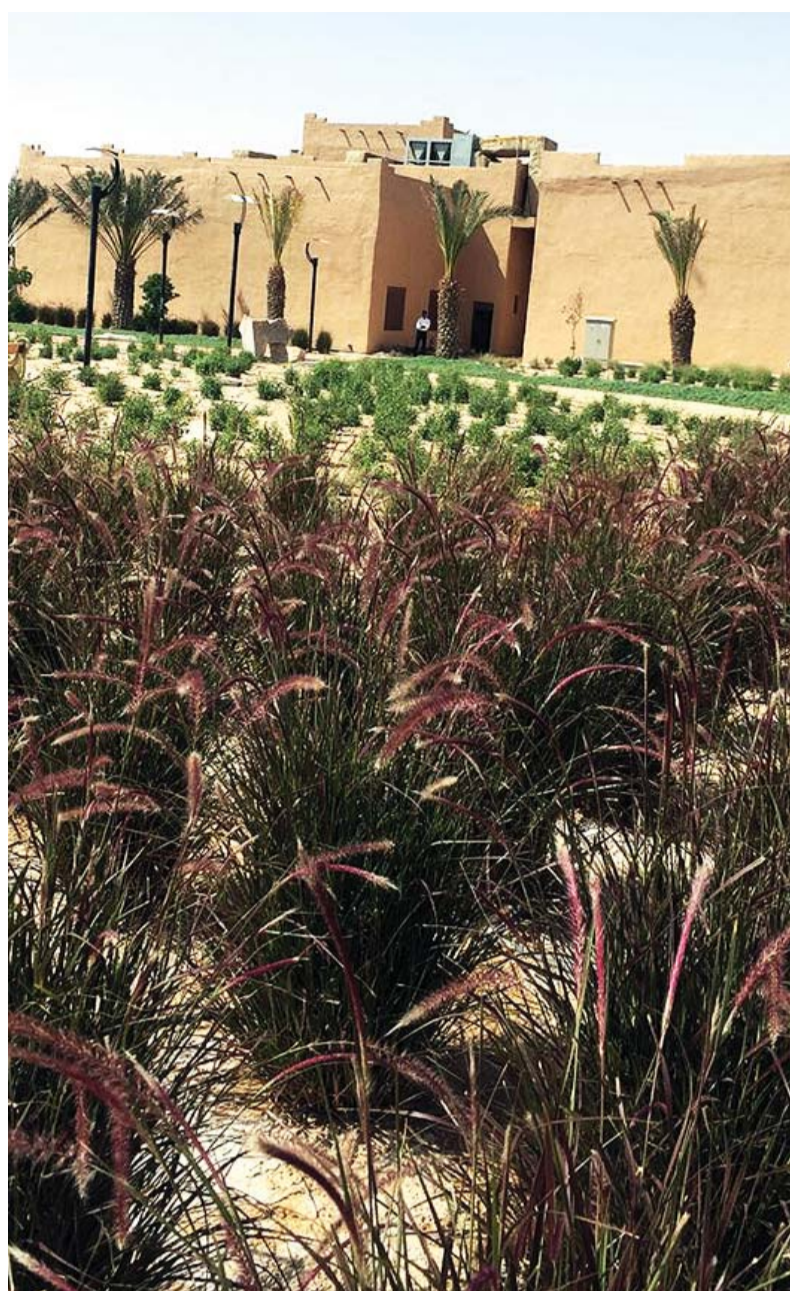
The peace deal had been hailed as historic from the time it was concluded on Aug 24 to the moment it was signed last week in the presence of UN chief Ban and US Secretary of State John Kerry. Resentful of the blood shed by the Marxist guerrillas and the lenient punishment the deal meted out for their crimes, voters rejected it Sunday by a razor-thin margin: 50.21 percent for the "No" camp to 49.78 percent for "Yes". Low turnout of just over 37 percent also proved fatal.

The head of the government's delegation to the peace talks, Humberto de la Calle, offered his resignation to Santos, who has staked his legacy on ending the conflict. "Any mistakes we made are my responsibility alone," De la Calle told journalists at the presidential palace.

Continued on Page 13



An Omani follows his camels with his car as they return to their farm at sunset yesterday in Al-Lisaili, about 50 km southeast of Dubai. — AP



KUWAIT: New facilities provide entertainment activities for children and a selection of restaurants and cafes. — KUNA

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## GOVT TO DEVELOP SHEIKH SABAH AL-AHMAD VILLAGE

**KUWAIT:** Sabah Al-Ahmad Heritage Village will see great development in services and facilities this year, according to the steering committee of the Gulf Heritage Festival. Doubling the efforts has been directed by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, said the committee in a press statement yesterday. His Highness' directives aim to provide all means of comfort to citizens and village

visitors, located in Salmi west of the Kuwaiti capital. The village, set to officially open its new facilities next December, provides entertainment activities for children and a selection of restaurants and cafes. It also aims at give visitors a perception to link past and present where the new generation can recognize what parents and grandparents' practice had been in the past as well as customs and traditions. — KUNA



## COMMITTEE MEETS TO PORTRAY UNTARNISHED IMAGE OF ISLAM

**RIYADH:** A special Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) committee tasked with depicting the genuine image of Islam convened yesterday for its inaugural meeting. The meeting featured discus-

sions over efforts to showcase Islam's true image and strategies to combat campaigns promoting hatred, malice and extremism, a statement by the GCC's General Secretariat noted. — KUNA

kuwait digest

## INTERNATIONALIZATION OF ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION



By Labeed Abdal

**T**he adoption of Mediterranean provinces' heads and major local authorities to an agreement to develop governance of the Mediterranean climate after concluding the second session of the MedCOP Climate 2016 in Tangier in Morocco indicates alarm over the increase of global emissions beyond internationally approved rates.

The parties that signed this agreement are meant to enhance regional cooperation on climate change issues. The union for the Mediterranean is actively involved in the organization of MedCOP Climate 2016 as an institutional and financial partner. Climate change is a threat multiplier for stability and security in the Mediterranean, but through enhanced cooperation, Mediterranean countries will be able to face it. The MedCOP Climate 2016 gathered representatives from Mediterranean countries, private sector and civil society, as well as regional and international organizations that had the opportunity to interact and exchange ideas during different formats of activities: Debates, workshops, events and side-events.

The conference also called for reducing carbon production, creating more climate-related solutions, encouraging the integration of environmental issues in various educational programs and encouraging scientific research with the aim of enhancing creativity in terms of protecting the environment and the climate. Keeping global warming within the 2 degrees Celsius limit as recommended by the Paris Summit requires not only national contributions, but also adopting a coordinated regional and Mediterranean policy, especially since this particular area is one of the most affected worldwide by climate change.



Photos show some patients at the hospital. KRCS has launched a new phase in its campaign to treat Syrian refugees suffering from kidney failure. — KUNA photos

## KUWAIT ASSISTS REFUGEES WITH KIDNEY PROBLEMS

**TRIPOLI:** Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) is launching a new phase in its campaign to treat Syrian refugees suffering from kidney failure and illnesses. Maha Al-Barjas, the KRCS General Secretary, said in a statement to KUNA that the new stage, due for six months, would get underway early next month. The Kuwaiti Red Crescent, in coordination with the Lebanese Red Cross, launched the project to provide medical aid for the Syrian refugees suffering from kidney problems more than two years ago.

Meanwhile, the manager of the state-run hospital in the northern city, Dr Khaled Kamal Eddine, said the KRCS aid depicted the great message by the State of Kuwait, explaining that the assistance included various

equipment and devices necessary for treating the kidney patients. The KRCS has been involved, since flare-up of the Syrian crisis, in various humanitarian activities to help the Syrian refugees, estimated at 1.5 million.

In Lebanon's eastern Bekaa valley, a team of the Kuwait Medical Association has conducted a number of surgeries for Syrian refugees. The association chairman, Dr Mohammad Al-Mutairi said that the team would also carry out cardiac operations. Dr Khaled Al-Sehlawi, member of the association, said a number of ill children and elderly were examined in the refugees' camps and were given the needed treatment. The association humanitarian campaign proceeds for three days.

### Kuwait Red Crescent clinic

In another development, Clinic of Kuwait Red Crescent Society in the Jordanian capital has aided thousands of Syrian refugees providing costly treatment for various illnesses and conditions, namely for pregnant women whose delivery required caesarian operations. Wife of Mustafa, one of the refugees, 11 months ago, delivered the female baby Noor after prolonged and regular examination of the mother by personnel at the Kuwait-established clinic, where equipment for such special cases are available.

Noor was one of 37 babies who came to life in caesarian operations conducted by the KRCS medical team between August and July 2015. The KRCS admitted

5,917 patients, at a daily rate of 25-30 cases since a year ago. The staff treated 5,700 cases, conducted 56 natural births, 43 operations for children, admitted eight cases that warranted intensive care and shifted 73 others to specialists.

The Kuwaiti society has set up the clinic within a building of the Jordanian Red Crescent. The medical cadres started working in January 2015 for a year-long program. Value of the medical services, including dentistry, that had been provided were estimated at \$84,000. The Kuwaiti association has been delivering humanitarian aid to the estimated 1.4 million Syrian refugees, hosted by Jordan, since break-out of the crisis in Syria.— Agencies

## 2 VEHICLES COLLIDE, BURST INTO FLAMES

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** A fire broke out in a vehicle when it collided with another car yesterday on the Sixth Ring Road, said security sources, noting that firemen rushed to the scene and controlled the fire. Separately, a 36-year-old Egyptian sustained back pain when his vehicle collided into another in Ardiya. Also, a 35-year-old citizen and a 24-year-old Filipina were rushed to Amiri Hospital with various injuries they sustained in a car collision along the Fourth Ring Road.

### Car accidents

A citizen broke his left arm in a car accident in Mubarak Al-Abdullah, said security sources, adding that another citizen sustained head injuries in an accident along King Fahd Expressway. Meanwhile, another 47-year-old citizen was rushed to Mubarak Hospital with severe back pain he sustained after he lost control over his vehicle and it turned over along Fahaheel Expressway. Another 42-year-old Egyptian was rushed to Farwaniya Hospital with foot injuries when a speeding vehicle ran him over in Khaitan.

### Accident on 7th Ring Road

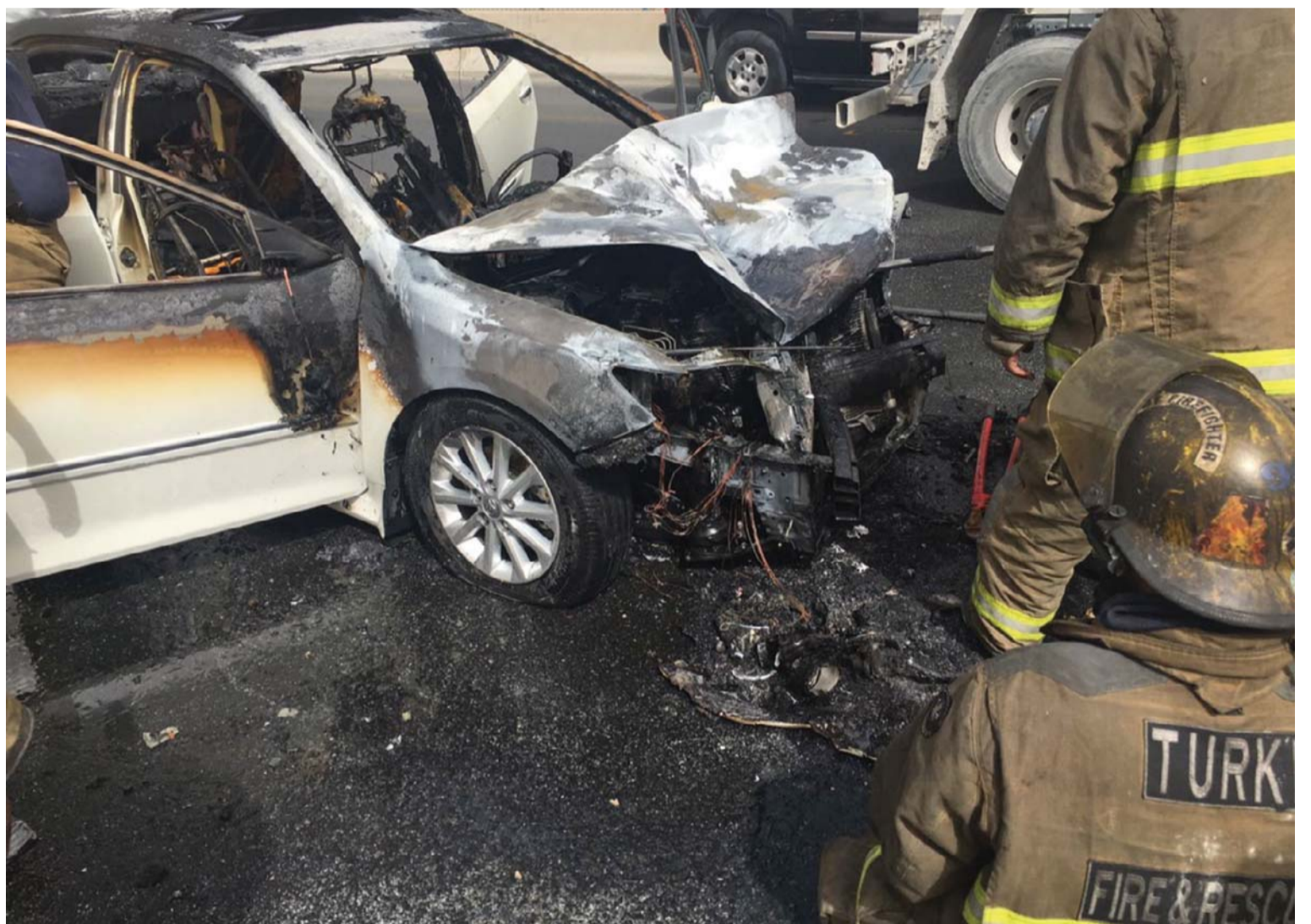
A 35-year-old Kuwaiti woman, her three children and an Ethiopian housemaid were rushed to Farwaniya Hospital with various injuries they sustained during an accident along the Seventh Ring Road.

### Special training courses

KFSD will launch special training courses for the youth next week on principles of fire extinguishing and safety precautions, said KFSD's PR and media manager Col Khali Al-Amir, noting that the courses would be held under the slogan 'A Firefighter in Every House'. Amir added that the course will help save lives and property. It will be held in the period of Oct 9-13.

### Live shooting drill

Mol's Coastguard Department announced it will conduct a live shooting drill in national territorial waters in the period of Oct 3-5, 2016 from 8:00 am till 12:00 noon. The department added that the drill would take place at the following coordinates: longitude 28.55.0.N and latitude 048.37.5.E near Garouh Island, and longitude 28.46.8.N and latitude 048.37.2.E near Um Al-Maradem island.



Filipina and Kuwaiti boyfriend arrested

Following up the image of a Filipina circulating on social media wearing a military cap, Mol's relations and security media explained that the Filipina was identified and arrested along with her Kuwaiti boyfriend in Hawally. The sources added that the boyfriend was a policeman who has been suspended since March 2015 over criminal charges.

## INCREASE IN FRACTURES, ACCIDENTS, JOINT PAIN

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

**KUWAIT:** President of Kuwait's 1st Orthopedic Surgery Conference and orthopedic surgeon at Al-Razi Hospital Dr Ali Jrag stressed that an increase in fractures, accidents, joint pain and osteoporosis has increased the demand for orthopedic surgery in Kuwait. Speaking on the sidelines of the conference jointly sponsored by KISR, the faculty of medicine and Al-Razi Hospital, Jrag said that orthopedic surgeries have come a long

way and are highly developed thanks to modern technological applications.

### MSAL's disabled care dept

The manager of MSAL's disabled care department Musallam Al-Sebaei yesterday met employees of the vocational rehabilitation and the disabled care departments to discuss the problems they face in doing their jobs and possible solutions. Meanwhile, a number of employees of the disabled care houses yesterday held a sit-in protest for transfer-

ring them to Sulaibikhat.

### Mosque car parks

Municipal council member and Hawally committee chairman Yousef Al-Ghareeb urged authorities to organize car parks around Salwa mosques. In another development, Municipal council member and Farwaniya committee chairman Nayef Al-Sour said PAS should be held responsible for the cleanliness of horse stables in Kabd instead of the municipality. He added that the area was full of dis-

eases resulting from trash and dead animals surrounding the stables. "Some people have started getting rid of rubbish by burning it," he underlined.

### MP files an inquiry

MP Faisal Al-Duwaisan yesterday filed an inquiry addressing Minister of Communication and Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Essa Al-Kandari concerning transferring a number of Kuwaiti pilots from Kuwait Airways to other administrative government jobs.

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Photo

of the day



File photo shows Al-Shamlan Port. — KUNA

PAYS KEEN ON OVERCOMING OBSTACLES FACING ATHLETES

**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah yesterday stressed on Public Authority for Youth and Sports' (PAYS) keenness on overcoming obstacles facing the Kuwaiti athletes. This came in a press release issued by PAYS following the 10th meeting of its board of directors, attended by PAYS Director General Sheikh Ahmad Al-Mansour Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. The meeting comes in implementation of the political leadership's instructions to improve the sports domain according to the Cabinet's recommendations.

PAYS Board of Directors approved a number of agreements with Malta, South Africa, Gambia, Kyrgyzstan and Hungary for exchanging sports expertise. It also blessed the budget for the year 2017-2018. Moreover, the PAYS board decided to allow citizens of all ages to be involved in sports and proclaim a number of clubs specialized in horse-riding, water games and golf. It praised achievements of the Kuwait Shooting Union and Kuwaiti Disabled Club in Rio De Janeiro Olympics, presented by players Fuhaid Al-Dhehani, Abdullah Al-Rashidi and Ahmad Al-Mutairi.

PAYS decided to offer financial and moral rewards to players who won Olympic and Paralympic medals, along with offering monthly financial allotments. It endorsed the efforts exerted by the Football Association for organizing the latest Super Cup soccer match, expressed appreciation to the Minister of Education and Higher Education Dr Bader Al-Essa for the productive cooperation between PAYS and the Ministry by offering extra classes for sports activities. PAYS lately improved the performance of its administrative work to best serve the sports sector. — KUNA

News

In brief



Kuwait Municipality Director-General Ahmad Al-Manfouhi

Kuwait hosts workshop on urban development

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait is set to play host to a Gulf workshop on strategic urban planning, with a host of experts and senior officials from GCC municipalities participating. Speaking to KUNA on the event, Kuwait Municipality Director-General Ahmad Al-Manfouhi said the three-day workshop aims at promoting cooperation and coordination among the GCC member states in the municipal field. He added that the GCC municipal officials had asked the Kuwait Municipality during their 32nd meeting in June to set out referential conditions and terms for a Gulf strategic urban planning project thanks to Kuwait's experience in this regard. Kuwait has adopted three state structural plans, he boasted, noting that another plan would be hammered out soon as part of ongoing efforts to transfer Kuwait into a financial and trade hub.

KISR CHIEF SAMIRA LAUDS KUWAIT'S TIES WITH IAEA

**VIENNA:** Director General of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) Dr Samira Omar yesterday extolled Kuwait's technical cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). In statements after participating in the 60th IAEA conference in the Austrian capital Vienna on September 26-30, Dr Samira described the ties as "an integral part of development," adding that KISR has always prioritized its ties with the Asia Pacific region. Speaking on projects germane to nuclear information technology, she noted they encompass training programs on nuclear medicine

and ways to enhance processes to monitor environmental radioactivity. Moreover, the projects also include studies concerning harmful accumulations of algae and genetic mutation, Dr Samira said, adding that these projects have progressed smoothly with a 95 percent success rate. On Kuwait's participation in the IAEA conference, she said that a series of five development projects for the years 2018/2019 were discussed. She also spoke of Kuwait's proposal for a joint project aimed at examining the composition of dust and sand through nuclear means. —KUNA



Director General of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) Dr Samira Omar participates in the 60th IAEA conference in Vienna. — KUNA



Minister of Information Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets the heads of popular troupes. — KUNA

Safeguard heritage

**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Chairman of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL) Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah has underscored the necessity of maintaining the popular heritage and its arts with aim of boosting national belonging. Minister Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud, during a reception of a number of heads of popular troupes, affirmed anew importance of safeguarding the popular heritage for promoting Kuwait at the civil and cultural levels. The supreme leaders attach special attention to the Kuwaiti popular heritage, he said, mentioning in this respect the annual popular festival, patronized by His Highness the Amir, also noting that the festival has turned into a distinguished mark on "the map of popular festivals in the Arabian Gulf region."

Arab League condemns attack on UAE's vessel

**CAIRO:** The Arab League has condemned the attack on UAE civilian vessel near the port city of Aden, Yemen, while it was on a regular trip to transport humanitarian aid and evacuate the wounded. In a statement, the spokesman for Arab League's Secretary General Mahmoud Afifi said that such act violates international law and not acceptable at all. The statement noted that the attack has no justification and jeopardizes security of maritime navigation in Bab Al-Mandab, exposing it to grave risk, as the act was contrary to international maritime laws and to regional and international efforts being made to send relief aid to Yemen. Last night, the Saudi-led coalition supporting the Yemeni legitimate government said a vessel leased by the UAE Armed Forces was rescued after coming under attack by Yemeni "Ansarullah" militia.

KUWAIT TO TAKE PART AT THE EXPO DUBAI

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait affirmed yesterday that it would take part in Expo Dubai international exhibition 2020 to demonstrate support for the brotherly people of the United Arab Emirates. Minister of Information Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah, during a reception of Expo Dubai's

organizers, said the event, bannered "Minds, Creating the Future," constitutes a contemporary outlook for reaching common and sustainable solutions to global problems, at a time nations of the world are much more connected than any other time. —KUNA



Minister of Information Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah is pictured during a reception of Expo Dubai's organizers. — KUNA

ZANZIBAR GOVERNMENT PRAISES KUWAIT SUPPORT

**KUWAIT:** Minister of Education and Vocational Training in Zanzibar Riziki Juma has lauded Kuwait's support to education in the island. There are several projects that can constitute a take-off for further cooperation with Kuwait through the official and private institutions, such as contributing to teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers and providing scholarships to Zanzibar students in science, technology, oil, engineering, Arabic and Islamic studies, Juma said, according to a statement by the Kuwaiti embassy in Tanzania yesterday.

In the meantime, the minister pointed to the huge support by the Kuwaiti charity organizations to education in Tanzania, building new schools and helping numerous students to complete their learning. The scholarships offered

by the Africa Muslims Committee in Zanzibar, an affiliate of the Kuwait-based Direct Aid Society, to study at Allhsan School, and the ones by the Abdulrahman Al Sumait University help graduates build better future for their future, Juma said.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Ambassador to Tanzania Jassem Al-Najem stressed the "real need" for more support to the education institutions in Zanzibar. He added that signing cooperation agreements between the Kuwait Universities and those of Tanzania will help both sides provide scholarships for students, in addition to the exchange of expertise among professors. According to Al-Najem, vocation training is a major field of cooperation, with the aim of fulfilling the needs of the market. —KUNA



A woman bakes bread on the iron sheet in this photo. —KUNA

### 'TAFHA' - A SIGNIFICANT YEAR OF OVERFLOWING PROSPERITY

**KUWAIT:** The year 1912 was a significant year in Kuwait, it was known as 'Sinat Al-Tafha' (the year of the overflowing prosperity), which reflected positively on the overall economic situation of the state and citizens. In that year, Kuwait witnessed the biggest economic activity in its old history, where the pearl diving ships reached 800 with some 30,000 personnel and the earning for that period reached six million rupees. The main reasons for the increase in the maritime economic activity in that year was due to what happened in 1910 after the battle of Hadiya which drained state funds.

Moreover, Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah forced to impose additional taxes and prevent pearl diving activity, which led to the migration of pearl merchants to neighboring countries. Then in 1911, pearl merchants returned to Kuwait, and around 800 ships set off again, to recompensate for the last two years' loss. The Holy Month of Ramadan during that year witnessed two seasons of pearl diving, before Ramadan and after Eid Al-Fitr, hence came the naming the year as 'Sinat Al-Tafha'.—KUNA

### SPECIAL ARAB MEETING

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait delegate at the Arab League Ahmed Abdul Rahman Al-Bakr said an extraordinary session of the Arab League Council at the level of permanent delegates would be convened today at the request of Kuwait to discuss the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Syrian city of Aleppo.

Ambassador Al-Bakr added in press statements that a deadline was determined following consultations conducted by the Presidency in Tunisia, the General Secretariat in Cairo and Kuwait with Arab countries, adding that Kuwait's quest was backed by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Tunisia, the UAE and Bahrain. He also said the council was expected to consider the deteriorating situation in Aleppo due to indiscriminate aerial bombardment of civilians with barrel bombs and the siege. He added that the Arab stakeholders would appeal to the international community and humanitarian organizations to provide aid to the besieged people of Aleppo.

Meanwhile, United States is suspending its participation in bilateral channels with Russia that were part of the short-lived cessation of hostilities in Syria, White House said yesterday. "Everybody's patience with Russia has run out," leading to the suspension of talks, noted Josh Earnest, White House press secretary. Russia has lost credibility by "making a series of commitments without any indication they were committed to following them," he told a briefing. Earnest said Russia had not carried out a successful initiative against the so-called Islamic State in Syria in more than seven months, and that Russia had been "reduced to claiming credit for successful US operations".—Agencies



**KUWAIT:** An Asian was arrested in Rumaithiya with 300 gm of heroin and 70 gm of meth. — Photo by Hanan Al-Saadoun

## 20.5 PERCENT OF ADULT KUWAITIS ARE 'SMOKERS'

**KUWAIT:** Recent surveys revealed that 20.5% of adult Kuwaitis are smokers and about 56% suffer from high cholesterol, Health Ministry media office said. Head of the media office Dr Ghalya Al-Mutairi revealed these statistics during an awareness day that was held as the world is celebrating World Heart Day. The event is organized by the social committee for National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim and is under the sponsorship of Dr Fayza Al-Kharafi.

The one day event, under the slogan "charge your life," touched on the Health Ministry's plan to raise awareness of chronic and communicable diseases and means of preventing them. She pointed that cardiovascular diseases come high on the list of diseases suffered by the Kuwaiti population.

According to a health survey conducted in 2014 by the Health Ministry and World Health Organization, nearly quarter of the Kuwaiti population is troubled with high blood pressure. In addition, 11% of Kuwaitis aged 40-69 have some type of cardiovascular diseases. Heart diseases are attributed to overweight that is widely spread among Kuwaitis by 77%, she said. She pointed out that today's event has a significance to raise awareness on how to deal with these diseases, steps to prevent them and adopt a healthy lifestyle to improve overall wellbeing. — KUNA



Some of the participants are pictured in this photo during the Awareness Day as the world celebrates World Heart Day. — KUNA

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## Crime

Report

## ARAB EXPATRIATE ARRESTED FOR MULTIPLE FRAUD CASES

KUWAIT: An Arab expat was arrested for multiple fraud cases, said security sources, adding that the suspect had collected money from his victims claiming to give them 200 percent profits.

## 'Mental case'

A citizen called the police requesting help in controlling his son who became hysterical and started damaging the furniture and attacking his siblings. The man was controlled and referred to the mental diseases hospital.

## Kuwaiti suspects arrested

Two citizens were arrested and a third managed to escape after the three obstructed police work. Security sources said they prevented a policeman from arresting a friend of theirs and helped him evade arrest. Meanwhile, a wanted Kuwaiti was arrested while jogging in Mangaf, said security sources. Also, a Kuwaiti and a Saudi were arrested with meth in Jahra industrial area.

## Reckless driving

A citizen was arrested for reckless driving, endangering his and others' lives in Um Al-Haiman. Security sources said the suspect resisted arrest and damaged two police patrol cars before he was brought under control. The suspect is facing up to 10 charges.

## Daughter flees

An Egyptian in Abu Halifa reported that his 19-year-old daughter fled the house after some family problems and being grounded in her room.

## Identity theft

An Indian reported that someone had used his identity to purchase mobile lines and phones, and that a local telecom's legal representative called him in this regard. In another development, an Indian woman reported that unidentified robbers stopped her young son, threatened him with a screwdriver and stole his mobile phone.

## Doctor files a complaint

A doctor filed a complaint at Jabriya police station accusing a citizen of insulting him while on duty, said security sources. —Al-Rai and Al-Anbaa



Al-Anbaa

## VICTORY FESTIVITIES

Al-Anbaa

By Salah Al-Sayer

Talking about defeat is nothing but the babble of some intellectuals talking while looking down on people without knowing that we win every day. That is why national defeats and setbacks do not make us feel bad. In our societies, a politician achieves victory when the public believes his false promises; the people achieve victory when naturalizing non-Muslims is banned; a terrorist sorcerer achieves victory when little boys believe in him and go blow themselves up, killing the innocent and die happy with their great victory; and finally, everyone who gets a selfie with a fashionista or a silly presenter feels very victorious!

However, the path of winning is very rough and victory is not achieved by wishes. Therefore, we are used to giving our lives and making valuable sacrifices to achieve victory. In order to win a few meters ahead of you, I would endanger my life, yours and that of others

when I overtake your vehicle at extremely high speed on highways! You might leave a store victoriously before a salesperson who made a mistake in your bill and forgot to charge you one extra dinar realizes what he did.

So, our cheap victories keep happening and creating glory on social media networks, where everybody is racing and competing for more 'likes' and 'followers'. We are inseparable with victory, and despite the defeats clouding our skies, victories keep happening here on the ground where we live. A husband feels victorious when his wife believes his lies. The people feel victorious because they did not kneel even though all buildings did under air strikes. We feel victorious by manipulating electricity bills. We feel victorious practicing social hypocrisy. And a vegetable vendor feels victorious, when after weighing a kilo of tomatoes he manages to swiftly return one tomato back to the shelf!

—Translated by Kuwait Times

Al-Anbaa

Al-Anbaa

## 420 UNANSWERED INQUIRIES

By Thaar Al-Rasheedi

The government's respect of the parliament reflects its respect to the people, otherwise it would be perceived that the government does not respect or listens to its concerns. This is very clear in inquiries filed against certain ministers, who do not respond or even give incomplete and unclear answers. Although the minister of state for Cabinet affairs admitted in July that ministers had responded to 86 percent of the inquiries filed over the past few years, the fact is that half of such responses were nominal and inaccurate, which is not a new thing created by this parliament. It goes way back to the very first years of parliamentary life in Kuwait.

For the sake of not delaying his response or being accused of ignoring an MP, a minister would resort to give general dissatisfying answers without even confirming, denying or refuting the points mentioned in the request. He would give grey in-between answers, and I believe that over than half of ministers' responses belong to this category.

The problem here lies in the fact that, according to Assembly regulations, an MP is not entitled to repeat an inquiry filed against the same minister more than twice, and then on, a minister does not have to respond. Why have 14 percent of requests left without responses and what are those inquiries?

However, do you know how many those 14 percent are compared to the total number of inquiries? Well, according to minister Omair, the total number is 3,000, which means that 420 remain un-responded to. Do we actually understand what this means? Well, it simply means that there are 420 overdue grilling motions, because an inquiry is a minor form of grilling and ministers avoiding inquiries and refraining from responding to them become perfect targets for grilling motions - which did not actually happen.

In fact, on finding that a certain minister avoids responding to an inquiry, it is the right of any MP to go one step further and grill such a minister, which did not happen, either. I am not for or against anybody here, but as a citizen, I do know that our parliamentary representatives have failed to get any responses to 420 inquiries, and that those should have turned into 420 grilling motions over the past three years. Regardless of its size or shape, the parliament should not give up its regulatory role and should be up to our trust.

—Translated by Kuwait Times

## MIT ENTERPRISE FORUM PAN ARAB HOSTS 'INNOVATE FOR REFUGEES' COMPETITION

KUWAIT: MIT Enterprise Forum (MIT EF) Pan Arab is set to host the final event of its 'Innovate for Refugees' Competition under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The award ceremony will take place at the King Hussein Business Park Main Theatre in Amman, Jordan today to recognize the most innovative, tech-driven solutions tailored to the refugee crisis across the globe.

The competition, which is awarding US\$110,000 in cash prizes, was launched in June 2016 in partnership with Zain Group, a leading mobile telecommunications innovator across the Middle East and Africa, and MBC Hope, the Corporate Social Responsibility arm of MBC, and is supported by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, Jusoor and Uber. There were also over 30 partners supporting the competition including TechFugees and the International Rescue Committee. Over 1,600 applications were received from a wide range of countries and sectors, the majority of which hailed from Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon. Basic needs, healthcare and education sectors were well represented within the applications. Women submitted 32% of all applications, and 15% of total entries were submitted by refugees.

"We are honored and thrilled to have the final award ceremony under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah. Congratulations to our finalists. We saw a very high level of engagement from the youth, the refugees themselves, the hosting population and people worldwide, all trying to find a technology solution to a problem that concerns us all," said Hala Fadel, Founder and Chair of the MIT EF Pan Arab. "It is a sign of a healthy and empathetic community worldwide despite the controversies around refugees and immigration this past summer when we called for applications"; Fadel added. On his part, Zain Group CEO, Scott Gegenheimer said, "We are inspired by the 1600 applications and extremely proud of the 21 finalists, and wish them the very best at the final event. The combination of innovation and enthusiasm for a cause like the plight of refugees is exactly what communities in the region require, and as a major digital lifestyle provider in the Middle East, Zain Group throws its full weight behind this initiative and what it represents."

Mazen Hayek, MBC Group's Official Spokesman commented: "Our partnership with the MIT Enterprise Forum Pan Arab aims at addressing some of the most pressing problems and issues facing the refugee crisis". Hayek further added: "As MBC, We See Hope Everywhere, and we are confident that this forum and competition will tackle those issues while searching for real solutions that would benefit those most in need for a better future and a glimpse of HOPE." "Innovate for Refugees" invited entrepreneurs and refugees from around the world to come up with tech-driven, innovative solutions to help address the global refugee crisis. In the time since the competition was launched, a review process by over 70 industry experts has taken place, leading to the shortlisting of 21 finalists that have been selected for the final stage of the competition.

The competition is awarding prizes totaling US\$110,000, with four prizes of US\$20,000 each and one prize of over US\$30,000. The prizes will be awarded to the most innovative solutions that effectively tackle challenges faced by refugees. The winners will also receive mentorship and training by industry experts to help them through the execution of the projects.

Of the five prizes, two are offered by the main sponsors Zain and MBC Hope and are open to solutions across categories including healthcare, energy, food, shelter and security. The third is marked for an educational solution and offered by Jusoor, an NGO established by Syrian expatriates supporting the country's development. The fourth prize, offered by UNICEF, is marked for a 'child-focused technology' that targets the most vulnerable or underserved children. The fifth prize was raised through a campaign with Uber, and was loaded on the crowdfunding campaign on the Generosity by Indiegogo platform, and will reward the most innovative solution brought forward by a refugee.

MIT EF Pan Arab and its partners Zain and MBC Hope's decision to holding this event in Jordan is poignant given the Kingdom's important role as a safe-haven for a wide variety of refugees from neighbouring countries. Under the enlightened leadership of Their Majesties King Abdullah II and Queen Rania, the Kingdom has established a strong focus on the development of innovative



digital technologies, not just for humanitarian purposes, but also for the benefit of all people linked to Jordan and beyond.

## Full list of finalists

- Basma, based in Jordan, is an intelligent platform that enables volunteers to get involved with refugee-related opportunities. Volunteers are matched according to their skills and interests.
- Blue Labor Employment Support System (BLESS), based in Lebanon, is an employment app that bridges the gap between businesses and blue collars to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.
- Boloro and BanQ - Global Payments and Economic ID Network, based in Jordan, brings financial inclusion and economic opportunity solutions for refugees and extreme poverty populations through a partnership between BanQu, a leading blockchain economic identity platform company and Boloro Global Limited, a USA-based global payments gateway platform.
- Dignified, hygienic personalized sanitation solutions for displaced families, based in the US, consists of a revolutionary

evaporative toilet that is low-cost, compact, stand-alone solution for off-grid and informal dwellings and which rapidly "flushes" away 85-90% of daily household sewage volumes.

- Evapainers, based in Morocco, are mobile and modular evaporative coolers that are ideal for low-income, off-grid areas and that can triple or quadruple the shelf-life of most produce.
- HeyDoc!, based in the UAE, is a tele-health app that allows patients to communicate with doctors via in-app communication for the purpose of medical advisory. It is a platform for refugees to gain access to qualified doctors and medical consultants.
- Kiron Open Higher Education, based in Germany, has developed an online platform which enables access to selected courses from partner Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) providers, which are organized into a university-level curriculum. Kiron is currently working on bringing this model to the Middle East, starting in Jordan.
- LEDlife, based in Switzerland, has developed a low cost, fun and easy to make DIY solar LED lamp kit; an educational tool for teaching about renewables, sustainability and recycle.
- MentorEd, based in Jordan, is an intelligent and customizable mentor matching platform for organizations. It utilizes the network effect to serve as the bridge for people who want to mentor but can't access the right mentees, and people who need mentorship, but can't find the right mentors.
- MeshPoint, based in Croatia, is a crisis communication solution that provides free mobile Wifi hotspots for refugees. When there is no Internet infrastructure, MeshPoints used as a communication hub for refugees and aid teams.
- MnTMeGratation, based in Lebanon, is an e-Learning platform which enables refugees to access courses via their smartphones and to receive a digital certificate of knowledge if they complete the program. To get this certification, refugees will have to create their digital ID into a decentralized database, using Blockchain technology.
- Nahy, based in Germany, developed an ingredient database of over 125,000 products sold in the European market including the localized name of each ingredient in Arabic (with oth-

er languages to be added gradually) and any specific restrictions associated with that ingredient. Their aim is to enable refugee families to make informed food choices.

- NaTakallam, based in the US, consists of a platform that provides employment opportunities to Syrian refugees as Arabic conversation partners for Arabic students around the world.
- OpenEmbassy, based in the Netherlands, is an online helpdesk that enables status holders (refugees with a permit) to ask questions about their integration process and from their answers, Open Embassy develops an FAQ and a smart wiki and shares the lessons learnt with the key stakeholders like local government and NGOs, to help them develop smarter integration policies and products.
- ProjectZayed, based in the UAE, is a remote educational platform designed to educate less fortunate children using cloud based services and mobility Solutions.
- Proximie, based in the UK, aims to revolutionise the way surgeons work and educate through augmented virtual guidance provided remotely, both locally and globally.
- Self-sustaining AgrosHELTER, based in Germany, proposes a sustainable system with agriculture as the base; using natural material leftover from agriculture like straw bale or clay for the construction of shelter.
- Ssyla, based in Lebanon, is a secure platform/mobile application connecting refugees with a global network of therapists who provide real-time video therapy sessions focused on their specific mental and psychosocial health needs.
- Tone-bit, based in Egypt, is a solar or direct powered hydroponic system capable of growing many types of plants to help feed the refugees at low cost.
- Vibes, based in the UK, aims on improving the wellbeing of refugees by establishing meaningful connections between refugees and non-refugees through the use of a mobile app.
- Recycle Beirut, based in Lebanon, is a social business combining two problems, the refugee crisis and the waste crisis, into a solution. The company employs refugees at a living wage to pick up, sort, and process recyclables for the greater Beirut area.

## KIB ORGANIZES A SEMINAR ON 'ISLAMIC INVESTMENT FUNDS'

KUWAIT: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) organized a training seminar for its employees who work in the areas of local and international investments, under the title "Islamic Investment Funds." Discussing the seminar, Dr Hisham Abdulhay Coordinator at the Fatwa And Shariah Supervisory Unit, said that the training program gave a comprehensive look at the concept of Islamic investment funds; explaining their characteristics and benefits, and highlighting the ways in which they differ from conventional funds. The seminar also examined the technical, legal, sharia and regulatory frameworks of Islamic investment funds.

Dr Abdulhay pointed out that the program addressed the latest investment tools and modules in Islamic Investment, which have successfully attracted investors due to a number of factors including high returns, equal profit distribution for all, convenient subscription and easy liquidation. Accordingly, this has cemented the investor's trust and allowed them to fulfill their goals of enhancing their wealth, in a successful and positive environment which is based on specialized expertise and a strong regulatory framework.

The training program featured interactive discussions and practical case studies, which according to Dr. Abdulhay served to enhance the educational value of the seminar and allowed the participants to actively engage in the learning experience. The three-day seminar concluded with a practical exercise involving the creation of a model fund, in compliance with the Capital Market Authority's executive

regulations for Islamic investment funds.

Dr Abdulhay further added: "This seminar comes as part of a comprehensive series of programs being carried out by KIB, in accordance with the Bank's policy in providing continued

education and professional training to its employees, and in line with its strong belief that ongoing training helps employees enhance their professional knowledge and acumen. This in turn enables our employees to

keep up with all the developments taking place in the ever-evolving Islamic Banking sector, especially in light of the increasing demand for Islamic Banking services both locally and regionally."





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# TALEBAN FIGHTERS ENTER AFGHAN CITY OF KUNDUZ

## MILITANTS TAKE POSITION IN HOUSES

### SYRIAN REBELS APPROACH SYMBOLIC ISLAMIC STATE VILLAGE

**ISTANBUL/BEIRUT:** Syrian rebels backed by Turkey and a US-led coalition are closing in on the Islamic State-held village of Dabiq, the site of an apocalyptic prophecy central to the militant group's ideology.

Free Syrian Army (FSA) rebel groups have been pushing southwards into Islamic State's territory in an operation backed by Turkey since Aug. 24, and have taken villages near Dabiq in recent days. A rebel leader said the plan was to reach Dabiq within 48 hours, but cautioned Islamic State had heavily mined the surrounding area, a sign of its importance to the group.

Although Dabiq, a village in relatively flat countryside northeast of Aleppo, holds little strategic value, it is seen by Islamic State as the place where a final battle will take place between Muslims and infidels, heralding Doomsday. The group has named its online English-language magazine Dabiq and in April and May sent about 800 fighters there to defend it against advances by the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said on yesterday. "If matters proceed as planned, within 48 hours we will be in Dabiq," Ahmed Osman, commander of the Sultan Murad FSA group, said in a voice recording sent to Reuters.

However, Islamic State has heavily mined the area, making progress around Turkman Bareh slower than in other areas, said Osman, adding that 15 deaths among insurgent ranks in the past 24 hours were caused by mines and mortar fire. The US-led coalition against Islamic State is actively supporting the rebels as they advance "to within a few kilometers of (its) weakening stronghold" of Dabiq, Brett McGurk, Washington's special envoy for the coalition, said in a tweet.

Islamic State has exploited the five-year-old Syrian civil war to seize swathes of territory. Washington believes taking Dabiq could strike at Islamic State morale as it prepares to fend off expected offensives against Iraq's Mosul and Syria's Raqqa, the largest cities held by the jihadists, officials from a coalition country said.

Turkish warplanes hit Islamic State targets in the areas of Dabiq, Akhtar and Turkman Bareh, destroying nine buildings including a command post, gun positions and an ammunition depot, a statement by Turkey's military said yesterday.

The latest fighting marks an escalation since Turkish troops crossed the border into Syria on Aug. 24 to back opposition fighters battling Islamic State in an operation Ankara says is aimed at removing the border threat the jihadists pose.

Nearly a dozen air strikes by the US-backed coalition killed 13 militants, while the Turkish army said it also fired on Islamic State from inside Turkey after the jihadists used rockets to target its border town of Kilis. — Reuters

**KUNDUZ:** Taliban fighters pushed into the centre of the northern Afghan city of Kunduz yesterday, taking control of the central intersection where they raised their flag a year ago in their biggest success of the 15-year-old conflict.

Witnesses and police said the insurgents, who entered the city in the early hours, were attacking the governor's compound and police headquarters, while some officials were seen fleeing to the airport. With fighting also intensifying in the strategic southern province of Helmand, the attack on Kunduz, a day before a major international donors' conference in Brussels, underlined Afghanistan's precarious security situation and the Taliban's ability to strike important targets.

Footage posted by the Afghan Taliban on social media showed fighters in Kunduz walking around the empty streets, describing how they had captured army strongpoints and taken prisoners. Reuters could not verify the authenticity of the footage. The Taliban's main spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said its forces were treating residents "with kindness" and working to restore the city to normalcy.

The fighters appeared to have slipped through a defensive security line set up around Kunduz, entering the city itself from four directions before clashes broke out, witnesses said. Military helicopters flew overhead and gunfire could be heard in Kunduz, where a year ago to the day Afghan troops backed by US air strikes and special forces were battling to drive out Taliban militants who had overrun the city.

Witnesses saw Taliban fighters armed with AK-47 assault rifles, machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades walking around deserted streets, entering homes and taking positions on rooftops. Afghan officials said special forces were being sent to Kunduz and the city would not be lost.

Brigadier General Charles Cleveland, spokesman for the NATO-led Resolute Support mission in Kabul, said the situation in Kunduz was "fluid" and US forces were ready to assist. "Our Afghan partners are responding to the increased Taliban activity within the area, and US forces have multiple assets and enablers in the area to provide support," he said in an emailed statement.

The renewed attack on Kunduz forced officials to cancel a ceremony planned for Monday to commemorate the first anniversary of a US air strike that destroyed a hospital run by the international charity Médecins Sans Frontières.

#### Attacks across Afghanistan

The assault on Kunduz came as the Taliban stepped up attacks in different parts of Afghanistan, including in Helmand, where they are threatening the provincial capital of Lashkar Gah. Yesterday, Taliban fighters, positioned just across the Helmand river from the city centre, took control of Nawa district to the south, killing a district police chief, officials said. Heavy fighting also continued along the main road to Tarin Kot, the provincial capital of Uruzgan, also in the south, where a Taliban raid on Sept. 8 sparked fears of another collapse like that in Kunduz last year.

The raid on Tarin Kot was beaten back, but it alarmed security officials because the militants were able to enter the city without significant resistance after police abandoned dozens of checkpoints. The fall of Kunduz last

year was one of the most serious blows to the Western-backed government since the withdrawal of most international troops in 2014.

Although the insurgents abandoned Kunduz after a few days, the capture of a provincial capital underlined their growing strength and exposed weaknesses in the Afghan security forces, which control no more than two-thirds of the country. The city has remained effectively besieged ever since. "Every day the militants come to the city and are pushed back by security forces," said Amruddin Wali, a member of the provincial council, as he stood with security forces on the edges of the city. "There is killing and fighting every day." Separately yesterday, at least six people were killed and 35 wounded in the northern province of Jawzjan by a bomb in a crowded marketplace. There was no immediate word on who was responsible.

Efforts at reviving peace talks have failed to produce results, but Afghanistan's international partners are expected to agree to maintain billions of dollars in funding for the government over the next four years at a two-day meeting in Brussels this week. — Reuters



KABUL: An Afghan security personnel inspects the site of a bicycle bomb explosion targeted an army vehicle yesterday. — AP

## US PRO-MARIJUANA CAMPAIGNERS LAUNCH TV ADS AHEAD OF NOVEMBER VOTES

**BOSTON:** Campaigns to legalize recreational marijuana use in Massachusetts and Maine launched their first television ads yesterday, hoping to boost public awareness and support ahead of November votes on the issue.

The ads began just over a month before Election Day, when voters in five US states will determine whether to legalize the recreational use of the drug, following the lead of Colorado, Washington, Oregon and Alaska, as well as the District of Columbia. The Massachusetts ads feature Tom Nolan, a former Boston Police Department officer and current professor of criminal justice at Merrimack College, advocating for legalization as a way to better regu-

late marijuana use.

"Question 4 requires strict product labeling and child-proof packaging and bans consumption by kids," Nolan says in the 30-second spot, citing the question's position on the November 8 ballot. The Maine advertisement also features an ex-law enforcement official, former Cumberland County Sheriff Mark Dion, who argues that legalizing the use of the drug for adults over the age of 21 would free up police resources to investigate violent crimes.

The campaigns launch a week after the group Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol in Arizona launched its first blast of TV ads. Voters in California

and Nevada will also face ballot questions on the issue this year.

Both the Massachusetts and Maine campaigns face stiff opposition from local officials, with Boston Mayor Martin Walsh, a recovering alcoholic, among the most prominent Democratic voices against the idea. Walsh has stressed the perceived risk that legalizing marijuana could lead users to become addicted first to pot and then other drugs.

Maine Governor Paul LePage, a Republican, has also repeatedly voiced his opposition. Recent opinion polls have shown voters in both northeastern states favoring legalization. Some 53 percent of respondents to a WBZ/UMass Amherst poll of 700

likely Massachusetts voters last month supported the measure.

The result in Maine was much the same, with 53 percent of 505 likely voters polled by the Portland Press Herald saying they favored the idea. Massachusetts' pro-legalization Yes on 4 Campaign said its initial \$650,000 television campaign would last a week, with the group potentially extending it if it proved effective.

"It's a matter of how much money we have and how much TV we can afford," said Jim Borghesani, a spokesman for the group. "Voters will see more TV ads, they'll see some mailings and we'll certainly be attending forums and debates." —Reuters

## SYRIAN FIGHTER RETURNS TO JAIL WHERE IS TORTURED HIM

### 'OUR FEET NEVER TOUCHED THE GROUND'

**MANBIJ:** In the dark basement of the Manbij Hotel, Ahmad Othman stares defiantly into the room where he spent 32 days strung up by a chain, tortured by the Islamic State group. "Our feet never touched the ground. Sometimes they pulled the chain up and down" to make the pain worse, Othman told

ed foreigners and Syrians alike, who would come here on weekend getaways. But during its two-year reign over Manbij, IS transformed the hotel into a nightmarish prison for anyone who violated the group's hard line interpretation of Islamic law.

Othman, a Syrian Arab in his thirties, spent

building slowly, peering around corners as if expecting an IS fighter to leap out and drag him back into captivity.

#### Forced into tiny containers

The hotel's lower floors were transformed by the jihadists into an underground maze of dark cells and torture chambers. "The sun of the caliphate has risen," reads a hand-painted message on one wall. "We definitely never saw any sun down here," Othman said bitterly. Handcuffs still hang off the cells' black metal doors, with crudely cut-out slats allowing the jailers to keep an eye on their prisoners.

Orange-tiled shower stalls were turned into solitary confinement cells, and dust-covered clothing and plastic bottles still litter the floor. In one room, metal containers under a meter (one yard) high and 50 centimeters (20 inches) wide line the wall. This was "where prisoners would sit for days until they confessed," said Othman, who spent several days himself squeezed into one locker-sized crevice.

He said detainees were only allowed brief intervals during which they could choose to eat or pray—and those who opted to have breakfast instead of completing their morning prayers were beaten.

Othman then pointed to a row of rusted holes on a white tile wall. "There used to be hooks here. This is where they would hang us," the bearded fighter said. "They used to hit us everywhere, on our heads, our bodies... They made us climb inside a large wheel that they would then hit." Still, Othman considers himself lucky for managing to get out alive and in reasonably good health.

"Some stayed suspended in the air for six months. They can't walk at all anymore because of blood clots," he said. Others who were imprisoned with him were executed by IS. "They just invent whatever accusation they feel like and behead people," Othman said.

"How do they dare call themselves an Islamic state?" —AFP



**MINBIJ, SYRIA:** A general view taken on September 25, 2016 shows the flag of the Islamic State (IS) group painted on the wall outside the ancient Minbij hotel. —AFP

AFP in the hotel-turned-prison that was run by IS in the Syrian town of Manbij. "For a while after we were released, we couldn't walk or focus on anything anymore," he said.

In August, the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) — a US-backed alliance of Kurdish and Arab fighters—recaptured the town in the north of the war-ravaged country. In better times, the five-storey Manbij Hotel once host-

three months there in late 2015 after being accused of collaborating with anti-IS fighters. The former student of French literature was released following a lack of evidence against him—and promptly joined the US-backed SDF.

Wearing his SDF fatigues, Othman returned with AFP to the hotel, which was heavily damaged in the US-led air strikes backing the SDF's offensive. He entered the



**CULIACAN, SINALOA STATE, MEXICO:** A soldier rides atop a military vehicle in a convoy carrying the bodies of soldiers killed one day earlier in an ambush, inside the Novena Military Zone on Saturday. —AP

## MEXICAN DRUG LORD'S SONS DENY INVOLVEMENT IN MILITARY AMBUSH

**MEXICO CITY:** A lawyer for imprisoned Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman says that the drug lord's sons want the public to know they had nothing to do with an ambush that left five soldiers dead.

Lawyer Jose Refugio Rodriguez said in a radio interview Monday with MVS Noticias that he shares the military's indignation and that sons Ivan and Alfredo Guzman

want Friday's ambush investigated. Gunmen attacked a military convoy to free a wounded suspect in northern Sinaloa state. Apparently grenades were used.

On Saturday, Defense Secretary Gen. Salvador Cienfuegos called the attackers "sick, insane criminal beasts." A local military commander said Friday Guzman's sons were suspected. —AP



**RABAT, MOROCCO:** Morocco's prime minister is calling his main political rival in this week's elections a "liar" for claiming that state-funded associations are behind growing Islamic extremism among Moroccan youth. —AP

## MOROCCAN PREMIER DEFENDS HIS RECORD ON EXTREMISM

**RABAT, MOROCCO:** Morocco's prime minister is calling his main political rival in this week's elections a "liar" for claiming that state-funded associations are behind growing Islamic extremism among Moroccan youth.

In a sweeping interview yesterday with The Associated Press, Abdelilah Benkirane, acknowledged the challenges of stopping radicalization and balancing the budget, and called for greater attention to women's issues.

Benkirane defended the record of his

moderate Islamist Party of Justice and Development, which faces a tough challenge in Friday's parliamentary elections from the Party of Authenticity and Modernity. He denied accusations by PAM's leader that state-accrued associations are behind youth radicalization.

Benkirane says moderates with a "tolerant and enlightened" understanding of Islam need to be encouraged. Moroccan authorities dismantled a cell of women extremists yesterday linked to the Islamic State group. —AP

## PUTIN SUSPENDS WEAPONS-GRADE PLUTONIUM DEAL WITH US

**MOSCOW:** President Vladimir Putin yesterday suspended a Russia-US deal on the disposal of weapons-grade plutonium, a move that comes amid escalating tensions over Syria between Moscow and Washington.

Putin's decree released by the Kremlin cited Washington's "unfriendly actions" and the United States' inability to fulfill its obligations under the 2000 deal as reasons for the move. However, the decree says that the weapons-grade plutonium that has fallen under the agreement will be kept away from weapons programs.

Under the agreement, which was expanded in 2006 and 2010, Russia and the US each were to dispose of 34 metric tons of weapons-grade plutonium, enough material for about 17,000 nuclear warheads. When it was signed, the deal was touted as an example of successful US-Russian cooperation on nuclear non-proliferation.

mixed-oxide commercial nuclear reactor fuel known as MOX from weapons-grade plutonium. Meanwhile, the construction of a similar US plant in South Carolina has been years behind schedule and billions of dollars over budget.

The US administration wants to cancel the Savannah River Site's MOX project and use an alternative method for disposing of excess plutonium.

Putin pointed to the stalled plant earlier this year to accuse the

US of failing to meet its end of the deal. He also argued that the policy change would give the US "return potential," or a chance to recycle the material back into the weapons-grade plutonium.

Commenting on Putin's move, the Russian Foreign Ministry said Monday that the US has "done all it could to destroy the atmosphere encouraging cooperation." It cited US sanctions against Russia over the Ukrainian crisis and the deployment of NATO forces near Russian borders as examples. "We would like to bring Washington back to understanding that it can't introduce sanctions against us in areas where it's quite painless for the Americans, and at the same time continue selective cooperation in areas it sees as advantageous," it said.

A strain in US-Russian ties escalated in recent weeks followed the collapse of a truce in Syria and the Syrian army's massive onslaught in Aleppo under the cover of Russian warplanes. The Russian Foreign Ministry said Moscow would be ready to restore the plutonium agreement if the US takes Russian concerns into account. —AP



**MOSCOW:** Russian President Vladimir Putin visits a reserve for wild horses near the Urals city of Orenburg, about 1300 kilometers (800 miles) southeast yesterday. —AP

#### Started plant

Russia said last year it had started up a plant that produces

## OHIO PLANS EXECUTION USING 3-DRUG COMBO

**COLUMBUS:** Ohio plans to resume executions in January with a new three-drug combination after an unofficial three-year moratorium blamed on shortages of lethal drugs, an attorney representing the state told a federal judge yesterday.

The state outlined its plan to Columbus federal Judge Edmund Sargus in a hearing where The Associated Press was the only media outlet present. Thomas Madden with the Ohio attorney general's office said the state will use the drugs midazolam, rocuronium bromide and potassium chloride. He said the drugs are not compounded and are FDA approved.

Madden said a new execution policy will be announced at the end of the week. Attorneys representing death row inmates say they'll file a new challenge almost immediately. The development opens the way for the execution of the Ronald Phillips for the rape and murder of his girlfriend's 3-year-old

daughter in Akron in 1993.

Ohio hasn't put anyone to death since January 2014, when Dennis McGuire repeatedly gasped and snorted during a 26-minute procedure using a never-before-tried two-drug combo. The state also used midazolam in McGuire's execution, making it disappointing that Ohio would again turn to that drug, said Allen Bohnert, a federal public defender representing several death row inmates.

Ohio and other states have struggled since then to find legal supplies of execution drugs. The state has more than two dozen inmates with firm execution dates sitting on death row, with executions scheduled out as far as October 2019.

After McGuire's execution, the longest ever in Ohio using lethal drugs, the prisons agency changed its policies to allow for single doses of two alternative drugs. Complicating matters, neither of those drugs - sodium thiopental and pentobarbital - is available in the

United States after their manufacturers put them off-limits for executions.

The state has unsuccessfully tried to find compounded or specially mixed versions. Last year, Republican Gov. John Kasich ruled out looking for alternative methods, such as the firing squad or hanging.

In 2014, Kasich signed a bill into law shielding the names of companies that provide the state with lethal injection drugs. Supporters said such confidentiality is necessary to obtain supplies of the drugs, and the measure is needed to restart Ohio executions. Opponents said it was naive to think the bill could truly protect companies' names from being revealed.

In 2014, former federal Judge Gregory Frost sided with the state, saying the prisons agency's need to obtain the drugs outweighed concerns by death row inmates that the information was needed to meaningfully challenge the source of the drugs. —AP

## TURKEY EXTENDS EMERGENCY FOR 90 DAYS

**ISTANBUL:** Turkey will extend a state of emergency imposed after the July failed coup for another three months starting from October 19, the government said yesterday. The decision was announced after a weekly cabinet meeting chaired by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at his presidential palace in Ankara. Erdogan last week suggested that the emergency could be in place for a year. "The state of emergency will be extended for another 90 days starting October 19 from 1 am," Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus told a news conference after the cabinet meeting.

The decision still needs to be put to vote in the 550-seat parliament but it is certain to be passed as the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) enjoys a majority in the house. The opposition Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) has also voiced support for the extension. The government says basic freedoms will not be undermined. It says the state of emergency is needed to hunt down suspects in the failed putsch, blamed by

authorities on US-based Muslim preacher Fethullah Gulen.

"The extension means we are still taking certain steps to address vital challenges to our democracy," a senior Turkish official said on condition of anonymity. Gulen, who has lived in self-imposed exile in Pennsylvania since 1999, has denied he was involved in the coup bid.

#### Coup used to stifle critics

There are growing fears the emergency is being used by the government as a pretext to silence critics. The July 15 failed coup has already seen 32,000 suspects placed under arrest in an unprecedented crackdown that set off alarm bells in the West and in the United States.

The main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) has accused the government of using the abortive putsch to stifle dissent. The vast purge has touched every sector in Turkey, with those arrested ranging from top former generals to journalists. —AFP





## MERKEL GREETED WITH SHOUTS OF 'GET OUT' IN DRESDEN

**DRESDEN, GERMANY:** Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel was greeted yesterday by whistles and shouts of "Get out" after arriving in Dresden—birthplace of xenophobic movement Pegida—for German reunification celebrations.

The angry crowd also waved signs saying "Merkel must go" in the east German city, where some 2,600 police were deployed as a security precaution. The German leader has been under pressure at home over her liberal refugee policy that saw an influx of nearly 900,000 migrants last year.

Dresden is hosting national celebrations to mark 26 years since the reunification of East and West Germany, with the chancellor and President Joachim Gauck in attendance. Supporters of Pegida, the anti-immigrant, xenophobic group that began in Dresden, also gave Gauck a hostile greeting upon his

arrival. The group initially drew just a few hundred supporters to its demonstrations before gaining strength, peaking with rallies of up to 25,000 people in early 2015.

Though Merkel's conservative Christian Democrats (CDU) took a drubbing in recent regional polls, she insisted on the sidelines of Monday's celebrations that "mutual respect" and "acceptance of very divergent political opinions" are needed to meet the challenges facing Germany.

Norbert Lammert, the speaker of the German parliament, took aim at those who "whistle and shout" but who "clearly don't have the slightest memory of the condition of this city and this region were in before reunification". The rightwing populist Alternative for Germany (AfD) harnessed a wave of anger over the refugee influx to claim

around 14 percent of the vote last month in Berlin state.

Its success has mirrored the march of anti-migrant parties in France, Austria and the Netherlands as well as Republican maverick Donald Trump in the United States. Bomb attacks hit a mosque and an international convention centre in Dresden last week, with police suspecting xenophobic and nationalist motives.

Saxony, of which Dresden is the state capital, saw far-right hate crimes targeting shelters for asylum seekers rise to 106 in 2015, with another 50 recorded in the first half of this year.

In an annual report outlining progress since reunification, the government warned last week that growing xenophobia and right-wing extremism could threaten peace in eastern Germany. —AFP



**DRESDEN, SAXONY, GERMANY:** German Chancellor Angela Merkel (C) and the Prime Minister for the federal state of Saxony Stanislaw Tillich (L) arrive at the Semperoper Opera House during celebrations of the Day of German Unity yesterday. —AFP



**TALLINN:** New Estonian President Kersti Kaljulaid gives a press conference at Riigikogu, the Estonian parliament yesterday. —AFP

## SURPRISE CANDIDATE VOTED ESTONIA'S FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT

### A MONTH-LONG POLITICAL STALEMATE ENDED

**TALLINN:** Estonia's parliament yesterday elected surprise candidate Kersti Kaljulaid as the first woman president of the tech-savvy Baltic state, breaking a month-long political stalemate.

The non-aligned 46-year-old member of the European Court of Auditors responsible for keeping watch over EU finances, won the support of 81 of Estonia's 101 members of parliament. A mother of four and a grandmother, Kaljulaid will take over as NATO nation's fifth president since independence in 1991 as Tallinn gears up for the EU's rotating six-month presidency next July.

The head of state plays a largely ceremonial role in the eurozone country of 1.3 million people and is elected by parliament or electoral college rather than direct public vote. Women's rights are already highly developed in Estonia, but Kaljulaid's election is still seen as an important first.

Her background as an auditor is likely to go down well in the fiscally conservative nation. With its debt-to-GDP ratio hovering around 10 percent, Tallinn has long insisted other eurozone members ought to adopt its strict fiscal discipline.

Kaljulaid was nominated last week as a dark horse candidate after favorites, including former foreign minister Marina Kaljurand and former prime minister and European commissioner Siim Kallas, failed to win in two previous rounds of voting in August and September.

#### Liberal streak

Although Kaljulaid has had a successful international career over the last 12 years as an EU auditor, she is not a household name in Estonia. "Kaljuulaid is rather unknown by the Estonian public and she will need to present her views to the people," Tonis Saarts, a political scientist at Tallinn University, told AFP.

"Therefore the first period of her presidency will most likely focus more on domestic affairs rather than international relations, making her a very different head of state than the predecessor Toomas Hendrik Ilves."

Known for his sharp tongue and fondness of bow-ties and tweeting, Ilves gave the role a strong international dimension due to his flair for foreign affairs. A trained biologist specializing in genetics, Kaljulaid also holds an MBA

from University of Tartu. In the late nineties she worked as investment banker at Hansapank that was later taken over by Swedbank.

In 1999, Kaljulaid joined the office of the Estonian prime minister Mart Laar as an economic policy adviser. In early 2000s she managed the Iru power plant near Tallinn. She also co-hosted a weekly radio program on political and economic affairs for the popular Kuku Radio station and has said she views education and health as key areas of concern.

Kaljulaid has also described herself as economically conservative with a strong liberal streak on social issues. Her daughter and son from her first marriage are already grown-ups, while her two younger sons are 11 and 6-years-old.

Husband Georgi-Rene Maksimovski, a publicity-shy communication engineer, gave up his public service career to support her work at the European Court of Auditors. Estonia's head of state gives legislation its final seal of approval after checking its constitutionality. Presidents can remain in office for up to two consecutive five-year terms at a time. —AFP



**MADRID:** A woman rolls up a poster with the photograph of Spain's Socialist party leader Pedro Sanchez outside the party headquarters on Saturday. —AP

## SPAIN IMPASSE SET TO CONTINUE DESPITE SOCIALIST RESIGNATION

**MADRID:** Spain's political impasse looks set to continue for some time. The leading opposition Socialist party says that it's up to its federal committee to decide whether to change the party's stance against allowing acting Premier Mariano Rajoy of the rival Popular Party to form a minority government.

Javier Fernandez, caretaker Socialist leader following the weekend resignation of Pedro Sanchez, said yesterday that the

committee would meet but he couldn't say when. He said his main task was to restore unity following the crisis triggered by those who opposed Sanchez's stance of blocking Rajoy.

Sanchez's departure raises the possibility the Socialists may alter that stance and help end Spain's nine-month stalemate following two inconclusive elections. Parliament has until Oct. 31 to form a government or a new election must be held. —AP

## SLOVENIA STARTS TRANSFER OF WWII MASS GRAVE REMAINS

**LJUBLJANA:** Slovenian authorities yesterday started transferring the remains of some 800 people killed and dumped in a mine by communist dictator Tito's forces in the aftermath of World War II. Authorities first opened the Huda Jama mine, some 80 kilometers northeast of Ljubljana, in 2009, one of hundreds of mass graves believed to be dotted around the former Yugoslav republic.

Investigators first found a horizontal chamber with the mummified remains of over 400 people but later discovered another 45-metre (150-foot) vertical cavity containing yet more. "We calculate between 2,200 and 2,500 bodies might be in that chamber," historian Mitja Ferenc, member of special commission investigating mass graves, told the Delo daily.

He said that most of the victims were Croat and Slovene soldiers and civilians who had collaborated or were thought to have collaborated with the Nazis and then executed, often without trial. Slovenian President Borut Pahor, attending a ceremony on Monday at the site, said the first 800 bodies will be transferred to a memorial centre at Dobrova, west of Ljubljana, by the end of October and the rest next year.

DNA samples will also be taken in order to help identify the dead. "Reconciliation is possible only once we are ready to forgive and to admit the truth even if it is painful, hard and incriminating," Pahor said during the ceremony, attended by victims' relatives.

Ferenc said the wartime mass graves commission has registered some 700 possible mass grave sites in which some 15,000 people are believed to be buried. —AFP

## ROMANIA: EX-MINISTER, OTHERS GET PRISON SENTENCES FOR BRIBES

**BUCHAREST:** A former Romanian minister, a former mayor and two businessmen were handed prison sentences yesterday and will have millions of Euros taken from them in punishment for money-laundering, influence-peddling and taking bribes.

The High Court of Cassation and Justice sentenced Gheorghe Stefan, former mayor of Piatra Neamt, to six years for influence-peddling and ordered that some 4 million Euros (\$4.5 million) be confiscated from him. He admitted wrongdoing and said he deserved the punishment.

Former telecommunications minister Gabriel Sandu was sentenced to three years for bribery and money-laundering and 2.2 million Euros were ordered confiscated. Sandu admitted wrongdoing and had asked for a suspended sentence. Businessman Dorin Cocos and Nicolae

Dumitru both received sentences of 2 years and four months for influence-peddling and money laundering. The court ordered 9 million Euros confiscated from Cocos and 2.8 million from Dumitru. The rulings are final.

Cocos apologized for wrongdoing and said he would not break the law again. Dumitru broke down in tears saying he "deeply regretted" what he'd done and asked for a suspended sentence.

Anti-corruption prosecutors said under the terms of a 2004 government contract with Microsoft for computers licensed for schools, the four maneuvered to pocket a 47-percent discount offered by Microsoft. Some 15.7 million Euros were paid to their companies. By 2009, when the contract expired, the state had bought more than 150,000 licenses. —AP

## HOLLANDE WOULD NOT EVEN GET RUN AT RE-ELECTION: POLL

**PARIS:** Francois Hollande's distant prospects of winning a second term as French president were further dented yesterday when a poll suggested he would not even win the endorsement of his own Socialist Party's supporters.

Opinion polls have for many months shown Hollande losing the May presidential election to all likely adversaries, but the new poll pointed to him being defeated in the party's candidate selection process by former industry minister Arnaud Montebourg.

Montebourg, 53, who made his mark by espousing a markedly leftist line, announced on Sunday that he would take part in the January pre-selection contest. The BVA-Salesforce poll, conducted from Sept. 13 to Sept. 20, showed him winning the left-wing primary with 52 percent of votes versus 48 percent for Hollande.

The 62-year-old Hollande is France's most unpopular leader in modern history and has yet to declare his intention, but is expected to do so in December. The elec-

tion is likely to come down to a second round battle between the centre-right party ticket - most likely former prime minister Alain Juppe or former president Nicolas Sarkozy - and far-right National Front leader Marine Le Pen.

Montebourg made his mark in 2011 by winning a surprisingly large 17 percent of votes in the primary where Hollande secured the Socialist Party ticket, after which he went on to beat Sarkozy in the May 2012 ballot.

Despite a remit to help secure a renewal of industry and stem a haemorrhage of industrial jobs to lower-wage countries in eastern Europe, Montebourg's ministerial term in Hollande's government was marked by several high-profile factory closures.

He has not always spoken kindly of the president. When Hollande's now former partner, Segolene Royal, was running for president in 2007, Montebourg, her spokesman at the time, famously said Royal "has only one flaw - her companion". —Reuters



**PARIS:** French President Francois Hollande (L) attends a meeting with Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita (R) at the Elysee Palace yesterday. —AFP

## MOSCOW SAYS ITS SYRIA BOMBING 'HIGHLY EFFECTIVE'

**MOSCOW:** Moscow yesterday insisted its bombing campaign in Syria was "highly effective", denying its jets struck hospitals as a brutal onslaught against rebel-held Aleppo has sparked accusations of war crimes.

Deputy foreign minister Gennady Gatilov said Russia's air strikes in support of President Bashar al-Assad's regime had stopped jihadists taking over the country. "From this perspective our participation has been highly effective, especially now when the situation around Aleppo has worsened," he was quoted as saying by Russian wires.

Moscow has been accused of indiscriminately bombing Aleppo's opposition-controlled east as it helps an offensive currently being conducted by Syrian government troops to capture all of the country's second city.

The largest hospital in eastern Aleppo was bombed over the weekend for the second time in days as the UN's top aid official

decried the "living hell" suffered by locals. Russia has repeatedly denied that its strikes have hit hospitals and other civilian facilities. "Accusations that Russia is allegedly bombing medical facilities, hospitals, schools are all baseless," Gatilov said.

A short-lived truce brokered by Moscow and Washington earlier this month could have led the two countries to coordinate strikes against jihadists, but the deal quickly fell apart.

The United Nations has warned that a humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding in Aleppo unlike any witnessed so far in Syria's brutal five-year war, which has claimed more than 300,000 lives.

Moscow said last week that it was continuing its year-long Syrian air campaign in spite of US warnings that Washington would suspend talks unless Moscow stopped its assault on Aleppo. Gatilov said Russia was working to agree with Washington on "what needs to be done to renew the cessation of hostilities." —AFP

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People pose for photos before a sculpture reading 'I Seoul U' at Yeouido park in Seoul yesterday. In October 2015, 'I Seoul U' was chosen as the official slogan to represent the city with domestic media citing concerns that it would likely attract international ridicule as not just uninspiring, but also making little sense in English. — AFP

### JAPANESE WINS NOBEL FOR CELL 'RECYCLING'

Continued from Page 1

Ohsumi, 71, received a PhD from the University of Tokyo in 1974. He is currently a professor at the Tokyo Institute of Technology.

The prize comes with eight million Swedish kronor (around \$936,000). "This is the highest honor for a researcher," Ohsumi told Japan's public broadcaster NHK. "My motto is to do what others don't want to do. I thought (cellular breakdown) was very interesting. This is where it all begins. It didn't draw much attention in the past, but we're now in a time when there is a bigger focus on it," added Ohsumi.

The medicine prize is awarded by the Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute, which has seen a shadow cast over its reputation following a recent scandal involving Italian surgeon Paolo Macchiarini. In 2011, while working as a visiting professor at Karolinska, Macchiarini soared to fame for inserting the first synthetic trachea, or windpipe, using patients' stem cells. His work was initially hailed as a game-changer for transplant medicine. But two patients died and a third was left severely ill.

Allegations ensued that the risky procedure had been carried out on at least one individual who had not, at the time, been critically ill, and in 2014 several surgeons at Karolinska filed a complaint alleging that Macchiarini had downplayed the risks of the procedure. Karolinska suspended all synthetic trachea transplants shortly after and fired Macchiarini. Two members of the Nobel medicine prize assembly were forced to step down in September over the scandal.

The 2016 Nobel season continues today with the physics prize announcement, with the discovery of gravitational waves seen as a potential winner. The first observation of gravitational waves was announced in Feb 2016, a major research breakthrough that confirms one of Albert Einstein's predictions in his theory of general relativity. The chemistry prize, announced on Wednesday, could go to classic research



YOKOHAMA: Japanese scientist Yoshinori Ohsumi answers a phone call following news that he won this year's Nobel Prize in medicine at his office in the Tokyo Institute of Technology campus in Yokohama yesterday. —AP

in the field, with speculation pointing to researchers who added new elements to the periodic table, such as nihonium or moscovium.

On Friday, all eyes will turn to Oslo where perhaps the most prestigious of the awards, the peace prize, will be announced. The Norwegian jury has sifted through an avalanche of nominations this year - a record 376, almost a hundred more than the previous record from 2014. Among those often cited as likely winners are the architects of two historic accords: The recent peace deal in Colombia between the government and the leftist FARC rebels; and the Iranian nuclear deal. But in a shock upset, Colombians on Sunday voted against the peace deal by a razor-thin majority in a referendum. The economics prize will be announced on Oct 10, and the literature prize wraps things up on Oct 13. — AFP

### KUWAIT'S EXPORTS DOWN 25.8% IN Q2

Continued from Page 1

Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, exports to GCC countries totaled KD 133 million from KD 157.7 million, a decrease of 15.6 percent. The share of the GCC countries was 3.7 percent in April-June 2016, while it

was 3.3 percent in April-June 2015. During the same period, 28 percent of imported products were industrial supplies. Compared to the same period of the previous year, industrial supplies increased 15.6 percent and capital goods increased by 12.2 percent, while food and beverages decreased by 12.7 percent, it added. — KUNA

### SHOCK AS COLOMBIA PEACE DEAL REJECTED

Continued from Page 1

"I have come to tell the president that I am offering to stand down as head of the delegation, because I will not be an obstacle to what comes next."

That could pave the way for new negotiations, with a government team including hardliners from the party of Santos's top political rival, former president Alvaro Uribe, who led the "No" campaign. Timochenko indicated the rebels were open to new talks, saying the referendum result left them "much more committed" to peace. "There are various ways to read (the result) and we must analyze them to see what needs to be fixed," he said in a radio interview from Havana.

Opinion polls had showed the "Yes" camp well ahead, and negotiators had said there was no Plan B in the event of a "No" vote. Santos admitted defeat, but pledged not to give up. "I will continue to seek peace to the last day of my term," he said late Sunday. Santos had been tipped as a top contender for this year's Nobel peace prize, along with rebel leader Londono. But that prospect is all but dead after the referendum defeat, experts said. "The Colombian peace treaty or anybody associated with it simply is not a candidate for the Nobel peace prize this year," said Kristian

Berg Harpviken, director of Oslo's Peace Research Institute (PRIO).

The deal has now "lost legitimacy," said Maria Luisa Puig, a Latin America analyst at the Eurasia Group consultancy. "The deal... is dead and cannot be implemented," she said in a note. "While the parties may seek to renegotiate a deal, the process would be complex, time consuming, and probably outlive the current administration."

Commentators compared the result to that of June's surprise "Brexit" vote for Britain to leave the European Union. Forecasts apparently miscalculated Colombians' desire to punish the FARC. Deal opponents resented concessions that included soft sentences with no jail time for rebels who confessed to their crimes. The accord called for the 5,765 FARC rebels to disarm and become a political party, with seats in Colombia's Congress. The FARC launched its guerrilla war in 1964, after the army crushed a peasant uprising.

Over the years, the conflict drew in several leftist rebel groups, right-wing paramilitaries and drug gangs. Authorities estimate it has left 45,000 missing and nearly seven million uprooted. The two sides have declared a ceasefire, and the FARC indicated their commitment to upholding it. — AFP

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STEPHAN LEE

INSURED CRABS, TEA  
HELP CHINA FARMERS  
AVOID WEATHER LOSS

By Coco Liu

**M**a Rongda, a tea grower for nearly 30 years, knows how badly his business can be affected by extreme weather. But when heavy snow and cold hit his tea garden earlier this year, Ma was not as worried as he used to be. "I bought insurance for my tea plantations," he explained. For an annual premium of some 7,000 yuan (\$1,050), the 46-year-old received compensation of more than 220,000 yuan (\$32,950) - enough to cover all of his production costs last year.

This is the second year that Ma and his fellow farmers in eastern China's Anji County have had access to insurance. Before that, no policies were available for Chinese tea growers looking to secure their crops. As erratic weather has become the new norm in China, insurance policies against losses from extreme weather have emerged in a wide range of agricultural businesses, from beekeeping to cattle ranching to seaweed farming. Many are proving hugely popular, thanks in part to cut-rate prices made possible by government subsidies.

Chinese officials say the number of buyers of agriculture-related insurance has more than tripled in the country between 2007 and 2015, while the area of farmland covered by insurance has quintupled. The fast expansion of insurance is just one thing China is doing to reduce what it sees as a growing risks related to extreme weather and other climate change impacts. The country now requires infrastructure construction companies to take climate change impacts into consideration when planning new projects.

It has also developed early warning systems for extreme weather events and taken up popular communications tools - such as Weibo, China's version of Twitter - to send out typhoon alerts. Disaster statistics show why. Over the last 20 years, one out of two people affected by weather-related disasters has been Chinese, according to the United Nations. Chinese government statistics show that floods, droughts, typhoons and other natural disasters have caused annual economic losses of 200 billion yuan (\$30 billion) a year, on average, since the 1990s. Chinese farmers, whose harvests rely on good weather, have been among those hit the hardest.

## 'Really Strange' Weather

Ma, the tea grower in Anji County, for instance, had already lost last year's harvest to extreme cold when freezing temperatures hit his plantations again this year, withering the tea leaves. "The weather is now getting really strange," Ma said in a telephone interview with the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "We used to experience extreme cold weather once every three years. But in 2016 alone, we suffered from (both) heavy snows and cold waves. It was a double whammy."

The insurance he now buys - introduced last year - gives farmers an automatic payout for losses, without a visit from an insurance claims adjuster, when the recorded temperature drops to minus 0.5 degrees Celsius during the harvesting season. With Chinese policymakers promoting market-oriented solutions to help cope with climate change, 65 percent of the insurance premium is being covered by government subsidies, making the new service appealing to cost-conscious farmers.

Concerns over extreme weather drove Ma to buy insurance for all his tea land as soon as the service became available in 2015 - and he has encouraged many others to do the same, he said. According to the Anji White Tea Association, the scale of insured tea plantations increased from 600 hectares in 2015 to nearly 1,900 hectares (4,700 acres) this year. PICC Property and Casualty Co Ltd, which designed the insurance for tea growers, has rolled out 39 insurance products aimed at helping Chinese farmers handle an increase in climate shocks. Other insurance firms also have come up with innovative policies, both in design and the way they are sold. Shanghai-based Anxin Agricultural Insurance Co Ltd., for one, recently teamed up with Taobao, a popular Chinese e-commerce site, to sell insurance against crop failures caused by strong winds. Farmers can buy the insurance online and claim it based on meteorological data, which enables the company to serve farmers whose villages do not have any insurance agents.

## Insured Crabs

There are also growing efforts to create insurance services for climate-related damages that are hard to measure. Suzhou, a city west of Shanghai, is a major production hub for Chinese mitten crabs, a burrowing crab that is named for its furry claws and that is an autumn delicacy in eastern China. But since heat waves have begun happening more frequently in Suzhou, farmers have complained that their mitten crabs - and their wallets - have reduced in size. —Reuters

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## EVANGELICALS: TRUE TEST OF FAITH IN TRUMP

By Michael Mathes

**"B**oy did I do well with evangelicals, right?" A boastful Donald Trump basked in the adulation of Christian conservatives at a rally this week in Council Bluffs, Iowa as he recalled their surprisingly strong support in the hard-fought Republican presidential primaries. He will need them again come Nov 8. Evangelicals form a powerful voting bloc that the billionaire Republican must win by significant margins in key swing states if he is to defeat Hillary Clinton at the ballot box.

Polls show many religious conservatives now favor Trump, even after many backed Ben Carson or Ted Cruz, candidates with stronger faith pedigrees, in the primary battle. But in a series of interviews, several evangelical voters and leaders told AFP they hold deep reservations about the real estate tycoon and his combative rhetoric, personal character and morality.

Trump, who is Presbyterian, is twice divorced, a casino magnate who made millions on a gambling empire. He has called for a ban on Muslims entering the country, and stands accused of demeaning women and cheating employees - hardly the qualities of humility and virtue sought by faith-based voters. "It's a quandary for evangelicals, there's no question about it," acknowledged Mike Hamlet, who has been a pastor at First Baptist North Spartanburg, in the southern state of South Carolina for 32 years.

In Trump they see a deeply flawed man, but one who nonetheless hews more closely to their Biblical values, in particular protecting the unborn, than does Democrat Clinton. Churchgoers on a recent Sunday in Spartanburg, a white evangelical stronghold, hesitated when asked about Trump, but said ultimately they would support him. "I don't think that my standard candidate is on the ballot, but I'm going to vote to the right," said Pam Dean, 59, who works with special needs children. "Jesus sat on the right hand of God, we threw the nets on the right. I'm going to vote to the right."

## 'Unhinged' Versus 'Unethical'

There are about 62 million born-again or evangelical Christian Americans, according to Pew Research Center. A large majority of white evangelicals support Trump, but many say they will cast their vote against Clinton rather than as a full-throated Trump endorsement. "I think that is as much because of Hillary Clinton's opposition to

Biblical values," Pastor Hamlet said. "We're not going to have any candidates that are more pro-abortion than she is."

Clinton, 68, is a Methodist, and has cited the teachings of Jesus while campaigning. But Dean simply does not trust her. "She is for abortion," the worshipper said. "I have not seen her Christian walk." Evangelicals also largely align with the Republican Party on most issues, including national security, immigration, taxes and size of government. But there is little unbridled enthusiasm for him among evangelicals, and the Trump camp is worried that like in 2012, many may choose to stay home on Election Day. "I don't know what I'm going to be doing as an evangelical voting in November," said Levi Fox, 25, a student at Christian conservative Bob Jones University (BJU) in nearby Greenville.

"A lot of my peers don't want to vote" because they see Clinton and Trump as "the difference between an unhinged candidate and an unethical one," Fox said. In 1999 Trump said he was pro-choice. Today he claims he is pro-life, but the way he trumpets his faith sometimes raises eyebrows. In July, he appeared to mock holy communion, saying that "when I drink my little wine... and have my little cracker, I guess that's a form of asking for forgiveness."

## 'Shame On Us'

Evangelical participation may not decide the outcome in conservative South Carolina, which has not voted Democratic since 1976. But in neighboring North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania and critical battleground Ohio, evangelicals could prove Trump's savior, or his undoing. "I think the jury is still out for some people, but personally when I look at the alternative, he is the only choice for me," said Alexia Newman, director of the pro-life Carolina Pregnancy Center. "If we go the other way and support Mrs. Clinton... we know that it is going to be abortion on demand, we know it's going to be marriage between anybody."

Trump routinely appeals to evangelicals. But he has also reprimanded them for staying home in 2012 and contributing to Mitt Romney's defeat to Barack Obama. Evangelicals in July were rallying behind Trump more than they supported Romney four years ago, according to Pew. Still, "I don't think he has anything locked up," 76-year-old Walter Lapp of Boiling Springs, near Spartanburg, said of Trump. If evangelicals fail to come out in 2016,

## WHY DIVIDED COLOMBIA SAID 'NO' TO PEACE DEAL

By Jordi Miro and Rodrigo Almonacid

**C**olombians say they are sick of their country's 52-year civil war. So why did a thin majority of voters reject their biggest chance yet for peace? Forecasts ahead of Sunday's surprise referendum result misjudged how divided Colombians are over how to settle the conflict with the FARC rebels. "I voted 'Yes' to peace by voting 'No' to the accord," said Carlos Gonzalez, a 19-year-old student. Here are four things Colombians said 'No' to.

## No to 'Impunity'

Colombian authorities estimate the conflict has left 260,000 people dead, 45,000 missing and nearly seven million displaced. The accord offered an amnesty for some FARC members, though not for the worst crimes such as massacres, torture and rape. It offered reduced sentences for some FARC members who confess their crimes. The FARC apologized to its victims, some of whom met with its members for emotional reconciliations. But for Monica Gonzalez, 36, the accord was too soft on the FARC, which killed her grandmother in 2011. "I agree with second chances, but not with impunity," she said as she celebrated the result in northern Bogota on Sunday night.

## No to 'Communism'

The FARC formed in 1964 to fight for control of land and a communist system of government, after state forces crushed a rural uprising. The peace accord, negotiated in Cuba, aimed to convert the FARC into a civil political group, with temporary seats in Congress. That was too much for many

"shame on us," he said. "We have a responsibility, not just a right, to be able to vote according to how God leads us."

BJU history professor Carl Abrams acknowledged he might be breaking with the evangelical trend. "At the moment I would not vote for him, because he does not pass that most

Colombians, who reject the FARC on ideological as well as moral grounds.

The leader of the 'No' camp, former president Alvaro Uribe, said the accord would drive the country towards "Castro-Chavism" - a reference to leftist leaders in Cuba and Venezuela. "Democracy has been saved" by Sunday's result, said Jesus Vivas, a 58-year-old pensioner, celebrating on Sunday. "The future of my family and my children has been saved. We have said 'No' to communism."

## No to Santos

Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos acted triumphantly when he signed the peace accord with the FARC on Sept 26. But his approval rating has dipped nearly as low as 20 percent this year. Opponents said they were in favor of peace but voiced distaste at the president and his determination to be the one to end the war. "The drive for reconciliation continues, but according to the principles of a healthy society," said Maria Fernanda Cabal, an outspoken congresswoman. "Not giving the country away to bandits and the vanity of Santos."

## No to Voting?

Turnout in Sunday's vote was extremely low at 37 percent. Authorities earlier said heavy rain caused some disruption to voting as Hurricane Matthew passed over the Caribbean. "We do not know what will happen now," said Jorge Cifuentes, 55, one of the Yes supporters who had gathered to celebrate in Bogota on Sunday night but ended up cast into gloom. "But it is clear that the conditions granted to the FARC had a big effect, and the low turnout too." —AFP

important test of love your neighbor as yourself," he said, referring to Trump's staunch anti-immigrant position. The pregnancy center's Newman said she believes Trump has "evolved" toward Christian positions on abortion and marriage. "I'm going to trust that he's had an epiphany," she said. —AFP

## INDO-PAK FAMILIES FEAR BORDER SHUTDOWN

By Bhuvan Bagga

**M**ohammad Iftakar waits with sweets and gifts at the Wagah border crossing, a lifeline for families violently separated during the founding of India and Pakistan, fearful of dangerous new divisions as hostilities flare once again. Like many other Indians, he has extended family on both sides of the frontier and travels regularly between the nations that were divided after independence from Britain in 1947.

He worries authorities might close the main border crossing at Wagah in India's northern Punjab state, leaving families like his in limbo, after New Delhi said it had conducted military strikes inside Pakistan. "There are some agencies and jihadi groups in Pakistan that don't want peace, but all of the other people are like us," said Iftakar, who was travelling with his wife and two sons and carrying bags loaded with sweets and gifts. "They (Pakistanis) love us and they too want close relations between

our two countries," he said, before clearing customs and making the short walk to the border crossing.

The wealthy farming state of Punjab was divided between India and Pakistan at partition, becoming the epicenter of the violence in which at least a million people were killed as Hindus fleeing the newly formed Pakistan clashed with Muslims moving the opposite way. Iftakar, whose wife Aarafa is from Pakistan, nervously remembers when India shut the border in 2001 after Pakistani militants staged a deadly attack on the parliament building in New Delhi.

The Wagah crossing itself is famous for its colourful "flag lowering" ceremony, that draws huge cheering crowds on both sides of the border post each sunset to see the display of military preening and pageantry. The ceremony was briefly closed to the public on the Indian side after the strikes in disputed Kashmir to the north of Punjab, which have led to a spike in tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbours.

## 'We are the Same'

India says it has no desire for a further escalation in the situation, but has nevertheless ordered thousands of villagers to move away from the border in Punjab. India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence seven decades ago. Last week's strikes followed a deadly assault on one of India's army bases in Kashmir that Delhi blamed on Pakistan-based militants. Islamabad has dismissed India's claim to have conducted surgical strikes across the border as an "illusion", insisting any such incursions would be impossible.

At the customs hall, not far from India's Sikh holy city of Amritsar and a short distance from Pakistan's Lahore, Ghulam Ali said he feared the regional tensions would further delay a reunion with his wife. "Our families have lived in the same region for generations," the 40-year-old Muslim told AFP. Since marrying his Pakistani wife two years ago, he has been trying without success to

secure a visa for her to live with him in India's Rajasthan.

Instead, Ali, who works as a milk supplier, makes frequent visits across the border to see his wife and son. "What some in Pakistan are doing is wrong of course," he said. "But I hope that the governments, particularly our government, ensures that people like us, who have families across the border, don't have problems travelling and meeting each other. We are the same people."

The road leading to Wagah is normally choked with auto rickshaws and taxis. But it has been largely deserted in recent days, with many tea stalls and other roadside eateries shut. Mohammad Shahid, whose mother and sister were heading to a relative's wedding in Lahore, said he too hoped for a quick thawing of hostilities. "I hope the governments sit and talk with each other," he said. "We haven't experienced such tension between the countries in a while." —AFP

## INJURED DHAWAN TO MISS INDIA'S THIRD TEST

**KOLKATA:** Indian opener Shikhar Dhawan was ruled out yesterday of the third and final Test against New Zealand with a broken thumb after the hosts took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series in Kolkata. The 30-year-old left-handed opener suffered a nasty hit on his left thumb off a Trent Boult bouncer during India's second innings on Sunday. Dhawan scored 17 after being trapped lbw off Boult and did not take the field during New Zealand's run chase at Kolkata's Eden Gardens. "Shikhar has suffered a very minor fracture on his hand (thumb). He has been under observation and advised a 15-day rest. So he is ruled out of the third match," the Indian team's management announced. "The selectors have been informed about Dhawan's injury and they will name a replacement very soon." Dhawan has scored 1,464 runs from 23 Tests at an average of 38.52. India's emphatic 178-run win against New Zealand helped the hosts reclaim their top spot in the International Cricket Council (ICC) rankings. The two teams will now head to Indore for the final Test starting October 8. — AFP

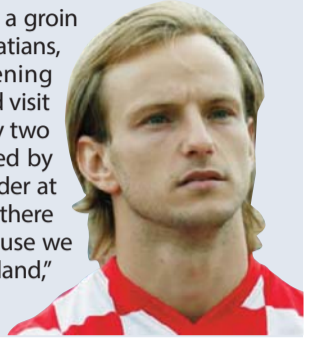


## CAF PRESIDENCY TO BE LIMITED TO 12 YEARS

**JOHANNESBURG:** Confederation of African Football (CAF) presidents will be limited to three four-year terms with effect from the 2017 elections, the organisation confirmed yesterday. There has been no limit previously with incumbent Issa Hayatou leading the African body since 1988. The 70-year-old Cameroonian has not indicated whether he will stand for re-election, but would be expected to retain his position should he do so. In charge for 28 years, Hayatou is the longest serving CAF boss. Deceased Ethiopian Yidnekatchew Tessema was president for 16 years from 1972. CAF spokesman Junior Binyam told AFP the change, announced during an extraordinary general assembly in Cairo, brought the African organisation in line with world governing body FIFA. The three-term ceiling will also apply to CAF executive committee members. Assembly delegates voted 32-16 against a Djibouti motion that CAF presidency candidates should not be restricted to executive committee members. CAF second vice-president Almamy Kabele Camara of Guinea and executive committee member Kwesi Nyantakyi of Ghana were voted on to the FIFA Council (formerly executive committee). —AFP

## IVAN RAKITIC ADDS TO CROATIA INJURY WOES

**ZAGREB:** Ivan Rakitic has joined Luka Modric and Dejan Lovren on the sidelines and the three injured stalwarts will miss Croatia's World Cup qualifiers against Kosovo and Finland, coach Ante Cacic said yesterday. The 28-year-old playmaker pulled out with an Achilles tendon strain while Modric has been ruled out for a month after undergoing knee surgery last week. "Modric, Rakitic and Lovren are all out of the upcoming qualifiers but I have a pretty clear idea who will replace them in the starting line-up," Cacic told a news conference. "The Achilles tendon strain forced Rakitic to miss Barcelona's 4-3 defeat at Celta Vigo on Sunday while Lovren has a groin injury, but neither of them require surgery." The Croatians, held to a 1-1 home draw by Turkey in their opening Group I match, are away to Kosovo on Thursday and visit the Finns on Sunday. Cacic acknowledged that only two wins would do despite Croatia's woes, compounded by several regular starters being down the pecking order at their clubs. "Some things are out of my hands but there will be no excuse if we don't win both games because we are a better-ranked team than both Kosovo and Finland," said the 63-year-old coach. —Reuters



## NO ONE'S TAKING PARTNER THOMAS PIETERS AWAY FROM ME: MCILROY

**CHASKA:** Europe lost their six-year grip on the Ryder Cup at the weekend but in Rory McIlroy and Thomas Pieters they found a dynamic partnership that could prove inspirational in Paris in 2018 and beyond. McIlroy, described by captain Darren Clarke as his on-course team leader, and Belgian Pieters won all three matches they played together and the Northern Irishman is unwilling to change his new companion when they get to France. "I've got a partner beside me for the next 20 years, I'm not letting anyone else have him," the world number three told reporters as he put his arm around the Ryder Cup debutant following the 17-11 defeat by the United States on Sunday.

The 24-year-old Pieters, who triumphed 3 and 2 in his last-day singles against JB Holmes and lost in the company of Englishman Lee Westwood in Friday's opening foursomes, was Europe's leading scorer with four points from five matches. That set a record for a European rookie, surpassing the three and a half points claimed by Englishman Paul Way in 1983 and by Spaniard Sergio Garcia and Scot Paul Lawrie in 1999.

"There are plenty of positives to take

into Paris in two years' time," said McIlroy who lost a titanic battle with US talisman Patrick Reed in the singles as the Americans ended a run of three straight defeats in the biennial team event. "Some of the new blood we have, they have gotten over their first Ryder Cup and now they know what it's about and they know what they are going to expect next time," the 27-year-old added. "We have...a group that have gotten much closer over the past seven days, a group that you could possibly all see again in two years' time," said McIlroy.

"It is disappointing to lose. I wish we could have that feeling we had at Gleneagles two years ago but it will make it that much better when we have that feeling again in Paris." Clarke will not be captain when the competition is played at Le Golf National in 2018 but he is hopeful there will be some French representation.

"Whoever makes that team, it will be very strong again for the European Tour," Clarke said. "As Rory rightly says, it could be exactly the same guys lining up again but if there is a French national, that would be wonderful as well." — Reuters



**CHASKA:** United States captain Davis Love III is surrounded by his players as they pose for a picture during the closing ceremony of the Ryder Cup golf tournament Sunday, at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minn. — AP

# USA RIPS EUROPE 17-11 TO END RYDER CUP DROUGHT

**CHASKA:** Shaking off three consecutive defeats, the United States recaptured the Ryder Cup on Sunday, ripping Europe 17-11 for their most decisive triumph since 1981 in the biennial team golf showdown.

Cup newcomer Ryan Moore, selected with a captain's pick only a week earlier, won the last three holes to defeat England's Lee Westwood 1-up and secure the trophy by giving the Americans an unbeatable edge in a tension-packed test at Hazeltine.

"To score the clinching point in the Ryder Cup is just incredible," Moore said. "I can't digest what just happened. I was trying my hardest not to let my team down."

Moore was 2-down before an eagle at 16, birdie at 17 and conceded par at 18, admitting, "I just wanted to hit a couple of good shots coming in." Earlier singles triumphs by Patrick Reed, Rickie Fowler, Brandt Snedeker and rookie Brooks Koepka plus a vital half point from Phil Mickelson had put the US team on the brink.

"We've got a memory and life experience that we will cherish forever," said Mickelson, who made 10 birdies in halving with Spain's Sergio Garcia. US captain Davis Love, the 2012 captain whose team suffered its greatest collapse in Ryder Cup history to fall, and the task force that spent two years revamping the US Cup program saw their effort rewarded.

"I'm just proud of these guys," Love said. "They had pressure on them for the last two years. I'm proud of every one of them. Unbelievable golf."

### 'WE DID IT FOR OUR CAPTAIN'

The "Miracle at Medinah" was still on the minds of many as the US began putting the painful loss deeper into the past.

"We did this for our captain. He had a tough go four years ago," said US star Jordan Spieth.

The Americans had dropped six of the past seven and eight of the past 10 in the rivalry.

"We've been criticized for eight or 10 years for not coming together," Love said. "I'm so proud of them. We were kicked around for so long. You realize you have to do something." But they were already talking about defending the trophy in France in 2018. "Hopefully there's a change in the Ryder Cup," Spieth said. "We're looking forward to going to Paris and trying to win one over there."

Europe captain Darren Clarke, whose players led early in eight of the 12 concluding singles matches, called the loss "incredibly disappointing." "They put up a massive fight. Some of the shotmaking was out of this world. The Americans putted that little bit better and that made the difference." Love's captain's picks went 7-6 while Clarke's went 5-7, Belgian Thomas

Pieters a record 4-1 but Westwood and Martin Kaymer each 0-3 until Kaymer's singles win after the Cup was lost. Six Europe rookies were 7-9 overall while two US newcomers went 5-2.

Spectators were so insulting to European players the first two days at Hazeltine that the PGA of America issued a statement Sunday reminding of ejections for obscene remarks.

"It's a big Ryder Cup family," Reed said. "We

want everyone to play well. We want to beat each other at our best."

### REED, RORY HAVE SOME FUN

The US team led 9 1/2 - 6 1/2 entering the singles matches and Reed edged Rory McIlroy 1-up in the opener.

All square at the eighth hole, McIlroy sank a 50-foot birdie putt, cupped his hand to his ear hollering "I can't hear you." Reed answered with a 25-foot birdie to halve the hole, wagged a finger at McIlroy and they shared fist bumps, laughs and pats on the back. "To play as well as we did, it was fun to be a part of," Reed said. Reed took his first lead with a 10-foot par putt at the 12th and went 2-up with his first birdie in eight holes at the par-5 16th. Reed chipped across the par-3 17th green and lost the hole with a bogey, but sank a five-foot birdie putt on 18 to win.

British Open champion Henrik Stenson downed Spieth 3 and 2. Stenson won on 16 when Spieth stepped in a water hazard and his ball moved, prompting him to surrender the hole and the match.

Pieters beat J.B. Holmes 3 and 2, becoming the first Europe rookie to take four points and the first rookie to play five matches since American Larry Nelson was 5-0 in 1979. "I thought I did pretty well," Pieters said.

Fowler birdied to win the 16th and parred the last two holes for a 1-up win over Olympic champion Justin Rose of England and Mickelson made 10 birdies in nudging the Americans closer by halving with Sergio Garcia. — AFP



**CHASKA:** Rory McIlroy of Europe reacts on the eighth green during singles matches of the 2016 Ryder Cup at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minnesota. — AFP

## TIGER WOODS WOULD WELCOME CHANCE AS RYDER CUP CAPTAIN

**CHASKA:** Tiger Woods, the 14-time major winner sidelined 14 months by a back injury, said Sunday he would enjoy guiding a future US Ryder Cup team after a triumphant assistant turn. Woods played his supporting role behind US captain Davis Love as the Americans downed Europe 17-11 at Hazeltine, a journey that began with his role on a task force after a 2014 loss in the biennial team golf showdown. "Yeah, I would love to do it," Woods said. "I would be honored to do it in the future, if asked. But from the player standpoint of it, I like playing." Woods, who plans to make his competitive comeback in two weeks at the 2016-17 US PGA Tour season opener in Napa, California, had back surgery a year ago and missed the entire just-concluded season recovering. His delay to make certain he is fully ready was a nod to past seasons where he returned too soon only to aggravate old injuries or incur new ones. But it also gave him time to be a key part of Love's staff and strategy developers along with fellow assistants Jim Furyk, Steve Stricker and Tom Lehman.

"I can't thank Tiger and Jim and Steve and Tom enough. They made a lot of crucial decisions, gave me a lot of great support," Love said. "It's truly a big team, but it was a team effort."

Woods has played on seven Ryder Cup teams, going 13-17 with three halved. He boasts a 4-1 with two halved singles record but has struggled in pairs, although with tighter bonds built this week, he might be in a better position were he to make the US team for France in 2018. "I love these guys. I love being out there in the fight with these guys," Woods said. "I was just in the fight a different way and had to do my role and had to my job in a different way, and it was pretty cool." His colleagues included seventh-ranked Bubba Watson, rejected for a player spot but a last-minute pick as assistant captain.

"I have Tiger's cell phone number now," two-time Masters champion Watson bragged. "I'm going to text you all the time."

### LIFETIME BONDS

Being an assistant captain might even

help Woods should he make his way back as a player. "As a player that's been on these teams, to be on a different side of it, to be on the vice captaincy side of it has meant so much," Woods said. "What the vice captains and the captain ultimately have to decide, it's tough. "As a player, all you have to do is get ready for the golf course. Just go out there and try and have your game and be ready when called upon. As a non-player, it's very complicated. There's a lot of things that I didn't realize that went on. Very eye-opening. It was a great experience. I learned a lot."

"I became really close to a lot of these guys. These are bonds that will last a lifetime. Didn't actually hit a golf shot, but we are truly a team. We accomplished it and we won it together."

But some bonds might be too close. When the team was asked about the best off-course memory of the week, US Open winner Dustin Johnson smiled and said, "You sure that's not for Tiger?"

That brought knowing smiles all around and had Woods burying his head in his hands without elaborating. — AFP



**CHASKA:** United States vice-captain Tiger Woods talks to United States vice-captain Bubba Watson after the USA team won the Ryder Cup golf tournament Sunday. — AP

# VENUS WILLIAMS CRASHES OUT OF CHINA OPEN

**BEIJING:** Seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams crashed out of the first round of the China Open to Chinese wildcard Peng Shuai yesterday.

World number one Angelique Kerber, meanwhile, continued her stellar season beating qualifier Katerina Siniakova in two sets in her opening match in Beijing.

After a close first set, the former US Open semi-finalist Peng allowed the American veteran player just one game point in the second to win 7-5, 6-1. "In the first set I was really trying to fight because I think she got three set points," said Peng after the match.

"I think in the second set it's really

important when I got the first three points. It gave me more motivation," Peng, 30, came of age at the same time as China's first-and-only-Grand Slam singles champion Li Na.

She reached a career high of 17 in 2011, the same year Li won her first Slam at Roland Garros and rose to world number five, taking with her the popularity of tennis in China.

But Peng's career has since been blighted by injury, which forced her to miss much of 2015 and pushed her to the brink of retirement.

"After the surgery, no one could guarantee I could come back to the court,"

Peng said. "I'd like to take time to see if I can go further (in tennis)."

### 'POSITIVE ON COURT'

Czech Siniakova, 20, played an impressive net game against top seed Kerber but was unable to take control of the match, handing the German a 6-4, 6-4 win. "She played really well, especially in the first set. I was trying to be patient and waiting for my shots and for my chances," said Kerber after the match.

The German won her second Grand Slam title of the year—and her career—at the US Open last month in the same week that also saw her rise to number

one, dethroning long-reigning Serena Williams. Kerber, 28, started the year ranked 10th but reached her first ever Grand Slam final at the Australian Open in January—and scooped the crown.

Her strong run continued as she reached the final of Wimbledon and bagged an Olympic silver medal in Rio.

Kerber credits changing her on-court demeanour—which once earned her the nickname "Dun Curr-ber" based on the internet meme for "don't care"—for her late career renaissance. "I think it came from a lot of experience... really focusing and trying to (be) more positive on court than negative," Kerber told reporters in Beijing.

"I think this is also one of the keys why I'm playing so good and so consistent, because it's really important to have your mind on the court." Meanwhile, defending champion Garbine Muguruza booked her spot in the final 16, downing 21-year-old Yulia Putintseva in her second-round match. The Spaniard has her eyes on making her second consecutive WTA Final—the elite eight-player season finale—and needs to reach the final in Beijing to guarantee her qualification.

On the men's side, David Ferrer and fellow Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut both prevailed in their tougher-than-expected first-round matches. — AFP

## AZHAR SEES POSITIVE PAKISTAN PROGRESS

**SHARJAH:** Skipper Azhar Ali yesterday said his team was heading in the right direction after a one-day series win over the West Indies which will lift their rankings and chances for a direct entry in the World Cup 2019.

Pakistan took an unbeatable 2-0 lead in the three-match series with another thumping 59-run win in Sharjah on Sunday.

They won the first game by 111 runs at the same venue on Friday. Pakistan, who play the last match in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday, need to beat the West Indies 3-0 to rise one place to eighth, displacing their opponents (currently eighth) to ninth.

Hosts England and the top seven teams in one-day rankings on the cut off date of September 30 next year will automatically qualify for the 2019 World Cup.

The two remaining teams will join eight Associates to feature in the qualifying round in 2018.

Ali said the series win put Pakistan in the right direction of rebuilding. "It takes time to improve things. You need patience to lift a team. We started the rebuilding process after the 2015 World Cup and it takes one-and-a-half to two years so we are going towards that," said Ali. Ali replaced Misbah-ul-Haq who along with allrounder Shahid Afridi retired after the World Cup last year.

But Pakistan were whitewashed 3-0 in

Bangladesh last year in Ali's first series as captain and lost 4-1 to England earlier this month. That raised calls for his sacking but Ali felt changes halted the team's progress.

"No matter how many captains you change if you want to rebuild the team it takes one-and-a-half to two years.

"Our nation doesn't have the patience, they want to win instantly. If you don't win they get frustrated and want change. As a nation we have to take responsibility. It's easy to look at things in hindsight and call for changes," said Ali.

Ali said his team was getting right combinations. "We are getting allrounders who have brought depth in batting and we are scoring 300 plus," said Ali whose team posted a big 337-5 in 50 overs on Sunday.

"We are executing plans in bowling which is good, energy levels are high and with wins you lift your confidence. We have played well in the last five to seven matches," said Ali of Pakistan's three one-day and four Twenty20 wins this month.

Dismissed for a first-ball duck and nine in the two matches against West Indies, Ali hopes he strikes form sooner than later. "My series against England was better and I scored runs there. I am playing well in the nets so it will take one innings to come in form because my confidence level is high." — AFP



**KOLKATA:** India's captain Virat Kohli (C) is watched by teammates Cheteshwar Pujara (L) and wicketkeeper Wriddhiman Saha (2R) as he takes a catch to dismiss New Zealand's Matt Henry (R) during play on the fourth day of the second Test cricket match between India and New Zealand at The Eden Gardens Cricket Stadium in Kolkata yesterday. — AFP

# INDIA CRUSH N ZEALAND TO RECLAIM TOP RANKING

**KOLKATA:** India crushed New Zealand by 178 runs in the second test yesterday to clinch the three-match series and reclaim top spot in the world rankings from Pakistan.

Chasing 376 for victory, the touring side were bundled out for 197 in fading light on the fourth day at Eden Gardens to give India an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series.

India will return to the top of the International Cricket Council test rankings irrespective of the result of the third and final test in Indore which starts on Saturday.

India's ambition to regain the top ranking after handing over the honour to arch-rivals Pakistan recently following a washed-out test in the West Indies dove-tailed perfectly with the bumper test season at home.

"With the coming home season we have control of that situation (staying number one)," captain Virat Kohli said at the presentation, referring to the season ahead where India will also host tests against England, Australia and Bangladesh.

It was an all-round show from the Indian bowlers with spinners Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja and fast bowler Mohammed Shami picking up three wickets each.

New Zealand opener Tom Latham waged a lone battle, top-scoring for his side with a dogged 74. Latham and Martin Guptill (24) survived nervous moments before lunch to give New Zealand a solid start with a series-best opening stand of 55. Guptill, whose place in the side is under scrutiny after a string of poor scores, was on six when he was given out following a confident appeal for lbw by Shami.

The right-hander was trapped leg before in the first over after lunch by off-spinner Ashwin, who also sent back stand-in skipper Ross Taylor

SCOREBOARD	
<b>KOLKATA:</b> Final scoreboard of the second Test between India and New Zealand in Kolkata yesterday:	
<b>India 1st innings: 316</b> (Cheteshwar Pujara 87, Ajinkya Rahane 77; Matt Henry 3-46)	5-91 (Kohli), 6-106 (Ashwin), 7-209 (Sharma), 8-215 (Jadeja), 9-251 (Kumar), 10-263 (Shami) Bowling: Boult 17.5-6-38-3, Henry 20-2-59-3, Wagner 15-3-45-1, Patel 8-0-50-0, Santner 16-2-60-3
<b>New Zealand 1st innings: 204</b> (J. Patel 47, R. Taylor 36; B. Kumar 5-48, M. Shami 3-70)	
<b>India 2nd innings: overnight 227/8</b> (W. Saha 39 not out, B. Kumar 8 not out)	<b>New Zealand 2nd innings:</b>
S. Dhawan lbw b Boult 17	T. Latham c Saha b Ashwin 74
M. Vijay c Guptill b Henry 7	M. Guptill lbw b Ashwin 24
C. Pujara lbw b Henry 4	H. Nicholls c Rahane b Jadeja 24
V. Kohli lbw b Boult 45	R. Taylor lbw b Ashwin 4
A. Rahane c Boult b Henry 1	L. Ronchi b Jadeja 32
R. Sharma c Ronchi b Santner 82	M. Santner lbw b Shami 9
R. Ashwin lbw b Santner 5	B.J. Watling b Shami 1
W. Saha not out 58	M. Henry c Kohli b Jadeja 18
R. Jadeja c sub (Neesham) b Santner 6	J. Patel b Kumar 2
M. Kumar c Nicholls b Wagner 23	N. Wagner not out 5
M. Shami c Latham b Boult 1	T. Boult c Vijay b Shami 4
Extras (b 10, lb 1, w 3) 14	Extras 0
Total (all out; 76.5 overs) 263	Total (all out; 81.1 overs) 197
Fall of wicket: 1-12 (Vijay), 2-24 (Pujara), 3-34 (Dhawan), 4-43 (Rahane),	Bowling: Kumar 12-4-28-1, Shami 18.1-5-46-3, Ashwin 31-6-82-3, Jadeja 20-3-41-3. Result: India won by 178 runs.

(four) in similar fashion.

Latham concentrated hard to bring up his second half-century of the series and added 49 for the second wicket with Henry Nicholls (24), who replaced regular captain Kane Williamson in the side. Nicholls edged Jadeja to slip before Shami picked up two quick wickets by getting the ball to reverse swing and New Zealand lost seven wickets in the final session.

Local boy Shami returned to take the final

wicket of Trent Boult much to the delight of the crowd. Earlier, resuming on 227 for eight, India were all out for 263 in their second innings, setting New Zealand a difficult target on a wearing track. Wicketkeeper-batsman Wriddhiman Saha was not out on 58, his second unbeaten fifty of the game earning him the man of the match award. Boult, Matt Henry and Mitchell Santner picked up three wickets each for the touring side. — Reuters

## DURHAM RELEGATED OVER FINANCIAL WOES

**LONDON:** Durham have been relegated from the County Championship First Division due to financial problems and Hampshire have been allowed to reclaim their top-flight place.

Durham's sanction was agreed with the England and Wales Cricket Board yesterday as a condition of £3.8 million (\$4.8 million, 4.3 million euros) financial support from the governing body.

The north-east based county will begin next season in the Second Division with an additional 48-point penalty.

Hampshire had been relegated from the First Division after a dismal season, but they can now look forward to another top-flight campaign. Durham have also lost the right to be able to apply to host Test matches at the Emirates Riverside.

Limited-overs internationals, including a Twenty20 next year, can still take place in Durham.

It was first revealed last week that Durham may face relegation as they and the ECB seek a solution to the club's financial difficulties. An ECB statement on Monday confirmed relegation and a series of further measures.

They include the return of all prize money, the imposition of a revised salary cap up to April 2020 - reviewed

annually by the governing body - and respective four and two-point penalties in next year's Twenty20 Blast and One-Day Cup.

"The England and Wales Cricket Board today announced that Durham has accepted an offer of significant additional financial support from ECB in order to manage current and historic debt and revenue issues," the statement read. "ECB has been working with the Board and Chief Executive of the County and its stakeholders throughout 2016 in order to ensure that Durham could address their financial issues.

"This support has included advancing an annual fee payment of £1.294 million. There has been no direct investment to date. "The £3.8 million financial aid package - which has been approved by the ECB Board and accepted by the Board of Durham CCC - will allow the club to meet on-going salary, HMRC and operating costs, settle a substantial debt to a secured creditor and focus on the restructuring and future sustainability of the County Cricket Club."

A Durham County Cricket Club spokesperson added: "The Durham County Cricket Club Board welcomes the ECB's long-term commitment to safeguarding First Class Cricket in the north-east." — AFP



**DHAKA:** England cricketer Ben Stokes takes part in a batting practice session at The Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Dhaka yesterday. — AFP

## BAHRAH MALABAR BULLS LIFT KUWAIT KERALA PREMIER TROPHY

**KUWAIT:** In a thrilling final held at the Doha Entertainment City cricket ground, Bahrah Trading Company Malabar Bulls cricket team lifted the Kuwait Kerala Premier League Division B Trophy defeating Royal Kings Trivandrum by 30 runs.

Bahrah Malabar Bulls won the toss and elected to bat first and made a mammoth total of 201 for the loss of 2 wickets on the back of an unbeaten match winning partnership of 150 runs between Shakeer Hussain and Jaison George. In reply Royal Kings were restricted to 171 runs on the back of some excellent bowling led by Noushad NP who bowled an excellent spell of 4 overs taking 3 wickets for 19 runs.

In the league stages Bahrah Malabar Bulls had an unbeaten run winning all their 10 league matches and qualifying for the final directly. Shakeer was declared Man of the match for his match winning unbeaten century and Noushad NP was declared Man of the Series and Bowler of the Series for his outstanding performance throughout the tournament.

Bahrah Trading Company Malabar Bulls is a team which represents players from Malabar region of north Kerala in the Kuwait Kerala Premier league organized by Kuwait Cricket.







## FORMULA ONE: WE'LL COME BACK STRONGER IN JAPAN, VOWS MERCEDES BOSS

**SEPANG:** Mercedes are "beating themselves up" about Lewis Hamilton's dramatic Malaysian Grand Prix engine failure but have vowed to come back stronger in Japan this weekend.

Team principal Toto Wolff was almost lost for words after leader Hamilton's engine exploded 15 laps from victory Sunday at the Sepang International Circuit. "It's hard to know how to sum up a day like today," Wolff said. "I just have no words for what happened to Lewis. We feel his pain."

Hamilton was close to tears after the dramatic retirement dealt a severe blow to his chances of winning a third drivers'

championship in a row, as his team-mate Nico Rosberg finished third to extend his championship lead to 23 points.

Immediately after the race, won by Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo, Hamilton lashed out at his team, accusing them of favouring their German driver Rosberg.

"My question is to Mercedes: we have so many engines made for drivers, but mine are the only ones failing this year," 31-year-old Hamilton told BBC radio.

Wolff admitted he did not have the answer. "This is a mechanical sport, with so much technology, but sometimes you get blindsided by situations with no rational explanation," he said. "It's a

freaky coincidence. "Our guys will get to the bottom of what happened and learn from it. But I want to focus on how Lewis responded in the aftermath. We let him down today and we are beating up ourselves about it." Hamilton's emotional outburst, said Wolff, was in the heat of the moment. But he praised his driver for afterwards making peace with the team and refocusing on the next race on Sunday.

### 'TRUE CHAMPION'

"What Lewis said, it's completely understandable. But he came back to the garage and shook the hand of every

team member. "We talked in a small group and we were all really down. Then he stood in front of the team and found the words to lift everybody and help us recover quickly for Japan.

"This is what the great drivers do, the true champions, and I must express my respect for how he conducted himself today. "One of the greatest qualities of our group is how we come back from defeat even stronger than before. We will do that again now, in time for Japan next weekend." Mercedes technical chief Paddy Lowe was more forthright in describing what had befallen Hamilton.

"The word is 'bollocks' really," said

Lowe. "This is one of the more difficult races of the year and we approached the weekend knowing it would be tough to get a top result. And so it transpired.

"Lewis was well on track to secure the win. We're all absolutely devastated for him." Lowe refuted any talk of conspiracy theories. "One thing we had made a priority was to ensure an equal competition between the drivers," Lowe said. "Unfortunately, we have failed in that objective today in brutal fashion.

"We will go away and analyse what happened today, aiming to arrive in Japan prepared to bounce back in the best way we can." — AFP

## WEST HAM BOSS BILIC BEMOANS 'CONFIDENCE-KILLING' PRESSURE

**LONDON:** West Ham United must find a way to win games to lift the "confidence-killing" pressure on the team, manager Slaven Bilic has said. West Ham have looked a shadow of the side that secured a place in the Europa League after finishing seventh last season.

They endured four consecutive league defeats before Saturday's 1-1 home draw with Middlesbrough leaving the Hammers in the bottom three.

"This is different pressure than last season, when we were fighting for Europe. We are not enjoying this pressure and it's hard to cope with it," Bilic told reporters.

"You have to get out of this situation because this pressure stops you from expressing yourself in the best-possible way. This pressure is a confidence killer."

"This is a negative pressure and positive pressure is different. This is the one which is hard to cope with, but that's why we have to get a few points and wins to come out of that pressure and get that burden off our back." The Croat said the club's summer signings needed time before they could

find their feet in England. Record signing Andre Ayew faces a long spell on the sidelines after injuring his thigh in August, while left back Arthur Masuaku, who joined from Olympiakos Piraeus also in August, is expected to be out till around November due to ligament damage.

"All the summer signings are good players and they will come good, at least that's what we expect them to do," Bilic said.

"They came to improve our team and some of them have played really well in some games, but we have to help them also to settle into a new country and new environment as soon as possible."

Bilic also urged West Ham to avoid over-dependence on winger Dimitri Payet, who scored a dazzling solo equaliser against Middlesbrough at the London Stadium.

"We are not a one-player team, but the others have to take their lead from Dimi. I was pleased with our work-rate, but that's a minimum, as we have to step up our quality in the last third of the pitch," he added.

"It doesn't have to be a wonder goal like Dimi's, but it has to be more." — Reuters



**DUSSELDORF:** File photo taken on November 28, 2015 shows British Tyson Fury celebrates after the WBA, IBF, WBO and IBO title bout against Ukrainian world heavyweight boxing champion Wladimir Klitschko in Duesseldorf, western Germany. Fury won the fight after 12 Rounds of Boxing.— AFP

## WORLD CHAMPION TYSON FURY MAKES RETIREMENT U-TURN

**LONDON:** Controversial world heavyweight champion Tyson Fury made an abrupt U-turn on his retirement decision yesterday, tweeting: "I'm here to stay."

"Hahahahaha I think you will get rid of the GYP-SYKING that easy!!! I'm here to stay," Fury wrote on Twitter. "#TheGreatest just shows u what the Medea (sic) are like. Tut tut."

He added: "Soon as I get better I'll be defending what's mine the heavyweight thrown (sic)." The provocative 28-year-old British brawler, dogged by reports he failed a drugs test for cocaine, had earlier declared himself "retired" in a profanity-strewn tweet.

"Boxing is the saddest thing I ever took part in, all a pile of shit," he had written three hours earlier. "I'm the greatest and I'm also retired..."

Reports by US broadcaster ESPN last week claimed Fury had tested positive for cocaine. The British fighter recently cancelled an October bout with Wladimir Klitschko to defend his WBA and WBO heavyweight belts. Contacted by AFP, Fury's promoters, Hennessy Sports, said they did not wish to comment. Fury had been scheduled to earn the biggest purse of his career in a rematch with Klitschko at the Manchester Arena after shocking the Ukrainian last November to become world champion.

However, Fury withdrew from that date as his camp claimed he had been "declared mentally unfit to fight". In another tweet on Monday, Fury said he was "getting the right help" and would "be back even stronger than before."

ESPN reported Fury tested positive after providing a urine sample to the Las Vegas-based Voluntary Anti-Doping Association (VADA) in Lancaster, England on September 22. Cocaine, while an illegal drug, is not banned in boxing if taken out of competition.

### DOPING HEARING

Fury also posted a link to a YouTube video in which he said George Kokkalenos, an American lawyer, was "telling the truth about the corruption in boxing". The video showed Kokkalenos at the wheel of a car, talking to an unidentified person behind the camera and suggesting Klitschko was somehow involved in the cocaine reports about Fury. "What's going on with Tyson is really a major travesty," he said.

"He's getting railroaded. He's been completely railroaded by crooked people. He's not on drugs-I know that for a fact. He's not taking anything, he's not doping. The system is corrupt and that's it. "Klitschko, he is definitely involved in this because he's got everyone in his pocket. I'm not saying he's a bad man at all, but I can tell you this for a fact: his wealth carries a lot of influence." Fury, the self-styled 'Gypsy King', also won the IBF belt in his fight against Klitschko, but had to forfeit it after failing to fulfil a mandatory bout against Vyacheslav Glazkov.

A previously scheduled rematch with Klitschko, set for July 9, was scrapped after Fury sustained an ankle injury. Following the cancellation of that fight, it emerged that UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) had charged Fury and his cousin, Hughie, with a doping offence. The sample, taken nine months prior to Fury's sensational victory over Klitschko, contained traces of the banned substance nandrolone.—AFP

## GUARDIOLA ASKS FOR PATIENCE AFTER SETBACK AT SPURS

**LONDON:** Pep Guardiola advised Manchester City's supporters it will take up to three years for his methods to fully bear fruit after his side lost 2-0 at Tottenham Hotspur.

City had avoided defeat in the first 11 games of Guardiola's tenure as manager, but they were given a rude awakening at White Hart Lane on Sunday as Spurs trimmed their Premier League lead to a single point. Guardiola declared Spurs potential champions afterwards, but emphasised-as he had prior to the game-that his team are at a different stage in their development to Mauricio Pochettino's side.

Asked if Spurs were title contenders, Guardiola replied: "They were last season. Why not? The same trainer, new players. In two, three years, my team will be better."

"In that sense it's normal. In the Premier League there are many teams who can achieve that and Tottenham are one of them." He added: "They were the better team. It can happen sometimes."

"We play against one team that has been together the last two or three years, who last season were fighting until the end to win the Premier League." Guardiola, who had seen his team win the first six league games under his stewardship, acknowledged that City had been unable to live with Spurs' asphyxiating high press.

"We knew how aggressive they are, home and away, but especially at home," said the former Barcelona and Bayern Munich coach. "Of course it was difficult because we had problems to find the guys when we want to find them and control our game. We lost a lot of balls in positions that were so, so dangerous."

"They were one step in front of us today. We just can say congratulations Tottenham, because when the opponent is better, you have to accept it and learn from that."

Aleksandar Kolarov, who struggled during City's 3-3 Champions League draw at Celtic, gifted Spurs a ninth-minute lead when he inadvertently turned Danny Rose's

cross into his own net. Son Heung-Min set up Dele Alli to sweep in Spurs' second goal in the 37th minute and the hosts would have won with even more room to spare had Erik Lamela not seen a penalty spared by Claudio Bravo.

### PENALTY SQUABBLE

Alli described the result as a "big statement", while Pochettino said his team had been "nearly perfect". The Argentine took particular satisfaction from the fact Spurs had prevented a Guardiola team from dominating possession until the latter stages.

"To play a great team like Man City, you need to do a fantastic job," Pochettino said.

"In theory we are a team that want to have control always. In front was Manchester City, who want the same as us, then it's a battle on the pitch."

"For that I feel very pleased because our players showed a big commitment with the philosophy. The way that we played was fantastic. "It's too early in the season to talk about aims, but it's important to be consistent. If we can play like this, why not be consistent during the whole season?"

"I know it's a big effort, but that is how we want to play. It was a good example today that we want to follow and build our project." Son and Lamela argued over who should take the penalty, but Pochettino played down the incident. "When we prepare the game, two, three, four players can take the ball," he said.

"If it's (the injured) Harry Kane, he's the first, and Lamela and Sonny one, two, three. But different things can happen on the pitch. "Someone can say: 'I'm confident to shoot the penalty.' And it's discussed between them. Always they're allowed to discuss and take the decision if two players want to shoot."

"It's difficult, eh, from the touchline, to say 'No, no, you shoot!' Because they're fighting, it's impossible for them to see us and you're not allowed to go into the middle of the pitch." —AFP



Pep Guardiola

## TROUBLED VILLA SACK DI MATTEO

**LONDON:** Roberto Di Matteo was sacked by Aston Villa yesterday after just 12 matches in charge of the troubled Championship club.

Di Matteo was hired by Villa's new Chinese owner Tony Xia in June and the former Chelsea boss was expected to lead his side into the Premier League.

Villa are playing in the second tier for the first time since 1988 following last season's relegation, but they have struggled to show any improvement under Di Matteo despite splashing out on several expensive new signings. Saturday's woeful 2-0 defeat at Preston, which ended with Villa booed off by their furious fans, proved the final straw and 48 hours later the Italian's 124-day reign was over. "Aston Villa Football Club has today parted company with manager Roberto Di Matteo," a statement read.

"The club decided to act following a run of disappointing results which has left the team occupying 19th position in the Championship."

"The club would like to place on record its appreciation to Roberto for all his efforts in helping rebuild the squad and wish him well for the future."

Di Matteo won only one of his 11 Championship fixtures, while also crashing out of the League Cup against fourth tier Luton. The 46-year-old leaves with Villa languishing just two points above the relegation zone in 19th place after a nine-match winless run. He made nine signings for a net spend of



Roberto Di Matteo

£34 million (\$43 million, 38 million euros), including Ross McCormack and Jonathan Kodjia, but the highly-priced strikers have scored just three goals between them.

Di Matteo's reign is the shortest of any permanent Villa boss in the club's history and they are now looking for their fifth full-time manager since February 2014. "A difficult decision 4 the board. But rather sooner than later we'd make the decision. All need learn and not repeat mistakes again and again," Xia wrote on Twitter after the announcement.

Steve Clarke will take over as Villa's caretaker manager while the club, already 15 points behind leaders Huddersfield, begin their search for a replacement during the international break.

Former Hull boss Steve Bruce, Ipswich manager Mick McCarthy and Brentford chief Dean Smith are among the early contenders to succeed Di Matteo. — AFP



**DOHA:** Newly-appointed head coach of Qatar league champions al-Rayyan's football club, Danish Michael Laudrup (2ndR) poses with his T-shirt next to the team's manager Ali Salem Afifa (L), the club's president Sheikh Saud bin Khaled (2ndL) and the secretary general Abdullah al-Mutawa during a press conference yesterday in the capital Doha. Former Barcelona and Real Madrid star Laudrup replaces Jorge Fossati, who was appointed as coach of Qatar's national team. — AFP

# CHADIAN NINGA OVERSHADOWS AFRICAN STARS

**PARIS:** France-based Chadian Casimir Ninga was the unlikely star of a largely frustrating weekend for Africans across Europe. The 23-year-old scored his first Ligue 1 hat-trick twice giving Montpellier a two-goal lead in a 3-3 draw at fellow strugglers Dijon.

While Ninga sparkled, African stars like Algerian Riyad Mahrez and Ivorian Wilfried Bony wasted scoring chances in the English Premier League.

**ENGLAND  
VICTOR MOSES (Chelsea)**  
The Nigeria winger made his first start for Chelsea since May 2013 at wing-back and played his part in a much-improved defensive display as Antonio Conte's side won 2-0 at Hull City.

**RIYAD MAHREZ (Leicester City)**  
After a season where everything went right for the Algeria flyer and champions Leicester, player and club both endured a frustrating afternoon in a goalless draw with Southampton. Mahrez, last season's player of the year, shot woefully wide from the edge of the area just before half-time.

**YANNICK BOLASIE (Everton)**  
The Democratic Republic of Congo winger gave his former team-mates a reminder of what they had been missing with some sublime play down the flanks for Everton in their 1-1 draw with Crystal Palace and the skill that created a chance for Senegalese Idrissa Gueye ought to have been rewarded with a goal.

**WILFRIED BONY (Stoke City)**  
On loan from Manchester City, the Ivory Coast forward found chances few and far to come by during a hard-fought 1-1 draw at Manchester United. But he should have done better when, in the first half, he mis-kicked at Joe Allen's inviting cross from the right-hand byline.

**SPAIN  
KEVIN-PRINCE BOATENG (Las Palmas)**  
For the second consecutive game, retired Ghana midfielder Boateng conceded a penalty for hand-ball. However, this time he wasn't sent off for the offence and played a big part in Las Palmas' fight back from 2-0 down

to draw 2-2 at Osasuna. The former AC Milan man also saw a fine strike from outside the box come back off the post.

**BAKARY KONE (Malaga)**  
Burkina Faso defender Kone was sent off deep into stoppage time for a reckless second yellow card, but Malaga held on to beat Athletic Bilbao 2-1 and move out of the relegation zone.

**ITALY  
MOHAMED SALAH (Roma)**  
Salah set Bruno Peres free down the right for Edin Dzeko's fifth-minute tap-in as Roma won 2-1 at home to Inter Milan. The Egypt winger was a constant threat on his way to creating four scoring chances for himself and providing six crosses. Salah, who has three league goals in seven games, should have added one of his own in the first half when a burst of pace took him on to Dzeko's through ball, but his shot shaved the outside of the upright.

**KEITA BALDE (Lazio)**  
Balde suffered an early knock at

Udinese, but made light of the pain to fire Lazio into a 2-0 lead after Ciro Immobile had struck on the half hour for the visitors. Having been frozen out at the capital club amid a contract dispute, the Senegal international now looks to have resolved his issues at Lazio. Keita, who hit the opener last week in a 2-0 win over Empoli, scored in back-to-back Serie A games for the first time.

**FRANCE  
CASIMIR NINGA (Montpellier)**  
The Chad international grabbed his first Ligue 1 hat-trick in a 3-3 draw at Dijon. Ninga's quickfire double in the first half put Montpellier 2-0 ahead, and he then restored the visitors' two-goal lead after Dijon pulled one back. His heroics weren't enough, though, as Montpellier conceded twice late on and their winless run stretched to seven matches.

**CHEICK DOUKOURE (Metz)**  
The Ivorian midfielder was sent off for a dangerous tackle on Monaco's Kevin N'Doram as promoted Metz suf-

fered a humiliating 7-0 home defeat. With his side trailing 3-0 on the hour, Doukoure's dismissal opened the floodgates and Monaco recorded their biggest away league win.

**GERMANY  
LAMINE SANE (Werder Bremen)**  
The Senegal centre-back headed Werder Bremen's second-half goal in their 2-2 draw at Darmstadt, which keeps them out of the Bundesliga relegation places. After Antonio-Mirko Colak gave the hosts an early lead, Sane headed Bremen level from a Gebre Selassie free-kick.

**ERIC CHOUPOT-MOTING (Schalke 04)**  
The Cameroon striker converted a penalty in Schalke's 4-0 win over Borussia Mönchengladbach, which dragged them out of the bottom of the league table. After five straight defeats, the Royal Blues picked up their first win of the season as Choupo-Moting claimed his second league goal of the season after being brought down in the area by Guinea midfielder Ibrahima Traore. —AFP



LAUSANNE: Real Madrid's head coach Zinedine Zidane gives a press conference, after leading a training session with young football hopefuls yesterday in Lausanne. — AFP

## ZIDANE SCRAMBLING FOR ANSWERS AFTER MADRID'S EARLY STRUGGLES

**MADRID:** Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane goes into the long international break with a lot of thinking to do. While the hiatus leaves fans having to mull over the team's struggles a little longer, Zidane will be able to use the extra time off to find ways to get his squad back on track after four straight draws.

"It's my responsibility to look for solutions because we've got to change things. We can't carry on like this," Zidane said. "I'm not happy, that much is clear."

Madrid was held to a 1-1 draw by Eibar at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium on Sunday, leaving the field jeered by fans. The team had already failed to beat Las Palmas and Villarreal in the Spanish league, as well as Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League. Its last win was at Espanyol on Sept. 18. "We need to look for ways to improve and we'll do that after the international break by working hard. I believe in the work and the quality of this team. I don't think attitude is the problem but something is wrong," Zidane said. "We've got 10 days without the players and when they come back we'll have to start working at 100 percent, not only physically but tactically as well. We need to work together."

Zidane said it's too early in the season to talk about a crisis, but admitted the team

has to turn things around when it resumes playing in two weeks. "After the start we had to the season, this is tough to take," he said. "I'm not going to lose my head but it's tough. We need to work harder and show more intensity at the beginning of games like we've done very often, but we're struggling to replicate that lately."

Madrid lost the league lead to Atletico Madrid after Sunday's draw. Atletico, which won 2-0 at Valencia, also has 15 points, but leads Madrid on goal difference. Sevilla is third with 14 points, one more than Barcelona, which lost at Celta Vigo 4-3.

Zidane said he may have to "bring more intensity to the training sessions" to get his players playing hard from the start. Zidane has not been able to count on some players during the winless stretch, including left back Marcelo and defensive midfielder Casemiro, who are injured.

To add to Zidane's problems, playmaker James Rodriguez sustained a muscle injury while warming up for Sunday's game against Eibar, and midfielder Luka Modric will be out for a while after undergoing arthroscopic surgery on his left knee.

Madrid's next chance to snap its winless streak is Oct. 15 at Real Betis, a team which has yet to lose at home. Madrid then hosts sixth-place Athletic Bilbao. — AP

## RANIERI PLANS TO ROTATE TIRED LEICESTER STARS

**LEICESTER:** Claudio Ranieri has promised to rethink the way he juggles the demands of competing in the Premier League and Champions League after Leicester were held to a lethargic 0-0 draw by Southampton. Ranieri's side have been unable to reproduce the relentless work-rate that carried them to their fairytale title triumph last season and they lie 10 points behind leaders Manchester City following Sunday's stalemate at the King Power Stadium. Leicester had been perky enough during their midweek Champions League success against Porto, but five days later they were much less vibrant as Southampton dominated for long periods and should have taken all three points.

Ranieri has time to work on a solution during the international break and he conceded it might be wise to rest more players following European matches after making only one change against the Saints at the end of a frantic period of seven matches in 22 days. "I recognise they played better than us and deserved to win," Ranieri said. (Kasper) Schmeichel made two or three great saves and they hit the post.

"For us it is ok, one point and a clean-sheet. Now I have to think about when we play every three days.

"Maybe it was much better to give some rest to some players. I changed just one player. It is not enough. "It could be the schedule. Maybe we ran more than other matches because it was difficult to stop them."

After many of Ranieri's squad head off to play for their countries over the next two weeks, the Italian will face an immediate test of his rotation plan when Leicester return to action.

They have a busy week featuring a trip to Chelsea, a European clash with Copenhagen and finishing at home to Crystal Palace. "How many players stay with me now, six? seven? The rest go for international matches," Ranieri said.

"Then they come back a few days before Chelsea and we have a Champions League game after that. I have to think hard."

As well as dealing with the fatigue from Leicester's hectic schedule, Ranieri also needs to work on his tactics as opponents are finally growing wise to his team's counter-attacking style. Southampton easily subdued Leicester forwards Jamie Vardy and Islam Slimani and had no problems taking control in midfield either.

"The other teams are very worried with our counter-attack and try to stop us every time. We have to find the solution," Ranieri added. After a slow start under new French coach Claude Puel, Southampton are now unbeaten in their last six matches in all competitions.

Even more impressive is their record of six clean-sheets during that run, but it was Southampton's failure to take a host of chances that would have killed off Leicester that Puel was chewing on as he headed back to the south-coast. —AFP

# SOUTHGATE EAGER TO MOVE ON WITH ENGLAND

**BURTON-ON-TRENT:** England's caretaker manager Gareth Southgate expressed a desire to move on from a "very difficult" week in his introductory press conference yesterday. Southgate, formerly England Under-21s coach, has been placed in charge on a temporary basis after Sam Allardyce left his post as manager last week following just 67 days at the helm.

Allardyce left "by mutual consent" after being caught giving advice about how to circumvent transfer rules and mocking his predecessor, Roy Hodgson, in a newspaper sting.

"I realise the last week has been a very difficult one for our organisation," Southgate told a press conference at the St George's Park national football centre in Burton, central England. "I felt it was important to step forward in the leadership position. I'm very much looking forward to working with the players over the next 10 days to get the results the country wants."

Southgate has recalled Manchester United forwards Marcus Rashford and Jesse Lingard for England's 2018 World Cup qualifiers at home to Malta on Saturday and away to Slovenia next week. He also awarded Stoke City full-back Glen Johnson a first international call-up in over two years. Southgate has confirmed that Wayne Rooney will continue as captain.

"The decision to make him captain is quite simple," Southgate said. "What I felt from what I have seen around St George's, what I gleaned from talking to staff over the two years, is that he is the outstanding leader in the group."

England won 1-0 away to Slovakia in Allardyce's one game in charge. Southgate, a former England centre-back, said he had thanked Allardyce since his predecessor's departure. "We exchanged messages. From my point of view, that was important," said the 46-year-



BURTON-UPON-TRENT: England caretaker manager Gareth Southgate gives a press conference at England's training facility at St George's Park in Burton-upon-Trent, in central England, ahead of England's 2018 World Cup qualifying football match against Malta on October 8. — AFP

old. "I didn't want to be seen as someone who was waiting in the wings for an opportunity. I think Sam knew that. I felt it was important to thank him. "The working relationship from my point of view was very positive. He's got his own situation to deal with and I've got to get on with leading the country forward."

Allardyce's downfall came amid a spate of revelations about corruption in English football by the Daily Telegraph. Reflecting on the stories, Southgate said: "I'm involved in a sport that I love and an industry that at times I don't like.

"The detail about what happened last week,

I'm not au fait with. I've heard names mentioned and bits of information, but I don't have the detail, so I don't think I can speculate."

Southgate will also take charge of England's World Cup qualifier against Scotland and friendly against Spain in November. He said he had not had time to think about whether he wants the role full-time.

"I've not had a chance to think about anything other than preparing for this week and getting the best results," he said.

"Everything beyond that can wait until we have time to breathe." —AFP

# SWANSEA AXE GUIDOLIN, HIRE BRADLEY AS NEW BOSS

**LONDON:** Swansea hired former United States coach Bob Bradley as their new manager yesterday after the struggling Premier League club sacked Francesco Guidolin on his birthday.

Guidolin's 61st birthday quickly turned sour as the Italian learnt he was being forced out after Saturday's 2-1 defeat against Liverpool left Swansea just above the relegation zone with only one win from their seven league matches this season.

Guidolin saved Swansea from relegation after joining the south Wales club in January and was given a two-year contract at the end of last season. But an American consortium led by Stephen Kaplan and Jason Levien inherited Guidolin when they took over in July and reports began to emerge that his job could be in danger as soon as Swansea began to struggle. After beating Burnley on the opening day of the season, Swansea went on a six-match winless run in the Premier League, including three consecutive defeats. That was enough to convince the Americans to ditch former Udinese boss Guidolin and turn to their compatriot Bradley.

"It is never easy changing managers, but we are looking at a long-term appointment and we are confident Bob can settle us down and stabilise matters on and off the pitch," Swansea chairman Huw Jenkins said.

"We are obviously disappointed to part company with Francesco. "We felt he deserved his opportunity after the work he did last season. "Unfortunately we have not been able to carry performances over from last season and we felt we needed to change things as soon as possible in order to move forward in a positive way.

"We would like to thank Francesco and his staff for their services to the club and wish them well for the future."

**SHREWD MOVE**  
Former Manchester United star Ryan Giggs, who left his role as assistant at Old Trafford following Jose Mourinho's pre-season arrival, had been linked with the Swansea job.

But Bradley has left French second-tier side Le Havre to move to the Liberty Stadium, becoming Swansea's fourth manager in less than a year.

Garry Monk was sacked in December 2015 and temporarily replaced by Alan Curtis before Guidolin's appointment.

Bradley led the US to the 2010 World Cup, where his team earned a 1-1 draw with England in the group stages before losing to Ghana in the last 16. The 58-year-old was dismissed in 2011 after the US lost the CONCACAF Gold Cup final against Mexico and subsequently had a two-year spell as Egypt coach which ended when they failed to qualify for the 2014 World Cup.

Bradley, whose first match will be at Arsenal on October 15, faces a tough task to keep Swansea from dropping into the Championship.

Swansea are above the relegation zone only on goal difference, but Jenkins believes his appointment will prove a shrewd move.

"We are delighted Bob has agreed to join us," he added. "He is highly regarded as a coach and has a wealth of experience on the international and domestic front.

"He is well aware of the club's footballing philosophy and will provide us with strong leadership qualities and a renewed belief to compete at this level." —AFP



LE HAVRE: This combination file photo shows (Top), Swansea City's Italian head coach Francesco Guidolin as he looks on before the English Premier League football match between Southampton and Swansea at St Mary's Stadium in Southampton, southern England on September 18, 2016, and (above) Le Havre's head coach Bob Bradley as he looks on during the French L2 football match between Le Havre (Havre AC) and Bourg-en-Bresse, on May 13, 2016, at the Oceane stadium, in Le Havre, northwestern France. Swansea hired former United States coach Bob Bradley as their new manager yesterday, after the struggling Premier League club sacked Francesco Guidolin on his birthday. — AFP





OOREDOO DELIVERS PROGRESS THROUGH GLOBAL PROJECTS



JAKARTA: Indonesian models parading in traditional Batik outfits at a display along a street in Jakarta. Indonesia has a rapidly growing middle class, and domestic consumption has been a key pillar of growth. — AFP

UK MINISTER WARNS OF BREXIT 'ROLLERCOASTER'  
 POUND HITS THREE-YEAR LOW AFTER MAY REMARKS

**BIRMINGHAM, United Kingdom:** The pound hit a three-year low against the euro yesterday after Prime Minister Theresa May said Britain will trigger Brexit negotiations by the end of March and her finance minister warned of economic "turbulence".

Sterling dropped to 87.46 pence against the euro, the lowest level since August 2013, after May's government gave more details about how Britain will leave the European Union at the Conservative Party conference in Birmingham, central England.

Speaking before his keynote address yesterday, finance minister Philip Hammond warned Britain's economy faces "turbulence" as ministers hammer out Brexit, adding consumer and business confidence could go up and down like a "rollercoaster".

His comments came the day after May revealed Britain would start the two-year exit

process by the end of March, putting it on track to leave by early 2019 and opening the door for painful negotiations with EU partners. The new premier, who took power in July after David Cameron quit following the Brexit vote, also indicated willingness to leave the single market in order to secure control over immigration from the EU.

At the start of the week's trading in London, sterling also fell to \$1.2853 against the dollar, a fall of around 0.5 percent since closing on Friday. "Whilst markets welcome the update (from May), there is still a great degree of uncertainty surrounding what Brexit negotiations will involve," said Ana Thaker, a market economist at PhillipCapital UK. "It is generally considered that the more May insists on immigration control, the more the EU is likely to close access to the single market," an analysis but Rabobank Financial Markets Research

added. "The drop in the value of the pound this morning reflects investors' concerns."

**Long-term uncertainty**

Britain's economy has performed more strongly than some analysts expected in the aftermath of June's surprise Brexit vote. In a key indicator of the strength of the manufacturing sector, the Markit/CIPS UK manufacturing PMI (purchasing managers' index) rose to its highest level since mid-2014, according to figures out yesterday. Sterling stabilized on the news, which showed manufacturing had benefited from the lower pound. However, there is uncertainty among many major employers about long-term investment decisions due to Brexit.

Last week, carmaker Nissan's chief executive Carlos Ghosn said it was delaying new investment at its giant plant in Sunderland,

northeast England, announcing: "We cannot stay if the conditions do not justify that we stay." Hammond acknowledged Monday that there could be difficult times ahead as Britain negotiates its exit from the EU.

"We must expect some turbulence as we go through this negotiating process," the chancellor of the exchequer told BBC television. "We have to expect a period when confidence will go up and down—perhaps on a bit of a rollercoaster—until we get to a final agreement". Hammond is seen as a proponent of a more gradual "soft Brexit" that would retain access to the EU's single market, while other "hard Brexit" proponents in May's cabinet want a clean break with the EU.

He also signalled a break with predecessor George Osborne's goal of eliminating Britain's deficit by 2019-2020 and has not set an alternative timetable for balancing the books.

Instead, Hammond opened the door for more investment to boost Britain's economy, including the launch of a £3 billion (3.4 billion euro, \$3.9 billion) fund to build more than 200,000 new homes. The pound has faced severe pressure on currency markets since Britain voted in June to leave the European Union—handing a boost to the country's exporters. In a key indicator of the strength of the manufacturing sector, the Markit/CIPS UK manufacturing PMI (purchasing managers' index) rose to its highest level since mid-2014, according to figures out yesterday.

"It is... apparent that sterling's marked weakening is giving an important lift to foreign demand for UK manufactured goods," said Howard Archer, chief European economist at IHS Global Insight. The pound struck a 31-year low against the dollar in the immediate wake of the Brexit vote, at \$1.2798. — AFP

SAUDI SWINGS WIDELY, IMF BOOSTS EGYPT

**DUBAI:** Gulf stock markets were weak yesterday as Saudi Arabia swung widely, hit by plans for reforms to the telecommunications industry, but Egypt rose sharply on hopes that its International Monetary Fund loan would be finalized soon.

The Saudi index fell more than 2 percent at one stage as Saudi Telecom, the country's top operator, tumbled as much as 8.5 percent after the government said it would provide telecommunications firms with "unified licenses" allowing them to offer a full range of services. Analysts said this could mean more competition for Saudi Telecom. The stock closed 4.9 percent lower and the Saudi index finished down 0.6 percent at 5,416 points, its lowest close since March 2011, in active trade. On Sunday, the index tumbled 3.1 percent on concern over government austerity measures. Last week it reduced allowances for public sector employees and some investors fear further steps - perhaps new fees or taxes on foreign workers.

Austerity worries caused many stocks exposed to domestic demand to underperform again on Monday. Retail chain Jarir Marketing sank 4.7 percent and Al Rajhi Bank lost 1.5 percent. On Sunday, the central bank told commercial banks to reschedule the consumer loans of customers hit by the public sector pay cuts, which could cost banks money.

Petrochemical shares, dependent on overseas demand, fared relatively well with Saudi Basic Industries up 0.6 percent.

There was massive trade in a rights issue of Takween Advanced Industries - the



RIYADH: A Saudi man displays gold bracelets at his jewelry shop in Tiba market in the capital Riyadh yesterday. — AFP

trading period for the rights ends on Thursday. The rights soared 28.7 percent while the underlying shares gained 1.4 percent to 11.05 riyals.

Elsewhere in the Gulf, where most bourses had been closed on Sunday for Islamic New Year holidays, sentiment was weak partly because of concern about the Saudi market. Dubai's index fell 1.9 percent

to 3,408 points, breaking technical support on the August and September lows of 3,430-3,442 points. That triggered a minor head & shoulders pattern formed by the highs and lows since July and pointing down to around 3,250 points. Builder Drake & Scull, which has substantial operations in Saudi Arabia, dropped 3.2 percent. Abu Dhabi lost 1.8 percent as First Gulf Bank slid

2.5 percent, while Qatar fell 0.9 percent as Qatar National bank, the region's largest listed lender, sank 1.9 percent. In Egypt, the market rose sharply on hopes that an international financing package would be finalized soon after this week's annual meetings of the IMF and World Bank Group. The Egyptian stock index climbed 3.2 percent in a broad rally, with investment bank EFG Hermes rising 6.5 percent.

Egypt has reached a staff-level agreement for a \$12 billion loan program from the IMF and must secure around \$6 billion in bilateral financing to obtain final approval for the program. It has been in talks with China for \$2 billion, while Saudi Arabia and other rich Gulf states may also provide money.

Officials attending the Washington meetings could finalize the bilateral financing, and Arqaam Capital said in a report that the IMF's board might then give final approval to its program as soon as in the following week. Arqaam said that at the same time, Egypt might also, at about the same time, take another major step to attract foreign fund inflows and resolve an endemic hard currency shortage with an aggressive devaluation of the Egyptian pound, perhaps to 12 against the US dollar or beyond compared with its current official rate of 8.88.

The central bank could move to a new, hybrid foreign exchange system combining managed and free floats, while hiking interest rates by between 1 and 3 percentage points to ensure market stability, Arqaam said. — Reuters

SAUDI BINLADIN GROUP GETS DELAYED FUNDS

**RIYADH:** Saudi Arabia's government has transferred delayed funds to construction giant Saudi Binladin Group so it can pay back-wages to its remaining employees, the company said yesterday.

The firm "received some payment in the last couple of weeks", Yaseen Alattas, Saudi Binladin Group's chief communications officer, told AFP. He declined to comment on the amount.

Delayed receipts from the government, whose oil revenues have dropped significantly over the past two years, have left tens of thousands of employees of the kingdom's construction firms struggling while they wait for salaries. Alattas said Saudi Binladin Group has already finished payments to around 70,000 laid-off workers.

"They got paid completely with all their due salaries and their final indemnities," he said, adding that the expatriates among them have gone home. Some workers still with the company have also received their delayed wages, "based on the payments that are coming now from the government", whose business is the foundation of Saudi construction contracts.

Alattas said those payments will continue "based proportionately to the payments as they come from the government". He was not specific about how many employees remain with the company, but said it is a "floating number" based on projects.

Alattas has previously said the number of laid-off workers was a fraction of manpower at the Group which built some of the kingdom's landmarks. The Wall Street Journal, citing two people familiar with the matter, reported Sunday that the government paid Saudi Binladin Group between \$800 million and \$1.1 billion in September to cover unpaid wages. Alattas told AFP in May that there had been "multiple reasons" for the wage delays, but one was related to "cash flow". The firm was also suspended for several months from new government projects after a deadly crane accident in September last year at Mecca's Grand Mosque.

Saudi Binladin Group was founded more than 80 years ago by the father of Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, who was killed five years ago by US Navy SEALs. Tens of thousands of employees of once-mighty construction firm Saudi Oger are also suffering. Many have gone unpaid for up to nine months. — AFP



## GERMAN MINISTER LEADS TRADE DELEGATION TO IRAN



**TEHRAN:** Iran's Economy Minister Ali Tayebnia (L) and German vice chancellor, Economy and Energy Minister Sigmar Gabriel sign agreements during a German-Iranian Joint Economic Commission (GWK) meeting in Tehran yesterday.—AFP

**TEHRAN:** German Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel headed a large business delegation to Iran yesterday, seeking to rebuild trade ties and support the country's opening to the world despite political differences. "We can build on a long tradition of trade cooperation between Iran and Germany. The German economy can play an important role in the modernization of Iran," Gabriel told reporters.

He was joined by some 120 business representatives and dozens of journalists for the two-day visit to Tehran, and Iranian media said 10 trade deals were signed on areas including banking, energy and water. German companies are putting a lot of hope in Iran, the second-largest economy in the Middle East and one of the world's last untapped markets for global business.

A nuclear accord with world powers last year saw international sanctions against Iran dropped, though global banks remain reluctant to work with the Islamic republic due to continuing US sanctions. Gabriel said it was important to overcome financing difficulties, and said he was keen to support the moderate government of President Hassan Rouhani in its efforts to rebuild ties with the world.

"It is in our interest to support the policy of Iran, the policy of your government, to keep opening this country," he said at the business forum.

"We know there won't be wonders, but the people want to see that there is progress." The German minister sparked controversy before his visit when he said that cooperation between the two countries would require Iran to recognize Israel.

"If I were in the place of the honourable government or the foreign minister, I would not have allowed such a person to enter the country," said the head of the judiciary, Ayatollah Sadeq Amoli Larjani, according to the Mizanonline news site.

Gabriel acknowledged yesterday that "there are differences between our countries". "There are many points that connect us, and some points that separate us. In foreign policy we have a different point of view, especially regarding the difficult conflict in Syria. We should talk about this with respect for each other," he said. He added that Germany supports Iran's desire to join the World Trade Organization. Trade between the two countries—which was 2.4 billion euros last year (\$2.7 billion)—grew by 15 percent in the first half of 2016. — AFP

## PORTUGAL PM SLASHES GROWTH FORECAST

**LISBON:** Portugal's economy will grow by just over one percent this year, Prime Minister Antonio Costa said in an interview published yesterday, lowering his government's initial estimate of 1.8 percent growth.

"Everything indicates we will have growth above one percent," he told daily newspaper Publico, before adding that the expansion of the economy would not be "much greater than that".

The government's growth forecast for 2016 has up until now been higher than most major institutions.

The European Commission forecasts the Portuguese economy will expand by 1.5 percent this year while the International

Monetary Fund sees it growing by just 1.3 percent. Many analysts have warned that weak growth could affect the country's fiscal consolidation. Since coming to power in November 2015, Costa's centre-left government which supported by the Left Bloc and Communist Party, has rolled back austerity measures taken after Portugal's 78-billion-euro bailout in 2011. Costa has insisted he will manage to bring the deficit down to below 2.5 percent of economic output this year and meet European Union commitments, down from 4.4 percent in 2015.

The government will table its draft 2017 budget to parliament later this month which will outline its new deficit and growth targets. — AFP



**TOKYO:** An employee working at the main assembly line of V6 engines at the Iwaki Plant of Japan's Nissan Motor in Iwaki, Fukushima prefecture. Business confidence among Japan's largest manufacturers is at its lowest since Tokyo introduced measures to kick-start the struggling economy more than three years ago, a central bank survey showed yesterday.—AFP

## JAPAN BIG MANUFACTURERS' CONFIDENCE AT NEW LOW

### WEAK GROWTH, SOFT INFLATION IN Q2: SURVEY

**TOKYO:** Business confidence among Japan's largest manufacturers is at its lowest since Tokyo introduced measures to kick-start the struggling economy more than three years ago, a central bank survey showed yesterday.

The Bank of Japan's closely watched Tankan report comes after data showing weak growth in the second quarter and as soft inflation and spending figures on Friday underscored the wobbly recovery.

The latest Tankan—a key gauge of Japan Inc's health—missed market forecasts for a slight improvement in the mood among major firms. Sentiment among big manufacturers is wallowing at its lowest levels since Prime Minister Shinzo Abe kicked off his growth blitz, dubbed Abenomics, in 2013.

The survey contradicts Tokyo's view that the world's number three economy is on the upswing, said Satoshi Osanai, senior economist at Daiwa Institute of Research. "The economy is weak and certainly not in a recovery mode," he added. "This is more confirmation that Japanese firms are facing headwinds. Conditions remain tough."

The BoJ's quarterly survey of more than 10,000 companies is the most comprehensive indicator of how Japan is faring. It marks the difference between the percentage of firms that are upbeat and those that see conditions as

unfavourable. The reading for big manufacturers was unchanged at 6, while the level for big non-manufacturers fell to 18 from 19. However, confidence among medium and small business improved slightly.

Stock traders were unfazed. The benchmark Nikkei 225 index was up more than one percent in the afternoon yesterday. Officials are under intense pressure to deliver a boost to the economy with experts increasingly writing off Tokyo's spend-for-growth policy.

On Friday, official data showed spending among Japanese households tumbled in August and consumer prices fell again—putting the Bank of Japan's 2.0 percent inflation target further out of reach. The target is a cornerstone of Abe's faltering attempts to kickstart growth.

Wobbly recovery  
Last month, the Bank of Japan, which launched a massive bond-purchase stimulus program in 2013, revealed yet another exotic weapon in its monetary policy arsenal. After a hotly anticipated meeting, the bank said it would switch its emphasis from interest rates and concentrate its firepower on 10-year government bonds. Governor Haruhiko Kuroda said the bank would buy as many or as few of these benchmark instruments as necessary to ensure the yield—the interest rate paid to holders—remained steady at around zero.

The bank said it would cut back on the number of longer dated bonds the bank holds. That should reduce the price of long-term securities, which in turn—should increase their yield. It was the latest effort to convince Japanese consumers that the price of goods and services will rise in the future.

Some analysts, however, said the move was an admission of defeat in the war on deflation and a warning of the limits of central bank power. "I'm sure the Bank of Japan was hoping for a rebound in the latest Tankan they must be in agony looking at this report," said Hideo Kumano, an economist at Daiichi Life Research Institute and a former BoJ official.

Tokyo in July announced a whopping 28-trillion-yen (\$280-billion) package aimed at kick-starting growth, after Britain's June vote to quit the European Union sent financial markets into a tailspin and sparked a yen rally. The surge in the currency has taken a bite out of profits at Japanese firms that do business overseas. But Abe's promises to cut through red tape have been slower, and his plan to buoy Japan's once-booming economy have looked increasingly unrealistic. The economy contracted in the last three months of 2015, before bouncing back in January-March with a 0.5 percent rise on-quarter and then a 0.2 percent growth in April-June. — AFP

## DUTCH BANK ING CUTTING 7,000 JOBS IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

**THE HAGUE:** Dutch bank ING, the country's biggest lender, announced yesterday it was planning to shed some 7,000 jobs mainly in Belgium and The Netherlands to save 900 million euros (\$1.01 billion) by 2021. The move is partly directed by the bank's bid to reshape its services for the digital banking market, in which it said it would be investing some 800 million euros.

"Over the coming five years, around 7,000 functions might be impacted by these effects," said chief executive Ralph Hamers. Stressing the plans were not yet final, Hamers said the workforce could be reduced by 3,500 posts in Belgium and another 2,300 in The Netherlands. The remaining positions were expected to be cut by external suppliers.

Belgian and Dutch unions reacted angrily, but analysts said the job losses were the result of the online transformation of the banking industry. "Customers are increasingly digital and bank with us more and more through mobile devices," Hamers said in a statement. They "expect us to adopt new technology as fast as companies in other sectors," Hamers said, adding ING needs "to offer a better customer experience, that's instant, personal, frictionless and relevant." He also highlighted that ING had been hit-like other European banks-by low interest rates in the eurozone and tough regulation.

The "huge reorganization" would hit 12 to 14 percent of ING's employees, Joost Vespers, an analyst with the Theodoor Gilissen bank, told AFP.

"ING actually needs that, because the situation is urgent. It's a very difficult time for banks. And many banks have a high cost base," he said, adding ING wanted to stay ahead of the competition.

The Amsterdam-based ING employs some 52,000 people in 40 countries around the world. Saved by the Dutch government with 10-billion-euro bailout in 2008 amid the global financial crisis, it was forced by the European Commission to exit the insurance business. It paid off the loan plus interest in November 2014, well ahead of time. Yesterday's announcement comes after ABN Amro, the country's third largest bank, said last month it was shedding 1,375 jobs over the next three years as it moves towards greater digitalization.

### Profitability

"Traditional banking is going to be considerably reduced," analyst Thomas Cool told AFP. But he added the loss of 7,000

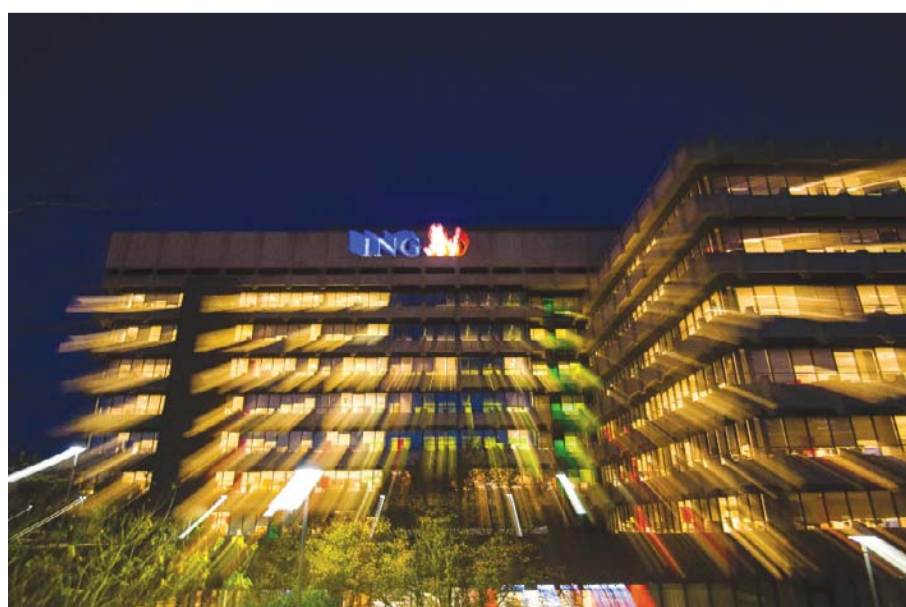
jobs was "a small number for the company itself", adding "investors might see it as a better for profitability". Hamers told the NOS Dutch broadcaster "that every job that disappears is of course one too many". And the markets seemed to take the announcement in their stride. ING were down 0.3 percent in midday trading on the Amsterdam AEX, which was up 0.4 percent overall.

Hamers acknowledged Monday that "banks are confronted with continuous regulatory burden and a prolonged period of ultra-low interest rates". "These factors put pressure on the returns which are necessary to fund growth and investments, and cover our cost of capital," he added. But the Belgian union SETCa called for a strike on Friday, the Belgian news agency Belga said.

While the Dutch FNV union urged ING to "opt for innovation and real jobs." "We will be watching closely to ensure that the loss of permanent jobs does not lead to an increase in temporary jobs," said FNV leader Gerard van Hees. In August, ING said it had boosted its operating profits by 26.7 percent in the second quarter to 1.4 billion euros and increased its lending by 15 billion euros on the same period in 2015. — AFP



**BRUSSELS:** The CEO of the Dutch multinational banking and financial services corporation ING, Rik Vandenbergh, speaks during a press conference of the ING banking and insurance Group regarding a major restructuring yesterday in Brussels. — AFP



**BRUSSELS:** ING headquarters Marnix site is pictured during an extraordinary works council of ING banking and insurance Group regarding a major restructuring yesterday in Brussels. — AFP

## AL-TIJARI ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-NAJMA MEGA DRAW

**KUWAIT:** Commercial Bank of Kuwait held the mega draw for the 3rd quarter and the daily draw on 3rd October, 2016. The draws were held under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry represented by Abdulaziz Ashkanani.

The winner of the mega draw of KD 200,000 is Kholood Saleh AlAjmi.

### The winners of the Al-Najma daily draw are:

Hussain Rafeeq Shaheen — KD 7000,  
Fatmah Hussain Sayed Hassan Al-Sayed — KD 7000,  
Samaher Fahed Al-Aslawi — KD 7000,  
Mahmoud Ahmed Fouad Hamouda — KD 7000,  
Shahid Miah Doubars Miah — KD 7000.

Al-Najma awards are now brighter and bigger than ever.

With the revamped Al-Najma account, all your dreams will be turned to reality. On top of offering the highest daily prize in Kuwait for KD 7,000, now our Mega prize draws got bigger to reach KD 250,000.

The new prizes scheme for Al-Najma account

Daily draw to win KD 7000

Quarterly draws to win great prizes that would start from KD 100,000 to KD 250,000

1st quarter — KD 100 000, 2nd quarter — KD150 000, 3rd quarter, KD 200 000, 4th quarter KD 250 000.

With Al-Najma you have more chances to win greater prizes

Amazing news from Al-Tijari...

Al-Najma account gives you the biggest daily prize in Kuwait!



- Each KD 25 kept in your account gives you one chance to win
  - Each KD 25 kept in your account for one week will give you a chance to enter the daily draw.
  - Each KD 25 kept in your account for 3 months will give you chance to enter the quarterly draw.
- Additional features
- ATM card
  - Issue a credit card against your account
  - Obtain all CBK banking services
- You deserve to win! Open an account now with just KD 500 and you will enter all draws.





# Nissan X-Trail: Built for adventure



By Faten Omar

The sleek and stylish Nissan's X-Trail 2016 is now larger and widely hailed as a vehicle that perfectly encapsulates the spirit of adventure that many people in this region possess. Nissan X-Trail is available in either front-wheel-drive or all-wheel-drive options. There is only one engine available i.e. the 2.5 liter naturally aspirated 4-cylinder producing a decent 170 BHP and 237 Nm of torque. The engine is mated to a CVT gearbox.

With a brand new version now hitting showrooms near you, Nissan's X-Trail is smooth and comfortable to drive; and the all-round safety features of the X-Trail, such as the balanced steering, high driving position and acres of glass help motorists negotiate busy traffic with ease. The all-wheel-drive set-up is an adaptive 4x4 system. It can be switched between fuel-saving front-wheel drive, an automatic mode, which only sends drive to the rear wheels under hard acceleration or in slippery conditions, or a 4x4 lock mode, which is ideal for the worst weather and off-road situations.

Its interior is uncluttered and elegantly designs, as well as being entirely practical with easily cleanable surfaces. It can be specified with switchable four-wheel drive, is available with up to seven seats. The X-Trail is set up for road travel but its high ground clearance and nicely balanced 4x4 drive system ensure it is always stable on the



hoof, no matter the conditions, when taken off the beaten track that it excels – capable of plowing its way through dirt and mud, scrambling up steep, grassy slopes or wading across fast-flowing rivers.

However, the system also allows the driver take over fully to enjoy some off-roading action. It also has an adjustable steering column, Bluetooth, CD stereo with MP3 connection, climate control and 4040/20/ split/folding rear seats. Safety features include

ESP and six airbags.

Move up to the N-Tec model and there's 18in alloys, five-inch touch screen sat nave, bird's-eye-view parking assist, keyless entry and ignition, electric panoramic glass sunroof, side steps along the underside of the doors and Nissan's special scratch shield paint that automatically covers any minor scrape. Leather upholstery with electrically adjusted and heated front seats, titanium-effect trim inserts xenon

headlights with washers, Bose stereo, folding door mirrors and integrated spot lights in the roof rails.

Nissan X-Trail has smarter rows that have flexible seating system. Which adds flexibility carrying passengers and their gear, and fold down to make a flat cargo floor for maximum carrying space. Whether you're headed for the city, the beach, the bush or the snow - you can be sure there's an X-TRAIL for you.





# FACEBOOK LAUNCHES BUY AND SELL 'MARKETPLACE'

## 'LITE' VERSION OF MESSENGER OVERSEAS UNVEILED

**NEW YORK:** Facebook says some 450 million people use its site - mainly the "Groups" feature - to buy and sell stuff locally, anything from cars to baby clothes to furniture. Now, the company is launching a separate "marketplace" section that seeks to make it easier to do this.

The last time Facebook tried its hand at such a marketplace was nine years ago, and it didn't really go anywhere. Like Facebook itself at the time, it was a desktop computer-only product. The latest effort, or course, works on mobile devices, so it's

easier to snap a photo of the item you are selling and upload it on the site. Facebook Inc said yesterday the most popular items people currently buy and sell on the service include furniture, cars and clothes. Facebook said the new program formalizes what some members have already been doing in Facebook Groups for years.

"Facebook is where people connect, and in recent years more people have been using Facebook to connect in another way: buying and selling with each other," said product manager

Mary Ku in a blog post.

"This activity started in Facebook Groups and has grown substantially. More than 450 million people visit buy and sell groups each month-from families in a local neighborhood to collectors around the world." The new feature helps facilitate this with "a convenient destination to discover, buy and sell items with people in your community," Ku said. Marketplace will display photos of items for sale based on proximity, and users can adjust their location and search for specific items or categories such as clothing, household items or electronics. The new feature will be rolling out to over-18 users in the United States, Britain, Australia, and New Zealand in the coming days on the Facebook app for iPhone and Android, with additional countries and a desktop version in the coming months.

### Messenger chat app

Facebook is also launching a "lite" version of its Messenger chat app. It is aimed at emerging markets, where many people use older phones that don't have enough room to store or ability to run the full-featured application due to slower internet speeds or other issues.

"Messenger Lite" will be available on Android devices in Kenya, Tunisia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Venezuela beginning on Monday. The company did not say when it would be available in other countries or whether it is also coming to Apple devices (although Android is far more popular in emerging markets than even older iPhones).

There is already a "Facebook Lite" available for people whose phones are too old or simple to run the full-fledged Facebook. Messenger Lite is a similarly slimmed-down version of Messenger. It will let people send text, photos and links but won't do video calls, for example.

The move comes as the social media giant moves to force users to adopt Messenger if they want to send each other direct messages, instead of the main Facebook site or app. It is working: more than 1 billion people use Messenger each month. For a while, there was a loophole - you could log in to Facebook's mobile website to access messages. But Facebook is ending this option, too, so Messenger will be people's only option.

David Marcus, head of messaging products at Facebook Inc, said in an interview that Messenger's goal is to be a "product for everyone, not only people who can afford a higher-end device and more expensive data plan."

He called the web-based messaging experience on Facebook a "remnant of the past" and added that he "can't think of any other mobile messaging service that has a web version."

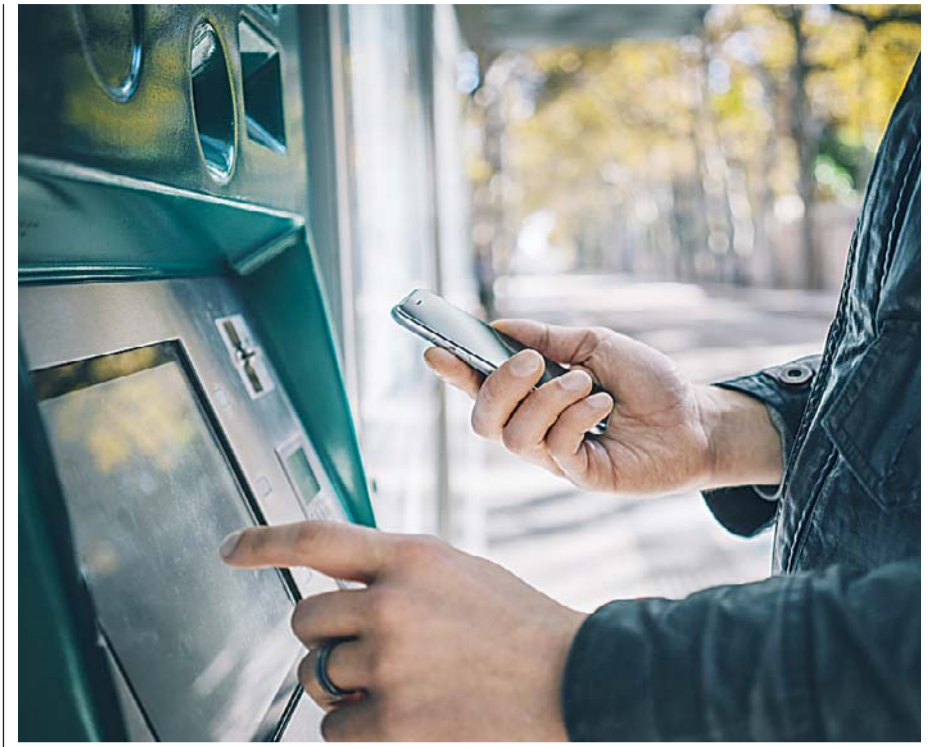
Facebook, he said, decided on the five initial countries to launch Messenger Lite in because there are a lot of Messenger users in these countries on older devices. WhatsApp, the messaging app owned by Facebook but operated as a separate entity, is also popular in emerging markets. Marcus said people use the apps for different reasons and they are not in direct competition. WhatsApp also has more than 1 billion users, and many people use both services. —AP



**BERLIN:** The "Facebook"-logo on the sidelines of a press preview of the so-called "Facebook Innovation Hub" in Berlin. Facebook yesterday launched a new online "Marketplace" allowing members of the huge social network to buy and sell with each other. —AFP



**A Facebook Like Button logo displayed on a window of a store in Palo Alto, California. —AFP**



## KASPERSKY LAB INVESTIGATES NEAR-FUTURE THREATS TO ATMs

**DUBAI:** Kaspersky Lab experts have investigated how cybercriminals could exploit new ATM authentication technologies planned by banks. While many financial organizations consider biometric-based solutions to be one of the most promising additions to current authentication methods, if not a complete replacement for them, cybercriminals see biometrics as a new opportunity to steal sensitive information.

ATMs have for years been in the sights of fraudsters hunting credit card data. It all started with primitive skimmers - homemade devices attached to an ATM, capable of stealing information from the card's magnetic strip and pin-code with help of a fake ATM pin pad or a web camera. Over time, the design of such devices was improved to make them less visible. With the implementation of much harder, but not impossible to clone chip-and-pin payment cards the devices evolved into so-called 'shimmers': largely the same, but able to gather information from the card's chip, giving sufficient information to conduct an online relay attack. The banking industry is responding with new authentication solutions, some of which are based on biometrics.

According to a Kaspersky Lab investigation into underground cybercrime, there are already at least twelve sellers offering skimmers capable of stealing victims' fingerprints. And at least three underground sellers are already researching devices that could illegally obtain data from palm vein and iris recognition systems.

The first wave of biometric skimmers was observed in "presale testing" in September 2015. Evidence collected by Kaspersky Lab researchers reveals that during the initial testing, developers discovered several bugs. However, the main

problem was the use of GSM modules for biometric data transfer - they were too slow to transfer the large volume of data obtained. As a result, new versions of skimmers will use other, faster data transfer technologies.

There are also signs of ongoing discussions in underground communities regarding the development of mobile applications based on placing masks over a human face. With such an app, attackers can take a person's photo posted on social media and use it to fool a facial recognition system.

"The problem with biometrics is that, unlike passwords or pin codes which can be easily modified in the event of compromise, it is impossible to change your fingerprint or iris image. Thus if your data is compromised once, it won't be safe to use that authentication method again. That is why it is extremely important to keep such data secure and transmit it in a secure way. Biometric data is also recorded in modern passports - called e-passports - and visas. So, if an attacker steals an e-passport, they don't just possess the document, but also that person's biometric data. They have stolen a person's identity", said Olga Kochetova, security expert at Kaspersky Lab.

The use of tools capable of compromising biometric data is not the only potential cyberthreat facing ATMs, according to the Kaspersky Lab researchers. Hackers will continue to conduct malware-based attacks, blackbox attacks and network attacks to seize data that can later be used to steal money from banks and its customers.

Read the full threat overview report about upcoming cyberthreats to cash machines, and measures that can protect banks from these threats on [Securelist.com](http://Securelist.com).



## 8TH AUTOMECHANIKA NETWORK SPOTLIGHTS KEY TRENDS IMPACTING WIDER MIDEAST

**DUBAI:** More than 100 professionals of the Middle East's automotive aftermarket gathered in Dubai to discuss the future trends in their industry, with the rise of digitization likely to have a major impact on the way they do business in the region.

Valued at \$367 billion in 2015, the global market for replacement parts is estimated to increase to \$384 billion in 2016 according to analysts Frost & Sullivan, while in the Middle East, spare parts revenue was worth US\$12.98 billion in 2015, and estimated to reach US\$17.27 billion by 2020, growing annually by 5.9 per cent.

Subhash Joshi, Associate Industry Director for Automotive & Transportation Practice at Frost & Sullivan, was speaking at the 8th Automechanika Network at the H Hotel in Dubai today, highlighting the global and regional trends in the automotive industry.

Joshi said increasing urbanization is leading to the creation of new retail formats and smart distribution networks, with growing connectivity transforming automotive retail.

"The multi-channel strategy of the future would include the unbundling of the retail business from the favoured one-stop-shop model to an unbundled approach with multi-

ple services and products being aggregated and offered online," said Joshi. "Effective retailers are adapting their strategies to include digital flagship stores, lifestyle and pop-up stores, mobile and online retailing."

Joshi said these trends are coming to the Middle East too, with dealer groups and aftermarket service providers creating new digital roles to enhance the customer experience.

"The use of technology is set to make a telling impact in the way vehicles are serviced with specific app-based programs running full diagnostic checks and vehicle tests," he added.

The Automechanika Network brings together key industry players for a formal gathering discussing different topics related to the global and Middle East automotive aftermarket.

The highly popular biannual event is organized by Messe Frankfurt Middle East, the organizer of Automechanika Dubai, the Middle East and Africa's largest automotive aftermarket exhibition, and Automechanika Jeddah, Saudi Arabia's dedicated aftermarket show.

### Effective forum

"The Automechanika Network has proved an effective forum for regional industry stakeholders to interact with thought leaders and

global players while discussing key issues that impact the industry worldwide and in particular, their effects on the region," said Ahmed Pauwels, CEO of Messe Frankfurt Middle East. "The current topic has particular resonance in the region, which is among the more active automotive aftermarkets in the world," he added.

The most recent edition of Automechanika Dubai in May 2016 featured 2,017 exhibitors from 58 countries, and attracted 30,018 visitors from 138 countries. The 15th edition will take place from 7-9 May 2017 at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Meanwhile, the 2nd edition of Automechanika Jeddah will take place from 31 January - 2 February 2017 at the Jeddah Centre for Forums and Events, as more than 180 exhibitors from 25 countries take aim at the Kingdom's thriving \$2.6 billion aftermarket.

Figures released by Saudi's General Authority for Statistics showed Saudi imported \$2.53 billion worth of auto parts and accessories, passenger and commercial vehicle tyres, and batteries in 2015, while re-exports in the same year was worth \$51 million.





## HEALTHY BODY & HEALTHY MIND AT IISM KG

India international school, Mangaf KG organized 'Healthy body & Healthy mind', to teach our tiny buddies the basics personal hygiene for keeping themselves healthy and clean. So our kindergarten teachers organized a workshop on Healthy Hand wash. Children were shown how to use Hand wash dispenser, proper technique of Brushing and Healthy Diet Tiffin.

Great effort was taken by the KG teachers to arrange a puppet show

where the puppets enacted the proper ethics and etiquettes and encouraged the children to do the same. The event was motivated and inspired by Director Mr. Malayil Moosa Koya and Principal Mr. F.M. Basheer Ahmed. The amazing week came to an end with humble appreciation to Mrs. Nilofar Qazi, KG Head and all the teachers for their relentless and untiring efforts.



## HOW DO YOU GET ONE? 5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE NOBEL PRIZES

### MOST LUCRATIVE AWARD

**STOCKHOLM:** Actors yearn for Oscars, athletes crave Olympic gold - but for scientists, writers and champions of world peace, there's no bigger honor than a Nobel Prize.

The Nobel judges will announce the winners of the 2016 awards beginning this week, one prize a day, starting with medicine on Monday. Here are five things to know about the prestigious prizes, created by 19th-century Swedish industrialist Alfred Nobel.

#### What's the big deal?

The prestige of the Nobel Prizes comes down to history and cash, says Gustav Kallstrand, curator of the Nobel Museum in Stockholm.

Each award is currently worth 8 million Swedish kronor - about \$930,000, making the Nobel Prizes among the world's most lucrative awards. Kallstrand says when they were first handed out in 1901, the prize money equaled about 20 years of a professor's salary.

Today the money is secondary, he said. For many, the biggest reward is joining the likes of Albert Einstein, Marie Curie, Martin Luther King Jr., and Ernest Hemingway in the pantheon of Nobel laureates.

#### Why the hush-hush?

Ask Nobel judges about the front-runners for this year's awards and they will clam up as if they're protecting secret nuclear codes.

The Nobel statutes prohibit them from discussing any nominations - besides the winners - for half a century. Kallstrand says there are two reasons for this secrecy. One is that judges want to spare those who were nominated, but didn't win, the stress of feeling like they lost. "The Nobel Prize isn't a competition in that sense," he says. The other reason is to safeguard the independence of the Nobel judges. In the early days of the prize, Kallstrand says, the world scientific community was quite small, so the judges often knew the nominees and those who nominated them. By keeping the deliberations secret, judges could feel free to speak candidly about the candidates.

#### Who are the judges?

In his 1895 will, Nobel specified which institutions should select the winners. For the medicine award, he gave the task to Stockholm's Karolinska Institute. The Royal Swedish

Academy of sciences got the physics and chemistry awards and the Swedish Academy, which is a different body, got the literature prize.

In a decision lamented by many a Swede, he gave the peace prize - the most high-profile trophy of them all - to a panel selected by the Parliament of neighboring Norway.

Nobel never explained his reasoning, but Norway and Sweden were joined in a union at the time. Also, Norway was a small, peaceful country on Europe's periphery. Perhaps Nobel felt it was more suitable for a peace prize than Sweden, which had a history of military aggression against its neighbors, and coerced Norway into a union after losing control of Finland to Russia.

#### Is the economics award a Nobel Prize?

Strictly speaking, no. Nobel didn't mention a prize for economics in his will. It was created in 1968 in his memory by the Riksbank, the central bank of Sweden. Still, the economics award is handed out with the others, with the same pomp

and fanfare, at the annual award ceremony on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death in 1896. But the Nobel Foundation, which administers the awards, still won't call it a Nobel Prize. Officially it's called the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

#### How do you win a Nobel Prize?

Laureates often get asked this question, and their standard reply is "work hard and follow your passion." It helps, of course, to make a groundbreaking discovery like X-rays or penicillin. In the science categories, winners often have to wait decades before the Nobel judges feel confident their discovery has withstood the test of time.

It's different for the peace prize, which is often intended as a shot in the arm to someone in the midst of a struggle for peace or democracy. That explains why some peace prizes, in hindsight, can seem a bit premature - like the 1994 award for a Middle East peace agreement that is now in tatters.—AP

## RECENT WINNERS OF NOBEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE

**STOCKHOLM:** Here is a list of the winners of the Nobel Medicine Prize in the past 10 years, which was awarded yesterday to Japanese biologist Yoshinori Ohsumi :

**2016:** Yoshinori Ohsumi of Japan for his work on autophagy—a process whereby cells "eat themselves"—which when disrupted can cause Parkinson's and diabetes.

**2015:** William Campbell (US citizen born in Ireland) and Satoshi Omura (Japan), Tu Youyou (China) for unlocking treatments for malaria and roundworm.

**2014:** John O'Keefe (Britain, US), Edvard I. Moser and May-Britt Moser (Norway) for discovering how the brain navigates with an "inner GPS".

**2013:** Thomas C. Suedhof (US citizen born in Germany), James E. Rothman and Randy W. Schekman (US) for work on how the cell organizes its transport system.

**2012:** Shinya Yamanaka (Japan) and John

B. Gurdon (Britain) for discoveries showing how adult cells can be transformed back into stem cells.

**2011:** Bruce Beutler (US), Jules Hoffmann (French citizen born in Luxembourg) and Ralph Steinman (Canada) for work on the body's immune system.

**2010:** Robert G. Edwards (Britain) for the development of in-vitro fertilisation.

**2009:** Elizabeth Blackburn (Australia-US), Carol Greider and Jack Szostak (US) for discovering how chromosomes are protected by telomeres, a key factor in the ageing process.

**2008:** Harald zur Hausen (Germany), Françoise Barre-Sinoussi and Luc Montagnier (France) for work on the viruses causing cervical cancer and AIDS.

**2007:** Martin Evans (Britain), Mario Capecchi and Oliver Smithies (US) for work on gene modifications in mice using embryonic stem cells. —AFP



**WARSAW:** People attend the anti-government, pro-abortion demonstration in front of Polish Parliament on Saturday.—AP

## BLACK-CLAD POLES PROTEST PROPOSAL TO COMPLETELY BAN ABORTION

**WARSAW:** Thousands of Poles, many dressed in black, rallied Saturday in front of parliament in Warsaw to protest a proposed bill that would impose a complete ban on abortion.

Speakers at the so-called "Black Protest" said a total ban on abortion, including for victims of rape or women whose lives are endangered by a pregnancy, would be "barbaric." Poland already has one of Europe's most restrictive abortion laws.

Organizers chose black as a symbol of mourning for the loss of reproductive rights that say women could suffer if the law passes. In rallying speeches, they said they want as few abortions as possible in Poland, but that this goal should be achieved with better sex education in schools and easier access to birth control.

"We will not allow our hospitals to be turned into torture chambers and our doctors into prison guards," Agnieszka Dziemianowicz-Bak, a member of the left-wing Together party, told the crowd. Protesters chanted "Stop the fanatics!" and "We want doctors not, missionaries," while slogans on banners included: "My body, my choice."

Police estimated 5,000 people took part.

#### Furious

One protester, Gosia Goszczynska, 36, said she is furious not only about a possible total abortion ban, but also other elements of the law which she sees as harmful to

women, including a provision that would deny women prenatal testing.

"And it's terrible to force a rape victim to have her child if she doesn't want it - this could even lead to cases of women killing their unwanted children after birth," Goszczynska said. "I don't agree with this at all. It's just not acceptable."

The proposal for the total ban on abortion, and the outrage it has sparked, are the latest example of deepening social tensions under Poland's conservative Law and Justice party, which took power last year and holds a majority in the parliament.

The proposal for the stricter law came from a citizens' initiative that had gathered 450,000 signatures. While many in Law and Justice profess a strong allegiance to the Catholic church, they are divided over further restricting the abortion law. The current law already bans abortions unless the woman's life is at risk, the pregnancy results from rape or incest or the fetus is badly damaged.

The total abortion ban proposal is now being examined by a parliamentary commission and it isn't clear what form it might eventually take. A vote is not expected for weeks. A separate citizens' initiative presented to parliament had called for a liberalization of the abortion law, allowing the procedure up to 12 weeks of pregnancy, but lawmakers voted not to discuss that proposal. Another protest against the abortion ban is planned. —AP



MIAMI BEACH: In this Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016 photo, vacant areas of dirt sit at the entrance to the Miami Beach Botanical Garden. —AP

## GROWERS: BROMELIADS AREN'T TO BLAME FOR ZIKA IN MIAMI BEACH ALL PULLED OUT

MIAMI BEACH: Just over a month ago, Miami Beach Botanical Garden was home to over 2,000 colorful, water-trapping bromeliads, some featuring red flowers that burst like fireworks from dark green spirals. Identified as breeding grounds for mosquitoes that carry Zika, they've all been pulled out, leaving shallow depressions in flower beds and exposing irrigation lines.

Walking through the quiet haven in South Beach recently, executive director Sandy Shapiro pointed to where spiky yellow leaves once topped a block of stone at the entrance gate and where thick leaves with purple speckles would have served as camouflage for a 3-foot iguana sunbathing at the edge of a small pool. Only mulch fills those spaces now.

"It's been disastrous," Shapiro said at a meeting she hosted Sept. 20 to calm gardeners and growers angry about recommendations to uproot bromeliads to stop the spread of Zika.

### All bromeliads pulled

City officials pulled all bromeliads from the 2.6-acre garden in South Beach, as well as from medians and parks, at the end of August. They also recommended all Miami Beach residents and businesses do the same, because mosquitoes can breed in water trapped by bromeliads' cylindrical centers, formed by leaves growing out in spiral patterns. Residents elsewhere in South Florida also have followed suit.

The garden is within the large portion of Miami Beach, a 7-mile-long barrier island, that Florida health officials believe is the only current area of active Zika transmission. The state's bromeliad-growing community has reacted with dismay, saying bromeliads have been scapegoated and that instead of fueling Zika fears, the city could be adjusting landscaping practices to make bromeliads less hospitable to mosquitoes.

Bromeliads aren't the only plants that trap water in their leaves, and growers say debris like lawn clippings that fall into gutters, flower pots or other items that collect water are as much to blame for providing organic materials that mosquito larvae eat. "It's heartbreaking to have bromeliads ripped out when they're not the main culprit," said Jenessa Kauth, an employee at Bullis Bromeliads in Princeton, Florida.

City officials say they're targeting mosquitoes, not bromeliads, to stop the spread of a virus that can cause severe brain-related birth defects, including disastrously small heads, when pregnant women become infected. Zika can also be sexually

transmitted, but in a Sept. 23 report, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention primarily blamed mosquitoes for the cluster of Zika infections in Miami's Wynwood neighborhood.

"We were made aware by the Florida Department of Health of this ideal breeding ground, and upon meticulous inspection of our own plant inventories, we found the existence of mosquito breeding to be frequent. Our top priority is to keep Miami Beach residents and visitors safe," Melissa Berthier, spokeswoman for the city manager, said in an email.

Growers worry bromeliads could face a similar fate as hundreds of thousands of orange, grapefruit and key lime trees in Florida. State agriculture officials cut down even healthy trees between 2000 and 2006 to try eradicating a bacterial disease threatening Florida's citrus industry.

### Bacterial pesticides

Elsewhere in Miami-Dade County, officials recommend treating bromeliads with bacterial pesticides and regular hoseings to flush out mosquito larvae, but suburban homeowners apparently are listening to officials in Miami Beach and uprooting bromeliads from their yards, according to Alex Bello, incoming president of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida.

"Driving around, I have been seeing landscapers ripping everything out," Bello said. "I'm picking bromeliads out of the trash that are worth \$75 to \$100."

Florida sales of bromeliads for indoor and patio use totaled \$38.8 million in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties. Bromeliad sales for outdoor landscaping add roughly \$7.8 million more, according to Ben Bolusky, CEO of the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association.

Brandon Cornejo, a design staff member at the Miami landscape architecture firm Raymond Jungles Inc., said that instead of removing bromeliads from designs, as the company did with citrus trees, the firm recommends ways to keep them mosquito-free: plant them where they can easily be flushed with a hose to remove larvae and faded blooms, tree leaves or other decaying material.

Miami Beach, however, will replace its bromeliads with different plants. The city-owned botanical garden was one of five South Beach locations where Zika-infected mosquitoes were caught in traps. County officials say the number of mosquitoes that can transmit Zika has dropped in the garden since mid-August. — AP

# CROWD SOURCING EFFORT TAKES AIM AT DEADLIEST BREAST CANCERS

## SPITTING IN A TUBE UNITES

CHICAGO: Forget the pink ribbons. Spitting in a tube for science is what unites a growing group of breast cancer patients taking part in a unique project to advance treatment for the deadliest form of the disease.

For many of the 150,000-plus patients nationwide whose tumors have spread to bones, brains, lungs or other distant organs, the hue heralding breast cancer awareness and survival each October is a little too rosy. They know cancer will likely kill them. And they've often felt neglected by mainstream advocacy and medical research.

But now they have a way to get involved, with a big new project that aims to gather enormous troves of information about their diseases in hopes of finding new and better ways of treating patients like them - women whose cancer has spread, or metastasized, and left them nearly out of options. "Patients want to live and we know that research is the way that we're going to be able to live," said Beth Caldwell, a former civil rights attorney in Seattle diagnosed with metastatic disease in 2014.

The idea is to gather molecular and genetic clues from as broad a group of metastatic breast cancer patients as possible. With data from thousands of people, researchers think they will be better able to target treatments or come up with new ones by answering important questions about the disease. For example: Is there something unique about tumors that spread to the brain, or that recur many years after diagnosis? What allows a very few women to outlive others by many years despite the same prognosis?

### Additional hurdles

Most breast cancer patients are treated at centers that don't do research on tumors, so participating in studies at academic medical centers far from home is cumbersome at best. Patients sick or dying from their disease face additional hurdles.

This project is different. Patients sign up online, mail in saliva kits for genetic testing, and allow use of their tumor tissue samples and medical records. Researchers use social media to keep them posted about progress, and periodically invite participants to visit the Cambridge, Massachusetts, lab where their specimens are being analyzed.

Using word of mouth and social media, the Metastatic Breast Cancer Project, run by scientists at Harvard and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Broad Institute, has enrolled more than 2,600 patients so far since launching last October. It's a pace nearly unheard of in medical research.

"I enrolled from my recliner in my living room. I did my spit tube in bed," Caldwell said.

The mother of two turns 40 on Thursday, and cancer has reached her brain, lungs, bones and liver. She tries to stay positive, but October "is a month where I just want to hide under the covers and check out," Caldwell said. "I just don't want to be confronted with all this pink

garbage." Lara MacGregor, who runs a Louisville, Kentucky-based nonprofit group for cancer patients, said she feels the same way. "Everything about breast cancer is about survivors and beating cancer," MacGregor said. "And we're sitting in the wings saying, 'I'm never going to celebrate the end of treatment.'"

MacGregor was pregnant when diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer in 2007. She had both breasts removed plus chemotherapy, and went on with her life thinking she was cured until two years ago, when tests for nagging back pain revealed cancer had returned and spread to her bones. Now 39, MacGregor read about the project online, decided immediately to take part, and emailed dozens of friends and connections who also signed on.

Before she mailed her saliva kit, "my 8-year-old drew a picture on the box and said, 'thanks for helping my mom,'" MacGregor said. "I hope that real data about real people is going lead to better treatment options," she said. "My life depends on it."

### Diagnoses statistics

More than 200,000 people, mostly women, are diagnosed with breast cancer nationwide each year. Most are diagnosed when cancer is at an early, potentially curable, stage. For about 6 percent, or 15,000 patients, the disease has

already spread at diagnosis.

And for about 30 percent of patients diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer, the disease will eventually recur in distant parts of the body. The average survival for patients with metastatic disease is about three years.

According to a 2014 analysis from an alliance of breast cancer advocacy groups, less than 10 percent of government and nonprofit groups' investment in breast cancer research in recent years went to studying metastatic disease. "Metastatic breast cancer in general is an understudied area," says Mark Hurlbert of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. "We don't know, for example, how the tumor has changed. Is it the same makeup as it was before? Do cells have a different molecular profile than cancer that started first in the breast?"

By gathering large numbers of tissue samples and information about how the diseases progresses in different people, the project may be able to uncover useful trends. It has produced a few enticing clues already, including small groups of patients who've responded unusually well to standard chemotherapy or to new immunotherapy drugs - some have survived for 10 years or more. The researchers hope DNA analyses will help explain why and lead to treatments that will improve the odds for all patients with the disease. — AP



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY: Lara MacGregor, a participant in a new crowd sourcing project for metastatic breast cancer research, poses for a photo as she undergoes treatment at the Norton Cancer Center on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016. —AP

## HOSPITALS UNDER ATTACK IN WAR ZONES

KABUL: Medical charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF) has hit out at the "unprecedented" number of attacks on medical facilities in Syria and Yemen, a year after the deadly bombing of its hospital in Afghanistan killed 42 people.

Yesterday marked the first anniversary of the US strike on the trauma centre in Kunduz, which triggered global outrage and forced President Barack Obama to make a rare apology on behalf of the US military still deployed in war-torn Afghanistan. "Over the past year, we recorded 77 attacks against medical facilities operated or supported by MSF in Syria and Yemen: this is unprecedented," Meinie Nicolai, MSF president, told reporters in Kabul.

"Hospitals are now part of the battlefield," she added.

MSF has said the raid on the hospital in Kunduz last October by a AC-130 gunship lasted nearly an hour and left patients burning in their beds with some victims decapitated and suffering traumatic amputations. The organization has branded it a war crime. However, an investigation by the US military earlier this year concluded that the troops targeted the facility by mistake and decided they would not face war crimes charges. MSF had called repeatedly called for an independent international inquiry. The charity spoke out as condemnation grew over the bombing of hospitals in the rebel-held east of the Syrian city

of Aleppo, which has been under attack by the regime and its ally Russia. "Health facilities and staff are targeted in Yemen and Syria ... most often in the name of war against terrorism," Nicolai said. "In Syria, attacks against medical centers for civilians and against ambulances are systematic." She added: "As of today, we are not back yet in Kunduz. We have left northern Yemen. We struggle to give support to the people in Syria." Guilhem Molinie, MSF country representative in Afghanistan, said he had access to 700 of the 3,000 pages of the US report on Kunduz-the rest were classified. "The US forces, operating in Kunduz on that date, assumed that self-defense was allowing them to attack," he said. — AFP

# CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times  
248 33 199





Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
م.فهد علي المخيزيم

استشاري أطفال  
M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAP. PEM



Al-Jabriya - Block 1A - St. 1 - Mazaya Building - 15th Floor - Clinic B - Tel.: 22269369 - Fax: 22269368



## MOVENPICK HOTEL CITY STAR JEDDAH BRINGS ELEGANCE WITH MODERN TWIST

Movenpick Hotels & Resorts yesterday opened the doors to the Movenpick Hotel City Star Jeddah, a unique European-style property in one of Saudi Arabia's fastest-growing cities. The 228-room property, which marks the Swiss hospitality firm's third hotel in Jeddah and 11th in the Kingdom, seamlessly blends a classical interior design with a contemporary facade and the latest modern comforts.

Ideally located near to both the Al Harthy Exhibition Centre and Mall of Arabia, and just a 15-minute drive from King Abdulaziz International Airport, the five-star hotel meets the diverse needs of business, leisure and MICE-related travelers. The deal to manage Movenpick Hotel City Star Jeddah has been signed with AlTayyar Travel Group, a

major player in the Middle East's tourism industry and the only publicly-listed travel group in Saudi Arabia.

Group Chief Executive Officer, Abdullah Aldawood, said Movenpick Hotels & Resorts had been selected to operate the property due to its "strong track record operating successful properties across Jeddah and Saudi Arabia". "We are therefore confident that our new project, Movenpick Hotel City Star Jeddah, will set new hospitality standards in this area of the city, catering well to its thriving business and leisure tourism industry," he added. Hotel facilities include eight flexible meeting rooms featuring natural light and the latest AV equipment, an elegant Palladian-style ballroom capable of accommodating up to 600 guests, the Al Maha Health Club & Spa and an inviting rooftop swimming pool.

"Movenpick Hotel City Star Jeddah introduces a new European-style hotel concept to the city, offering guests timeless elegance across every touch point, from its classical interior design to traditional cuisine, but executed with a distinct modern edge and complemented with the latest technology and amenities," said Andreas Mattmuller, Chief Operating Officer, Movenpick Hotels & Resorts, Middle East and South Asia. There are three restaurants from which to choose, including all-day dining outlet Al Deira, the glamorous Al Moltaqa Cafe, and Al Zohoor Garden located next to the rooftop pool. To celebrate the opening of Movenpick Hotel City Star Jeddah, the property is offering a 25% discount on reserved room prices, which start at SAR 700 per room, per night.



Bayan Health Center organized a health awareness day on Monday. SebaMed participated in the event which educated the public on how to deal with their blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, oral and skin care.

## BABU PARASSERY WINS THE K T MUHAMMED THEATRE AWARD



K T Muhammed Padanavedi, a Kuwait-based Indian socio cultural organization announced Babu Parassery as the winner of this year's K T Muhammed Nataka Award. Parassery, a famous drama artist and Kozhikode District Panchayat president was chosen for the prize in view of his outstanding contribution to Malayalam theatre especially to K T Muhammed's dramas, the organizers said in a press release.

The award was instituted in memory of renowned Malayalam playwright and screenplay writer late K T Muhammed. The award, comprising Rs 33,333 and a citation, would be presented at a function in Kuwait on October 14, 2016 at United Indian School, Abbasiya from 6 PM onwards according, said K T Muhammed Padanavedi - Kuwait General Convener Shyji K, Program Convener K Hassan Koya and Advisory board members Lissy Kuriakose, K Aboobacker and V P Mukesh.

K T Muhammed Padanavedi-Kuwait is a non-religious social gathering of art, literature and drama lovers in

Kuwait who are influenced by the dramas of late Muhammed. "Our ultimate aim is to explore the relevance and influences of Muhammed's works in the contemporary society and its art. Also we are trying to encourage the Kuwait society's eminent personalities who are part of the Kuwait's art, drama, media, music, social and cultural fields," the organizers said. Padanavedi is conducting an honorary function in which it will honor 17 talented personalities in various fields.

Their names are as follows. (1) C Bhaskaran (2) Joy Mundackatt (3) Sharafudheen Kanneth (4) Chacko George Kutty (5) Backer Thikkodi (6) Malayil Moosa Koya (7) P C Hareesh (8) John Arts (9) Sajeev K Peter (10) Suresh Tholambra (11) Dileep Naderi (12) Deepu Mohandas (13) Rafi Kozhikode (14) Rafi Kallai (15) Shaju Pallipuram (16) Sindhu Ramesh and (17) Biju Thikkodi. Last year Padanavedi honored 12 persons who are actively involved in Kuwait's drama field. It has also conducted theatre symposium and introductory sessions on two newly-published Malayalam books.



## BEC EXCHANGE ANNOUNCES GRAND PRIZE WINNER OF THE BMW 3 SERIES

**B**EC Exchange Company (BEC), one of Kuwait's leading Money Transfer and Foreign Exchange Company yesterday announced the grand prize winner of its latest 'BOB'S CAR BONANZA' campaign. The lucky winner Shamon C Jacob (from India) was presented with the prize of a BMW 3 Series at BEC Head Office in the presence of BEC's General Manager Mathews Varughese and other BEC officials.

The 'BOB'S CAR BONANZA' campaign which started on the 1st June 2016 until 17th September 2016, gave all BEC customers who undertook a remittance or foreign exchange transaction at one of BEC's 41 branches, during the campaign period, an opportunity to be automatically entered into monthly draw for the month that they transacted along with the Grand prize of BMW 3 Series for all customers who have transacted throughout the campaign.

Commenting on his win, Shamon C Jacob a regular BEC customer said, "I am very delighted to win this car and thrilled to win through BEC from whom I have been sending money from over ten years". Mathews Varughese, added 'At BEC we are committed to continually rewarding our loyal customers as well as attracting new customers to BEC to experience our customer service and quality product offering, which differentiates us from our competitors and we are delighted to present the winners'. Each of the previous three monthly draws saw A Prem Arumaidurai, Arul Kesavan and Muhammad Yasin drive away with a fantastic brand new Toyota Yaris.



Established in 1992, BEC specializes in sending money worldwide, safely and efficiently, at competitive rates. It is parented by BFC Group Holdings, the leading remittance and foreign exchange group in

the region which has over 100 branches across Bahrain, Kuwait, the UK, India and Malaysia. BEC has a global reach covering over 200 countries, through its own money transfer product - EzRemit and its

partnership with MoneyGram an international money transfer company and offers customers unparalleled remittance and foreign exchange products and services.



## MARINA HOTEL HOSTS AUTHENTIC 'CUBAN NIGHT'

**M**arina Hotel, will be hosting on the 4th and 5th of October 2016 Authentic 'Cuban nights' at the Six Palms restaurant. The event will be held in the presence of a number of dignitaries including His Excellency Andres Gonzalez Garrido, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba and Nabil Hammoud General Manager of Marina Hotel Kuwait and Hotel the Management team.

Cuban varieties embodying a Caribbean flair and incorporating ingredients rarely tasted outside of Cuba.

Commenting on this occasion, His Excellency Andres Gonzalez Garrido, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba says "We are very happy to be part of this event as it is a good opportunity for both Kuwaiti citizens and residents of Kuwait to experience the taste of Cuba. Such events will with no doubt strengthen the bond with the people of Kuwait particularly with the increasing number of Kuwait tourists visiting the Republic of Cuba".

In the same context, Nabil Hammoud General Manager of Marina Hotel Kuwait says: "We are exceptionally delighted to be bringing in to Kuwait such distinguish and one of a kind culinary and cultural experience. We are inviting our guests to savor genuine Cuban buffet while they listen to carefully selected compilation of Havana tunes. The Cuban night will certainly allow for a true exchange of cultures between the two countries and will enrich Marina hotel's International cousin in many ways".

The distinctive Cuban cuisine will be revealed at the Six Palms Restaurant highlighting Cuba's tastiest classic and modern dishes such as black beans, Picadillo, Ropa Vieja and Arroz con pollo. The event will go beyond guest's expectations and will take them miles away, where the ambience will reflect the Cuban touch through festive and original decor, and colorful Cuban modern art embodying the spirit of Havana. Adding a magical touch to the evening, guests will enjoy the gourmet dinner with traditional salsutones from Cuba. For more information and reservations please contact Marina Hotel 22230030 or visit their website www.marina-hotel.com



Well-renowned Chef Eddy Fernandez Monte, President of the Federation of culinary association of the Republic of Cuba, and Chef Odlavin M Castellanos flew in from Cuba especially for this occasion; together with the Marina Hotel culinary team they will be presenting Cuban signature dishes, displayed in all eye catching details, and a menu of flavorful and artistically presented



## IES STUDENTS VISIT ABK

**I**ndian Educational School, (Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan) Kuwait's secondary commerce batches of students visited a bank recently. The event was held at the Al Hawally training Center of Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait. It was a day full of learning and enlightenment. The students got a chance to step out of their routine classroom environment, and get connected to the real Business World. They not only got an insight on learning banking but different aspects of Business including Finance, Public Relations, Marketing, Human resource and Information Technology.

This extremely well-structured and interesting training session began with a fun filled ice breaker followed by a presentation on the Banking System in Kuwait, and the Vision and Mission of Al Ahli Bank by zesty and enthusiastic Abdullah Behbehani and Fatima. Through the highly interactive session by Fajr Al Kindari from the Public Relations department the students learnt about Corporate Social Responsibility, writing a press release etc.

The students were very keen to know more about taking Public Relations as their career. They were taken around in small groups to the different sections of the bank and explained in detail about the Banking opera-



tions by Abdul Wahab. Paulson and Sebastian explained complex financial matters in a clear and very simple manner and lived up to what Al Ahli Bank says "Re-imagining to a simpler Bank"- which doesn't mean doing simple things but doing it in a simpler way.

The session with the HR and the insights on intern-

ship and interviews was very informative for the students who see themselves as BANKERS OF TOMORROW. Students together with their teachers returned to their school crediting a lot of enriching memories to their knowledge bank, and depositing in return their spotless gratitude to the bank management and a lot more adorable impressions about their school.



## TSC HOLDS 'BLOOD DRIVE' FOR EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS

**T**he Sultan Center recently held a blood drive "Give Little-Save Many", an annual campaign initiated by the Sultan Center (TSC) at its branch in Souq Sharq in conjunction with Kuwait Central Blood Bank on Thursday, September 29th 2016. TSC's initiative stems from its social commitment to reinforce the wellbeing of the community and to support KCBB and those in need of blood. The blood drive was attended by a large number

of volunteers; employees and customers who have shared their power to save lives by donating blood.

Lisa Al-Ghareeb-Marketing Manager at TSC said: "Our blood drives have been highly successful we are pleased to have customers and employees' donate to support this cause. It is evident that our employees feel good about helping out our community and realize the importance of saving lives

through the gift of a blood donation". She added: "we embrace our responsibility to host initiatives that improve lives and in this case, can save lives. The Sultan Center has a long standing commitment to supporting blood drives within the communities it operates by and creating awareness of the need to support and save lives through the gift of blood donations". TSC would like to thank all those who volunteered and gave the gift of life.







# CLASSIFIEDS



## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (29/09/2016 TO 05/10/2016)

Programme	Time	Programme	Time	Programme	Time
SHARQIA-1 MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:30 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	2:15 PM 4:45 PM 7:15 PM 9:30 PM 11:45 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN 360~1 MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D	12:05 AM 12:15 PM 3:00 PM 5:45 PM 8:30 PM 11:15 PM
SHARQIA-2 LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:00 PM 6:15 PM 8:30 PM 10:45 PM 1:00 AM	FANAR-4 LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 12:45 AM	360~2 SULLY SULLY SULLY MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN SULLY	12:30 PM 2:30 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM 12:15 AM
SHARQIA-3 DEEPWATER HORIZON STORKS STORKS STORKS STORKS DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON	1:00 PM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 5:30 PM 7:30 PM 9:30 PM 11:45 PM	FANAR-5 DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM	360~3 THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:00 PM 2:45 PM 5:30 PM 8:15 PM 11:00 PM
MUHALAB-1 DEEPWATER HORIZON STORKS DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON LAF WA DAWARAN DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:15 PM 2:30 PM 4:30 PM 6:45 PM 9:00 PM 11:15 PM	MARINA-1 LAF WA DAWARAN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:15 PM 6:45 PM 9:15 PM 11:45 PM	AL-KOUT.1 LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	11:45 AM 2:00 PM 4:15 PM 6:30 PM 8:45 PM 11:00 PM
MUHALAB-2 MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:30 PM 1:00 AM	MARINA-2 LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM	AL-KOUT.2 DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON	1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 12:45 AM
MUHALAB-3 LAF WA DAWARAN STORKS-3D LAF WA DAWARAN STORKS-3D LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	1:00 PM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 7:45 PM 10:00 PM 12:15 AM	MARINA-3 DEEPWATER HORIZON STORKS STORKS STORKS DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:00 PM 2:15 PM 4:15 PM 6:15 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 12:45 AM	AL-KOUT.3 MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 4:30 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM 12:05 AM
FANAR-1 DEEPWATER HORIZON THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN STORKS STORKS THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM 9:00 PM 11:45 PM	AVENUES-1 THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN DEEPWATER HORIZON THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:00 PM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:30 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM	AL-KOUT.4 THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN STORKS STORKS STORKS LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	1:00 PM 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 5:45 PM 7:45 PM 9:45 PM 12:15 AM
FANAR-2 MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D STORKS-3D MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:45 PM 3:15 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:30 PM 1:00 AM	AVENUES-2 DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D-4DX MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D-4DX MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D-4DX MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN-3D-4DX DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D-4DX	12:30 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 8:00 PM 10:45 PM 1:00 AM	BAIRAQ-1 LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	12:15 PM 2:30 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 11:30 PM
FANAR-3 LAF WA DAWARAN	12:00 PM	AVENUES-3 LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM	BAIRAQ-2 DEEPWATER HORIZON STORKS	11:45 AM 2:00 PM

### VACANCY

**Commercial Office  
Spanish Embassy**

**FULL TIME ADMIN. ACCOUNTANT  
ADVANCED SPANISH LANGUAGE  
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**Deadline: October 14th 2016**

Enquires: [Kuwait@comercio.mineco.es](mailto:Kuwait@comercio.mineco.es)

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, Shaik Saleem S/o Shaik Nazeer Basha, holder of Indian Passport No: 6270158 and Civil ID No: 275051013605 has changed my name to Patan Ahmmad Basha. Hereinafter in all my dealings and documents I will be known by name of Patan Ahmmad Basha. (C 5218)

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### EMERGENCY 112

**PRAYER TIMINGS**

**Fajr: 04:24**  
**Shorook: 05:42**  
**Duhr: 11:37**  
**Asr: 14:59**  
**Maghrib: 17:31**  
**Isha: 18:47**

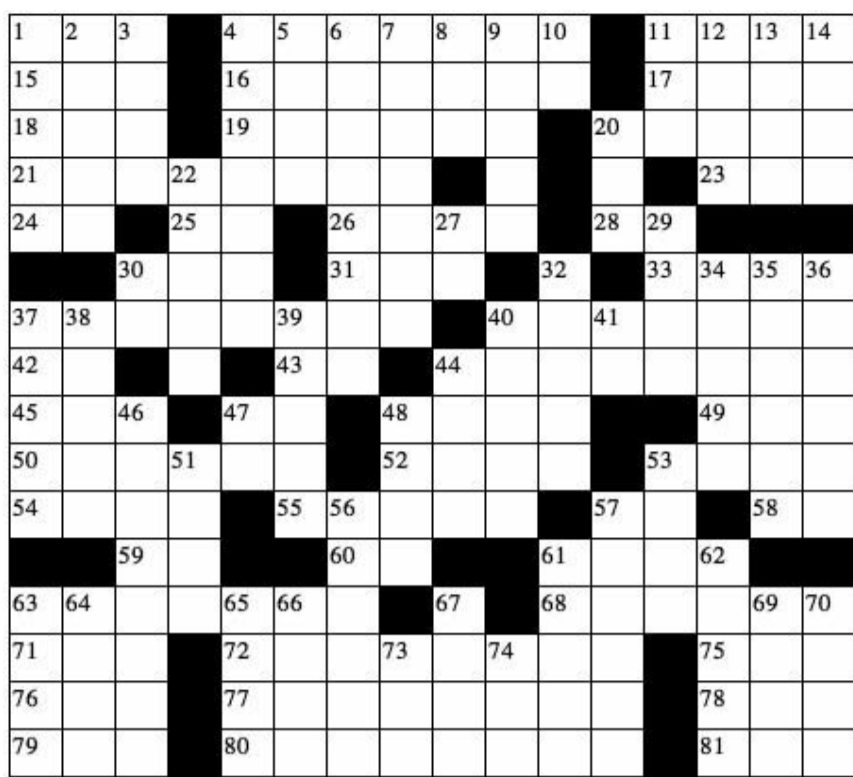
## Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

### Flight Schedule

**DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION**

Arrival Flights on Tuesday 4/10/2016				Departure Flights on Tuesday 4/10/2016			
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
ETD	9919	Bahrain	00:10	KAC	514	Tehran	13:45
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	AXB	393	Kozhikode	13:55
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	KAC	672	Dubai	14:05
JZR	239	Amman	00:20	QTR	1078	Dubai	14:05
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	MSR	575	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:15
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	KAC	178	Vienna	14:15
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	GFA	221	Bahrain	14:20
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	FDB	057	Dubai	14:20
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30
MSC	403	Asyut	01:30	KAC	788	Jeddah	15:00
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	KNE	529	Jeddah	15:05
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	OMA	645	Muscat	15:10
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:10
AXB	395	Kozhikode	01:50	RJD	135	Abu Dhabi	15:30
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:00	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45
KAC	418	Manila	02:15	FDB	051	Dubai	15:50
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	NIA	251	Alexandria	15:50
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	RJA	640	Amman	16:00
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	JZR	325	Al Najaf	16:15
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	QTR	1072	Doha	16:15
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	KAC	680	Muscat	16:55
FDB	067	Dubai	03:15	KAC	562	Amman	16:55
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15
PGT	4860	Istanbul	03:30	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:50
RBG	551	Alexandria	04:05	QTR	1080	Doha	17:55
AVV	653	Alexandria	04:30	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30
FEJ	933	Sohag	05:00	KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35
THY	1414	TZJ	05:05	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	KAC	502	Beirut	18:35
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	KAC	742	Dammam	18:50
PAL	668	Manila/Dubai	06:25	KAC	618	Doha	18:55
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	KAC	542	Cairo	18:55
BAW	157	London	06:40	KAC	104	London	19:00
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	KAC	166	Paris/Rome	19:05
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	FDB	063	Dubai	19:10
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	JAI	572	Mumbai	19:35
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15	FDB	059	Dubai	19:50
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	OMA	647	Muscat	20:20
THY	6512	Istanbul	08:40	JZR	189	Dubai	20:25
KAC	784	Jeddah	08:50	MSR	618	Alexandria	20:30
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00	QTR	1088	Doha	20:35
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00	FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05
SYR	341	Damascus	09:15	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	ALK	229	Colombo	21:20
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	KLM	415	Amsterdam	21:25
IRA	675	Lar	09:40	THY	764	Istanbul	21:30
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40	CLX	784	Luxembourg	21:35
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	KAC	172	Frankfurt	21:50
MEA	404	Beirut	11:00	QTR	1082	Doha	21:55
JZR	561	Sohag	11:25	GFA	219	Bahrain	22:00
RBG	553	Alexandria	11:30	NIA	151	Cairo	22:10
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10
AVV	651	Alexandria	12:05	JZR	125	Bahrain	22:15
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	AIC	987	Chennai/Hyderabad	22:25
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	PIA	239	Sialkot	22:35
SAW	701	Damascus	12:35	KAC	782	Jeddah	22:50
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	JZR	185	Dubai	22:55
FEJ	955	Asyut	12:55	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:05
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	MSC	403	Asyut	23:10
KAC	620	Doha	13:10	JZR	239	Amman	23:20
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10	MSR	614	Cairo	23:30
IRC	6507	Shiraz	13:35	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35
				JAD	301	Amman	23:45

CROSSWORD 1389



ACROSS

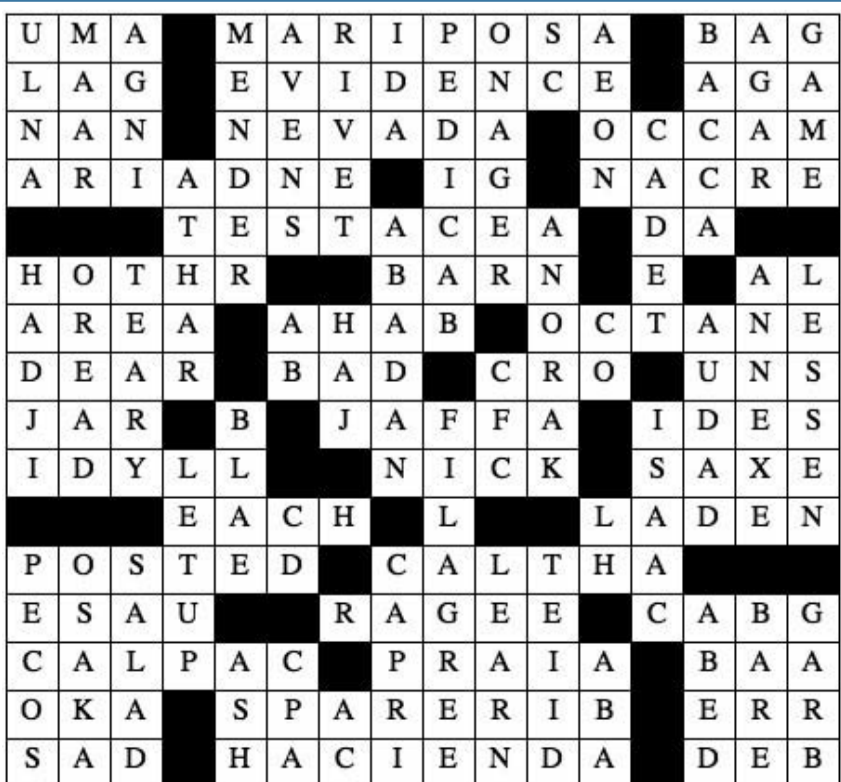
- The part of the nervous system of vertebrates that controls involuntary actions of the smooth muscles and heart and glands.
- Have as an attribute, knowledge, or skill.
- Slightly open.
- A depression in an otherwise level surface.
- Remove body hair.
- A cord that is drawn through eyelets or around hooks in order to draw together two edges (as of a shoe or garment).
- Used of a single unit or thing.
- Be a sign or indication of.
- The act of someone who picks up or takes something.
- A condition (mostly in boys) characterized by behavioral and learning disorders.
- The blood group whose red cells carry both the A and B antigens.
- An international organization of European countries formed after World War II to reduce trade barriers and increase cooperation among its members.
- Bony flesh of herring-like fish usually caught during their migration to fresh water for spawning.
- Before noon.
- An unabridged dictionary constructed on historical principles.
- A hormone produced by the anterior pituitary gland that stimulates the adrenal cortex.
- Wandering aimlessly without ties to a place or community.
- Very poisonous metallic element that has three allotropic forms.
- 1/10 gram.
- A light touch or stroke.
- (informal) Of the highest quality.
- Lacking in reality or substance or genuineness.
- A Russian river.
- A Chadic language spoken in northern Nigeria.
- West Indian evergreen with medium to long leaves.
- The ratio of the circumference to the diameter of a circle.
- Destruction of heart tissue resulting from obstruction of the blood supply to the heart muscle.
- An official prosecutor for a judicial district.
- United States feminist who founded a national organization for women (born in 1921).
- Apathy and inactivity in the practice of virtue (personified as one of the deadly sins).
- A boy or man.
- A unit of current equal to 10 amperes.
- A cgs unit of work or energy.
- Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
- Caused to show discomposure.
- The month following February and preceding April.
- Any of numerous hairy-bodied insects including social and solitary species.
- Relating to or like or divided into areolae.
- (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish gods.

DOWN

- (Babylonian) A demigod or first man.
- (Sumerian and Babylonian) A solar deity.
- A detailed description of design criteria for a piece of work.
- A tricycle (usually propelled by ped-

- alling).
- Affording unobstructed entrance and exit.
- Uttered in a monotonous cadence or rhythm as in chanting.
- Slang for 'drunk'.
- Take in solid food.
- (literary) Spirited horse for state or war.
- A toxic nonmetallic element related to sulfur and tellurium.
- A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism.
- An island in Indonesia south of Borneo.
- Harsh or corrosive in tone.
- Having been read.
- Aircraft landing in bad weather in which the pilot is talked down by ground control using precision approach radar.
- Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- A public promotion of some product or service.
- A member of the Siouan people formerly living in the Missouri river valley in NE Nebraska.
- A soft white precious univalent metallic element having the highest electrical and thermal conductivity of any metal.
- All the plant life in a particular region.
- Tropical American tree producing cacao beans.
- As much as a teacup will hold.
- Any of several Orthodox Jewish sects who reject modern secular culture and many of whom do not recognize the spiritual authority of the modern state of Israel.
- (Hindu) A manner of sitting (as in the practice of Yoga).
- In a manner differing from the usual or expected.
- A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
- Broadcasting visual images of stationary or moving objects.
- An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
- Deep-bodied percoid fishes of the open seas.
- A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group.
- Type genus of the Alcidae comprising solely the razorbill.
- A member of an Iroquoian people formerly living on the south shore of Lake Erie in northern Ohio and northwest Pennsylvania and western New York.
- Remove with or as if with a ladle.
- (biology) Of unlike parts or organs.
- Pull back or move away or backward.
- A mark used by an author or editor to indicate where something is to be inserted into a text.
- Swelling from excessive accumulation of serous fluid in tissue.
- A feeling of intense anger.
- A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
- Little known Kamarupan languages.
- German industrialist who was the first in Germany to use an assembly line in manufacturing automobiles (1871-1948).
- A theocratic republic in the Middle East in western Asia.
- A city in northern India.
- A unit of conductance equal to the reciprocal of an ohm.
- A period marked by distinctive character or reckoned from a fixed point or event.

Yesterday's Solution



STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

Career decisions that point to real success may be just where you are searching. Although you are happy with your position, there are openings all around you. Look at your friends or relatives that have no jobs and consider informing them of some new opportunities, especially if you are not interested for yourself. You are able to show your worth, strength and stamina in any professional position. You may benefit from an older person or one in authority today. Take time to see the long-term results of his or her comments and transfer your attention to new possibilities. Shopping this afternoon may be fun for a change. Do keep a list handy so you will keep a focus. This is an ideal time to strengthen your home life.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Paying attention to the little things today when it comes to satisfying a client, patient or customer will be an important part of your day. If you are working for a company that has a production line, pay close attention to what a customer tells you about the working, or not working, product. Take nothing for granted. Do not jump to conclusions. This is a real time to pay particular attention and know that what you do and how you take care of the little details defines you and your company to the customer as well as the competitor. Your organizational abilities and sense of responsibility will be what guide you and proves successful. Good luck and positive actions are in the forecast today. This is one of your best overall days. This is also a good day for love.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Requesting a loan or obtaining any other type of acquisition is a positive. You have good practical job-related thoughts and ideas. Use that ability you have to communicate with superiors or describe what you see. You will find that you can really use your mind to think things through and make clear choices. The future of business in your country depends upon the children that are now being educated. Ask yourself if you can volunteer to help with junior achievement or some other junior business organization in order to help educate and instruct in the art of whatever professional expertise is yours; take a co-worker friend. Don't be afraid to project your image-make those dreams real. Ideas of group cooperation could further your career.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Although you shy away from challenges, you cannot escape facing a few of them. Challenges provide you with choices to either move in a new direction or work to overcome the challenge. Discover the root of a matter and then deal with that information. Approaching a situation from different angles or different viewpoints may be helpful. Moving through this interesting day you may find that in the afternoon a confused person has a lot to say to a group of people. Take a nibble on your bottom lip and do not comment; listen very closely for key words that help you see from the viewpoint of the person trying to communicate. Positive results happen when you do not push to reverse someone's thinking. It is good to know the appropriate time to intercede.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

You often take the most interesting path to experience your life, skirting the crowd and the commonplace, heading for parts unknown. Your approach to any problem is often original and you could invent things or discover new places or develop new ways of doing things. This is the best time you will have to make progress, push forward and rise to fame. It will be hard for you to do wrong, for all the cycles are working in your favor. This is also a time when you may marry or take on a new role in the community or with other people. You will be in demand and recognition will be forthcoming. Your desires are strong and you will want to enjoy yourself. Romance is possible. There is a basic drive to appreciate and taste life-stop worrying.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Circumstances may appear to bring very sensitive issues to your attention. Changes you want to make, or that someone else wants to make, may be challenged; you hold the solution. This is a good time to plan a change and you could rest easy with whatever results two people can achieve. Learn techniques that will relieve stress. Responsibilities and outside pressures are just a part of life, but knowing when to move forward with a worthwhile project requires patience and a positive attitude. There is the possibility of new visions or sudden insights into your self-image or into your dreams. There are breakthroughs in compassion and communication. The people you know are learning to communicate more openly and you are pleased.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

You find that you benefit most from the ability to write down an outline of sorts that indicates the process of a difficult task or conversation that would otherwise become disastrous. This is not something you do every day but it is a technique you may have formed to remedy a maze of problems. You may be very pleased to know that your talents are strong and will travel with you into whatever you want to accomplish in a profession. There could be a new self-help author or some written information that a co-worker wants to tell you about; listen. You will prosper by pursuing your most passionate dreams of how life could be. Don't be afraid to project your image-make those dreams real. This is indeed, a grand day.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You are at your most practical when it comes to dealing and working with others. You know just what to do and can act without haste and emotion. You could find that you are appreciated or valued for your ability to act and get things done. You are called on to make use of your natural abilities and common sense. You need to be respected can certainly be achieved at this time. Work, achievement and ambition mean a lot to you. There is an urge to join your friends in some social affair this evening. However, you may walk a fine line today between good company and disapproval, so be aware. You could find yourself working against the values of another-going against the flow. This evening may be best spent in relaxation with a loved one.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 19)

Don't abandon the ship now. Although your mood is with your family members, a workday has begun and you would do well to climb on board, so to speak. No matter how much you think you may not be helping, you are actually able to make a difference in the professional realm. One day at a time, you can do anything. Pay attention to the shuffle of activity when employees change position within the company for which you work. You will be able to move up the corporate ladder as well. Today you help a person, project or activity move along in a fast and accurate manner. Completion of some difficult task or understanding will be met soon. Don't be afraid to project your positive image; network. A most positive day follows you home. Smile!



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You are driven and passionate in your pursuit of change and inner growth. Your attitude in the workplace is usually an appreciative and respectful one. People like you and enjoy being around you because of your attitude. This job may be the only job you have been around where people actually work and achieve and the atmosphere lends itself to productive, creative, enthusiastic people. You may find, however, that with a strong inner push to be productive you are exhausted upon arriving home. The transition between work and home is important for you to be able to adjust. Be creative for yourself and find enjoyable ways to reach the home front. Try a massage once a week. Or music, a book or short story or old time radio might be fun for listening.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

You have a natural sense for communicating with others, particularly those younger than yourself. Clear thoughts about the past may also be flowing in today. You will perhaps, find yourself teaching and setting the pace for these young people. Financial savvy and a practical turn of mind are qualities that take on greater importance this afternoon. The right sales technique, completing a project or presenting an idea are all possibilities for your busy day. You have a good voice. This could be in speaking or in singing. If you are not performing, think about attending a performance of a stand-up comedian or going to a karaoke club and trying out your voice sometime this week. Your friends will encourage you, just say the word.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

This is the day you will have new thoughts and sudden insights. You may get an unexpected boost in the way you think, speak or write. Communications are strong at this time-connections of all kinds, news and so on, are furthered-perhaps at the expense of tradition and established order. If you are a newspaper reporter, hold your head up high above the others as there is something in the air, something that will be your own scoop. Tear it down and build it up again, reach in and pluck out the offending element-that's what the new cycle you have entered is like. Power becomes a compelling idea, perhaps even an aphrodisiac-and you have a stronger than usual supply of it now. Use it, do not abuse it-or you might find that it is a two-edged sword!

Wordsearch Puzzle

Songs From the Year 2001

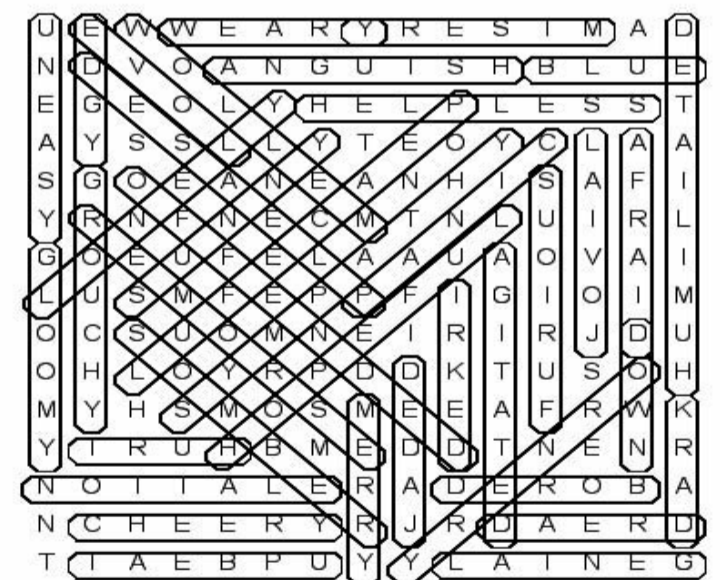
Find and circle all of the songs from 2001 that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 22 letters spell an additional song title from 2001.



- |               |               |                |             |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| AGAIN         | DRIVE         | KRYPTONITE     | PLAY        |
| ALL FOR YOU   | EMOTION       | LADY MARMALADE | PROMISE     |
| ANGEL         | EVERYWHERE    | LOVE           | RIDE WIT ME |
| AUSTIN        | FAMILY AFFAIR | MISSING YOU    | SOUTH SIDE  |
| BE LIKE THAT  | FIESTA        | MUSIC          | STUTTER     |
| BEAUTIFUL DAY | FILL ME IN    | MOST GIRLS     | SURVIVOR    |
| BUTTERFLY     | FOLLOW ME     | MY BABY        | THANK YOU   |
| CONTAGIOUS    | HERO          | ONE MORE DAY   | U REMIND ME |
| CRAZY         | I WISH        | ONLY TIME      | VIDEO       |
| DANCE WITH ME | IRRESISTIBLE  | OOCHIE WALLY   | WALK ON     |
| DIFFERENCES   | JADED         | OUTSIDE        | WHO I AM    |
| DIG IN        |               |                |             |

Yesterday's Solution

Moods & Emotions 1



- |          |            |          |          |
|----------|------------|----------|----------|
| AFRAID   | ELATION    | JADED    | PEACEFUL |
| AGITATED | FURIOUS    | JOVIAL   | PLEASED  |
| ANGUISH  | GENIAL     | LONELY   | REMORSE  |
| BLUE     | GLOOMY     | LOVE     | SOMBER   |
| BORED    | GROUCHY    | MELLOW   | SUNNY    |
| CHEERY   | HELPLESS   | MERRY    | SYMPATHY |
| DARK     | HOPEFUL    | MISERY   | UNEASY   |
| DOWN     | HUMILIATED | OFFENDED | UPBEAT   |
| DREAD    | HURT       | ORNERY   | WEARY    |
| EDGY     | IRKED      | PANIC    |          |

The hidden word is: ASTONISHMENT

Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution



For labor-related inquiries and complaints:  
Call MSAL hotline 128

### Hospitals

Sabah Hospital	24812000
Amiri Hospital	22450005
Maternity Hospital	24843100
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700
Chest Hospital	24849400
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010
Adan Hospital	23940620
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9

### Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khaldiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadsiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401
Jabriya	25316254
Maidan Hawally	25623444
Bayan	25388462
Mishref	25381200
W Hawally	22630786
Sabah	24810221
Jahra	24770319
New Jahra	24575755
West Jahra	24772608
South Jahra	24775066
North Jahra	24775992
North Jleeb	24311795
Ardhiya	24884079
Firdous	24892674
Omariya	24719048
N Khaitan	24710044
Fintas	23900322



### 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 Khalidiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khalidiya 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

### INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania	00355	Luxembourg	00352
Algeria	00213	Macau	00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola	00244	Madagascar	00261
Anguilla	001264	Majorca	0034
Antiga	001268	Malawi	00265
Argentina	0054	Malaysia	0060
Armenia	00374	Maldives	00960
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria	0043	Malta	00356
Azerbaijan	00994	Marshall Islands	00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize	00501	Moldova	00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia	00591	Morocco	00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia	00855	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Niger	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African	00236	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China	0086	Norway	0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053	Peru	0051
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark	0045	Puerto Rico	001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic	001809	Rwanda	00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia	00372	Samoa West	00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tome	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland	00358	Senegal	00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon	00241	Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain	0034
Greenland	00299	Sri Lanka	0094
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland	00268
Guatemala	00502	Sweden	0046
Guinea	00224	Switzerland	0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Taiwan	00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary	0036	Togo	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia	0062	Turkey	0090
Iran	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Italy	0039	United Arab Emirates	00976
Ivory Coast	00225	United Kingdom	0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay	00598
Japan	0081	USA	001
Jordan	00962	Uzbekistan	00998
Kazakhstan	007	Vanuatu	00678
Kenya	00254	Venezuela	00582
Kiribati	00686	Vietnam	0084
Kuwait	00965	Virgin Islands UK	001284
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Virgin Islands US	001340
Laos	00856	Wales (UK)	0044
Latvia	00371	Yemen	00967
Lebanon	00961	Yugoslavia	00381
Liberia	00231	Zambia	00260
Libya	00218	Zimbabwe	00263
Lesotho	00266		

### STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630  
Fax: (+965) 24348714  
www.met.gov.kw

### Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

Issued 03/10/2016-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

Max Temperature 36 °C

By Day : Visibility will improve gradually with light to moderate north westerly to light variable wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h  
By Night : Fair with variable wind changing to light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 06 - 28 km/h

SFC. CHART



### Four-Day Forecast

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Expected Weather	hot	hot	hot	hot
Min Temp °C	21	21	22	23
Max Temp °C	37	37	38	38
Wind Direction	north westerly to light variable	variable	north westerly to light variable	north westerly
Wind Speed km/h	08 - 30	06 - 22	08 - 26	12 - 32

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

### Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

### Kuwait Forecast

Station	MIN °C	REC	Max °C	EXP
KUWAIT CITY	25		34	
KUWAIT AIRPORT	20		36	
ABDULY	22		37	
BUBYAN	22		31	
JAHRA	23		36	
FAILAKA ISLAND	22		33	
SALMIYAH	27		34	
AHMADI	26		33	
JAL ALIYAH	22		37	
QARDH ISLAND	29		35	
UMM AL-MARADEM	28		33	
NUWAISIB	21		37	
WAFRA	20		36	
MANAGISH	19		37	
SALMY	20		36	
MUTRIBA	20		36	

### Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	34
Min Temp (°C)	21
Max Rel Hum (%)	40
Min Rel Hum (%)	14
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	25 SW
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR.	0 mm

### Prayer Times

Sunrise	05:42
Sunset	17:32
Fajr	04:24
Sunrise	05:42
Zuhr	11:37
Air	15:00
Sunset	17:32
Isha	18:49



### PRIVATE CLINICS

Ophthalmologists	Plastic Surgeons	Paediatricians	Endocrinologist
Dr. Abdallah Al-Mansoor 25622444	Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf 22547272	Dr. Khaled Hamadi 25665898	Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman 25339330
Dr. Samy Al-Rabaea 25752222	Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari 22617700	Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed 25340300	Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888
Dr. Masoma Habeeb 25321171	Dr. Abdel Quttainah 25625030/60	Dr. Zahra Qabazard 25710444	Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy 25739999	<b>Family Doctor</b>	Dr. Sohail Qamar 22621099	<b>Physiotherapists &amp; VD</b>
Dr. Mohsen Abel 25757700	Dr Divya Damodar 23729596/23729581	Dr. Snaa Maarroof 25713514	Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291
Dr. Adnan Hasan Alwayl 25732223	<b>Psychiatrists</b>	Dr. Pradip Gupare 23713100	Dr. Mused Faraj Khamees 22666288
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly 25732223	Dr. Esam Al-Ansari 22635047	Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282	<b>Rheumatologists:</b>
<b>Ear, Nose &amp; Throat (ENT)</b>	Dr. Eisa M. Al-Balhan 22613623/0	<b>Dermatology</b>	Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner 24555050 Ext 510	<b>Gynaecologists &amp; Obstetricians</b>	Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955	Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah 25722290
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali 25644660	Dr. Adrian arbe 23729596/23729581	<b>Dentists</b>	<b>Internist, Chest &amp; Heart</b>
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel 25646478	Dr. Verginia s. Marin 2572-6666 ext 8321	Dr. Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581	DR.Mohammes Akkad 24555050 Ext 210
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah 25311996	Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan 22655539	Dr. Shamah Al-Matar 22641071/2	Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCP, PACC
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daory 25731988	Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliyami 25343406	Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed 22562226	Assistant Professor Of Medicine
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary 22620166	Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly 25739272	Dr. Abdallah Al-Amer 22561444	Head, Division of Cardiology
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz 25651426	Dr. Salem soso 22618787	Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557	Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital 25339667
<b>General Practitioners</b>	<b>General Surgeons</b>	Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888	<b>Consultant Cardiologist</b>
Dr. Mohammed Y Majidi 24555050 Ext 123	Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer 22610044	Dr. Abdallah Al-Duweisan 25653755	Dr. Farida Al-Habib 2611555-2622555
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar 24719312	Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher 25327148	Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111	MD, PH.D, FACC
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhaizeem 23926920	<b>Internists, Chest &amp; Heart</b>	<b>Neurologists</b>	Inaya German Medical Center
Dr. Kathem Maarafi 25730465	Dr. Adnan Ebil 22639939	Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324	Te: 2575077
Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah 25655528	Dr. Mousa Khadada 22666300	Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875	Fax: 25723123
Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi 24577781	Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan 25728004	<b>Gastrologists</b>	
Dr. Dina Abdallah Al-Rfae 25333501	Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra 25355515	Dr. Sami Aman 22636464	
<b>Urologists</b>	Dr. Mobarak Aldoub 24726446	Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	
Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy 22641534	Dr. Nasser Behbehani 25654300/3	Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali 22633135	
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In this image released by 20th Century Fox, from left, Lauren McCrostie, Pixie Davies, Cameron King, Thomas and Joseph Odwell and Ella Purnell appear in a scene from, "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children". — AP



Actors Samuel L. Jackson, left, Ella Purnell, Lauren McCrostie, director Tim Burton, Asa Butterfield, Finlay MacMillan and Eva Green attend "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" red carpet event at Saks 5th Avenue on Monday, Sept. 26, 2016, in New York.

# Wee, weird heroes star in 'Miss Peregrine's Home'

**R**eview  
 Fall has officially just started, but there's still one more superhero flick sneaking in just before all the summer heat vanishes completely. But if you want muscled torsos and capes, you'll be sadly disappointed. After a steady stream this year of Batman, Superman, Captain America, X-Men and even Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, it's time now for a group of kids who float, are invisible, who spark fire, manipulate plants, control bees and give life to inanimate objects. Not really, X-Men exactly. Call them X-Tweens.

They're the unlikely young heroes and heroines of "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children," the Tim Burton-directed 3-D film loosely based on the novel of the same name by Ransom Riggs. Sweet, with some mind-blowing visual effects, it's the perfect film for your young disaffected mutant friends. Asa Butterfield (Martin Scorsese's "Hugo") plays a young adult who stumbles upon a secret refuge for supernaturally gifted youngsters hiding in a time loop in 1943. Our hero befriends the mysterious schoolmarm Miss Peregrine (a delicious Eva Green, channeling a sexy Mary Poppins by way of Helena Bonham Carter) and learns that the children are in danger from ever-growing malevolent forces.

**Underwater moments**  
 Burton is a natural choice to direct: The material already has that gloomy, Victorian vibe, a stylized dreamlike quality, and a sort of Goth-punk look, which is catnip to the director of "Edward Scissorhands." He also famously adores misfits; here, the screen is filled with them. No surprise the job of turning the book into a film was handed to Jane Goldman, who is familiar both with mutants and the 1940s, having been the screenwriter for "X-Men: First Class." A somewhat ponderous first half leads to a hard-charging second, filled with ingenious fight-scenes, glorious ocean liners and sublime underwater moments.

**Stiff performances**  
 Hyper-stylized films like Burton's usually create stiff performances, but Terence Stamp is grounded as a knowing grandfather and Chris O'Dowd is perfectly oafish as a clueless dad. Other cameos are by Judi Dench, Allison Janney and Rupert Everett (blink and you miss them). Ella Purnell is lovely and understated as a love interest; she's buoyant, in more ways than one. So stretch your definition of heroes to include, say, a cute little girl with razor-sharp teeth on the back of her head. "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" has all the making of a super franchise - the call of destiny, the making of heroes and the embrace of kinship.

Plus, of course, coming to terms with your inner freak. "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children," a 20th Century Fox release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "intense sequences of fantasy violence and peril." Running time: 127 minutes. Three stars out of four. — AP

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The film should come with a Harry Potter-like warning for those allergic to new whimsical vocabulary terms like "ymbriines," "Hollows" and "hollowheads." But go with it. Your head will be in pain soon enough trying to make sense of the increasingly elaborate rules of time-travel

and body shifting. The peculiar children of the film's title are certainly unique but you can find plenty of other films in the DNA of "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children," particularly skeleton soldiers from "Jason and the Argonauts," the X-Men franchise for making freaks lovable, "Groundhog Day" and even the underappreciated Hayden Christensen film "Jumper," which also has time shifting at its core and the same sort of evil force in Samuel L. Jackson.

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## At festival, a unique take on Prince's 'Purple Rain'

**W**hen pop legend Prince died, the indie rocker Twin Shadow said his first impulse was to rush to the studio to record a tribute to one of his musical heroes. Instead, Twin Shadow decided the best way to channel the spirit of Prince was live-which he showed through one of the most creatively challenging sets at The Meadows, a new festival in New York. Twin Shadow, the stage name of Dominican-born US producer George Lewis, Jr, told the crowd that for him Prince's music was "much more fragile and momentary" than a tribute album could represent.

He described his set as an interpretation of Prince's "Purple Rain," but instead of performing copycat covers from the classic 1984 album he infused the songs with new life. For "I Would Die 4 U," Twin Shadow replaced the lush dance texture with a hard-driving but sparse electro pulsation. "Darling Nikki," controversial at the time for its eroticism, became all the more sinister as Twin Shadow mixed it with the harsher, kinkier industrial backdrop of Nine Inch Nails' 1994 hit "Closer." For "When Doves Cry," Twin Shadow went even heavier on the guitar opening the hair-metal solo that proved Prince's versatility and prowess-yet then chose a subdued beat for a hit so rare in pop music for lacking bass. Twin Shadow brought out the most inimitable aspect of Prince-his voice by summoning his own vocal power but remaining careful not to overdo it on songs such as "The Beautiful Ones," which took on a subtle Caribbean touch.

Prince died on April 21 from an accidental overdose of painkillers. Artists including Stevie Wonder will mourn him at a memorial concert on October 13 in his native Minnesota. Twin Shadow, who performed another "Purple Rain" concert a week earlier in Los Angeles, made his major label debut last year after winning an indie following with his synthpop fusion.

### Kanye out early

The undisputed main attraction of the two-day festival, held in the parking lot of the Mets baseball team's stadium, was rap superstar Kanye West. Fans waiting an hour in a dedicated line just to buy his merchandise. West however abruptly ended his set-which he started half an hour late after his wife, reality TV star Kim Kardashian, was robbed at gunpoint in her Paris hotel room of millions of dollars in jewelry. In his hour-long performance West pursued his theme of self-love from his "The Life of Pablo" album, entering to overhead fireworks and racing illuminated across the stage's orange fog.

Chance the Rapper, a sometime collaborator of fellow Chicago native West, warmed up the crowd with tracks from his Gospel-driven mixtape "Coloring Book" in a set that went from stripped-down beats and jazzy trumpet to full-blown dance hits that shook the pavement. In an unlikely representation of inner voices, Chance the Rapper brought to the stage puppets including the chatty Carlos the Lion, a blue Muppet-like character who offered words of encouragement between songs. Other performers Sunday included retro English rockers The 1975 and Toronto indie rockers Metric, who delivered an ear-numbing but ultra-high-energy set.

The Meadows was created by promoters of New York's six-year-old Governors Ball at the tail-end of the festival season amid fast-growing demand for live music. Tapping into the diverse flavor of the surrounding borough of Queens, the festival brought out Bollywood-style dancers between sets and sold cuisine from local Latin vendors. But The Meadows had unwelcome hiccups with the shortened set by West-whose set at Governors Ball was rained out-and the cancellation of Saturday's headliner, R&B sensation The Weeknd, who instead performed on television's "Saturday Night Live." — AP

# Why top fashion models never smile

**T**hey wear the world's most beautiful and expensive clothes yet their faces are the picture of blank boredom. Why do fashion models always look so miserable? "You don't smile. It is just not done," said model Ty Ogunkoya as catwalk stars criss-crossed Paris for fashion week. In his decade as a top model, the 26-year-old Nigerian-born Londoner has never once permitted himself a grin. "I have modeled for everyone, and no one has ever asked me to smile," he told AFP. "To be honest, it would feel weird if I did." "When I walk I think about something sad, like when my cat died," added Klara, a 18-year-old Slovakian model. "It was run over by a bus."

But do models really need to be so glum? "Never forget it is the clothes they are looking at and not you," Victoire Macon Dauxerre, a former model for Celine and Alexander McQueen, said she was told. In her book, "Never Thin Enough," she tells how she was warned to "never, ever smile."

### 'It's so not done'

Her modelling agency's catwalk coach taught her how to get the perfect "haughty killer look" by slightly dropping her chin and lifting her eyes at the same time. Rising young star Matthieu Villot told AFP the reason for the unspoken ban on smiling was clear. "They want to show the clothes and not our faces. If we smile we focus attention on our faces and not the clothes," said the 22-year-old medical student. Ogunkoya said he had been never told not to smile but "my whole preconception of modeling was moody guys and girls going down the runway... It is so not done they don't have to say."

Fashion historian Lydia Kamitsis said it was not always so. The vogue for expressionless models is actually very recent, she said, dating from the rise of the Japanese designers Yohji Yamamoto and Comme des Garcons in the early 1980s. "This was also the period of the super-models (Cindy Crawford, Imam and Elle Macpherson) who very much had their own personalities, and it was a reaction against this," she said. "In the 1960s, when collections were first presented as shows, models often smiled, laughed and even danced to music."

"Now they are seen as walking clothes hangers. It's all about effacing their personality... the clothes are it."



Anthropologist Leyla Neri, the director of fashion at the New School Parsons Paris, agreed. She dates the first appearance of moody, often scowling models to Brigitte Bardot and Jane Birkin in the 1960s. It then sped up with the rise of feminism and "women's need to be taken seriously in their professional lives, so you see women striking strong, unsmiling poses in Armani suits. Men have never smiled on the catwalk because they never have had to smile to please," Neri insisted.

"In the 1950s models smiled all the time, in fact they were kind of living dolls," she added. "With emancipation and designers like Yves Saint Laurent you get more of an androgynous look, and women became more masculine and powerful." Contemporary designers have an "even more minimalist vision," Neri argued. "They want the most neutral faces and bodies possible to show their work."

"They do not see their models as an ideal of beauty

any longer. That is something that the public has not quite understood." Every few years, however, iconoclasts like French designer Jean Paul Gaultier send models out smiling. Indian creator Manish Arora also cheers things up by casting his bohemian friends. And several models ended up beaming through British designer Paul Smith's last Paris menswear show.

"I didn't tell them to smile," he told AFP afterwards. "I have nothing against smiling. If the clothes make them happy, go for it," he said. Villot, who took part in that show but didn't dare a smile, said models are often afraid to look too happy in case they end up looking ridiculous. "The serious face you can do every time, but if you smile you don't know how you are going to look." Ogunkoya agreed. "It's easier to just walk and zone out. Smiling is definitely more of a challenge." But would he smile if asked? "Why not? You get asked to do the most random things in this job." — AFP

## 'Pregnant' male politicians lead Japan housework drive

**A** trio of male Japanese politicians has gamely strapped on "pregnancy vests" that simulate swollen bellies in a lighthearted campaign for men to pick up the slack in a nation where women do most of the housework. The three governors of southwestern prefectures are taking to the airwaves with the public awareness campaign that loosely translates as: "The governor is a pregnant woman." Japanese men are not very helpful husbands when it comes to housework: they do just one hour of unpaid work daily compared to five hours for their wives, according to a 2014 study by the 35-nation Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The three-minute spot, which started running last week, shows the hapless lawmakers being outfitted

with seven kilogram (16 pound) vests that mimic the belly of a woman who is about seven months pregnant. Then it is time to clumsily navigate stairs, carry groceries, or wait for someone to give up their seat on the bus. One politician struggles to put on socks, while another wipes sweat from his brow after hanging a load of laundry, as an upbeat tune plays in the background. "I can see how hard it is to be carrying a child and do house chores," says 52-year-old Shunji Kono, the governor of Miyazaki prefecture. "I think I have to be much kinder," the father of three adds in the video. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has made drawing more women into the workforce a top priority to fix the economy, heading calls to make better use of a highly educated but underemployed labor pool. — AFP



This video grab taken from footage released by Kyushu-Yamaguchi Work Life Balance Promotion Campaign yesterday shows the governor of Yamaguchi prefecture, Tsugumasa Muraoka, taking a break while cleaning clothes with a pregnancy vest. — AFP

## Rockwell museum gets \$1.5m grant from 'Star Wars' creator

**G**eorge Lucas, the creator of the "Star Wars" movie empire, has donated \$1.5 million to the Norman Rockwell Museum. The Stockbridge, Massachusetts-based museum says the grant from the George Lucas



In this April 17, 2015, file photo, filmmaker George Lucas attends the Tribeca Film Festival in New York. — AP

Family Foundation will enable the museum's digital learning and engagement division to create multi-media experiences for on-site and online visitors as well as for traveling exhibitions. A traveling exhibition this fall is expected to include a digital gallery-tour accessible from mobile devices.

Norman Rockwell Museum Director Laurie Norton Moffatt called it a "truly transformational grant." The museum said in a statement dated Sept 29 that Lucas is an avid collector of Rockwell pieces and shares in the museum's

belief that the illustrator's art transcends generations and cultures, communicating universal ideals related to community, family, and human rights. — AP



File photo shows actress Lindsay Lohan performs a scene from the play, "Speed the Plow," during a photocall at the Playhouse Theatre in central London.

## Lohan says she lost part of finger in boat accident

**L**indsay Lohan says she had surgery to reattach part of her finger following a boating accident. The actress posted a video of her hand with a bandaged ring finger Sunday on Snapchat. She says on the video, "This is the result of me trying to anchor the boat by myself," adding, "My poor finger!" Lohan explained in a caption on the video that she lost half her finger during the accident. She says the detached piece was found and she had surgery "to fix it." The 30-year-old later poked fun at herself on Instagram, posting a picture with the caption, "One handed selfie."

Lohan didn't say where or when the accident happened, but Turkish media report it took place in the southwestern resort town of Bodrum. Private news channel NTV reports that friends recovered the finger and Lohan was rushed to a hospital for surgery. Lohan was in Istanbul late last month to visit a hospital for Syrian refugees and the home of a refugee family from Aleppo. Her representative didn't immediately return a request for comment yesterday.

# Writing the perfect email



By Hassan Al-Mousawi

**B**efore you are able to determine how to go about your email, you must first highlight all the objectives behind your correspondence. Example objectives can be:

- \* To start a long lasting fruitful business relationship.
- \* To obtain information and have the other party cooperate in providing it.
- \* To deliver a message or instruction clearly in a positive manner.
- \* To set a meeting where both parties will look forward to attend.

Notice how objectives need to be geared towards a positive outcome. You wouldn't want people to think of you as a burden. Or dread your emails when they appear in their inbox, would you?

By controlling communication we are able to control outcomes. Nothing feels better than the investment in people, resulting in their utmost cooperation and support.

## The first impression

The first few lines of the email will automatically generate a first impression in the recipient's mind. More often than not, this impression will last for the duration of your relationship with them.

Here are a few questions you may use to guide your opening lines.

- \* Do I seem enthusiastic?
- \* Is the introduction powerful and memorable?
- \* Would it make the reader interested to carry on



reading with enthusiasm?

- \* Do I show more care towards the recipient, or rather my personal agenda?
- \* Do I address them with respect and care?

## Be clear and precise

You may find yourself having to explain complex concepts or a series of events to a recipient. The question is how are you able to deliver the ideas in

the most effective way without confusion, ensuring the most efficient response.

## Here are a few points that might make all the difference:

- \* Avoid long paragraphs. It is generally more acceptable, even encouraged to use spacing in emails, simplifying the reading process.
- \* Highlight important or key words. If the point is in regards to a specific project by a particular department. Use bold text or italics to emphasize points. Using many subtitles and underlined headers can segment the body of the email for easier digestion. The reader should be able to skim the text and understand the gist of the email at a glance.
- \* Use correct punctuation, a powerful tool in delivering messages as it guides the reader on how they should read and perceive your content.

## Ending the email

- \* Is there a specific action you require from the recipient?
- \* Is the nature of the desired action constrained by time?
- \* Would you like them to be enthusiastic about your proposed meeting?

Always end on a positive note. Whether announcing that you look forward to their response or your meeting with them. Encourage their responsiveness and participation for the best possible cooperation.

Investing in people is the heart of teamwork. Teamwork includes every person you exchange objectives and correspondence with.



In this picture taken on April 8, 2015, Iranians walk along the Tabiat Pedestrian Bridge in Tehran, Iran.

## China, Denmark projects among architecture award winners

**A** children's center in China, a bridge in Iran and a park in Denmark are among the six winners of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture. The winners were announced yesterday in the United Arab Emirates city of Al Ain. The awards are handed out once every three years and are meant to celebrate architecture that serves and embraces Muslim culture.

The network is headed by Aga Khan, the spiritual leader of millions of Ismaili Muslims who belong to an offshoot of the Shiite sect. Two projects from Bangladesh also won the award - a community center and a mosque. The sixth winner was a university building in Lebanon by the firm of Iraqi-British architect Zaha Hadid who died earlier this year. — AP



Emirati and the other officials walk at the historical Al-Jahili Fort during the Aga Khan Award for Architecture announcement ceremony in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates yesterday. — AP photos

## Indian author Roy announces second novel after 20-year gap

**I**ndian author Arundhati Roy announced yesterday that her second novel will be published in 2017 — 20 years after she won the Booker Prize for her debut one. Roy, an activist and outspoken government critic, said through her publishers that "The Ministry Of Utmost Happiness" would be released next year. "I am glad to report that the mad souls (even the wicked ones) in 'The Ministry Of Utmost Happiness' have found a way into the world, and that I have found my publishers," Roy said in a statement.

Her literary agent David Godwin said: "Only Arundhati could have written this novel. Utterly original. It has been 20 years in the making. And well worth the wait." The 54-year-old has published a range of nonfiction works including about her time in India's jungles researching the country's Maoists who are fighting for land rights. But this will be her first novel since "The God of Small Things," published in 1997 about twins growing up in the southern state of Kerala which earned her the prestigious prize. One of India's most famous and polarizing authors, Roy faced



arrest for sedition for challenging India's right to rule over the disputed Kashmir region in 2010. Roy also criticizes the United States as a global empire established through violence, rails against Western multinationals and decries the excesses of capitalism.

She recently featured on the cover of Elle magazine, saying she wanted to break the myth of the typical Indian beauty. "I'm a black woman. Most of us are. Ninety percent of us are. This obsession that Indians have with white skin and straight hair makes me sick," she told the magazine. — AFP



A model prepares for a fashion photo session in Istanbul. — AFP photos

## Burkini debate distant in Turkey as Islamic fashion booms



A graphic designer prepares pictures on her computer in Istanbul.



Kerim Ture, CEO of Turkey's shopping website for Islamic fashion Modanisa, poses during an interview.

**T**he model adjusts her clothing, stares at the camera with a hint of a smile, holds her head high and the photographer starts snapping. But at this photoshoot on the Asian side of Istanbul, the models, impeccably made up, sport no body-hugging Western styles. All wear headscarves and loose fitting outfits in a shoot for one of the industry's fast growing sectors-modest but trendy Islamic fashion. Istanbul is positioning itself to be a hub in this nascent industry, which according to the Dubai-based Islamic Fashion and Design Council could be worth almost \$500 billion within decades.

Modanisa, a Turkish online Muslim clothing retailer, started small in 2011 and today is one of the biggest names in the market. It offers more than 30,000 products-from casual tunics to shiny evening wear to sports gear, shoes and accessories-from 300 brands and ships to 75 countries. The firm calls itself the "first online fashion and shopping website for women who embrace a modest dressing style". Modanisa's CEO Kerim Ture said that in years past there was so little choice that a religiously conservative young woman had no option but to wear the same clothes as her mother.

"If that was happening in a country (Turkey) where 99 percent of its population is Muslim, we wondered how the situation was around the world," he added. "That's how we've started our worldwide web business." He was surprised by this summer's furor in strictly secular France over whether Muslim women had the right to wear the burkini swimsuit, which covers all but the hands, feet and face.

## 'We are the same as you'

French courts ultimately ruled that a burkini ban by some 30 towns was "clearly illegal" and a violation of fundamental rights. For Ture, the burkini is not a symbol but a choice. "I barely understand how a country, one of whose main pillars is freedom, can oppose the Muslim swimsuit," he said. His firm's catalogue offers a range of "fully closed swimsuits" starting at 40 euros (\$45), and, ironically, its burkini sales jumped during the debate by 15 to 20 percent to France itself and 30 percent to the Netherlands.

In May, Istanbul hosted its first conservative fashion week at the historic Haydarpaşa train station to showcase this rapidly growing market. It was organized by Franka Soeria from Indonesia, another center for Islamic clothing. As a global consultant on modest fashion trends, she decided three-and-a-half years ago to move to Istanbul-whose position straddling Europe

and Asia, some say, gives it an edge. The point of offering stylish modest clothing was not to tell people to cover up but to show that "we are also the same as you ... we don't want to be excluded, we don't want to look different," she said, wearing an elegant black hijab.

"We are showing that, hey, I am modest, I like to cover. I also like fashion. This is just my style. Just accept," Soeria said. Osman Ozdemir, a Turkish designer of modest fashion, is the in-house designer for Modanisa but is now also working for several other firms. "I believe Istanbul will be trend-setting on Islamic fashion," he said. Even high-profile and luxury brands are getting into the act.

At the start of the year, legendary Italian fashion

the streets, which are awash with billboards advertising modest styles.

## 'Versace of Islam'?

"I covered my head three years ago. I didn't want to dress up like my mother because in the past the clothes headscarf-wearing women could wear were limited," said 16-year-old shopper Seyma. "Now I can easily find whatever I look for." Tourists from the Middle East are also coming to shop in Istanbul. "I find many things: casual dresses, trousers, t-shirts and many pieces," said Dalia, a young woman from Saudi Arabia. "I come without anything and buy from here."

Not all Turkish Muslims like the trend, and see fashion as a Western tool aimed at turning



A model poses for a photographer during a fashion photo session.

house Dolce & Gabbana launched their first line of hijabs and abayas-some extravagantly patterned for Muslim customers in the Middle East. Though Turkey is a constitutionally secular state, the Islamic-rooted ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), co-founded by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has advocated removing restrictions on the Muslim headscarf since it came to power in 2002.

In 2013, Turkey lifted a long-standing ban on wearing the hijab in state institutions. Last month the government for the first time allowed policewomen to wear the headscarf under their official caps or berets. In the conservative Fatih quarter of Istanbul, Islamic fashion stores line

Muslim women into consumer-oriented spenders. "Islam seeks to form a modest Muslim identity, encouraging need-oriented consumption," said Hulya Sekerci, an activist with the Free Thought and Education Rights Association, Ozgur-Der. "On the contrary, fashion is a vicious circle encouraging excessive consumption. That's why we are against fashion and fashion shows," she said. Hakan Yildiz, professor of political science at Istanbul's Bosphorus University, said Islamic fashion stores were clearly proliferating in Turkey. But "we need at least a generation to see how it will evolve," he said, adding that it would need "at least 20 years more to see if a Versace of Islam will emerge." — AFP

FASHION



A man prepares clothes to sell at an African clothes shop in Monrovia.



Clothes displayed in front of an African clothes shop in Monrovia.



A picture shows clothes displayed in front of an African clothes shop in Monrovia. — AFP photos

# Years of exile hone Liberian flair for design

After almost 200 years of Western influence on their clothes, Liberians are reveling in a style revolution, designing and tailoring their own edgy creations with prints and cuts influenced by their African neighbors. Until 2003, when a peace deal ended 14 years of devastating civil war, tens of thousands of Liberians had been living as refugees in Ivory Coast, Ghana and Guinea. Since then, most of them have returned, bringing with them fashion influences that have translated into a vibrant home-grown industry.

Increasingly visible across the country are a wave of unique Liberian creations, which are rapidly eclipsing the once-popular combination of polo shirts, jeans and hoodies. Back home, Liberians began asking tailors to stitch them clothes like the ones they had grown used to in Conakry or Abidjan, where people habitually wear traditional west African styles. "The long stay of many Liberians in other African countries during the war (was) where they saw different ways of dressing," designer Agatius Coker told AFP.

These days, chic in Liberia means channeling a vibrant fierce elegance—from edgy "resort pants" slit to the thigh, to bright print shirts, or "handkerchief" dresses paired with head wraps. One of Coker's key markets is traditional African wedding celebrations, attire for which is now as sought after as the outfits for a standard European wedding. "The cloth is produced in African countries, we buy it and do the design here and the sewing," he said.

### Insatiable demand

A breathable, loose-fitting cotton suit costs between \$60 and \$80 (\$3 and 71 euros), and a print shirt around \$35. "We are less expensive than the European styles that cost \$120 and above," Coker added, and in the extreme humidity "the African styles are adapted to our weather." Sub-Saharan Africa's oldest republic, Liberia was founded by the United States in 1822 for freed American slaves, the descendants of whom still dominate political and economic life. Over the generations, the local tribes living in Liberia largely adopted the dress of these American settlers, explaining the sartorial leanings of this west African nation.

One by-product of their switch to African style is that Liberians have become avid window-shoppers, stopping to photograph the latest styles displayed

outside new boutiques. And this is far from a female-only phenomenon. Strutting down a Monrovia street on the lookout for a new outfit is Roosevelt Krumah, who is kitted out in black skinny jeans, leather boots and a shirt made of bands of clashing prints, a matching cotton cap on his head.

With him is his friend Joe, sporting turquoise

is a seamstress. I used to like watching her sewing when I was small," she says, speaking to AFP in her multi-purpose studio-store.

"When I had difficulty in finding a job, she advised me to continue in tailoring. It was difficult at the beginning because our women liked the European fashions." The 32-year-old now employs 22 people,

### 'It blings you up'

Handsome profits for the designers and jobs for the young are not the only by-products of the phenomenon, which taps deep into Liberian psychology, according to stylist Jodie Reid Seton. "It brings out the realness in you, the real African continent; a real African woman's pride," she told AFP. "When it comes



Two women try clothes at an African clothes shop.



Two men wearing typical African clothes speak together in a street of Monrovia.

trousers, a black dress shirt and a waistcoat with matching turquoise lapels. "I feel like a real African when I dress in African style," says Krumah, for whom functionality is also a big draw.

### A secure livelihood

The impact is not only a feast for the eyes but a secure source of income in an economy heavily reliant on small-scale entrepreneurship. Designer Korlu Jallah, a haute couture specialist who founded the Liberian brand Edith House of Fashion, has now diversified into pret-a-porter to deal with demand. Five years ago she was just another jobless college graduate. "My mother

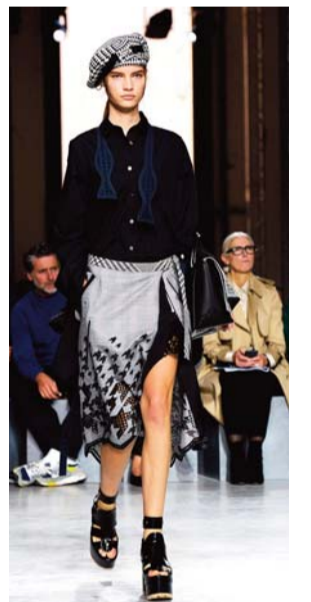
including 15 tailors, six saleswomen and an administrator, but still finds it hard to keep pace with her customers' demands. "Our African style has taken the lead," she says, gesturing to the queue of ladies waiting for a fitting. "As you can see, business is going well."

Ophelia Gbedia, 19, helps to sell Jallah's designs and has managed to avoid permanently dropping out of school early like the majority of Liberian girls, despite the death of her father during the Ebola crisis. "He was paying my school fees," she said, carefully folding cotton shirts. "That's how I dropped out of school, but now that I have this job, I've gone back."

to African (style), it blings you up." Reid Seton, who has seen a boom in sales with her label Sarnokoon Designs, can no longer imagine life without a touch of Africa to her outfit when she gets dressed in the morning. "Even if you're not in an African dress, you can wear African pants; you have to have on at least an African bangle or something," she explains. "Once you're in that nice African attire, everyone is drawn to you. There's a certain beauty about it." —AFP



# Paris Fashion Week



FASHION



Models present creations by Sacai during the 2017 Spring/Summer ready-to-wear collection fashion show, yesterday in Paris. — AP/AFP photos



Models dance at the end of the 2017 Spring/Summer ready-to-wear collection fashion show by Stella McCartney, yesterday in Paris.

# Balmain reveals the Madrigal Lady II - the ideal accompaniment to crowns

Balmain has such a deep understanding of women that it already knows exactly what will make the future Miss Switzerland tick, months before she has been crowned. Since 2005, Balmain, preferred partner of the Miss Switzerland competition, has had the task of designing a timepiece committed to keeping the ultimate Swiss Miss perfectly on time and on trend. This year a Madrigal Lady II timepiece with 60 diamonds and arabesque dial decoration will have the role of honor. A refined combination of sophistication and modernity, the specially developed watch merges attention to detail with eye-catching looks. Obviously a tiara isn't a pre-requisite for wearing one of these watches. The collection is available to all other deserving misses worldwide.

The 13-member Madrigal Lady II family is music to the ears of modern women who enjoy celebrating their femininity in style. A tapered central attachment between case and bracelet is reminiscent of the curves of a subtle hourglass figure. Some models pay a floral tribute to feminine charm via patterns of interlacing foliage

delivered punctually between three and six o'clock and nine and twelve. An array of monochrome and bi-color metal bracelets team up with brown sunbrushed, silver sunbrushed with arabesques or shimmering mother of pearl dials. The broad range of looks echoes the brand's origins in a famous Parisian fashion house as materials and shapes join forces to applaud aesthetics.

The metal finishes available within the Madrigal Lady II collection are rose or yellow PVD or stainless steel. Reflecting the appealing mysterious side of the female psyche is minimalist dial detail consisting of delicate white mother-of-pearl dots to mark the hours and two compact shaped hands. Saluting girl power is a Swiss ETA 902.002 quartz movement.

**Technical features:**

1. Swiss quartz movement ETA 902.002
2. Case in 316L stainless steel, bi-color in steel and rose or yellow

PVD and in rose or yellow PVD, 32.00 mm in Ø and 6.90 mm thick. Some cases set with 60 Wesselton diamonds 1.00 mm in Ø totaling 0.23 ct

3. Sapphire crystal
4. Choice of dials: silver sunbrushed with modern arabesques, white or light grey MOP and brown sunbrushed
5. Bracelet in stainless steel, bi-color in steel and rose or yellow PVD and rose or yellow PVD
6. Water resistance: 50m



# Lifestyle

Years of exile hone Liberian flair for design

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016



Maneki neko or beckoning cat ornaments are seen on display at Gotokuji Temple in Tokyo. The figures are believed to be a lucky charm, commonly found at temples across Japan, and are sold as popular souvenirs.— AFP



(From left) Kanye West, Kim Kardashian, Kourtney Kardashian, Kris Jenner and Corey Gamble attend the Off-white 2017 Spring/Summer ready-to-wear collection fashion show.



Journalists work as police officers stand guard at the entrance to a hotel residence at the Rue Tronchet, near Madeleine, central Paris, yesterday.

## Kim Kardashian robbed of millions in Paris

US reality television star Kim Kardashian was robbed at gunpoint at a luxury Paris residence by assailants disguised as police who made off with millions, mainly in jewelry, French police and her representative said yesterday. A spokesperson for Kardashian said she was "badly shaken but physically unharmed" after the assault, which occurred late on Sunday. Paris police said the items stolen were worth "several million euros" and were "mostly jewelry". The spokesperson said "two armed masked men dressed as police officers" had entered Kardashian's residence in a chic district of Paris and held her up at gunpoint.

On hearing the news, Kardashian's husband, rap superstar Kanye West, abruptly ended an appearance at a festival in New York, citing a "family emergency". Kardashian, one of the most recognizable US celebrities, had made a series of high-profile appearances at Paris fashion week. The 35-year-old had attended catwalk shows by Balenciaga and Givenchy on Sunday and had also appeared at a launch for Armenian-American jewelry designer Siran Manoukian. The Los Angeles-born designer and socialite, a longtime friend of Kardashian, was launching her own clothing label Maison Siran. A spokeswoman for Maison Siran told AFP that their jewelry was "extremely premium", but could not confirm that Kardashian had been loaned any of it, as is often the case for fashion shows and film premieres.

Yesterday, a gaggle of journalists and fans gathered outside the red painted door of the luxury residence where Kardashian had been staying in the Madeleine district of Paris near the city's main department stores. A waiter at a cafe opposite said: "Only stars stay there. Kanye West, Jay Z. Kim Kardashian has been there for a week, I have seen

her coming and going." Kardashian was last week approached in Paris by Vitali Sediuk, who carries out pranks on stars. He was caught on video attempting to kiss her behind in an apparent social commentary. Kardashian, who has two children with West, has been a fixture of US celebrity news for more than a decade after the leak of a sex tape and on the back of reality show "Keeping Up with the Kardashians".

### Swift exit for Kanye

West learned about the assault as he headlined a music festival in New York. One of the biggest draws in live music, West took to the stage half an hour late but in dramatic fashion with a fireworks show overhead as he ripped into songs from his latest album "The Life of Pablo." However, an hour into his set, West said mid-song, "I'm sorry, show's over," and quickly left the stage. A festival representative took the microphone to declare a 10-minute intermission before quickly returning to say that West had a "family emergency" and had already left the venue. The festival later issued a statement praising West for a "great show" and said: "Our thoughts are with West and his family." West had flown to Paris to appear with his wife and her sister Kourtney Kardashian on Thursday during a one-day break in his North American tour.

Amid an initial lack of details over his swift exit, many fans at the festival were distraught as they poured out of the venue into the parking lot of the New York Mets' baseball stadium. Kardashian and West are frequent visitors to France. In 2014, they threw a lavish private party at the Versailles chateau near Paris during a no-expense-spared tour of Europe to celebrate their wedding. — AFP



In this file photo Kanye West appears at the MTV Video Music Awards at Madison Square Garden in New York. — AP/AFP photos

## Frederik the Great: Stallion and social media star

His name is Frederik the Great and he is decked out in black, with hair coiffed in long manly locks that he shakes in the wind, turning heads as he walks through New York. He is debonair, known first and foremost for his devilishly good looks and the fact that as a consummate stud — i.e. a stallion — he makes more money and has more fans than most human counterparts.

Sometimes called the "Kardashian of horses," this well-known Friesian, who earns close to \$20,000 a month according to owner Stacy Nazario, was recently in New York for a prestigious horse show and late-night TV appearance. With his enviable social media presence and soon-to-be shampoo line and TV series, the equine star has become a veritable cash cow. It wasn't always all glitter and glam for Frederik, however, whose stellar career has just as much to do with Nazario's marketing skills as the horse's resemblance to Black Beauty of literary fame.

After viewing thousands of pictures of Friesians-a breed that comes from the Friesland region of the Netherlands-Nazario, a former construction company owner, bought Frederik in 2007, bringing him from Europe to the rural US state of Arkansas. After inviting a professional photographer to a photo shoot she quickly realized her new stallion was extremely photogenic. "Right from the start he was performing like a true model, looking straight into the camera, a true showman," Nazario told AFP during the horse's recent visit to New York.

"He is a gentle giant, he can put his nose down on a newborn without hurting him," she said. Soon she created an online presence for the horse-posting his photos on the internet, building a website and starting a Facebook page and Twitter account. And little by little, the internet-with its insatiable appetite for animal pho-

tos and videos-took notice. With many baptizing the creature "the world's most beautiful horse," the YouTube clicks multiplied, climbing all the way to 15 million views. And Nazario, who now manages Frederik's busy career full-time, knows how to feed the machine, scheduling photo and video session every two to three months to refresh his online presence.

Frederik's number one asset, his mane, is subject to the most care, requiring daily combing and braiding sessions. An annual haircut, during which nearly three feet (one meter) of mane is trimmed, keeps Frederik's hooves



from becoming tangled in his tresses.

### Waiting list

The horse, who visited New York in late September, was not only one of the stars of the Rolex Central Park Horse Show but made an appearance on CBS's "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert"—the same week as First Lady Michelle Obama and rock legend Bruce Springsteen. With great fame comes great restrictions, however, and Nazario does not disclose the location of her Arkansas ranch for security reasons. Nor does she accept every movie offer that comes her way-she has already turned down two, preferring to focus on a mini-series that will feature Frederik's everyday life, beauty and personality. If everything goes as planned, it will arrive on small screens in approximately a year.

Requests to stud the horse—for which Nazario charges \$5,500 — pour in from across the globe, but, the selective owner says proudly, "there is a waiting list." Like any self-respecting celebrity, Frederik could soon have his own beauty line. Nazario is working on an all-natural, horse and human shampoo and conditioner that she hopes will hit shelves at the beginning of 2017. The windfall that is Frederik the Great will not last eternally. The horse is already 15, and Friesians generally do not make it past their early twenties.

But in the meantime, Frederik is living his best horse life, strutting his stuff, and glowing in the social media limelight. Asked if she sees the resemblance between her stallion and the clan of social media doyenne Kim Kardashian, Nazario said she doesn't really notice the similarity. "Except maybe the fact that he's got a big booty," she said. — AFP

With his social media presence and soon-to-be shampoo line and TV series, Frederik the Great has become a veritable cash cow. — AFP photos



Frederik the Great earns close to \$20,000 a month, according to owner Stacy Nazario.



Frederik the Great, a show horse from Arkansas, performs at a horse show in New York.