

**Ghanem hails Assembly for maintaining political stability**



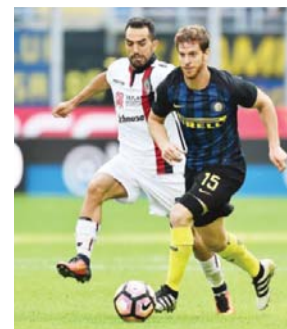
**Trump pledges strong US ties with India if elected president**



**Modi brands Pak 'terrorism mothership' at BRICS meet**



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## STAGE SET FOR SNAP ELECTIONS AFTER ASSEMBLY DISSOLVED

AMIR CITES 'SECURITY CHALLENGES' IN DISSOLUTION DECREE



Min 18°  
Max 37°  
High Tide 12:44  
Low Tide 06:33 & 18:53

### MINIMUM SALARY FOR VISIT VISAS RAISED TO KD 200

**KUWAIT:** The interior ministry has increased the minimum wage required for a foreigner to issue visit visas for relatives, only a few days after the state approved a decision to raise the salary required for expatriate workers to sponsor their wives and children, in a move said to help curb an increase in the country's expat population.

An expat must now have a minimum salary of KD 200 to apply for a visit visa for his wife or children, said Maj Gen Talal Maarafi, director general of the interior ministry's residency affairs department. The previous minimum wage was KD 150. Meanwhile, the minimum salary must be KD 300 for an expat applying for a visa for a sibling or any other relative, except for parents, whose age must not exceed 50 years, Maarafi explained.

The interior ministry last year set the duration of a visit visa issued for a wife or child to three months, while visit visas for relatives were restricted to one month. Last Wednesday, Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah issued a decision amending the foreign

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**KUWAIT:** HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah (left) receives a decree to dissolve the National Assembly from HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah yesterday. — Amiri Diwan

By B Izzak

**KUWAIT:** HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah yesterday issued a decree dissolving the National Assembly, setting the stage for fresh elections within two months, citing the escalation of regional conflicts and the need to go back to the people to choose new representatives. The surprising decision was issued hours after Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem said he informed the political leadership that the country was passing through a delicate phase that needed a new government and going back to the ballot boxes.

The decree to dissolve the Assembly, which has only several months left of its four-year term, was issued following an emergency meeting of the Cabinet, which recommended to the Amir to dissolve the Assembly. The decree said that due to the serious security challenges from regional conflicts, it was necessary to go back to the people to allow them to elect their representatives to contribute to confronting those challenges.

The dissolution was based on article 107 of the constitution, which stipulates that new elections must be held within two months. No date was however set for the fresh polls. A new decree will be issued within the next few days to set the date. Parliamentary sources expected the new election to be held at a closer date, around the middle of November, rather than towards the end of the two-month period. The dissolution, the seventh since 2006, also came after lawmakers last week filed three requests to grill the finance and the justice ministers over a hike in petrol prices and alleged

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**DABIQ, Syria:** Turkish-backed Syrian opposition forces, one carrying a Turkish flag, patrol in this symbolically significant town yesterday. — AP

### REBELS SEIZE EMBLEMATIC IS STRONGHOLD

**BEIRUT:** Syrian rebels dealt a major symbolic blow to the Islamic State group yesterday by capturing the town of Dabiq where the militants had promised an apocalyptic battle. The Turkish-backed opposition forces seized control of Dabiq and several nearby towns, in the latest in a series of territorial losses suffered by IS in Syria and Iraq. The defeat for IS came as US Secretary of State John Kerry was to meet European allies in London as part of a new diplomatic push to end Syria's conflict, which has left more than 300,000 people dead since 2011.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, Turkish state media and a rebel faction said opposition fighters backed by Turkish warplanes and artillery seized control of Dabiq. The town, in Syria's northern province of Aleppo, is of little strategic value. But Dabiq holds crucial ideological importance for IS and its followers because of a prophecy that states it will be the site of an end-of-times bat-

tle between Christian forces and Muslims.

The Observatory, a Britain-based monitoring group, said rebel forces "captured Dabiq after IS members withdrew from the area". The Fastaqim Union, an Ankara-backed rebel faction involved in the battle, said Dabiq had fallen "after fierce clashes". Fastaqim said rebels then went on to seize several nearby towns, including Sawran, Ihtimaylat, and Salihyah. Turkey's state-run Anadolu news agency also said the rebels captured Dabiq and Sawran and were working to dismantle explosives laid by retreating IS fighters. It said nine rebels were killed and 28 wounded during clashes on Saturday.

Dabiq has become a byword among IS supporters for a struggle against the West, with Washington and its allies bombing militants portrayed as modern-day Crusaders. But earlier this week, IS downplayed the importance of the rebel advance on the town. "These hit-and-run battles in Dabiq and its

outskirts - the lesser Dabiq battle - will end in the greater Dabiq epic," the group said in a pamphlet published online Thursday.

IS, which seized control of large parts of Syria and Iraq in mid-2014 and declared an Islamic "caliphate", has been dealt a series of military defeats this year and is bracing for an assault on its key Iraqi stronghold Mosul. Turkey launched an unprecedented operation inside Syria on August 24, helping Syrian rebels to rid its frontier of IS jihadists and Syrian Kurdish militia.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday said Turkey would push further south to create a 5,000-sq-km safe zone in Syria. The border area has become deeply unstable, and on Sunday three Turkish police officers were killed when suspected IS suicide bombers blew themselves up during a raid on their sleeper cell in the southeastern city of Gaziantep.

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### HIJABI CADET SETTLES IN AT US COLLEGE

**NORTHFIELD, Vermont:** Despite being the first woman allowed to wear a Muslim headscarf beneath her military uniform at the nation's oldest private military college, Sana Hamze says she doesn't feel like a pioneer. Her focus is on learning details of life as a "rook" at Vermont's Norwich University, in the school's Corps of Cadets and not running afoul of the many rules and customs new students are required to master. As do all aspiring members of the corps, she's learned to walk at the side of the pathways, make square corners when turning, line up before eating and sleep when she is told. Like her freshman classmates, she yearns for the time when her class is "recognized" and they become

official members of the Corps of Cadets and the rook restrictions end.

But the uniform for the 18-year-old student from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is a little different. Unlike other female members of the corps, Hamze wears her Muslim hijab, or head covering, beneath.

As part of her effort to fulfill her lifelong dream of continuing her family's legacy of military and public service while staying true to her devout religious beliefs, she asked for a uniform accommodation to wear the hijab when she was applying to colleges earlier this year. Norwich, one of the nation's six senior military colleges, agreed to make the accommodation.

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### AT GUANTANAMO, WHEELS OF JUSTICE BARELY TURNING

**WASHINGTON:** War crimes trials at Guantanamo Bay for suspects accused of attacks against the United States have ground to a near halt a decade after the military courts' creation, with lawyers warning that some detainees could spend many more years waiting to be tried. Despite President Barack Obama's early vows to close the facility in eastern Cuba amid charges that suspects had been tortured, the United States continues to spend some \$91 million a year on military trials at the base, which has 61 remaining inmates.

"The military commissions in their current state are a farce," Marine Brigadier General John Baker, the chief defense counsel, said last month at a Washington legal conference, of the tribunals that prosecute detainees. "The Guantanamo Bay military commissions have been characterized by delay, government misconduct and incompetence, and more delay."

James Connell, a defense lawyer for Ammar Al-Baluchi, one of five suspects on trial for their alleged roles in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, said that trial was not likely until maybe 2020, almost two decades after airline hijackers killed nearly 3,000 people. Because the court and much of the evidence lies outside the United States, the trial "is 100 times more complex than even a complex ordinary death penalty case," said Connell.

In contrast with Guantanamo, federal prosecutors operating in US courts have secured more than 340 terrorism convictions over the last decade, a Justice Department spokesman said. Tanzanian Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani was transferred from Guantanamo to New York in 2009, and 17 months later a civilian

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An artist's impression depicts the separation of the ExoMars 2016 entry, descent and landing demonstrator module (center) from the Trace Gas Orbiter (left) and heading for Mars. — AP

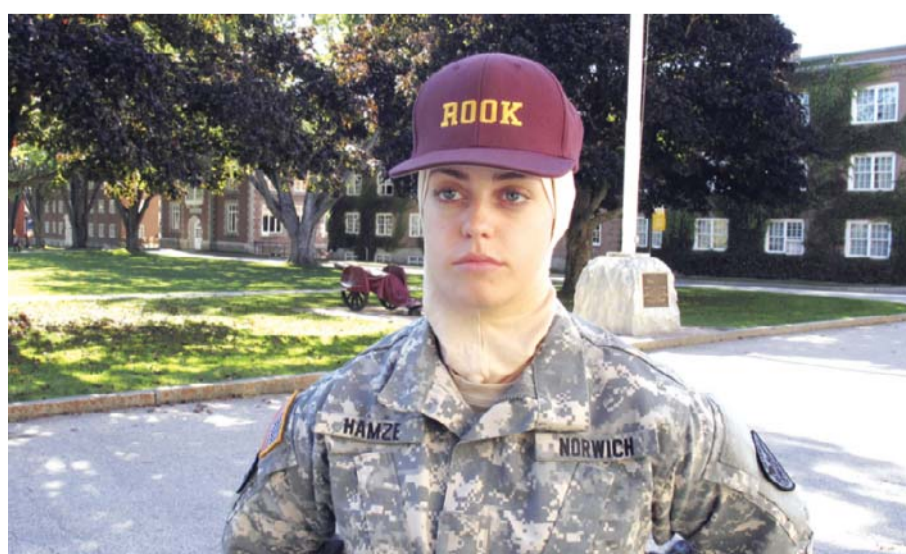
### EUROPEAN LANDER STARTS DESCENT TO MARS SURFACE

**PARIS:** A European lander started a three-day, million-kilometre descent to Mars yesterday, quitting its mothership to test technology for a daring mission to scout the Red Planet for signs of life. Flight director Michel Denis confirmed the lander Schiaparelli had separated, to loud applause at mission control in Darmstadt, Germany some 175 million km from where the maneuver was executed. Confirmation of the milestone separation was webcast live. Thirteen years after its first, failed, attempt to place a rover on Mars, the high-stakes test is a key element in Europe's latest bid to reach our

neighbouring planet's hostile surface, this time working with Russia.

As planned, the 600-kg, paddling pool-sized lander separated from an unmanned craft called the Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO) after a seven-month, 496-million-km trek from Earth. Schiaparelli's main goal is to test entry and landing gear and technology for a subsequent rover which will mark the second phase and highlight of the ExoMars mission. After a two-year funding delay, the rover is due for launch in 2020, arriving about six months later to explore the Red Planet

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**NORTHFIELD, Vermont:** Freshman student Sana Hamze poses during an interview about her time as a first-year student in Norwich University's Corps of Cadets on Oct 12, 2016. — AP





**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah met yesterday with Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Khamis Al-Jehinawi. — Amiri Diwan photo



**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received yesterday Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sane, who presented to him the next five-year strategic plan of the Ministry of Justice. — KUNA

## FIVE BUSINESSES QUALIFY FOR FINAL JUDGING ROUND IN 2ND KIPCO TMKEEN AWARD FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

**KUWAIT:** Five young entrepreneurs running retail and service businesses in Kuwait have qualified for the final judging round of the 2nd KIPCO Tmkeen Award for Young Entrepreneurs. The award is a collaboration between the Youth Empowerment Organization and KIPCO - Kuwait Projects Company (Holding).

Eligible applicants gave a 5-7 minute presentation about their businesses in the preliminary judging round. Business professionals from the KIPCO Group - including Burgan Bank, OSN, Gulf Insurance Group, KAMCO Investment Company, United Real Estate, Qurain Petrochemical Industries, AUK, AUS, United Networks and Marina FM - sat on the judging panels.

Eman Al Awadhi, KIPCO's Group Communications Director, said: "This preliminary round of judging is not just for the purpose of elimination; it is a learning experience for the entrepreneurs on how to successfully pitch their businesses to potential investors. Given their diverse business backgrounds, our KIPCO Group professionals had the opportunity to interact with the young entrepreneurs and gave them feedback and comments to help strengthen their case. We hope that, like last year, the entrepreneurs will continue to seek the guidance of our team as they expand their businesses. We wish the top five finalists all the best in the final judging round, and we hope that all the other entrepreneurs will continue to engage in a dialogue with us."

Ali Al Ibrahim, CEO of the Youth



Empowerment Organization, said: "When we launched the KIPCO Tmkeen Award for Young Entrepreneurs last year, it took our efforts to empower youth to a whole new level. Through sharing their life-changing stories, the renowned international and local speakers we host have been an inspiration for young people to establish their own businesses. This year, we celebrate five years of educating, informing and inspiring the youth. Our partnership with KIPCO and its group companies means that we can further support these people in realizing their aspirations."

The five finalists are Easy Shippings, Moqawalat.com, Label KW, Fix It Home Services and Seyaaha Travel Guide. The final

judging round will take place on October 26, during the Youth Empowerment Symposium. The panel includes the Head of Global Recruitment at Booking.com, Jennifer Boulanger; CEO of KAMCO, Faisal Sarkhou; General Manager of Ghaliyah online communications agency, Abdurrazag Al Mutawa; and Founder and CEO of Saveco, Nour Al Qatami.

KIPCO Group is offering the winner a bundle of services valued at US\$100,000. The services include a wide range of financial, strategic and operational consultation sessions, market studies, insurance coverage and advertising services. The winner of the grand prize will be announced at the closing of the Youth Empowerment Symposium on October 26.



Entrepreneurs make their presentations to judges.

## DEFENSE MINISTER RECEIVES GERMAN, BOSNIAN ENVOYS

**KUWAIT:** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah received yesterday the newly appointed German Ambassador to Kuwait Karlfried Bergner. During the meeting, Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah discussed with the German Ambassador a number of issues of mutual interests, wishing him best of luck in his new post, the Defense

Ministry's moral guidance and public relations directorate said in a statement.

Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah also met with Bosnian Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammad Halilovic on several issues of mutual interest. The Deputy Prime Minister hailed the bilateral relation, noting that both sides are willing to strengthen and enhance this relation. — KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah meets with German Ambassador to Kuwait Karlfried Bergner. — KUNA



KIPCO judges with Tmkeen representatives.

## MINISTER STRESSES GOVT KEENNESS ON CARING FOR YOUTH

**KUWAIT:** The government is keen to take care of Kuwaiti youth and their capabilities, as they are the best investment and real wealth of the country, stressed Minister of Electricity and Water Ahmad Al-Jassar.

Speaking at a festival on activities of the youth groups at the ministry, Jassar said the formation of such groups contributes to developing youth energy mixed with hard work that aims to achieve innovation and creativity.

The minister referred to the ministry's

support for this energy and how to invest it. He stressed that this support is in line with the directives of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, calling for supporting youth.

Jassar extolled pioneering youth efforts which go in line with a voluntary mechanism and a common national thought so as to achieve sustainable development. Meanwhile, Undersecretary Mohammad Bushehri commended efforts of workers at the ministry aimed to help the groups suc-

ceed, indicating that this activity is the first of its kind on both ministerial and governmental levels.

He said such groups affirmed that Kuwaiti youth are able to take part in all fields, adding that the youth formed their voluntary team works around the clock in different areas across the country in the fields of electronics and programming. During the festival, Zainab Qurashi, groups' coordinator, made a presentation on teams and their efforts exerted to produce projects. — KUNA



**KUWAIT:** A view of the audience at a Ministry of Electricity and Water's festival to celebrate activities of youth groups. — KUNA



Minister of Electricity and Water Ahmad Al-Jassar speaks at the festival.



Undersecretary at the Minister of Electricity and Water Mohammad Bushehri



The groups' coordinator Zainab Qurashi





## CHRONOLOGY OF THE KUWAITI PARLIAMENT

**KUWAIT:** Since it was established 53 years ago, the Kuwaiti National Assembly (parliament) has seen major events, some of which led to dissolution or resignation of MPs. The following is a chronology of such significant events in each legislative term since the first one in 1963:

- 1963: A major event of the 1963 parliament was the resignation of eight MPs in protest of approving freedom restriction laws.
- 1967: Seven MPs resigned protesting poll rigging.
- 1971: A motion of no confidence was submitted against Minister of Commerce and Trade Khalid Al-Adsani, but it was rejected by 20-13 votes.
- 1975: The 1975 parliament was dissolved by an Amiri decree in 1976, after the government resigned over the accumulation of several draft bills at the assembly for a long period.
- The 1981 legislative term saw redividing electoral constituencies to 25, instead of 10.
- 1985: The parliament of 1985 was dissolved by an Amiri decree in 1986 against the backdrop of what was known as "climate crisis" and the many grilling motions that followed impacting cooperation between the legislative and the executive Powers.
- 1992: This was the first national assembly after a six-year standstill, following the Iraqi invasion and the Liberation war.
- 1996: This parliament was dissolved in 1999. It was the first time the parliament was constitutionally dissolved due

- to abuse of using constitutional tools.
- 1999: Though this legislative term witnessed many grilling motions, yet it was completed.
- 2003: The 2003 parliament swore allegiance to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah after he was nominated by the cabinet. Also, it granted suffrage to Kuwaiti women. It was dissolved, constitutionally, in 2006.
- 2006: This was the first time for Kuwaiti women to take part in parliamentary elections. The parliament was constitutionally dissolved in 2008.
- 2008: It was the first parliament elected in line with the five-constituency system. It was dissolved in 2009 for lack of cooperation between the two powers.
- 2009: This term saw the first ever grilling motion of the prime minister, and the storming of parliament. It was dissolved in 2011.
- 2012 (Feb): Only few months had passed before the Constitutional Court annulled the parliament, reinstating the previous one of 2009.
- 2012 (Dec): This was the first parliament elected according to the one-vote system. It was dissolved in 2013 after the Constitutional Court annulled the legislative elections.
- 2013: It was the first parliament after the Constitutional Court immunized the one-vote system. It saw several grilling motions against ministers, before it was dissolved Sunday, October 16, 2016, for lack of cooperation between the executive and the legislative authorities. — KUNA

# KUWAIT PARLIAMENT CONTRIBUTES TO POLITICAL STABILITY: SPEAKER DISSOLVED PARLIAMENT PASSED 113 LAWS

**KUWAIT:** Former Speaker of Kuwait's National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem said Saturday the parliament contributed to "imposing a state of political stability" in Kuwait amidst exceptional domestic and regional circumstances.

The wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah following the terrorist attack on Al-Sadeq Mosque and during capture of what is known as Al-Abdali cell, helped parliament contribute to achieve political stability, said Ghanem. This political stability "transformed the sedition (caused by the two incidents) into a national epic," Ghanem said in an interview with Al-Rai TV channel on the eve of the parliament's dissolution.

A suicide bombing targeted Al-Sadeq Mosque in downtown Kuwait in June 2015 killing some 28 people and injuring 227 others. The attack brought condemnations from around the world. In September 2015, the public prosecutor lodged criminal charges against the terrorist cell known as the "Al-Abdali Cell," in which 26 defendants were put on trial over possession of huge caches of weapons and ammunition, as well as espionage for Iran and Hezbollah.

### Elections

Asked about the upcoming parliamentary elections, Ghanem said dissolving the parliament was "a decision solely adopted by His Highness the Amir, for he is the person with authority over this issue." Ghanem further stated that the number of interpellations of ministers by members of the now dissolved parliament is the biggest in the history of parliamentary life in Kuwait. "As a result of such grillings, six cabinet members resigned."

"However, I don't consider this a criterion for assessing the performance of the parliament. The true criterion is specified in the provisions of the constitution that set the parameters of effective supervision on the performances of government bodies through the reports of the State Audit Bureau (SAB)," he said.

SAB representatives attend the parliament sessions and raise questions directly to ministers, he pointed out. "The SAB reports used to have no role in previous parliaments except in case of grilling. The ministers used to pay no attention to such reports. But, due to activation of these reports, the ministers set up teams in their respective ministries to review the SAB observations. "As a result, the number such observations went down by 52 percent, which means that we are on the right track," Ghanem went on.

### 113 laws

Regarding the legislative role of the parliament, he said the MPs passed a total of 113 laws, including the one on the right of an individual to take lawsuits to the Constitutional Court. He noted that this right has been a national issue over the last four decades.

The recently-adopted legislations also include amendments to the law on commercial franchises, the retirement benefits law, the law on municipal reforms, and the law on pensioners' medical insurance, he said, noting that the medical insurance system covers a total of 800 diseases. The new tendering law put an end to foul play and helped attract foreign investors without need of local agent, Ghanem pointed out.

The amended law on housemaids cut to a quarter the cost of employing foreign maids and ended foul play in this field, thus benefiting the Kuwaiti families. The law on the national human rights diwan and the law on the rights of disabled schoolchildren and slow learning show that the lawmakers pay attention to care for persons with special needs, he noted.

On the controversial genetic fingerprinting law, he said it is based on a legal opinion from the Fatwa and Legislation Dept. following the terrorist attack on Imam Al-Sadeq Mosque. "An understanding has been reached with His Highness the Prime Minister on the need to amend the law so that fingerprints would be taken from suspected persons instead of all persons," Ghanem disclosed.



Marzouq Al-Ghanem

### Fuel prices

Dealing with the controversy over the government decision to hike the fuel prices, he said the issue is a technical, rather than political, one. "The government made this decision during the interval between the legislative terms, which prompted me to call for a joint meeting by the government and the parliament's office."

"The decision was part of the government efforts to preserve the sovereign credit rating of the country after Moody's cautioned that it would revise down Kuwait's rating unless the government adopts urgent measures to address the economic challenges," he noted. "Nevertheless, we were able to find smart solutions that do not affect the standard of living of citizens through redirecting the subsidy from the commodity (fuel) to citizens," he added. — KUNA

## KUWAIT'S SNAP POLLS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait operates under a unicameral legal system with an executive and legislative branch. The legislature, the Majlis Al-Ommah (National Assembly) was established in 1962 and has 50 directly elected officials from five constituencies in Kuwait.

Each constituency elects 10 officials in a one man = one vote system with the 10 candidates who receive the most votes winning the seats. If two candidates receive an equal number of valid votes, the polling committee draws lots and the winner is declared elected. There is no threshold to win a seat. There are no reserved seats or quotas for tribal, women, minorities or other categories.

Political parties are not allowed in Kuwait though 'groups' and alliances often form for short-term goals. The upcoming snap polls, likely to be held in December (so as to be in compliance with the 60 days from dissolution requirement under the Kuwait Constitution) will be the seventh parliamentary polls since 2006.

### Voting is not compulsory but all voters must meet the following requirements:

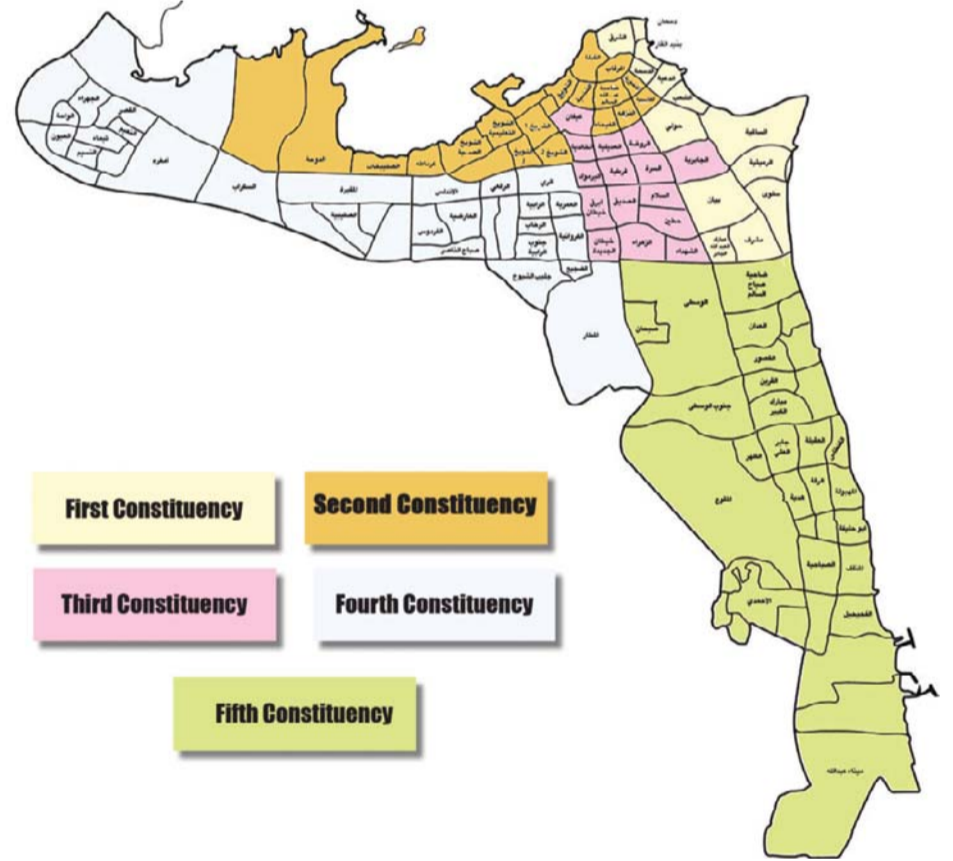
- Must be 21 years of age
- Citizens of Kuwait with Kuwaiti father
- Residence in the country at the time of election
- Citizens overseas cannot vote
- **Disqualifications:** Any imprisonment, persons naturalized within the last 20 years, military personnel and policemen, unrehabilitated persons convicted of a felony or dishonorable crime.

In the last elections in 2013, there were 439,911 registered voters with turnout of 228,314 (51.9%).

### To qualify to run as a candidate for the legislature:

- Candidates must be at least 30 years old
- Citizens of Kuwait with Kuwaiti father
- Residence in the country at the time of election

- Ability to read and write in Arabic
- The Amir, cabinet ministers, judges and members of the armed forces and police are not allowed to run for political office.



**KUWAIT:** The Public Relations and Media Department at Kuwait Fire Services Directorate (KFSD) recently concluded its tenth 'A fireman in each house' training course that aims at boosting public awareness about safety procedures related to fires. — By Hanan Al-Saadoun

## US STATE DEPARTMENT APPROVES \$194 MILLION RADAR SALE TO KUWAIT

**WASHINGTON:** The US State Department has approved a proposed \$194 million radar sale to Kuwait, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency announced Thursday. The sale would involve radar field systems and related equipment, training and support, the agency said in a statement.

Included in the deal would be six short-range radars, also known as gap filler radars, one long-range radar with primary and secondary surveillance radar arrays, upgrades to the existing AN/FPS 117 (V) 3 long-range radar, upgrades to airfield radome and communications systems, an upgrade to secure identification friend or foe systems, site surveys, installation and checkout, site acceptance testing, interim contractor support, construction, contractor logistics support, spares, support equipment and training.

Kuwait seeks the sale to improve early warning, enhance internal and external security and protect national sovereignty. The systems would provide situational awareness for Kuwaiti security forces to detect and interdict fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft while providing coverage for the country's northern and eastern borders. The prime contractor will be determined by competition between Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, and Raytheon. — UPI

## MOH NOT YET INVOLVED IN JABER HOSPITAL DELIVERY

**KUWAIT:** The handing over the Jaber Al-Ahmad Hospital project will be between the project's contractor and the public works ministry, the health ministry said. The health ministry has no link or relation to the project yet until it is fully completed along with all its facilities, Dr Ahmad Al-Shatti, the ministry's spokesman, said.

The public works ministry is the official authority to receive Jaber Al-

Ahmad Hospital directly from the contractor when completed, Shatti explained, reiterating his ministry's non-involvement in the handing over process. The process will be subject to checking procedures, including engineering, technical, and observatory by the public works ministry, particularly the buildings, electricity, air-conditioning, sewers, lightning, parking, elevators, and other services, he noted. — KUNA



The Jaber Hospital





KUWAIT: Scenes from the event organized by the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Dubai and Middle East office. — Photos by Joseph Shagra

# THAI MEDICAL TOURISM SHOWCASED IN KUWAIT

**KUWAIT:** Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Dubai and Middle East office hosted its first ever medical tourism roadshow in Kuwait to proactively position Thailand as the ultimate health and wellness destination for Kuwaiti locals and residents. The medical tourism roadshow Kuwait will be part of TAT's two-city post-IMTEC roadshow that took place at JW Marriott Hotel, Kuwait.

The delegation was led by Tanes Petsuwan, the newly appointed Deputy Governor for TAT Dubai and Middle East Office to proactively meet with key people from the travel and

tourism industry in Kuwait to further boost the medical tourism and trade partnership between the two countries in providing quality medical services.

The recent initiative is part of TAT's first ever roadshow dedicated specifically to medical tourism to complement TAT's broader tourism campaign "Quality Leisure Destination through Thainess". TAT has also recently concluded a successful participation in International Medical Travel Exhibition and Conference 2016 held in Dubai, U.A.E from Oct 9-10, 2016.

Tanes Petsuwan, the newly appointed Deputy Governor for TAT Dubai and Middle East Office, said: "The Medical Tourism roadshow is an important series of event for us to build a positive image of Thailand for medical tourism in the GCC. We have just wrapped up a successful show during IMTEC 2016 and are looking forward to further bolster our efforts by showcasing our various products and packages to the residents of Kuwait."

The Thai delegation met several travel agents and industry partners from Kuwait to highlight Thailand's destinations that are

known to provide quality medical experiences. TAT also aims to build and strengthen the business ties and network within the region between private sectors from Thailand and local partners across Kuwait. The Thailand delegation consisted of 10 leading medical, health and wellness providers from hospitals, wellness hotels and aesthetic clinics. Confirmed participants are: Bangkok Pattaya Hospital, Landmark Lancaster Hotel, HMC Clinic, IS Family Group, Thanyapura Integrative Health Center, Panacee Medical Center, Phytai 2 Hospital, Vitalife Corporation, BB

Beauty and Beyond and Bangkok International Hospital.

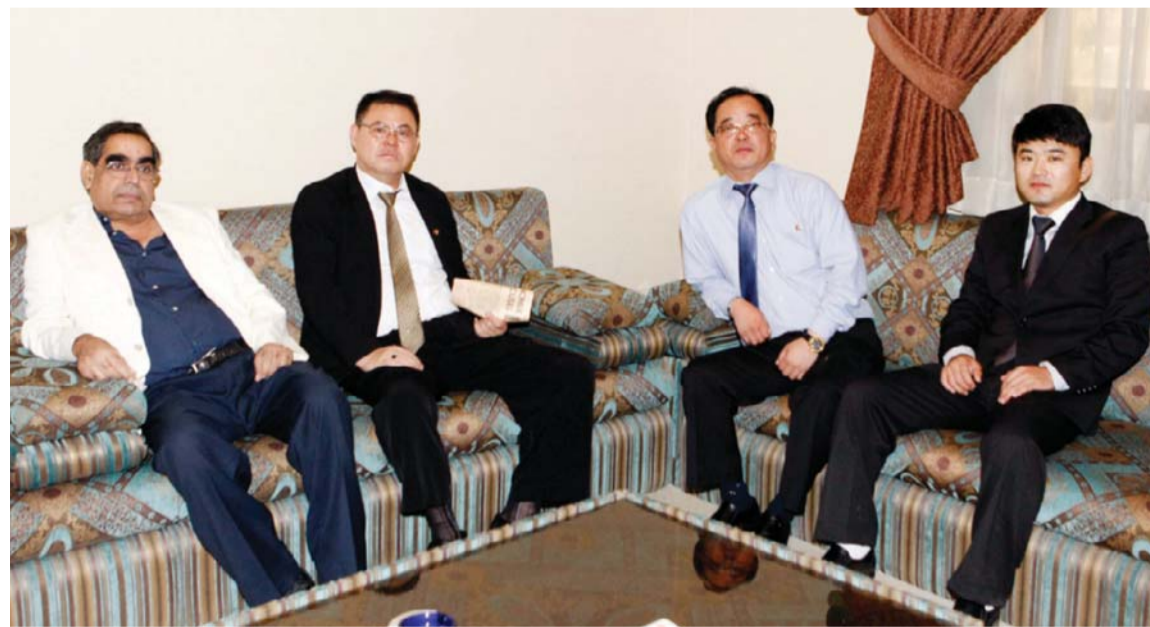
Thailand is considered as a premier destination for medical tourism due to its quality medical practices and innovative technology. Availability of Muslim friendly accommodations and Halal cuisine options also makes it a top destination choice. In 2015, visitors from the Middle Eastern remained an important source for Thailand with an increase in total number of arrival by 33.74 percent in 2015. Thailand expects a record 29.5 million tourists this year, up 19 percent from 2014.



**KUWAIT:** The Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea So Chang Sik presenting a copy of the report of the 7th Congress of the Worker's Party of Korea to Javaid Ahmad of Kuwait Times. The ambassador thanked Kuwait Times' management and staff for their continued support for his country. — Photos by Joseph Shagra



**KUWAIT:** The Ambassador of Spain Carlos Saenz De Tejada hosted a reception recently on the occasion of his country's National Day at Symphony Style Hotel. Top officials, diplomats, media persons, and members of the Spanish community in Kuwait attended the event.— Photos by Joseph Shagra





Legalese

## SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

I am very thankful that I get to answer queries publicly and interact with people in Kuwait, whether local or foreign. Even though I write a lot for the public, I have never really explained what I do to the public. I feel very grateful that as a lawyer, I am able to make a difference in people's lives.

Today though, I want to talk to you more about what I do and what I want to focus on in the future in my career. I aim to make the law accessible and understandable to everyone. I draft contracts in simple terms and avoid legal jargon. I provide consultations for commercial, media and employment matters, and although I don't personally deal with family- or crime-related law, I translate for my clients and facilitate between them and other lawyers. I don't believe in going to court and wasting my time and my clients' time and I like to come up with amicable solutions for my clients.

I am also very grateful that I work with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) - I cannot emphasize how important to me SMEs are. Actually not just to me, but to our economy. Kuwait is finally moving away (slower than we should) from oil and gas and coming up with creative solutions by our generation. I look around me and I see musicians, dancers, financial analysts, artists, writers, chefs, accountants, fashion designers, social media activists - outspoken, generous, exuberant, lovely people that not only want to make a living, but want to make a difference with their products and services. Therefore, today I want to focus more on questions that I get from SMEs.

### New website

**Question:** I have heard there is a new website that allows you to obtain a commercial license online with just a few simple steps/procedures. Is this true? I know it's true for other GCC countries and if this is true, I think it will be great.

**Fajer:** Yes, it is true that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has opened a business center, and from my experience, it will take you only one visit and four days. Check it out and please send me your experience at ask@fajertlawyer.com.

**Question:** Can I run my business from home or from a residential area?

**Fajer:** This depends on the business. Usually, businesses that rely on craftsmen, lawyers, engineers, interior designers, recording musicians, etc can run their business from residential or non-commercial places. Otherwise, you can check the Ministry of Commerce's executive bylaws that has more details about which business can be run from where. The Free Trade Zone has its own bylaws, so does Shuwaikh Industrial Area, so it's best to check.

### License

**Question:** Can I run my business online without a commercial license? Like from the Web.

**Fajer:** No, unfortunately in Kuwait, you still need a commercial license to run a business. You have to have a commercial entity that is licensed.

**Question:** Where can I find laws and legislations that can help me with my business?

**Fajer:** For general laws, you can check www.GCC-Legal.com, where you will find the majority of GCC laws in Arabic. They usually take time to update their website though. You can also check the official Kuwaiti gazette for Kuwaiti legislations in print and online. You can also check the Ministry of Commerce website, which is updated regularly.

For any legal questions or queries, email ask@fajertlawyer.com.

# KUWAIT NEEDS MORE EXPAT TEACHERS: MINISTRY LAWYER CHALLENGES FAMILY COURT LAW

By Meshaal Al-Enezi and A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of Education (MoE) needs to appoint 550 new expatriate teachers for certain subjects due to a lack of Kuwaitis teaching these subjects, assistant undersecretary for administrative affairs Fahd Al-Ghais said. Meanwhile, MoE's assistant undersecretary for financial affairs Yousef Al-Najjar announced that expat teachers' October salaries would be paid in full including the KD 150 rent allowance because the ministry has not yet received any instructions from the Civil Services Commission on putting a decision to reduce the allowance to KD 60 in effect. "We will carry out the reduction as soon as we get the letter," he stressed.

### Family court

Lawyer Howra Al-Habib yesterday contested the constitutionality of the family court law, noting that articles 5, 6, 7, 11, 13 and 14 of the law are unconstitutional.

### Honoring Sawwagh

Kuwait Municipality's Deputy Chairman Meshaal Al-Jowaisri suggested naming a street in Fintas after the late former MP Falah Al-Sawwagh.

### Brand finance

In the Brand Finance Global 2016 report issued by Brand Finance, Kuwait is ranked 49th worldwide and fourth amongst Arab countries.

### TV improvement

The information ministry stressed its intention to launch several development projects including building an integrated center for editing all Kuwait TV and Kuwait Radio programs, at a total cost of KD 2.6 million. The ministry also announced that two new live coverage vehicles fully equipped with the latest technologies at a total cost of KD 4 million would arrive by January.

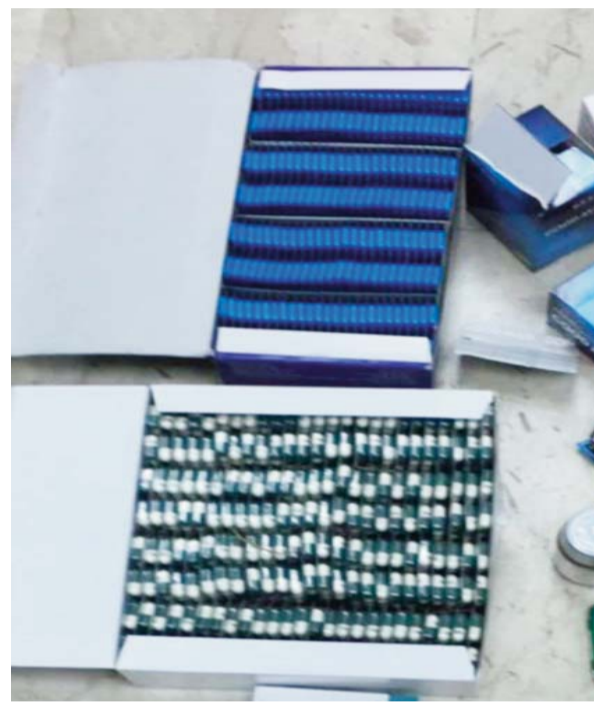
### Camping season

As the spring camping season nears, head of the spring camps committee at Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) Colonel Yousef Al-Sefak announced approving this year's safety and preventive

measures. He added that in order to facilitate the process for campers, applicants pitching camps over a maximum area of 2,000 sq m would have to sign an online affidavit at the municipality's website without checking with KFSD, while those applying for camps of 5,000 plus sq m should get KFSD's approval. Sefak added that the safety conditions include having concealed electrical wiring, not using heat sources inside tents, not using wooden floors inside tents, to have a gap of at least five meters between tents, while kitchens should be at least 10 meters away from tents, not to burn garbage, keep the place clean, use non-thermal lighting systems and provide two four-kilo fire extinguishers per 1,000 sq m of the camp.



KUWAIT: This photo released by the Interior Ministry yesterday reveals two suspects arrested for practicing medicine illegally.



Some medications stolen from a public hospital.



# DUO ARRESTED FOR PRACTICING MEDICINE ILLEGALLY

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Farwaniya detectives arrested two Asians for illegally practicing medicine in Jleeb Al-Shuyukh, said security sources, noting that one of the suspects claimed to be a doctor and the other claimed to be a pharmacist. The suspects were arrested with Ministry of Health (MoH) medicines they confessed to obtaining through a third suspect who worked as a cleaner in a public hospital, from where he stole them.

### Bootleggers in custody

Five Asians were arrested yesterday in Sabah Al-Salem for brewing liquor, the Interior Ministry announced yesterday. The arrest came during an operation that followed investigations which started based on information received about the suspect's illegal activity. The five men were taken to the proper authorities to face charges.

### By-elections

Criminal investigators arrested participants in a by-election held in Jahra in

preparation for the upcoming parliamentary elections. Security sources noted that by-elections are incriminated by law, which penalizes both participants and organizers with a maximum of five years in prison and/or a fine of KD 2,000-5,000.

### Arsonists caught

Kuwait Interpol arrested three Egyptians wanted in Egypt for arson, murder and bullying others, said security sources, noting that the suspects were respectively sentenced to life, 25 years and 10 years in prison.

### Inspection campaign

Ahamadi security launched inspection campaigns in Mahboula, Dahr, Mangaf, Fintas, Fahd Al-Ahmad, Hadiya, Zour and Khairan. Security sources said the inspections resulted in arresting 87 people including 12 absconders, 20 wanted for civil cases, four wanted for criminal cases, two reckless drivers, one for dual citizenship, three for driving ATVs along main streets and two for not holding any ID, in addition to impounding seven vehicles and 10 ATVs and filing 24 traffic tickets.

## KBR WINS US ARMY PROJECT CONTRACT IN KUWAIT

**HOUSTON:** KBR, a major engineering, procurement and construction company, said its joint venture with top private security firm Triple Canopy, has been awarded a major contract by the US Army for its Kuwait base operations.

It is a firm fixed-price contract for one year with four option years. The total contract for the first year is valued at over \$115 million and the full contract is expected to exceed \$800 million over the five year life of the contract, said a statement from KBR.

As per the deal, KBR-Triple Canopy JV will provide logistics, engineering services and installation support services including morale, welfare and recreation (MWR); information management; forms and publications, official mail, and reproduction services; postal operations; healthcare support services; operations, security, fire and emergency services, it stated.

The Kuwait Base Operations and Security Support Services (K-BOSS 2.0) contract will cover the Kuwait Area of Responsibility including: Camp Arifjan, Camp Buehring, Udairi Range Complex, Camp Patriot on the Kuwait Naval Base (KNB), the Aerial Port of Debarkation (APOD) located at the Kuwait City International Airport (KCIA), and Sea Port of Debarkation (SPOD) located at the Kuwait Port of Shuaiba, it added.

KBR has earlier provided services support solutions for the US joint Armed Services spanning the military operational continuum from contingencies to critical forward locations across the globe and at home, said the statement.

The company provides Base Operations Support Services for the US Navy in Djibouti and Bahrain while simultaneously providing immediate response services support solutions for the US Army in Kuwait, Iraq and much of Europe through the Army's Logistics Civil Augmentation IV contract, it added.—Trade Arabia News Service

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Crime

Report

MAN ARRESTED FOR KIDNAPPING MINOR

**KUWAIT:** A citizen wanted for kidnapping a minor was arrested in Salhiya. He was taken to the proper authorities for further action. Meanwhile, weapons police arrested nine people wanted for various civil cases in Jahra, in addition to two citizens possessing drugs and a third for drinking and possessing alcohol in Bneid Al-Gar. Separately, a citizen was arrested in Sharq with 66 illicit pills.

Traffic violations

Capital police arrested 149 people wanted for various cases and issued 172 tickets for traffic violations. In a separate case, a male citizen was arrested for driving recklessly in Wafra, dressing in women's clothing and wearing makeup.

ATM stolen

An Arab expat filed a complaint accusing someone he knows of stealing his ATM card and withdrawing KD 60 from his bank account. A case was filed and investigations went underway. Separately, Jahra detectives arrested a drunken man who did not hold any identification trying to stop passersby to rob them.

Fights

An Asian and an Arab were arrested for fighting in Nugra over an old unpaid debt. Separately, a fight broke out amongst a number of women in a Jahra park, after one of them hit the other's maid with a stick and the maid's sponsor used a knife to defend her. —Al-Rai, Al-Anbaa, Al-Qabas

News

in brief

COMOROS 'WILLING' TO NATURALIZE BEDOONS

**KUWAIT:** Ambassador of the Comoros to Kuwait Al-Aref Saied Hassan said that his country is ready to give its nationality to bedoons (stateless) in Kuwait, and even welcome them to its lands, should the two Arab states reach an agreement on that regard. The envoy denied however that any agreement has been signed to naturalize bedoons, but confirmed that "the idea is there." —Annahar

Driver's licenses

**KUWAIT:** The newly-established Public Authority for Roads Transportation will soon take over the duties of issuing and renewing driver's licenses, as well as car registrations, license plates and inspection. Coordination is currently ongoing with the Interior Ministry's Traffic General Department to complete the transition as soon as possible, an official at the authority said. —Al-Anbaa

Expats run SMEs

**KUWAIT:** Around 98 percent of small and medium enterprises in Kuwait are managed by expatriates who are hired by Kuwaiti owners who receive substantial support from the government to run their businesses, political and economic analyst Fawaz Al-Shaibani said, adding that his conclusions were based on statistics obtained from the Manpower and Government Restructuring Program (MGRP). —Al-Qabas

Seismic surveys

**KUWAIT:** Small tremors felt by residents near areas where seismic surveys for oil exploration are carried out near Kuwait Bay and Kuwait City have no impact on residential buildings, said Jamal Jaafar, CEO of Kuwait Oil Company (KOC). Homeowners will be notified beforehand with the surveys' times, Jaafar said, adding that works will be scheduled away from evening and dawn to prevent inconvenience. —Al-Rai

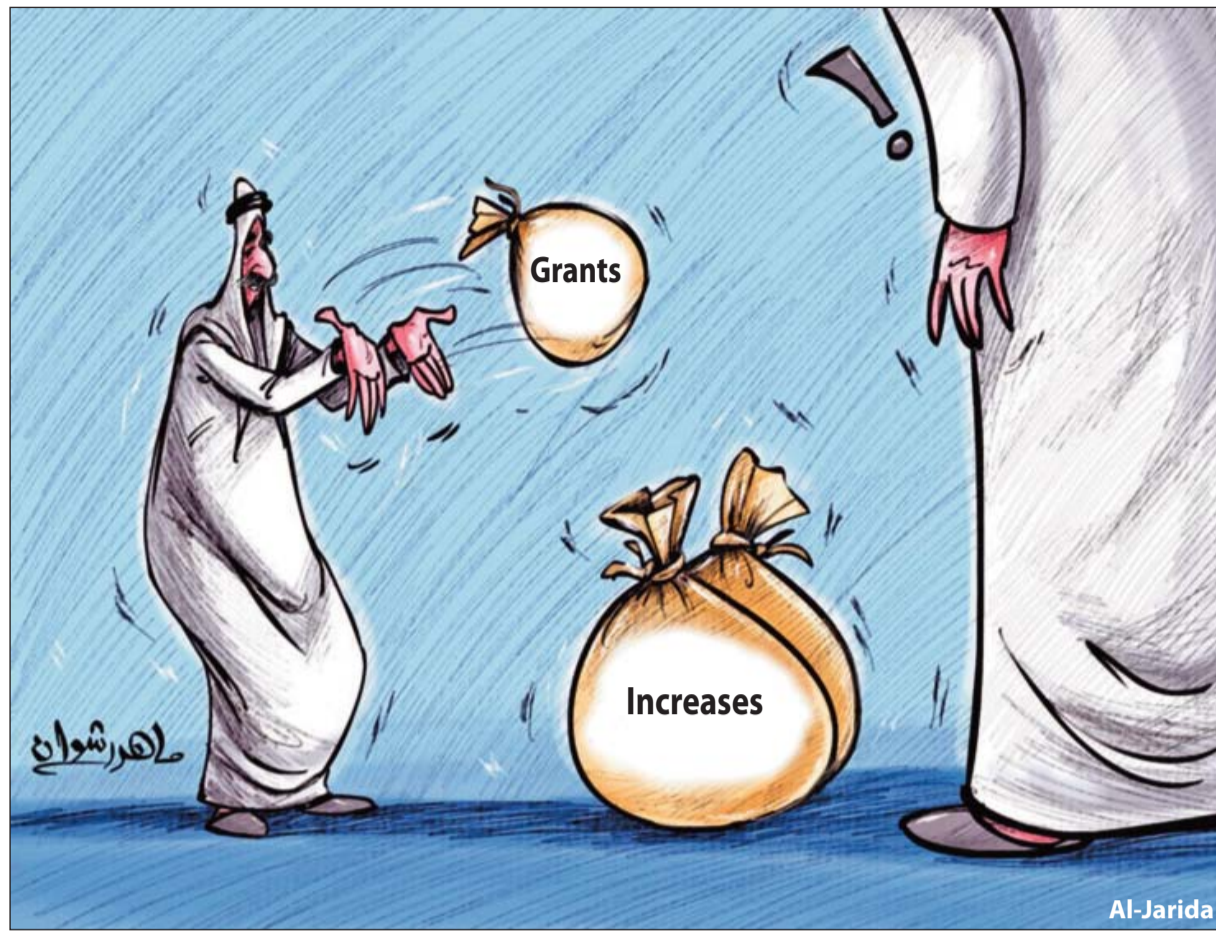
Labor violations

**KUWAIT:** The Public Authority for Manpower referred 1,058 employers' files for investigations this year on labor-related violations, Acting Director Abdullah Al-Mutawtah said. Those include 78 files suspended permanently, 264 files for occupational safety and 368 files for companies with violations detected during labor inspections, Mutawtah explained. —Al-Anbaa

CBK SPONSORS DISABLED RECREATIONAL DAY

**KUWAIT:** The Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) recently sponsored the Disabled Recreational Day carnival organized by Signature Company and Kuwait Society for Parents of the Disabled. This sponsorship comes as part of CBK's activities in community service designed to provide constant care and support to all segments of society, especially the disabled and those with special needs, the bank announced.

Commenting on the event, Amani Al-Wer'a, CBK's Assistant General Manager for Public Relations and Advertising, stressed that CBK always builds bridges to communicate with various society sectors all year long, not only on the disabled day. "This category of people needs our aid and assistance to overcome their disabilities and integrate in communal activities," she stressed.



Al-Jarida

Al-Anbaa

Al-Anbaa

THE DEBAUCHED AND NAJAT AL-SAGHEERA

By Saad Al-Motesh

Since I have no trade or business to keep me busy or use to pass my time, I absolutely have nothing to do. So, I started exploring social media networks to kill time instead of gossiping about others. However, I found out that these sites included much more bad things than I expected. Well, I am not the first one to be so disappointed, because long before me and before Twitter, the veteran singer Najat Al-Sagheera sang: "Does he think he can toy with me?"

I thought Twitter was a place to pass time usefully, but eventually found it was a place for robberies and lies and a place full of debauched people who follow poets without thinking, as described in the Holy Quran. The only difference now is that they follow bloggers, though they both say things they do not do!

Many poets wrote poems about chivalry, gallantry and good manners without having any of these virtues themselves. They do not even think about

what they write, but still write it because they found some audience that enjoys reading their words and wishes to become as famous. Some people found Twitter as the perfect platform to get famous without showing any respect to rules and regulations. While some users only tend to spreading lies, fraud, blackmail and saying what they do not actually do, others are so honest that one would ask to use their old ghutras as blessed prayer mats.

The Holy Quran described poets as people treading all paths. Almighty Allah meant that they talk about everything, which absolutely applies to some bloggers who talk about all topics and concerns. Therefore, I only follow those I know to avoid joining the debauched. I only follow accounts with real names to avoid being toyed with. After all, Najat Al-Sagheera might be prettier than me and has a nice voice, but I am taller and handsomer than the ugly bloggers you follow!

—Translated by Kuwait Times

KIB SPONSORS MANDALA ART WORKSHOP

**KUWAIT:** Under the umbrella of its strategic partnership with Al-Sidra Association for the Psychological Care of Cancer Patients, Kuwait International Bank (KIB) recently sponsored the Mandala Art Therapy and Healing Workshop. Organized by Al-Sidra in partnership with ArtspaceQ8, the workshop aimed to help female cancer patients achieve the maximum levels of healing, by promoting relaxation through painting and drawing.

As part of its leading social responsibility program, KIB offers strategic support to Al Sidra throughout the year, sponsoring the Association's different activities and initiatives. KIB also provides support to Al Sidra in its mission to provide patients and their families with comprehensive services, focusing on healthcare, treatment and awareness across all stages of the disease.

"This strategic sponsorship is the latest in a long line of initiatives that we have carried out under the umbrella of our broad and expansive social responsibility program. In this particular case, our partnership with Al Sidra came as a result of our strong belief in the importance of their mission and cause, which focuses on creating a positive environment for cancer patients to help them better adapt to their conditions and ultimately enhance their response to treatment," said Nawaf Najia, Manager of the Corporate Communications Unit at KIB.

Najia further added: "Our partnership with Al-Sidra reflects KIB's commitment towards the community in Kuwait, especially in terms of enhancing health consciousness across the country. As this is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we wanted to do our part to help raise awareness about this serious disease, and educate the public about its most important facets; starting from the importance of early detection, all the way to how to support patients through their difficult journey battling the disease."



KFH PARTICIPATES IN PROGRAM TO TRAIN GRADUATES TO WORK IN BANKING SECTOR ORGANIZED BY IBS IN COLLABORATION WITH MGRP

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) participated in the graduation ceremony for IBS graduates to work in the banking and financial sectors. The training program was held for 12 weeks in collaboration with the Manpower and Government Restructuring Program - MGRP, KFH and the Kuwaiti banks in general within the framework of achieving the common national goals of supporting the youth and offering them suitable job opportunities to empower them and enable them to take part in the economic and development process in the country.

MGRP Assistant Secretary General for Manpower Affairs Bandar Al-Rashed praised KFH's role in Kuwaitization while contributing in achieving the goals of the IBS program in investing in the national human resources, honing their skills and offering them all means possible to educate them on all developments of banking industry.

Meanwhile, Professor Yaqoub S Y Alrefaei, the Director General of IBS applauded, in his speech at the graduation ceremony, KFH's significant role in improving the national human capital which reflects the outstanding perform-

ance and contributes in achieving the comprehensive development in the country. He expressed his appreciation to KFH's support to the institute, indicating that KFH has hired eight of the 30 male and female Kuwaiti graduates of the program which constitutes the largest share.

KFH allocates advanced training programs and specialized workshops for its employees in order to optimally equip them and arm them with all what they need, which confirms its keenness to hone the skills of its human resources and raise their qualifications for the benefit of the bank and clients.

Al-Anbaa

Al-Anbaa

EDUCATION: FACTS AND AMBITIONS

By Dr Adel Ibrahim Al-Ibrahim

Education has been the main topic of debates, conferences and strategies for long now, while the recommendations made have never been put into practice. This has made education so deteriorated that a former Ministry of Education (MoE) official described it as an inverted pyramid!

It has been upside down ever since and never been set straight. Successive ministers have taken responsibility of the education portfolio, but their views towards education remained the same, which has been having negative impact on students according to occasional international statistics and ranking that show our students at the tail end of the list.

We have the right to wonder about the reasons leading to such a situation. Do not the minister and MoE officials know those reasons? A simple answer to this is that unless the minister and ministry officials have true intentions to reform things, education will keep deteriorating in our beloved country. The last nail in our educational system's coffin might probably be the decision to decrease expat teachers' rent allowance. How on earth can such a decision involving the most sacred profession in any society be made?! Teachers must be actually and not just nominally distinguished.

Education problems in Kuwait mainly result from the educational environment and selecting teachers and school curriculums. To solve these problems, selected teachers must at least hold a master's degree and have enough experience in the subjects they teach. These conditions are followed in Finland, which has the best educational system worldwide. Teachers must also be paid as much as doctors, engineers and lawyers, or even more.

In this regard, I recall a WhatsApp post that argues that if doctors can operate on a child's heart to save his life, teachers have access to children minds and can enrich them with knowledge and science. Yes, indeed. This is what we need for our kids to have a proper learning environment to help them be creative and independent. So we need highly qualified, skilled and experienced teaching staffs, modern curriculums suitable for this age that encourage children to think logically.

Will our educationists realize such recommendations? We actually lack a real will to develop education and this is what got us so far, ending up with many improvised and random decisions such as decreasing expat teachers' rent allowances. —Translated by Kuwait Times





**Canada's liberal champion PM Trudeau celebrates one year**

LATE THAI KING'S CONFIDANT CONFIRMED TEMP REGENT



**PORTSMOUTH:** A supporter of Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump wears a shirt that reads 'Hillary for Prison' as Trump speaks at an event. —AFP

# TRUMP CHALLENGES CLINTON TO DRUG TEST

'I THINK WE SHOULD TAKE A DRUG TEST PRIOR TO THE DEBATE'

**PORTSMOUTH:** Donald Trump has challenged his rival Hillary Clinton to a drug test before their next debate, suggesting the Democrat was "pumped up" on performance-enhancing drugs in a stunning new twist to the brutal White House race. The unsubstantiated attack from the Republican nominee came as a new poll out yesterday shows Clinton with a four-point lead over her Republican rival, suggesting that Trump still holds a solid core of voters despite a week of snowballing claims of sexual misconduct that have thrown his presidential campaign into chaos.

Trump has trampled all conventions in his treatment of his opponent, vowing if elected to jail her over her email practices as secretary of state and making "Lock Her Up" a rallying cry for his fired-up supporters. His campaign has actively fueled right-wing conspiracy theories about Clinton's health, seizing on her bout of pneumonia last month to suggest she is concealing a major health problem, and is unfit for office. In the latest attack, leveled without proof, Trump suggested she had taken drugs during their last debate, and called for testing ahead of their final duel Wednesday in Las Vegas.

"At the beginning of her last debate, she was all pumped up at the beginning. At the end, it was like, 'Take me down,' she could barely reach her car," the 70-year-old told a rally Saturday in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. "Athletes, they make them take a drug test. I think we should take a drug test prior to the debate. Why don't we do that?" Trump said.

**'Steal the election'**

The Manhattan billionaire has spent the week claiming the media and a "global elite" are working against him. "The election is being rigged by corrupt media pushing completely false allegations and outright lies in an effort to elect her president," he charged in New Hampshire. Ten women have now come forward to say they were the victim of unwanted advances by the real estate mogul.

Trump's latest accuser, 63-year-old Cathy Heller, told The Guardian that he had grabbed and kissed her against her wishes during their first and only meeting 20 years ago. Trump denies the allegations, insisting in one of a barrage of tweets to his 12 million followers: "Nothing ever happened with any of these women. Totally made up nonsense to steal the election. Nobody has more respect for women than me!"

The controversy apparently has had little effect on Trump's support: an ABC News/Washington Post poll out Sunday shows Clinton leading Trump 47-43 percent among likely voters—a small change from 46-44 in a survey taken ahead of the first presidential debate. The poll was taken after the October 7 release of audio from 2005 in which Trump bragged that he could get away with grabbing women's crotches because he's famous.

**Clinton appears confident**

However enthusiasm for Trump among his supporters has decreased, while the percentage of Clinton supporters who said they could change their minds has dropped, the poll said. One diehard Trump supporter, Silicon Valley billionaire Peter Thiel, is donating \$1.25 million to help elect the Republican candidate, the New York Times reported, citing a person close to the investor.

A confident Clinton has scaled back her campaign commit-

ments, keeping a low profile as her rival battles the incendiary allegations, triggered by the release last week of a video of him bragging about groping women. But the Clinton camp issued a swift response to Trump's latest comments on the election, accusing him of seeking to erode public faith in the vote.

"This election will have record turnout, because voters see through Donald Trump's shameful attempts to undermine an election weeks before it happens," her campaign manager Robby Mook said in a statement. The nation's top elected

Republican, House speaker Paul Ryan, who last week declared that he would no longer "defend" the party's nominee, rebuked Trump over his comments questioning the validity of the election process.

"Our democracy relies on confidence in election results, and the speaker is fully confident the states will carry out this election with integrity," said a statement issued late Saturday by Ryan's spokeswoman AshLee Strong. The virulence of Trump's attacks on the Clinton camp has raised concerns about whether

the real estate mogul would even acknowledge a defeat, and how his legions of supporters would react should he lose.

President Barack Obama—who along with First Lady Michelle Obama stepped up this week as a heavy-hitting surrogate for Clinton—echoed those concerns at a rally Friday, warning democracy itself was at stake in next month's vote. "In a democracy, you have a contest, but if you lose then you say congratulations and you move on," said the US leader, whose second term ends January 20. —AFP

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## IN CALAIS' REFUGEE SLUM, TEENS DREAM OF BRITAIN

**CALAIS:** Inside the Kids Cafe, a ramshackle refuge in a sprawling migrant slum in Calais, a mobile phone rings. Afghan teenager Wasaal takes the call. A friend of his has managed to hide inside a truck and hopes he will soon be on the other side of the English Channel. "The problem is that he does not have GPS on his mobile. He does not know if the truck is moving in the right direction," the 14-year-old said.

In fact, few in this muddy, violent camp in the northern French city know where they are going, but dreams abound of a life in Britain, just 21 miles across the sea. The French government has announced plans to shut down the camp that has become a demoralizing symbol of Europe's migrant crisis by the end of the year. That means 6,000 to 10,000 migrants will need to be relocated, including up to 1,300 minors, according to different estimates from charities operating in the camp.

**Terrible experience**  
Many refugee children in Calais claim

to have family ties in the UK and don't even consider building their future in France. Jonny Willis, a volunteer from the French refugee and youth service, says the camp's appalling living conditions and poor hygiene have been a strong deterrent. "They went through a terrible experience here," said Willis. "They have been treated so badly by police. This camp lacks basic services, in addition there is no security." Wasaal himself has stopped trying to sneak onto trucks to Britain. Instead he's had his fingerprints taken as part of his request for asylum.

"I tried it more than 10 times over the past seven months," he said. "But I'm not doing it anymore. I'm in the process of being reunited with my uncle and cousins. I don't know how long it will take, it's for the Home Office to decide." Britain's Home Office says small groups of refugee children have been coming in a weekly basis for the last few months and hundreds are now expected to cross the Channel legally before the Calais camp is destroyed.

Inside the Kids Cafe, a place where

teenagers can relax and enjoy a free meal, Wasaal and a dozen of other boys are listening to music while playing pool. The sofas are worn out, but a poster of a red British double-decker bus reminds everyone that London is just a few miles away. After a perilous three-month journey across countries including Syria, Turkey, and Serbia, Wasaal can't wait for his British dream to come true.

"Here I'm just wasting my time," the teenager said in fluent English. "We are too busy dealing with daily life problems. We can't think properly." "I left because my family was in danger," said the boy, who fled Kunduz province in northern Afghanistan where Taliban are conducting repeated raids. Wasaal has lost touch with his parents, who also fled the violence. His hopes are simple: receiving a proper education in a safe environment. "I just dream to be in a place where there will be no one to harm me. Back in Afghanistan, I had very good results in two different subjects, physics and mathematics. I want to be an engineer," he said.

### 'Danger of being exploited'

Aid groups agree the Calais slum must be shut down, but are urging authorities to take their time. The refugee youth service has handed mobile phones to hundreds of children and collected information to make sure they won't go missing when the camp is dismantled. When the southern part of the camp was destroyed in April, 129 children vanished. "We should do everything to ensure that minors don't disappear," Genevieve Avenard, the French government's children rights watchdog, said during a recent visit. "They are in danger of being exploited. We also need time to give these children their confidence back, so they can set up a project for their future life."

Mahmud, 16, already knows what he wants to be - a business accountant. The Afghan teenager, whose parents were killed when he was a boy, hopes he will be transferred to Birmingham, where his uncle has already been in touch with British authorities. In the meantime, he's

bored of wandering around the camp without a plan. At night, he sleeps in Container No. 51, one of the heated white containers holding up to 1,500 people. Mahmud is also wary of the frequent violence in the camp. "There are too many fighting here. I really don't like that," said the diminutive boy, wearing only a pair of flip flops on a cold afternoon. Tensions have been growing amid the looming uncertainty. It's only a matter of weeks before all the Calais migrants will be deported, transferred to England or relocated to more than 160 centers around France. One British charity has warned of possible suicide attempts from desperate migrants. But new migrants are still arriving.

On Thursday at the Calais-Frethun train station, a young boy in jeans and sneakers stepped out of the express train from Paris. He was immediately arrested by two French police officers. "We checked his ID, he's a 17-year-old from Somalia," one police officer said, speaking on customary condition of anonymity. "He wants to go to England. — AP

## 3 TURKISH POLICE KILLED BY SUICIDE BOMB NEAR BORDER

### ANOTHER 'BOMB CELL' EXPLOSIVE DETONATED BUT NO CAUSALITIES

**ISTANBUL:** A suspected Islamic State suicide bomber blew himself up during an anti-terror raid in the Turkish city of Gaziantep yesterday, killing three police officers, officials said. A few hours later, a second suicide bomber-identified as the chief of IS group "bomb cells" in the city near the Syrian border-detonated his explosives, killing himself but without causing any further fatalities.

The blasts took place shortly after Turkish-backed rebels captured the northern Syrian town of Dabiq from the IS group, dealing a major symbolic blow to the jihadists. In the first attack in Gaziantep, the bomber set off his

road where the suspected jihadists were holed up in a house, the state-run news agency Anadolu reported. Witnesses told private NTV television they heard sound of gunfire and clashes in the area, which is mostly populated by university students.

### 'Suspected sleeper cells'

Video footage released by the private Dogan news agency showed several suspects with their hands tied behind their backs as they were taken to a police car. Yerlikaya said the raid took place after Turkish authorities gathered intelligence about a possible suicide bomb

was believed to be supplying logistical support to the organisation, according to the governor. He said the second bombing caused no further casualties, adding that the suspect's wife and children who were in the apartment building at the time did not suffer any injuries. Turkish police have detained 19 suspects for alleged links to IS group, the governor said. Gaziantep, a major city lying just 60 kilometres (37 miles) north of the Syrian border, has become a hub for Syrians fleeing the civil war.

### 'Continue anti-terror fight'

Since the summer of 2015, Turkey has suffered a string of attacks in Gaziantep and elsewhere blamed on IS jihadists and Kurdish militants. In August, a suicide bombing at a Kurdish wedding in the city killed 57 people, 34 of them children. The attack was blamed on IS jihadists. In September, the United States warned of the risk of a terror attack in Gaziantep on businesses frequented by Westerners, including the popular coffee chain Starbucks.

At the time, the US embassy in Ankara warned its citizens that Turkish police were investigating a possible "terror cell" in Gaziantep. Turkish authorities acknowledge that IS jihadists have built up a presence in the southeastern city with the aim of staging attacks, and yesterday's raid was part of a wider crackdown on sleeper cells across the country. Yerlikaya said Turkey "will continue its fight against all terror groups including Daesh", using an Arabic acronym for IS.

Turkey launched an unprecedented operation inside Syria on August 24, backing up opposition fighters, with the ultimate goal of cleansing its border of IS jihadists and stopping the advance of Syrian Kurdish militia forces which Ankara vehemently opposes. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has also voiced Turkey's willingness to become involved in a coalition operation to recapture the northern Iraqi city of Mosul from IS.

Turkey is still reeling from an attempted July 15 coup blamed on US-based Islamic preacher Fethullah Gulen that has been followed by a relentless purge of his supporters from all state institutions. Kurdish militants have also staged a number of attacks. Adherents of the Alevi branch of Islam are known for their headline opposition to the Islamic-rooted ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) co-founded by Erdogan. — AFP



**GAZIANTEP:** Ambulances and security members attend the scene, near an explosion site after suicide bombers blew themselves up Sunday during a police raid against suspected Islamic State militants near the Syrian border. — AP

explosives to avoid being captured by Turkish police, local governor Ali Yerlikaya said in televised comments. Turkish media had initially spoken of more than one attacker but the governor and the local prosecutor's office said the body of just one bomber was found at the scene. The governor said five police and four Syrians were also injured. Acting on a tip-off, special police used armored vehicles to block

attack by a suspected IS sleeper cell in Gaziantep against an Alevi cultural association. Police confiscated computers and hard disks from the house.

A second suicide bomber blew himself up as police hunted for suspects who fled after the first blast, Yerlikaya said. He was identified as Mehmet Kadir Cabaal, chief of the IS group's "bomb cells" in the Gaziantep region and who



**BAGHDAD:** Iraqi security forces and policemen inspect the site of a bombing which targeted a tent where Shiites distribute food as part of annual religious commemorations. — AFP

## IS BOMBER HITS SHIITE MOURNERS IN BAGHDAD

**BAGHDAD** A suicide bomber struck a gathering of Shiite mourners in Baghdad yesterday, killing at least four people and wounding another 12, Iraqi officials said, as government troops prepared for a decisive battle to drive the Islamic State extremist group from the major northern city of Mosul. The attack took place in Baghdad's Shiite-dominated Jadriyah neighborhood on the Tigris River, where the explosive-laden bomber approached Shiites commemorating the 7th century death of Imam Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad, a police officer said.

A medical official confirmed the toll. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to release information to the press. The IS militants claimed responsibility for the bombing in a statement carried by the IS-linked Aamaq news agency. The claim could not be independently verified. The group swept through a swath of Iraq in June 2014 and took control of significant areas in the north and west.

Along with parts of Syria, it declared an Islamic caliphate that covers nearly a third of each country. But since late last year, the militants have suffered battlefields losses and their power has shrunk to the northern city of Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city located about 360 kilometers (225 miles) northwest of Baghdad, along with small

towns in the country's north and west. Iraq is now gearing up for a major battle with IS for Mosul, an operation that is expected to be the most complex yet for Iraq's military, which is still rebuilding from its humiliating 2014 defeat.

"The operation to liberate Mosul will start very soon in the coming few days," Brig Gen Haider Fadhil told The Associated Press in an interview. Fadhil said more than 25,000 troops, including paramilitary forces made up of Sunni tribal fighters and Shiite militias, will take part in the offensive that will be launched from five directions around the city. In addition to carrying out airstrikes, the US-led international coalition will also offer artillery fire, he added.

According to UN estimates, up to 1 million people could be displaced from Mosul during the operation, exacerbating the humanitarian situation in the country. The conflict in Iraq has forced 3.3 million people to flee their homes, with most of them living in camps or informal settlements. Fadhil voiced concern about potential action from Turkish troops based in the region of Bashiqa, northeast of Mosul. Turkey sent troops to the area late last year to train anti-IS fighters there. But Baghdad has seen the Turkish presence as a "blatant violation" of Iraqi sovereignty and has demanded the Turkish troops withdraw, a call Ankara has ignored. — AP

## IRAN MPs CALL FOR RELEASE OF DEATH PENALTY ACTIVIST

**TEHRAN:** A group of Iranian lawmakers has written an open letter to the head of the judiciary calling for the release of Narges Mohammadi, an activist sentenced to 10 years in prison. Mohammadi, 44, has campaigned against the death penalty and was awarded the City of Paris medal earlier this year for her work on women's rights.

Arrested in May last year, the mother-of-two was sentenced in April to a total of 16 years in prison on various charges, including "forming and managing an illegal group". In the letter published by Iranian media yesterday, the lawmakers call on Ayatollah Sadeq Larijani, the head of the judiciary, "to apply the clemency and mercy of the Islamic republic" and reunite her with her children. They also

highlight Mohammadi's medical problems including "muscular paralysis".

Among the signatories were parliamentary vice president Ali Motahari and several female MPs. Mohammadi, who was also spokeswoman for Iran's Centre for Human Rights Defenders, went on hunger strike in June after being denied phone contact with her children, who live with their father in France. The authorities relented after 20 days of the hunger strike. Under a law passed last year, she should only serve the sentence linked to the most important charge-in this case 10 years for forming the "illegal group" Legam which pressed for an end to capital punishment. Amnesty International says Iran executed 977 people last year, mostly on drug trafficking charges. — AFP

## JORDANIANS CHARGED WITH KILLING SISTERS FOR 'HONOR'

**AMMAN:** Two Jordanian brothers were charged with murdering their two sisters in apparent "honor killings", a court official said yesterday. The men, aged 22 and 24, were charged with murdering their sisters on Thursday evening in Naur, 20 kilometers southwest of Jordan's capital Amman. The official, who asked to remain anonymous, said the brothers claimed they had killed the women, aged 20 and 34, "to defend the family's honor".

"The two brothers were looking for their older sister, who had been away from the family home," he said. "They found her in the house of the younger sister, who had married without the knowledge or consent of the fam-

ily." They shot the younger sister twice and the older one five times, including once to the head, the official said. The younger sister's husband, who informed the brothers where the women were, was also arrested. "The public prosecutor charged all three of the arrested men with murder," said the official. Another source familiar with the investigation said the two brothers had "claimed during questioning that they had carried out the crime for honor". Murder is punishable by death by hanging in Jordan, but courts usually commute or reduce sentences in so-called cases of "honor killings", particularly if the victim's family urges leniency. Jordan sees around 15-20 cases of so-called honor killings a year. — AFP

## IRAQI ARMY DROPS LEAFLETS IN MOSUL IN PREPARATION

**BAGHDAD:** The Iraqi army dropped tens of thousands of leaflets over Mosul before dawn yesterday, warning residents an offensive to recapture the city from Islamic State was in its final stages of preparation, according to a military statement in Baghdad. The leaflets carried several messages, one of them assuring the population that advancing army units and air strikes "will not target civilians" and another telling them to avoid known locations of Islamic State militants.

The assault on Mosul, the last city still under control of the ultra-hardline Islamic State in Iraq, could begin this month with the support of a US-led coalition, according to Iraqi government and military officials. Islamic State fighters are dug in and are expected to fight hard. They have forced civilians to stay in harm's way during previous battles to defend territory. Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday he hoped the United States and its allies would do their best to avoid civilian casualties in an attack

on Mosul. Reflecting the authorities' concerns over a mass exodus that would complicate the offensive, the leaflets told residents "to stay at home and not to believe rumours spread by Daesh" to cause panic, referring to Islamic State by its Arabic acronym. With a pre-war population of around 2 million, Mosul is around 4-5 times the size of any other city recaptured so far from the militants, who swept through northern Iraq in 2014 and also hold a swathe of Syria.

The UN last week said it was bracing for the world's biggest and most complex humanitarian effort in the battle for the city, which could make up to 1 million people homeless and see civilians used as human shields or even gassed. "Keep calm and tell your children that it is only a game or thunder before the rain," a leaflet said. "Women should not scream or shout, to preserve the children's spirit." "If you see an army unit, stay at least 25 meters away and avoid any sudden movements," another said.

Iraq earlier this month launched a radio station to help Mosul residents stay safe during the offensive. The radio is broadcasting from Qayyara, a town 60 kilometers south of Mosul, where the army is massing forces ahead of the offensive. Qayyara has also an airfield that will be used as a hub by the US-led coalition to support the offensive in which Kurdish Peshmerga and Sunni tribal fighters are expected to take part.

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has not yet made it clear whether Iranian-backed Shiite paramilitary units will participate in the offensive on the mainly Sunni city. Local Sunni politicians and regional Sunni-majority states including Turkey and Saudi Arabia have cautioned that letting Shiite militias take part in assault could lead to sectarian bloodletting. — Reuters



**BAGHDAD:** Iraqi policemen inspect their weapons at the Qayyarah military base, about 60 kilometres (35 miles) south of Mosul. — AFP



## STARS RALLY FOR DIVERSITY IN US-MEXICO BORDER SHOW

**SAN DIEGO:** Top stars in Latin music pleaded Saturday for tolerance in a concert from the US-Mexico border, taking a stand weeks ahead of a divisive US presidential election. Thousands of people turned out in the walkway between San Diego and Tijuana for the show put together by Univision, the US Spanish-language network with a strong following among Hispanics, and its English-language, youth-oriented unit Fusion.

Called "RiseUp As One," the concert was officially non-partisan but came amid the heated rhetoric of Republican nominee Donald Trump, who has described Mexican immigrants as rapists and vowed to build a wall on the border. Rene Perez of the Puerto Rican

reggaeton group Calle 13 appealed for US voters to pick the "least worst" candidate, in a clear reference to Democrat Hillary Clinton, and closed the concert with the song "Latinoamerica" in a powerful duet with the Mexican singer Lila Downs.

Downs, one of the most energetic performers of the evening, appealed to Latinos to prove that the community is "stronger than hate." Los Tigres del Norte, a top act from the folksy Mexican-rooted genre of norteño music, opened the concert poignantly with the song "Somos Mas Americanos," or "We Are More American." "I didn't cross the border / The border crossed me," runs one of song's lyrics in Spanish,

a reference to the US seizure of Mexican land in the 1840s. While mostly consisting of Latin artists, the concert also drew Andra Day, the rising San Diego-born soul singer and protégée of Stevie Wonder.

### 'Why humanity has survived'

Outside the music world, stars who appeared included the Mexican actor Gael Garcia Bernal, whose films include "Babel" and the TV series "Mozart in the Jungle." "Migration is the reason that we're here on this planet and the reason why humanity has survived," Garcia Bernal told interviewer Jorge Ramos, the Univision anchor who has entered tense exchanges in covering Trump.

The veteran Panamanian-born singer Miguel Bose encouraged viewers to vote on November 8. "We're going to decide if we want progress and dignity or if we want regression and chaos," Bose said. "For me as a Latino, I'm very worried and I've come to tell you that you have a weapon, and that is your vote and our voice," he said. Other major acts included Spanish singer-songwriter Alejandro Sanz, Colombian stars Carlos Vives and Juanes, and Mexican pop singer Natalia Lafourcade, who triumphed at last year's Latin Grammys with five awards.

And Uruguayan star Jorge Drexler sang "Al Otro Lado del Rio" ("The Other Side of the River"), his Oscar-winning song from "The Motorcycle Diaries," the

2004 biopic in which Garcia Bernal stars as revolutionary Che Guevara. "I don't know where I'm from / My house is on the border / And borders move like flags," the song goes in Spanish.

Surveys have shown Clinton enjoying a major edge over Trump among Hispanics, who make up 17 percent of the US population and unless turnout spikes this year-around 12 percent of the electorate. Wilmer Valderrama, the Miami-born actor of Colombian and Venezuelan descent best known for "That '70s Show," said that the United States was defined by immigrants.

"My family and I are the living proof that the American dream can come true," he said. — AFP



**SAN FRANCISCO:** Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton waves after speaking at a fundraiser at the Civic Center Auditorium. — AP

## EMAILS SHOW A CONCERN OVER CLINTON'S WALL STREET SPEECH

**WASHINGTON:** Hillary Clinton's campaign asked former President Bill Clinton to cancel a speech to a Wall Street investment firm last year because of concerns that the Clintons might appear to be too cozy with Wall Street just as the former secretary of state was about to announce her White House bid, newly released emails show. Clinton aides say in hacked emails released Friday by the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks that Hillary Clinton did not want her husband to cancel the speech, but after a "cool down period" was eventually convinced that canceling was the right step.

Campaign manager Robby Mook said he realized canceling the lucrative speech would disappoint both Clintons but "it's a very consequential unforced error and could plague us in stories for months." The Clintons' paid speeches have been an issue throughout the campaign, particularly Hillary Clinton's private speeches to Wall Street firms. Hillary Clinton earned about \$1.5 million in speaking fees before launching her presidential campaign, while Bill Clinton reaped more than \$5 million from banking, tech and other corporate interests, according to financial documents filed by Hillary Clinton.

The campaign has never released transcripts of Hillary Clinton's speeches, but the hacked emails did reveal excerpts flagged by her advisers as potentially concerning. In the excerpts, Clinton talked about dreaming of "open trade and open borders" in the Western Hemisphere. She also says politicians sometimes need to have "both a public and a private position" on issues. Bill Clinton was scheduled to speak to Morgan Stanley executives in April 2015, a few days after his wife was set to launch her bid for president.

"That's begging for a bad rollout," Mook wrote in a March 11, 2015, email. In a later email, Mook says he feels "very strongly that doing the speech is a mistake" with serious potential consequences for Hillary Clinton's campaign. "People would (rightfully) ask how we let it happen," Hillary Clinton was scheduled to campaign in Iowa, "where caucus goes have a sharply more negative view of Wall Street than the rest of the electorate," Mook wrote. "Wall Street ranks first for lowans among a list of institutions that 'take advantage of every

day Americans,' scoring twice as high as the general election electorate. ... This is a very big deal in my view."

### 'A cool down period'

Clinton's longtime aide, Huma Abedin, assured Mook the next day that Clinton was fine with canceling the speech, especially if Bill Clinton agreed. The candidate "just needed a cool down period," Abedin wrote. The emails were among thousands published this week by WikiLeaks, which has been releasing a series of emails hacked from the accounts of Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta.

US intelligence officials last week blamed the Russian government for a series of breaches intended to influence the presidential election. The Russians deny involvement. Podesta's hacked messages offer insight into the various strategies and responses considered by those close to Clinton as they grappled with pitfalls in her bid for the Democratic presidential nomination, including the 2009 decision to use a private email server while serving as secretary of state. In a separate email, Clinton aides discussed how to explain her 2001 support for an overhaul of the nation's bankruptcy system. Sanders was citing past criticism by Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., as evidence of Clinton's favoritism to Wall Street. Clinton defended the vote in a TV interview earlier this year, saying she pursued language to ensure women received child support if a spouse went into bankruptcy. In a Feb. 7 email, adviser Ann O'Leary noted that Clinton had overstated her case. "She said women groups were all pressuring her to vote for it. Evidence does not support that statement."

Clinton spokeswoman Jennifer Palmieri said Friday that the campaign has taken unspecified precautions to secure its emails. Asked whether officials were considering releasing all of Podesta's emails at once, Palmieri said, "That is what the Russians would like us to do and we are not going to do that." Emails released Friday also show that Clinton's daughter, Chelsea, used a second alias to communicate with her mother's campaign: Anna James. Chelsea Clinton also used the alias Diane Reynolds, according to emails previously made public. — AP

## KOCH BROTHERS ARE FOCUSING ON GOP SENATE, NOT TRUMP

**FAIRLESS HILLS:** To the Republicans in the red "Can't Afford Katie" T-shirts, it's as if Donald Trump doesn't even exist. These activists have been sprinting through Pennsylvania neighborhoods, talking to people about how bad Democrat Katie McGinty would be as a U.S. senator. Here to help save Republican Sen. Pat Toomey - and, more broadly, the party's control of the Senate - are employees and volunteers for Americans for Prosperity, the best-known group financed by conservative billionaires Charles and David Koch. Similar scenes are playing out in North Carolina, Florida and Ohio.

In addition to having nail-biting Senate races this year, those four states are some of the most important battlegrounds in the presidential race. Yet the Koch activists interacting with millions of people who could be Trump's most crucial voters aren't supposed to utter a word about him or Hillary Clinton, a Democrat they'd been preparing for years to attack. Four years after spending heavily in a futile effort to prevent President Barack Obama's second term, the Kochs have pushed all of their resources down ballot. And their resources are ample: They're on track to

spend about \$250 million on policy and politics in the two years leading to Election Day. The brothers and many of their wealthy donor friends who fund the political and policy groups known as the Koch network have no interest in backing Trump. In a television interview in April, Charles Koch called Clinton and Trump "terrible role models" and trashed Trump's "monstrous" proposal for a temporary ban of foreign Muslims entering the US.

In the months since, while many Republicans flipped back and forth as to whether to support their nominee, the Kochs never considered engaging in a Trump-Clinton match, even when some donors pressed them at a conference in August. Instead, Koch groups have spent about \$42 million on TV, radio and digital advertising in Senate races. As of this month, they have abandoned paid media altogether, preserving their money for what is a much more critical hole to plug: door-to-door advocacy. Trump's campaign has eschewed traditional political grunt work, leaving that to overworked national and state Republican parties, which must advocate for GOP candidates from Trump down to the local council members. — AFP

## CANADA'S LIBERAL CHAMPION PM TRUDEAU CELEBRATES ONE YEAR

'PEOPLE ARE CONNECTING WITH HIS GOVERNMENT AND STYLE'

**OTTAWA:** The phenomenon that is Justin Trudeau continues to soar one year after his landslide election. On the eve of this anniversary, the Canadian prime minister's approval rating reached 65 percent (compared with the previous Tory administration, which peaked at 42 percent), while his celebrity and policies have molded him into the new liberal standard-bearer on the world stage.

Early on in his mandate, the son of former prime minister and liberal lion Pierre Trudeau staked out deficit spending and open border policies, rejecting the divisive politics of his predecessor Stephen Harper. The former teacher and amateur boxer has earned praise for moves like budgeting billions in spending to bolster a fragile economy, promoting feminism and handing out parkas to Syrian refugees-bucking the rise globally of the ultra-right.

His fans include United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, US President Barack Obama and IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde. Trudeau's impressive rise-defeating a sitting government with a third-placed party-is largely attributed to his outreach to Millennials. He has tapped into a generational shift in values and the way people increasingly use social media to communicate, while using his famous name to his advantage.

"He has very strategically promoted his and his spouse's celebrity, knowing that you reach a broader number of voters when you do that," said Duff Conacher, co-founder of advocacy group Democracy Watch. "And they will continue to do that because people who don't pay a lot of attention to politics, if they do vote, will make decisions based on who they like."

### Born to be liberal

Trudeau grew up in the spotlight under the wing of his father, who is considered the father of modern Canada. He is comfortable jumping into crowds to glad-hand and pose for selfies. Using social media, he reaches out directly to citizens at home and abroad. Meanwhile, the good looks of Trudeau and his family-wife Sophie, a former TV host, and their three young children-have been splashed across the pages of fashion magazines and newspapers, and even a comic book.

"People are connecting with this government and its style," said PG Forest, director of the School of Public Policy at the University of

Calgary. "His value set is also very much what people want of politicians at the moment," he said, adding that Trudeau also has "what I call 'the Hollywood factor.' After a few minutes the whole room revolves around him." The downside of celebrity culture in politics, observers agreed, is that style trumps substance. "The more we talk about the way they look and their personal habits, the less we talk about public policy," said Alex Marland, a politics professor at Newfoundland's Memorial University.

### 'Canada is back'

The opposition is rudderless with both the Tories and New Democrats due to pick new leaders next year. As the government makes good

"Canada is back!"

This has meant a shift toward multilateralism, including more peacekeeping missions and increased foreign aid. "He is the lone liberal on the global stage," said Conacher, citing Trudeau's promotion of "tolerance" and the challenge of growing anti-immigration and anti-globalization in Europe and the United States. Notably Trudeau has reversed many of his predecessor's policies. "So when he goes out and speaks on the international scene, it has greater resonance and newsworthiness because it comes after 10 years of policies that are the complete opposite (of those) under the Conservatives," Conacher said.

Some argue that the current competition to



**OTTAWA:** French Prime Minister Manuel Valls (L) and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau walk down the hall of honor on Parliament Hill. — AFP

on more of its 300-plus campaign promises, which may require compromises, some backers will inevitably be disappointed by the outcomes. So far, Trudeau has championed the landmark Paris climate accord, aboriginal reconciliation, feminism, and is expected to make Canada the first G7 nation to legalize marijuana in 2017. He also exploded on the world stage, following the previous administration's retreat, declaring:

be the world's leading liberal voice is lackluster. "It's difficult to find Francois Hollande very inspiring, or (Mariano) Rajoy Brey in Spain, or Theresa May or even Hillary Clinton. Obama is on his way out and people soon won't be able to name an inspiring leader on the world scene at this moment," said Forest. "So the world needs Trudeau to be a strong liberal voice and a counterbalance to the rising right." — AFP

## UN CHIEF URGES AGAINST 'AID FATIGUE' IN DISASTER HIT HAITI

**PORT-AU-PRINCE:** UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon voiced distress Saturday at the "absolute devastation" caused by a deadly hurricane in Haiti, and disappointment at scant emergency aid reaching the struggling nation. "I am disappointed by the response of the international community. I sincerely hope and I urge the major donors to lend their helpful hand," Ban said at Port-au-Prince airport following a helicopter overflight of the hard-hit southern regions.

Haiti is only just emerging from the devastating aftermath of a January 2010 earthquake that killed more than 200,000 people. The international aid that poured in at the time, poorly coordinated, became a major fiasco, with only a fraction of the funds reaching the victims of the catastrophe. "I know there is some fatigue from certain countries, but the current situation, the current disaster that hit this country through Hurricane Matthew is beyond description," Ban

said during a joint press conference with interim president Jocelerme Privert.

At least 546 people were killed, and more than 175,000 people have lost their homes. Ban said Monday that a "massive response" was needed to cope with the destruction, with 1.4 million people in need of urgent assistance after towns and villages were almost wiped off the map. The United Nations has launched a flash appeal for \$120 million to help Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, cope with its worst humanitarian crisis since a devastating 2010 earthquake. But so far, only about 12 percent of the needed funds has been raised to help stave off famine and serious health crises, including cholera.

### 'Very, very sad'

Privert, the interim leader, called for long-term support from allies. "There will always be hurricanes, there will always be catastrophes. We

need concrete actions to mitigate the damage from the next hurricanes that have not hit yet," Privert said. Earlier, Ban visited Les Cayes, one of the worst affected by Hurricane Matthew when it crashed ashore on October 4, packing winds of 145 miles (230 kilometers) per hour.

"I was very, very sad when we saw the complete devastation. But people the world over stand with you," the UN chief said, speaking in French. "The United Nations stands by your side. We will mobilize all resources to help you." The streets have been cleaned. The branches and tree trunks form massive heaps on the sidewalks. Businesses have reopened.

Ban was warmly received at Philippe Guerrier high school, where more than 500 people are still huddled. He spoke with a young man who was wounded, before telling the displaced: "kembe fem" in Creole ("hang in there"). "We have been told to leave because school has to start again, but we don't have anywhere to go," said Aivi Jean-Bar. "They bring us a bit to eat and drink, but that's not what we need. What we want to know is where we can go to sleep," the 36-year-old woman sheltering at the school with her four children told AFP.

### Cholera on the rise

In addition to the destruction of countless homes and farms, Haitians in the worst-affected areas are dealing with a lack of potable water, which is contributing to the spread of disease. Haiti has been plagued for half a dozen years by cholera, which has claimed close to 10,000 lives, despite extensive efforts to combat it.

The malady was brought to Haiti by UN peacekeepers from Nepal, who were helping in the aftermath of the earthquake. Officials have seen evidence of a new spike in cholera cases, which prompted the World Health Organization last week to announce it was sending an additional one million doses of vaccine to Haiti. The UN Security Council, meanwhile, agreed earlier this week to extend MINUSTAH's stay until April of next year to help combat the myriad crises in the aftermath of Matthew. The hurricane also prompted election officials to push back already delayed presidential and legislative elections until November 20. The elections are a do-over after an earlier vote had to be annulled because of violence and massive fraud. — AFP



**LES CAYES:** Members of an evangelical church attend church damaged by Hurricane Matthew, in the commune of Roche-a-Bateau. — AFP



## THE WEST AND RUSSIA CLASH IN ELECTION IN TINY MONTENEGRO

**PODGORICA:** Montenegrins voted yesterday in a parliamentary election that could determine whether the small Balkan state continues on its Western course or turns back to traditional ally Russia. The vote pitted the long-ruling Democratic Party of Socialists, led by Prime Minister Milo Djukanovic, against a cluster of pro-Russian and pro-Serbian opposition groups that staunchly oppose the government's pro-Western policies, especially its NATO bid.

The outcome could jeopardize NATO and European Union enlargement in southeastern Europe and could prove decisive in the Kremlin's attempts to regain influence in the strategic Balkans

region. The scenic country of 650,000 people, squeezed between the Adriatic Sea and towering mountains, is deeply divided among those who favor and those who oppose Western integration. Pre-election polls have predicted the closest race since Montenegro gained independence from much larger Serbia a decade ago.

Before the vote, Djukanovic said the ballot for the 81-seat parliament will decide whether Montenegro continues on a Western course or becomes "a Russian colony." He is facing the toughest challenge yet to his quarter-century rule. Yesterday, Djukanovic said he expects to win and hold talks on a new coalition government. "My

expectation is that after this election Montenegro will steadily and dynamically move toward its European and Euro-Atlantic goals," he said.

Predominantly Orthodox Christian like Russia, Montenegro was Moscow's historical ally. But after splitting with Serbia in a 2006 referendum, Montenegro took a strong turn toward Western integrations. Russia strongly opposes the expansion of NATO in European ex-communist countries it considers part of its "strategic interests." Wary of Russian influence in the still-volatile region, which was engulfed in bloody civil wars in the 1990s, the West wants Montenegro in NATO which invited the state to join. Opposition leaders have accused

Djukanovic of corruption, nepotism and economic mismanagement and say he is trying to scare voters by suggesting that chaos will prevail if he loses. "The only chaos will be within Djukanovic's cabinet," opposition Democratic Front leader Andrija Mandic said after he voted yesterday. "I have no doubt that the opposition will show its strength and that the Democratic Front will become future framework of the Montenegro government," he said. "Today is the last day of Djukanovic's 27-year rule." There are fears that violence could erupt on the streets of Podgorica, the capital, between opposition and government supporters after the results are announced. — AP



## BRICS GOA 2016

**GOA:** (From left) Brazilian President Michel Temer, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Jacob Zuma pose for a group photo during the BRICS Summit. — AFP

## MODI CALLS PAKISTAN 'MOTHER-SHIP OF TERRORISM' AT BRICS SUMMIT

### PM ESCALATES DIPLOMATIC DRIVE TO ISOLATE PAKISTAN

**GOA:** Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi branded Pakistan a "mother-ship of terrorism" at a summit of the BRICS nations yesterday, testing the cohesion of a group whose heavyweight member China is a close ally of India's arch-rival. Modi's remarks to a meeting of leaders from the BRICS— which include Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa—escalated his diplomatic drive to isolate Pakistan, which India accuses of sponsoring cross-border terrorism.

Tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbors have been running high since a Sept. 18 attack on an army base in Kashmir, near the disputed frontier with Pakistan, killed 19 Indian soldiers in the worst such assault in 14 years. India later said it had carried out retaliatory "surgical strikes" across the de facto border that inflicted significant casualties. Pakistan denied any role in the attack on the Uri army base, and said the Indian operation had not even happened, dismissing it as typical cross-border firing.

"In our own region, terrorism poses a grave threat to peace, security and development," Modi said in remarks to BRICS leaders who met at a resort hotel in the western state of Goa. "Tragically, the mother-ship of terrorism is a country in India's neighborhood," the 66-year-old prime minister said, without directly naming Pakistan, in a series of tweets of his remarks issued by the foreign ministry. Modi's hostile

comments were not, however, reflected in a closing statement he read out to reporters.

"We were unanimous in recognizing the threat that terrorism, extremism and radicalization presents, not just to the regional and global peace, stability and prosperity," he said. "But, also to our society, our way of life and humanity as a whole." No immediate reaction was available from Pakistan's foreign ministry. Modi's posturing overshadowed the gathering of a group that was set up to boost economic cooperation, and made it possible for the nationalist leader to present himself at home as tough on national security.

"Modi is aware that such language wouldn't get the consensus necessary to make it into the final communiqué. Including it in his speech ensures it gets wide circulation anyway," said South Asia expert Shashank Joshi. The summit achievements were incremental, and included establishing an agricultural research institute and speeding up work on creating a joint credit ratings agency. Also on yesterday's program was an outreach session with leaders from a little-known group of countries from the Bay of Bengal region whose key attribute, from India's point of view, is that Pakistan is not a member.

**Lack of strategic restraint**  
Modi's hard line on Pakistan marks a depar-

ture from India's tradition of strategic restraint, and New Delhi has won expressions of support from both the West and Russia over the army base attack. Yet China, a longstanding ally of Pakistan that plans to build a \$46 billion export corridor to the Arabian Sea coast, has been cautious in its comments. Modi and President Xi Jinping held a bilateral meeting on Saturday evening and accounts of their conversation emerging from both sides pointed to clear differences of opinion.

In one remark reported by the state Xinhua news agency, Xi said that China and India should "support each other in participating in regional affairs and enhance cooperation within multilateral frameworks". The dispatch went on to refer to the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). This grouping includes Pakistan, which was to have hosted a summit in November that collapsed after India and other members pulled out. The final summit declaration repeated earlier condemnations of "terrorism in all its forms" and devoted several paragraphs to joint effort to fight terrorism. It did not, however, level any blame over the tensions between India and Pakistan. "So far, we haven't seen any indication at all that China is softening its public support for Pakistan. India did not expect differently," said Joshi, a senior research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute in London. — Reuters

## HUNGARY'S EMBATTLED JOURNALISTS REELING AFTER PAPER SHUT DOWN

**BUDAPEST:** Hungarian journalist Gabor Bordas thought he had seen it all. Over the past two years he had walked away from two top online news sites in protest over political interference. But with no advance warning given to its staff of 90, Bordas called the sudden shutdown last week of Hungary's top-selling political daily Nepszabadsag the most "brutal" of all his experiences. "It was humiliating and aggressive," he told AFP in a Budapest cafe, still shaken by the closure.

It treated "the readers and the public as if they were stupid," he added. His travails in three different news outlets reflect the upheaval in Hungarian media since Prime Minister Viktor Orban began a strongarm realignment of the sector since taking power in 2010. Nepszabadsag's publisher since 2014 Mediaworks, owned by Austrian magnate Heinrich Pecina, has said the paper's financial losses over the last decade were behind the drastic move. And in extracts of an interview published online on Saturday Pecina defended the decision saying it had been governed by economics not politics.

"There is a mutual respect between me and Viktor Orban, but no form of dependence," he told the Austrian weekly Profil. But for Bordas and others the explanation doesn't fit. "If you want to improve a newspaper why shut it down, damage the brand, delete the online archive, and lose your subscribers," he told AFP.

On October 8, the 38-year-old editor in charge of the paper's website, noticed that the site was down but presumed it was a technical fault. Answering the doorbell minutes later, he was handed a letter from Mediaworks informing him of the paper's suspension. It also stated that all email accounts had been blocked and that staff were not permitted to enter the premises. Bordas only joined Nepszabadsag in July after quitting up-and-coming news site VS.hu when it emerged that it was financed by a foundation close to a key Orban ally. "How could I send journalists to press conferences to hold a minister to account knowing how we were funded," he said. In 2014, at the leading news portal Origo.hu, Bordas had joined a staff walkout when their editor was sacked soon after it published articles investigating a senior minister's travel expenses.

### 'Political challenge' to Orban

Orban's ruling right-wing Fidesz party called the Mediaworks move "a rational economic decision", but many were unconvinced. "Nepszabadsag is a political challenge to the power of Orban and everyone knows that," its deputy editor-in-chief Marton Gergely told foreign reporters last week. As the leading opposition paper, Nepszabadsag had several news scoops that embarrassed officials before the recent referendum that Orban called to "send a No message" to the European Union over its

mandatory migrant relocation plan.

The 53-year-old premier's crusade to restrict critical voices in the media began soon after he won a supermajority at the 2010 election. A media regulator was set up to monitor the "balance" of the reporting, while state television and radio were overhauled and exhibit a pro-government bias, for example 95 percent of their airtime on the recent referendum endorsed the government's position according to the research group Democracy Reporting International.

Advertising by state-owned companies has been syphoned from outlets not toeing the government line like Nepszabadsag and the broadcaster Klubradio. Then in 2015, Orban was forced, partly due to EU criticism, to withdraw a tough tax on advertisements seen as targeting German media giant Bertelsmann's RTL television channel whose popular news programs were often critical of the Hungarian leader.

### 'Constant fear in newsrooms'

As independent media have gradually been bought by government-friendly oligarchs, a fate widely expected for Nepszabadsag too, American journalist and longtime Budapest resident Tom Popper calls the internet "the last free frontier." "But the government has more and more control there too, look at Origo now," Popper told AFP, citing the portal which now strictly follows a pro-Orban editorial line.

Until last month Popper was editor-in-chief at the English-language Budapest Business Journal but resigned after he said he was "ordered" by the publishers to avoid politics. "Fidesz can now expect criticism of its government to drop by about 1,200 words a month," Popper wrote afterwards on a media watchdog website, accusing the party of "bullying tactics and intimidation." "There is a constant fear in newsrooms that if you tick someone off there will be trouble," he told AFP.

Although Nepszabadsag—meaning "Freedom of the People"—was set up by the Communist Party in the aftermath of Hungary's failed anti-Soviet uprising in 1956, in recent years it had gained a reputation for quality reporting. Expressions of solidarity for the paper even came from moderate rightwing media outlets, rare non-partisan gestures in Hungary's bitterly divided political landscape.

While its staff frantically seek ways to continue publishing, even visiting Vienna on Friday to demand answers at the headquarters of Pecina's firm, there's a press release still on the Mediaworks website. Dated July 5 it announces the arrival of Gabor Bordas as part of Nepszabadsag's "innovation strategy leading up to 2020". By now though Bordas says he has learned a hard lesson: "You cannot plan for the long-term in Hungarian media, anything can happen at anytime." — AFP

## AFGHANISTAN'S HELMAND A QUICKSAND OF INSTABILITY

**LASHKAR GAH:** Bruised and frightened, three-year-old Fatima flinches as the thunderous boom of Taliban rockets rolls across the capital of Helmand, an opium-ravaged province that epitomizes the biggest failure of the 15-year US-led war in Afghanistan. For years Helmand was the centerpiece of the Western military intervention in Afghanistan only for it to slip deeper into a quagmire of instability, with almost the entire southern province teetering on the verge of collapse.

Intensified fighting has killed hundreds and forced thousands to

flee to besieged capital Lashkar Gah, sparking a humanitarian crisis as the city-one of the last government-held enclaves—risks falling to the Taliban's repeated ferocious assaults. Bearing the brunt of the Taliban upsurge are ordinary civilians such as Bismillah, who lost everything when an artillery shell landed on his house in the volatile district of Nad Ali.

"My house was on the frontline," said the father-of-eight, holding his daughter Fatima in his arms, a plaster cast on her tiny leg. "Cattle were getting shot, humans were getting

killed, everyone was running for their lives," he told AFP at Lashkar Gah's Italian-run Emergency hospital, as bursts of rocket fire echo outside. The packed surgical centre last month received 216 war-wounded over a two-week period, the highest number ever. "Bullet, mine, shrapnel, bullet, amputation," said Vesna Nestorovic, Emergency's medical coordinator, pointing out injuries from bed to bed. "And there are lots of children." Some 5,000 war-displaced families have streamed into Lashkar Gah in recent months, fleeing in pickup trucks with jerry cans, mattresses, firewood and farm animals. "My children have not eaten bread for two months," said one woman in a sky-blue burqa begging for assistance outside a relief agency's office. The desperate new arrivals, many uprooted from once-peaceful districts, are sheltering in the mud-walled homes of locals—often dozens to a house. Lashkar Gah's burial sites also are ever expanding, with graves now encroaching onto thoroughfares.

### 'Political failure'

Helmand, a mosaic of mountain-fringed flatlands criss-crossed by the Helmand river, is the heart of the multi-billion dollar opium trade and long a coveted prize by the Taliban. The province, Afghanistan's largest, also offers safe exit routes to the insurgents across the border to Pakistan or to neighboring Iran. But

how a few hundred Taliban fighters took swaths of Helmand from tens of thousands of Western-trained army and police still beggars belief, highlighting the failures of the US invasion of October 7, 2001, observers say. "Helmand most of all epitomizes not a military failure but a political failure," said Stephen Grey, author of "Operation Snakebite", a book about Western military deployment in Helmand. "By failing to understand the province's tribal dynamics, we consistently ended up fighting with the wrong side, allying ourselves with interests regarded with contempt by many ordinary Helmandis."

The rapid fall of districts has raised concerns about the capacity of Afghan forces, beset by unprecedented casualties and blamed for corruption, desertion and "ghost soldiers" who do not exist on the payroll but whose salaries are usurped by fraudulent commanders. Fears that ammunition is being sold to the Taliban has prompted the government to issue a new edict: new ammunition will be issued only upon receipt of expended bullets.

Helmand Governor Hayatullah Hayat has sought to downplay fears of the fall of Lashkar Gah. He has pulled hundreds of troops from far-flung districts in a controversial "strategic retreat", redeploying them to bolster Lashkar Gah as the US steps up air support. — AFP



**EDISON:** Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump lights a diya before delivering remarks to the Republican Hindu Coalition. — AP

## TRUMP PROMISES A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIA

**EDISON, New Jersey:** Donald Trump says that, if he's elected to the White House, there won't be any relationship more important to the US than its relationship with India. Trump says at a Republican Hindu Coalition fundraiser Saturday night that "under a Trump administration we are going to become even better friends." He adds: "In fact, I'll take the word 'even' out because we are going to be best friends. There won't be any relationship more important to us."

Trump also praises Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a "great man" and says he looks forward to deepening diplomatic and military ties with India. The event features colorful performances by popular Bollywood singers and dancers. "I am a big fan of Hindu and I am a big fan of India. Big, big fan," Trump declared to the cheering

crowd after participating in a traditional Diya oil lamp lighting for good luck.

Trump said that if he's elected, the Indian and Hindu communities will have "a true friend" in the White House. He also talked about several projects his company has been involved with in the country. Trump, who usually portrays himself as an "American First" candidate, also spoke about the two countries' shared goals when it comes to fighting terrorism and mentioned the 2008 bombings in Mumbai. He called Mumbai "a place that I love" and "a place that I understand."

Trump did not, however, mention a top issue for the Indian community: H-1B visas for skilled foreign workers. He has sent mixed messages on the program, which critics complain takes jobs away from US citizens. — AP



**HELMAND PROVINCE:** In this photograph taken on October 6, 2016, Afghan patients wait for a medical consultation in a waiting room at Emergency hospital in Lashkar Gah. — AFP



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## TYPHOON KILLS 2, STRANDS THOUSANDS IN PHILIPPINES

**MANILA:** A powerful but fast-moving typhoon blew out of the northern Philippines yesterday after leaving at least two people dead and displacing more than 15,000, though the region was spared a major disaster due in part to the storm's speed. Typhoon Sarika blew into Aurora province early yesterday and exited around midday after barreling rapidly through heavily populated agricultural provinces, including landslide-prone mountainous regions, government forecasters said.

At 4 p.m., the storm was over the South China Sea, about 260 kilometers off the Philippine coast, moving northwestward at 24 kilometers per hour. It had sustained winds of 130 kph and gusts of up to 200 kph, according to the Philippines' weather agency. Despite its strength, the typhoon did not linger long enough to wreak havoc in regions along its path and the weather started to improve in provinces that it had struck, including Aurora. Still, the typhoon forced more than 15,700 villagers to flee their homes in five northern provinces and take refuge in 132 emergency shelters, according to disaster-response agencies.

**'Situation is manageable'**

Strong winds and rain knocked down trees and

electricity poles, causing power outages and floods in the five provinces. "We have yet to receive the complete details, but I think the situation is manageable," said Ricardo Jalad, who heads the Office of Civil Defense. "Roofs of some houses were ripped off, there were fallen trees. Those are the damages we received so far, so it's not that serious."

Mayor Nelianto Bihasa of Baler, a popular surfing town in Aurora, said strong winds ripped tin roofs off many houses and knocked down trees and electricity posts, causing power outages and blocking access roads to some villages. Coastal villagers were warned early to move to safer areas, preventing widespread casualties, he said. In the eastern province of Catanduanes, a man drowned after being swept by strong river currents and a farmer died after his head hit the ground amid fierce winds, provincial safety officer

Gerry Beo said, adding that three fishermen had not returned home from a fishing expedition and were reported missing. A month's worth of rain fell Friday as the typhoon approached from the Pacific, swelling rivers and creeks and flooding low-lying farming villages, Beo said, adding that most towns in the island province of about 260,000 people have no electricity and spotty communications. — AP



**MANILA:** A boy plays in a swollen creek under a bridge. — AFP



**BANGKOK:** A Buddhist monk walks past a large crowd clad in black gathered to pray for the late Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej outside the Grand Palace. — AFP

## LATE THAI KING'S CONFIDANT CONFIRMED TEMP REGENT

NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR CREMATION

**BANGKOK:** A 96-year-old confidant of late King Bhumibol Adulyadej has been formally confirmed as the regent to manage the throne in the place of the crown prince and heir apparent, but it wasn't clear how long the caretaker arrangement would last. In a speech late Saturday, Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha said that Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn invited him and regent Prem Tinsulanonda for an audience to discuss the situation "as his royal highness was deeply concerned for the Thai people during this time of national bereavement."

Prem heads the Privy Council, a body of advisers to the monarchy, and was the closest adviser of Bhumibol. He is also known to be close to Bhumibol's highly popular daughter Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. Vajiralongkorn, who should have ascended the throne, has asked for more time to grieve along with the nation before taking over the monarchy. The constitution dictates that the Privy Council head be the regent in such a situation.

"His Highness's only wish is to not let the people experience confusion or worry about the service of the land or even the ascension to the throne because this issue has the constitution, the royal laws and royal traditions to dictate it," Prayuth said in his message broadcast on television. The 64-year-old crown prince

implores everyone to help each other get through the grief first before thinking of his ascension to the throne, Prayuth said. "Once merit-making and the cremation has passed...then it should be the right time to proceed. This procedure should not impact the work plan or any steps," he said.

### The unifying glue

No date has been set for the cremation, which in royal families is usually months if not years later. Officials have suggested it would be at least a year. Buddhist funeral ceremonies have already begun at the Grand Palace complex in Bangkok's historic center where Bhumibol's body is kept in an ornate hall for the royal family members to pay respects. The hall will be opened to the public on Oct 28. Analysts say the question of succession is important because the late king had been the unifying glue that had held Thailand's often fractious politics together, and diffused tensions during crises when the dominant military was pitted against the civil society. While the institution of monarchy is generally revered and respected in Thailand, it is more so because of Bhumibol's popularity that no other royal member commands.

"His death means that the Thai political system must find an alternative focal point around

which to unite the country's factionalized population," said Tom Pepinsky, a Southeast Asia expert at Cornell University. For ordinary Thais, succession was not particularly top on their minds for now as they were consumed by grief at the loss of a man many saw as their father and a demigod. Tens of thousands of people are thronging at the palace complex to pay their last respects to a beloved monarch who dominated the memories of generations of Thais. Authorities have allowed people to enter the complex for a limited time, and only to sign condolence books in another hall.

Bhumibol's death after 70 years on the throne was a momentous event in Thailand, where the monarch has been glorified as an anchor for a fractious society that for decades has been turned on its head by frequent coups. Over the past 10 years, Thailand has suffered particularly intense political turmoil pitting arch-royalists against those seeking a redistribution of economic and political power, allied with Thaksin Shinawatra, a populist prime minister ousted in a 2006 coup. But in recent years, Bhumibol had suffered from a variety of illnesses and seemed far removed from the upheavals of Thai politics, including the 2014 coup that brought current prime minister, an army general, to power. — AP

## DUTERTE ACKNOWLEDGES HE CAN'T CONCEDE SEA CLAIMS TO CHINA

**MANILA:** The Philippine president acknowledged Sunday that he can be impeached if he concedes his country's territorial claims in the South China Sea in talks with President Xi Jinping and other Chinese leaders this week in Beijing. President Rodrigo Duterte said in a speech before leaving for Brunei and China that while he will not bargain the Philippines' territorial claims, "there will be no hard impositions" as he tries to renew his nation's strained friendship with China and intensify two-way trade and investment.

Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio, who has done extensive studies on the territorial conflict, warned last week that conceding the Philippines' sovereign rights in the disputed waters is a ground for the president's impeachment. Carpio said that China may ask the Duterte administration to acknowledge Chinese sovereignty in contested South China Sea territories before agreeing to any business deals or joint exploration of potential sea resources. Asked to react to Carpio's warning, Duterte said he agreed with him.

"He is correct. I would be impeached," the president said at a news conference at the international airport in the southern city of Davao before embarking on his two-nation trip. "I said we cannot barter which is not ours (or what) belongs to the Filipino people," said Duterte, who is a lawyer and once served as a government prosecutor. "I cannot be the sole authorized agent, for that is not allowed under the constitution."

### Damaged relations

Duterte, who was Davao's mayor

before assuming the presidency in June, has walked a tightrope in trying to mend damaged relations with China and defending his country's claims in the disputed South China Sea. In July, an international arbitration tribunal ruled that China's massive claims to the sea on historical grounds were not valid under a 1982 U.N. treaty, handing a landmark victory to the Philippines, which had filed a complaint against Beijing under Duterte's predecessor.

The tribunal in The Hague specifically ruled that China has violated the rights of Filipino fishermen, who have been blocked by the Chinese coast guard from fishing in the disputed Scarborough Shoal, off the northwest Philippines. "The international decision will be taken up," Duterte said. But he added without elaborating that "there will be no hard impositions." When the tribunal's July 12 decision was announced, Duterte did not make any celebratory remarks that he said could offend China, which has ignored the decision as a sham and campaigned to discourage governments from recognizing the ruling. Duterte has not pressed the Chinese government to comply with the decision.

Labeling himself a left-wing politician, Duterte has announced steps to scale back the Philippines' military engagements with the US, including his opposition to joint patrols with the US Navy in the South China Sea and joint combat exercises with American forces. He has lashed out at President Barack Obama for criticizing his deadly anti-drug campaign, but has reached out to China and Russia. — AP



**PASAY CITY:** In this Thursday, Oct 13, 2016, file photo, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures during his address to a Filipino business sector. — AP

## WOMAN CHARGED WITH ROYAL SLUR

**BANGKOK:** Thai police yesterday charged a woman with royal defamation after a mob demanded action over a Facebook post allegedly smearing the "heir and regent," as the country mourns King Bhumibol Adulyadej. Thailand has one of the world's harshest lese majeste laws, with jail terms of up to 15 years for each count of defaming or insulting the king, queen, heir or regent. The woman, who has not been named, was accused of posting a derogatory statement on Facebook on Friday, according to Thewes Pleumsud of Bo Pud police in the southeastern island of Koh Samui.

"She did not post against the late King-it involved the heir and the regent," he said, referring to Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, and the 96-year-old Prem Tinsulanonda who in a surprise move became temporary regent on Friday. He declined to give further details since doing so could violate the catch-all law. Prem, a former prime minister and Bhumibol's Privy Council head, will act as regent until the Crown Prince formally ascends the throne.

An angry mob descended on Bo Pud police station yesterday demanding the woman be charged. The crowd hurled insults at the woman, according to videos widely shared on Facebook. Police said she was charged and then publicly prostrated herself in apology before a portrait of the king, who died on Thursday aged

88 — prompting a wave of grief across the nation.

Two other similar cases since the king's death-in which angry crowds urged punishment for alleged royal defamation on social media-have raised fears of mob action. Domestic and foreign media outlets based in the country routinely self-censor to avoid falling foul of the broadly worded law, while social opprobrium follows those perceived to have overstepped the mark.

Critics say the law-known as '112' after its criminal code-has encouraged witch hunts by the public, with police and courts obliged to investigate all accusations. The law prevents all but the most cursory public discussion of Thailand's monarchy, or reporting or debate on the issue. Cases have surged since royalist generals ousted a civilian government from power in 2014.

### Reporting insults

Thailand's main mobile telecoms operators instructed customers yesterday to report "inappropriate content about the royal institution," as the government steps up scrutiny for material deemed insulting to the monarchy. King Bhumibol Adulyadej died on Thursday after seven decades on the throne. His son, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, is due to become the next king after a period of mourning. — Agencies

## US MILITARY DETECTS FAILED N KOREAN MISSILE LAUNCH

**WASHINGTON:** The US military said Saturday it had detected an unsuccessful launch by North Korea of a powerful medium-range missile capable of hitting US bases as far away as Guam. UN resolutions prohibit North Korea from using ballistic missile technology, and this latest test came

as the UN Security Council is debating fresh sanctions on Pyongyang following its fifth nuclear test in September.

The US Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) said the launch, detected just after midday Saturday Korea time, was believed to be of a

much-hyped Musudan missile which North Korea has now test-fired seven times-with one partial success. Pentagon spokesman Gary Ross condemned what he called a clear violation of UN resolutions and urged Pyongyang to refrain from any further actions that might raise already elevated tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Seoul's defense ministry also confirmed the failed launch, held near an air base in the northwestern city of Kusong in North Korea at 1203 Pyongyang time (0333 GMT). "This provocation only serves to increase the international community's resolve to counter (North Korea's) prohibited activities," said Pentagon spokesman Gary Ross. "We remain prepared to defend ourselves and our allies from any attack or provocation," Ross added.

### Pacific threat

Such launches are usually reported within hours or even minutes by the South Korean and US militaries, but Seoul's defense ministry refused to say why the announcement came so long after the event. First unveiled as an indigenous missile at a military parade in Pyongyang in October 2010, the Musudan has a theoretical range of anywhere between 2,500 and 4,000 kilometers. — AFP



**The US Navy's USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier (CVN-76) arrives at the southeastern port city of Busan on October 16, 2016 after finishing a joint naval exercise with South Korean forces. — AFP**



## AT GUANTANAMO, WHEELS OF JUSTICE BARELY...

Continued from Page 1

jury convicted him for his role in Al-Qaeda bombings in East Africa. He is serving a life sentence.

Just six Guantanamo cases have resulted in convictions so far, with two guilty verdicts being appealed, according to the military commissions' website. In one appeals case, a federal court overturned two of the three convictions of Ali Hamza Al-Bahlul, the suspected publicist for slain Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. An appeal decision is pending on the third charge.

Pentagon officials defended the pace of proceedings, saying that it takes time to resolve many of the classified documents submitted as evidence. "The Department of Defense is committed to fairness and transparency in the military commissions proceedings," Pentagon spokeswoman Lieutenant Colonel Valerie Henderson said in an email.

President George W Bush signed the law creating the tribunals on Oct 17, 2006, after the US Supreme Court struck down previous tribunals set up to try Al-Qaeda suspects, ruling that they violated US military law and the Geneva Conventions. Obama took office in 2009 and

vowed to close the prison. He approved legislation that included barring the use of evidence obtained under torture. The effort to close Guantanamo stalled amid opposition from Congress, with Republicans saying many of the prisoners are too dangerous to release.

John Yoo, who helped draft the Bush administration's legal strategy after 9/11, said the Guantanamo courts were designed for plea bargaining to get suspects to cooperate with government intelligence agencies. The Supreme Court ruling "slowed the whole thing down, and it has become a risk-averse system that doesn't want to make another mistake," said Yoo, now a law professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

Government interference is also an issue. Sept 11 defense lawyers have found their meeting rooms bugged, had mail with clients seized, and contend that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has tried to infiltrate a defense team. Last year, a Sept 11 suspect at Guantanamo recognized that a court interpreter had also worked at a Central Intelligence Agency prison where he was held. "Every issue that comes up is a new and novel issue that can take days" to resolve, said Morris Davis, a former Air Force colonel and the first Guantanamo prosecutor. — Reuters



A Persian cat is seen during a cat show contest organized by the World Cat Federation (WCF) yesterday in Istanbul. — AFP

## REBELS SEIZE EMBLEMATIC IS STRONGHOLD

Continued from Page 1

Fighting continued meanwhile in the city of Aleppo, where government troops have been waging a fierce Russian-backed offensive on rebels in the eastern quarters. Clashes took place in Aleppo's northern and southern outskirts yesterday, as well as in the city center, according to the Observatory. AFP's correspondent in Aleppo said there had been nearly non-stop air raids on the opposition-held half of the city since midnight.

The Observatory said at least four people were killed in raids on the city's east yesterday. Rebel fire on government-controlled districts meanwhile left three people dead and more than two dozen wounded according to state news agency SANA. Fighting has surged in Aleppo following the collapse last month of a ceasefire brokered by the United States and Russia, raising deep international concern.

Kerry flew to London yesterday to brief Washington's European allies after "brainstorming" talks in Lausanne with the main players in Syria's conflict. The Swiss meet-

ing on Saturday included key rebel backers Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey, as well as regime supporters Iran and Russia. But it did not produce a concrete plan to restore the truce that collapsed amid bitter recriminations between Washington and Moscow.

Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday said his country was "always ready to talk with everyone" on ways to end the conflict, and took a jab at France who he said was "not so involved" in peace efforts. Putin had accused France of pushing for a UN proposal on Syria knowing Russia would veto it. Kerry is expected to meet yesterday with his counterparts from Britain and France, but hopes for a breakthrough have been dim.

British foreign minister Boris Johnson is expected to propose "no-bombing zones" for Syria - including Aleppo - during the meeting, the Sunday Times reported. Quoting a source close to Johnson, the report said he would seek backing from Washington and others for a proposal to threaten strikes on Syrian military sites in retaliation for bombings of certain areas or facilities such as hospitals. — AFP

## EUROPEAN LANDER STARTS DESCENT TO MARS...

Continued from Page 1

and drill into it, in search of extraterrestrial life - past or present. While any life is unlikely to be found on the barren, radiation-blasted surface, scientists say traces of methane in Mars' thin atmosphere may indicate something living underground - likely to be single-celled microbes, if that is the case. Mars has become a graveyard for many a mission seeking to probe a planet that has captured the human imagination for millennia. Since the 1960s, more than half of US, Russian and European attempts to land and operate craft on the Martian surface have failed.

The last time the European Space Agency (ESA) tried, the British-built Beagle 2 disappeared without a trace after separating from the Mars Express mothership in Dec

2003. The mini-lab - a disc about the size of a dustbin lid - was finally spotted in Jan 2015 in a NASA image. Getting a lander on Mars "is a complex mission," said Thierry Blancquaert, Schiaparelli's manager.

Craft must be built to survive a long trip from Earth, then a high-speed, ultra-hot journey through Mars' tenuous, carbon dioxide-rich atmosphere. They require protection against a heat of several thousand degrees Celsius heat generated by atmospheric friction, extreme braking just above the surface, and a soft touchdown in terrain where any jagged rocks or craters could spell doom. So far, only the United States has successfully operated rovers on Mars. After releasing its precious charge on Sunday, the TGO was programmed to change course to avoid crashing into Mars. — AFP

## STAGE SET FOR SNAP ELECTIONS AFTER ASSEMBLY...

Continued from Page 1

financial and administrative violations. Other lawmakers had vowed to file more grillings against a number of other ministers, which intensified political tension. The decision to raise petrol prices subjected lawmakers to tremendous popular anger that endangered MPs losing their credibility in the eyes of voters in any future election.

After the election date is set, the interior ministry will invite candidates to register for the polls. After yesterday's dissolution, the only assemblies that completed their full four-year terms since 1985 were the ones elected in 1992 and 1999. All the rest were dissolved prematurely either by HH the Amir or the constitutional court.

A majority of the opposition groups that boycotted the last election after the government changed the voting system appear to be set to take part in the next polls, with some predicting a good show for them. Opposition activists who have been very critical of the Assembly since it was elected in July 2013, saw the reasons behind the dissolution as unconvincing. Some said that the agreement between the government and the speaker to hold snap polls was to prevent jailed opposition leader and former MP Musallam Al-Barrak from running in the election. Barrak is serving a two-year jail term

for insulting HH the Amir and is due to complete his jail term in April next year. The activists said that even the mere presence of Barrak outside jail is threatening to the government and members of the Assembly.

The activists said on Twitter that the main achievements of the Assembly were soaring prices, hiking petrol prices, failure of development, raising electricity charges and other negative issues. Activist and university professor Ahmad Al-Thayedi said the dissolution is evidence that "Kuwait is experiencing a real political dilemma and the solution should be through dialogue and reforming the political system and not through dissolving the National Assembly".

MP Saleh Ashour congratulated the people for the dissolution and hoped that the voters will elect lawmakers who will achieve their aspirations. A majority of the outgoing lawmakers appear to be prepared to seek reelection, with only a few of them opting out. The three lawmakers who are Cabinet ministers - Yaqoub Al-Sane, Ali Al-Omar and Issa Al-Kandari - said they will resign from the Cabinet to be able to contest the elections.

The new voting system introduced in Dec 2012 allows each voter to elect only one candidate. Each of the five electoral districts elects 10 lawmakers to make up the 50-elected members of the Assembly.

## MINIMUM SALARY FOR VISIT VISAS RAISED...

Continued from Page 1

residency law to raise the salary requirement for dependent visas from KD 250 to KD 450, a move expected to cut the number of foreign families in the country.

The two most recent steps come as Kuwait scrambles for solutions to address a demographic imbalance problem that is widely blamed for the country's deteriorating public services and infrastructure and unemployment among other issues. "We have 2,670,000 expats, and if we do not take such measures, this number will double in a few years, creating a bigger problem," Maarafi told Al-Rai daily.

"How can a person whose monthly salary is KD 250 deal with the high cost of living and meet all the demands of his family?" Maarafi said in defense of the interior ministry's decision. "It is illogical, and keeping it unchanged means costing the state money and commitment towards unproductive manpower." Maarafi reassured that the decision will not be enforced retroactively, and will only affect dependent visa applications submitted after the decision became effective. Dependent visas issued before the decision can still be renewed based on the old salary, and the same goes for issuing visas for newborns, he added.

Only male expatriates are allowed to sponsor a family, according to Kuwait's residency laws. The average salary of a male expat in the private sector is only KD 247, according to the latest statistics. In case the husband dies, a working mother can sponsor her children, provided that her monthly salary meets the KD 450 minimum requirement, Maarafi explained. Some exceptions will also be made on humanitarian grounds regarding spouses and children, he added.

The interior ministry's recent measures are directly linked to the government's plan to readjust Kuwait's population, which is currently dominated by expats at nearly 70 percent, according to sources familiar with the issue. Meanwhile, the same sources who spoke to Al-Rai on the condition of anonymity admitted that a proposal to reduce or set a quota for the number of expat communities in Kuwait will take time to implement, adding that any step in this regard would be taken on a gradual basis in order to minimize any potential

negative effects that might happen as a result. "[Rushing the decision] could create confusion in the state's economic and labor market fields, in addition to the effect a drastic reduction could have on Kuwait's relations with other countries," said the sources.

The Egyptian government last week urged Kuwait to retract a decision it recently made to reduce the monthly rent allowance paid to expat teachers in public schools from KD 150 to KD 60, which affects nearly 13,000 Egyptian teachers working in the state. Egyptian Minister of Manpower Mohammad Saafan was even quoted in the Kuwaiti press as saying that the 'crisis' resulting from this decision will be presented for discussion during the Arab Labor Organization's meeting late next week in Qatar.

Minister of Social Affairs and Labor and Minister of State for Planning and Development Hind Al-Subaih reiterated as well that rectifying Kuwait's demographic imbalance remains part of the government's plans, yet its implementation needs "prolonged periods of time".

In other news, Maarafi announced that the interior ministry will implement the interior minister's decision pertaining with rectifying the situation of Palestinians in Kuwait who carry travel documents issued by Arab countries. Nearly 8,000 Palestinians have been dealing with a dilemma for the past few months after Egyptian authorities stopped renewing their travel documents issued by the Egyptian government on grounds that they already carry Palestinian passports.

However, those Palestinians could not renew their visas in Kuwait because Kuwaiti authorities were yet to recognize their passports as official documents. But this changes this week as the systems at all immigration departments around Kuwait will be updated to accept Palestinian passports, Maarafi said, adding that Palestinians with expired visas would then be required to obtain a certificate from the Palestinian Embassy to confirm that their passports are valid, before their new visas are printed on the passport.

Separately, Maarafi expressed hope that the foreign ministry would begin searching for new markets to recruit domestic helpers before a national domestic labor recruitment company that was established earlier this year begins its work.

## HIJABI CADET SETTLES IN AT US COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

"I don't really see it as me changing the world or changing the US, even," she said during an interview on the Norwich parade ground. "I just kind of see it as the school allowing an American student to practice her faith while also training to be an officer in the Navy." Hamze's great-grandmother was in the Air Force and two of her grandparents met while serving in the Navy in Puerto Rico. Her father is a police officer in Florida.

Hamze said that she has been subject to hostile stares and comments while wearing her hijab in public, but never at Norwich, where she is not the first Muslim to attend the school, or in Vermont. The hostility to her faith hasn't made her bitter or curbed her dream of serving her country. "It doesn't scare me because I know what I'm doing is not to harm anyone," she said. "I know what I'm doing is to

actually protect the country. I'm joining the task force that protects this country."

Hamze's college plans made headlines this spring when The Citadel - the Charleston, South Carolina, military college she had hoped to attend - refused to change its uniform policy to accommodate her hijab. Norwich was quick to agree to make the accommodation, which will also apply to Jewish men who wish to wear a yarmulke along with their uniforms.

Norwich, located in the town of Northfield, about 10 miles south of the Vermont capital of Montpelier, is the nation's oldest private military college. Last spring, it hosted a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Reserve Officers Training Program. Of its total on-campus student body of about 2,250, about two-thirds of students are in the Corps of Cadets, its military program, while the rest are civilians who don't participate in military training. — AP



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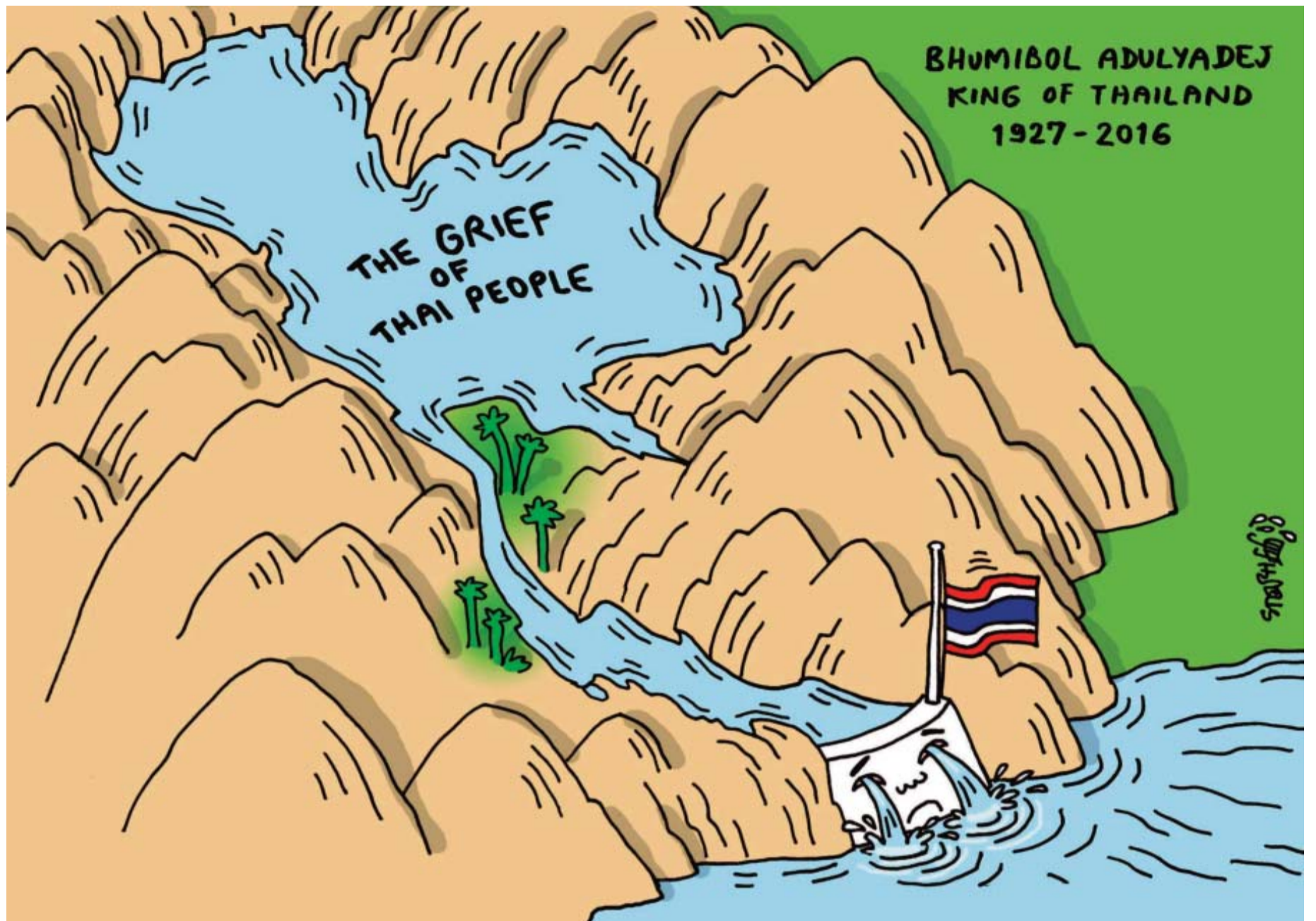
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## LOOMING THREAT OF NEW ARMS RACE IN SPACE

By Laurent Barthelemy

**K**iller satellites, blinding lasers, sophisticated jammers: The world's military powers are quietly readying for a war in outer space - at the risk of fueling a dangerous new arms race. US military officials have in recent years sounded growing alarm about the potential vulnerabilities of their satellites, which underpin US military power. Initially, the reserve of the United States and the Soviet Union, space has now become accessible to an ever-expanding multitude of nations and private firms.

And Moscow and Beijing are keen to show off their space-attack capabilities, a deep worry for US strategists. "We are changing the culture in our space enterprise because we need to get our heads around... what happens if a conflict on Earth extends to space. How will we defend our assets?" Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James said at an event last month.

In 2015, the mysterious behavior of a Russian satellite fueled speculation about Moscow developing possible attack satellites, capable of maneuvering through space and approaching a target. Without warning or explanation, the craft positioned itself for several months between two Intelsat satellites in geostationary orbit, coming to within 10 kilometers of one, before eventually moving away again.

"Our satellites are crucial for our national security infrastructure," said Victoria Samson of the Secure World Foundation, which works to develop the safe and sustainable use of space "The fact that another entity can come close to them and interfere with their work is very unsettling to US national security," she added.

### A 'Militarized' Space

China, too, has demonstrated its ability to send a small, low-orbit satellite capable of maneuvering toward another craft. Teresa Hitchens, senior research scholar at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland, said that China in 2013 launched three small satellites into orbit, one of which had a robotic grappling arm. For the Pentagon and many US experts, it is clear America should speed up military efforts in space, and prevent its communications network from becoming the armed forces' Achilles heel.

"The Department of Defense has aggressively moved out to develop responses that we see coming from China and Russia. I believe it's essential that we go faster in our responses," General John Hyten, head of the Air Force's Space Command, told lawmakers in September. Elbridge Colby, senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security said the United States must develop the ability to defend its own space assets. "As human beings and more states are able to operate in space, it will just become a reality that it will become more militarized," he told AFP. "The United States should develop effective but limitable forms of space attack, particularly non-kinetic ones that do not result in space debris."

But other experts say the United States should show restraint, noting the Pentagon may already have some of the offensive capabilities that China and Russia are hoping to acquire. "I think it's being hyped somewhat by those in the US national security community that have never felt comfortable with the US losing its role as the dominant space power," Samson said.

The United States has since 2004 possessed a mobile jamming station which, from the ground, can block satellite communications. America has already tested using a missile to blow up a satellite, and has recently acquired four satellites that can maneuver in orbit and inspect or monitor other space objects.

### International Code of Conduct

Hitchens, the Maryland researcher, said Russia and China are quickly catching up to where the Americans are. "What you have is a brewing," she said. It's a lead up "to a potential arms race in space, where people start developing things for real." Space war could be devastating for humans, as a single exploded satellite would leave a trail of debris that in turn could damage other satellites in a chain reaction of destruction. "We are at a very dangerous place right now: if we actually ever fought a war that would involve anti-satellite weapon, we would damage the space environment to such an extent that it would make it very difficult to have the benefits that satellites provide to society," Hitchens said. —AFP

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## RIGGED ELECTION CLAIMS MAY LEAVE LASTING DAMAGE

By Julie Pace

**D**onald Trump keeps peddling the notion the vote may be rigged. It's not clear if he does not understand the potential damage of his words - or he simply does not care. Trump's claim - made without evidence - undercuts the essence of American democracy, the idea that US elections are both free and fair, with the vanquished peacefully stepping aside for the victor. His repeated assertions are sowing suspicion among his most ardent supporters, raising the possibility that millions of people may not accept the results on Nov 8 if Trump does not win.

The responsibilities for the New York billionaire in such a scenario are minimal. Trump holds no public office and has said he'll simply go back to his "very good way of life" if he loses. Instead, it would be Democrat Hillary Clinton and congressional Republicans, should they win, who would be left trying to govern in a country divided not just by ideology, but also the legitimacy of the presidency.

As Trump's campaign careens from crisis to crisis, he's broadened his unfounded allegations that Clinton, her backers and the media are conspiring to steal the election. He's accused Clinton of meeting with global financial powers to "plot the destruction of US sovereignty" and argued

his opponent shouldn't have even been allowed to seek the White House. "Hillary Clinton should have been prosecuted and should be in jail," Trump wrote Saturday morning on Twitter. "Instead she is running for president in what looks like a rigged election."

Trump is referring to Clinton's use of a private email system while serving as secretary of state. Republicans (and some Democrats) have harshly criticized her decision to do so, but the FBI did not recommend anyone face criminal charges for her use of a private email address run on a personal server. Trump has offered only broad assertions about the potential for voter fraud and the complaints that the several women who have recently alleged he sexually accosted them are part of an effort to smear his campaign.

"It's one big ugly lie, it's one big fix," Trump said at a Friday rally in North Carolina, adding later: "And the only thing I say is hopefully, hopefully, our patriotic movement will overcome this terrible deception." Trump's supporters appear to be taking his grievances seriously. Only about a third of Republicans said they have a great deal or quite a bit of confidence that votes on Election Day will be counted fairly, according to recent poll from the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

During a campaign event Tuesday with Trump running mate Mike Pence, a voter said she was deeply concerned about voter fraud and vowed to be "ready for a revolution" if Clinton wins. "Don't say that," Pence said, waving away the woman's rallying cry. There is no evidence voter fraud is a widespread problem in the United States. A study by a Loyola Law School professor found that out of 1 billion votes cast in all American elections between 2000 and 2014, there were only 31 known cases of impersonation fraud.

Trump's motivations for stoking these sentiments seem clear. One of his last hopes of winning the election is to suppress turnout by making these final weeks so repulsive to voters that some simply stay home. Trump advisers privately say they hope to turn off young people in particular. They lean Democratic but don't have a long history of voting and are already skeptical of Clinton. Trump is also likely considering how he would spin a loss to Clinton, given that he's spent decades cultivating a brand that's based on success and winning. His years in public life offer few examples where he's owned up to his own failings and plenty where he's tried to pass the blame on to others, as he's now suggesting he would do if he's defeated.

Clinton appears increasingly aware that if she wins, she'd arrive at the White House

facing more than the usual political divides. "Damage is being done that we're going to have to repair," she said during a recent campaign stop. But that task wouldn't be Clinton's alone. The majority of Trump's supporters are Republicans. If he loses, party leaders will have to reckon with how much credence they give to claims the election was rigged and how closely they can work with a president who at least some of their backers will likely view as illegitimate.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's office wouldn't say Saturday whether he agreed with Trump's assertions the election is being rigged. A spokeswoman for House Speaker Paul Ryan said the Wisconsin lawmaker is "fully confident the states will carry out this election with integrity". Republicans have already experienced the paralyzing effect of Trump stirring up questions about a president's legitimacy. He spent years challenging President Barack Obama's citizenship, deepening some GOP voters' insistence that the party block the Democrat at every turn.

Jim Manley, a former adviser to Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, recalled the skepticism some Republicans had about Obama. "I'm afraid a President Clinton is going to start off with far too many people raising similar questions," he said. —AP

## TRUMP'S TOUGH TALK ON CRIME LEAVES BLACKS COLD

By Nova Safo

**"L**aw and order" has been a central theme in Donald Trump's presidential campaign. But the term has deep-rooted racial connotations in the United States that give many African Americans pause. In pledging to get tough on crime, the Republican nominee has invoked Chicago, the third largest US city, which is blighted by a seemingly out-of-control epidemic of gun violence. There have been 579 murders in the city so far this year - more than New York and Los Angeles combined - and 3,413 shooting victims, according to the Chicago Tribune newspaper.

Trump's tough-on-crime stance includes employing the controversial "stop and frisk" tactic in Chicago, in which police officers can stop anyone and search them, whether or not they are suspected of committing a crime or infraction. "You have to do something. It can't continue the way it's going," Trump argued last month in support of the practice.

But those comments have been met with sharp rebukes in Chicago, where "stop and frisk" has been tried before - and was found to disproportionately target black people. "We are not interested in any strategy that involves compromising the civil rights of citizens," Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson said in a statement. "It's also not very effective," added Robin Robinson, a community relations advisor to the police department. "It would effectively drive black people and people of law enforcement further apart," said Robinson, who is black.

Jedidiah Brown, a Chicago community activist also believes the strategy would be counterproductive. "In order for you to solve crimes," Brown said, "You have to have relationships, people willing to talk to you, trust you, and tell you who the perpetrators are." Trump has credited "stop and frisk" with reducing crime in New York. But a federal judge ruled that New York's policy was unconstitutional and a new mayor, Bill de Blasio, ended it.

In Chicago, as recently as 2014, police stopped 250,000 people who were not charged with any crime or given a ticket, according to Illinois chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. A vast majority of them were black. The ACLU reached agreement last year with Chicago police to end the practice. "The notion that to go back to the old system that you simply stop people for being present in their neighborhoods, is going backwards," said Ed Yohnka, an ACLU spokesman.

### 'Chiraq'

Still, many African-Americans in Chicago want improved policing to combat rising crime. While some Chicagoans have criticized Trump for comparing the city's violence to that of war-torn countries, its own youth have dubbed it "Chiraq," an amalgamation of Chicago and Iraq. "Whole communities are like third-world countries," said Michael Pfeiffer, a longtime pastor of a church in one of the most violence-plagued areas of Chicago. "The despair and the anger, I've

never seen it as bad as it is right now. You have whole communities held hostage by fear."

So what to make, then, of the fact that just four percent of African Americans nationally support Trump, according to a Los Angeles Times/USC tracking poll. Trump even polls higher among Latinos - currently around 20 percent - despite his anti-immigrant rhetoric.

Khalil Muhammad of Harvard University said that to understand Trump's lack of support among African Americans, look no further than his use of the term "law and order". The phrase carries echoes of the late-1960s backlash against the American civil rights movement, he said. "Much

profile police shootings of black citizens. A series of graphic videos of police shootings this summer inflamed racial tensions. Officers were killed by gunmen in Dallas, Texas and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in apparent retribution. Donald Trump has blamed Black Lives Matter activists - mostly young people who have protested in marches and rallies - for hampering law enforcement. He has described the movement as a "threat" and said its rhetoric may have instigated violence against police.

But failure to address the issues raised by Black Lives Matter activists is a losing strategy for Trump, said Michael Kazin, a professor of history at Georgetown University and



US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks at an event on Saturday in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. —AFP

of the civil rights activism that took place in the 1950s... the southern criminal justice system used the rhetoric of 'law and order' to delegitimize activism on the ground," Muhammad said. Richard Nixon successfully took up that mantra to win the 1968 presidential race. Trump has reportedly studied Nixon's campaign as a lesson for his own.

### Black Lives Matter

On top of that, Trump has been critical of the nascent Black Lives Matter movement, which sprung up to demand change in policing across the country, after a string of high-

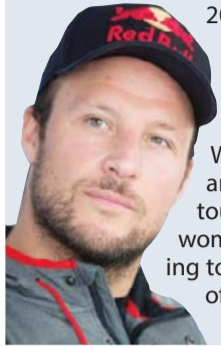
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African Americans today want reform in the criminal justice system - such as changes to drug sentencing laws - where they make up a third of the prison population but only 12 percent of the total US population. Trump, he said, "is not trying to talk to African Americans in a way that could conceivably win their votes." —AFP



## SVINDAL AND VEITH TO SKIP SEASON-OPENER

**PARIS:** Norway's Aksel Lund Svindal and Austrian Anna Veith will both skip this season's opener in Soelden next weekend in a bid to regain full fitness. Svindal, who ruptured knee ligaments in the famed Kitzbuehel downhill in January, said: "Next Sunday it's racetime for the boys!!! I will not be ready to compete. My rehab needs more time," said the 2007 and 2009 World Cup overall champion, a five-time world gold medalist and 2010 Olympic super-G champion. Veith, formerly Fenninger, is also in full rehabilitation, having missed the 2016 season because of a knee injury. "The season's starting but I've realised that I need more time," Veith said on her Facebook page. "Racing as I imagine it is still not possible. "Therefore I won't be at the starting gate in Soelden next week. I promise you I'll do everything to be back for the World Cup as soon as possible." The expected icy conditions and steep pitch on the Rettenbach glacier in Soelden are too tough for an early return, the Austrian ski federation added. The women will race a giant slalom on October 22, with the men taking to the piste the following day of the traditional season opener of the FIS World Cup.—AFP

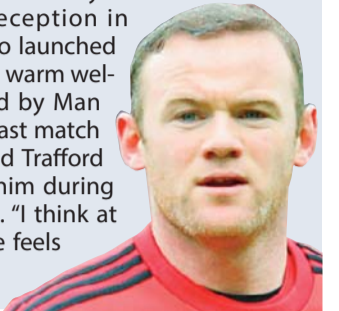


## ANSARI STAKES TEST CLAIM IN WARM-UP

**CHITTAGONG:** England's left-arm spinner Zafar Ansari grabbed four wickets to stake his claim for a Test berth on the first day of their two-day warm-up match against a Bangladesh Cricket Board XI in Chittagong yesterday. The BCB XI were all out for 294 thanks to a century by opener Abdul Mazid, who made 106 off 95 balls and shared two useful partnerships with Nazmul Hossain (72) and Mosaddek Hossain (47). England were two without loss at stumps in what could be their final innings before the first Test starts in the same city on October 20. Chris Woakes removed Soumya Sarkar early on but Mazid carried the local side with fluent batting before Ansari put the brakes on their innings with three quick strikes. After going wicketless in the previous warm-up game that ended on Saturday, Ansari finished with 4-68 as the visitors made a late comeback. Stuart Broad bowled Mazid to end his blistering innings, which included 16 fours and a six, before finishing with 2-43 while spinner Gareth Batty claimed 2-55. England rested leg-spinner Adil Rashid and seamer Jake Ball while captain Alastair Cook flew back home to attend the birth of his second child.—AFP

## MOURINHO PROMISES ROONEY WILL GET 'RESPECT HE DESERVES'

**LONDON:** Wayne Rooney will get the "respect he deserves" when the 30-year-old forward returns to Manchester United, manager Jose Mourinho has insisted. The dropped England captain returned to Old Trafford earlier in the week following an international break when he was booed by home fans during a 2-0 World Cup qualifying win over Malta at Wembley. Days later Rooney, England's all-time record scorer, was left out of the subsequent goalless draw away to Slovenia by interim national manager Gareth Southgate. Rooney could well be left on the bench again by Portuguese boss Mourinho when United face bitter rivals Liverpool at Anfield on Monday. And while Rooney could well receive a rough reception in Liverpool, Mourinho has assured the striker, who launched his career with Liverpool's city rivals Everton, of a warm welcome back at Old Trafford. "He was not booed by Man United fans," Mourinho said. "To be honest, the last match when he went to the warm-up I was feeling Old Trafford was behind him and immediately supporting him during the warm-up before he came on against Stoke. "I think at Man United he feels at home, at Man United he feels the respect he deserves.—AFP



## AUSTRALIA'S TRACK QUEEN MEARES RETIRES

**MELBOURNE:** Australia's track cycling queen Anna Meares announced her retirement yesterday, two months after grabbing her sixth Olympic medal to cap a career defined by courage and sacrifice. The twice Olympic champion, who won 11 world titles and bore her nation's flag at Rio, mulled bowing out at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in her home state of Queensland but said the physical toll extracted by 22 years of competition had helped make up her mind.

Meares revealed she had taken six cortisone injections in her spine just to get to Rio where she struggled in the defence of her sprint title but took the keirin bronze.

"Having had to change tack for six months leading into it and to achieve the things I have, I feel satisfied and happy to step aside from the sport and try something new and different," the 33-year-old told local broadcaster Channel Nine.

"I have been able to achieve so many wonderful things, more than most. I am the most successful for women in my sport in the field." A coal miner's daughter raised in a remote Queensland town, Meares spent much of her childhood in the back seat of her parents' car, driving some 250 km to reach the nearest velodrome for training.

She emerged as a 20-year-old sensation in 2004, storming to the 500 metres time trial gold in world record time at the Athens Games, months after winning the world title at her home championships in Melbourne.

Her reputation for toughness was forged four years later, however, when she broke her neck, dislocated her shoulder and tore ligaments in a sickening crash at a World Cup event seven months before the Beijing Olympics. Wheelchair-bound and with her neck in a brace, Meares told a stunned media conference she intended to compete at Beijing. Less than two weeks later, she was back on her bike, starting an intensive rehabilitation that would culminate in a sprint silver behind Victoria Pendleton.

Her enthralling rivalry with the British great raised the profile of track cycling, offering a rare narrative of clean competition, even as a seemingly endless string of doping scandals on the men's pro tour blighted the sport overall. Meares won their dramatic replay of the sprint final at London, the pair's teary embrace after the duel one of the Games' most memorable moments.

A new generation of riders emerged to challenge Meares in the next Olympic cycle, but she remained at the pinnacle in her thirties, clinching her third keirin world title at Yvelines last year. She said she would remain involved in Australian cycling in mentoring roles, as the national team strives to regroup for Tokyo after a disappointing campaign in Rio. "It is hard to close this chapter, because it is a bloody big one," she said. "But I am really excited about the doors opening in to the next chapter of my life." — Reuters



Anna Meares



**DOHA:** Slovakia's Peter Sagan celebrates after winning the men's elite road race event as part of the 2016 UCI Road World Championships yesterday, in the Qatari capital Doha.—AFP

## CLASSY SAGAN RETAINS WORLD ROAD RACE TITLE

**DOHA:** Peter Sagan retained his world road race title in an exciting sprint finish in Doha yesterday, edging Britain's Mark Cavendish into second. Slovakian Sagan, who also won in Richmond, USA, last year, said the result was "unbelievable".

"I am still in total shock, I am very, very happy," said the 26-year-old. He is the first rider to retain the road race world title since Italy's Paolo Bettini in Germany in 2007.

Belgium's Tom Boonen finished third, which meant for the first time in the history of the event all three cyclists on the podium were former champions—Cavendish won in 2011 and Boonen in 2005.

It caps a remarkable season for Sagan, who won the points classification at the Tour de France for the fifth consecutive year and the European Road Race championships only last month. Sagan, who prepared for the hot conditions by training in Oman, rode a masterful race

throughout and was able to squeeze an opening as the sprinters bunched towards the finish line.

Many had predicted that the race, the final competition of the Road World Championships, would come down to a shootout between Sagan and Cavendish, and so it proved.

Sagan said he was fortunate at the finishing line as he was not boxed in by any other riders. "I was very lucky," he said. "You never know what is going to happen in sprints like this." He and Cavendish were part of a group of more than 20 riders which split from the peloton some 170km from the finish line, as the race passed through desert north of the capital Doha.

This group were able to keep the peloton at bay, meaning favoured sprinters such as France's Nacer Bouhanni and German pair Marcel Kittel, who visibly suffered in temperatures of around 34 degrees Celsius (93 Fahrenheit), and Andre Greipel were never in with a shout of winning. There were no further attacks as the leading

group completed seven laps of the Pearl Qatar, where the race finished after 257km with a sprinters' shoot-out.

Cavendish, who appeared to be checked behind Australia's Michael Matthews as he made his final push towards the line, said he was "frustrated" by his second place.

"When I am not good enough, that's one thing, but today tactically I made a mistake," said the Briton.

"I feel like, I know that I lost gold not won silver," Boonen seemed irked when asked if Sagan was beatable. "Of course," he said. "He's won a few titles but he hasn't won everything. Everybody is beatable."

The race brought the curtain down on a controversial world championships dogged by criticism of the lack of spectators watching events and the fierce temperatures which confronted cyclists throughout the week. Next year's event will be held in Bergen, Norway.—AFP



## TOYOTA GAZOO RACING TEAM EARNS PODIUM FINISH IN SIXTH ROUND

### 2016 FIA WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

**AUSTIN:** Toyota GAZOO Racing earned another podium finish after a strong performance recently in a closely-fought 6 Hours of Circuit of the Americas, the sixth round of the 2016 FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) held in Austin, Texas, USA.

The #6 TS050 Hybrid of Stephane Sarrazin, Mike Conway and Kamui Kobayashi finished third for their fourth podium of 2016, finishing just 26.096 seconds behind the winner after an exciting victory battle between all three LMP1 hybrid manufacturers.

Anthony Davidson, Sebastien Buemi and Kazuki Nakajima in the #5 suffered another unfortunate race, with several minor issues

combining to keep it out of the podium fight, finishing in fifth.

The race had started promisingly for the #5, when Sebastien moved from sixth on the grid to fourth place during a charging first stint under blazing sunshine and with air temperatures over 35C. Mike took the start in the #6 and ran sixth during the opening stint before handing over to Kamui at the first pit stops. At the same time, great pit work on the #5 allowed Anthony to emerge in third. As darkness fell and the race reached half distance, the #5 lost more time when a damaged front end was changed after Kazuki's stint, then suffered again soon after when a rear left puncture

forced an unplanned pit stop for Sebastien. Stephane took over from Kamui for the final stint in third place. Stephane had fresh tyres and pushed to close the gap, with the race leader also not far away. A fighting performance in the final laps saw the gap close, but second place was just out of reach, with Stephane taking the chequered flag only 2.455 seconds behind the second-placed car and 26.096 seconds behind the winning car. Sebastien brought the #5 home two laps down in fifth.

According to Takayuki Yoshitsugu, Chief Representative, Middle East and North Africa Representative Office, Toyota Motor

Corporation, "It was a commendable performance by the Toyota GAZOO Racing team in a competitive race backed by the solid performance of the TS050 Hybrid. It also demonstrates the performance capabilities of our hybrid cars in global racing. At Toyota, we hold a shared belief that participating in motorsports is the key to developing people and making ever-better cars. We sincerely appreciate our customers for supporting our racing initiatives over the years."

Toshio Sato, Team President, said: "I am pleased with our strong performance here in Austin. We have focused all week on race pace and it paid off today. I am particularly proud of

the job done by everyone in the team, especially considering how difficult it has been in this heat. Our quick pit stops and effective strategy helped to achieve a strong result. This has been a good step towards our home race at Fuji Speedway, where we want to give our Japanese fans and colleagues a result to enjoy."

The Toyota GAZOO Racing team will now travel with optimism to its home race, the 6 Hours of Fuji on 16 October, which takes place just a few kilometres from the Higashi-Fuji Technical Centre where the 1,000hp Toyota Hybrid System-Racing (THS-R) technology is developed and built.



## SWIMMER DIES IN HONG KONG HARBOUR RACE: REPORTS

**HONG KONG:** A swimmer drowned yesterday in Hong Kong and another was left in critical condition as they took part in the city's annual cross-harbour swim, which attracts world-class international competitors.

Local media said the man who died was rushed to hospital after being pulled unconscious from the water by a rescue boat. He was reported to be in his forties. A woman thought to be in her 60s was separately pulled unconscious from the

water and is reported to be in intensive care in hospital. The 1,500-metre race saw around 3,000 people swim between two piers on opposite sides of Hong Kong's famous harbour — 500 up from the previous year according to reports. Some local media questioned why only 10 extra lifeguards had been added when the field had expanded so much. There was a total of 120 lifeguards at the event, local broadcaster RTHK reported on its website. Swimmers are split into

racing and recreational groups—both the dead man and the hospitalised woman were taking part in the leisure category, which is for slower swimmers, according to reports.

Local media cited the president of the Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association defending the number of lifeguards as sufficient for the event.

"We are very saddened by the news and will do whatever possible to help his family get through this difficult time," the

South China Morning Post cited Ronnie Wong as saying. RTHK said Wong had confirmed the man's death and the woman's hospitalisation. The weather was warm and sunny, with air temperatures reaching around 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit). However, some swimmers had complained of strong currents, the Post said. It is the first death in the race since it was resumed in 2011 after a 30-year break, local media reported.

The decades-long hiatus was due to

fears over pollution levels in the water. Although water quality is said to have improved, there are still environmental concerns over the harbour, where rubbish is frequently seen floating in the water. American swimmer Charles Peterson won the men's title in just 16 minutes 44 seconds this year. Rio Olympics 10-kilometre open water gold medalist Sharon van Rouwendaal from the Netherlands took the women's crown.—AFP



**INCHEON:** Carlota Ciganda of Spain poses with her trophy after winning the LPGA KEB HanaBank Championship at Sky72 Golf Club in Incheon, South Korea, yesterday. — AP

## CIGANDA BEATS LEE IN LPGA TOUR PLAYOFF

**INCHEON:** Carlota Ciganda beat Alison Lee with a birdie on the first hole of a playoff yesterday in the rainy LPGA KEB HanaBank Championship after each player lost big leads. The 26-year-old Spaniard won with a 6-foot putt after Lee's birdie chip from the rough off the back edge of the green missed a half-inch to the right. Ciganda overcame a five-stroke deficit to Lee on the front nine, then blew a five-stroke lead on the final five holes — getting into the playoff when Lee bogeyed the par-5 18th after hitting her third shot into the water.

Ciganda played the final five holes in 4 over — making a double bogey on 14 and bogeys on 16 and 18 — for a 2-over 70 at Sky 72 in the event that had an emotional start with Se Ri Pak ending her Hall of Fame career Thursday in front of her home fans.

Three-strokes ahead of US Women's Open champion Brittany Lang entering the day, Lee had a 75 to match Ciganda at 10-under 278 on the Ocean Course. The 21-year-old American, still a student at UCLA, is in her second season on the tour. Ciganda won her first LPGA Tour title and became the third European winner this year, joining Sweden's Anna Nordqvist and Germany's Caroline Masson. Ciganda birdied five of the first eight holes, taking a one-stroke lead with a 6-foot birdie putt on the par-3 eighth. The two-time European Solheim Cup player added a 20-footer on the par-4 10th and was five strokes ahead entering the par-4 14th. She made a double

bogey there, dropped another stroke on the par-4 16th and three-putted 18. Needing a par on 18 for her first victory, Lee hit a wedge that smacked into the front bank and bounced into the water. She was able to drop a few feet off the right edge of the green, chipped past and made a 5-footer to force the playoff.

Lee had four birdies in a five-hole stretch in the middle of the round to seemingly fall out of contention. But while Ciganda faltered in the group ahead, the American made a 5-foot birdie putt on the par-4 15th and a 12-footer on the par-3 17th. China's Shanshan Feng (70) and South Korea's Min-Sun Kim (71) tied for third at 8 under. Feng had her third straight top-four finish in Asia after tying for fourth in China and finishing second last week in Taiwan. The tour will return to China next week for the Blue Bay LPGA on Hainan Island, then make stops in Malaysia and Japan. Lang had three bogeys in a 75 to tie for third at 7 under. Lexi Thompson, the winner last year, had a 73 to tie for 13th at 4 under. Second-ranked Ariya Jutanugarn (69) and No. 3 Gee Chun (71) also were 4 under.

Top-ranked Lydia Ko closed with a 74 to tie for 51st at 3 over. She has four victories this year, one behind Jutanugarn for the tour lead. Fourth-ranked Brooke Henderson also struggled, shooting 78-72 on the weekend to finish at 5 over. The Canadian teen plans to play all six weeks in Asia. —AP

## LANGER TAKES PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS LEAD

**CARY:** Bernhard Langer birdied the final four holes for his second straight 5-under 67 and a two-stroke lead Saturday in the PGA Tour Champions' SAS Championship.

Langer had a bogey-free round at Prestonwood in the regular-season finale. The 59-year-old German star leads the tour with four victories and earnings of \$2,512,659. He won the 2012 event and tied for third the last two years.

"I played pretty steady golf throughout the whole day," Langer said. "Had to be very patient in the middle of my round because just the putts didn't go in. I didn't hit my irons really close, had a few chances here and there, but just didn't make anything. Then toward the end I hit the ball really well. Hitting irons a little closer and finally made some good putts coming in."

Langer is tied for second with Lee Trevino with 29 career victories on the 50-and-over tour. Hale Irwin is the leader with 45. "Two shots is nothing," Langer said. "You can lose two shots in one hole. You make a bogey and the other guy makes a birdie and it's gone. You still have to have the mindset of going out and playing hopefully the best round or one of the best rounds of the day."

Larry Mize and first-round leader

Doug Garwood were tied for second at 8 under. Mize had a 69, and Garwood followed his opening 65 with a 72. Jeff Sluman (67) and Senior British Open winner Paul Broadhurst (69) were 7 under.

The top 72 players on the money list after the tournament — and one player in the top 10 in the event but outside the top 72 for the season — will get spots in the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs opener — the PowerShares QQQ Championship at Sherwood in California on Oct. 28-30.

Langer began the late with a 12-footer on the par-4 15th, and got up-and-down for birdie from over the green on the par-5 16th.

"Driver, 3-wood straight at the pin and rolled through the green into the rough and had a very tough pitch because it was straight downhill," Langer said. "Played it pretty decent, got it to about 5 feet." He added 14-footers on par-3 17th par par-4 18th. "That was nice because I hit a good putt, but it didn't turn until the very, very end and just snuck in on the high side," Langer said about 17. "That was nice to see that one turn in. And then 18 was a perfect putt, went right in the middle." Defending champion Tom Lehman was tied for 10th at 4 under after a 68. — AP

## MUNSTER COACH FOLEY DIES, TRIBUTES POUR IN

**PARIS:** Munster head coach and former Irish international Anthony Foley died suddenly in a Paris hotel yesterday at the age of 42, triggering a flood of tributes from stunned former teammates, opponents and admirers of the rugby hardman. Foley, a married father of two boys, was one of Irish rugby's most prominent figures whose father was also capped for his country. In a tribute, the president of Ireland, Michael Higgins, dubbed Foley "one of the great figures of Irish sport in the modern era."

"It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to our coach, former captain, colleague and friend today, rest in peace Anthony Foley," Munster Rugby tweeted.

The Irish province's European Champions Cup match against Racing 92, scheduled for Sunday in Paris, was postponed to a later date. Munster fans who had travelled to Paris for the Racing match gathered outside the Stade Yves-du-Manoir in northwestern Paris, laying flowers on flags and breaking into spontaneous renditions of Munster's adopted hymn, 'The Fields of Atherny'.

As a robust backrow forward, Foley led Munster to European Cup victory in 2006 with victory over Biarritz in Cardiff and went on to win 62 caps for Ireland, captaining the national side on three occasions, his last appearance coming in 2005 after debuting 10 years earlier.

He played 86 European matches for Munster, including a record 71 consecutive games, and retired in 2008 as the club's most-capped player with 194 appearances for the provincial side.

He was named head coach of the Irish province in 2014 after having also coached the Munster 'A' team, the Ireland Wolfhounds and the Irish forwards on a temporary basis in 2012.

French police in the western suburb of Suresnes have opened an enquiry to confirm the cause of death of the forward affectionally known as 'Axel' after Eddie Murphy's character from the film Beverly Hills Cop.

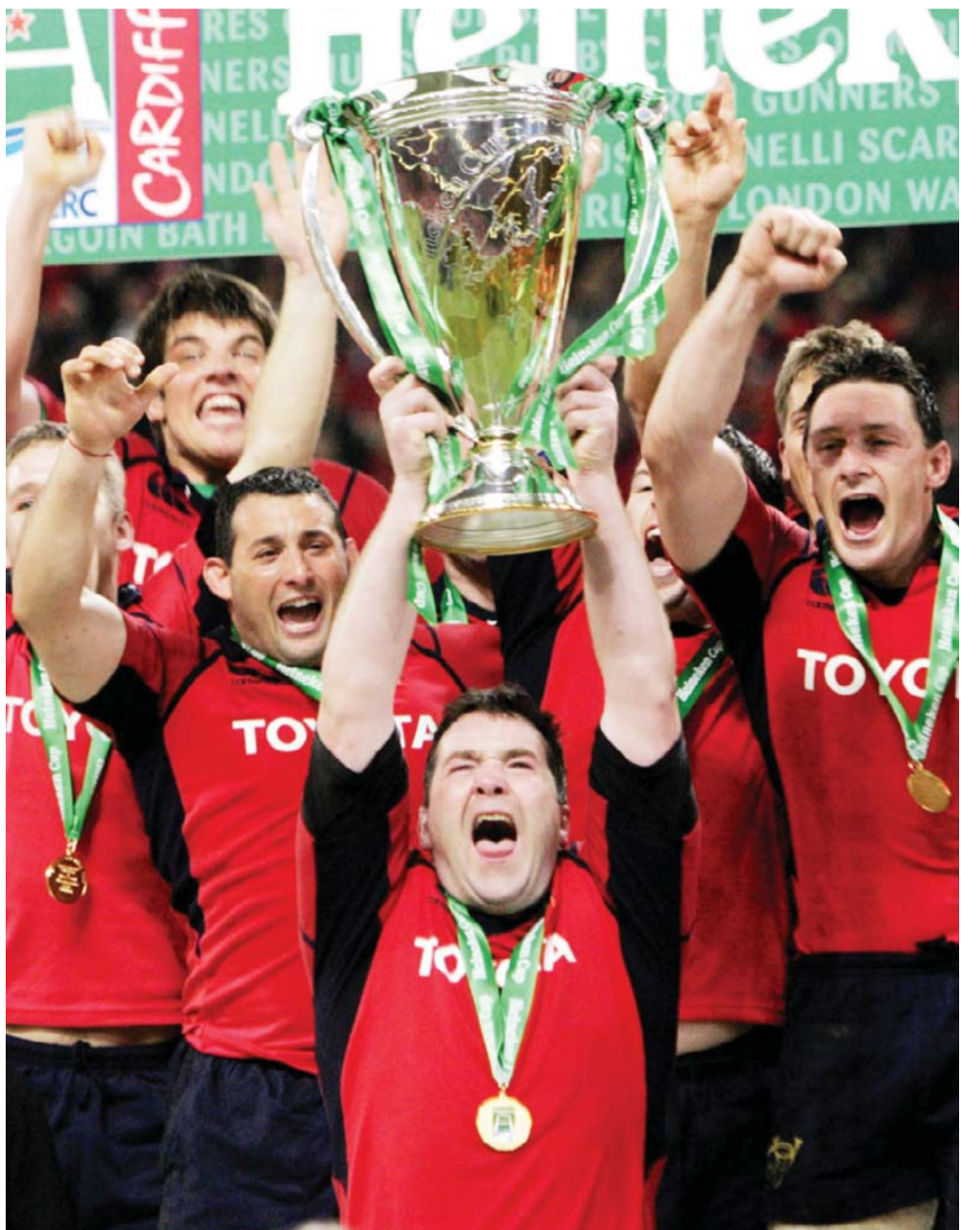
"The IRFU (Ireland rugby union) and Munster Rugby pass on our deepest sympathies to all of Anthony's family and friends and ask for privacy for the family at this sad time," a joint statement said. Organisers of the European Champions Cup confirmed the postponement of Munster's opener against Racing in Paris. "Due to the tragic passing in Paris of Munster Rugby head coach and former captain, Anthony Foley, today's European Rugby Champions Cup Round 1 match between Racing 92 and Munster Rugby has been postponed and will be rescheduled," organisers European Professional Club Rugby (EPCR) said.

EPCR chairman Simon Halliday said: "On behalf of EPCR, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Anthony's family and to everyone associated with Munster and Irish rugby.

"He was a magnificent player and a superb coach and he will be sorely missed." Racing released a statement saying it accepted without reservation the postponement of the game.

### TRIBUTES POUR IN

Ireland President Higgins, a patron of the IRFU, praised Foley's "huge contribution to the



**CARDIFF:** This file photo taken on May 20, 2006 shows Anthony Foley (C-bottom), then Munster captain holding the Heineken Cup European final trophy at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff. Munster head coach Anthony Foley died suddenly in Paris on October 10, 2016, at the age of 42, causing the Irish province's European Champions Cup match against Racing 92 to be postponed. — AFP

successes of Munster and Ireland, in both his playing and coaching careers."

Frankie Sheahan, the former Ireland and Munster hooker, posted a recent photo of him and others celebrating ex-Ireland international Mick Galwey's birthday.

"Distraught at the tragic news of Anthony Foley, great friend, teammate & legend. Super form last weekend at Mick Galwey's 50th. Incomprehensible," he said.

Donal Lenihan, who made his debuts for both Munster and Ireland caps alongside Foley's father Brendan—a member of the Munster side that beat the All Blacks in 1978, said:

"Everybody's just been taken by shock." Foley's sudden death brought a welter of reaction from the wider rugby family. World Rugby chief executive Brett Gosper tweeted: "Shocked by the tragic news of Anthony Foley. "All at World Rugby send our heart-felt condolences and thoughts to family, friends and Munster."

"Unbelievably sad news. Thoughts and prayers with all Anthony's family, friends and colleagues. RIP," added the Welsh Rugby Union. Glasgow Warriors coach and former Scotland international Gregor Townsend said it was a "sad day for rugby". —AFP

## FORMER NFL PLAYER DENNIS BYRD KILLED IN ACCIDENT

**TULSA:** Dennis Byrd, the former NFL defensive lineman whose career was ended by neck injury, was killed Saturday in a car accident. He was 50.

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said Byrd was killed in a two-vehicle collision on Oklahoma 88 north of Claremore. The Tulsa World first reported Byrd's death. He starred at Tulsa before playing for the New York Jets.

"We extend our sincere condolences to Dennis' wife, Angela, their children and the entire Byrd family," said Dr. Derrick Gragg, Tulsa's athletic director. "Dennis exemplified true determination, tremendous heart and humility throughout his life. He had a tremendous playing career at TU and professionally with the New York Jets. He overcame great personal adversity after a life-altering injury on the football field. We know that Dennis touched numerous lives and will be missed by many."

The highway patrol said the crash happened about 11:15 a.m. between Oologah and Claremore. It said a 17-year-old Claremore youth driving a 2000 Ford Explorer northbound on Oklahoma 88 veered into the oncoming lane, striking the 2004 Hummer H2 that Byrd was driving. Byrd was pronounced dead at the scene, and the 17-year-old driver and a 12-year-old passenger in Byrd's vehicle were taken in critical condition to Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa.

Byrd was midway through his fourth NFL season when he was briefly paralyzed during a game on Nov. 29, 1992, against Kansas City. He broke his neck after slamming headfirst into the chest of teammate Scott Mersereau as Chiefs quarterback David Krieg stepped forward to avoid a sack.

The impact broke the C-5 vertebra in Byrd's neck, leaving him unable to walk for a few weeks. After a vigorous rehabilitation, Byrd returned to the Meadowlands for the Jets' opening game the following season and walked to midfield as an honorary captain.

He never fully recovered from the injury,

walking with some difficulty and going through continuous rehabilitation during the years since. But Byrd, a devout Christian, wrote a book in 1993 called "Rise and Walk," which detailed how he relied on his faith and family to push through his injury to recover and serve an inspiration to others who went through similar situations.

Byrd's story was later made into a made-for-TV movie, with actor-director Peter Berg playing him. During the 2010 season, Byrd sent then-Jets coach Rex Ryan the No. 90 jersey that had been torn from his torso after the collision as an inspirational gift. As a guest of the team, Byrd delivered a moving speech to the Jets at their hotel the night before a 28-21 playoff victory over the New England Patriots — during which the Jets had hung Byrd's jersey in their locker room.

Running back LaDainian Tomlinson and safety James Ihedigbo also carried out a green and white No. 90 jersey to midfield for the coin toss before the game.

No Jets player has worn No. 90 since Byrd, and on Oct. 28, 2012, the team honored him at halftime of its game against Miami by making him the fifth player in franchise history to have his number retired.

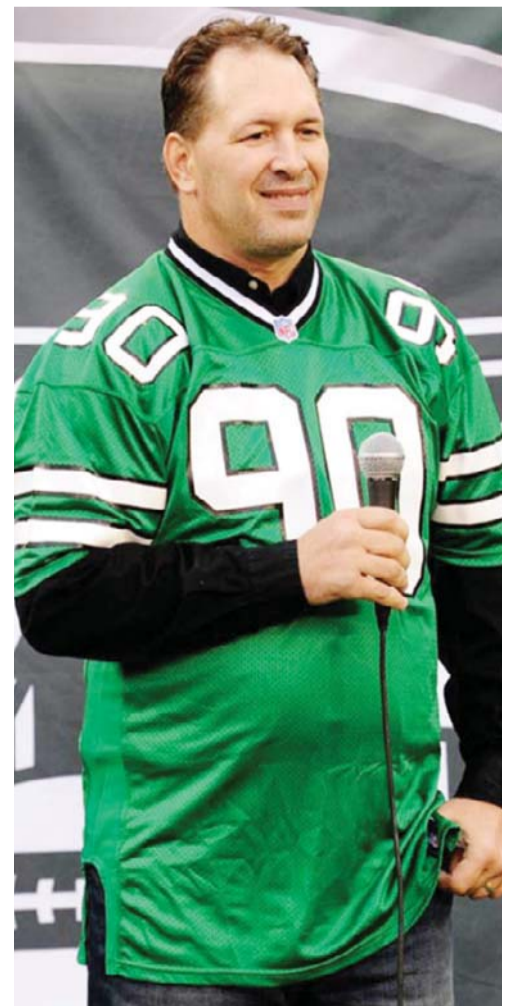
Mersereau introduced Byrd to the crowd, saying the most touching moment of his life came when he visited Byrd in the hospital and his teammate — unable to walk at that time — told him: "Angie and I have been worried about you."

Flanked by wife Angela and their four children, along with several of his former teammates, Byrd fought back tears while he was given a standing ovation by the fans at MetLife Stadium.

"I learned to be a man in Oklahoma," Byrd said, "and I grew to be a man in New York." Every year, a Jets player is selected to receive the Dennis Byrd Most Inspirational Player award by his teammates.

Byrd was a second-round draft pick of the Jets in 1989 out of Tulsa. He was considered one

of the NFL's promising young defensive ends at the time of his injury, registering 28 sacks in his four seasons. —AP



Dennis Byrd



## BELLEW CALLS OUT HAYE AFTER RETAINING CRUISERWEIGHT TITLE

**LONDON:** Britain's Tony Bellew retained his World Boxing Council cruiserweight title with a third-round stoppage of BJ Flores on Saturday and then promptly charged out of the ring at Liverpool's Echo Arena to confront David Haye.

Liverpool boxer Bellew floored Flores three times in the second round before seeing off his American challenger in the next. After the fight was stopped, an emotional Bellew had to be restrained by security staff from confronting British rival Haye, a friend of Flores's, who was watching at ringside.

"I'm ruthless when I get going. BJ Flores is an old-school, respected fighter

and he's trying to fulfil a childhood dream," Bellew told Sky Sports.

"I've pummelled him. I could have been clinical. I'm not called the 'Bomber' for nothing." Bellew then turned his attention to one-time sparring partner Haye, a former cruiserweight and heavyweight world champion.

Haye, competing as a heavyweight, returned to the ring aged of 35 in January after three-and-a-half years with a first round knockout win over Mark de Mori. But Bellew made it clear on Saturday that he thought Haye's return was nothing more than a money-grabbing publicity stunt

"You see him? He's been conning the British public since his pathetic comeback started," Bellew said of Haye. "The last two guys you fought are working on nightclub doors, or they're putting the bins out." He added: "You see you? You're gonna get smashed too. "With ten ounce gloves on, I'll put you and your pathetic haircut to sleep. "Brother, I'm the biggest payday you've got right now."

### 'WITH ONE HAND'

Haye accepted Bellew had done a fine job of work in seeing off Flores but insisted he would have no trouble defeating him if they met as heavy-

weights. "His performance was first-class. He beat BJ Flores, a good friend of mine," said Haye. "Bellew has dynamite in his fists but would that work on me? I don't think so. "He was taken big shots in the process, his defence was leaky. Against me, that'd take one shot."

"I am a heavyweight for eight or nine years. If he wants to come up, it's an easy night's work. I'll probably knock him out with a jab. "I could win the fight with one hand, just my left hand, I wouldn't even need my right hand."

Flores traded punches with Bellew, a fan of Liverpool's Everton football team who won the world title with a knockout

of Ilunga Makabu at the club's Goodison Park ground in May.

But the 33-year-old Bellew, in his first title defence, finished the opening round the stronger. He dropped Flores in the second round, although the American complained of a low blow, and then capitalised on his opponent's loss of concentration to floor him once more.

Just before the bell, Flores was down again but he beat the count. Nevertheless, the finish was in sight and a flurry of punches from Bellew in the third round ended with a left hook that knocked Flores to the canvas before the referee stopped the contest. — AFP

### NHL results/standings

Minnesota 4, Winnipeg 3; Toronto 4, Boston 1; Ottawa 4, Montreal 3 (SO); Tampa Bay 3, New Jersey 2; Florida 4, Detroit 1; Pittsburgh 3, Anaheim 2; Washington 2, NY Islanders 1; San Jose 3, Columbus 2; St. Louis 3, NY Rangers 2; Chicago 5, Nashville 3; Arizona 4, Philadelphia 3 (OT); Colorado 6, Dallas 5; Vancouver 2, Calgary 1 (SO).

| Western Conference |   |   |     |    |        |
|--------------------|---|---|-----|----|--------|
| Central Division   |   |   |     |    |        |
|                    | W | L | OTL | GF | GA PTS |
| St. Louis          | 3 | 0 | 0   | 11 | 6 6    |
| Colorado           | 1 | 0 | 0   | 6  | 5 2    |
| Dallas             | 1 | 1 | 0   | 9  | 8 2    |
| Minnesota          | 1 | 1 | 0   | 6  | 6 2    |
| Winnipeg           | 1 | 1 | 0   | 8  | 8 2    |
| Nashville          | 1 | 1 | 0   | 6  | 7 2    |
| Chicago            | 1 | 2 | 0   | 9  | 11 2   |
| Pacific Division   |   |   |     |    |        |
| Edmonton           | 2 | 0 | 0   | 12 | 7 4    |
| San Jose           | 2 | 0 | 0   | 5  | 3 4    |
| Arizona            | 1 | 0 | 0   | 4  | 3 2    |
| Vancouver          | 1 | 0 | 0   | 2  | 1 2    |
| Calgary            | 0 | 2 | 1   | 8  | 14 1   |
| Anaheim            | 0 | 2 | 0   | 4  | 7 0    |
| Los Angeles        | 0 | 2 | 0   | 3  | 6 0    |
| Eastern Conference |   |   |     |    |        |
| Atlantic Division  |   |   |     |    |        |
| Florida            | 2 | 0 | 0   | 6  | 2 4    |

| Tampa Bay             | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 6 4  |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|------|
| Ottawa                | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 7 4  |
| Montreal              | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 5 3  |
| Toronto               | 1 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 6 3  |
| Boston                | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 7 2  |
| Buffalo               | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 0  |
| Detroit               | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 10 0 |
| Metropolitan Division |   |   |   |   |      |
| Pittsburgh            | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4 4  |
| Philadelphia          | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 6 3  |
| Washington            | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 3  |
| NY Rangers            | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 6 2  |
| Carolina              | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 1  |
| New Jersey            | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 1  |
| NY Islanders          | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 7 0  |
| Columbus              | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 9 0  |

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



**GLENDAL:** Andrew MacDonald #47 of the Philadelphia Flyers skates with the puck during the third period of the NHL game against Arizona Coyotes at Gila River Arena on Saturday in Glendale, Arizona. The Coyotes defeated the Flyers 4-3 in overtime. —AFP

## MIGUEL MONTERO'S GRAND SLAM POWERS CUBS OVER DODGERS

**CHICAGO:** Miguel Montero's eighth-inning grand slam powered the Chicago Cubs to an 8-4 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Saturday in game one of their Major League Baseball play-off series.

Montero's blast off Dodgers relief pitcher Joe Blanton after the Dodgers had knotted the score at 3-3 with two runs in the top of the eighth was just the third pinch-hit grand slam in post-season history and boosted the Cubs to a 1-0 lead in the best-of-seven National League Championship Series. The winner of the series advances to the World Series to face either the Cleveland Indians or Toronto Blue Jays. Cleveland took a 2-0 lead in the American League Championship Series on Saturday with a 2-1 triumph over Toronto.

The Cubs, who had the best record in the major leagues this season, are vying to end the longest title drought in North American sport, with their last World Series triumph coming in 1908.

The Cubs were up 3-1 heading into the eighth, but Los Angeles loaded the bases with none out against Chicago relief pitchers Mike Montgomery and Pedro Strop.

The Cubs sent closer Aroldis Chapman to the mound, and he struck out two before giving up a two-out single to Adrian Gonzalez that scored Andrew Toles and Chase Utley to tie the game.

Chicago's Ben Zobrist opened the bottom of the eighth with a double and Jason Heyward and pinch-hitter Chris Coghlan were intentionally walked by Blanton, setting the stage for Montero to send an 0-2 pitch over the right field wall.

"This is what I'm playing for right now," said Montero, who had just 52 hits in the regular season and batted .216. "I'm trying to take full advantage of the at-bats I

get. "Sure enough, today, I helped the team." Dexter Fowler followed with a solo home run. Although Chapman blew the save, he earned the victory. Cubs starting pitcher Jon Lester received a no-decision after allowing just one run in six innings. He retired 12 of the last 13 batters he faced, surrendering four hits with one walk and three strike outs. The Cubs will try to stretch their series lead when they host game two on Sunday.

### INDIANS CAUTIOUSLY CONFIDENT

In Cleveland, Carlos Santana homered and Francisco Lindor drove in the winning run to spark the Indians to a 2-1 victory over the Blue Jays.

While the Cubs have endured the grand-daddy of US sporting title droughts, the Indians have weathered their own epic stretch of futility since last winning the World Series in 1948. Since then the Indians have lost the World Series in 1954, 1995 and 1997.

"We're confident," Santana said after the Indians' second home win against the Blue Jays, but he added that Cleveland would remain vigilant as the series shifts to Toronto today. "We have to keep it up," Santana said. "Toronto has a very good team. They can come back."

Santana smashed a solo homer off Toronto starter J.A. Happ over the left-field wall in the second inning to open the scoring. The Blue Jays answered in the third as Darwin Barney singled, advanced to second on a ground out and scored on a Josh Donaldson double to pull Toronto level 1-1.

But the Indians pushed home the winning run when they came to the plate in the third as Rajai Davis reached first base on a fielder's choice, stole second, took third on a wild pitch by Happ and scored on a Lindor single to make it 2-1. —AFP



**CHICAGO:** Miguel Montero #47 of the Chicago Cubs hits a grand slam home run in the eighth inning against the Los Angeles Dodgers during game one of the National League Championship Series at Wrigley Field on Saturday in Chicago, Illinois. — AFP

## PENGUINS DOWN DUCKS ON KESSEL POWER-PLAY GOAL

**PITTSBURGH:** Phil Kessel's power-play goal in the second period stood as the winner in the Pittsburgh Penguins' 3-2 victory over the Anaheim Ducks in their NHL match on Saturday night. Ian Cole and Conor Sheary also scored for the Penguins, who have won four straight home games against Anaheim and are 6-1 in their last seven games overall against the Ducks. Marc-Andre Fleury made 33 saves. Chris Kunitz got his 200th assist with the Penguins in his 500th game with the team. Kunitz, who was acquired from Anaheim in 2009, became the 18th player and fifth active to play 500 games with Pittsburgh. Corey Perry scored his first of the season and 13th goal in 14 games against Pittsburgh. Cam Fowler scored on the power play for the Ducks, who haven't won in Pittsburgh in more than four years. Jonathan Bernier stopped 42 shots in his debut with the Ducks.

### COYOTES 4, FLYERS 3, OT

Oliver Ekman-Larsson scored at 1:48 of overtime as Arizona kicked off its 20th season in the desert with a win over Philadelphia. The Flyers dominated the early part of overtime, but Mike Smith made a sprawling save on Matt Read and the Coyotes were able to clear. The Coyotes used quick passing to get the puck to Ekman-Larsson, who gathered the feed from Martin Hanzal and lifted it over a diving Steve Mason on a delayed penalty. Hanzal also had a goal, along with Shane Doan and Brad Richardson for the Coyotes. Smith stopped 27 shots. Read, Michael Raffl and Wayne Simmonds scored for the Flyers. Mason stopped 31 shots.

### BLACKHAWKS 5, PREDATORS 3

Richard Panik scored his first NHL hat trick and Scott Darling was sharp in making 33 saves as Chicago earned its first victory of the season. Nick Schmaltz, one of four rookies in Chicago's lineup, scored his first NHL goal and Brent Seabrook added a power-play goal and an assist as the Blackhawks rebounded from a 3-2 loss at Nashville on Friday. Patrick Kane and Duncan Keith each had two assists. Colin Wilson, Craig Smith and Viktor Arvidsson scored for the Predators. Nashville trailed 3-0 after Schmaltz, Seabrook and Panik scored in a 3:43 span in the first period, and could never pull even in this one. The Predators outshot Chicago 36-27 and dominated in stretches, but were stymied by Darling in the backup goalie's first start this season. Nashville backup Marek Mazanec had 22 saves.

### CAPITALS 2, ISLANDERS 1

Fourth-line grinder Daniel Winnik scored two goals and Vezina Trophy winner Braden Holtby made 21 saves as Washington beat New York in its home opener. Winnik's fifth career multi-goal game helped the defending Presidents' Trophy winners bounce back from a season-opening loss at Pittsburgh and earn their first victory. Two of those have come with the Capitals, a good sign as they hope to get more depth scoring. Ryan Strome scored a power-play goal for the Islanders, who have no points through two games after losing to the New York Rangers on Thursday. Backup goaltender Thomas Greiss stopped 26 of the 28 shots he faced in his first start.

### SHARKS 3, BLUE JACKETS 2

Mikkel Boedker and Joel Ward scored for

an early lead and Patrick Marleau had a power-play goal, leading San Jose over Columbus. Martin Jones made 26 saves for San Jose, which beat the Los Angeles Kings 2-1 in its season opener Wednesday. Zach Werenski and Josh Anderson each got his first goal for Columbus, which has lost its first two games this season. Boedker scored 9:22 into the first period when a dump-in play by Logan Couture led to a tricky rebound off goaltender Sergei Bobrovsky. The puck was deflected to Boedker, who buried it over Bobrovsky's left shoulder.

### BLUES 3, RANGERS 2

Vladimir Tarasenko had a goal and an assist and Carter Hutton stopped 33 shots as St. Louis beat New York. Tarasenko has three goals in three games for the undefeated Blues after netting 40 last season. Hutton got his first win and made several tough saves in his first game with St. Louis. He signed to a two-year, \$2.25 million free agent contract on July 1 to back up Jake Allen. The Rangers outshot St. Louis 35-18, with New York's Henrik Lundqvist making 15 saves. Chris Kreider and Mika Zibanejad scored for the Rangers. Paul Stastny and Alex Pietrangolo also had goals for St. Louis.

### PANTHERS 4, RED WINGS 1

Colton Sceviour scored his first goal for Florida and Aleksander Barkov added his second of the season. Sceviour signed with the Panthers as a free agent in July. Vincent Trocheck and Jonathan Marchessault also scored goals for Florida and Marchessault recorded two assists. Jaromir Jagr also had an assist. Barkov's goal made it 3-1 with 2:22 left and Marchessault added an empty-netter about a minute later. The Panthers won their second straight and the Red Wings fall to 0-2. Darren Helm scored for Detroit while Petr Mrazek stopped 34 shots for the Red Wings. Roberto Luongo had 21 saves for the Panthers.

### AVALANCHE 6, STARS 5

Joe Colborne scored his first NHL hat trick and Colorado withstood a 6-on-4 opportunity over the final 46 seconds to hold off Dallas. Trailing 2-0 early, Colborne scored three of Colorado's next five goals to build a 5-2 lead. Carl Soderberg and Nathan MacKinnon also scored during the stretch, and Tyson Barrie added an insurance goal in the third period to kick off the Jared Bednar Era in winning fashion. Bednar took over for Patrick Roy after the Hall of Fame goaltender-turned-coach surprisingly stepped away two months ago. Tyler Seguin had two goals for the Stars, while Devin Shore, Jamie Benn and Brett Ritchie also scored. Dallas pulled starter Antti Niemi at 7:05 of the second period after allowing five goals. Kari Lehtonen slowed the Avalanche's potent offensive attack so the Stars could work their way back into the game.

### MAPLE LEAFS 4, BRUINS 1

Rookies Mitch Marner and Connor Brown scored, helping Toronto roll over Boston for its first win of the season. James van Riemsdyk and Milan Michalek also scored for the Maple Leafs, while Frederik Andersen made 24 saves for his first win with Toronto. Anton Khudobin allowed four goals on 20 shots for Boston.

David Pastrnak scored his third goal in two games this season. One of six rookies in Toronto's lineup, Brown opened the scoring with his second career goal just over 2 minutes into the first. The 22-year-old Toronto native pounced on Matt Hunwick's point shot that caromed off a pile of bodies in front of Khudobin, shooting it high for the 1-0 lead.

### LIGHTNING 3, DEVILS 2

Valtteri Filppula scored the go-ahead goal on a nifty redirection early in the third period to lift Tampa Bay over New Jersey. Steven Stamkos and Alex Killorn also scored for the Lightning, who have opened the season with two comeback wins after trailing by two early in both games. The Devils got goals from Kyle Palmieri and Travis Zajac. New Jersey lost its season opener 2-1 in overtime Thursday night at Florida. Filppula was positioned in the slot and had his thigh-high deflection of Jason Garrison's shot elude Cory Schneider at 5:43. Rookie Brayden Point also assisted on the goal to get his first NHL point.

### WILD 4, JETS 3

Eric Staal and Chris Stewart each got their first goal with Minnesota since being acquired in the offseason, helping the Wild overcome a two-goal deficit. Stewart scored to start the comeback and assisted on Matt Dumba's power-play goal that tied it, then Staal made it 3-2 as the Wild erased the 2-0 deficit with a three-goal second period. Devan Dubnyk made 14 saves for Minnesota, which is now 14-0-2 in its home openers at the Xcel Energy Center. Jonas Brodin added a goal for the Wild. Nikolaj Ehlers, Blake Wheeler and Mark Schiefele scored for Winnipeg. Michael Hutchinson stopped 27 shots for the Jets.

### SENATORS 4, CANADIENS 3

Erik Karlsson scored the winner in the shootout to lift Ottawa over Montreal. Tom Pyatt, Ryan Dzingel and Zack Smith scored in regulation for the Senators, who have won two straight to open the season. Craig Anderson made 21 saves. Jeff Petry scored twice and Artturi Lehkonen got his first NHL goal for the Canadiens. Al Montoya stopped 35 shots. Pyatt tied the score 3-3 off a great pass from Dzingel to beat Montoya stick side with 2:33 remaining in the third period. Dzingel and Smith scored in the first period to put the Senators up 2-0. Petry's power-play goal late in the second got the Canadiens on the scoreboard. Lehkonen tied it early in the third and Petry's second put Montreal at the 9-minute mark.

### CANUCKS 2, FLAMES 1, OT

Brandon Sutter scored the only goal of the shootout to give Vancouver a victory over Calgary. Sutter beat Chad Johnson through the five-hole on the winner in the fourth round of the tiebreaker after Ryan Miller stopped the Flames' shooters at the other end. Daniel Sedin scored in regulation for the Canucks, who got 24 saves from Miller in their season opener. Troy Brouwer was credited with the game's first goal in the opening period after Canucks forward Loui Eriksson, who was making his Vancouver debut, put the puck into his own net on a delayed Calgary penalty. Johnson made 30 stops in his first start for the Flames, who have started the season with three losses (0-2-1). — AP



## PINK BALL PIONEERS TARGET COMPETITIVE TEST CRICKET



**DUBAI:** Top officials from the world cricket committee Mike Brearley (R) and John Stephenson look at the pink ball at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in the Gulf Emirate on Saturday. Top officials of the World Cricket Committee insisted that innovations such as the pink ball day-night matches are aimed to make Test cricket competitive and fan-friendly. — AFP

**DUBAI:** Top officials of the World Cricket Committee insisted yesterday that innovations such as the pink ball day-night matches are aimed to make Test cricket competitive and fan-friendly.

Mike Brearley, the former England captain and current chairman of the committee, and member John Stephenson were speaking in Dubai at the Test between Pakistan and the West Indies-only the second ever day-night Test match.

"We started experimenting with the pink ball in 2008, brought the pink ball matches to Abu Dhabi and all the efforts were aimed at making the five-day Test more competitive and to attract more crowds," Brearley told reporters.

Australia and New Zealand featured in the first ever day-night Test in Adelaide in November last year. It increased the crowds threefold over the three days of action as Australia won the

match by three wickets. Stephenson, who played one Test for England in 1989, said that following experiments, the pink ball case was presented to the ICC meeting in 2011. "We took the evidence (on the pink ball) to the ICC cricket committee in 2011 and it was in that meeting that the ICC allowed the member nations to get together and play a day-night Test if they want to," said Stephenson. "It took some years to come to fruition in November 2015." The committee under the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), regarded as the custodians of the rules of cricket, works as a complementary body to the International Cricket Council (ICC) and its member nations. Australia will host two more day-night Tests against South Africa in November followed by one against Pakistan a month later.

England have announced they will host a day-night Test in 2017 and play

another in New Zealand a year later. India and Bangladesh have also shown interest in the idea. Stephenson said the Adelaide Test was a big success. "The Adelaide Test was a different occasion, a social calendar thing as a huge party was going on. An Australia-New Zealand Test would usually attract 40,000 people in three days-it attracted 123,000."

Brearley said the sub-continent could be suitable for day-night Tests. "I think the sub-continent is ideal for it but you have to pick the right venue where people can walk in, no dew and good lights. You have to tick a few boxes to make sure it works," said Brearley, who led England to 18 wins in 31 Tests as captain.

"The day-night Test give a chance to people to come after work and it's a good spectacle and I am happy that people are trying it. I have seen how things changed in one-day, so it's a new innovation." — AFP

## BISHOO SPARKS PAKISTAN COLLAPSE IN FIRST TEST

**DUBAI:** Leg-spinner Devendar Bishoo took a career best six wicket haul but Pakistan still swelled their lead over West Indies on the fourth day of the first Test in Dubai yesterday. Bishoo returned with figures of 6-47 in 13 overs as Pakistan stuttered to 121-8 at dinner-having an overall lead of 343 with two wickets in hand as the Dubai stadium pitch took sharp turn on the penultimate day of the day-nighter.

Earlier it was Pakistani leg-spinner Shah who became the second joint-fastest bowler to take 100 wickets in Test cricket during his 5-121 which bundled West Indies out for 357 in their first innings. Pakistan, who scored 579-3 declared in their first innings, did not enforce the follow-on despite West Indies coming up 23 runs short of the follow-on target of 380.

At tea Sarfraz Ahmed was not out on 15 while Yasir Shah was dismissed for two as Pakistan collapsed in search of quick runs to effect a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

With the rough marks on the pitch helping spinners, Bishoo triggered a middle-order collapse after Pakistan had lost opener Azhar Ali (two) and Asad Shafiq (five) just before tea.

Bishoo, who had trapped Shafiq leg-before ahead of tea, then came into his own, dismissing Babar Azam (21), Sami

Aslam (44), Misbah-ul-Haq (15), Mohammad Nawaz (nought) and Wahab Riaz (five) in the space of 40 balls for 21 runs. Bishoo's previous best bowling was 6-80 against Australia at Dominica last year. Ali, who scored a career best 302 in the first innings, was lucky to avoid a caught behind decision off Gabriel but was trapped leg-before the very next ball. The day also belonged to Shah who wrapped up the West Indies innings in quick time and also reached a milestone.

England's right-arm medium-pacer George Lohmann reached 100 Test wickets in just 16 Test matches in 1896, which still is a world record in Test cricket's 140-year history.

Australia's Charlie Turner and Clarrie Grimmett, and England's Sydney Barnes each got to the milestone in their 17th Test. Shah, who made his debut at the same venue in October 2014, bettered off-spinner Saeed Ajmal who held the Pakistani record of fastest to 100 Tests wickets in 19 matches. West Indies's overnight batsmen Shane Dorwich (32) and Jason Holder (20) both fell to Shah while Bishoo (17) fell to Nawaz as West Indies failed to delay the inevitable.

Nawaz finished with 2-30 on debut and Riaz took 2-65. The remaining two Tests will be played in Abu Dhabi (October 21-25) and Sharjah (October 30-November 3). — AFP



**DHARAMSALA:** Indian batsman Virat Kohli raises his bat after completing a half century (50 runs) during the first one day international match between India and New Zealand at The Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium (HPCA) in Dharamsala yesterday. — AFP

## KOHLI ANCHORS INDIA TO SIX-WICKET WIN OVER NZ

**DHARAMSALA:** Bowlers set up India's comprehensive six-wicket win over New Zealand in the first one-day international as batting mainstay Virat Kohli anchored the hosts' chase in the low-scoring encounter in Dharamsala yesterday. The hosts, who were chasing a modest 191 for victory, rode on the 60-run partnership between Kohli (85 not out) and skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni to canter home in 33.1 overs.

But it was the bowling led by debutant medium-pacer Hardik Pandya (3-31) and Amit Mishra (3-49) that helped topple New Zealand for a lowly 190 and set the platform for the big win.

Pace spearhead Umesh Yadav and off-spinner Kedar Jadhav also took two wickets each after the hosts elected to bowl first at the picturesque Dharamsala ground.

"Fantastic performance from the fast bowlers. We had no clue it (the pitch) would help the fast bowlers," Dhoni said after the win. "Hardik exploited the good length. Umesh is somebody who has been quite quick consistently, he has gone from fit to one of the fittest. "Hardik is deceptive, you think he'd bowl 132, but he crosses 135 consistently," Dhoni said in praise of the 23-year-old pacer who was named man of the match.

New Zealand pacer Doug Bracewell checked India's brisk start after getting Rohit Sharma lbw for 14 after the batsman missed a fuller delivery while trying to flick it on the leg side.

Ajinkya Rahane did not last long after losing his opening partner as he was caught behind off James Neesham for 33, his knock laced with 4 fours and 2 sixes.

Kohli then put on 40 runs with Manish Pandey (17) as the duo looked to stabilise the chase. Leg-spinner Ish Sodhi had Pandey walking back to the pavilion as the visitors made a valiant attempt to make inroads into the Indian middle order. But Kohli stayed firm to record his 37th ODI fifty in 172 games as the prolific scorer hit 9 fours and a winning six during his 81-ball stay at the crease.

### ROAD TO VICTORY

Returning paceman Tim Southee gave Kohli a reprieve on 60 after he dropped a caught and bowled chance, but the hosts were in the driving seat by then. A mix-up between the two onfield batsmen resulted in Dhoni being run out for 21 but the wicket proved to be a mere hiccup in India's road to victory. "India were too good, very good chasing side and they showed it today," said Williamson.

"We were below par in all areas, we need to step that up. We're a tough unit, so we need

| SCOREBOARD  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>DHARAMSALA, India:</b> Scoreboard yesterday of the first one-day international between India and New Zealand at HPCA Stadium:                |  |
| <b>New Zealand</b>  | 6-2, Axar Patel 9-1-41-0 (3w), Amit Mishra 8.5-0-49-3. |
| Martin Guptill c Sharma b Pandya  | 12   |
| Tom Latham not out  | 79   |
| Kane Williamson c Mishra b Yadav  | 3  |
| Ross Taylor c Dhoni b Yadav   | 0  |
| Corey Anderson c Yadav b Pandya   | 4  |
| Luke Ronchi c Yadav b Pandya  | 0  |
| James Neesham c & b Jadhav  | 10   |
| Mitchell Santner c Dhoni b Jadhav   | 0  |
| Doug Bracewell c Rahane b Mishra  | 15   |
| Tim Southee c Pandey b Mishra   | 55   |
| Ish Sodhi lbw b Mishra  | 1  |
| Extras: (2b, 1lb, 8w)   | 11   |
| TOTAL: (all out)  | 190  |
| Overs: 43.5   |  |
| Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-29, 3-33, 4-43, 5-48, 6-65, 7-65, 8-106, 9-177, 10-190.  |  |
| Bowling: Umesh Yadav 8-0-31-2 (3w), Hardik Pandya 7-0-31-3, Jasprit Bumrah 8-1-29-0 (2w), Kedar Jadhav 3-0-                                     |  |
| <b>India</b>  |  |
| Rohit Sharma lbw b Bracewell  | 14   |
| Ajinkya Rahane c Ronchi b Neesham   | 33   |
| Virat Kohli not out   | 85   |
| Manish Pandey c Williamson b Sodhi  | 17   |
| MS Dhoni run out Guptill/Ronchi   | 21   |
| Kedar Jadhav not out  | 10   |
| Extras: (1lb, 13w)  | 14   |
| TOTAL: (for 4 wickets)  | 194  |
| Overs: 33.1   |  |
| Fall of wickets: 1-49, 2-62, 3-102, 4-162.  |  |
| Did not bat: Hardik Pandya, Amit Mishra, Axar Patel, Umesh Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah.   |  |
| Bowling: Tim Southee 9-0-57-0 (2w), Doug Bracewell 8-2-44-1 (1w), James Neesham 6-0-40-1 (6w), Ish Sodhi 4.1-0-34-1, Mitchell Santner 6-0-18-0. |  |
| Result: India won by 6 wickets.   |  |

| SCOREBOARD  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>DUBAI:</b> Scores after Pakistan's second innings on the fourth day of the first Test, a day-nighter, against West Indies at Dubai stadium yesterday:  |  |
| <b>Pakistan, first innings</b> 579-3 declared (Azhar Ali 302 not out, Sami Aslam 90, Babar Azam 69, Asad Shafiq 67)   | Shah 43-15-121-5, Riaz 23.3-3-65-2 (8nb, 1w), Nawaz 16.5-5-38-2 (1nb), Ali 2.3-1-6-0 |
| <b>Pakistan 2nd innings</b>   |  |
| Sami Aslam c Blackwood b Bishoo   | 44   |
| Azhar Ali lbw b Gabriel   | 2  |
| Asad Shafiq lbw b Bishoo  | 5  |
| Babar Azam b Bishoo   | 21   |
| Misbah-ul-Haq b Bishoo  | 15   |
| Sarfraz Ahmed st Dowrich b Bishoo   | 15   |
| Mohammad Nawaz b Bishoo   | 0  |
| Wahab Riaz c Brathwaite b Bishoo  | 5  |
| Yasir Shah c and b Holder   | 2  |
| Sohail Khan not out   | 1  |
| Mohammad Amir b Bishoo  | 1  |
| Extras: (b10, nb2)  | 12   |
| Total: (all out; 31.5 overs)  | 123  |
| Fall of wickets: 1-13 (Ali), 2-20 (Shafiq), 3-77 (Azam), 4-93 (Aslam), 5-112 (Misbah), 6-112 (Nawaz), 7-118 (Riaz), 8-121 (Shah), 9-121 (Ahmed) Bowling: Gabriel 7-1-23-1 (1nb), Cummins 7-0-29-0 (1nb), Bishoo 13.5-1-49-8, Holder 4-0-12-1. |  |
| <b>West Indies 1st innings (overnight 315-6)</b>  |  |
| K. Brathwaite lbw b Shah  | 32   |
| L. Johnson lbw b Shah   | 15   |
| D. Bravo c Ali b Nawaz  | 87   |
| M. Samuels lbw b Sohail   | 76   |
| J. Blackwood c Ahmed b Riaz   | 37   |
| R. Chase c Azam b Riaz  | 6  |
| S. Dowrich lbw b Shah   | 32   |
| J. Holder b Shah  | 20   |
| D. Bishoo b Nawaz   | 17   |
| M. Cummins b Shah   | 0  |
| S. Gabriel not out  | 6  |
| Extras: (b9, lb8, nb11, w1)   | 29   |
| Total: (all out; 123.5 overs)   | 357  |
| Fall of wickets: 1-42 (Johnson), 2-69 (Brathwaite), 3-182 (Samuels), 4-259 (Blackwood), 5-266 (Chase), 6-300 (Bravo), 7-325 (Dowrich), 8-346 (Holder), 9-351 (Cummins) Bowling: Amir 22-6-54-0 (2nb), Sohail 16-2-56-1,                       |  |



**DUBAI:** Pakistani batsman Mohammad Amir (L) is bowled out by West Indies spinner Devendra Bishoo on the fourth day of the first day-night Test between Pakistan and the West Indies at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in the Gulf Emirate yesterday. — AFP

## YASIR BECOMES JOINT SECOND FASTEST TO TAKE 100 WICKETS

**DUBAI:** Pakistan's leg-spinner Yasir Shah became the second joint-fastest bowler to take 100 wickets in all Test cricket on the fourth day of the first day-night match against West Indies in Dubai yesterday. The 30-year-old dismissed West Indian tail-ender Miguel Cummins to complete 100 wickets in his 17th Test match, the fastest Pakistani to the milestone. England's right-arm medium-pacer George Lohmann reached 100 Test wickets in just 16 Test matches in 1896 which still is a world record in Test

cricket's 140-year-old history. Australia's Charlie Turner and Clarrie Grimmett and England's Sydney Barnes each got to the milestone in their 17th Test.

Shah, who made his debut at the same venue in October 2014, bettered off-spinner Saeed Ajmal who held the Pakistani record of fastest to 100 Tests wickets in 19 matches. Shah finished with 5-121 in the first Test as West Indies were dismissed for 357 in their first innings in reply to Pakistan's big 579-3 declared. — AFP



# ICARDI RISKS CAPTAINCY OVER FAN SLURS: ZANETTI

**MILAN:** Inter Milan striker Mauro Icardi could be stripped of the club captaincy after incensing the club's hardline fan base with comments in a recently published autobiography.

"We will take measures," Inter's vice-president and legendary former captain Javier Zanetti said amid a growing row surrounding the Argentina international yesterday.

"The fans are crucial for us and everyone should respect them," Icardi may be Inter's main source of goals, but comments in his recently-published biography

'Sempre Avanti, la mia storia segreta' (Forever onwards, my secret story) prompted the 'ultra' fans who usually occupy the Curva Nord (North End) of the club's shared San Siro ground to demand he be stripped of the captaincy.

It followed Icardi's description in his autobiography of a post-match altercation with 'ultra' supporters following a 3-1 defeat at Sassuolo in February 2015.

Icardi claims in the account he openly challenged ultra supporters after they snatched the shirt and shorts he had offered to a young Inter supporter and

threw them back in his face.

Icardi said he was "hailed a hero" in the dressing room after the incident, claiming he had reminded the irate fans that he had "grown up in one of the areas of South America with the biggest crime rates."

Icardi added: "How many are there (fans)? Fifty? One hundred? Two hundred? Ok, I will bring over 100 criminals from Argentina and they will kill them on the spot. Then we'll see."

Curva Nord fans dismissed Icardi's account of the events and were so incensed they issued a statement to the

Italian media yesterday morning. "Why such wretched fiction? We are shocked, this book is ridiculous and with regard to that incident it's all lies," said the statement. "No more excuses. We considered him young, a bit daft (like many players), but deep down a decent lad. Instead, we have someone who should not be allowed to wear the Inter armband."

"Inter simply don't deserve this. For us, you are finished. TAKE THE ARMBAND OFF, YOU CLOWN."

Despite being Inter's star man, the Serie A giants could give in to fans' demands.

New Inter coach Frank De Boer recently reacted to Marcelo Brozovic's social media gaffe by sidelining the Croatia midfielder for several games. And Icardi could soon follow suit, according to Zanetti, a former Argentina international who played over 600 games for Inter. From 1999 to his retirement in 2014, Zanetti wore the black armband and came to be known as 'Il Capitano'. Zanetti added: "We cannot accept this kind of behaviour from an employee of our club. After this match we will talk things over and see what happens." — AFP

## ATHLETIC PRODUCE STIRRING COMEBACK TO WIN BASQUE DERBY

**BARCELONA:** Athletic Bilbao came from a goal down at halftime to produce a stirring fightback in the Basque derby and beat their old rivals Real Sociedad 3-2 yesterday.

David Zurutuza crashed in a volley from inside the area following a corner to put the visitors ahead in the 16th minute but Athletic responded superbly.

Only four inspired saves from Geronimo Rulli prevented an equaliser before halftime but a wonderful individual goal from Iker Muniain deservedly pulled Athletic level in the 51st minute.

The forward cut inside from the left to hook the ball into the far corner and within 10 minutes, Aritz Aduriz had put Athletic in charge with a cool chip over the stranded Rulli after a mix-up between the goalkeeper and defender Raul Navas. Then the veteran striker Aduriz pounced on more woe-defending to lay on the pass for Inaki Williams to knock in the third in the 72nd

minute. A well-worked set piece saw Sociedad defender Inigo Martinez head home in the 83rd minute to set up an exciting finish, but Athletic held firm to move up to fifth in La Liga. Earlier, Alaves were denied a third win of the season as a late missile from Roberto Rosales saw them draw 1-1 at home to Malaga in a feisty game that ended with each side having a player sent off.

Brazilian striker Deyverson had put Alaves in front in the eighth minute and had a goal ruled out for offside, correctly, in the 89th minute.

Alaves defender Theo Hernandez was given a straight red card a minute later for a dangerous challenge, while Malaga substitute Juanpi was shown a second yellow card for dissent in the 93rd. Valencia visit Sporting Gijon later yesterday in new coach Cesare Prandelli's first game in charge and Villarreal host Celta Vigo. — Reuters

## AUSTIN DOUBLE TAKES SAINTS INTO TOP EIGHT

|  |                    |          |
|--|--------------------|----------|
|  | <b>Southampton</b> | <b>3</b> |
|  | <b>Burnley</b>     | <b>1</b> |

**SOUTHAMPTON:** Charlie Austin scored twice as Southampton beat Burnley 3-1 at St Mary's yesterday to climb into the top eight of the Premier League.

The south coast club were in dominant form, with Nathan Redmond also on target before Sam Vokes pulled a goal back for the visitors late on. It was a fine way for the Saints to start a run of seven fixtures in 22 days, with their next game a Europa League clash against Italian giants Inter Milan.

Burnley kept the game goalless until the second half before the Saints scored three goals in 14 minutes after the break.

They might have been ahead earlier in the match but Austin's fifth-minute header was well-saved by Burnley goalkeeper Tom Heaton. Southampton's Dusan Tadic was also denied by Heaton when one-on-one with the keeper in the 31st minute.

Redmond and Austin also had chances in the first half but poor finishing kept the game goalless. Southampton's pressure, however, told in the second period with a quickfire three-goal burst.

In the 52nd minute, Tadic's corner was headed across goal by Virgil van Dijk and Austin, at the second attempt and amid some poor defending by the Claretts, scored from in front of goal.

On the hour, Southampton doubled

their lead courtesy of a fine goal from Redmond. Following another corner, he waited for the ball to arrive before striking a low finish beyond the reach of Heaton and into the bottom right corner.

Minutes later, Austin put the result beyond doubt with a penalty awarded after Burnley's Johann Berg Gudmundsson brought down Sam McQueen. The goal was the forward's seventh in six games.

Burnley managed a consolation goal 18 minutes from time when referee Mike Dean pointed to the penalty spot for a foul by Tadic on Ben Mee and Vokes scored as the Saints finally conceded for the first time in over 10 hours.

The Claretts' loss was their third in four games and left them just a point above the bottom three. — AFP

**Live** Matches on TV  
(Local Timings)

**ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE**  
Liverpool v Man United **22:00**  
beIN SPORTS 2 HD

**SPANISH LEAGUE**  
SD Eibar v Osasuna **21:45**  
beIN SPORTS 3 HD

**ITALIAN CALCIO LEAGUE**  
Citta di Palermo v Torino **21:45**  
beIN SPORTS 4 HD



**SOUTHAMPTON:** Southampton's Dutch defender Virgil van Dijk (R) heads the ball during the English Premier League football match between Southampton and Burnley at St Mary's Stadium in Southampton, southern England yesterday. — AFP



**MILAN:** Inter Milan's Cristian Ansaldi, left, challenges for the ball with Cagliari's Nicolò Barella during a Serie A soccer match between Inter Milan and Cagliari, at the San Siro stadium in Milan, Italy, yesterday. — AP

# ICARDI MISSES PENALTY AS INTER LOSES TO CAGLIARI

**MILAN:** Inter Milan captain Mauro Icardi can do no right, it seems, and yesterday added a missed penalty to his woes as his side was beaten 2-1 by Cagliari.

Icardi had had a fantastic start to the season, with six goals in seven matches, but angered the Inter ultras with comments in his autobiography, which the fans called "lies" in a lengthy statement. The Argentina forward attempted to placate the fans with a statement of his own on social media but he was jeered as he walked out ahead of the match, and was greeted by insulting banners about him in the San Siro.

Inter fans even cheered after Icardi sent his penalty woefully wide of the right post in the 26th minute after he had been pushed over by Bruno Alves. Joao Mario gave Inter the lead 10 minutes after halftime, finding Ivan Perisic and then racing into the box to collect the return pass. Cagliari goalkeeper Marco Storari saved his initial effort but Joao Mario tapped in the rebound. However, Federico Melchiorri leveled in the 71st and had a hand in the second, five minutes from time, as his deflected cross was turned in by Inter goalkeeper Samir Handanovic. Melchiorri has now scored two goals in his only two Serie A matches after a difficult few years that saw him undergo brain surgery and also return from a serious knee injury. Cagliari, which won the second division last season, moved above Inter into seventh spot.

### LAZIO 1 BOLOGNA 1

Lazio could have moved second in Serie A, instead it needed a controversial last-gasp penalty to rescue a point against Bologna. Bologna took the lead in the 10th minute when Simone Verdi whipped in a free kick from the right flank and Filip Helander stretched out a leg to poke it past Federico Marchetti at the far post.

Lazio, which also hit the woodwork, thought it had leveled in the 69th but goalline technology showed the ball had not crossed the line - sparing the blushes of Erick Pulgar, whose back-pass set up the chance. The capital club did level in the sixth minute of stoppage time when Ciro Immobile converted from the spot with the last kick of the game. However, television replays showed it was a harsh decision against Bologna defender Marios Oikonomou because Lazio defender Wallace appeared to dive.

Lazio moved third, above Napoli on goal difference, but could be overtaken by AC Milan or Chievo Verona, which play later.

### OTHER MATCHES

Bottom club Crotone appeared to be heading for its first ever Serie A win after on-loan forward Diego Falcinelli gave it a second-minute lead against his parent club Sassuolo. However, substitutes Stefano Sensi and Pietro Iemmello scored in the final seven minutes to pull out a 2-1 win. Both teams also hit the woodwork twice. Elsewhere, 10-man Genoa drew 0-0 against Empoli, as did Fiorentina against Atalanta. — AP

## MAHREZ FAVOURITE FOR AFRICAN AWARD

**JOHANNESBURG:** Hot favourite Riyad Mahrez of Algeria was among 30 nominees named Saturday for the 2016 African Player of the Year football award.

The winger, who is equally efficient at scoring and creating goals, was a key figure for sensational 2015-2016 English Premier League (EPL) title winners Leicester City. His efforts were acknowledged by fellow professionals in the most watched domestic football league in the world when they voted him EPL Players' Player of the Year.

Mahrez has been equally impressive for Algeria, who have been consistently among the top ranked African football nations for several years. So good has been his form on the right side of midfield that long-time Algerian football icon Sofiane Feghouli cannot always make the starting line-up for the Desert Foxes. It would be a shock if Mahrez, who joined Leicester two years ago from French outfit Le Havre, is not named African Player of the Year in Abuja on January 5.

The Algerian is one of three Leicester stars in the running for the top African football individual award-the others are compatriot and striker Islam Slimani and Nigeria winger Ahmed Musa. EPL footballers dominate the 30-star list with 12 included, three come from the Italian Serie A, two each from the Spanish La Liga and French Ligue 1 and one from the German Bundesliga.

CAF media, development and technical committee members, journalists and TV consultants and national coaches or national technical directors are involved in the selection process. The lone nominee from the Bundesliga, Gabon and Borussia Dortmund striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, was a controversial 2015 winner. Ivory Coast and Manchester City midfielder Yaya Toure, who was seeking a record-extending fifth consecutive award, publicly criticised the choice of the Gabon goal-poacher. Toure dismissed the outstanding form of Aubameyang for Dortmund in the Bundesliga and the Europa League, saying 2015 Africa Cup of Nations performances should have been prioritised.

He was part of the Ivory Coast team that won the African showpiece for the first

time in 23 years, ending a decade of underachievement by a self-styled 'golden generation'. Toure has been sidelined amid a war of words between his agent and new Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola and was not nominated. Three Ivorians made the list-veteran winger Gervinho, centre-back Eric Bailly and controversial Paris Saint-Germain right-back Serge Aurier. The defender is being investigated by world body FIFA for making a throat-slitting gesture after creating a goal for Ivory Coast in a World Cup victory over Mali last weekend. But Mali coach Alain Giresse has hailed Aurier, saying he "saved the life" of opponent Moussa Doumbia by preventing him swallowing his tongue after being knocked unconscious.

Tanzania striker Mbwana Samatta, winner of the 2015 Africa-based Player of the Year award, is not among the nominees for that category as he now plays in Belgium. Among those who could succeed him are Uganda goalkeeper Dennis Onyango and Zimbabwe striker Khama Billiat from CAF Champions League finalists Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa. — AFP



Riyad Mahrez



## Sports

Classy Sagan  
retains  
world road race titleIcardi misses  
penalty as Inter  
loses to Cagliari

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MUNSTER COACH FOLEY DIES, TRIBUTES POUR IN Page 16



MIDDLESBROUGH: Watford's French midfielder Etienne Capoue vies with Middlesbrough's Uruguayan midfielder Gaston Ramirez (R) during the English Premier League football match between Middlesbrough and Watford at Riverside Stadium in Middlesbrough, north east England yesterday. — AFP

## HOLEBAS SEES WATFORD TO BORO WIN

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
|  | Middlesbrough 0 |
|  | Watford 1       |

MIDDLESBROUGH: Jose Holebas's powerful strike saw Watford to a 1-0 win away to Middlesbrough in the Premier League yesterday.

Victory saw Watford climb to ninth in the table but the result condemned northeast side Middlesbrough to a fourth defeat in five league matches.

Greece international Holebas's goal was a rare highlight in a largely uninspiring contest where referee Roger East turned down several penalty appeals of

varying merit at the Riverside Stadium.

"I'm very satisfied because we won an away game in such a difficult stadium," Watford manager Walter Mazzari told the BBC. "I'm mainly (satisfied) with the character of the team but I'm less satisfied on the overall performance."

He added: "In the first half we were allowing too much on the right side and in the second half we managed to make some modifications and stopped them attacking on the right side and we're happy about this."

"I'm happy. It's going very well. We could've had one or two points more at this stage. We've been playing all the games well with the exception of Burnley away."

Disappointed Boro boss Aitor Karanka added: "We played the first 35 minutes really good and I told them at half-time we couldn't play the way they were playing in the last 10-15 minutes. The second half we

couldn't play. "Had we scored the chances we created at the beginning of the game maybe we'd have won the game. "When they scored it was impossible to play. They're really experienced players. We need to learn and keep going. The only way we know how to play is the way we played the first 35 minutes."

Middlesbrough had the greater share of possession in the first half but rarely threatened the Hornets' goal. Stewart Downing fired a third-minute half-volley over the crossbar and Gaston Ramirez dragged a shot wide.

Middlesbrough's Alvaro Negredo had a penalty appeal rejected as he went down under the combined challenge of Younes Kaboul and Nordin Amrabat, who was fortunate to escape sanction for grabbing his opponent's shirt.

Moments later, Boro had a far less convincing penalty shout when Downing headed against Amrabat's arm

from point-blank range before firing the rebound wide of goal. Boro defender Ben Gibson tried his luck with a 35-yard shot but the match was still goalless come half-time. The home side appealed unsuccessfully for a penalty early in the second half when Negredo went to ground following a challenge by Holebas.

At the other end of the pitch, Holebas gave Watford the lead in some style when, having latched onto Marten de Roon's clearance, he smashed a fierce shot high into the top corner and beyond stunned goalkeeper Victor Valdes.

Ramirez had another penalty appeal turned down after falling to the turf following a clash with Miguel Britos eight minutes later, and in the closing stages it was Watford who almost grabbed the game's second goal when a shot from Isaac Success was saved by Valdes. — AFP

## WOZNIACKI BACK IN TOP 20 WITH HK OPEN WIN

HONG KONG: Former world number one Caroline Wozniacki beat unseeded French challenger Kristina Mladenovic to take the Hong Kong Open yesterday after a battle of wills that lasted almost three hours. Wozniacki of Denmark, seeded fifth in the competition, stormed the first set 6-1 with Mladenovic visibly despondent and limping slightly. The 23-year-old Frenchwoman emerged in the second set with her right leg bandaged and with a renewed focus, forcing Wozniacki to dive around the court with a combination of drop shots and powerful drives. The set went to 6-6, with Mladenovic sealing the tie-break 7-4 to go even. Spectators around the packed stadium waved paper fans constantly on a hot and humid afternoon, with temperatures at 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit).

Dressed all in green, a determined Wozniacki, 26, finally sealed victory in the third set. A tired Mladenovic was ultimately unable to match the Dane's power and consistency. Frequently bending to lean on her racquet between points, the Frenchwoman was in tears as she desperately tried to fight back after Wozniacki took a 5-0 lead.

Wozniacki eventually took the final set 6-2. "I'm really pleased with my week this week—there was some good tennis and long battles," Wozniacki told reporters.

The 26-year-old Wozniacki, who will now move back into the world's top 20, has been in fine form, winning 19 of her last 22 matches. The Dane said the final

had been a mental battle, as it was unclear to her how badly Mladenovic was hurt. "It wasn't easy mentally because sometimes she would look like she couldn't play, and then she would run like Speedy Gonzalez—clearly it's not that bad if you can run side to side. There was definitely a mental game. I just happened to win it," she said.

Wozniacki herself has battled back from injury and has had a resurgent run of form in the past two months, reaching the semi-finals of the US Open and winning the Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo.

She is still without a Grand Slam title to her name and said it was her ambition to win one.

"It's the only thing missing from my CV," she said. Wozniacki had downed seventh seed Jelena Jankovic, also a former world number one, to book her finals place.

Mladenovic had been aiming for her first WTA title—it was the third time she had made a singles competition final only to lose. She told reporters she had struggled with exhaustion and a hamstring injury during the final after a week of long matches, as well as suffering in the heat and humidity.

"I was not coming out fresh and when you play someone like Caroline, who is running down every point, you have to fight," she said, adding that she was sad and frustrated during the match.

"It was very difficult. I have no idea how I made it to three sets." — AFP



SHANGHAI: Andy Murray of Britain holds his trophy after winning his men's singles finals match against Roberto Bautista Agut of Spain at the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament in Shanghai yesterday. — AFP

## SHANGHAI KNIGHT MURRAY GALLOPS TO TOP RANKING

SHANGHAI: Andy Murray demolished Roberto Bautista to win the Shanghai Masters without dropping a set as he edged closer to Novak Djokovic's world number one ranking yesterday. The Wimbledon and Olympic champion won seven points in a row in the first-set tie-break and he broke Bautista three times in the second to win his third Shanghai title 7-6 (7/1), 6-1.

The rampant Murray is now on a 10-match winning streak in which he has won 20 straight sets, including last week's similarly impressive victory at the China Open in Beijing. But most importantly, the world number two slashes the gap to just 915 points from the out-of-sorts Djokovic, who was shocked by Spain's Bautista in the semis.

"I believe I can get there. I definitely believe I can get there. These last few months have proved that to me," Murray said of the top ranking. "I may never get another chance to be number one, so I'll give it my best shot to do that while I have the opportunity."

Nineteenth-ranked Bautista, who was playing his first Masters final, said it was clear how much Murray wanted to secure the top spot. "I think I can see it in his eyes. He's really focused on getting number one," the Spaniard said.

Murray's first serve of the match was a thumping ace and he took a grip on the opening set at 3-3 when Bautista netted a backhand to lose the first break point of the match. But Murray, serving at 5-4, lost

three set points and got in a tangle on a drop shot to hand Bautista his first break point, which he converted with a strong forehand. The Briton slammed three consecutive aces for 6-6 and he dominated the tie-break, reeling off seven points in a row and taking the set with a sizzling backhand return.

A string of Bautista errors put Murray a break up at the start of set two, but to his obvious frustration he gave it straight back with a miscued forehand. But Bautista twice double-faulted to go a break down before handing over yet another break, making victory a formality for Murray who tucked away his first championship point.

With his 41st tournament victory and sixth this year, Murray joins Stefan Edberg in joint 15th place on the list of Open-era title winners. Of greater concern will be his place in the rankings as he draws ever closer to the imploding Djokovic, who has hit a rocky patch after a period of sustained dominance.

"I will try and finish this year as strong as I can. And next year if the opportunity is there to reach number one, then I want to try and take it," Murray said.

"But it's not going to be easy because Novak plays great tennis indoors, and also his record at the beginning of the year is phenomenal in Australia and Indian Wells, Miami. "It's going to be a tough thing to achieve that. I'm aware of that. I'm close-ish right now, but it's going to be really tough still." — AFP



# Kuwait Times 55th Anniversary BUSINESS

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## ACCOUNTING SHAKE-UP PRESENTS CHALLENGE FOR SAUDI COMPANIES

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**BENAULIM, India:** (Left to right) South African President Jacob Zuma, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Brazilian President Michel Temer pose during the BRICS summit in Goa yesterday. — AFP

# BRICS VOWS TO SPEED UP GLOBAL RECOVERY

### XI WARNS OF GLOBALIZATION BACKLASH AS MODI URGES DEEPER BONDS

**BENAULIM, India:** The leaders of five of the world's rising powers ended a two-day summit yesterday with a pledge to speed global economic recovery as well as fight terrorism and extremism, forces that they said pose a threat to regional and international peace and stability. Meeting in the beach resort state of Goa in southwestern India, the five countries known collectively as BRICS - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - adopted a final declaration endorsing their commitment to act against the financing of terror groups and their supplies of weapons and other equipment. Presidents Xi Jinping of China, Vladimir Putin of Russia, Michel Temer of Brazil and Jacob Zuma of South Africa, and their host, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, also vowed in the declaration to tackle the global economic slowdown and reform the world's financial architecture.

The group, which represents nearly half of the world's population and a quarter of its economy, with a combined annual GDP of \$16.6 trillion, renewed its commitment to speed global recovery by investing in infrastructure projects and the manufacturing sector. The BRICS leaders adopted three agreements, including two to set up separate research networks for developing agriculture and railways. They agreed to crack down on economic crime by fighting tax evasion, money laundering and corruption.

"We have agreed to make the BRICS a strong voice on emerging regional and global issues," Modi told reporters.

The BRICS leaders stressed the need to strike a balance between economic development and environmental protection, and hailed the early entry into force of the Paris climate agreement.

#### Credit rating agency

The BRICS nations agreed to fast-track the setting up of their own credit-rating agency to better cater to developing economies, rivalling existing ones based in Western countries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said they agreed to move ahead on the ratings agency, although there was no timetable announced for its formation.

"To further bridge the gap in the global financial architecture, we agreed to fast-track the setting up of the BRICS credit rating agency," Modi said. "In the past year, BRICS have played an active role in shaping the global agenda for change and development," he said. The agency comes amid accusations from within the bloc that the three traditional ones - Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings - are all Western-based and favor those economies. Plans for the agency follow the establishment of a BRICS bank 12 months ago with an initial capital of \$100 billion, which has been seen as a challenge to Western-based institutions.

The "New Development Bank" has so far granted total loans of \$900 million focused on renewable energy projects to the BRICS member nations of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. "NDB has kept clean energy and

green and sustainable infrastructure as its priority," Modi said. Bank president KV Kamath, a former Indian private banker, has said in recent days that a new ratings agency would be able to help developing nations, according to the Press Trust of India news agency.

BRICS was formed in 2011 with the aim of using members' growing economic and political influence to challenge Western hegemony. The nations, with a joint estimated GDP of \$16 trillion, set up their own bank in parallel to the Washington-based International Monetary Fund and World Bank and hold summits rivalling the G7 forum. But the countries, accounting for 53 percent of world population, have been hit by falling global demand and lower commodity prices, while several have also been mired in corruption scandals.

"In a world of new security challenges and continuing economic uncertainties, BRICS stands as a beacon of peace, potential and promise," Modi said. The thrust of the declaration reflected the flagging economic fortunes of the BRICS countries in recent years due to the global slowdown.

In Russia, the decline in global oil and commodity prices coupled with biting Western sanctions have dealt a blow to the economy. The Chinese economy has slowed to its slowest pace in 25 years, although its 7 percent growth rate still places it among the fastest-growing global economies.

South Africa remains caught in severe economic turmoil, with the country's credit rating at risk of being downgraded to junk by the end

of the year. Brazil is only just emerging from months of the worst economic recession it has seen since the 1930s, a situation that was further worsened by recent political turmoil.

India, although the fastest-growing country in the world at 7.5 percent annually, is grappling with widespread poverty and the challenge of strikes against militants in Kashmir.

#### Xi warning

Chinese President Xi Jinping said yesterday a rising tide of protectionism and anti-globalization was endangering the world economy's still fragile recovery as BRICS leaders vowed to forge closer business and trade ties.

Both Xi and Modi said the group must stick together, insisting there was much to remain positive about even though its members have been beset by domestic woes and problems sparked by the 2008 financial crisis.

"At present the deep-seated impact of the international financial crisis is still unfolding. The global economy is still going through a treacherous recovery and deep adjustments," Xi said. The Chinese president said "deep-seated imbalances that triggered the financial crisis" were far from being resolved. "Some countries are getting more inward-looking in their policies. Protectionism is rising and forces against globalization are posing an emerging risk," he added.

While Xi did not single anyone out, Republican candidate Donald Trump has threatened to erect trade barriers to Chinese products if elected US president. Britain's vote

to leave the European Union has been interpreted partly as a backlash against globalization. While China's economy has been running out of steam of late-although it is still the world's second largest-India is now the fastest-growing major economy and its GDP is expected to increase 7.6 percent in 2016-17.

#### Deeper bonds

Modi said it was vital the BRICS nations increased cooperation by dismantling trade barriers and developing infrastructure. "I think I speak for all when I say that through a common vision and collective action, we will create and sustain deeper bonds among BRICS nations, develop our economies and secure our societies," he said. "While our achievements have been substantial, we need to sustain the positive direction and strong momentum of intra-BRICS engagement."

Xi said BRICS countries had much to be proud of and had contributed to more than 50 percent of global growth in the last decade. "The past decade has seen BRICS partnership expanding with win-win results," he said. "We need to deepen our partnership: we BRICS countries are good friends, brothers and partners that treat each other with sincerity."

Russian President Vladimir Putin meanwhile called for closer cooperation in areas such as e-commerce and space exploration. "We look forward to translating into reality the idea of a BRICS Credit Rating Agency," he said, without giving details of the much-trailed agency or timeline for its establishment. — Agencies

## BOURSA KUWAIT NEEDS MAJOR DEALS TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE

**KUWAIT:** The Bursa Kuwait, formerly Kuwait Stock Exchange, is in a dire need for big deals to restore confidence to the market amid eroding confidence, two Kuwaiti economists said yesterday. Speaking to KUNA, they said that the bourse faced several problems that lead to a reluctance of market makers. This affected negatively the confidence of dealers and the deals do not return the needed incentives to the market, they added.

The Bursa Kuwait has been facing a continued retreat in terms of value and deals since the beginning of this year, Salah Al-Sultan, adviser at Arzak Capital Investment Company, said. He added that transactions of Kuwait Food Company (Americana) helped the market regain some confidence. The bourse depends mainly on individuals not on institutional investment, he noted. He called on the concerned bodies to discuss and address the causes leading to the drop in general performance in order to revive the economy.

Meanwhile, Chairman and CEO of Al-Riyada Finance and Investment Co Mohannad Al-Sanea said the bourse is thirsty for such bargains to give confidence to dealers. There are a number of operating companies which have many attractive investment activities internally and

externally, he added. Earlier in the day, benchmark of Bursa Kuwait ended trading in the red zone. The price index was down 18.85 points to stand at 5,309 points, the weighted index was also down 1.42 points and the KXS 15 index fell by 1.22 points. Value of trade was at KD 5 million while the volume was 53.9 million shares done through 1,582 deals.

#### Stocks fall

Meanwhile, the performance of banking shares weighed on Saudi Arabia's market index yesterday after the largest listed bank reported profits below analysts' expectations, while indexes for other markets in the region also fell. Riyadh's index fell 1.1 percent as National Commercial Bank (NCB) tumbled 5.6 percent after reporting a third-quarter net profit of 1.96 billion riyals (\$523 million), down 1.6 percent from the same period of 2015. Three analysts had on average forecast a quarterly profit of 2.31 billion riyals. NCB, like most other Saudi banks that have already reported quarterly results, cited higher costs, including a rise in impairments on financings and investments. The bank is a key lender to Saudi Arabia's troubled construction sector. — Agencies

## SAUDI OGER SEEKING BUYERS FOR \$1BN ARAB BANK STAKE

**DUBAI:** Saudi Oger has begun talks with potential buyers for its 20.93 percent stake in Arab Bank in a deal that could raise about \$1 billion for the embattled construction giant, sources aware of the matter told Reuters. Oger was one of two large Saudi contractors charged with implementing the kingdom's grand infrastructure plans before the fall in oil prices and consequent state spending cuts left the company facing a multibillion-dollar debt restructuring to stave off collapse.

A small number of potential buyers from Saudi Arabia and the wider Middle East have started negotiations, five sources said on condition of anonymity because the information had not been made public. A spokesman for Saudi Oger, which is owned by the family of former Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri, did not respond to requests for comment. Hariri's political offices in Beirut said it was a matter on which only Saudi Oger could comment.

Among the interested parties vying for the Arab Bank stake is Saudi Arabia's Al-Hokair family, two Gulf-based sources said. The family is best known for its Fawaz Al-Hokair fashion retail business, the Middle Eastern franchisee for brands including Zara and Banana Republic, but also has interests in real estate and hospitality, as well as

finance and investments through its FAS Capital arm.

Managing Director Abdulmagid Al-Hokair did not respond immediately to calls and a text message. One possible buyer has contacted banks about raising between \$700 million and \$1 billion to finance a bid, said one of the Gulf sources and two other sources. They declined to name the potential bidder. A spokesman for Arab Bank, which has operations across the Middle East and a total of 600 branches on five continents, did not respond immediately to a request for comment.

#### DISTRESSED SELLER

Oger's stake is the largest single holding and would be worth about 815.4 million dinars (\$1.15 billion) at Thursday's closing price, Reuters calculations show, though the second Gulf-based source said the final price is expected to be lower because of Oger's status as a distressed seller. The proceeds would be a "drop in the ocean" in relation to Oger's debts, the fifth source said, though they could cover a \$1.03 billion loan with regional and international banks that is due to mature in February. Oger owes about 15 billion riyals (\$4 billion) to banks, plus billions more to contractors, suppliers and employees, sources told Reuters last month. — Reuters



# AL-BABTAIN LAUNCHES HIGH-END 2017 RENAULT TALISMAN

**KUWAIT:** Abdulmohsen Abdulaziz Al-Babtain Co, the authorized dealer of Renault cars in the State of Kuwait, is proud to announce the launch of its all-new Renault TALISMAN at its Renault Showroom in Al-Rai.

The TALISMAN provides a distinctive blend of comfort and delight to the driver, with electronic damper control for outstanding on-road dynamics that combine maneuverability, performance and ease. It is for those looking for a luxurious and practical car, with a class-leading engine TCe 190 turbocharged direct-injection petrol engine, which ensures driving enjoyment and efficiency, with 190

hp on tap, fuel consumption and CO2 emissions of as low as 17 km/litre and 139 g/km respectively. A normally aspirated engine is available as well.

Encapsulating the fluidic and emotional aspect of designs found in the brand's smaller offerings, the TALISMAN features protruding contours in the bodywork and dashes of chrome to lend it a superior presence. The narrow taillights slice their way onto the trunk lid and not only embellish the derriere, but also give prominence to the Renault insignia.

Furthermore, the TALISMAN offers a spacious cabin and

a boot of a capacity of 608dm<sup>3</sup> (VDA) combined with sleek exterior lines. With generous front seats with meticulously finished upholstery and the class's most comprehensive list of functions (air conditioned, massaging, heated, ventilated). Moreover, the vehicle contains an 8.7-inch touch screen display, BOSE surround sound with 13 speakers, a color head-up display, a cowl 7-inch digital instrument display, easy hands-free trunk access, smart hands-free entry system and a comprehensive range of driver aids including hands-free parking and blind spot warning.

Thanks to MULTI-SENSE technology, which matches the

driver's mood of the moment. The TALISMAN features electronic damper control for outstanding on-road dynamics that combine manoeuvrability, performance and comfort.

New Renault Talisman comes with a 10 years warranty or 500,000 KM and free registration and third party insurance. Al-Babtain is committed to continuously offer high vehicle service standards in Kuwait and the best after-sale services to its customers. Renault recommends that regular servicing and general vehicle maintenance is integral to reliability, roadworthiness and safety of the vehicle, driver, his/her family and the society at large.



## ACCOUNTING SHAKE-UP PRESENTS CHALLENGE FOR SAUDI COMPANIES

### LISTED SAUDI FIRMS TO ADOPT IFRS BY 2017

**DUBAI:** Saudi Arabian companies already grappling with the effects of low oil prices and government austerity measures face a fresh challenge from new accounting standards that could provide windfall gains for some but saddle others with higher charges. As part of efforts to bring the Saudi stock market into the global investing mainstream, the Capital Market Authority has told the nation's 175 listed companies to adopt International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) from the start of 2017. Most Saudi companies have used local accounting standards, known as SOCPA, for decades and a shift to IFRS, which has been replacing national standards around the world with the exception of the United States, is a complex task and a source of uncertainty for investors.

"It seems like there will be a lot of work to be done, both by the companies and the auditors," said Riyadh Capital equity analyst Santhosh Balakrishnan. "There is a lack of

clarity on how this will impact earnings per share, especially for companies with more complex structures and international affiliates." It is clear, however, that IFRS could be a boon for some businesses, allowing them to revalue assets that have been on their books for years. SOCPA requires assets to be valued at cost when they are acquired with no subsequent revaluation. IFRS, however, requires impairments to be assessed quarterly, with an annual valuation on the residual value of fixed assets.

"Revaluation could increase asset values of most companies because of their current cost-based treatment," Al Rajhi Capital said in a research note. Values of some assets could increase significantly, serving to reduce companies' reported leverage ratios, analysts have said.

#### WINNERS AND LOSERS

Major beneficiaries could include real estate-related businesses such as develop-

er Dar Al-Arkan, which had a 3.7 billion riyal (\$987 million) investment property valuation on its books at the end of last year. However, the situation is complicated by an impending tax on undeveloped urban land, which could make it more expensive to hold large land banks. Furthermore, the revaluation process itself could prove unpredictable, owing to a lack of liquid markets and of valuation expertise in some areas. Meanwhile, IFRS could be negative for some industrial companies that have to record higher depreciation charges for assets. For example, analysts think that cement companies with decades-old kilns could face higher depreciation expenses. Commodities-linked companies such as National Industrialization (Tasnee) could also be hurt. NCB Capital said the titanium dioxide producer could incur one-off charges because of the commodity's weaker prices this year. Most difficult to predict is the impact on the biggest and most com-

plex companies, such as petrochemicals and metals conglomerate Saudi Basic Industries (SABIC).

"SABIC has a more complicated corporate structure than other listed shares, so we believe the IFRS changes are a short-term concern," NCB Capital's Iyad Ghulam said. Only banks and insurers currently follow IFRS in Saudi Arabia, while a small number of listed companies-including telecoms group Etihad Etisalat (Mobily) — have partially converted.

Some companies are making the change early. SABIC, for instance, has said it expects to publish earnings in the IFRS format by the fourth quarter of this year. Others could miss the deadline for conversion as they contend with issues such as revenue recognition, cost structures and identification of employee benefit schemes, though the CMA has not said how it will deal with any stragglers. — Reuters

## News

in brief

#### Bank Dhofar ends talks on Bank Sohar merger

**DUBAI:** Oman's Bank Dhofar has ended merger negotiations with smaller rival Bank Sohar after the two sides were unable to reach agreement on certain issues related to the tie-up, it said in a bourse filing yesterday. "The board of Bank Dhofar has decided, after much deliberation, that it is in the best interests of shareholders to discontinue the negotiations on the proposed merger with Bank Sohar," the statement said, without elaborating. Oman's second-largest lender by assets and Bank Sohar have been exploring a possible merger for more than three years. In June, Bank Sohar said the duo had agreed on the share-swap ratio for the merger, following the completion of financial and legal due diligence in April.

#### Saudi's Alinma Bank Q3 net profit falls 16.8%

**DUBAI:** Saudi Arabia's Alinma Bank, the kingdom's ninth-largest bank by assets, reported a 16.8 percent fall in third-quarter net profit yesterday, according to a bourse statement. Net profit in the three months to Sept. 30 was 312 million riyals (\$83.2 million), compared with 375 million riyals in the same period last year. Average forecast of four analysts: 409.1 million riyals.

#### Iran to start bidding for oil, gas projects

**DUBAI:** Iran will begin taking applications today for an unspecified number of energy projects, the oil ministry's news agency SHANA reported yesterday, as the country moves to launch exploration and production contracts after the lifting of sanctions. State-run National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) said "reputable and eligible companies" should fill the applications for upstream oil and gas projects which will be made available on its website nioic.ir, SHANA said. NIOC signed the first oil output contract under the new, less restrictive Iran Petroleum Contract (IPC) model earlier in October with a firm identified by the United States as part of a conglomerate controlled by Iran's supreme leader.

#### Aluminium Bahrain closes \$1.5bn loan for expansion

**DUBAI:** Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) said yesterday it closed a \$1.5 billion loan with regional and international banks that will fund its Line 6 expansion project. Alba will become the world's largest single aluminium smelter complex, boosting its annual output by 540,000 tons to 1.5 million tons per year by adding a sixth "potline," used in producing the metal from raw materials such as bauxite. The loan has a lifespan of seven years, although repayments will start after three years to allow for construction work to take place, and carries pricing of 325 basis points over the London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor), according to a bourse statement. The loan is split between a \$882 million senior unsecured conventional facility and a senior sharia-compliant facility worth \$618 million, it added.

## ETISALAT MISR, VODAFONE EGYPT SIGN 4G DEALS

**CAIRO:** Vodafone Egypt and Etisalat Misr have signed license deals allowing them to operate fourth-generation (4G) mobile services in Egypt, the country's telecoms regulator said yesterday. Egypt is selling four 4G licenses as part of a long-awaited plan to reform the telecoms sector and to raise money for stretched government finances. The country's three existing mobile phone operators - Orange, Vodafone and Etisalat - initially all turned down the 4G licenses saying the amount of spectrum on offer was not sufficient to allow them to offer the service efficiently.

The regulator then announced that operators that paid for a license entirely in dollars would be given priority in buying additional spectrum. US dollars are scarce in Egypt due to a long-running economic crisis. Orange was first to sign the deal last week, paying \$484 million for the license. Vodafone Egypt agreed to pay \$335 million in a deal signed late on Saturday, the regulator said. Etisalat Misr, the Egyptian unit of Etisalat, also signed a deal late on Saturday, and will pay \$535.5 million. An official from Etisalat Misr said his firm would also receive 10 Megahertz of additional spectrum after the deal. Both Etisalat Misr and Vodafone also agreed on fixed line phone service licenses for \$11.26 million each, the regulator said. Telecom Egypt, the state's fixed-line monopoly, was the only company to take up the original offer, buying a 4G license in August for 7.08 billion Egyptian pounds (\$797 million) to enter the mobile market directly for the first time. — Reuters



**AHMEDABAD:** In this photograph taken on October 14, 2016, Indian shopkeepers arrange Indian made fire crackers ahead of Diwali "The Festival Of Lights" in Ahmedabad. Gujarat Chief minister, Vijay Rupani appealed to the people to adopt 'swadeshi' (Indian) and to avoid foreign products to help the country. — AFP

## EXCHANGE RATES

### AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

#### ASIAN COUNTRIES

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Japanese Yen      | 2.914   |
| Indian Rupees     | 4.556   |
| Pakistani Rupees  | 2.902   |
| Sri Lankan Rupees | 2.073   |
| Nepali Rupees     | 2.849   |
| Singapore Dollar  | 219.440 |
| Hongkong Dollar   | 39.129  |
| Bangladesh Taka   | 3.871   |
| Philippine Peso   | 6.285   |
| Thai Baht         | 8.631   |

#### GCC COUNTRIES

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Saudi Riyal    | 80.003  |
| Qatari Riyal   | 83.441  |
| ani Riyal      | 788.981 |
| Bahraini Dinar | 806.700 |
| UAE Dirham     | 82.702  |

#### ARAB COUNTRIES

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Egyptian Pound - Cash     | 26.300  |
| Egyptian Pound - Transfer | 34.577  |
| Yemen Riyal/for 1000      | 1.219   |
| Tunisian Dinar            | 136.760 |
| Jordanian Dinar           | 428.360 |
| Lebanese Lira/for 1000    | 2.024   |
| Syrian Lira               | 2.0165  |
| Morocco Dirham            | 31.396  |

#### EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| US Dollar Transfer | 303.600 |
| Euro               | 335.480 |
| Sterling Pound     | 372.210 |
| Canadian dollar    | 232.470 |
| Turkish lira       | 99.050  |

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Swiss Franc       | 309.160 |
| Australian Dollar | 233.770 |
| US Dollar Buying  | 302.400 |

#### GOLD

|         |         |
|---------|---------|
| 20 Gram | 253.940 |
| 10 Gram | 129.890 |
| 5 Gram  | 65.790  |

### DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

| Rate for Transfer     | Selling Rate |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| US Dollar             | 303.650      |
| Canadian Dollar       | 229.850      |
| Sterling Pound        | 373.960      |
| Euro                  | 336.130      |
| Swiss Frank           | 299.445      |
| Bahraini Dinar        | 802.725      |
| UAE Dirhams           | 82.900       |
| Qatari Riyals         | 84.115       |
| Saudi Riyals          | 81.695       |
| Jordanian Dinar       | 427.870      |
| Egyptian Pound        | 34.098       |
| Sri Lankan Rupees     | 2.069        |
| Indian Rupees         | 4.548        |
| Pakistani Rupees      | 2.898        |
| Bangladesh Taka       | 3.862        |
| Philippines Peso      | 6.240        |
| Cyprus pound          | 160.040      |
| Japanese Yen          | 3.920        |
| Syrian Pound          | 2.421        |
| Nepalese Rupees       | 3.842        |
| Malaysian Ringgit     | 73.928       |
| Chinese Yuan Renminbi | 45.540       |
| Thai Bhat             | 9.605        |
| Turkish Lira          | 99.731       |

## OIL MAJORS EXPERIMENT WITH TECHNOLOGY TO WEATHER CRISIS

**LONDON/OSLO:** Oil majors including Statoil, Shell and Chevron are experimenting with various technologies, from drones and drill design to data management, to drive down costs and weather a deep downturn.

Crude prices have more than halved since mid-2014, forcing companies to cut billions of dollars in costs. Determined to shield dividends and preserve the infrastructure that will allow them to compete and grow if the market recovers, they are increasingly looking to smarter tech and design to make savings. French oil and gas major Total said it was now using drones to carry out detailed inspections on some of its oil fields following a trial at one of its Elgin/Franklin platforms in the North Sea. Cyberhawk, the drone company that led the trial, said this kind of work was previously carried out by engineers who suspended themselves from ropes at dizzying heights. It said the manned inspection used to take seven separate two-week trips with a 12-man team that had to be flown in and accommodated on site.

The drones do the work in two days and at about a tenth of the cost,

according to the Britain-based firm's founder Malcolm Connolly, who said it had also worked with ExxonMobil, Shell, ConocoPhillips and BP.

Total declined to comment on how long the manned or drone inspections took, or specify how much money was saved. Statoil's giant Johan Sverdrup field, the largest North Sea oil find in three decades which is due to start production in 2019, is a leading industry case study for cutting costs in the era of cheap oil.

The Norwegian company has cut its development costs for the first stage of the project by a fifth compared with estimates given in early 2015, to 99 billion crowns (\$12.2 billion). The savings have largely been made by focusing on the most efficient technology and designs from the beginning, Statoil's head of technology Margaret Oeverum told Reuters in an interview.

Executives say the growing attention on technologies that have been around for some time shows how wasteful the global industry had been in the years before the downturn when - with crude at above \$100 a barrel delivering bumper profits - oil

companies' had little incentive to develop fields efficiently. For example, simply finding a more efficient route for the oil pipeline that would carry the crude from the Sverdrup field to the onshore refinery cut 1 billion crowns, Statoil said.

#### ROBOTS, FOAM

Statoil has also developed a drilling "template" that is acting as a guide for the first eight wells to be drilled at the field. It said it had reduced the overall drilling time by more than 50 days, saving about 150 million crowns per production well compared with what it would have cost with 2013 techniques. "By far the biggest driver (of savings) has been simplification," said Oeverum. "To think much simpler and start from the bottom, or the bare bone, and then rather add to that, instead of starting very big." The company could not give a figure for its group savings made from improved technology and design. But it said that, partly because of such innovations, projects set to start production by 2022 would be able to make a profit with an oil price at \$41 a barrel, down from \$70 in 2013. — Reuters





Mohammed Al Houssami, Regional Sales Director, Ford Middle East and Tim Zimmerman, Vice President, Alghanim Auto with the All-New Ford Edge



Crowd during the event

# FORD MIDDLE EAST AND ALGHANIM AUTO INTRODUCE THE ALL-NEW FORD EDGE

New model features a new sophisticated design, more technologies and safety features

The All-New Ford Edge was officially introduced in Kuwait, marking an important milestone in the newly founded partnership between Ford Middle East and Alghanim Auto. Available now at the new Alghanim Auto Ford showroom in Shuwaikh across from SIRBB Circuit, the All-New Ford Edge demonstrates what happens when a proven leader gets even better. In its 3rd generation, the new model features an impressive lineup of powertrains, class-leading technologies, higher levels of craftsmanship and greatly improved vehicle dynamics, guaranteed to impress drivers at first sight and test drive.

In the presence of the local media, social influencers, and an audience of evening goers, the launch event was held at Muroj and commenced with welcome speeches by Tim Zimmerman, Vice President, Alghanim Auto, and Mohammed Al Houssami, Regional Sales Director, Ford Middle East.

"Being with you tonight and introducing this new vehicle is part of Alghanim's ongoing commitment to bring to our customers the best vehicles with the best service the market has to offer. We are excited to bring our decades of experience in the automotive sector to our relationship with the Ford Motor Company," said Tim Zimmerman, Vice President, Alghanim Auto. In his opening remarks, Mohammed Al Houssami, Regional Sales Director, Ford Middle East, added: "I would like to thank everyone at Alghanim Auto for their serious commitment towards making all Ford products and services available for customers in Kuwait. As previously announced, Alghanim Auto is the only importer in Kuwait authorized by Ford Motor Company to sell new Ford vehicles and spare parts and provide aftersales services."

When launched in 2007, Edge helped to define the crossover sport utility vehicle segment. With a car-based design, Edge delivered better on-road comfort, fuel efficiency and overall driving dynamics than any truck-based SUV. It was proof a utility vehicle could meet the demanding needs of an everyday commuter. The Edge is All-New from wheels to roof, designed to reset the standard in the 5-passenger utility vehicle market. Based on Ford's successful, global midsize vehicle platform, Edge has been reimagined with a stronger, more athletic shape. It has been retooled to meet higher expectations for quality, and reengineered to add more features and technologies for a more rewarding driving experience.

"The original Edge was our first entry into the world of crossover utilities – a technologically advanced vehicle that was the perfect blend of sedan comfort and efficiency with SUV functionality," said Mohammed Al Houssami, Regional Sales Director, Ford Middle East.

"With the all-new model joining our popular SUV lineup, we are building on that success and on the emotional appeal of the vehicle by offering more of the technology our customers want in a package that meets the highest expectations for quality and craftsmanship. We are confident the design, sophistication and technologies of the new model will reinforce its leadership in this segment," Al Houssami added.

With the new Edge, Ford is also building on its utility vehicle leadership around the world. Last year, the company sold a record 1.2 million utility vehicles in markets across the globe – up 38 percent from 2012.

#### A host of powertrain choices

The All-New Edge is available in four trim levels. These include SE, SEL, Sport and – for the first time – a top-of-the-line Titanium series to meet market demand for more premium offerings. In terms of powertrains, there are three engine options, two of which are new power plants – a



Tim Zimmerman, Vice President, Alghanim Auto delivering his welcome speech to the audience.

standard twin-scroll 2.0-liter EcoBoost® four-cylinder with 253 PS and 378 Nm of torque, and the advanced 2.7-liter EcoBoost V6 on Sport models, delivering 340 PS and 542 Nm of torque. A normally aspirated 3.5-liter V6 engine is also available. All are equipped with a dual exhaust and a SelectShift® six-speed automatic transmission with paddle shifters.



Mohammed Al Houssami, Regional Sales Director, Ford Middle East presenting the All-New Edge.

The available all-wheel-drive system for the new Edge is full-time, on-demand and seamless – there are no knobs or switches to activate. An electronically controlled clutch, which can engage faster than a human can blink, transfers power between the front and rear axles, sending up to 100 percent of the power front or back.

#### New level of technology for better, safer driving

The All-New Edge will be a technology leader for Ford, with a suite of standard and available technologies designed to improve the driving experience and the level of occupant comfort. Technologies being offered for the first time include Ford's first ever application of adaptive steering, adaptive cruise control and collision warning with brake support, enhanced active park assist, front, rear, and side parking sensors and a 180-degree split front camera. Other key technology features include a hand-free lift gate, lane-keeping system, Blind Spot Information System BLIS®, and SYNC® with MyFord Touch®. The all-new Edge is also loaded with safety technologies, including active glove box knee airbag, AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™ and Curve Control, and inflatable rear safety belts.

"The new Edge is a rolling showcase of Ford's commitment to developing and offering the latest, most advanced technology in the business," said Tim Zimmerman, Vice President, Alghanim Auto. "We know our customers have embraced technology – from smartphones to wearable devices that track their health. Technology is part of their lives. We want to make it part of their driving experience as well."

#### Higher standards for quality and craftsmanship

Overall, the Edge represents a significant move forward in both material and visual quality. Throughout the vehicle, seams are tighter and more consistent, and the design has been executed in a way that reduces visual cut lines. The dashboard and center console have also been carefully designed and shaped to look like one thin, streamlined piece. A central 8-inch LCD touch screen supporting SYNC with MyFord Touch is now available on even more models.

Thanks in part to smart design work and next-generation seats that are thinner and more supportive, the interior of the new Edge is larger and more spacious. Adding further to the feeling of openness, Edge will continue to offer one of the largest sunroofs in the business – Ford's Panoramic Vista Roof, measuring 121cm front to back.

Legroom in the first and second row of the new Edge has increased by 4.8cm and 2.54cm, respectively. Headroom increases by 2.54cm throughout. Cargo capacity increases, with 39.2 cubic feet of space behind the second row of seats – 7.0 cubic feet more than the previous model. With the second row folded, space has increased by 4.5 cubic feet, to 73.4 cubic feet.

The new Edge is slightly longer and taller than its predecessor, and the wheelbase increases by 2.54cm, to 285cm.

#### Quieter than ever

The All-New Edge is not only more luxurious and comfortable, but also quieter.

In wind tunnel tests, Edge proved to be more than 1 sone quieter than its predecessor (a sone is a unit used to measure how loud a sound is perceived). This enhanced quietness is due to better sealing of the body, sound insulation improvements, and powertrains that are better isolated from the cabin and operate in a quieter manner. Acoustic windshield glass is standard on every model.

Ford Middle East encourages all customers interested in the All-New Edge to visit the Alghanim Auto New Vehicle Showroom in Shuwaikh Industrial Area, opposite from the Classical Car Museum and Sirbb Circuit. The showroom is open from 9 am to 8 pm every day except Fridays. For more information, customers can call the customer care center at 1898900; visit [www.fordalghanim.com](http://www.fordalghanim.com) or directly on social media channels at the handle @FordAlghanim.



The winners





# ECB RATE MEETING, CHINESE GDP IN FOCUS

## GLOBAL ECONOMY WEEKAHEAD

**FRANKFURT:** European Central Bank President Mario Draghi will have a tricky task next Thursday: give just enough clues about the bank's next move but not fuel undue expectations that could perturb markets. China will also be in spotlight in the coming week, reporting third quarter GDP figures on Wednesday, with data likely showing steady growth at 6.7 percent, as increased budget spending and a property boom offset stubbornly weak exports.

The ECB is facing weak growth and super-

low inflation, which means Draghi will have to persuade investors that the ECB is ready to pull the trigger on more stimulus at the same time that he preserves an escape route since the bank has already done unprecedented easing and its room to manoeuvre is limited.

The question to decide is whether to extend an 80-billion euro per month asset purchase program, due to run out in March, or start dialling back stimulus. It will be tough call as the hawks, including Germany, the bloc's biggest economy, oppose any further

easing. But a decision is seen as premature as the euro zone economy is humming along, giving Draghi sometime refine options.

A Reuter poll on Thursday found economists expecting no change in the coming week's meeting but a tweak of policy in December. On the macro front, industrial production is rebounding, confidence is holding up, government budgets may provide a touch more stimulus next year and oil prices are nudging higher, lifting up inflation prospects. Draghi has already said that inflation could

rise to ECB's target of close to 2 percent by late 2018 or early 2019, an unusually upbeat projection. Yet the bank has warned that underlying price pressures still lacked a convincing upward trend and its projections were predicated on "very substantial" monetary support, signals analysts said pointed to an extension of asset buys.

Technical constraints, such as low bond yields and asset scarcity, have also eased in recent weeks, giving the ECB time to adjust the asset buying scheme's parameters.

"Macro developments since the September meeting have not put the ECB in a hurry to present additional monetary actions," ING economist Carsten Brzeski said. "The possible lack of sufficient supply for bond purchases would only be a pressing issue at the beginning of next year," Brzeski said. "This means that addressing the scarcity problem will, strictly speaking, only be required if and when the ECB is definitely determined to extend quantitative easing beyond March 2017."

Still, markets expect asset buys to be extended by 6 months by and see even more cheap funding for the bank sector, decisions most likely to come in December.

### CHINA, CANADA

The Chinese government has been battling to get its economy back on steadier footing while gently pressing with painful and politically sensitive reforms to cut industrial overcapacity

and ballooning debt. Although growth has appeared to stabilize, economists warn that it has become too reliant on government spending and a housing market that is showing signs of overheating.

"The stabilization in industrial production growth, the uptick in the real estate market and monetary loosening could help reduce pressures on corporates and local governments," Christine Peltier at BNP Paribas said. "However, their solvency is not improving, their debt levels have become even more excessive over the last year and their capacity to service their debt remains weak," Peltier said. "In this context, credit risks in the financial sector continue to increase and the performance of commercial banks deteriorates gradually."

Debt is around 250 percent of gross domestic product and excessive credit growth is signalling an increasing risk of a banking crisis in the next three years, the Bank of International Settlements warned recently. Growth, falling to a 25-year low last year, is also expected to ease further as foreign trade shrinks and the excessive reliance on debt is bound to ease.

The Canadian economy meanwhile rebounded in the quarter, giving the Bank of Canada some space to hold policy steady on Wednesday. Still, with energy prices persistently low, global trade generally weak, and US demand relatively soft, Canadian rates are likely to stay low for even longer than earlier thought. —Reuters

| Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report |          |          |              |          |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|
| Sunday 16 October 2016             |          |          |              |          |          |
| Index                              | Change   | Closing  | Last Closing | High     | Low      |
| Price Index                        | ▼ -18.85 | 5,309.15 | 5,328.00     | 5,328.00 | 5,299.74 |
| Weighted Index                     | ▼ -1.42  | 345.21   | 346.63       | 346.94   | 344.00   |
| KSX 15                             | ▼ -1.22  | 802.56   | 803.78       | 805.00   | 797.41   |

| Volume     | Value (KWD) | Number of Trades |
|------------|-------------|------------------|
| 54,587,681 | 5,113,014   | 1,606            |

| Trades                    |       |       |                   |                  |            |                |                |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------|------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Security                  | High  | Low   | Volume            | Value (KD)       | Trades     | Last           | Change         |
| MARIN                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 92         | 0.0            | 0.0            |
| IKARUS                    | 28.0  | 25.5  | 284,271           | 7,607            | 16         | 26.5           | ▼ -1.5         |
| IPG                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 345            | ▼ -0.0         |
| NAPESCO                   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 780            | ▼ -0.0         |
| ENERGYH                   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 45.0           | ▼ -0.0         |
| GPI                       | 37.5  | 36.0  | 2,380,858         | 86,697           | 67         | 37.0           | ▲ 0.5          |
| ABAR                      | 89    | 89    | 9,108             | 811              | 1          | 89             | ▼ -1.0         |
| <b>Oil &amp; Gas</b>      |       |       | <b>2,654,237</b>  | <b>95,115</b>    | <b>84</b>  | <b>747.67</b>  | <b>▼ -0.48</b> |
| KFOUC                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 166            | ▼ -0.0         |
| BPCC                      | 455   | 450   | 139,344           | 63,267           | 10         | 450            | ▼ -10.0        |
| ALKOUT                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 600            | ▼ -0.0         |
| ALQURAIN                  | 196   | 194   | 101,088           | 19,746           | 7          | 194            | ▼ -2.0         |
| <b>Basic Materials</b>    |       |       | <b>240,432</b>    | <b>83,013</b>    | <b>17</b>  | <b>893.52</b>  | <b>▼ -7.49</b> |
| KCEM                      | 370   | 370   | 124,885           | 46,207           | 1          | 370            | ▼ -0.0         |
| REFRI                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 300            | ▼ -0.0         |
| CABLE                     | 370   | 365   | 49,502            | 18,068           | 3          | 370            | ▼ -5.0         |
| SHIP                      | 152   | 152   | 90                | 14               | 1          | 152            | ▼ -2.0         |
| PCEM                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 950            | ▼ -0.0         |
| PAPER                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 240            | ▼ -0.0         |
| MRC                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 66             | ▼ -0.0         |
| ACICO                     | 285   | 280   | 82,500            | 23,350           | 4          | 280            | ▼ -0.0         |
| GGMC                      | 350   | 350   | 305               | 107              | 1          | 350            | ▲ 25.0         |
| HCC                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 128            | ▼ -0.0         |
| KBMMC                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 190            | ▼ -0.0         |
| NICBM                     | 206   | 192   | 28,535            | 5,493            | 5          | 206            | ▲ 4.0          |
| EQUIPMENT                 | 44.0  | 42.5  | 363,850           | 15,749           | 29         | 42.5           | ▼ -1.5         |
| NCCI                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 90             | ▼ -0.0         |
| GYPSUM                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 102            | ▼ -0.0         |
| SALBOOKH                  | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 59             | ▼ -0.0         |
| AGLTY                     | 470   | 465   | 186,203           | 87,475           | 14         | 470            | ▼ -0.0         |
| EDU                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 192            | ▼ -0.0         |
| CLEANING                  | 39.0  | 38.0  | 307,250           | 11,676           | 10         | 39.0           | ▲ 1.0          |
| KGL                       | 46.5  | 45.0  | 175,600           | 7,921            | 5          | 46.0           | ▲ 1.0          |
| KPCP                      | 170   | 170   | 50                | 9                | 1          | 170            | ▼ -0.0         |
| HUMANSOFT                 | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 1,500          | ▼ -0.0         |
| NAFAIS                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 182            | ▼ -0.0         |
| SAFWAN                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 385            | ▼ -0.0         |
| GFC                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 30.5           | ▼ -0.0         |
| MAYADEEN                  | 29.0  | 28.0  | 770,857           | 21,946           | 14         | 28.5           | ▼ -0.0         |
| CGC                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 650            | ▼ -0.0         |
| MTCC                      | 53    | 51    | 119,150           | 6,102            | 11         | 51             | ▼ -2.0         |
| UPAC                      | 680   | 610   | 10,500            | 6,490            | 3          | 680            | ▲ 20.0         |
| ALAFCO                    | 214   | 214   | 103,959           | 22,247           | 5          | 214            | ▼ -0.0         |
| MUBARRAD                  | 51    | 51    | 55,000            | 2,805            | 8          | 51             | ▼ -0.0         |
| LOGISTICS                 | 72    | 72    | 813,384           | 58,564           | 26         | 72             | ▼ -0.0         |
| SCEM                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 82             | ▼ -0.0         |
| GCEM                      | 73    | 73    | 275,000           | 20,075           | 9          | 73             | ▼ -2.0         |
| QIC                       | 70    | 67    | 43,378            | 2,959            | 7          | 68             | ▼ -2.0         |
| RCWM                      | 79    | 79    | 475,701           | 37,580           | 11         | 79             | ▼ -0.0         |
| KOFC                      | 83    | 83    | 2,000             | 166              | 4          | 83             | ▼ -5.0         |
| SPEC                      | 77    | 75    | 73,500            | 5,515            | 9          | 77             | ▼ -3.0         |
| <b>Industrials</b>        |       |       | <b>4,061,199</b>  | <b>400,517</b>   | <b>181</b> | <b>1166.05</b> | <b>▼ -0.09</b> |
| KSH                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 138            | ▼ -0.0         |
| NSH                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 64             | ▼ -0.0         |
| PAPCO                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 96             | ▼ -0.0         |
| CATTL                     | 218   | 218   | 46                | 10               | 1          | 218            | ▼ -2.0         |
| DANAH                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 86             | ▼ -0.0         |
| POULT                     | 176   | 176   | 3,240             | 570              | 1          | 176            | ▼ -0.0         |
| FOOD                      | 2,600 | 2,580 | 616,875           | 1,601,878        | 44         | 2,580          | ▼ -20.0        |
| <b>Consumer Goods</b>     |       |       | <b>620,161</b>    | <b>1,602,458</b> | <b>46</b>  | <b>1111.29</b> | <b>▼ -3.45</b> |
| MHC                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 200            | ▼ -0.0         |
| ATC                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 920            | ▼ -0.0         |
| YIACO                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 198            | ▼ -0.0         |
| <b>Health Care</b>        |       |       | <b>0</b>          | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>   | <b>1051.00</b> | <b>▼ -0.00</b> |
| KCIN                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 950            | ▼ -0.0         |
| KHOT                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 300            | ▼ -0.0         |
| SULTAN                    | 51    | 50    | 60,555            | 3,033            | 7          | 50             | ▼ -4           |
| CABLETV                   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 31.0           | ▼ -0.0         |
| EYAS                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 385            | ▼ -0.0         |
| OUFAH                     | 158   | 158   | 250               | 40               | 1          | 158            | ▼ -10          |
| OUFAHUEL                  | 110   | 110   | 92,333            | 10,157           | 16         | 110            | ▼ -0.0         |
| MUNTAAZAHAT               | 76    | 76    | 9,000             | 684              | 2          | 76             | ▼ -0.0         |
| JAZEERA                   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 840            | ▼ -0.0         |
| SOOR                      | 110   | 108   | 28,592            | 3,132            | 11         | 108            | ▼ -2           |
| FUTUREKID                 | 97    | 97    | 10                | 1                | 1          | 97             | ▲ 2            |
| ALRAI                     | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 142            | ▼ -0.0         |
| ZMAH                      | 39.5  | 38.5  | 1,426,888         | 55,656           | 14         | 39.0           | ▼ -0.0         |
| UFIG                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 170            | ▼ -0.0         |
| Mezzan                    | 960   | 950   | 20,403            | 19,392           | 3          | 960            | ▼ -0.0         |
| <b>Consumer Services</b>  |       |       | <b>1,638,031</b>  | <b>92,094</b>    | <b>55</b>  | <b>904.96</b>  | <b>▼ -4.16</b> |
| ZAIN                      | 340   | 335   | 414,266           | 138,969          | 25         | 335            | ▼ -0.0         |
| OOREDOO                   | 1,120 | 1,100 | 3,356             | 3,750            | 4          | 1,100          | ▼ -20          |
| HITSTELEC                 | 36.5  | 34.0  | 18,614,326        | 656,041          | 238        | 34.5           | ▼ -0.0         |
| VIVA                      | 860   | 860   | 60,549            | 52,072           | 29         | 860            | ▼ -0.0         |
| <b>Telecommunications</b> |       |       | <b>19,092,497</b> | <b>850,832</b>   | <b>296</b> | <b>565.34</b>  | <b>▼ -1.83</b> |
| NBK                       | 580   | 570   | 51,639            | 29,540           | 15         | 580            | ▼ -0.0         |
| GBK                       | 230   | 228   | 265,624           | 60,807           | 8          | 228            | ▼ -2           |
| CBK                       | 390   | 390   | 10,000            | 3,900            | 1          | 390            | ▼ -0.0         |
| ABK                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 310            | ▼ -0.0         |
| ALMUTAHED                 | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 385            | ▼ -0.0         |
| KIB                       | 186   | 184   | 580,201           | 107,897          | 14         | 184            | ▼ -2           |
| BURG                      | 320   | 315   | 16,261            | 5,147            | 5          | 320            | ▼ -0.0         |
| KFIN                      | 465   | 460   | 151,236           | 69,788           | 17         | 465            | ▼ -0.0         |
| BOUBYAN                   | 385   | 380   | 99,211            | 37,716           | 14         | 385            | ▼ -0.0         |
| AUB                       | 192   | 190   | 273,500           | 52,505           | 4          | 190            | ▼ -4           |
| ITHMR                     | 34.0  | 32.0  | 1,517,900         | 49,057           | 28         | 32.0           | ▼ -2           |
| WARBABANK                 | 164   | 164   | 138,152           | 22,657           | 58         | 164            | ▼ -0.0         |
| <b>Banks</b>              |       |       | <b>3,103,724</b>  | <b>439,018</b>   | <b>164</b> | <b>773.78</b>  | <b>▼ -6.40</b> |
| KINS                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 238            | ▼ -0.0         |
| GINS                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 630            | ▼ -0.0         |
| AINS                      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 450            | ▼ -0.0         |
| WINS                      | 108   | 108   | 859               | 93               | 4          | 108            | ▲ 2.0          |
| KUWAITRE                  | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 184            | ▼ -0.0         |
| FTI                       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 37.0           | ▼ -0.0         |
| WETHAQ                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 29.5           | ▼ -0.0         |
| BKIKWT                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0                 | 0                | 0          | 355            | ▼ -0.0         |
| <b>Insurance</b>          |       |       | <b>859</b>        | <b>93</b>        | <b>4</b>   | <b>938.19</b>  | <b>▲ 2.25</b>  |

| Security  | High | Low  | Volume    | Value (KD) | Trades | Last | Change |
|-----------|------|------|-----------|------------|--------|------|--------|
| SOKOUK    | 29.0 | 28.0 | 640010    | 18,090     | 22     | 29.0 | ▼ -0.5 |
| KRE       | 49.5 | 49.0 | 788,229   | 39,003     | 29     | 49.0 | ▼ -1.0 |
| URC       | 91   | 91   | 1,146     | 104        | 2      | 91   | ▼ -4.0 |
| NRE       | 74   | 73   | 209,865   | 15,420     | 10     | 74   | ▼ -0.0 |
| SRE       | 365  | 365  | 30,000    | 10,950     | 1      | 365  | ▼ -0.0 |
| TAM       | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0         | 0          | 0      | 540  | ▼ -0.0 |
| AREEC     | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0         | 0          | 0      | 142  | ▼ -0.0 |
| MASSALEH  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0         | 0          | 0      | 40.5 | ▼ -0.0 |
| ARABREC   | 27.5 | 26.0 | 2,640,550 | 70,548     | 90     | 26.0 | ▼ -2.0 |
| ERESCO    | 40.0 | 39.0 | 332,500   | 13,085     | 15     | 39.5 | ▼ -0.5 |
| MABANEE   | 810  | 800  | 584,945   | 473,097    | 20     | 800  | ▼ -0.0 |
| INJAZZAT  | 69   | 68   | 50,000    | 3,410      | 3      | 68   | ▼ -1.0 |
| INVESTORS | 20.0 | 19.5 | 725,000   | 14,450     | 14     | 20.0 | ▼ -0.0 |
| IRC       | 24.0 | 24.0 | 99,916    | 2,398      | 3      | 24.0 | ▼ -1.0 |
| ALTUARIA  | 76   | 76   | 433,395   | 32,938     | 13     | 76   | ▼ -0.0 |
| SANAM     | 27.5 | 27.5 | 2,500     | 69         | 1      | 27.5 |        |



# IS A DECEMBER HIKE POSSIBLE?

## NBK MONEY MARKETS REPORT

The US Federal Reserve officials held off raising interest rates in September even though they said there was a reasonable argument for moving, according to the meeting minutes released October 12.

At their September 20 meeting, the Federal Open Market Committee voted 7-3 to leave interest rates unchanged. The minutes showed that several of those who supported the decision to wait on tightening policy, said the decision was a "close call" and several also indicated it would be appropriate to raise rates "relatively soon."

The wording emphasized that the case for an interest-rate hike had strengthened, but that the Fed policy committee had decided, for now, to wait for "further evidence" of continued progress toward full employment and faster inflation.

Following the minutes' release, investors continued to see about 60% chance of a rate increase in December, based on prices in federal funds futures contracts. As for November's meeting scheduled a week before the US presidential election, markets are pricing about 9 percent chance of a move. It seems the market believes the Fed is passing on November and concentrating on their December meeting for their last shot at hiking rates in 2016.

Following the release, the President of the New York Fed, William Dudley advocated for a hike saying "I think we're at a point where the economic expansion has plenty of room to run," and that "the best thing that could happen for the US economy is to grow at a moderate rate for the next five to ten years and the unemployment rate to stay around 5 percent or lower." That is the Fed's aim according to his statement.

On the currency side, the US dollar continued to be broadly supported against most currencies due to a variety of issues. Renewed Brexit fears, rate hike hopes and markets volatility pushed the Dollar Index to a seven-month high at 98.129.

Furthermore political instabilities in various emerging markets have also seen the USD reach highs against many currencies. South African Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan was summoned to appear in court on fraud charges on November 2 leading the market to re-price the probability of sovereign rating downgrade.

In Turkey, the USD reached a high at 3.1128 TRY with weakness driven by political uncertainties after the attempted coup on the 15 of July. However, the real domestic driving force is the market's fear that the Turkish central bank may cut rates too aggressively as the economy continues to slow down.

In the UK, economic data has held up well

since the referendum however, hard Brexit fears have recently been reignited hitting hard the currency. European Council President Donald Tusk warned that the EU would not compromise on its insistence that freedom of movement will be a condition for Britain's access to the single market and that UK cannot reap benefits of EU membership while barring European immigrants and rejecting EU courts' authority. In his words, Tusk said "the brutal truth is that Brexit will be a loss for all of us. There will be no cakes on the table for anyone.

to 1.1058 throughout the week.

In Asia, demand for the safe-haven yen weakened after data earlier showed that China's consumer price index rose 0.7 percent in September, beating expectations for an uptick of 0.3 percent. Year-on-year, consumer prices increased 1.9 percent last month, compared to expectations for a 1.6 percent gain. The positive report eased concerns over global economic growth after data on Thursday showed that China's trade surplus narrowed to \$41.99 billion in September from \$52.05 billion

farm payrolls, confirmed that the labor market is slowing and not as strong as it had been recently. While the JOLTS report is never a market-moving report, it is often closely watched by the Fed and is a key barometer of economic conditions, measuring job postings in different sectors, and the number of hires and layoffs.

### Unemployment claims unchanged

In the week ending October 8, unemployment claims went unchanged from the previous week's revised level at 246,000. The previ-

The core sales figure, used to calculate gross domestic product, rose a smaller-than-projected 0.1 percent.

### Producer prices

Wholesale prices in the US rose by more than projected in September, helped by higher costs for energy and food and indicating inflation may be picking up. The producer-price index increased 0.3 percent, the first gain in three months, after being little changed in August. The median forecast of economists surveyed by Bloomberg called for a 0.2 percent gain.

### Europe & UK German sentiment

The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for Germany increased in October 2016. The index gained 5.7 points compared to the previous month, now standing at a level of 6.2 points (long-term average: 24.1 points). "The improved economic sentiment is a sign of a relatively robust economic activity in Germany. However, positive impulses from industry and exports should not distract from existing political and economic risks. In particular, the risks concerning the German banking sector are currently a burden to the economic outlook," commented ZEW President Professor Achim Wambach. The assessment of the current situation in Germany has also increased. Gaining 4.4 points, the index now stands at 59.5 points.

### Japan trade surplus

Japan's current-account had a surplus of 2.0 trillion yen for August, supported by a pickup in trade in goods. The numbers come as the yen has appreciated 16 percent this year. Its strength has put pressure on Japanese exporters and threatened to undermine the nation's trade surplus. However, cheap energy imports have generally kept the trade balance positive, supporting the current-account surplus.

According to the General Administration of Customs, China's trade balance weakened more than expected in September. Chinese trade surplus slipped to 278.4 billion yuan in September, comparing to 346 billion in August. Meanwhile, economists forecasted a fall to 300 billion yuan. Overall, China's September exports lost 10 percent from a year earlier, far worse than expected, while imports unexpectedly plunged after accelerating in August, hinting that signs of steady in the world's second-largest economy may be short-lived.

Kuwait

Kuwaiti dinar at 0.30280

The USDKWD opened at 0.30280 yesterday morning.



There will be only salt and vinegar." The GBP/USD continued its downward trend trading in tight ranges for most of the week but managed to move down to 1.2213 after starting the week off at 1.2430.

In the Eurozone, the EUR/USD moved lower amid the USD continued strength. While renewed rate hike prospects are not extreme at 60 percent they still helped the currency. The real focus will be on the European Central Bank next week and market participants will want to know whether policymakers have started discussing the prospects of tapering ECB's QE. If Mario Draghi again denies this and delivers a dovish message, we are likely to see further losses for the currency. The EUR/USD pair opened the week at 1.1200 and moved down

the previous month. The USD/JPY pair opened the week at 103.00 and moved up to close the week at 104.18.

### Job openings fall

The number of job openings decreased to 5.4 million in August, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. July's total job openings figure was revised lower, from 5.871 million to 5.831 million. On a net basis, that means that there were 6.65 percent fewer job openings at the end of summer than in the mid-summer report. Furthermore, hiring had previously been on the rise, but it slowed by almost 1 percent in August. Hires were 5.2 million and separations were 5.0 million. The report, combined with last week's weaker than expected non-

ous week's level was revised down by 3,000 from 249,000 to 246,000. The four week moving average was 249,250, a decrease of 3,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since November 3, 1973 when it was 244,000. The previous week's average was revised down by 750 from 253,500 to 252,750.

### Retail sales rebound

Retail sales climbed in September by the most in three months, showing American shoppers began to spend freely again after shying away from merchants earlier in the quarter. The 0.6 percent advance followed a revised 0.2 percent decline in August, Commerce Department figures showed Friday.

## WHY GLOBAL BONDS ARE GETTING SOLD OFF

By Hayder Tawfik



Over the past few weeks, most bond markets have been sold off aggressively. The UK, Japan, the USA and some members of the eurozone have experienced a selloff in between 2 percent to 3 percent. The range of the selloff in prices might not seem big but in value terms the loss might be quite big to bear for bond investors. The selloff might extend into the year end.

There are some reasons for the sudden sell off but the main ones are: bond valuations are far from being realistic and have ignored all the fundamentals. Quantitative measures introduced by some central banks are no longer adding any benefits to their economies and they are actually hurting the banks. Finally, investors have become aware of the above and also aware that governments must use fiscal policies to reflate their economies and generate economic growth. We should always remember that loose fiscal policy and reflation are the real enemies of the bond market.

Although global economic activity is still slow and there is no sign of picking up and inflation is not a threat but bond valuations have stretched too much for the comfort of investors. Negative yields are no longer the solution to stronger economic growth. The deterioration in the future global economic outlook has not been enough reason to justify the massive drop in bond yields throughout the year. If future economic growth in the developed economies reaches historical trend levels with inflation picking up slightly then bond prices could drop further to accommodate realistic valuations.

Central Bank's Quantitative Measures have been

the driving force behind the rise of bond prices and drop in yields. This can be related to the massive scale of bond purchases by central banks. Bonds buying operations has been going on for a quite while particularly in Japan, the Eurozone and the UK. The Bank of Japan and the Bank of England have recently indicated that their Quantitative policies are under review. They are assessing the impact of the massive expansion in the money supply and its impact on the real economy. Like other central banks, they are not realizing that the big drop in bond yields in UK bonds and negative yields in Japanese bonds have led to increases in costs to banks and financial institutions and causing distortions with negative benefits on economic activity.

Global bond investors should expect the European Central Bank to follow the Bank of Japan and the bank of England in announcing some change in its Quantitative Easing guidelines when they meet in December. I think for the time being the ECB is monitoring Japan and the UK to assess and decide how to change it's or amend its Quantitative Easing policy. The selloff in global bond prices might not be a good sign for them. For the time being bond investors should be very careful not to get into the selloff trap that might go on for a long time.

If the stock market can be any good guide for future expectation of interest rates, then the recent outperformance of cyclical stocks might tell us that fiscal policy might be upcoming. There is at least expectation in the US that with a new president, Treasuries could adopt new policies that create stronger economic growth and reflate prices. The talks in the US is about the possibility of tax cuts measures are linked to the result of the presidential election in November. Investors are more convinced that change in fiscal policies are more effective in increasing domestic demands than Quantitative Measures that have become a burden than benefits. @Rasameel

## BELGIAN PM DEFENDS BUDGET AHEAD OF CONFIDENCE VOTE

**BRUSSELS:** Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel yesterday defended his budget and vision for the future after tensions within the fractious coalition government nearly sank his program earlier in the week.

Michel had been due to deliver his annual state of the union address today but spending cuts, notably in health, plus a controversial capital gains tax exposed sharp differences which the premier only papered over after "intense" crisis talks.

He told parliament, summoned especially for a very unusual Sunday session, that he was determined to press ahead with economic and social reforms to promote jobs and growth.

"It is always the weakest who pay

first when the economy falters," he said, arguing that Belgium was leading the way in changing how people work and employers manage their business. Labor market reforms include greater flexibility in working hours sought by management but they are opposed by many as leaving workers more vulnerable. Michel insisted that change was imperative to modernize the economy and make it more competitive.

In the budget accord reached after lengthy talks late Friday, the government agreed overall savings of three billion euros (\$3.4 billion) but left the capital gains tax to be considered further.

Michel's address will be debated

and put to a confidence vote on Tuesday-when he also faces a potentially embarrassing problem over Belgium's role in endorsing a landmark free trade deal between the European Union and Canada. On Friday, lawmakers in the small region of Wallonia on Friday voted to block what is known as the CETA agreement, due to be approved on Tuesday by all EU trade ministers and then signed by leaders the following week.

Paul Magnette, socialist head of the Wallonia regional administration, said the vote was not meant to sink the accord but it was a demand to reopen negotiations so as to ensure local interests were not harmed. — AFP



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# The new Mercedes-AMG GT Roadster and Mercedes-AMG GT C Roadster

## Open-top driving performance as a twin pack

**KUWAIT:** Mercedes-AMG is blowing even more fresh air into the AMG GT family. Shortly after the world premiere of the AMG GT R, the sports car and performance brand from Affalterbach is presenting two exciting roadster variants of the two-seater sports car. Alongside the AMG GT Roadster, the AMG GT C Roadster enhances the portfolio with a completely new model variant. With an output of 410 kW (557 hp) and peak torque of 680 Nm, the AMG GT C is the most powerful new Roadster variant and uses some of the technical refinements of the AMG GT R. These include active rear axle steering and the electronically controlled rear axle locking differential. In combination with the AMG RIDE CONTROL sports suspension, the AMG GT C Roadster guarantees dynamic performance at

The new Roadsters make hallmark AMG driving performance an even more intensive experience. "The AMG portfolio is fast expanding to become one of the most exciting and high-performing collections around. The new Roadster variants not only deliver more output and torque, but the AMG GT C Roadster also impresses with numerous technical highlights from the Mercedes-AMG GT R, for enhanced performance," said Michael Rühle, Chief Executive Officer, A R Albisher & Z Alkazezi Company, the authorized general distributor of Mercedes-Benz in Kuwait.

With the two Roadster variants, the Mercedes-AMG GT family has now increased to five members. The two new sports cars with fabric soft tops likewise have the technical genes for which AMG is famous. These include

l/100 km; CO2 emissions, combined: 259 - 219 g/km.

The AMG GT C Roadster not only delivers more output and torque, it also impresses with numerous technical highlights from the Mercedes-AMG GT R for even more dynamic performance. Like the AMG GT R, the AMG GT C Roadster is recognizable by its wide, muscular rear end and large wheels. Other technical measures include the wider rear track and active rear axle steering.

The AMG GT C Roadster is also equipped with a lithium-ion battery, and has more exclusive appointments. Standard features include a nappa leather interior, the AMG performance steering wheel in nappa leather/DINAMICA microfibre and the additional transmission mode RACE.

### Fully automatic: The weight-optimised fabric soft top

Both Roadsters are quickly transformed from coupés to open-top sports cars. The fabric roof opens and closes in around eleven seconds, and can do this at speeds of up to 50 km/h. The three soft top colours black, red and beige can be chosen to suit the eleven exterior and ten interior colours. The three-layered fabric soft top is supported by a magnesium/steel/aluminium structure of low weight, which helps to keep the centre of gravity low. Additional rollover protection is provided by an integrated aluminium cross-member with rollover bars.

### Also for the Roadster models

The two AMG Roadster variants have adopted a special technical highlight from the AMG GT R: the active air management system. Vertical louvres located in the lower area directly behind the front fascia can be opened and closed by an electric motor in around one second. This ensures that the cooling performance is according to need. Always achieving the optimum position requires highly intelligent and fast control.

During normal driving with no increased cooling requirement, the louvres are closed to reduce aerodynamic drag and specifically conduct the air to the underbody. Only when certain components reach predefined temperatures and the air requirement is particularly



high do the louvres open to allow the maximum cooling airflow to the heat exchangers.

### Muscular with an emphasis on width

The rear end also features numerous, conspicuous innovations. The new aluminium side walls of the AMG GT C Roadster widen the open-top two-seater by 57 millimetres compared to the AMG GT Roadster. This is exactly the width of the AMG GT R. Compared to the AMG GT Roadster, the muscular form also creates space for the larger wheels and a wider track. Both measures make for traction while allowing higher cornering speeds. The likewise wider contours of the AMG GT C Roadster's rear apron also improve the airflow at the rear with their large outer air vents. Both Roadster variants feature an aerofoil integrated into the boot lid. This is electrically extended and retracted at defined speeds, depending on the selected transmission mode.

### Even more agility

As standard the new Mercedes-AMG GT C Roadster responds even more sensitively thanks to the active rear axle steering that had its debut in the Mercedes-AMG GT R. The system offers an ideal combination of agility and

stability - handling characteristics that are normally in direct conflict.

Up to a speed of 100 km/h, the rear wheels are turned in the opposite direction to the front wheels, the Mercedes-AMG GT C Roadster turns into corners with significantly higher agility as a result, delivering even more driving pleasure and requiring less steering input. In day-to-day driving the driver also benefits from a reduced turning circle, for example when turning off or parking.

### Impressive sound in the interior

The Burmester surround sound system and the Burmester high-end surround sound system ensure a very special musical experience in the AMG GT Roadster. Both systems benefit from an innovation developed jointly by AMG and Burmester: the External Coupled Subwoofer (ECS). This new bass sound reproduction system with an extremely low bass range turns the open two-seater into a mobile concert stage. Instead of a subwoofer box of limited dimensions, ECS uses the entire interior as a bass box.

The AMG GT Roadster and AMG GT C Roadster will be available at Abdul Rahman Albisher & Zaid Alkazezi Co in Kuwait in 2017.



the highest level. The top Roadster also takes its lead from the top AMG GT R sports car where muscular proportions are concerned: the wider rear wings create space for a wider track and wider wheels at the rear axle, allowing even higher cornering speeds and best traction. The variable performance exhaust system also ensures an authentic V8 sound from the AMG Roadster.

e.g. the lightweight and torsionally rigid aluminium bodyshell plus powerful and efficient V8 biturbo engines. The entry level into the Roadster world is the AMG GT with an output of 350 kW (476 hp). The GT C Roadster adds a completely new output level. With 410 kW (557 hp) it is the more powerful of the two new open-top sports cars.

Fuel consumption, combined: 11.4 - 9.4



## MITEF PAN ARAB, ZAIN AND COMMUNITY JAMEEL LAUNCH ARAB STARTUP COMPETITION

**BEIRUT/ JEDDAH/ KUWAIT:** The MIT Enterprise Forum (MITEF) for the Pan Arab Region, in partnership with Community Jameel, a social enterprise organization that operates a wide range of initiatives to promote a positive society and economic sustainability, and Zain Group, a leading mobile telecom innovator across the Middle East and Africa, announces the launch of the tenth edition of the MIT Enterprise Forum Arab Startup Competition.

Similar to the proceedings in previous years, this year's competition includes three different tracks: Ideas, Startups, and Social Entrepreneurship, with total prize money on offer totaling \$160,000. Each of the three tracks will award the first three ranked winners with cash prizes in addition to many other benefits including: top tier training, mentorship, coaching, media exposure, and great networking opportunities.

The competition's website [www.mitefarab.org](http://www.mitefarab.org) opens for applications on October 17, 2016 with the deadline for receipt of applications being January 4, 2017. Informative roadshows promoting the competition are planned for Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco,

Qatar and the UAE, and 79 semi-finalist teams will be announced on February 10, 2017.

The semi-finalists will be invited to attend pre-bootcamp activities scheduled for February and March, 2017 in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. The competition will culminate in a four-day event from April 24 to April 27, 2017, with the announcement of the competition winners set to take place during the final award ceremony on April 27, 2017.

Hala Fadel, Chair of the board of MITEF Pan Arab, said, "This year, we are celebrating 10 years of entrepreneurial success in the region by bringing together our biggest edition to date. For this 10th edition, we are expecting more and more technology innovations from the MENA region and we aim to take the most innovative entrepreneurs from the region to new heights."

Commenting on Zain Group's support of the latest MITEF Arab Startup Competition, CEO Scott Gegenheimer said, "We are excited to support the competition again this year, and congratulate the MIT Enterprise Forum Arab for the milestone 10th year of running this important regional event.

For Zain, the reasons for continued involvement are simple - this competition supports young aspiring entrepreneurs to achieve their dreams and appeals to a number of our core constituents, aligning with our outlook and values perfectly. Again we look forward to seeing the face of innovation being revealed throughout the course of the competition and shall take the opportunity to capitalize on the most promising ideas, supporting our evolution in becoming a digital lifestyle operator."

"This is the tenth consecutive year that Community Jameel has supported the MIT Enterprise Forum Pan Arab," said Fady Jameel, President of Community Jameel International. "The continuation of our support for this project underscores our commitment to helping the next generation of young entrepreneurs realise their hopes and aspirations." Stressing the importance of competitions like this and their growing popularity, Jameel also noted: "We have witnessed the tremendous success stories that MITEF Pan Arab has brought about in our region over the past nine years and anticipate even greater achievements for the upcoming tenth edition and in the future."

## BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF YAWMI ACCOUNT

**KUWAIT:** Burgan Bank announced yesterday the names of the lucky winners of its Yawmi account draw, each taking home a prize of KD 5,000.

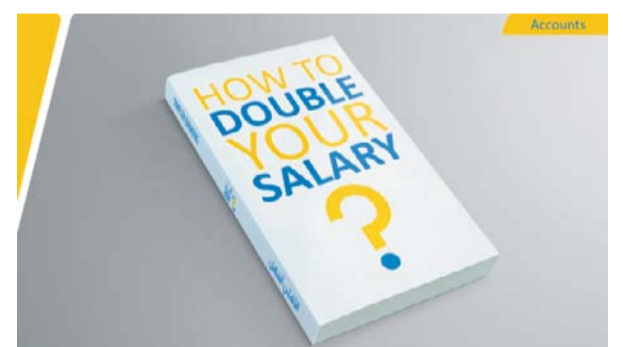
The lucky winners for the daily draws took home a cash-prize of KD 5,000 each, and they are:

1. Abeer Ali Ahmad Al-Ghanim
2. Ghesnah Musallam Ali Al-Marri
3. Kamel Othman Abdullah
4. Hamad Haneef Jaber Haneef
5. Sulaiman Dawoud Sulaiman Al Houti

In addition to the daily draw, Burgan Bank also offers a quarterly draw with more chances to win higher rewards, entitling one lucky customer to win KD 125,000 every three months. The Yawmi Account offers daily and quarterly draws, the quarterly draw requires customers to maintain a minimum amount of KD 500 in their account for 2 months prior to draw date. Additionally, every KD 10 in the account, will entitle customers to one chance of winning. If the account balance is KD 500 and above, the account holder will be qualified for both the quarterly and daily draws.

Burgan Bank encourages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances to becoming a winner. The more customers deposit, the higher the chances they receive of winning.

For more information on opening a Yawmi account or about the new quarterly draw, customers are urged to visit their nearest Burgan Bank branch and receive all the details, or simply call the bank's Call Center at 1804080 where customer service representatives will be delighted to assist with any questions on the Yawmi account or any of the bank's products and services.



## ABK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 24TH 'DOUBLE YOUR SALARY' DRAWS

**KUWAIT:** Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) held its 24th 'Double Your Salary' weekly draw on 10th October, 2016 at the Bank's Head Office in the presence of a representative from the Ministry of Commerce, announcing the names of the winners for this week. The promotion includes weekly draws, with two winners per draw. Given the success of the campaign it has been decided to extend it until 27th June, 2017.

### The winners of this week are:

- 1) Mariam Daasan Rfaid Al-Enezi, Hadiya Branch
- 2) Nandana Dhanushka Perera, Farwaniya Branch

New customers who transfer their salary to ABK receive KD 100 and will automatically be entered into the weekly draws to double their salaries. Existing customers who are already transferring their salary to ABK are entered into a separate draw. The next 'Double Your Salary' draw will be held on 17th October, 2016 where two new lucky winners will be announced. All winners will be contacted personally and a weekly announcement will be made through the media with the winners' names.

## VIVA LAUNCHES DRAWS WITH DAILY, MONTHLY CASH PRIZES



**KUWAIT:** VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, launched a draws' campaign that allows postpaid customers to win valuable daily and monthly cash prizes during the months of October, November and December.

VIVA gives the customers a wonderful opportunity to win amazing cash prizes, KD 100 daily and KD 1000 at the end of each month, once they pay their VIVA bills through Direct Debit, VIVA website, VIVA's Kiosks, VIVA App or by calling 102. Customers earn one chance for each KD 1.

To find out more about VIVA's new campaign, visit one of the 70 VIVA branches, or the VIVA website at [www.viva.com.kw](http://www.viva.com.kw), or call VIVA's 24-hour call center on 102.



## CAPTURE THE BEAUTY OF MARINE LIFE WITH SOME EASY PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS

**DUBAI:** Canon Middle East, the leader in imaging products and solutions, announced their partnership with Discovery Channel 'Shark Week' exhibition at Dubai Aquarium & Underwater Zoo as the 'Imaging Partner' of the exhibition.

In its role as an imaging partner, Canon Middle East has supported Discovery Channel and Emaar Entertainment, which manages Dubai Aquarium & Underwater Zoo, by providing them with EOS 5D Mark III and Legria mini X cameras. The highly powerful cameras have been used to shoot a documentary that Discovery Consumer Products and Dubai Aquarium & Underwater Zoo have produced, highlighting shark conservation in the Arab world and the Shark Week exhibition project, titled 'Arabia's Sharks - A Journey of Discovery'.

Jonathan Ali Khan from Wild Planet Productions and director of the documentary shares some key photography tips on shooting images underwater with marine life, especially with sharks:

### 1. The advantages of digital:

Digital is incredibly advantageous. Viewing your results straightaway underwater is essential in getting to perfecting your image, and you are no longer limited to 36-exposures like the old days of film on each dive. The ability to delete the bad frames means that the greatest limitation is either when the battery runs out; you fill your card; or your dive time ends.

### 2. Choosing the right system:

Choose a camera system according to your skill levels and intentions for the future. Start how you intend to continue for years to come with a system that allows you to upgrade as you grow your skill-set and interest levels.

If you decide on a compact solution, push your budget to include the best you can afford, with lens adaptors and diopters, strobes, etc. If you decide on a DSLR, choose a camera that suits you equally

ARABIA'S SHARKS - A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY was filmed on Canon systems



WELCOME

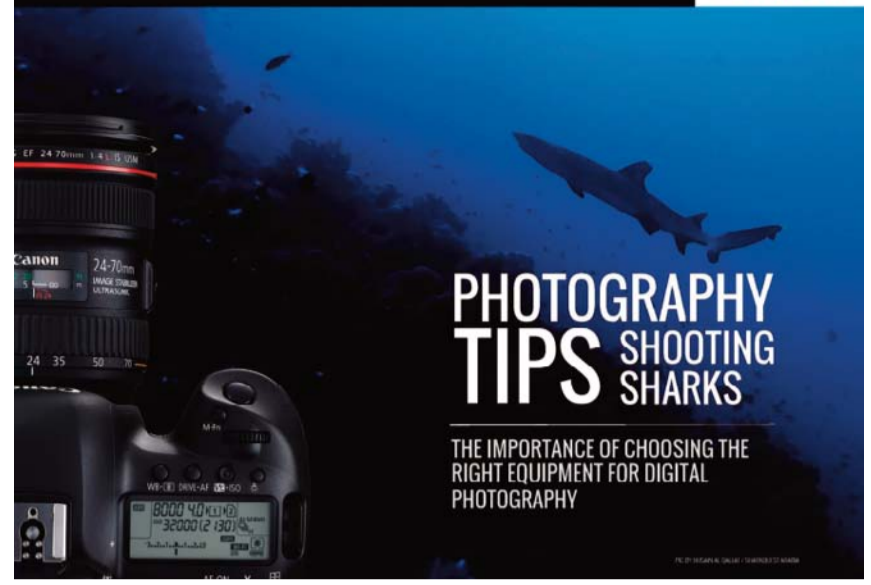
ARABIA'S SHARKS  
A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

SPONSORED BY CANON  
AN EVENING ORGANIZED BY  
THE EMIRATES DIVING ASSOCIATION  
& EMAAR ENTERTAINMENT  
A FILM BY  
WILD PLANET PRODUCTIONS

Canon

EOS 5D  
Mark III

ARABIA'S SHARKS - A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY was filmed on Canon systems



Canon

under and above water. The more experience you have with your camera, the easier it becomes to plan your images.

### 3. Perfect your skills:

Whilst essential for ALL divers to perfect your buoyancy and other diving skills, minimizing your impact on the environment - it is more so for photographers and videographers.

The use of autofocus, auto exposure controls, and the ability to take a white balance and change the ISO during the dive, all help to free up the photographer to focus on finding the subject, composing and lighting the shots, while being careful not to damage the precious aquatic life around you.

Become self-sufficient as you will need to conduct solo-dives for best results.

### 4. Learn about your choice of subject:

Study up and get as much information as possible about the animal or subject

you are about to shoot. Go online and research the subject, read books and spend time observing the animal and its setting, trying to anticipate moments of behavior or action that best characterize the subject. Be prepared to spend hours and repetitive dives in order to get a single shot!

### 5. Close To Your Subject:

Being alone in the water is the best way to let animals come close. This is especially important for underwater photography. Less water between the subject and the camera means better visibility, fewer suspended particles, fewer micro-bubbles reflecting the light and better sharpness.

In the right situation, marine creatures are often curious rather than elusive. They will choose the direction, the speed, the angle - and most of the time they will be in the

back-light in order to take advantage of using the natural light to hide their body,

which has evolved to blend in with the water.

### 6. Capturing The Moment:

During shark dives, your mind needs to be ready and the fingers of your hands should act if they playing an instrument: metering the background water, getting the right exposure with f-stop corrections, finding the best composition - everything should become almost automatic

If lucky, groups of sharks are more likely than single animals to stay around for a while, providing a number of chances. After the first approach, find the best setting and concentrate on the composition to get a wider choice and keep shooting.

### 7. Crafting the image:

In open water, depending on depth, light penetrates the water in a way that filters out the color spectrum. Good camera models provide excellent white-balance features so that you can control the color

balance of your image at all times. Use this function constantly as it is the first real means (other than exposure and focus), to manipulate the true colors of the scene and enable you to craft your edges.

### 8. Build your story:

Take time to build a story around the images, including use of top-side 'moments' that help to complete your collection.

### 9. Be Bold but Sensible:

Remain calm around sharks and learn to detect their body language. Most sharks exhibit swimming patterns that demonstrate their state of mind; dorsal fins down and arched back provides ample warning as they are letting you know you should move away.

Failing to recognize these signs may result in unpleasant consequences - and you will only have yourself to blame if things go wrong!



**CHINA:** Chinese astronauts Jing Haipeng, left, and Chen Dong, right, chat behind a glass enclosure during a presser at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China yesterday. —AP

## CHINA TO BLAST 2 INTO SPACE TODAY

**BEIJING:** Chinese officials unveiled plans for today's launch of the country's latest space mission in which two astronauts will be blasted into space and will dock with an orbiting space lab.

The Shenzhou 11 spacecraft will be launched at 7:30 a.m., said Wu Ping, deputy director of China's manned space engineering office, in a televised news conference. The Shenzhou mission will take off aboard a Long March-2F carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on the edge of the Gobi Desert in northern China.

The spacecraft will dock with the Tiangong 2 space station within two days and the astronauts will stay there for 30 days to test the complex's ability to support their life. They will also conduct medical and scientific experiments, Wu said.

An earlier Tiangong 1 experimental space station launched in 2011 went out of service in March after extending its mis-

sion for two years and docking with three visiting spacecraft. The Tiangong, or "Heavenly Palace," stations are considered stepping stones to a mission to Mars by the end of the decade.

Wu identified the astronauts flying the mission as 49-year-old Jing Haipeng and 37-year-old Chen Dong. It will be Jing's third flight into space following missions in 2008 and 2012. "It is any astronaut's dream and pursuit to be able to perform many space missions," Jing said at a separate briefing.

The state-run China Youth Daily newspaper said Jing would celebrate his 50th birthday in space. China conducted its first crewed space mission in 2003, becoming only the third country after Russia and the US to do so, and has since staged a spacewalk and landed its Yutu rover on the moon. Administrators suggest a manned landing on the moon may also be in the program's future. —AP

## NEW MESSAGING APPS GAIN TRACTION IN WORKPLACE

### NO MORE MESSY EMAILS

**WASHINGTON:** Looking to break out of a "messy" email situation, the nonprofit group dosomething.org recently switched over to a new way of communicating among its far-flung teams.

Moving most internal communications to the messaging application Slack with its "channels" for various teams made it easier to coordinate the group's social change projects across 131 countries, said software engineer Joe Kent. "All the teams have their channels and anyone can jump in and see what the others are doing," Kent told AFP. "You can follow the conversation a lot more quickly."

Slack, created in 2013, has become a leader in a crowded field of new applications aimed at helping workplaces move away from email. Facebook this month jumped headlong into this segment with its Workplace application, aiming to leverage the popularity of the leading social network used by some 1.7 billion people.

Facebook is among an array of competitors vying for a slice of this market, including several startups and Microsoft.

San Francisco-based Slack has raised some \$500 million at a reported valuation of some \$4 billion, making it one of the most prominent venture-funded tech "unicorns" worth over \$1 billion. With some three million active users, including nearly one million paying for "premium" service, Slack has become one of the fastest-growing business applications.

Craig Le Clair of Forrester Research said these services are growing because younger "millenni-

als" have different ways of working. "They want to work when they want to, they want chat sessions that better integrate with their social media lives," Le Clair said. Le Clair said many workplaces are facing "information overload" due to the volume of emails that need to be sorted and prioritized. "The goal is to get out of email hell," he said.

'Just sign up'

Small- and medium-sized busi-



nesses find Slack especially appealing because of its ease of use on both mobile and desktop devices, says Mark Beccue, an analyst who researched the market for Compass Intelligence. "There's no friction. Companies don't have to go through a major software license process, you just sign up," Beccue said. "It's the consumerization of an enterprise product."

The global enterprise chat and messaging market is set to reach \$1.9 billion by 2019, according to Beccue's report. Slack came at the right time for companies seeking new ways to improve workplace efficiency, Beccue said. "I think they are major driver of innovation for busi-

ness productivity," he said.

Slack and rivals like Atlassian's HipChat and Microsoft's Yammer offer social media-style interfaces for messages, and some integrate with business applications to enable voice calls, video and other services.

Slack recently teamed with cloud computing group Salesforce to broaden its offerings in services such as customer relations management. Slack also allows organizations to create channels for communicating

email and Skype, aiming for a broad set of business tools under its umbrella. "Microsoft hasn't made a lot of noise, but they have been aggressive in remaining the dominant place in productivity applications," Castanon-Martinez said.

Aggressive pricing is also being used as a way to woo businesses away from Slack. Microsoft offers its suite of services for \$2 to \$4 per user, and Facebook \$1 to \$3 per user compared with Slack's standard \$6.67 per user.

### The Facebook model

Facebook meanwhile is seeking to use its advantage as "the social media world that millennials grew up with," Le Clair said. But the analyst said it is not clear if companies and network managers will move to the Facebook platform. "Most of the employers and managers didn't grow up in that world," he said. "They associate Facebook with something their kids are doing, it's not associated with productivity and getting work done. Some companies even restrict the use of Facebook in the workplace."

Analysts point out that Slack and similar platforms may increase the burden on employees, becoming an additional "feed" to manage, and that email is still necessary for external contacts and other functions.

Le Clair said artificial intelligence may be the tool that helps sift through messages to stay on track. "You're going to need emerging analytics to go through those streams," he said. "Facebook has done a lot of investment in AI so they could be well-placed to do that." —AFP

## OBAMA SHAKES MIND-CONTROLLED ROBOT HAND WIRED TO SENSE TOUCH

**WASHINGTON:** A paralyzed man shared a handshake with President Barack Obama on Thursday by using a mind-controlled robotic arm that, in a first for medical research, is helping to restore his sense of touch.

Obama fist-bumped Nathan Copeland's robotic hand, and tiny chips implanted in Copeland's brain let him use his thoughts to move the Star Trek-looking metal arm attached to his wheelchair - and also let him feel subtle pressure in his own fingers when the artificial ones were touched.

He had "pretty impressive precision," Obama said. "When I'm moving the hand, it is also sending signals to Nathan so he is feeling me touching or moving his arm." The president congratulated the University of Pittsburgh researchers who are developing the technology, saying, "what a story."

The research is part of a quest to make artificial limbs that can feel. On Thursday, the Pittsburgh team reported important early findings: When they blindfolded Copeland, he could correctly identify which robotic finger they touched 84 percent of the time.

"The majority of them, it felt like a pressure or a tingling" in his own corresponding finger, said Copeland, 30, of Dunbar, Pennsylvania, who was

left paralyzed after a car accident. When a researcher touched two fingers at the same time, "I just laughed and I said, 'Are you trying to be tricky or something?'"

Preparing to show the president how the cutting-edge research worked, Copeland said he was "circling between excited and nervous every half-hour."

Harnessing brain waves to power prosthetics is a hot field, with a goal of giving the disabled more independence and improving artificial limbs for amputees as well. Headlines in recent years have reported experiments that let paralyzed people move a robotic arm to touch a loved one or take a drink simply by imagining the motion. Their thoughts activate brain implants that relay electrical signals needed to command movement. The signals are transmitted through a computer to the robotic limb.

What's new is recreating sensation using this brain-controlled technology. After all, proper motion depends on more than muscle movement. Reach for something and that sense of touch helps you naturally grasp with just enough force to hang on while not either dropping something or crushing it. "It's not only that emotional connection we

get," said Robert Gaunt, a Pittsburgh assistant professor of rehabilitation who led the new study. "People have an incredibly difficult time interacting with objects, picking objects up, manipulating them, doing fairly basic things with the hand if they don't have a very basic sense of touch."

Step one is placing sensors in prosthetics. The next hurdle is how to allow feedback to and from those sensors. For amputees, some scientists are attempting to wire nerves left in the remaining part of the person's natural limb directly to the robotic arm.

That's not possible if a spinal cord injury has interrupted the messages that normally flash between the hand and the brain. But previous monkey research had suggested brain implants could bridge that gap. So surgeons at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center implanted electrodes in the part of Copeland's brain that controls what his hands feel.

Electrically stimulating those cells worked even though the car wreck that left Copeland mostly paralyzed happened over a decade ago, Gaunt noted. "This shows you can get natural sensation" through the brain implant, added Pittsburgh neurobiologist Andrew Schwartz.



**PITTSBURGH:** President Barack Obama holds a robotic arm being controlled by the mind of the man in the wheel chair at right as he makes a stop at the exhibition hall of the White House Frontiers Conference on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016. —AP



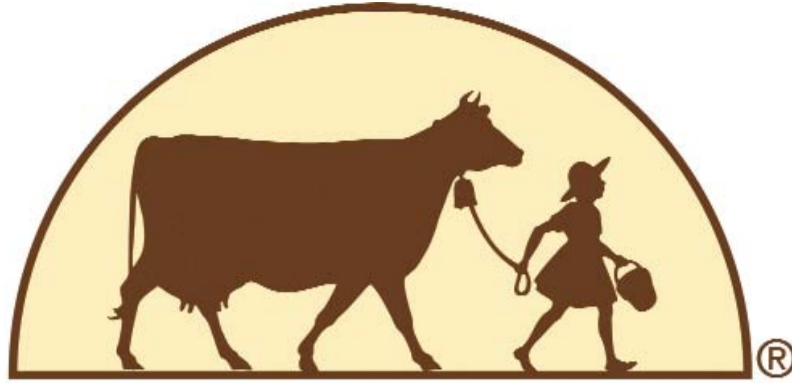
## BLUE BELL: TESTING HELPS CREATE SAFE TREATS POST-2015 RECALL

**HOUSTON:** In the wake of another recall of its ice cream products, Blue Bell has stood firm in its belief that a "robust" testing program it implemented following last year's listeria contamination is helping the company create safe treats.

But while the new recall - again linked to listeria and involving a third-party supplier - is likely to result in more regulatory and public scrutiny for Blue Bell, experts say it probably won't mean a substantial loss of customers.

Blue Bell had to shut down its flagship creamery in Brenham, Texas, about 70 miles from Houston, for a few months to fully clean after last year's recall, which was linked to 10 listeria cases in four states, including three deaths in Kansas. After it restarted production, state inspection records show increased preliminary tests from December 2015 through July indicated the presence of listeria on some non-food contact areas. This led Blue Bell to do additional cleaning and repairs to things like a break room and a floor drain.

The company has regained some of its market share, but the efforts took a hit last month after it announced it was recalling some ice cream products after finding chocolate chip cookie dough from a third-party supplier - Iowa-based



# Blue Bell®

Logo of the Blue Bell Creameries an American food company. —AFP

Aspen Hills Inc. - that was potentially contaminated with listeria.

Tests by Blue Bell and the Texas Department of State Health Services found the presence of listeria in unopened boxes of the dough. It was first discovered Sept. 9; Blue Bell began buying the cookie dough in January.

### Testing program gets credit

Blue Bell credited its testing program with discovering the problem. "Because listeria is common in the natural environment, our robust environmental testing program actively searches for and sanitizes areas where listeria may be present"

it said in an email. Aspen Hills has said its lab results have been negative for listeria but it recalled its product because it found lapses in its food safety system. Blue Bell expanded its recall this week after Aspen Hills recalled additional supplies of its product.

Listeria can cause serious illness, especially in older adults, pregnant women and people with weakened immune systems. Blue Bell said that if testing shows the presence of listeria, it shuts down production lines and steam-treats equipment.

The state's inspection records show that suspected sources of listeria from November through July in the Brenham plant included a room where employees leave or cover their shoes before entering production areas, a break room, a floor drain near an ice cream filling machine and a doorway near a warehouse/distribution area. The preliminary findings of listeria prompted Blue Bell to take various actions, such as repairs, taking apart equipment for additional cleaning and adding sanitizing crystals in affected areas. None of these incidents resulted in a shutdown of the plant.

Brandon Henning, who works for a New Jersey-based company that creates quality control software, said he is

encouraged by the various actions Blue Bell says it's taken.

"The reality for Blue Bell is they are going to have to perform above and beyond at least for the next several years where they don't have incidents or recalls and are trusted again by consumers and the federal government," Henning said, adding that ultimately it is Blue Bell's responsibility to ensure that its suppliers provide it with safe products. In 2014, before the listeria outbreak, Blue Bell had about \$680 million in revenues, said Evan Danckwerth, an analyst with research firm PrivCo. That fell to about \$288 million last year, and is projected to be around \$340 million this year. He noted that sales figures seem to indicate Blue Bell has retained customer loyalty.

Texas Department of State Health Services spokeswoman Christine Mann said Blue Bell has worked with its inspectors "to correct any deficiencies."

US Food and Drug Administration spokesman Lauren Kotwicki declined to comment on Blue Bell or its latest recall. In the wake of the current recall, Blue Bell said it continues to "refine our procedures, make additional physical enhancements in our facilities, and reinforce our employee training." —AP

## HEROIN CRIME IMMUNITY YIELDS MIXED RESULTS, AP REVIEW FINDS

### BLANKET IMMUNITY GRANTED

**CINCINNATI:** Reeling from a surge in heroin overdoses, authorities in the Cincinnati area made an offer: Hand in potentially deadly drugs and you won't be charged. But the blanket immunity granted by a judge there over a month ago hasn't brought in any heroin so far.

Results from similar efforts elsewhere have also yielded few drugs, according to a review by The Associated Press. Still, that hasn't dissuaded supporters who, along with officials nationwide, feel like their backs are against the wall as they try to fight the opiate crisis. "Turn it in, get it off the streets; get it out of your homes, out of your families," Dr. Lakshmi Sammarco, the Hamilton County coroner, pleaded last month.

She and other county leaders had hoped people would willingly come forward with deadly drugs when a judge granted their request for blanket immunity on Sept. 7. But as of Tuesday, the prosecutor's office had yet to hear about any drugs being turned in to any local law enforcement agency in the county. "We weren't expecting a lot of drugs," said Julie Wilson, a spokeswoman. "It was something out of the box to try whatever we can to deal with this problem."

Addicts who have gone through similar efforts in other parts of the country say they aren't surprised Cincinnati's effort hasn't borne fruit. "The tangible drug is just the surface, and with no available access to treatment you're essentially yelling to a drowning person 'Just keep swimming!' without actually throwing a life preserver," said Steve Lesnikoski, 31, the first to go through a pioneering heroin treatment program in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Launched in June 2015, the ANGEL program lets addicts turn in their heroin to police without fear of arrest. But officials say fewer than 20 percent of the over 500 addicts placed into treatment have taken them up on that offer. Two communities that were among the earliest to

adopt Gloucester's approach have seen similarly low numbers of drug drop-offs.

### 200 addicts placed into treatment

In Scarborough, Maine, roughly a dozen of the over 200 addicts placed into treatment have turned in small quantities of drugs and paraphernalia. In Dixon, Illinois, two of the more than 100 addicts so far placed into treatment have willingly handed over drugs.

The efforts are more focused on getting people into treatment than rounding up drugs, said John Rosenthal, director of a Massachusetts organization supporting Gloucester's and some 160 similar efforts nationwide.

"Just to be 100 percent clear, we don't view our programs as offering 'immunity' for people in possession of illegal drugs," he said. "We are offering access to treatment without arrest, shame or judgment, and if participants happen to bring in drugs, police will gladly receive and destroy them." Dixon Police Chief Dan Langloss agreed: "It's an important part of the program, but it's not the focus. It sends a message to people struggling that we're not here to arrest you. We're here to help you." Simply offering immunity for turning in drugs isn't enough; programs need to offer ways of ending the cycle of drug abuse, arrest and incarceration, addiction experts say. But the ultimate impact of programs like Gloucester's remains to be seen.

### Decline in other crimes

Advocates cite lower rates of drug-related crimes like shoplifting and burglary and fewer fatal overdoses, but independent analysts caution there are likely other factors contributing to those declines. And no published data yet show how addicts fare after treatment.

Officials in Gloucester, Scarborough and Dixon say informal surveys suggest 10 to 35 per-

cent of participants have relapsed at least once.

Seattle's 5-year-old LEAD program - which connects low-level drug offenders and prostitutes with support including housing and mental health counseling instead of jail - hasn't been compiling drug use statistics but will go forward, said Lisa Dagaard, who helps manage the program. It is being replicated in Santa Fe, New Mexico; Albany, New York; Baltimore; Portland, Oregon, and other cities.

Authorities around Ohio, meanwhile, are watching Cincinnati's immunity approach with hope and skepticism. "You're asking the addicts and the sellers to give up their drugs. And that's tough," said Cmdr. John Burke, who leads a drug task force in nearby Brown County. "They get it and they shoot it up. That's what it's all about."

Sheriff Richard Jones, from neighboring Butler County, questioned whether dealers caught with drugs during a traffic stop could claim they were on their way to turn it in.

The Hamilton County prosecutor's office responded that people would have to walk into the station to be granted immunity; leaders have said a relative would likely be the one to turn in drugs. Jones remains unconvinced. "This will be challenged in court, believe me. And it will be something else we have to fight," he said. "It's not the answer."

Michael Haislop, 27, who went through Scarborough's addiction program in December, countered that doing nothing isn't an option. Haislop quickly fell back into old drug habits after being released from prison this year; then he learned about the community's treatment offer. He has been clean ever since, he said, working and attending community college in Portland. "Who knows what would have happened if I hadn't found them?" he said. "But I do know the program was a driving force to getting me to where I am now." —AP

## INTERCEPT'S LIVER DRUG GETS CONDITIONAL BACKING OF EMA PANEL

**NEW YORK:** Drugmaker Intercept Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s drug to treat a rare liver condition was conditionally approved an advisory committee to the European Medicines Agency on Friday.

The company's obeticholic acid, or Ocaliva, is aimed at patients with primary biliary cholangitis, a condition in which the body mistakes the bile ducts in the liver for foreign objects and tries to destroy their lining. The US Food and Drug Administration approved the drug in May to treat the disease.

The EMA grants conditional approval for drugs that fill an unmet medical need for serious conditions and show early evidence of clinical benefits outweighing the risks. Intercept is also testing obeticholic acid to treat nonalcoholic steatohepatitis, another serious liver disease with no approved treatments and a much bigger opportunity for the company. The company's shares were up 1.3 percent at \$146 in premarket trade.

## DOCTORS SUCCESSFULLY SEPARATE TWIN BOYS JOINED AT THE HEAD

**NEW YORK:** Forty medical experts at a New York hospital Friday successfully separated conjoined twins attached at the head after a 20-hour procedure.

Officials at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx said the 13-month-old boys, Jadon and Anias McDonald, were recovering from the marathon surgery that ended about 2 a.m., hospital officials said. The twins have "a long road of recovery and rehabilitation ahead of them," they said.

Their mother, Nicole McDonald, posted a picture of the first twin on Facebook while the second was still undergoing surgery. She said the atmosphere at the hospital was "one of celebration mixed with uncertainty."

She said Jadon did better than Anias during the procedure, adding that doctors predict he may not be able to move part of his body at first. The medical team included experts in the fields of nursing, anesthesiology, neuroradiology, neurosurgery, and plastic surgery, led by pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. James Goodrich and plastic and reconstructive surgeon Dr. Oren Tepper. In 2004, Goodrich also successfully separated Carl and Clarence Aguirre and a half dozen other sets of twins from around the world. "The entire Montefiore community is grateful for the trust the family has put in our dedicated and pioneering team," the hospital said in a statement. —AP



**NEW YORK:** A screen displays the share price for pharmaceutical maker AbbVie on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. —AFP

## EMA COMMITTEE CONDITIONALLY APPROVES ABBVIE LEUKEMIA DRUG

**A**bbVie Inc won the conditional backing of an advisory committee of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) on Friday for a drug to treat a form of blood cancer.

The tablet, venclxyto, or venetoclax, is aimed at chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) patients with either 17p gene deletion or TP53 mutation, which are markers for a particularly aggressive form of the disease.

AbbVie said patients with these markers have a median life expectancy of less than two to three years. The EMA grants conditional approval for drugs that fill an unmet medical need for serious conditions and show early evidence of clinical benefits out-

weighing the risks. Venclxyto, developed by AbbVie and Roche Holding AG, was approved by the US Food and Drug Administration in April to treat the disease. AbbVie will market the drug outside the United States, while both companies will sell it in the country under the brand name Venclxeta.

Cancer has been a focus area for AbbVie as it looks to reduce dependence on its arthritis treatment Humira, the world's top-selling drug. As part of the strategy, Chicago-based AbbVie bought privately held Stemcentrx and its experimental treatment for small-cell lung cancer in April for \$5.8 billion. Shares in AbbVie were untraded premarket at 1300 GMT. —Reuters



**BANGKOK:** A mourner is attended after passing out while waiting for the motorcade carrying the body of King Bhumibol Adulyadej outside the Grand Palace. —AFP

## US DIABETICS DECLINED TO BLOOD SUGAR LEVELS

**NEW YORK:** The number of US diabetics with healthy blood sugar levels has declined in recent years, a study suggests. Researchers analyzed data on 1.6 million adults with diabetes from 2006 to 2013. During this period, the proportion with HbA1c below 7% declined from 56 percent to 54 percent, and the share with HbA1c at or above 9% rose from 10 percent to 12 percent. "Clearly, there is a sizeable proportion of patients with poor glycemic control - and many of them are young," said lead study author Kasia Lipska of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. "We need to do better for them."

The researchers examined data on prescriptions and blood sugar test results to see how changes in medication utilization might relate to shifts in the proportion of diabetics with healthy blood sugar. Use of thiazolidinediones plummeted from 2006 to 2013 when one drug in this class (rosiglitazone) was linked to an increased risk of heart attack, stroke and congestive heart failure. Thiazolidinedione prescriptions accounted for less than 6 percent of the market share for diabetes drugs by the end of the study period, down from 29 percent at the start.

### Prescriptions fell

Prescriptions also fell for sulfonylureas. These medicines accounted for 31 percent of prescriptions at the end of the study, down from 39 percent. Meanwhile, DPP-4 inhibitors, introduced around the start of the study period, accounted for 15 percent of prescriptions by 2013. (These drugs include sitagliptin, saxagliptin and vildagliptin, for example.)

Prescriptions for metformin rose from 48 percent to 54 percent over the course of the study. The study didn't explore why shifts in drug utilization or changes in

glycemic control occurred, but it's possible at least some patients were using less effective medicines by the end of the study, Lipska said by email.

"Many of the newer medications have the advantages of not causing weight gain or hypoglycemia, however, some are not as potent in lowering blood sugar levels as many of the older medications," Lipska said. "In addition, just because medications are available and put into use doesn't mean that they are necessarily applied in ways that improve care," Lipska added.

One limitation of the study is its focus on people with private insurance or Medicare who may be more likely to take expensive newer medicines than uninsured patients, the authors note in Diabetes Care, online September 22.

Another drawback is that researchers only had blood sugar data for about 25 percent of the people in the study, noted Dr. David Nathan, director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Diabetes Center in Boston. "Other data have suggested a major improvement in diabetes control over the past 20 years," Nathan, who wasn't involved in the study, said by email.

Recently, however, despite the introduction of new drugs, improvement in blood sugar control has leveled out, Nathan said. "The new medicines are substantially more expensive without obvious benefits."

With so many drugs to choose from, it's also possible people are overlooking the role of diet and exercise in managing the disease, said Dr. William Herman, a researcher at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor who wasn't involved in the study. "Obesity and lack of focus on diet and physical activity may certainly be contributing to the lack of improvement in blood sugar control," Herman said by email. —Reuters

## BENEFITS OF GREENHOUSE GAS PACT MAY FALL SHORT OF HIGH HOPES

**OSLO:** A pact by almost 200 nations to slash greenhouse gases used in refrigerators and air conditioners will likely fall short of governments' hopes of averting a full half-degree Celsius (0.9 Fahrenheit) of warming this century, scientists say.

Saturday's agreement in Kigali, Rwanda, is the biggest single step to limit climate change since governments reached a global agreement in Paris last year to shift the world economy from fossil fuels this century.

Amid celebrations of the legally binding Kigali pact to phase down use of factory-made hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), many governments and environmentalists said it could avert 0.5C of warming this century, citing a 2013 scientific study. But some leading researchers expect it will be less. Eager to declare a victory, governments glossed over many uncertainties about HFCs. Some more recent research indicates HFCs may be less powerful in trapping heat than once feared, said Michiel Sjaeffers of Climate Analytics. "My guesstimate would be

around 0.2 degree Celsius (0.36F) by 2100" of avoided warming, he said. Climate Analytics is one of four European research groups working together to project temperatures based on government pledges.

Their Climate Action Tracker indicates that government promises for cutting greenhouse gases - if all carried out and before accounting for the HFC agreement - would raise average temperatures by 2.7C (4.9F) over pre-industrial times by 2100. Half a degree would be a gigantic saving. Last year's Paris Agreement set an over-riding goal of limiting a rise in average temperatures to "well below" 2C (3.6F), ideally just 1.5C (2.7F), to avert more droughts, floods, rising sea levels and food and water shortages.

US Secretary of State John Kerry, whose government hopes to leave a strong legacy in fighting global warming, hailed the Kigali agreement as a "monumental" step forward. "It will give us the opportunity to reduce the warming of the planet by an entire half a degree centigrade," he said. — Reuters



## PROSTATE CANCER AND DEMENTIA: DO HORMONE BLOCKERS BOOST RISKS?

**CHICAGO:** Hormone-blocking drugs for prostate cancer may increase men's chances for developing dementia, a large study suggests, but researchers say the results aren't conclusive enough to recommend avoiding a treatment that can improve survival.

Cancer patients who used the drugs faced about double the chances of being diagnosed with dementia over five years, compared with nonusers. The actual risk of dementia, though, was quite low for all the men. The researchers analyzed 20 years of electronic health records for almost 9,300 prostate cancer patients treated at Stanford University's health system. About 20 percent of the men were given hormone blockers, which lower levels of testosterone and other hormones that can fuel cancer growth.

After five years of follow-up, about 8 percent of men on hormone blockers were diagnosed with dementia versus almost 4 percent of nonusers. The results were published Thursday in the journal *JAMA Oncology*. The researchers and others say rigorous studies are needed to prove whether the widely used treatment is risky.

### Half receive treatment

About half of all prostate cancer patients in developed countries receive the treatment, including about 500,000 US men currently on the drugs. How the medicines might increase dementia risks is uncertain. One possible explanation is their effect on testosterone levels. That hormone can drive cancer cell growth, but low levels have also been linked with heart and blood vessel problems that can also contribute to dementia.

The treatment is often used for men

who don't receive surgery or radiation or whose cancer has spread to other parts of the body. It's typically given in pills and injections for a few months up to a few years although some men with advanced disease stay on the treatment indefinitely, said Dr. Kevin Nead, the lead author and a cancer doctor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Some men who can't tolerate the harsh treatment because of older age or other health problems are sometimes put on hormone blockers. Nead said the researchers took into account other ailments that may also increase risks for dementia. But he said some conditions may have been missed and he stressed that more research is needed. Some but not all previous studies that also reviewed medical records have also suggested the treatment may increase risks for dementia. Men in the current study were part of a larger study that included University of Pennsylvania patients and that found an increased risk for Alzheimer's disease, one type of dementia. That study, co-authored by Nead, was published last December in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Such studies typically use diagnosis and billing codes in medical records to gauge treatment risks or disease trends. Nead and colleagues used a newer computerized method that scans electronic records including doctors' and nurses' written notes, to find the same kind of information.

A *JAMA Oncology* editorial by Vanderbilt University physicians says the results suggest a link, not a cause. "The authors rightly frame their conclusions as associations in need of further study," Drs. Colin Walsh and Kevin Johnson said in the editorial. —AP



WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: This file photo taken on May 1, 2016 shows a Coca-Cola logo in a restaurant.—AFP

## COKE, PEPSI FUND HEALTH GROUPS... BUT FIGHT THEM TOO

### QUIETLY FIGHTING ANTI-OBESITY MEASURES

**NEW YORK:** Coca-Cola and Pepsi, the two major US soda giants, have given millions of dollars to health organizations while quietly fighting anti-obesity measures such as taxes on soft drinks, a new study shows.

The Coca-Cola Co and PepsiCo, from 2011 to 2015, sponsored 96 national health organizations battling public health problems such as obesity, diabetes and heart disease, said the research published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. During the same period, the two soda companies lobbied against 29 public health bills intended to reduce soda consumption or improve nutrition. "These companies lobbied against public health intervention in 97 percent of cases, calling into question a sincere commitment to improving the public's health," said the study's authors Daniel Aaron and Michael Siegel of Boston University. "By accepting funding from these companies, health organizations are inadvertently participating in their marketing plans," they warned.

Most of the recipients of the companies' largesse were private organizations, while some were part of the US federal government, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The donations have become larger in recent years, alongside mounting public health campaigns linking soft drinks to the country's rising obesity levels-related to a growing prevalence of diabetes.

Coca-Cola recently revealed it had spent more than \$120 million since 2010, financing scientific studies, partnerships with groups fighting obesity and lobbying. According to The Center for Responsive Politics—an independent, non-profit organization—PepsiCo on average has spent \$3 million a year on lobbying since 2011.

### Sweetening their image

By supporting health organizations, the companies are trying to improve their goodwill image with the public to distract from their lobbying efforts. "By being able to say they partner with so many health organizations, they are able to create this image that they are actually contributing to public health," Siegel said in a phone interview.

That diverts attention away from the fact that "their products are contributing to what is a terrible obesity epidemic," he said. About 35 percent of American adults are obese, and 69 percent are overweight, according to 2012 official data. Spending on treatments linked to obesity accounted for a fifth of the country's health care spending.

For Keith-Thomas Ayoob, a dietician and professor at Yeshiva University, the source of the funding is not as important as what is done with it. "I think there is a place for proper funding from industries," he said. "I am only concerned that the findings go towards the efforts that benefit consumers," he said, giving as an example helping people better manage diabetes.

### Big Soda lobbying

But Coca-Cola and PepsiCo engage in intense lobbying to kill any legislation against soft drinks, the study points out, putting the sponsored health organizations in a position of conflict of interest.

That is the case of Save the Children, to which Coca-Cola and PepsiCo gave more than \$5 million in 2009. A year later, the nonprofit withdrew its support of a tax for soft drinks, a key measure backed by the World Health

Organization to fight obesity and diabetes. Contacted by AFP, the organization refused to say whether it was still taking money from both companies.

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) and the NAACP, the nation's leading African American civil rights organization, opposed a proposal by former New York mayor Michael Bloomberg to reduce the size of soda cans in 2012, after they received money from the two drinks companies. The AND, which broke off its ties to the two, told AFP it had accepted the money "to enable the Academy to reach a wider consumer audience with healthy eating messages."

The NAACP did not respond to AFP requests for comment. Rhona Applebaum, Coca-Cola's chief science and health officer, was forced out in late 2015 after reports that she helped set up the nonprofit the Global Energy Balance Network, which downplayed the role of sugary drinks in obesity and emphasized exercise. "We may disagree with some in the public health community on discriminatory and regressive taxes and policies on our products," said the American Beverage Association (ABA).

"But, we believe our actions in communities and the marketplace are contributing to addressing the complex challenge of obesity," said the industry lobby, whose members include Coca-Cola and PepsiCo.

Contacted by AFP, Coca-Cola referred questions to the ABA, while PepsiCo did not respond. The ABA has vowed to spend millions of dollars in advertising campaigns in northern California, notably in San Francisco and Oakland, to defeat soda tax proposals in November votes. —AFP

## FOR THAIS OVERCOME BY THE KING'S DEATH, MEDICS AND A HOTLINE

**BANGKOK:** King Bhumibol Adulyadej was so revered that many Thai people around the country fainted or felt unwell when they learnt this week that he had died after 70 years on the throne.

Two days on, the government says it has provided medical treatment to scores of people overcome by grief and has told mourners they can call a hotline to help them through the trauma. "There are people who hyperventilate and we try to calm them down by talking to them," Boonruang Triruangworawat, director general of the Department of Mental Health told Reuters on Saturday. "Others we have to send to hospital."

He was speaking outside the Grand Palace, a glittering complex of halls, pavilions and gardens where the remains of the king will lie for months before a royal cremation. Thousands of black-clad mourners gathered there on Saturday, some holding umbrellas against the sun, and others fanning themselves, visibly overcome with grief.

Dotted around the riverside palace were dozens of ambulances and medical tents. Teams handed out cotton wool soaked in ammonia solution to help revive people close to fainting, said a Reuters reporter at the scene. Boonruang said around 200 people had been treated by medics since the king died, some for hyperventilation due to anxiety.

### Father figure

Thais loved King Bhumibol as a father figure, and the death of the world's

longest-reigning monarch after 70 years on the throne has left many uncertain about the future. One of those being treated at the palace, Suchin Yamatad, 64, said he felt dizzy at the news of the king's death. "It's just that I'm old. I've seen His Majesty for a long time," he added.

There was a government web page to advise people how to cope with grief, besides a counseling hotline, the Ministry of Public Health said. "Those who are overcome with emotion can call it," said ministry spokesman Suwannachai Wattanayingcharoenchai.

Most of Thailand is hushed in dignified mourning, but in some areas news of the death fueled tension. About 400 people gathered outside the home of a soya milk vendor in the southern province of Phuket on Friday to protest against a Facebook post by the vendor's son that they saw as insulting to the king, police said. Some shouted threats.

"The messages aren't necessarily aggressive, but they hurt the feelings of Thai people who are grieving," said Teerapon Tipcharoen, the Phuket provincial police commander in charge of the case. The vendor's son could be charged with breaking Thailand's royal defamation and computer crimes law, he added.

Thailand's strict lese-majeste laws protect the most senior royals from insult. A junta that took power after a May 2014 coup has used the law to hand down stiff sentences to critics of the monarchy. —Reuters

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## 'BACK TO BUSINESS AND NETWORKING NIGHT WITH US EMBASSY STAFF'

The American Business Council (ABCK) held its first General Meeting on the 27th of September 2016. The meeting which coincided with the end of the Summer break was held at the Millennium Hotel Hotel's Konoz Ballroom. More than 100 ABCK members and guests attended this event. The guests were treated to a dinner and a networking platform.

The American Business Council of Kuwait's

chairperson, Dr Julie Dinkha welcomed guests and members who included members of US and Kuwait Industry, US embassy staff and prospective members of ABCK. In her opening speech, the Chairperson emphasized ABCK's commitment to the promotion and development of American business interests, increasing awareness of American products and services in the State of Kuwait. ABCK would do this through networking forums like the General

Meeting, Discover America week, Thanksgiving, Christmas dinner parties, annual gala, golf tournament, raffles and Special Breakfast events.

The guest of honor Mr. Lawrence R Silverman, the United States Ambassador Designate to Kuwait, Senior Foreign Service and recently Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs responsible for Syria, Jordan and Lebanon as well as the

Director of Israel and Palestinian Affairs, addressed the guests. Mr. Silverman expressed his gratitude to the American Business Council of Kuwait and commended the organization for its hard work. The Ambassador stressed the importance of the initiative which not only promoted business but generated employment, facilitated organization development and created potential collaboration opportunities for the Kuwait Authority and American

Government. This was followed by a Question and Answer session which focused on the opportunities and procedures for American businesses in Kuwait.

The meeting concluded with a raffle where winners scooped a dinner for two at La Mar restaurant and weekend getaways.

Dr Juliet thanked the Ambassador and presented him with a copy of the Kuwait Guide book as a token of the forum's appreciation.

## GUST ANNOUNCES OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) announced yesterday the names of the five students who have been awarded the Outstanding High School Student Scholarship by the university to pursue their undergraduate degrees at GUST. This scholarship is the only one of its kind offered by a private university in Kuwait.

The names of the five recipients are Dana El Ostaz, Reem Rafe Zaabalawi, Raghda Abdelsalam, Fathima Shaheema Fahmey, and Raghad Abdelrahman.

Professor Donald Bates, GUST President, said: "Our University believes in bringing out the best in everyone, and we always have an eye out for those with a record of excellence and ambition. The aim of the scholarship is to extend an opportunity to Kuwait's best students to continue their education at GUST - Kuwait's number one private university. I am extremely proud of the ladies, who will make a valuable addition to our university."

In order to qualify for the scholarship, applicants can be of any nationality, and have a high school overall grade percentage of 95 or above. The scholarship covers tuition for the entire four years, and can be used towards any major GUST offers.

Also commenting on the occasion, Dr Kameleddine Benameur, GUST's Dean for Admission and Registration, "At GUST, our role and aim as an institute of higher education is to be an incubator of excellence and a hub for knowledge. With this scholarship, we provide the right environment for them to nurture their talents & needs, enable them to find their calling, and equip them for success."

In addition to this scholarship, GUST also offers a number of other scholarships, including the regular GUST Scholarship, which can cover tuition up to 100% for students of all nationalities on a semester basis; the Mission Scholarship, whereby Kuwaiti GUST graduates can go on to earn their Master's and PhD's in the United States; the GUST Summer Scholarship program, which was specifically established and funded to reward outstanding GUST students with opportunities for personal and academic growth by enriching their academic experience through international study; the Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Scholarship for Kuwaiti Students, which can cover a percentage of tuition for Kuwaiti students on a semester basis; and the Abdulrahman Al Bader Scholarship, which covers the entire four years (maximum 120 credits) for high school graduates at the College of Business Administration.



Dr Kameleddine Benameur



## ADAK CELEBRATES ONAM AND EID

Alappuzha District Association (ADAK) celebrated Onam and Eid on October 7 at the Community Hall, Abbasiya from 10 am to 5 pm in its full spirit and fervor.

After the national anthems of both Kuwait and India, the entire audience paid respect to the Indian Jawans who lost their lives while protecting the country by lighting candles and observing silence.

Thereafter, the Chief Guest, the Indian Embassy Second Secretary A K Srivastava inaugurated the celebration by the traditional lamp lighting. President BS Pillai chaired the meeting, while Patron Chacko George Kutty, Advisor M S Nair felicitated the occasion. Floral decoration, Mahabali, Pulikkali, Thiruvathira,

Onam, Thalappoli, Chendamelam, Songs depicting Onam, Cinematic dance, above all the musical orchestra by DAS Band were the main attractions of the day.

In between, a sumptuous Ona Sadya was served to all attendees. Christopher Daniel, K C Krishnakumar, Shibu Cherian, Binu Chempalayam, Zakir Puthenpalam, Sunil SS, Saiju, KG Sreekumar, Hari Soman, Manoj John, Ganesh were the pillars for the success of the program.

Sradha Binu brilliantly compered the program. Vipin Mangattu, General Secretary welcomed the audience, while Program Convener Thomas Mathew proposed vote of thanks.



## DR. BOB NELSON, 'THE THANK YOU' GURU

From The University of California & for the 1st time in Kuwait

After the opening of the 2nd season of the Knowledge Club(tm) 2016 with a Seminar and Workshops focused on The Leadership Challenge(r). Vigor Events brings Dr. Bob Nelson - the best-selling author and expert on employee recognition, awarding, and retention; all the way from the University of California and for the first time in Kuwait.

Attracting, developing and retaining the best employees has become a top priority of business leaders today. In "People Don't Succeed, People Do!" Seminar on the 23rd of October 2016, Dr. Bob Nelson reveals his research and experience from having worked with over 1000 organizations on the topic focusing on the skill set needed to truly creating a work culture in which employees perform at their best and want to continue to stay with the organization.

In addition, the seminar will provide attendees with the enrichment of the Five Trends Shaping the Future of Work, Strategies for a More Engaged Workforce, Creating a Culture of Recognition, Inspiring Teamwork & Collaboration at Work.

It is also worth noting that Dr. Bob Nelson, PhD, is one of the world's leading authorities on managing and motivating today's employees. He is president of Nelson Motivation Inc., a management training and consulting company located in San Diego, California; co-founder of Recognition Professionals International; and a leading international advocate for employee recognition and engagement for more than 15 years. He has worked with 80 percent of the Fortune 500 companies to help improve strategies, systems and programs and has presented on six continents.

Nelson is a multi-million copy best-selling author of multiple books, which have been translated into 37 languages. Bob is currently a personal coach for Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, the #1-ranked executive coach in the world and a frequent expert resource for The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Business Week, Fortune and Inc. magazines. He also teaches the MBA program at the Rady School of Management at the University of California, San Diego.

This seminar is part of the Knowledge Club(tm) 2016 series which is organized by Vigor Events and Co-Organized by ALGAS Events Company. Members of the Knowledge Club(tm) this year include Hadi Clinic as Gold Sponsor, Gulf Bank & Warba Insurance as Silver sponsors, Platinum Gym, Dar Alshifa Hospital, Warba Bank, and Beyout Investment Company as Event Sponsors, Corporate Sponsor Kuwait Oil Company, Success Partner Equate, Strategic Partner Ahli Bank of Kuwait, Executive Education Partner IE Business School and media support from the International Advertising Association Kuwait Chapter.



# FORD'S WARRIORS IN PINK DEDICATED TO FUELLING THE SPIRIT OF BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

**R**adiating with positivity, breast cancer survivors selected by Ford Middle East and North Africa for this year's edition of Warriors in Pink have come together to reflect on their battles with the disease and to share their heart-felt stories.

By continuously asking, "What more can we do?" Ford's long-standing programme Warriors in Pink continues to support, inspire and empower patients, survivors and co-survivors of the disease year after year. The objective is to drive conversation on breast cancer awareness as a leading health concern, to spread a message of hope to current patients and to encourage women and men to get regular check-ups.

Following the remarkable success of previous years' activities, Ford recently organised several photo sessions for survivors - "Models of Courage" - across the Middle East and North Africa region, in the hope that these courageous ladies' actions can inspire current and future patients in their own battles. The 2016 collection of the "Warriors in Pink" clothing and accessories line, which includes a wide range of items from scarves to shirts, was also introduced during these photo sessions.

## Kuwait

"Everyone said I was so strong and coped very well emotionally. I'm not sure I always felt that strong inside when I was at my weakest with the chemotherapy treatment", says Model of Courage Sheila Lilley. She continues: "But my view was that, as long as my children and husband were healthy, I could cope emotionally and physically. My main concern was making sure I survived as I was not ready to say goodbye to my beautiful children."

In a similar context, Model of Courage Jane Chacko advises women: "It is very important to take the necessary precautions. I went for a baseline mammogram when I was 40 years old, but then I never went back. Had I gone for regular mammograms, I would not have been able to prevent cancer, but my cancer would have been detected earlier, which would have made my treatment easier. In fact, if my cancer had been diagnosed in time, I could have avoided going through chemotherapy. So go for a mammogram!" Chacko explains: "If a woman is diagnosed with cancer, it is not necessarily the end of the world. Cancer can be treated and many women are breast cancer survivors and are leading normal lives. The important thing is to accept the situation - it is what it is - don't think about what you should have done or

what could have been, rather just stay positive and move on."

The 2016 edition of Warriors in Pink was a relaxing event held at the Baraka Wellness Centre at the Costa Del Sol hotel, Kuwait. Two breast cancer survivors- Sheila and Jane Chacko -modelled the new apparel and accessories collection, and shared their powerful message of hope.

Sue Nigoghossian, general manager, Communications, Ford Middle East and North Africa, said: "We are thrilled to welcome these courageous and inspiring women to the Models of Courage programme, and we are proud to have them represent Warriors in Pink in the region. This campaign has flourished into a long-standing programme in the Middle East and North Africa, and we continue to be committed to raising greater awareness of breast cancer and the importance of early detection as it can help save lives." "Through the Warriors in Pink campaign, we aim to further raise awareness in the UAE and across the MENA region, to encourage, inspire and empower breast cancer patients, as well as their families."

Ford Warriors in Pink hopes to raise the needed awareness about this topic and looks forward to valuable engagement in the fight against breast cancer.



## SOUTHERN AMERICAN BARBEQUE AT JUMEIRAH MESSILAH BEACH HOTEL & SPA FOR THE FIRST TIME IN KUWAIT, EXPERIENCE THE TRADITIONAL TASTE OF AMERICAN BBQ



**J**umeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa, Kuwait's idyllic resort, has ushered in the cooler evenings with the launch of its Southern American Barbeque nights every Wednesday.

The special themed-night, which is the first of its kind in Kuwait, offers an unforgettable taste of classic American grills popular

in the Southern states from North Carolina all the way to Texas. Set in a unique outdoor experience by the pool and beach area, the Southern theme is reflected in the ambiance and the scents of hickory-smoked meats, featuring an array of sumptuous premium slow-cooked beef brisket, baby back ribs smoked over Logwood, wings, salads and live cook-

ing stations featuring burgers and chili dogs.

Daniel Irvine, the new chef at Pepper Steakhouse behind the Barbeque flame-grilled mastery, said: "We are excited to present to guests a one-of-a-kind barbeque tasting experience that stays true to the authentic flavors known in the Southern states. We are delighted to continuously introduce

guests to new and memorable dining experiences."

In addition, the buffet also offers delicious barbeque accompaniments such as Southern-style coleslaw, Cajun jambalaya and creamy corn hush puppies. Those with a sweet craving will enjoy a selection of desserts, ranging from Mississippi Mud cake,

caramelized bananas to pecan pie and peach cobbler.

To complete the evening, guests can relax by the beach around the resort's tranquil surroundings with live country music. The Southern American Barbeque nights will take place every Wednesday from 7pm to 11:30pm.

## AMERICAN AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE VISITS MILLENNIUM HOTEL



**M**illennium Hotel & Convention Centre Kuwait hosted H.E. Larry Silverman, the US Ambassador Designate to Kuwait during an American Business Council event "Back to Business" held on September 27th.

Dani Saleh, Area General Manager of Millennium & Copthorne Hotels Kuwait, was present on the auspicious occasion to greet H.E. in person and to extend his best

wishes for a successful start of a new business year in Kuwait. "We consider it an honour and our privilege to welcome Your Excellency Larry Silverman to Millennium Hotel Kuwait" said Saleh.

"As a leading hotel chain with 120 hotels in all across the globe, we are well aware of the crucial role we play in upholding Kuwait's image not only in front of VIPs but also

business magnates and dignitaries from all countries worldwide" Saleh continued, "and, in this perspective, we strive continuously to ensure exceptionally high standards and flawless services to our distinguished guests."

The ambassador was escorted by the embassy officials, while Kuwait's community leaders and the representatives of many reputed American companies were present to

address the season of "Back to Business" issues ahead and to further discuss the opportunities on how to augment stronger ties in the upcoming business year.

The guests were highly impressed by the invigorating ambience in and around the hotel, the conference hall and also the excellent service provided by the dedicated and expert team of the hotel.





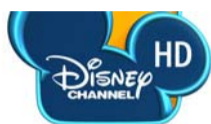
- 04:25 Super Predator
- 05:15 Man-Eating Super Snake
- 06:02 Lair Of The Killer Crocs
- 06:49 Killer Hornets From Hell
- 07:36 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 08:00 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 08:25 Dogs/Cats/Pets 101
- 09:15 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert
- 10:10 Mermaids: The New Evidence
- 11:05 Tanked
- 12:00 Cats 101
- 12:55 Bondi Vet
- 13:50 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert
- 14:45 Gator Boys
- 15:40 Mermaids: The New Evidence
- 16:35 Tanked
- 17:30 Wildest Africa
- 18:25 River Monsters
- 19:20 My Cat From Hell
- 20:15 Tanked
- 21:10 Wildest Africa
- 22:05 My Cat From Hell
- 23:00 Beasts Of The Bayou
- 23:55 Gator Boys

- 12:25 Misfit Garage
- 13:15 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 14:30 Storage Hunters
- 14:55 Garage Gold
- 15:20 Gold Divers
- 16:35 How Do They Do It?
- 17:00 Deadliest Catch
- 17:50 Fast N' Loud
- 18:40 For The Love Of Cars
- 19:30 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 19:55 How Do They Do It?
- 20:20 Gold Divers: Under The Ice
- 21:10 Storage Hunters
- 21:35 Garage Gold
- 22:00 Gold Divers
- 22:50 Deadliest Catch
- 23:40 Railroad Australia
- 00:30 Fast N' Loud
- 01:20 For The Love Of Cars
- 02:10 Gold Divers
- 03:00 Deadliest Catch
- 03:50 Railroad Australia

- 14:02 How Do They Do It?
- 14:26 Food Factory
- 14:50 Superhuman Showdown
- 15:38 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 16:02 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 16:26 Prototype This
- 17:14 How The Universe Works
- 18:02 Superhuman Showdown
- 18:50 Prototype This
- 19:40 How The Universe Works
- 20:30 NASA's Unexplained Files
- 21:20 How Do They Do It?
- 21:45 Food Factory
- 22:10 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
- 23:00 NASA's Unexplained Files
- 23:50 How The Universe Works
- 00:40 Prototype This
- 01:30 How Do They Do It?
- 01:55 Food Factory
- 02:20 NASA's Unexplained Files
- 03:10 How The Universe Works
- 04:00 Discovery World
- 10:00 Discovery World



- 04:00 Storm Chasers
- 04:50 Ultimate Survival
- 05:40 Ultimate Survival
- 06:30 Ultimate Survival
- 07:20 How It's Made
- 07:40 How It's Made
- 08:00 Kenny The Shark
- 08:25 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
- 08:50 Too Cute! Pint-Sized
- 09:40 How It's Made
- 10:05 How It's Made
- 10:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
- 11:20 Mythbusters
- 12:10 K9 Cops
- 13:00 Too Cute! Pint-Sized
- 13:50 Ultimate Survival
- 14:40 How It's Made
- 15:05 How It's Made
- 15:30 Storm Chasers
- 16:20 Mythbusters
- 17:10 Kenny The Shark
- 17:35 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
- 18:00 Kids Do The Craziest Things
- 18:25 Kids Do The Craziest Things
- 18:50 Baby Animals
- 19:15 Baby Animals
- 19:40 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
- 20:30 How It's Made
- 20:55 How It's Made
- 21:20 Mythbusters
- 22:10 Kids Do The Craziest Things
- 22:35 Kids Do The Craziest Things
- 23:00 Baby Animals
- 23:25 Baby Animals
- 23:50 What Happened Next?
- 00:15 What Happened Next?
- 00:40 Ultimate Survival
- 01:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?



- 04:15 The Hive
- 04:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 04:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 05:10 Hank Zipzer
- 05:35 Binny And The Ghost
- 06:00 Violetta
- 06:45 The Hive
- 06:50 Mouk
- 07:00 Jessie
- 07:25 Jessie
- 07:50 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
- 08:15 Tsum Tsum Shorts
- 08:20 Liv And Maddie
- 08:45 Bunk'd
- 09:10 Austin & Ally
- 09:35 Shake It Up
- 10:00 A.N.T. Farm
- 10:25 A.N.T. Farm
- 10:50 That's So Raven
- 11:15 That's So Raven
- 11:40 Good Luck Charlie
- 12:05 Good Luck Charlie
- 12:30 Jessie
- 12:55 Disney Mickey Mouse
- 13:00 The 7D
- 13:15 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
- 13:40 Hank Zipzer
- 14:05 Star Darlings
- 14:10 Austin & Ally
- 14:35 Austin & Ally
- 15:00 Liv And Maddie
- 15:25 Liv And Maddie
- 15:50 Dog With A Blog
- 16:15 Jessie
- 16:40 Bunk'd
- 17:05 Star Darlings
- 17:10 Gravity Falls
- 17:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
- 18:00 Backstage
- 18:25 Descendants Wicked World
- 18:30 Alex & Co.
- 18:55 Disney Mickey Mouse
- 19:00 Girl Meets World
- 19:25 Star Darlings
- 19:30 Dog With A Blog
- 19:55 Descendants Wicked World
- 20:00 Best Friends Whenever
- 20:25 Tsum Tsum Shorts
- 20:30 Jessie
- 20:55 Liv And Maddie
- 21:20 Austin & Ally
- 21:45 Backstage



ROBOT OVERLORDS ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

- 11:00 Sofia The First
- 11:25 The Lion Guard
- 11:55 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
- 12:25 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
- 12:50 The Hive
- 13:00 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- 13:30 Doc McStuffins
- 14:00 Jake And The Neverland Pirates
- 14:15 Sofia The First
- 14:45 Goldie & Bear
- 15:15 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
- 15:45 Doc McStuffins
- 16:15 Minnie's Bow-Toons
- 16:20 The Adventures Of The Disney Fairies
- 16:50 Miles From Tomorrow
- 17:15 Sofia The First
- 17:45 Jake And The Neverland Pirates
- 18:00 The Lion Guard
- 18:30 Goldie & Bear

- 12:20 Annedroids
- 12:45 Annedroids
- 13:10 Counterfeit Cat
- 13:35 K.C. Undercover
- 14:00 K.C. Undercover
- 14:30 Gravity Falls
- 14:55 Lab Rats
- 15:20 Lab Rats
- 15:45 Phineas And Ferb
- 16:10 Disney Mickey Mouse
- 16:15 Supa Strikas
- 16:40 Supa Strikas
- 17:05 Lab Rats
- 17:30 Danger Mouse
- 17:55 Kirby Buckets
- 18:25 K.C. Undercover
- 18:50 Annedroids
- 19:15 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything
- 19:40 K.C. Undercover
- 20:05 Future Worm
- 20:10 Gravity Falls
- 20:35 Counterfeit Cat
- 21:00 Lab Rats
- 21:25 Supa Strikas
- 21:55 K.C. Undercover
- 22:20 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything
- 22:45 Guardians Of The Galaxy
- 23:10 Marvel Avengers Assemble
- 23:40 Disney Mickey Mouse
- 00:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA

- 02:35 Storage Wars
- 03:00 Storage Wars: Best Of
- 03:25 Storage Wars Texas
- 03:50 Car Hunters



- 04:25 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
- 05:20 The Jonathan Ross Show
- 06:15 Murdoch Mysteries
- 07:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 08:05 The Chase
- 09:00 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
- 10:00 The Jonathan Ross Show
- 11:00 Murdoch Mysteries
- 11:55 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 12:50 The Chase
- 13:45 Emmerdale
- 14:15 Coronation Street
- 14:45 Coronation Street
- 15:15 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 16:10 The Chase
- 17:00 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
- 17:55 5 Star Family Reunion
- 18:50 Murdoch Mysteries
- 19:45 Emmerdale
- 20:15 Coronation Street
- 20:45 Coronation Street
- 21:10 The Chase
- 22:00 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
- 22:55 5 Star Family Reunion
- 23:50 Emmerdale
- 00:15 Coronation Street
- 00:40 Coronation Street
- 01:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 02:00 Emmerdale
- 02:30 Coronation Street
- 03:00 Coronation Street



- 04:00 Nat Geo AD HD
- 10:00 Nat Geo AD HD
- 04:30 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 05:20 Charlie Luxton's Homes By The Med
- 06:10 The Food Files
- 06:35 Poh & Co
- 07:25 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet
- 07:50 Glamour Puds
- 08:15 Croatia's Finest
- 09:05 Eat Street
- 09:30 Bangkok Airport
- 10:20 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 10:45 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 11:10 Charlie Luxton's Homes By The Med
- 12:00 The Food Files
- 12:25 Poh & Co
- 12:50 Poh & Co
- 13:15 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet
- 13:40 American Food Battle
- 14:05 Croatia's Finest
- 15:00 Eat Street
- 15:30 Bangkok Airport
- 16:25 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 16:50 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 17:20 Fearless Chef
- 18:15 Tales From The Bush Larder
- 18:40 Food School
- 19:10 Poh & Co
- 19:35 Poh & Co
- 20:05 American Food Battle
- 20:30 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 21:00 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 21:25 Fearless Chef
- 22:15 Tales From The Bush Larder
- 22:40 Food School



- 05:00 Marvel's Agent Carter
- 06:00 Good Morning America - Weekend
- 07:00 Containment
- 08:00 Suits
- 09:00 Rosewood
- 11:00 Containment
- 12:00 Suits
- 13:00 Rosewood
- 14:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 15:00 Live Good Morning America
- 17:00 This Is Us
- 18:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 19:00 Rosewood
- 20:00 Royal Pains
- 21:00 The Fosters
- 22:00 Quantico
- 23:00 Roadies
- 00:00 Sleepy Hollow
- 01:00 Prison Break



- 05:00 Airplane vs. Volcano
- 07:00 The Berlin File
- 09:15 Robot Overlords
- 11:00 S.W.A.T.
- 13:00 Apocalypse Pompeii
- 14:45 The Berlin File
- 17:00 Hercules Reborn
- 19:00 Robot Overlords
- 21:00 The Taking Of Pelham 123
- 23:00 Into The Grizzly Maze
- 01:00 Bullet
- 03:00 Attila



- 05:00 Caveman
- 07:00 Passed Away
- 09:00 Sister Act
- 11:00 Caveman
- 13:00 Ghostbusters II
- 15:00 Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey
- 17:00 Sister Act
- 19:00 How Do You Know
- 21:00 The Foot Fist Way
- 23:00 Cyrus
- 01:00 The Wedding Ringer
- 03:00 How Do You Know



- 04:45 Animal Storm Squad
- 05:40 The Lady With 700 Cats
- 06:35 World's Deadliest Animals
- 07:30 Caught In The Act
- 08:25 Animal Storm Squad
- 09:20 The Lady With 700 Cats
- 10:15 World's Weirdest Animal Faces
- 11:10 Bearhood
- 12:05 Secret Life Of Predators
- 13:00 I, Predator
- 13:55 World's Deadliest Animals
- 14:50 Caught In The Act
- 15:45 Animal Storm Squad
- 16:40 Badass Animals
- 17:35 World's Weirdest Animal Faces
- 18:30 Bear Nomad
- 19:25 Restless Planet
- 20:20 Animal Storm Squad
- 21:10 Badass Animals
- 22:00 World's Weirdest Animal Faces
- 22:50 Bear Nomad
- 23:40 Restless Planet
- 00:10 I, Predator
- 01:20 World's Deadliest Animals



- 04:50 Wicked Tuna: North vs. South
- 05:45 Bear End Express
- 06:40 Perilous Journeys
- 07:35 Mega Factories
- 08:30 World's Most Extreme
- 09:25 Nazi Megastructures
- 10:20 Dead End Express
- 11:15 Airport Security: Colombia
- 12:10 Yukon Gold
- 13:05 The Yard
- 14:00 Nazi Megastructures
- 15:00 World's Most Extreme
- 16:00 Mega Factories
- 17:00 Airport Security: Colombia
- 18:00 Yukon Gold
- 19:00 The Yard
- 20:00 Mega Factories
- 21:00 Airport Security: Colombia
- 21:50 Yukon Gold
- 22:40 The Yard
- 23:30 Mega Factories
- 00:20 Perilous Journeys
- 01:10 Airport Security: Colombia
- 02:00 Yukon Gold
- 03:00 The Yard



- 04:00 Calendar Girls
- 06:00 Half Of A Yellow Sun
- 08:00 The Railway Man
- 10:00 The Education Of Little Tree
- 12:15 Love & Mercy
- 14:30 Gridiron Gang
- 17:00 The Horse Whisperer
- 19:00 Escobar: Paradise Lost
- 22:00 Rio, I Love You
- 00:00 The Hi-Lo Country
- 02:00 The Education Of Little Tree



- 05:45 90 Minutes In Heaven
- 08:00 With This Ring
- 10:00 Everest
- 12:15 Star Wars: The Force Awakens
- 14:45 Stonehearst Asylum
- 16:45 Step Up All In
- 18:45 Hotel Transylvania 2
- 20:00 Ant-Man
- 23:00 Electricity
- 01:00 Entourage
- 02:45 Kidnapping Mr. Heineken
- 04:00 Marvel's Thor: Tales Of Asgard
- 05:30 Bolts And Blip
- 07:00 The Heart Of The Oak
- 08:45 Marco Macaco
- 10:30 The Flintstones & WWE: Stone Age Smackdown
- 12:00 The Olsen Gang In Deep Trouble
- 13:45 Marco Macaco
- 15:15 Mamma Moo And Crow
- 17:00 The Three Dogaters
- 19:00 The Flintstones & WWE: Stone Age Smackdown
- 20:00 Marco Macaco
- 21:30 Miffy The Movie
- 23:15 Mamma Moo And Crow
- 00:45 The Three Dogaters
- 02:30 Marco Macaco



- 04:00 Orphan Black
- 04:45 Doctors
- 05:15 Eastenders
- 05:45 Eastenders
- 06:15 Stella
- 07:00 Doctors
- 07:30 Doctors
- 08:00 Eastenders
- 08:30 Casualty
- 09:25 New Tricks
- 10:20 Doctor Who
- 11:10 Stella
- 11:55 Doctors
- 12:25 Eastenders
- 13:00 New Tricks
- 13:55 Doctor Who
- 14:45 Stella
- 15:35 Doctors
- 16:05 Eastenders
- 16:40 New Tricks
- 17:35 Doctor Who
- 18:25 Stella
- 19:15 Casualty
- 20:05 New Tricks
- 21:00 The Kettering Incident
- 22:00 Thirteen
- 22:55 Silent Witness
- 00:00 Orphan Black
- 00:50 Casualty
- 01:45 The Kettering Incident
- 02:35 Thirteen
- 03:30 Silent Witness



- 04:00 Workaholics
- 04:25 Catch A Contractor
- 04:50 Ridiculousness
- 05:15 Key And Peele
- 05:40 Ridiculousness
- 06:05 Ridiculousness
- 06:30 Impractical Jokers
- 06:55 Impractical Jokers
- 07:20 Tosh.0
- 07:50 Tosh.0
- 08:15 Tattoo Disasters
- 08:40 Tattoo Disasters
- 09:05 Ridiculousness



- 04:00 Betrayed
- 04:48 Deadly Affairs
- 05:36 Deadly Affairs
- 06:24 Deadly Affairs
- 07:12 Deadly Affairs
- 08:00 Nightmare Next Door
- 08:50 I Almost Got Away With It
- 09:40 On The Case With Paula Zahn
- 10:30 Deadly Affairs
- 11:20 I'd Kill For You
- 12:10 California Investigator
- 12:35 California Investigator
- 13:00 Nightmare Next Door

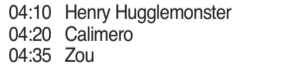


STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS ON OSN MOVIES HD

- 09:30 Ridiculousness
- 09:55 Impractical Jokers
- 10:20 Impractical Jokers
- 10:45 Workaholics
- 11:10 Workaholics
- 11:35 Ridiculousness
- 12:00 Catch A Contractor
- 12:25 Tattoo Disasters
- 12:50 Tattoo Disasters
- 13:15 Nathan For You
- 13:40 Nathan For You
- 14:05 Impractical Jokers
- 14:30 Impractical Jokers
- 14:55 Ridiculousness
- 15:20 Ridiculousness
- 15:45 Tattoo Disasters
- 16:35 Tosh.0
- 17:00 Tosh.0
- 17:30 Workaholics
- 17:55 Workaholics
- 18:25 Workaholics
- 18:50 Hungry Investors
- 19:39 Ridiculousness
- 20:03 Ridiculousness
- 20:27 Impractical Jokers
- 20:50 Impractical Jokers
- 21:13 Catch A Contractor
- 22:00 The Daily Show - Global Edition

- 13:50 I Almost Got Away With It
- 14:40 On The Case With Paula Zahn
- 15:30 Deadly Affairs
- 16:20 I'd Kill For You
- 17:10 Web Of Lies
- 18:00 Disappeared
- 18:50 I Almost Got Away With It
- 19:40 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
- 20:30 Deadly Affairs
- 21:20 Impostors
- 22:10 I Almost Got Away With It
- 23:00 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall
- 23:50 Jonbenet: An American Murder Mystery
- 00:40 Murder Book
- 01:30 Deadly Sins
- 02:20 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall
- 03:10 Jonbenet: An American Murder Mystery

- 22:10 H2O: Just Add Water
- 23:00 Binny And The Ghost
- 23:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 23:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 00:10 Hank Zipzer
- 00:35 Binny And The Ghost
- 01:00 Violetta
- 01:45 The Hive
- 01:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 02:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch



- 04:10 Henry Hugglemonster
- 04:20 Calimero
- 04:35 Zou
- 04:45 Loopdidoo
- 05:00 Art Attack
- 05:25 Henry Hugglemonster
- 05:35 Calimero
- 05:50 Zou
- 06:00 Loopdidoo
- 06:15 Art Attack
- 06:35 Henry Hugglemonster
- 06:50 Calimero
- 07:00 Zou
- 07:20 Loopdidoo
- 07:35 Art Attack
- 08:00 The Hive
- 08:10 Zou
- 08:25 Loopdidoo
- 08:40 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
- 09:05 Sofia The First
- 09:30 PJ Masks
- 09:40 Goldie & Bear
- 09:55 Doc McStuffins
- 10:10 Jake And The Neverland Pirates
- 10:35 PJ Masks
- 10:50 Miles From Tomorrow
- 10:45 Doc McStuffins



- 07:00 Boyster
- 07:10 Super Matrak
- 07:35 Super Matrak
- 08:00 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
- 08:25 K.C. Undercover
- 08:50 The 7D
- 09:00 Phineas And Ferb
- 09:15 Danger Mouse
- 09:40 Counterfeit Cat
- 10:05 Future Worm
- 10:10 Gravity Falls
- 10:35 Lab Rats
- 11:00 Supa Strikas
- 11:25 Supa Strikas
- 11:50 Danger Mouse



- 04:40 Botched
- 05:35 Botched
- 06:30 Celebrity Style Story
- 07:00 LA Clippers Dance Squad
- 07:55 El News
- 08:25 LA Clippers Dance Squad
- 09:20 LA Clippers Dance Squad
- 10:15 LA Clippers Dance Squad
- 11:10 El News
- 11:40 Fashion Bloggers
- 12:10 Catching Kelce
- 12:40 Catching Kelce
- 14:10 WAGs
- 15:05 WAGs
- 16:00 El News
- 16:30 Fashion Bloggers
- 17:00 WAGs
- 18:00 WAGs
- 19:00 WAGs
- 20:00 WAGs
- 21:00 WAGs Miami
- 22:00 WAGs Miami
- 23:00 Catching Kelce
- 00:00 El News
- 00:15 WAGs Miami
- 01:05 WAGs Miami
- 01:55 Catching Kelce
- 02:50 Dash Dolls
- 03:50 Dash Dolls



- 04:40 Counting Cars
- 05:05 Counting Cars
- 05:30 Pawn Stars
- 06:00 Mankind The Story Of All Of Us
- 07:00 Shipping Wars
- 07:25 Shipping Wars
- 07:50 American Pickers
- 08:40 Pawn Stars
- 09:05 Pawn Stars
- 09:30 American Restoration
- 09:55 Counting Cars
- 10:20 Counting Cars
- 10:45 Car Hunters
- 11:10 Car Hunters
- 11:35 American Restoration
- 12:25 Mankind The Story Of All Of Us
- 13:15 Mountain Men
- 14:05 The Curse Of Oak Island
- 14:55 Pawn Stars
- 15:20 Pawn Stars
- 15:45 Pawn Stars South Africa
- 16:10 Pawn Stars South Africa
- 16:35 Shipping Wars
- 16:50 American Pickers
- 17:50 Storage Wars: Best Of
- 18:15 Storage Wars Texas
- 18:40 The Curse Of Oak Island
- 19:30 Mankind The Story Of All Of Us
- 20:20 American Pickers
- 21:10 Pawn Stars
- 21:35 Pawn Stars
- 22:00 Ozzy & Jack's World Detour
- 22:50 Aussie Pickers
- 23:40 Gold Hunters: Legend Of The Superstition...
- 00:30 Ozzy & Jack's World Detour
- 01:20 Aussie Pickers
- 02:10 Storage Wars



HALF OF A YELLOW SUN ON OSN MOVIES FESTIVAL



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## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY

| Channel   | Programme                                   | Time     | Channel  | Programme                                       | Time     | Channel   | Programme   | Time     |
|-----------|---|----------|----------|---|----------|-----------|---|----------|
| SHARQIA-1 | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 12:30 PM | FANAR-2  | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 11:45 AM | AVENUES-1 | THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN                               | 1:30 PM  |
|           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 2:45 PM  |          | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 2:00 PM  |           | SULLY   | 4:15 PM  |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 5:00 PM  |          | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D | 4:15 PM  |           | OPPAM - Malayalam                                   | 6:30 PM  |
|           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN | 7:30 PM  |          | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 7:00 PM  |           | ASHAN KHARGEN                                       | 9:30 PM  |
|           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 10:00 PM |          | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 9:45 PM  |           | THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN                               | 11:45 PM |
|           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 12:15 AM |          | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 12:05 AM |           |   |          |
| SHARQIA-2 | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 11:30 AM | FANAR-3  | TANK 432  | 11:30 AM | AVENUES-2 | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D-4DX | 12:00 PM |
|           | STORKS                                      | 11:30 AM |          | TANK 432  | 1:30 PM  |           | DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D-4DX                            | 2:45 PM  |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 1:45 PM  |          | MIRZYA - HINDI                                  | 3:30 PM  |           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D-4DX | 5:15 PM  |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 4:00 PM  |          | PREMAM - Telugu                                 | 3:30 PM  |           | HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART 1-2D 4DX | 8:00 PM  |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 6:15 PM  |          | MIRZYA - HINDI                                  | 6:30 PM  |           | DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D-4DX                            | 11:00 PM |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 8:30 PM  |          | NO FRI+MON                                      |          |           |   |          |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 10:45 PM |          | PREMAM - Telugu                                 | 6:30 PM  | AVENUES-3 | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 11:30 AM |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 1:00 AM  |          |   |          |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 1:45 PM  |
| SHARQIA-3 | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 11:30 AM | TANK 432 | PREMAM - Telugu                                 | 9:30 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 4:00 PM  |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 2:15 PM  |          | TANK 432  | 12:15 AM |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 6:15 PM  |
|           | STORKS                                      | 5:00 PM  | FANAR-4  | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 1:15 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 8:30 PM  |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 7:00 PM  |          | STORKS  | 1:30 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 10:45 PM |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 9:45 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 1:30 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 1:00 AM  |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 12:30 AM |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 3:30 PM  | 360°-1    | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D     | 12:30 PM |
| MUHALAB-1 | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 11:30 AM |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 5:45 PM  |           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN         | 3:15 PM  |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 1:45 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 8:00 PM  |           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN         | 6:00 PM  |
|           | STORKS                                      | 4:15 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 10:15 PM |           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN         | 8:45 PM  |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 6:15 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 12:30 AM |           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D     | 11:30 PM |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 9:00 PM  | FANAR-5  | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 11:30 AM | 360°-2    | THE DISAPPOINTMENTS ROOM                            | 12:00 PM |
|           | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE            | 11:45 PM |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 1:45 PM  |           | THE DISAPPOINTMENTS ROOM                            | 2:00 PM  |
| MUHALAB-2 | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 11:30 AM |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 4:15 PM  |           | THE DISAPPOINTMENTS ROOM                            | 4:00 PM  |
|           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 1:45 PM  |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 7:00 PM  |           | SULLY   | 6:15 PM  |
|           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN | 4:00 PM  |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 9:45 PM  |           | SULLY   | 8:30 PM  |
|           | PREMAM - Telugu                             | 4:00 PM  |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 12:30 AM |           | THE DISAPPOINTMENTS ROOM                            | 10:45 PM |
|           | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN | 6:45 PM  | MARINA-1 | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 1:15 PM  |           | THE DISAPPOINTMENTS ROOM                            | 1:00 AM  |
|           | PREMAM - Telugu                             | 6:45 PM  |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 1:30 PM  | 360°-3    | THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN                               | 1:00 PM  |
|           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 9:30 PM  |          | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN     | 4:00 PM  |           | THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN                               | 3:45 PM  |
|           | NO FRI                                      |          |          | MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN     | 6:45 PM  |           | NO FRI+SAT  |          |
|           | PREMAM - Telugu                             | 9:30 PM  |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 9:30 PM  |           | OPPAM - Malayalam                                   | 3:45 PM  |
|           | FRI   |          |          | USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE                | 12:15 AM |           | FRI+SAT   |          |
|           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                           | 12:15 AM |          |   |          |           | OPPAM - Malayalam                                   | 6:45 PM  |
| MUHALAB-3 | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 12:45 PM |          |   |          |           | THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN                               | 9:45 PM  |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 3:00 PM  |          |   |          |           | THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN                               | 12:30 AM |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 5:15 PM  |          |   |          |           |   |          |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 7:30 PM  |          |   |          |           |   |          |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 9:45 PM  |          |   |          |           |   |          |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 12:15 AM |          |   |          |           |   |          |
| FANAR-1   | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 12:15 PM | MARINA-2 | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 12:45 PM | AL-KOUT.1 | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 12:30 PM |
|           | THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN                       | 2:30 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 3:00 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 2:45 PM  |
|           | STORKS                                      | 5:15 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 5:15 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 5:15 PM  |
|           | STORKS                                      | 7:15 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 7:30 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 7:30 PM  |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 9:15 PM  |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 9:45 PM  |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 9:45 PM  |
|           | LAF WA DAWARAN                              | 11:30 PM |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 12:05 AM |           | LAF WA DAWARAN                                      | 12:05 AM |
|           |   |          | MARINA-3 | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 11:45 AM | AL-KOUT.2 | DEEPWATER HORIZON                                   | 11:45 AM |
|           |   |          |          | LAF WA DAWARAN                                  | 2:00 PM  |           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                                   | 2:00 PM  |
|           |   |          |          | STORKS  | 4:15 PM  |           | DEEPWATER HORIZON                                   | 4:15 PM  |
|           |   |          |          | STORKS  | 6:15 PM  |           |   |          |
|           |   |          |          | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 8:15 PM  |           |   |          |
|           |   |          |          | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 10:30 PM |           |   |          |
|           |   |          |          | DEEPWATER HORIZON                               | 12:45 AM |           |   |          |

### WANTED Supervisor

Speaking English, Arabic  
 Bangladeshi have cleaning service experience.

Tel: 50030720  
 Fax: 22426068

CHANGE OF NAME

I Zahra holding Indian Passport No. Z3218479 issued at Kuwait on 29/11/2015, would like change my name to Albertina Fernandes. (C 5219) 17-10-2016

Automated enquiry about the Civil ID card is **1889988**



### PRAYER TIMINGS

Fajr: 04:31  
 Shorook: 05:50  
 Dahr: 11:33  
 Asr: 14:49  
 Maghrib: 17:16  
 Isha: 18:33



## Flight Schedule

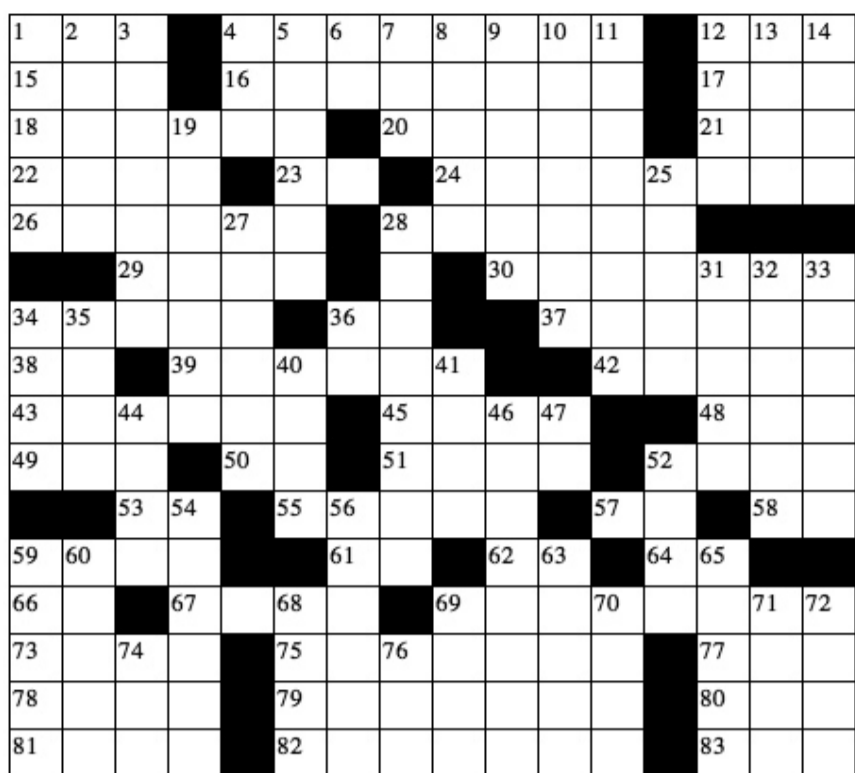
## Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

### DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

| Arrival Flights on Monday 17/10/2016 |      |                   |       | Departure Flights on Monday 17/10/2016 |      |                   |       |
|--------------------------------------|------|-------------------|-------|--|------|-------------------|-------|
| Airlines                             | Fit  | Route             | Time  | Airlines                               | Fit  | Route             | Time  |
| MSC                                  | 415  | Sohag             | 00:10 | AIC                                    | 982  | Ahmedabad/Chennai | 00:05 |
| THY                                  | 772  | Istanbul          | 00:10 | BBC                                    | 044  | Dhaka             | 00:10 |
| JZR                                  | 267  | Beirut            | 00:30 | JAI                                    | 573  | Mumbai            | 00:10 |
| FDB                                  | 069  | Dubai             | 00:55 | FDB                                    | 072  | Dubai             | 00:30 |
| DLH                                  | 635  | Doha              | 01:00 | PIA                                    | 206  | Lahore            | 00:40 |
| FDK                                  | 803  | Damascus          | 01:00 | MSC                                    | 416  | Sohag             | 01:05 |
| QTR                                  | 1086 | Doha              | 01:15 | THY                                    | 773  | Istanbul          | 01:40 |
| JZR                                  | 539  | Cairo             | 01:20 | FDK                                    | 804  | Damascus          | 01:55 |
| PGT                                  | 858  | Istanbul          | 01:40 | DLH                                    | 635  | Frankfurt         | 02:00 |
| RJA                                  | 642  | Amman             | 01:45 | PGT                                    | 859  | Istanbul          | 02:40 |
| ETH                                  | 620  | Addis Ababa       | 01:45 | THY                                    | 765  | Istanbul          | 02:45 |
| THY                                  | 1464 | Istanbul          | 01:50 | ETH                                    | 621  | Addis Ababa       | 02:45 |
| MSC                                  | 501  | Alexandria        | 02:00 | KKK                                    | 6505 | Istanbul          | 02:55 |
| KKK                                  | 6506 | Istanbul          | 02:00 | UAE                                    | 854  | Dubai             | 03:45 |
| GFA                                  | 211  | Bahrain           | 02:15 | KAC                                    | 417  | Manila            | 03:55 |
| CEB                                  | 018  | Manila            | 02:20 | MSC                                    | 502  | Alexandria        | 04:00 |
| UAE                                  | 853  | Dubai             | 02:25 | OMA                                    | 644  | Muscat            | 04:05 |
| OMA                                  | 643  | Muscat            | 03:05 | FDB                                    | 068  | Dubai             | 04:05 |
| ETD                                  | 305  | Abu Dhabi         | 03:05 | ETD                                    | 306  | Abu Dhabi         | 04:10 |
| MSR                                  | 612  | Cairo             | 03:15 | MSR                                    | 613  | Cairo             | 04:15 |
| FDB                                  | 067  | Dubai             | 03:15 | PGT                                    | 861  | Istanbul          | 04:30 |
| QTR                                  | 1076 | Doha              | 03:25 | QTR                                    | 1077 | Doha              | 04:35 |
| PGT                                  | 860  | Istanbul          | 03:30 | CEB                                    | 019  | Manila            | 04:50 |
| KAC                                  | 544  | Cairo             | 03:40 | JZR                                    | 560  | Sohag             | 05:00 |
| DXH                                  | 170  | Bahrain           | 04:35 | THY                                    | 1465 | Istanbul          | 06:00 |
| FEG                                  | 933  | Sohag             | 05:00 | FEG                                    | 954  | Asyut             | 06:00 |
| THY                                  | 770  | Istanbul          | 05:15 | RJA                                    | 643  | Amman             | 06:25 |
| JZR                                  | 529  | Asyut             | 06:00 | QTR                                    | 1087 | Doha              | 06:30 |
| PAL                                  | 668  | Manila/Dubai      | 06:25 | THY                                    | 771  | Istanbul          | 06:45 |
| KAC                                  | 412  | Manila/Bangkok    | 06:30 | GFA                                    | 212  | Bahrain           | 06:50 |
| BAW                                  | 157  | London            | 06:40 | FDB                                    | 070  | Dubai             | 07:05 |
| FDB                                  | 5061 | Dubai             | 07:15 | FDB                                    | 5062 | Dubai             | 07:55 |
| KAC                                  | 382  | Delhi             | 07:30 | BAW                                    | 156  | London            | 08:25 |
| KAC                                  | 206  | Islamabad         | 07:40 | FDB                                    | 054  | Dubai             | 08:30 |
| FDB                                  | 053  | Dubai             | 07:50 | KAC                                    | 173  | Munich            | 08:35 |
| KAC                                  | 302  | Mumbai            | 07:50 | KAC                                    | 539  | Sharm el-Sheikh   | 08:50 |
| KAC                                  | 156  | Istanbul          | 08:00 | KAC                                    | 671  | Dubai             | 09:15 |
| KAC                                  | 354  | BLR               | 08:00 | KAC                                    | 787  | Jeddah            | 09:30 |
| KAC                                  | 362  | Colombo           | 08:20 | ABY                                    | 126  | Sharjah           | 09:45 |
| KAC                                  | 352  | Kochi             | 08:20 | UAE                                    | 856  | Dubai             | 09:50 |
| UAE                                  | 855  | Dubai             | 08:25 | ETD                                    | 302  | Abu Dhabi         | 10:05 |
| ETD                                  | 301  | Abu Dhabi         | 09:00 | IRA                                    | 666  | Esfahan           | 10:15 |
| KAC                                  | 284  | Dhaka             | 09:00 | QTR                                    | 1071 | Doha              | 10:35 |
| ABY                                  | 125  | Sharjah           | 09:05 | FDB                                    | 056  | Dubai             | 10:40 |
| IRA                                  | 667  | Esfahan           | 09:15 | KAC                                    | 501  | Beirut            | 11:00 |
| QTR                                  | 1070 | Doha              | 09:20 | KAC                                    | 153  | Istanbul          | 11:00 |
| FDB                                  | 055  | Dubai             | 09:40 | KAC                                    | 561  | Amman             | 11:20 |
| UAE                                  | 873  | Dubai             | 10:40 | KAC                                    | 165  | Rome/Paris        | 11:25 |
| GFA                                  | 213  | Bahrain           | 10:40 | GFA                                    | 214  | Bahrain           | 11:35 |
| AXB                                  | 890  | Mangalore/Bahrain | 10:55 | KAC                                    | 741  | Dammam            | 11:35 |
| MEA                                  | 404  | Beirut            | 11:00 | AXB                                    | 890  | Mangalore         | 11:55 |
| JZR                                  | 561  | Sohag             | 11:25 | MEA                                    | 405  | Beirut            | 12:00 |
| FDK                                  | 801  | Damascus          | 11:45 | KAC                                    | 541  | Cairo             | 12:05 |
| JZR                                  | 165  | Dubai             | 11:50 | UAE                                    | 874  | Dubai             | 12:10 |
| FDB                                  | 075  | Dubai             | 12:25 | KAC                                    | 103  | London            | 12:10 |
| MSC                                  | 401  | Alexandria        | 12:30 | JZR                                    | 776  | Jeddah            | 12:15 |
| FEG                                  | 953  | Asyut             | 12:55 | FDK                                    | 802  | Damascus          | 12:45 |
| MSR                                  | 610  | Cairo             | 13:00 | KAC                                    | 785  | Jeddah            | 13:00 |
| THY                                  | 766  | Istanbul          | 13:10 | JZR                                    | 176  | Dubai             | 13:10 |
| KNE                                  | 231  | Riyadh            | 14:00 | FDB                                    | 076  | Dubai             | 13:10 |



CROSSWORD 1402



ACROSS

1. (music) The pace of music measured by the number of beats occurring in 60 seconds.
4. A mountain peak in south central Sri Lanka (7,360 feet high).
12. A master's degree in library science.
15. American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight championship three times (born in 1942).
16. Trees or shrubs of the families Ebenaceae or Sapotaceae or Styracaceae or Symplocaceae.
17. A former agency (from 1946 to 1974) that was responsible for research into atomic energy and its peacetime uses in the United States.
18. The capital of Kyrgyzstan (known as Frunze 1926-1991).
20. A cloth covering (a legging) that provides covering for the instep and ankles.
21. A nucleic acid that transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm.
22. A Chadic language spoken in Chad.
23. A hemoprotein composed of globin and heme that gives red blood cells their characteristic color.
24. Of or relating to or characteristic of Estonia or its people or language.
26. A genus of tropical Asian and Malaysian palm trees.
29. Type genus of the Anatidae.
30. Type genus of the Artamidae.
34. Relating to the deepest parts of the ocean (below 6000 meters).
37. (Greek mythology) Goddess of the moon in ancient mythology.
38. Angular distance above the horizon (especially of a celestial object).
39. Leave a camp.
42. The capital and largest city of Bangladesh.
43. A member of an agricultural people of southern India.
45. A notable achievement.
48. An argument opposed to a proposal.
49. A period marked by distinctive character or reckoned from a fixed point or event.
50. Before noon.
51. Rock that in its molten form (as magma) issues from volcanoes.
53. A small pellet fired from an air rifle or BB gun.
55. Port city on southern Honshu on Osaka Bay.
57. A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.
58. A chronic inflammatory collagen disease affecting connective tissue (skin or joints).
59. (Scottish) Bluish-black or gray-blue.
61. A unit of luminous flux equal to the amount of light given out through a solid angle of 1 steradian by a point source of 1 candela intensity radiating uniformly in all directions.
62. An intensely radioactive metallic element that occurs in minute amounts in uranium ores.
64. A public promotion of some product or service.
66. (Akkadian) God of wisdom.
67. Tropical starchy tuberous root.
73. Channel into a new direction.
75. A region of northeastern France famous for its wines.
77. Aircraft landing in bad weather in which the pilot is talked down by ground control using precision approach radar.
78. Consisting of or involving two parts or components usually in pairs.
79. Of or in or belonging to the cavity of the

DOWN

1. A coffee cake flavored with orange rind and raisins and almonds.
2. Someone who lies a trade.
3. Read or interpret wrongly.
4. The seat within a bishop's diocese where his cathedral is located adv.
5. A member of the Circassian people living east of the Black Sea.
6. A state in New England.
7. The part of the nervous system of vertebrates that controls involuntary actions of the smooth muscles and heart and glands.
8. Greek mythology.
9. A state in northwestern North America.
10. The literary culture.
11. Consisting of a haphazard assortment of different kinds (even to the point of incongruity).
12. A member of a rural Finnish people living in eastern Russia.
13. A Russian river.
14. The act of scanning.
19. A Dravidian language spoken in southern India.
25. City in Sudan.
27. Small genus of Eurasian herbs.
28. A swindle in which you cheat at gambling or persuade a person to buy worthless property.
31. Joint capital (with Riyadh) of Saudi Arabia.
32. Unwind or untwist.
33. A meeting of spiritualists.
35. (botany) Of or relating to the axil.
36. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group.
40. Fabric dyed with splotches of green and brown and black and tan.
41. Of a period of maximal use or demand or activity.
44. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
46. Reprehensible acquisitiveness.
47. A hard gray lustrous metallic element that is highly corrosion-resistant.
52. Any of numerous local fertility and nature deities worshipped by ancient Semitic peoples.
54. Jutting or overhanging.
56. A downhill race over a winding course defined by upright poles.
60. (Greek mythology) King of Thebes who was unwittingly killed by his son Oedipus.
63. Relating to or having the characteristics of bees.
65. (Irish) Chief god of the Tuatha De Danann.
68. Small European freshwater fish with a slender bluish-green body.
69. An interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open.
70. The front of the head from the forehead to the chin and ear to ear.
71. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
72. God of love and erotic desire.
74. A reproach for some lapse or misdeed.
76. The month following August and preceding October.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

Relationship insecurity could sap your vitality today as you exert your need for independence. The feelings of a significant other can be a major source of concern as the Full Moon in your impulsive sign opposes the Sun in your 7th House of Partnerships. Hopefully, you've already made significant decisions that are positively affecting your personal life. Now it's time to take things to the next level. If you're bogged down in an emotional funk, shift your thinking. If you can't change the situation, change your attitude.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your happiest times all month are the days, like this day, when you spend time with friends in group activities. Spiritual practices and some charity work may be involved in making this a rewarding time. You may find yourself being put to good use by your friends. You usually have quick answers, great wit and a surplus of insight. This is a good time to write and communicate with real originality. Inventions and breakthroughs are possible. Everything conspires to value and to bring out your unique and unusual qualities. You find that someone close to you understands and is supportive of your ideas or your work; they encourage you. Tonight you show family and friends your appreciation of them—some meal or entertainment is in order.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

After a busy week, you may decide to take some time to relax and enjoy your environment. You may decide to check out a new bookstore or visit the park. An old friend may reenter your life today and you two may find yourselves lost in much conversation. This is a time of coming to grips with the past or getting in touch with the mystical and the spiritual: these things give a sense of satisfaction. Rewarding days make up for all the stress that comes with those challenging days. It is your turn to grab the attention. There are emotional beginnings, a fresh start, perhaps the establishment of new habit patterns. Relationships with all sorts of people and family events are very important during this time. You are a very positive person.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Being more practical and budgeting your income take on a special importance this morning. Sometimes we all get to take giant steps forward toward our goals but sometimes we get to take a few steps backward. This backward stepping is actually a blessing... Sorting things out and becoming better organized has its own reward. You and a mate or family member may chuckle over the mistakes of late and realize that everything serves a purpose. This evening, you may encourage each other. You will find the evening a good time to catch up on your letter writing, phone calls and bill writing. Communicating with loved ones and tending to unpaid bills or forgotten correspondence brings about a good feeling of having accomplished important tasks.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

There is an interest in broadening your intellectual and spiritual horizons. A friend of your family may have invited all of you to a special event at his or her church. This time is favorable for involvement in advanced ideas in information, communications and transportation. There have been several questions that you wanted to ask someone knowledgeable and you will be happy to have your questions answered. Being in touch with ideas on a grand scale keeps your mind busy. You may learn how to figure out resolutions to opposing views and encourage better relations between people. You are certainly excited to try out what you have learned today. You may have insight into helping create world peace. Keep a log of your thoughts.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Start to plan now for a vacation in the next few weeks. This will be the time when energies work in your favor and will also comply with the idea of a change in activities. The vacation you take may lead you into a new type of job market—if that is what you are seeking. Whatever the case, you are open to new and better opportunities. This new job may require travel and if you have no children, this would be a good time for the change. Being a travel guide or survivor teacher is a position you have looked forward to for a long time. Music is likely to play an important role for you and it is highly likely that friends or family will enjoy the music you produce. You will probably not be alone with your music as others enjoy singing or playing an instrument with you.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Ideas for the best steps to take in order to reach your personal goals are available to you now. Questions or problems you have pondered will have easy answers. There are matters of self-discovery at hand. Some new clothing that you have selected is perfect for work. Plans at the end of this month may find you putting together decorations for your home. Some amount of cooking will also be needed. A family member may be helping you. You may be asked to work with your loved one on some community project later today. You love most community projects and group work and you are quite popular with those that see you often in these circumstances. This evening there are surprises and lots of pictures to share.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

There are motivating energies available to help you gain more vigor and to generally improve your physical wellbeing. Health goals take on a greater importance. Do an inventory, seek advice and enjoy busying yourself with new ideas for better health. New changes in security issues bring about that feeling of comfort. You are a stickler on being prepared for the winter and you may have discovered a few things that are in need of repair, updating and securing. You also plan on taking care of personal business, saving only a few necessary trips for business interaction during next week. You crave organization and may want to change the way you run your home. You aim to have a place for everything and everything in its place.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 19)

In-depth discussions and probing conversations find you at your mental best. Your analytical abilities are at a high point. Ideals and a sense of belonging to something bigger than the merely personal become greater focuses in your life. You attach more importance to friendships and taking part in group activities that center on idealistic goals. Meeting yourself in another person is the keynote of a new cycle that begins for you now. Relationships-romantic, business and social—are the arenas where life is enjoyed and adventures are thrilling. In coming to know the other person, you come to a better understanding of yourself. It's easy in theory, but it's only in practice that it comes to mean anything real—so practice, practice, practice.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

As this day progresses, romance and social interaction take on a greater importance for you. Pleasant ties to others are what you crave for; refinement and elegance are what you seek. The ideal partnership, the perfect balance, the highest standards of truth and beauty are some of the things that quicken your pulse. You will recognize the opportunities coming that will help you achieve your desires. This is a practical and materialistic kind of focus, one that emphasizes the making and spending of money. Learning what really counts is an important lesson that may be learned the hard way. A mentor would be a good thing. A friend may need your help this evening, which may be the diversion you need. Laughter is great medicine.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Take a little trip today. Enjoy getting away from your regular routine. This is a very nice day, perhaps filled with some renewed appreciation for all that is beautiful and fine. There is a sense of value and valuing that may find you lavishing affection on those near you. You might feel sensitivity toward an older person. You have a natural sense for communicating with others, especially those younger than yourself. Clear thoughts about the past may also be flowing in as you update a photo album or write to a relative. You may be able to enjoy and value your own life situation and communication opportunities are open between you and a friend or loved one. Your advice to a young person is timed perfectly. You make a positive difference.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Lovers, children and other people or things dear to your heart are emphasized at this time. Being appreciated and admired for your gifts and talent is a powerful need. Taking chances can bring big rewards. Friends, group projects and community concerns play a key role that influences your future goals. This Sunday may be a good time to have a group meeting with family, neighbors or friends and decide on the wonderful decorations that are available for parties or preparations for the wonderful upcoming fall events. Instead of decorating your house all by yourself, why not work as a team on each other's houses traditions are the glue that help deepen relationships; now may be a good time to start a new tradition.

Wordsearch Puzzle

Canada

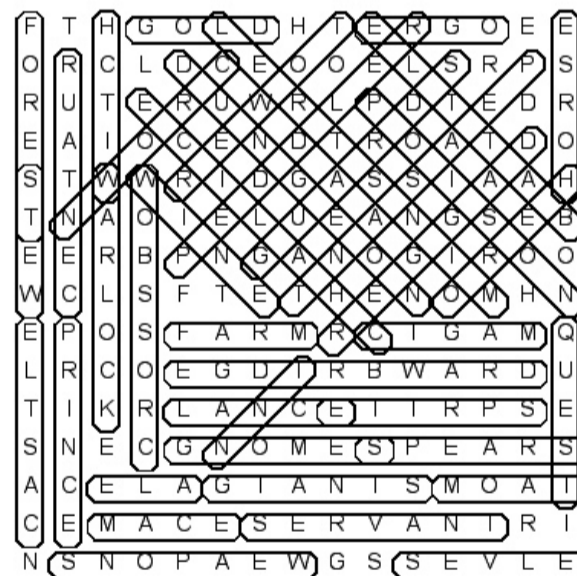
Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 47 letters spell a secret message.



- |                  |               |                       |              |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| ALBERTA          | HOCKEY        | NEWFOUNDLAND          | REGINA       |
| BEAVERS          | IGALUIT       | NORTHWEST TERRITORIES | SASKATCHEWAN |
| BRITISH COLUMBIA | LABRADOR      | NOVA SCOTIA           | SNOW         |
| CARIBOU          | LAKES         | NUNAVUT               | ST. JOHN'S   |
| CHARLOTTETOWN    | LOONIE        | OIL                   | TOQUE        |
| CURLING          | MANITOBA      | ONTARIO               | TORONTO      |
| EDMONTON         | MARLE LEAF    | OTTAWA                | VICTORIA     |
| FORESTS          | MAPLE SYRUP   | PRAIRIES              | WHITEHORSE   |
| FREDERICTON      | MOOSE         | PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  | WINNIPEG     |
| GEESSE           | MOUNTAINS     | QUEBEC                | YELLOWKNIFE  |
| HALIFAX          | NEW BRUNSWICK | RCMP                  | YUKON        |

Yesterday's Solution

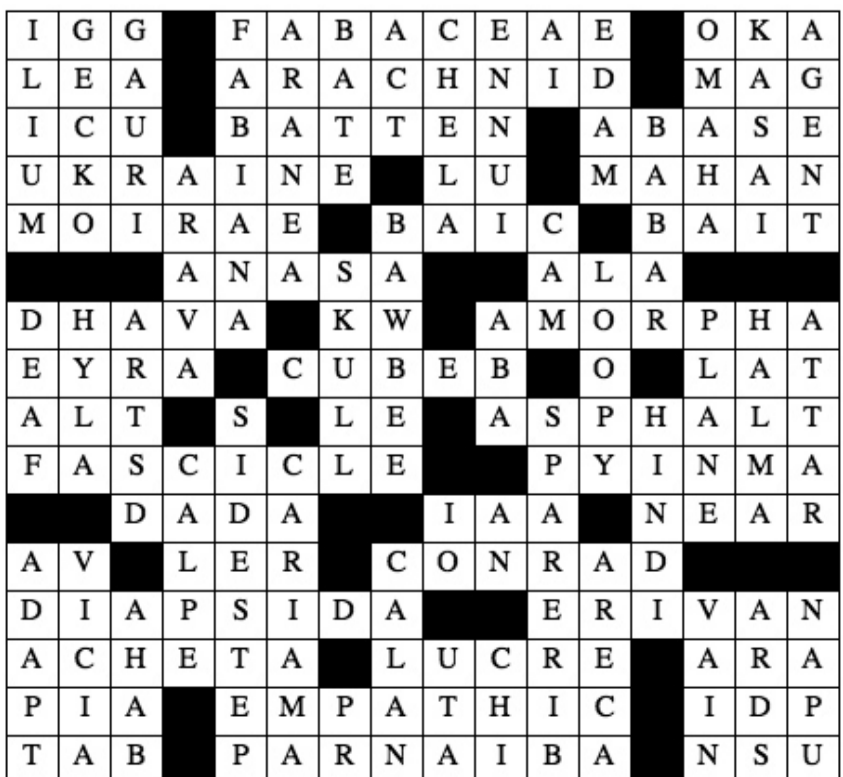
Fantasy World 1



- |            |        |          |         |
|------------|--------|----------|---------|
| ALE        | ELVES  | LANCE    | QUEST   |
| BATTLE     | FARM   | MACE     | SERVANT |
| CASTLE     | FOREST | MAGIC    | SPEARS  |
| CENTAUR    | GIANTS | MINSTREL | SPRITE  |
| CHALICE    | GNOMES | MOAT     | STEW    |
| CROSSBOW   | GOLD   | OGRE     | TOWER   |
| CROWN      | GUARDS | PEASANT  | WARLOCK |
| DAGGER     | HERO   | PEDDLER  | WEAPONS |
| DRAWBRIDGE | HORSE  | POISON   | WINE    |
| DUNGEON    | INN    | PRINCE   | WITCH   |

The hidden message is: THE LORD OF THE RINGS

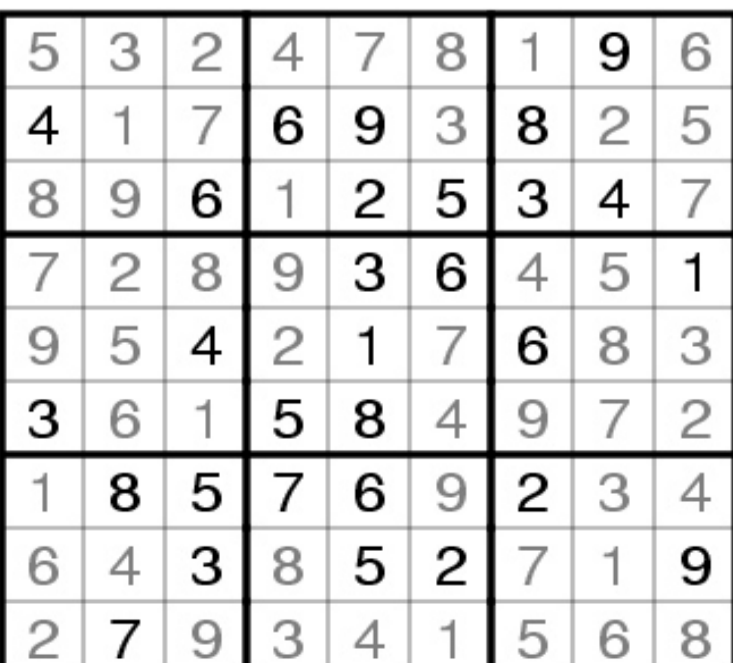
Yesterday's Solution



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 |
| Khalidiya           | 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<br>23715414<br>23726558   |
| Jahra       | Modern Jahra Madina Munawara  | Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92   | 24575518<br>24566622   |
| Capital     | Ahlam Khalidiya Coop  | Fahad Al-Salem St Khalidiya Coop   | 22436184<br>24833967   |
| Farwaniya   | New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan  | Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11   | 24734000<br>24881201<br>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<br>25647075<br>22625999<br>22564549<br>25340559<br>25326554<br>25721264<br>25380581<br>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   |                      |        |

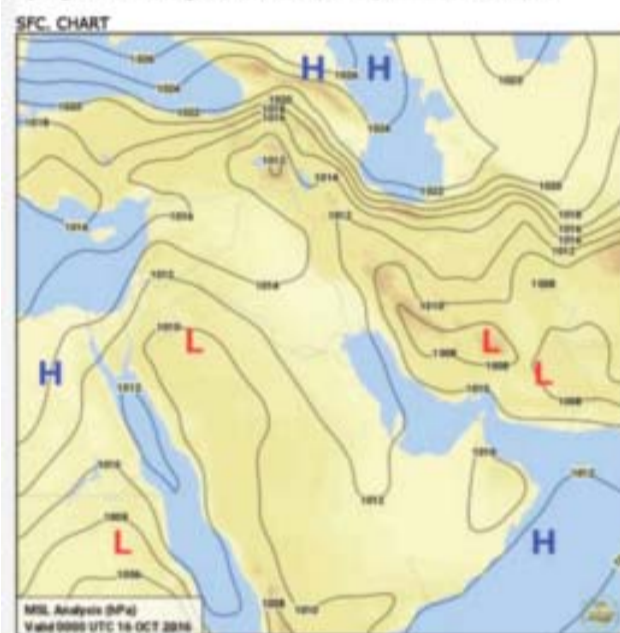
### STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630  
Fax: (+965) 24348714  
www.met.gov.kw

### Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

Issued 16/10/2016-07:00 LT UTC +3hr  
**Max Temperature 38 °C**  
By Day : Hot with light variable wind changing to light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h.  
By Night : Fair with light variable wind, with speed of 08 - 18 km/h.



| Four-Day Forecast | Monday   | Tuesday                                   | Wednesday                                | Thursday                    |
|-------------------|----------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Expected Weather  | Hot      | Hot                                       | Relatively humid over coasts             | Hot                         |
| Min Temp °C       | 17       | 19  | 20                                       | 18                          |
| Max Temp °C       | 37       | 38  | 39                                       | 37                          |
| Wind Direction    | variable | south westerly changing to south easterly | variable wind changing to south easterly | north easterly to northerly |
| Wind Speed km/h   | 06 - 20  | 10 - 30                                   | 06 - 28                                  | 08 - 30                     |

### Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

### Kuwait Forecast

| Station        | MIN °C | REC | Max °C |
|----------------|--------|-----|--------|
| KUWAIT CITY    | 27     |     | 38     |
| KUWAIT AIRPORT | 18     |     | 38     |
| ABDALY         | 19     |     | 37     |
| BUBYAN         | 19     |     | 37     |
| JAHRA          | 21     |     | 38     |
| FAILAKA ISLAND | 23     |     | 37     |
| SALMIYAH       | 27     |     | 35     |
| AHMADI         | 28     |     | 33     |
| JAL ALIYAH     | 21     |     | 37     |
| QAROH ISLAND   | 30     |     | 32     |
| UHM AL-MARADEH | 29     |     | 33     |
| NUWAISIB       | 21     |     | 36     |
| WAFRA          | 18     |     | 38     |
| MANAGISH       | 19     |     | 36     |
| SALMI          | 20     |     | 35     |
| MUTRIBA        | 19     |     | 39     |

### Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

|                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Max Temp (°C)                       | 37    |
| Min Temp (°C)                       | 20    |
| Max Rel Hum (%)                     | 36    |
| Min Rel Hum (%)                     | 10    |
| Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction | 36 NW |
| TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR             | 0 mm  |

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| Sunrise | 05:50 |
| Sunset  | 17:17 |

### Prayer Times

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| Fajr    | 04:30 |
| Sunrise | 05:50 |
| Zuhr    | 11:34 |
| Aar     | 14:50 |
| Sunset  | 17:17 |
| Isha    | 18:34 |

## PRIVATE CLINICS



|                                     |                  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Ophthalmologists</b>             |                  |
| Dr. Abdallah Al-Mansoor             | 25622444         |
| Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea                  | 25752222         |
| Dr. Masoma Habeeb                   | 25321171         |
| Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy                 | 25739999         |
| Dr. Mohsen Abel                     | 25757700         |
| Dr. Adnan Hasan Alwayl              | 25732223         |
| Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly              | 25732223         |
| <b>Ear, Nose &amp; Throat (ENT)</b> |                  |
| Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner              | 24555050 Ext 510 |
| Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali                 | 25644660         |
| Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel         | 25646478         |
| Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah               | 25311996         |
| Dr. Mohammad Al-Daory               | 25731988         |
| Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary                | 22620166         |
| Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz                 | 25651426         |
| <b>General Practitioners</b>        |                  |
| Dr. Mohammed Y Majidi               | 24555050 Ext 123 |
| Dr. Yousef Al-Omar                  | 24719312         |
| Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhaizeem             | 23926920         |
| Dr. Kathem Maarafi                  | 25730465         |
| Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah           | 25655528         |
| Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi                | 24577781         |
| Dr. Dina Abdallah Al-Rafea          | 25333501         |
| <b>Urologists</b>                   |                  |
| Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy              | 22641534         |
| Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul                | 22639955         |
| Dr. Khaleel Abdallah Al-Awadi       | 22616660         |
| Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C)        | 25313120         |
| Dr. Leons Joseph                    | 66703427         |

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Plastic Surgeons</b>                   |                    |
| Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf                    | 22547272           |
| Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari                      | 22617700           |
| Dr. Abdel Quttainah                       | 25625030/60        |
| <b>Family Doctor</b>                      |                    |
| Dr Divya Damodar                          | 23729596/23729581  |
| <b>Psychiatrists</b>                      |                    |
| Dr. Esam Al-Ansari                        | 22635047           |
| Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan                      | 22613623/0         |
| <b>Gynaecologists &amp; Obstetricians</b> |                    |
| Dr Adrian arbe                            | 23729596/23729581  |
| Dr. Verginia s.Marin                      | 2572-6666 ext 8321 |
| Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan                   | 22655539           |
| Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliyami                | 25343406           |
| Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly                       | 25739272           |
| Dr. Salem soso                            | 22618787           |
| <b>General Surgeons</b>                   |                    |
| Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer                    | 22610044           |
| Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher                | 25327148           |
| <b>Internists, Chest &amp; Heart</b>      |                    |
| Dr. Adnan Ebil                            | 22639939           |
| Dr. Mousa Khadada                         | 22666300           |
| Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan                    | 25728004           |
| Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra                       | 25355515           |
| Dr. Mobarak Aldoub                        | 24726446           |
| Dr Nasser Behbehani                       | 25654300/3         |

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Paediatricians</b>              |                 |
| Dr. Khaled Hamadi                  | 25665898        |
| Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed          | 25340300        |
| Dr. Zahra Qabazard                 | 25710444        |
| Dr. Sohail Qamar                   | 22621099        |
| Dr. Snaa Maarroof                  | 25713514        |
| Dr. Pradip Gujare                  | 23713100        |
| Dr. Zacharias Mathew               | 24334282        |
| <b>Dermatology</b>                 |                 |
| Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University | 23845955        |
| <b>Dentists</b>                    |                 |
| Dr Anil Thomas                     | 3729596/3729581 |
| Dr. Shamah Al-Matar                | 22641071/2      |
| Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed              | 22562226        |
| Dr. Abdallah Al-Amer               | 22561444        |
| Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan                | 22619557        |
| Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash         | 22525888        |
| Dr. Abdallah Al-Duweisan           | 25653755        |
| Dr. Bader Al-Ansari                | 25620111        |
| <b>Neurologists</b>                |                 |
| Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri         | 25633324        |
| Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan              | 25345875        |
| <b>Gastrologists</b>               |                 |
| Dr. Sami Aman                      | 22636464        |
| Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly            | 25322030        |
| Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali           | 22633135        |

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Endocrinologist</b>  |                  |
| Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman  | 25339330         |
| Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari   | 25658888         |
| Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr  | 25329924         |
| <b>Physiotherapists &amp; VD</b>  |                  |
| Dr. Deyaa Shehab  | 25722291         |
| Dr. Mused Faraj Khamees   | 22666288         |
| <b>Rheumatologists:</b>   |                  |
| Dr. Adel Al-Awadi   | 25330060         |
| Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah  | 25722290         |
| <b>Internist, Chest &amp; Heart</b>   |                  |
| DR.Mohammes Akkad   | 24555050 Ext 210 |
| <b>Consultant Cardiologist</b>  |                  |
| Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCP, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicine Head, Division of Cardiology Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital | 25339667         |
| Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC  | 2611555-2622555  |
| Inaya German Medical Center   |                  |
| Te: 2575077   |                  |
| Fax: 25723123   |                  |

|                                 |   |  |                        |                      |   |
|---------------------------------|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Psychologists /Psychotherapists | Soor Center Tel: 2290-1677 Fax: 2290 1688 | info@soorcenter.com www.soorcenter.com | Kaizen center 25716707 | Noor Clinic 23845955 | William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677 Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677 |
|---------------------------------|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|---|

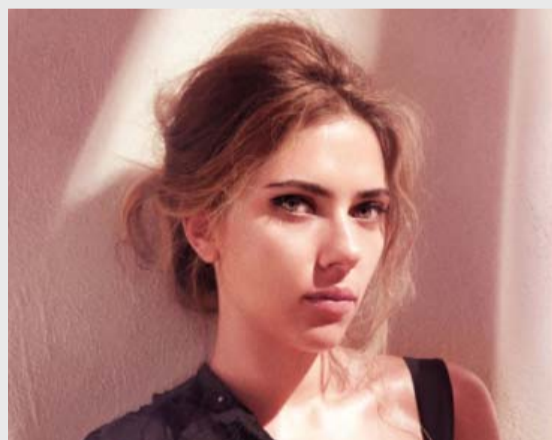




### Cheryl Fernandez-Versini and Liam Payne 'so in love'

Cheryl Fernandez-Versini and Liam Payne have been tipped to last. The couple have been dating for less than a year but Louis Walsh, who starred with Cheryl on 'The X Factor', believes the One Direction singer is the best thing that ever happened to her and says he makes her much happier than her estranged husband Jean-Bernard Fernandez-Versini did. He told Event magazine: "Can I be honest with you about Cheryl? I think Liam and Cheryl are going to work... He's a nice guy and he's in love with her. He'll make her happy. I think she was in a bad place over the last two years. And she brought her misery to 'The X Factor'." Louis also believes Cheryl, 33, should work with Liam, 23, on new music, hailing the One Direction singer as a "great songwriter". He said: "I think she could have a hit if she wants but she has to choose the right song. She's no Mariah Carey or Celine Dion but I'd put her voice in there along with Kylie Minogue, Britney Spears or Katy Perry. She just needs the right songs. Maybe Liam can write her some. He's a good songwriter." Although he was full of praise for Liam's songwriting skills, Louis slammed the star and his bandmates as "monsters", claiming none of them will find solo success except for Harry Styles. He said: "Too much money, too much success too quickly. Simon Cowell created monsters and that was it. They all think they're going to be solo stars. They're not. Only Harry. That's it. Then they'll be sorry they broke up and it'll be too late because there's another boy band. That's what always happens in boy bands."

### Johansson: Women should take more risks



Scarlett Johansson wants women to take more risks. The 31-year-old actress has accomplished a lot in her two-decade-long career in the entertainment industry, and she has now said she wants other women to start to "take risks", without worrying about failing. Asked what advice she would give to young women, the 'Lucy' star said: "I think I would say take risks. Take risks and don't be afraid to fail because the upside of that is just so rewarding... I've really built a career on taking risks and sometimes it doesn't pan out but like I said, the upside has been hugely rewarding." And the 'Captain America: Civil War' actress also spoke out about how having her two-year-old daughter Rose - whom she shares with husband and journalist Romain Dauriac - has been "transformative" for her, and she is no longer "critical" of herself. She told reporters at Variety's Power of Women Luncheon: "I think turning 30, having a child and coming into my own in the kind of creative space has been really transformative for me in a lot of ways. I think just learning to be more accepting of myself and be less harsh, less critical." For Scarlett, the idea of women progressing into positions of power is something that she says happened naturally for her, as she claims her 20 years in the field makes her one of the most "experienced people in any given production". She said: "I think for me it's been, it's kind of a natural progression. I've been working as an actor for over 20 years and I think I find at this stage in my career I often am probably one of the more experienced people in any given production that I'm working on. I don't mean to toot my own horn, but it just comes with working for such a long time."

## Coleman and Hughes are moving in together

The 'Victoria' co-stars, both 30 - who play Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in the ITV drama - have reportedly been secretly dating for almost a year and are now viewing properties to buy together in North London. A source told the Mail on Sunday that the couple have been looking at homes in Hampstead and added: "Jenna has been telling everyone she has fallen madly in love. She and Tom are looking for a place to buy together." They have been keen to keep their relationship under wraps. "Their whole courtship has been a bit cloak-and-dagger, and they have been careful not to be photographed together." And their chemistry has been praised by Daisy Goodwin, who wrote the 'Victoria' series. She said: "Tom and Jenna being so close makes it easier for them to work together. They are very private about their relationship." Jenna and Tom reportedly began dating after Jenna was linked to Prince Harry last year. A source said: "They've been together for months, on and off since last summer." "She chose to be with him even though Prince Harry was very keen on her. The reason the chemistry is so tangible is because they are dating in real life. The scenes are very real. They are completely hooked on one another." And it has been claimed that Prince Harry unwittingly played matchmaker as his interest in Jenna made Tom ask his co-star out. The insider explained:



"Ironically Harry is largely responsible for them getting together. Jenna caught Harry's eye at the polo last year. They flirted and spent the evening together and Harry took her number and they saw each other a couple of times." "Tom was also on the scene and made it very clear that he wasn't happy about Harry making a move on Jenna. They got together shortly afterwards."

### Mel C: 'Geri's pregnancy healed Spice Girls rift'

Mel C says Geri Horner's pregnancy healed the Spice Girls rift. The band was split into two camps after Mel and Victoria Beckham refused to join Mel B, Geri and Emma Bunton for a reunion to celebrate the group's 20th anniversary but Mel C says finding out Geri and her husband Christian Horner are expecting a baby made them come to their senses. She told the Daily Star Sunday: "Thank God Geri is pregnant because it's made us go, 'Oh my god, this is what's really important.' "Let's face it, we are all in our 40s, we are all mothers, we all have partners, we all have careers. Of course it's been awkward - relationships have their ups and downs. I haven't spoken to Melanie for a while though. It's not that I'm not speaking to her but I haven't spoken to her for a long time. "Some of my relationships with some of the girls in the band have been difficult at times but I will never not love them." Mel C also insisted she doesn't hold Mel B's recent comments, where she jokingly called her and



Victoria Beckham "bitches" for not joining the reunion, against her. She said: "I love Melanie but she is a little bit of a law unto herself. "She has her reasons but whatever they are, I don't know. I read about the bitches comment. "I've done it myself when you say something for comedic value and it backfires. Or maybe she does mean it. But I've nothing against her. Whatever. It's fine."



### Pink's daughter in BMX race

Pink's daughter has taken part in her first BMX race. Willow Sage Hart, five, has been taking after her father and retired motorcycle racer Carey Hart, and her 37-year-old mother - real name Alecia Moore - took to Instagram on Saturday to praise the tot on her "intensity". Alongside a picture of her daughter on her bike, the 'So What' hitmaker wrote: "Willows first race. I like her intensity. She reminds me of someone. This might have been Carey Harts' Best Day Ever. #stoked #thirdplace #podium #proud papa (sic)" Carey, 41, also shared his thoughts on his daughter's efforts, expressing his feelings as a "proud papa" on a photo of Willow taking her place on the winner's podium as she secured a third place trophy. He wrote: "Willz first race and got on the box. I'm such a proud papa. The cycle resets its self. I had a blast watching my little girl enjoy what I did for so many years. Thank you Willow for the amazing feeling. I love you. @foxracing (sic)" The news of the young

girl's early steps into racing come after the beauty - who penned the track 'Just Like Fire' for 'Alice Through the Looking Glass' - revealed earlier in the year that she accepted the song writing role on the movie because Alice is an "awesome" role model. She said: "What's awesome about Alice is the whole theme, from the start of the movie, is: Girls can do it, too. She's the captain of her own ship, but it takes her femaleness to be that fierce, so that's another great [message] for our house. I try to keep Willow as empowered as possible." Meanwhile, the 'Just Like a Pill' hitmaker gushed about her love for Willow and confessed that she has also become her little muse. She said: "She is my inspiration for everything. I think of little girls like her when I'm doing something like this because I want it to be fun. I think of that spirit Willow has, where she's totally uninhibited and wants to dance around naked, and that's how I go into the song." — Bang Showbiz



This image released by Turner Classic Movies shows FilmStruck, a new subscription streaming service displayed on multiple devices. — AP

## FilmStruck aims to bring the art house into your living room

Does this sound familiar? You want to stream a movie and end up spending most of your time clicking through a disorganized sea of options, most of which aren't especially good, anyhow. FilmStruck, a new subscription streaming service to launch Wednesday by Turner Classic Movies and the Criterion Collection hopes to fill what's been a giant void in the supposedly glorious age of streaming. The plentiful options on Netflix, Amazon and Hulu (where Criterion was previously housed) have been terrific for all kinds of watching, just not great cinema. FilmStruck doesn't hope to compete with those giants, which are busy building their own original series and films while concentrating less on offering robust libraries. Instead, TCM and Criterion want to bring the art house, and all the passion of movie love, into the 21st century and your living room.

"We feel like it's a vacuum that needs a caretaker who cares," says Jennifer Dorian, general manager of TCM and FilmStruck. "There's a real need out there in the marketplace for film fans." Executives for both TCM and Criterion call their union "a love-fest," and the match is indeed a fitting one. TCM, the 22-year-old cable network of commercial-less Hollywood classics, and Criterion, the 32-year-old purveyor of pristine, supplement-stuffed DVD sets, have both weathered continued change in media and emerged all the stronger for their steadfast dedication to movies. While networks like AMC ("American Movie Classics") and IFC ("Independent Film Channel") have turned their focus to TV series, TCM and Criterion have kept the faith, and earned devoted followings because of it. The partnership came together because of their already close ties and mutual respect. When word got to Turner Classic that Criterion would be exiting its home at Hulu, talks about creating a new streaming platform began.

#### Movie lovers

"We had a great set-up at Hulu, especially given the time we started there," says Peter Becker, president of Criterion Collection. "But that service was never built from the ground up to be for movie lovers, to highlight special editions, to be curated, to highlight all kinds of stuff. There was very little opportunity to speak to our audience in our own voice." FilmStruck will be available for \$6.99 a month via filmstruck.com, the Amazon Fire, Apple TV and iOS and Android devices. It features films from the vaults of major studios but the focus of its about 500 rotating films is more independent, international and contemporary. It's more Kubrick and Kurosawa than Doris Day and John Wayne.

TCM's head of programming Charles Tabesh will program FilmStruck, including a rotating selection of Criterion titles. But on

Nov. 11, Criterion will debut its own channel on FilmStruck featuring all of its films, about 1,200 titles that encompass a large swath of film's acknowledged masterpieces. That will run \$10.99 monthly or \$99 for a year. What distinguishes FilmStruck, though, isn't just the quality of its films but its expansive, rethought streaming experience. There's a long list of searchable titles, but FilmStruck and the Criterion Channel are first and foremost curated experiences. Films are organized into series, retrospectives and essentials.

"This is what art-house theaters have been doing around the country for the last fifty years," says Becker. "Why would we not build on all the curatorial energy and ideas that has been expended over all this time?" There will be a Friday night double feature. Another weekly night will match a short with a feature. Filmmakers will be profiled in documentaries, as will art house theaters across the country. Cinephiles may also drool over the array of special features - the sort that populate Criterion Blu-rays - that dot the service. You can listen to Martin Scorsese and Francis Ford Coppola expound on "The Thief of Bagdad" or watch the Coen brothers with Barry Sonnenfeld deconstruct their "Blood Simple" with the kind of telestrators usually wielded by NFL commentators.

#### Agile and nimble

"We find that this is a very satisfying night at the movies," says Becker. The streaming landscape is increasingly crowded, not just by Amazon and Netflix but by the likes of Fandor, Mubi, IndieFlix and Warner Archive. Standing out - and convincing viewers to add another monthly bill - will be FilmStruck's biggest challenge. Dorian says their research suggests 15 million could be willing to pay for FilmStruck. It's a bold gambit for Turner Classic, which has been, as Dorian says with a knowing smile, "very judicious in its changes over the years." "We get to try new stuff that we haven't tried in decades," says Dorian. "I hope we're agile and nimble. Working in software has been a total education."

It's a leap for Criterion, too, which will for the first time have its own digital playground. The DVDs, Becker says, remain the best image quality for their films, "but there's now a whole generation of people who haven't ever bought a disc."

The entire enterprise has the spirit of a mission: Show the digital world what's so great about movies. At the FilmStruck launch party in Manhattan, scenes from classic films like Ingmar Bergman's "The Seventh Seal" were set up. Director George Romero could be seen playing chess with Death. "There's never been a better time for art-house film culture, with apologies to the '60s," says Becker. "It's a crazy time to be a film lover." — AP

## Turkish filmmakers dazzle on the international stage

Despite the turbulence and terror surrounding the July 15 attempted coup in Turkey, the country's filmmakers rose to new heights on the international fest circuit. And even after the failed coup, Turkey has continued to win accolades - most recently at the Venice Film Festival, where Reha Erdem won the Horizon section's Special Jury nod with his fable-like "Big Big World." As prominent film industry multihyphenate Ahmet Boyacioglu puts it, these titles "are all very critical of Turkish society," but "they are still being made," the film fest programmer, producer, and promoter notes.

They were until recently, at least. Now the hope is that the Turkish government's current crackdown against writers and academics who don't toe its line won't also mean a muzzle on filmmakers and the topics they depict such as the Turkish-Kurdish conflict, which has always been a cinematic hot potato. Variety looks at recent Turkish arthouse standouts, all of which are playing in Antalya's national competition.

#### 'Rauf'

This melancholy coming-of-age shows from first-time directorial duo Baris Kaya and Soner Caner, spotlights the Turkish-Kurdish conflict through a child's perspective. Set in a Kurdish village in northeastern Turkey, it's about a 9-year-old who gets kicked out of a school where the nationalist propaganda is part of the program. He becomes a carpenter's apprentice and falls

in love with his master's 20-year-old daughter. "Rauf" premiered in the Berlin Film Festival's Generation Kplus section to positive response, with critics noting it was more suitable for adult audiences.

'Album' This impressive debut by Mehmet Can Mertoglu is a social satire about a couple who conceal an adoption by staging a fake pregnancy with a phony photo album, fearing the social stigma still associated with infertility in Turkey. After making a splash when it premiered in May in the Cannes Critics' Week, winning the section's Visionary Award, "Album" has gone on to scoop the Heart of Sarajevo award for feature film at this year's Sarajevo Film Festival.

#### 'Dust Cloth'

Another praiseworthy debut, Ahu Ozgur's "Dust Cloth" is an unsentimental drama about two Kurdish women who work as cleaning ladies and struggle to survive in contemporary Istanbul where their ethnic origins are a huge hindrance. After premiering in Berlin's Forum section in February, "Cloth" went on to win kudos for local film, actress, and screenplay at the Istanbul festival.

#### 'My Father's Wings'

Yet another first work getting notice on the fest circuit after bowing at Karlovy Vary, this drama by Kivanc Sezer is set against the backdrop of the current construction frenzy in Istanbul, where workers of the luxury high-rises have to contend with irregular wages and other hardships. — Reuters





Indian Hindu widows applaud as they stand on stage during a fashion show in New Delhi, India, Saturday. — AP photos

# Fashion show highlights progress for India widows



An Indian Hindu widow gets dressed backstage before participating in a fashion show in New Delhi.

In most of India, millions of Hindu widows are expected to live out their days in quiet worship, dressed only in white. They are typically barred from all religious festivities because their very presence is considered inauspicious. Until recently, Indian widows were expected to follow the sociocultural codes of a patriarchal Hindu society that demands a woman lead a life of asceticism after a husband's death. But slowly, widows are moving toward modernity.

The holy city of Vrindavan, in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh, is known as the City of Widows because it has given shelter to thousands of poor women. Their lives appear to be changing for the better, with women's groups and Indian aid organizations taking interest in their welfare. The widows are breaking age-old traditions of staying aloof by actively participating in Hindu festivals like Holi and Diwali. They went a step further recently, participating in a fashion show. — AP



An Indian Hindu widow helps another just before stepping onto the ramp during a fashion show.



An Indian Hindu widow laughs as she wears a Sari backstage before participating in a fashion show.



An Indian Hindu widow practices to walk on the runway before a fashion show in New Delhi.



A makeup artist gets an Indian Hindu widow ready for a fashion show.

## Carpisa unveils its exquisite Autumn/Winter 2016 collection

Carpisa, the Italian brand of handbags and luggage welcomes the new season by presenting a colour palette that captures the essence of the season, such as mustard, intense red brick, light grey and green in all its tonalities. Concerning the styles, Carpisa gives wide space to the Boston bags and to the mini bags reproduced in the classic shapes of the brand. The highlights of the collection are trendy shopping bags, briefcases, cross body bags, clutch bags and purses that are perfect for evening. The range also includes multi-shape bags, reversible and custom-assembled bags ideal for all occasions; the proposals are endless, to fit every taste and need.

The backpack is an essential accessory for Carpisa's new season: with multifunctional and unisex designs. For the Back to School collection, the styles are younger and cooler and the patterns go from tar-

tan prints to ethnic inspiration, but also printed or monochrome eco-friendly leather styles.

Customizable products are real must-haves of the collection: beyond the metal letters, Carpisa has also created new fashion accessories such as lock-charms with initials and letter pins to create original and unique handbags.

Moreover, Carpisa continues its important collaboration with Penelope and Monica Cruz, who for this new season have designed two new elegant lines following the trends of the moment. The first line has a soft structure and will be available in different colours: blue, taupe and grey. The line is characterized by a geometric print made on Nabuk effect fabric and by metallic accessories realized with old brass treatment.

The second line will be available in three different dimensions (including a



mini bag version), each one in four different colours: black, blue, green and taupe. The line is characterized by a semi-rigid



structure with a lizard leather print effect. So get on the fashion trends for this season and add a cult piece to your wardrobe with Carpisa's fab Autumn Winter 2016 collection available at Samal Mall- Fintas.





# Indian guru stars in films to spread message to the masses



Indian spiritual guru, who calls himself Saint Dr Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insan, arrives for a press conference ahead of the release of his new film 'MSG, The Warrior Lion Heart,' in New Delhi, India. — AP photos

He claims to have 50 million followers and runs a spiritual empire that promotes vegetarianism and campaigns against drug addiction. But the self-styled God-man from the north Indian state of Haryana has another passion: Bollywood. The leader of a quasi-religious sect - who calls himself Saint Dr Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insan - has launched a film franchise in which he stars as a Messenger of God, or MSG for short, with divine powers to save the world. Critics say the films

serve as propaganda for his followers, which Insan doesn't dispute. Speaking recently with reporters, the flamboyant spiritual guru said he was not trying to become a movie star but instead wanted to spread Indian culture along with his message of humanity to the masses.

"You will see in this film that our culture was so powerful that the technology that the aliens are bringing, it had already been used by our ancestors. That is why the scenes appear larger than life. We should also show India's greatness,"

said Insan, whose surname means "human" in Hindi and is adopted by all in his sect, which describes itself as a nonprofit spiritual and welfare organization. With a guaranteed audience among his followers, Insan said he's had little trouble getting his films released commercially in cinemas. Two earlier films featured Insan as a gravity-defying superhero fighting drug addiction and gender issues. In his third film, released last week and titled "MSG - The Warrior Lion Heart," Insan plays a secret agent armed with

twirled moustache and an assortment of swords to fight the aliens and UFOs. "In my first two films, I appeared as a guru. In this film, I am playing a character," he said.

"I play a warrior who is also India's top secret agent. If you see his background, he is a warrior who fights with aliens to save the honor of our mothers and sisters, and the honor of our Mother Earth," Insan maintains complete control over his film productions. In the latest, he is credited in 30 categories of the film, including

dialogue writer, choreographer, props, stunts, film editor and makeup artist.

He dismissed detractors who say his outlandish costumes and self-glorifying antics on screen run counter to his spiritual mission. "I have researched the scriptures, the religious texts - there is no dress code given for holy men," Insan said. "Nowhere does it say that the saints have to wear anything specific. If your thoughts are pure, you can be one with God even in a trouser and shirt." — AP



Saint Dr Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insan, center, greets followers as he arrives for a press conference ahead of the release of his new movie 'MSG, The Warrior Lion Heart.'



Devotees of Indian spiritual guru stands near a poster of his new film 'MSG, The Warrior Lion Heart,' in New Delhi, India.



Devotees greet Indian spiritual guru, as he leaves after a press conference ahead of the release of his film 'MSG, The Warrior Lion Heart.'

## Ang Lee unveils his hyper-real 'Billy Lynn' to mixed reviews



Kristen Stewart attends the world premiere of 'Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk.'

Mixed reviews greeted Ang Lee's long anticipated "Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk" at the New York Film Festival on Friday night, casting further doubts over the promise of Hollywood's latest technological savior: high-frame rate filming. The premiere was one of the fall movie season's most closely watched events because Lee's drama, an adaptation of Ben Fountain's 2012 novel, was made with a faster frame rate than any previous wide release. Aside from being in 3-D and 4K resolution, Lee shot the film - about an Iraq War hero on a victory tour at an NFL game - at 120 frames-per-second, five times the traditional 24 frames per second.

It's a gambit Peter Jackson tried at a mere 48 frames per second with "The Hobbit" trilogy, earning bad reviews in the process. James Cameron has hailed it as the future, and has said



Steve Martin attends the world premiere of 'Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk.'



Vin Diesel attends the world premiere of 'Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk.'

Jane Lin and Ang Lee attend the world premiere of 'Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk,' during the 54th New York Film Festival, at AMC Loews Lincoln Square in New York. —AP photos



he will use it in "Avatar" sequels. But the technology is nascent. Lee's film, which Sony Pictures will release Nov 11, is so new that there are only two North American theaters (one in New York, one in Los Angeles) that will be able to project it as crafted. Other theaters will screen different versions. For the film's New York Film Festival debut, festivalgoers were transferred across the street from Lincoln Center to a multiplex that was specifically outfitted for the premiere. Lee didn't try to hide his nerves.

### Without makeup

"I've done this a lot but you can see I'm nervous," Lee said before the screening. "I feel like I'm exposed to the high-frame rate, 3-D, high-resolution camera. I can sort of feel for our actors." The effect of the format is a hyper-reality that can look, despite its clarity, like video. Backgrounds are so visible that they can appear artificial, while the closeness with the actors can create an unfiltered intimacy. The cast (led by British newcomer Joe Alwyn as the title character, along with Garrett Hedlund, Kristen Stewart, Steve Martin, Chris Tucker and Vin Diesel) performs largely without makeup.

"There's nothing more we're craving than studying each other's faces," Lee said. "They deserve this kind of look." Lynn's previous film,

"The Life of Pi," became a global blockbuster (\$609 million worldwide at the box office) that left audiences marveling at his use of 3-D. "Billy Lynn" is also unusual in that it's part war film, part character study - not the kind of movie usually outfitted with digital wizardry. Instead, Lee employs the technology in pursuit of an immersive first person-like point-of-view, contrasting Lynn's travels through a football stadium with flashbacks to battle. It's a satirical commentary on the divide between real warfare and hollow patriotism at home. It's a big bet for Sony, although the film's budget of \$40 million is relatively small by studio standards.

### Pleaded for patience

Though Lee ("The Ice Storm," "Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon") is one of the most respected and lauded filmmakers in Hollywood, initial reactions to his latest work weren't especially positive. Critics in the crowd were decisively against the high frame rate. In a brief Q&A following the film, the cast (which was seeing the film for the first time) also appeared unsure of how to react to the new format. "After the movie stopped, after we saw the credits, everyone was just kind of like a deer in headlights, just shocked by the experience the technology allows you," said Diesel. — AP





Actress Monica Bellucci poses for photographers upon arrival for the premiere of the film 'On The Milk Road'.



Actors Bill Nighy, from left, Gemma Arterton, director Lone Sherfig and actor Sam Claflin pose for photographers during a photo call to promote the film 'Their Finest'.



Actress Nina Podolska poses for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film 'Snowden'.

# 'Certain Women' wins, McQueen honored at London Film Fest



Director Steve McQueen, left, the winner of the BFI Fellowship Award, poses for photographers with presenter Michael Fassbender, in the press room during the London Film Festival Awards, in London. —AP photos



Director Kelly Reichardt attends a special screening of 'Certain Women' during the 54th New York Film Festival at Alice Tully Hall, in New York.



Leonardo DiCaprio poses for photographers during a photo call to promote the film 'Before the Flood'.



Director Fisher Stevens poses for photographers during a photo call to promote the film 'Before the Flood'.



Actors Lyndsey Marshal, left, and Michael Fassbender pose for photographers.

Writer-director Kelly Reichardt's spare and subtle Montana drama "Certain Women" has won the best-picture prize at the London Film Festival, while "12 Years a Slave" director Steve McQueen received a major career award. The festival wrapped up yesterday with "Free Fire," a 1970s-set comic thriller by British director Ben Wheatley. McQueen, a filmmaker and Turner Prize-winning video artist, was presented with the British Film Institute Fellowship - the organization's highest honor - by Michael Fassbender. The Irish actor has appeared in all three of the director's feature films - "Hunger," "Shame" and "12 Years a Slave."

Fassbender called McQueen, whose movies have tackled subjects including starvation, addiction and slavery, "a rarity - both a sensitive and a dangerous man." McQueen, 47, said "there's only



Actor Rhys Ifans and director Oliver Stone, right, pose for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film 'Snowden'.

two things I'm sure about: One, I'm black ... Two, I'm a Londoner." He credited Britain's previous system of free higher education for giving him the freedom to "explore, experiment and make mistakes." Students now face thousands of pounds a year in tuition fees. "It seems that freedom is being slowly eroded," McQueen said. The 60-year-old London festival has sought this year to encourage diversity in the film industry, opening with Amma Asante's "A United

Kingdom." A tale of interracial love and politics inspired by real events, it marked the first time that a black female director has held the prestigious opening slot at the festival.

As well as hosting premieres and red-carpet galas, the festival gathered performers, producers and filmmakers to discuss why black actors remain underrepresented onscreen in Britain and the United States. During the festival's black-tie awards ceremony Saturday at London's 17th-century Banqueting House, a jury headed by Greek director Athina Rachel Tsigari praised the masterful imagery and quiet modesty of Reichardt's film about three women - played by Kristen Stewart, Michelle Williams and Laura Dern - struggling with life in a chilly small town. The director is known for moving, minimalist dramas including "Wendy and Lucy" and "Meek's Cutoff." "Certain Women" beat other nominees including Paul Verhoeven's provocative revenge thriller "Elle;" Barry Jenkins' Miami coming-of-age drama "Moonlight;" and Chilean director Pablo Larraín's poet biopic "Neruda."

French director Julia Ducournau's horror story "Raw" was named best first feature. Jurors praised the "outrageousness" of the film, which Ducournau called a crossover "between comedy, drama and body horror." Iranian director Mehrdad Oskoui's portrait of teenage inmates, "Starless Dreams," was named best documentary, and Syrian photographer Issa Touma's unflinching "9 Days - From My Window in Aleppo" won the short-film prize. The 12-day festival screened some 250 documentary and fiction features across London. — AP

## De Niro to receive Film Society of Lincoln Center's Chaplin award



Robert De Niro

The Film Society of Lincoln Center has named Robert De Niro the recipient of its 44th annual Chaplin Award, which honors major industry talents. De Niro will take home the 2017 trophy for a four-decade acting career that stretches from early work including "Mean Streets," "Raging Bull" and "The Godfather Part II" to more recent projects such as "Silver Linings Playbook." He's also the high-profile co-founder of the Tribeca Film Festival, launched in the wake of 9/11 in an effort to boost the economic prospects of lower Manhattan.

Related New York Film Festival Review: 'Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk' The actor-producer will be honored by the Film Society at a springtime gala featuring notable guests and presenters as well as movie and interview footage drawn from De Niro's career. He joins a list of previous Chaplin recipients that includes Alfred Hitchcock, Elizabeth Taylor, Meryl Streep, Billy Wilder and last year's honoree, Morgan Freeman.

De Niro's Chaplin Award was announced on the closing night of the New York Film Festival, presented every year by the Film Society. The 2016 edition of NYFF closes Oct 15 with James Gray's "The Lost City of Z," one of a handful of world premieres at the festival that also included Ang Lee's "Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk," Mike Mills' "20th Century Women" and Ava DuVernay's "13th." The 44th annual Chaplin Award gala is set for May 8. Prior to that, De Niro's latest project, the Broadway musical adaptation of "A Bronx Tale," which he co-directs, opens in December. — Reuters



Actors Jeremy Renner and Amy Adams pose for photographers during a photo call to promote the film 'Arrival'.



Actress Olga Kurylenko poses for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film 'Snowden'.



Actress Joely Richardson poses for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film 'Snowden'.





Two Scottish shorthair cats dressed with red hats are pictured during a cat exhibition in Bishkek, yesterday. Cat lovers from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan took part in the exhibition. — AFP

## Putting on your own opera, in Vienna, aged 11

With help from her skipping rope, Alma Deutscher has written an opera that's being staged this Christmas in Vienna, the capital of classical music. Not bad when you're aged 11 and three-quarters. "I sometimes think that if I had a beard and I was old and fat then people might take me a bit more seriously," the English "wunderkind" told AFP as she played on the piano excerpts of the work. But this attitude, she adds, has changed since preparations began in this hallowed former stamping ground of Mozart and Schubert for the December 29 premiere of "Cinderella".



Alma Deutscher poses for a photographer in The Wiener Musikverein in Vienna.

She started writing the two-hour opera when she was eight, and as well as composing the music she has given the traditional folk tale her own twist, setting it in an opera house. Thus the eponymous heroine writes a tune that perfectly fits the handsome prince's poem, while the evil stepsisters are "pompous prima donnas," the young composer explains. It takes place in an imaginary country she calls Transylvanian, populated by imaginary composers.

Her favorite, Antonin Dvořák, wrote one of the more melancholy melodies—"and I stole it," she joked. But according to Anna Voshege, an Australian singer who plays one of the stepsisters, what Alma composes is anything but childish. "I heard the music before I knew she was 11, I was really quite shocked. Some of the nuances in that music are really very special, very intricate," Voshege told AFP. "It's very beautiful music and she is far beyond her years," she said.

### 'Something special' at four

Alma's father Guy Deutscher first realized his daughter was out of the ordinary when she asked, aged two or three, "How can music be



11 year-old Alma Deutscher performs in The Wiener Musikverein in Vienna. — AFP photos



Alma Deutscher poses for a picture with a placard of the opera "Cinderella" in the hall-way of The Wiener Musikverein in Vienna.

so beautiful?," he recalled. "When she was about four, when she started inventing her own melodies, I think that's when we noticed there was really something special," he told AFP in Vienna where the family from southern England has been spending time ahead of the premiere. At six she composed her first full piano sonata, at seven a mini-opera called "The Sweeper of Dreams", and at nine a concerto for violin and orchestra. A chamber music rendition of "Cinderella" was performed in Israel last year, but the Vienna version, with Indian conductor maestro Zubin Mehta as

patron, is much longer and will be a proper opera. She has won praise from renowned conductors like Daniel Barenboim and a "bowed over" Simon Rattle. Last year she appeared at a Google Zeitgeist conference with the likes of Stephen Hawking. But, her dad says, Alma also has a very normal life. "She loves climbing trees and running around like every other child," he said. Modern music though is "too loud" and not her thing, she says—not even Justin Bieber or The Beatles. "Oh no, I don't know any of them!"

Alma Deutscher performs in The Wiener Musikverein in Vienna.



Alma Deutscher performs in The Wiener Musikverein in Vienna.

### Special skipping rope

Alma gets her ideas when she's about to go to sleep or when she's waking up, when she's messing around on the piano-or by her own special method, as she explains. "Another way of getting my melodies is by skipping with this skipping rope," she says, proudly and earnestly showing off her prized possession. "I don't actually skip but I wave it round like this and I tell stories in my mind. Very often a melody just springs into my head. And then I run back and write it down in my notebook," she says,

bursting with enthusiasm.

"You see it has to be just this kind of skipping rope, with shining tassels and sparkles. Other ropes don't work at all." But she plays down the inevitable comparisons with Mozart, who was also just 11 when his first opera, or sacred drama to be precise, was first performed back in 1767. "I prefer not to be compared to anyone, to write my own music, just to be a little Alma... Because if I just wrote everything that Mozart had already written it would be rather boring!" — AFP

