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GHANEM FILES FOR RE-ELECTION, WELCOMES OPPOSITION'S RETURN

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QATAR FATHER EMIR SHEIKH KHALIFA DIES



DOHA: Qatar's Father Emir Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Thani passed away yesterday at the age of 84, the Emiri Diwan announced. The diwan, in a statement cited by the official QNA news agency, announced the death of Sheikh Khalifa, and prayed to Almighty Allah to bestow his blessings on his soul. Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani announced a three-day mourning period. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Candidate and former parliament speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem speaks after registering for the upcoming parliamentary elections at the Department of Elections in Shuwaikh yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: Fifty-two candidates including the speaker of the dissolved National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem filed their nomination papers for the snap elections yesterday, raising the number of hopefuls to 251 including eight women. Yesterday's candidate registration also saw the return of veteran Salafist lawmaker Ahmad Baqer and former opposition MP Riyadh Al-Adasani, who resigned about three years ago from the outgoing Assembly in protest against the rejection of his grilling against the prime minister. It also saw former Islamist MP Humoud Al-Hamdan bid for re-election.

No one from the traditional opposition that had boycotted the previous two polls registered yesterday, a day after several of opposition figures and former MPs filed to contest the polls, ending their long boycott. They included former Islamist MPs Waleed Al-Tabtabaei, Ammar Al-Ajmi, Mohammad Hayef and several others. Even a number of members from the hardline Popular Action Bloc may return to the fray after a crucial meeting tomorrow.

Ghanem welcomed the return of the opposition and the end of the boycott, saying this proves what he and others have been saying, that participating in the election is a correct move, especially after the constitutional court confirmed that the single-vote system is in line with the constitution. Ghanem said that the decision to dissolve the Assembly and hold early elections was the correct decision and he and other members want to go back to the Kuwaiti voters.

Continued on Page 13



Photo shows the scene of a crash between a tour bus and a semi-truck on Interstate 10 near Desert Hot Springs near Palm Springs in California's Mojave Desert yesterday. — AP

13 KILLED IN CALIFORNIA TOUR BUS, TRUCK CRASH

LOS ANGELES: A tour bus crashed into the back of a tractor-trailer on a Southern California highway before dawn yesterday, killing at least 13 people and injuring 31, an NBC affiliate reported. The bus was traveling west on Interstate 10 when the crash occurred near Palm Springs, a city about 160 km east of Los Angeles, the television station reported. The Riverside County Coroner's Office confirmed 13 people aboard the bus were killed, the station said.

Photographs from the scene showed the front of the tour bus wedged inside the back of the trailer, with emergency workers using metal ladders to reach the

inside of the bus. A tow truck was used to separate the vehicles, local media including the Desert Sun newspaper reported. The injured were being treated at local hospitals, while all westbound lanes of the interstate were closed near the crash, according to the reports.

The bus had left the Red Earth Casino in Salton City, California, and was headed to Los Angeles when the crash was reported to the California Highway Patrol at 5:17 am (1217 GMT), the NBC affiliate said. California Highway Patrol officer Stephanie Hamilton was quoted as saying that 31 people were taken to hospitals with injuries. — Agencies

IRAQ BOOZE BAN SPARKS BACKLASH

DEFICIT RESULT OF A 60% DECLINE IN OIL PRICES: SALEH

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Anas Al-Saleh said yesterday the Kuwaiti economy, relying heavily on oil revenues, suffered a budget deficit as a result of the 60 percent drop in oil prices in 2014. Revenues nosedived while expenditure remained almost the same in the last two years, Saleh, also acting minister of oil, said in an interview with Al-Rai TV yesterday.



Anas Al-Saleh

While the final account for the fiscal year 2014-2015 shows a surplus of KD 3.5 billion, that of FY 2015-2016 shows a real deficit of KD 4.6 billion resulting from the 60 percent decline in revenues, he explained. In March, the government drafted a document for economic reforms, a package of measures for short-term and medium-term economic and financial reforms, taking into account the objectives of the national development plan, he said.

The document covers the coming two-four years and focuses on six axes - first, financial reform including budgetary imbalances; second, the role of the state in the national economy; third, the contribution of the private sector to economic growth; fourth, the citizens' role in economic projects; fifth, the reforms of

Continued on Page 13

BAGHDAD: Secular Iraqis woke up feeling hungover yesterday, after a surprise parliament vote they claim is unconstitutional and shows that dominant religious parties have their priorities wrong. An article banning the sale, import and production of alcohol was slipped into a draft on municipalities and caught the anti-ban camp flat-footed on Saturday.

The scores of small alcohol shops in central Baghdad were already closed because of the holy month of Muharram, and now their owners and employees are fuming. "We don't have another job - our families will lose their income," said

Maytham, who owns a shop selling all kinds of locally produced and imported beers, wines and spirits in Baghdad's central Karrada district. "We don't know if they will allow us to open our shops. How will these families live?" he asked, standing next to his small store's closed metal door.

Saturday's vote also angered several politicians who claim that the law violates an article in the constitution that guarantees the freedom of religious minorities. The vote's supporters say that the very same constitution prevents any law contradicting Islam, however.

Continued on Page 13



BAGHDAD: An Iraqi man buys liquor from a closed shop selling illegally through a window in the capital yesterday. — AFP

Large liquor breweries busted in Egaila, Kabd



Falih: Oil down cycle 'nearing end', views are closer with Russia



'Cursed' Cubs back in World Series after 71 years



Mourinho's United routed on return to Chelsea



In Brief

EQUATORIAL GUINEA'S PRESIDENT VISITS KUWAIT

KUWAIT: President of the friendly Equatorial Guinea Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, accompanied by officials, is scheduled to arrive in the country on official visit today. President Mbasogo, during his visit, will hold official talks with His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. —KUNA



MINISTER MEETS PALESTINIAN ENVOY

KUWAIT: Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah met with Palestinian Ambassador to Kuwait Rami Tahboub yesterday. During the meeting, they exchanged friendly views on relations between Kuwait and Palestine. —KUNA



SECRETARY ATTENDS IPU MEETING

KUWAIT: National Assembly's Secretary General Allam Al-Kandari is expected to participate in the 135th Inter-Parliamentary Union's (IPU) assembly currently being held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 23 to 27 October. Kandari's accompanying delegation includes director of the international parliamentary organizations Mishaal Al-Enezi and officials from the National Assembly's General Secretariat. —KUNA



Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: The Shamiya Gate in Kuwait City. It is one of five gates of Kuwait's Third Wall, which was built in 1920 to protect Kuwait from invaders. The wall was demolished in 1957, but its five gates were kept as a reminder. —Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

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KUWAIT AIRWAYS UNVEILS DYNAMIC NEW LIVERY

KUWAIT/SEATTLE: Kuwait Airways, the national carrier of the State of Kuwait, yesterday revealed a 'once in a generation' revision to the airline's livery at an official launch event held at Boeing Commercial Airplanes' Headquarters, in Seattle, USA. The new look branding was unveiled on the first of 10 Boeing 777-300ERs that will be delivered to Kuwait Airways, over the next 12 months.

Following Kuwait Airways' recent announcement of its new five-year business plan, in September 2016, the combination of the new livery and delivery of the Boeing 777-300ERs represent two of the airline's first major steps towards achieving the goals set out in its "Transformation Strategy". The acquisition of the Boeing 777-300ERs into the fleet will play an immediate and significant ongoing role in serving Kuwait Airways' long-haul destinations and ultimately open new routes.

According to the new livery's designers, the branding change is more than just a cosmetic upgrade. Its purpose, they say, is to send a clear message to passengers, stakeholders and the community-at-large, that change is happening across and throughout the whole organization of the airline. To this end, the fresh, dynamic look will also be reflected in Kuwait Airways' comprehensive approach to delivering on all areas of "operational, commercial and service excellence".

"The launch of our new livery is an unreservedly clear statement-of-intent," said Rasha Al Roumi, Chairperson and CEO of Kuwait Airways. "While the outward change



to our aircraft will be obvious, we also hope to demonstrate that a much deeper and thorough transformation process is underway; one that will reassert our pioneering legacy in the region's aviation industry and restore a sense of pride in the national carrier of Kuwait. Ultimately, such changes will be in pursuit of asserting our position as the preferred choice for passengers, linking Kuwait to the world," Roumi added.

Focusing on the physical changes, Kuwait Airways' fresh new look retains a revision of the iconic blue bird, but now more prominently featured on the body of the aircraft - from the tail and across the rear end of the plane. The two-toned blues denote a meeting of the sea and sky, signifying the point at which new horizons will be crossed. This forward-looking aspiration is then juxtaposed with the subtle inclusion

of the pearl designs - a nod to Kuwait's historic maritime and trading roots.

According to Roumi, the addition of the 10 new Boeing 777-300ERs will - among many other developments - see the airline develop into owning one of the youngest commercial fleet, in the region, by 2017.

"While a new livery change and the delivery of our first Boeing 777-300ER demonstrates a clear and new direction, it should be said that Kuwait Airways consider the human element is the main factor of any success and that dedication and commitment to our passengers remains unchanged. We will, therefore, deepen our commitment in our areas of strength, act on the areas we can improve on and, going forward, maintain a consistent delivery of service excellence across all areas of the business," Roumi concluded.

KUWAIT TAPS PEER EDUCATION FOR DRUG PREVENTION

KUWAIT: Kuwait has left no stone unturned in its drive to protect its people, especially youth, from the scourge of drug abuse. In the latest initiative in this regard Kuwait has tapped peers education to help promote change for better health, social norms and lifestyle to prevent drug abuse.

On Saturday, Kuwait graduated dozens of young educators to effect change at the individual level by attempting to modify a person's knowledge, attitudes, beliefs or behaviors, capitalizing on the fact that people belonging to the same peer group communicate best with each other. Fifty-five youth have partaken in the first phase of the training program, carried out in collaboration between Mentor International, Mentor Arabia and the Kuwaiti National

Anti-Drugs Media Project (Ghiras).

Speaking on the sidelines of the graduation ceremony of the young trainers and educator of the international "Peer Educators" for drug prevention, held in the presence of the Monitor International Foundation Queen of Sweden Silvia, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Youth Affairs Sheikhha Al-Zain Al-Sabah called for adopting an integrated strategy to protect youth from the drug addiction. She emphasized that Kuwait is greatly interested in cooperation with all international organizations for drug prevention through a series of educational, scientific and professional tools.

Meanwhile, Chairman of Mentor Arabia Prince Turki bin Talal bin Abdulaziz pointed out that Kuwait has been pio-

neering in countering drug proliferation. He expressed Mentor Arabia's readiness to cooperate with Kuwaiti government and civil society to educate Kuwaiti youth and protect the society against the spread of drugs.

With this initiative, Mentor Arabia hopes to reach thousands of youth in Kuwait to improve their attitudes, skills and knowledge on drug prevention in favor of more positive health developments, he said. In the meantime, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Ghiras Dr Khaled Al-Shatti lauded the efforts exerted by the Ministry of Education to monitor the phenomenon of drug abuse and prepare a pool of highly-trained educators to educate students about the dangers of drugs. —KUNA



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Queen Silvia of Sweden. —Amiri Diwan

AMIR RECEIVES QUEEN SILVIA OF SWEDEN

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, in the presence of His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah,

received yesterday at Bayan Palace Queen Silvia of Sweden on the occasion of her visit to Kuwait.

The meeting was attended by deputy Amiri

Diwan Affairs Minister Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Mentor Arabia Prince Turki bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and board members. —KUNA



Queen Silvia of Sweden is pictured with some officials at the event.

MENTOR ARABIA HOLDS BANQUET UNDER AMIR'S SPONSORSHIP

KUWAIT: Patronized by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Mentor Arabia held, late on Saturday, a banquet attended by Queen Silvia of Sweden, also chairperson of Mentor Foundation International. His Highness the Amir was represented at the formal dinner by Deputy Amiri Diwan Affairs Minister Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah.

In her address to the attendees, Queen Silvia affirmed that the international foundation seeks to tackle all dangers facing the youth, such as drugs. Chairman of Mentor Arabia Prince Turki Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud expressed gratitude to the State of Kuwait for its leading role in embracing humanitarian causes particularly those concerning the children and youth.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chairman of Mentor Arabia Faisal Al-Mutawaa thanked His

Highness the Amir for gracing the foundation. A documentary about Mentor Arabia was displayed to the attendees. Queen Silvia arrived in Kuwait on Friday to attend a ceremony honoring trainers and educators of the global program, peer education, to protect youth against drugs, organized by Ghiras in cooperation with Mentor Arabia.

Mentor Arabia is a regional non-governmental foundation which advocates drug prevention among Arab children and youth. It is an affiliate of Mentor International, operating under the mission of "A world where children and young people are empowered to make healthy decisions and avoid drug use."

Kuwait has fruitful cooperation with Mentor Arabia, through the Ministries of Education, Information and the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs. Queen Silvia highly

appreciates Kuwait's support to the foundation and lauds the leading national program for drug awareness, known as Ghiras, that has been a major partner in Mentor's efforts and goals.

Queen Silvia established Mentor International in 1994 in collaboration with the World Health Organization, as the leading international federation of not-for-profit organizations working to develop evidence-based youth development programs that focus on preventing drug abuse. —KUNA



A general view of the audience.



Queen Silvia of Sweden delivers her speech.



KUWAIT: Queen Silvia of Sweden and Deputy Amiri Diwan Affairs Minister Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah attend a banquet held by Mentor Arabia recently. —Amiri Diwan photos



Education minister Dr Bader Al-Essa (left) is pictured in attendance.

MENTOR ARABIA SPREADS DRUG PREVENTION MESSAGE IN KUWAIT

DEVELOPING HEALTHY AND POSITIVE LIFESTYLES

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Preventing drug abuse is one of the best investments in any country's future. Addiction is very common nowadays, especially when it's related to alcohol and drugs among youth. Mentor Arabia gives an important message about drug prevention and provides an engaging and creative way for youth to express themselves with regards to this issue. It also helps influence their peers to develop healthy and positive lifestyles.

Kuwait Times spoke with Bechara Ghaoui, Communication and Fundraising Associate at Mentor Arabia, to learn more about the organization and its goals.

Kuwait Times: Tell us more about Mentor Arabia.

Ghaoui: Mentor Arabia is a regional non-governmental foundation that advocates for children and youth empowerment towards prevention from risky behaviors and drugs. The foundation is a regional member of Mentor International, which was founded in 1994 and presided by Queen Sylvia of Sweden.

Mentor Arabia was established in response to the recommendations of an Arab and international scientific forum which took place in Dubai in 2004. The forum called for the establishment of an Arab institution that would contribute to supporting and strengthening efforts aimed at repelling the spread of the drugs phenomenon.

Goals

KT: What are your goals?

Ghaoui: The goals of Mentor Arabia are: Building the capacities of children, youth, parents and other beneficiaries.

Develop policies and strategies for children and youth empowerment.

Promote youth participation in all areas of social work and human development.

Develop and disseminate prevention and youth empowerment studies and research.

Forge partnerships and spread awareness through media and social media channels.

KT: What is your most significant achievement in the Middle East?

Ghaoui: Perhaps Mentor Arabia's most significant achievement in the Middle East has been bringing together multiple stakeholders to the table to set standards for children and youth empowerment and the prevention of risky behaviors. Mentor Arabia has also successfully brought the issue of drug prevention to the forefront of national and regional agendas, initiating and maintaining discourse at the regional level while strengthening joint Arab and international cooperation.

Additionally, Mentor Arabia has successfully introduced evidence-based prevention programs to the Arab world, which have been adapted and contextualized to suit the local context. The foundation also serves as a knowledge provider for research and best practices, and overall representing a regional umbrella, bringing together all actors in the field of child and youth empowerment. Although there is always more work to be done, it is safe to say that Mentor Arabia has built strong and solid alliances to accelerate the momentum in halting the spread of this dangerous phenomenon.

KT: What is the role of Mentor Arabia in promoting health and reducing the incidence of drug abuse among youth in Kuwait?

Ghaoui: Mentor Arabia has partnered with the National Anti-Drugs Media Project in collaboration with the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs to implement a Youth Peer Education (YPE) program at the national level throughout Kuwait. The objective of this program is to empower a network of young peer educators aged 15 to 24 years old with the necessary life skills to help them raise awareness among their peers on drug prevention topics through interactive techniques.

Children and adolescents have also been involved in drug use prevention efforts in Kuwait. Also, in partnership with the National Anti-Drugs Media Project and under the patronage of the minister of education, a drawing competition was launched in October among schools throughout the country where students aged 9-14 were asked to express themselves artistically around the topic of the dangers of drugs and other risky behaviors. This will be followed by an exhibition of selected drawings. These two programs are unique and have proven to be successful in many other countries.

Strategies

KT: What are the key strategies to eliminate drugs from society?

Ghaoui: Traditional preventive measures have utilized fear tactics for drug prevention. Research has shown that these efforts have often been ineffective and even had adverse reactions in some cases. With the advancement of drugs prevention research, the use of evidence based "life skills" programs, the inclusion of youth, and utilizing social media as a channel for prevention have all been shown to be key strategies in empowering youth with the knowledge and skills that enable them to make positive choices and avoid risky behaviors. Additionally, the involvement of all segments of the community and the provision of safe and secure environments for our children and youth are vital to the success of any strategy.

KT: There are a lot of drugs that are used by people and many new drugs have also been formulated. What class of people generally abuse drugs?

Ghaoui: The drug phenomenon is one that can reach any person, especially those who are vulnerable, seeing as they lack the

appropriate support systems that would enable them to make healthy choices. Drug use and abuse are public health problems that affect all people regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religious affiliation or socio-economic class. Younger people and those who lack access to education are considered especially vulnerable as they are more prone to using drugs.

KT: Are there new ways of trafficking drugs? What steps are being taken by Mentor?

Ghaoui: Drug traffickers are constantly developing new and innovative ways to bring drugs into our communities. While the battle to eliminate drug trafficking is led by



Bechara Ghaoui

local and international drug control and law enforcement agencies, Mentor Arabia's role is to empower youth to make healthy choices and resist drugs. We view that in decreasing the demand for drugs, we would be contributing to tackling the problem of drug trafficking.

Parents

KT: What is the role of parents and teachers in creating a drug-free society? How effective is it compared to enforcement work?

Ghaoui: Within the "life skills" approach in drugs use prevention, the role of parents and teachers is essential, not only because they are crucial members of a young person's support network, but also since they represent the entry points for many effective prevention programs, be it at home or at school. The work of parents and teachers and the community at large is seen as complementary to that of enforcement and control.

KT: Tell us more about your charity dinner in Kuwait to battle drug abuse.

Ghaoui: Mentor Arabia faces a monumental task in trying to halt the spread of this fast growing and deadly phenomenon in the Arab region. This task cannot be achieved alone; it requires the help and cooperation of various parties, such as governmental and non-governmental institutions, experts, educators, parents, religious leaders, businesses, media and many more.

Under the auspices of HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Sylvia of Sweden, President of Mentor International, and Prince Turki bin Talal bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of Mentor Arabia, a gala dinner will be took place recently. The dinner was hosted by Mr Faisal Al-Mutawaa, Executive Chairman of Ali Abdulwahab Al-Mutawaa Co and the vice-chairman of Mentor Arabia. It was also attended by a number of royals, board members of Mentor Arabia and Mentor International, as well as businesspeople, NGOs, parents, experts, youth and media representatives.

Through this event, Mentor Arabia hopes to raise more awareness on the dangers of drug use and the importance of prevention to widen its strategic partnership in Kuwait in order to implement the numerous projects and programs it is currently engaged in.

KT: Is there joint cooperation between Mentor and private or government organizations?

Ghaoui: One of Mentor Arabia's principle missions is to build the capacity of national organizations, whether private, governmental, or non-governmental, to adopt and carry out drug prevention programs at the national level. Instead of perpetuating dependencies, Mentor Arabia works to capacitate institutions and create sustainability in drug prevention by forging strong partnerships with solid and active national entities on the ground.

Plans

KT: What are your future plans?

Ghaoui: Mentor Arabia is currently in the process of designing its upcoming strategy for 2017-2020, which will be geared toward scaling up its programs for a wider reach and a wider network of partnership and cooperation. The foundation will also be looking towards becoming a regional information and resources center, rich in analytical data, studies, curricula and research on drugs and drug prevention in the Arab world, which would be able to provide much needed information for anyone interested in this field. Furthermore, Mentor Arabia is working toward developing the first regional report on drug prevention and building an Arab alliance to face this problem.

KT: What is your message to the people?

Ghaoui: We envision a drugs-free Arab world where children and youth are given the opportunities to lead healthy lives. The fight against drugs is a long and extremely difficult one. There is so much that is needed to be done and we must all get together and work together. Through solid and collaborative partnerships with government and civil institutions, and by working closely on the ground with parents, educators, children, youth, and with the support of the media, we can repel the spread of the drugs phenomenon in the Arab world. It will take time, but if we work together, hand in hand, we will succeed in protecting our children and youth and in developing our communities.



'LARGE BREWERIES' BUSTED IN EGAILA, KABD

By Hanan Al-Saadoun and Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Ahmadi police busted a local liquor brewery in Egaila, described as one of the largest to ever be discovered in Kuwait. Police raided the place and found hundreds of drums containing liquor distillation material, in addition to pumps and tools used in brewing alcohol. Five people were arrested during the operation. Meanwhile, a man was arrested during a similar raid in Kabd, in which a large number of drums and bottles containing homebrewed liquor were also found.

No injuries in fire

A fire broke out Saturday evening in a deserted chalet on Failaka Island, said security sources, noting that the fire was brought under control without any casualties. An investigation was opened to determine the causes of the fire.

Forgery

Consumer protection inspectors raided a vegetable warehouse 15 minutes before midnight where suspects were repacking Saudi zucchini into 750-gm foam boxes and changing the origin label to Jordan. Security sources added that

the suspects were also doing the same with 300 kg of Chinese carrots, packing them in 500-gm boxes and changing their origin labels to Australia. The suspects also tried the same play with one ton of Iranian apples. They are facing charges of commercial fraud with the aim of making greater profits because there is a great demand for Jordanian vegetables in the local market.

Traffic campaign

The traffic department carried out several surprise campaigns in Kuwait's six governorates from Oct 9 to 15. The cam-

paigns resulted in issuing 45,455 citations, 539 vehicles were impounded along with 17 motorcycles, and 10 persons were detained for grave violations. Five expats were sent for deportation.

Service center

The department of relations and security information at the interior ministry said the Omariya Service Center is now receiving citizens during working hours to process traffic, nationality, passport and criminal evidence transactions, as the Khaitan Service Center has been closed.

Legalese

ALCOHOL AND THE LAW IN KUWAIT

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

I am extremely grateful that my clients and readers come from all walks of life and that I get to work with companies and individuals. I am also very happy that I can reach out to expats with my legal writings and explain to them my country's legislation, making their transition to Kuwait easier. Kuwaitis are so blessed to be exposed to the diversity of people in Kuwait and to learn from them and their culture. The diversity of nationalities in Kuwait is just amazing.

I also know that out of 196 countries in the world, less than 15 have legislation that bans alcohol. So it is no surprise that there is a lot of confusion among expats about the consumption of alcohol in Kuwait. What adds to the confusion is that the consumption of alcohol in Kuwait as an act, in itself is not illegal. But there are restrictions involving the consumption of alcohol that I will be discussing today by answering your questions. This post does not include my opinion on the matter, but instead it is a factual representation of the law.

Not driving

Question: I was drinking at a party at the weekend, and I know it is not right to drink and drive, therefore I got into a cab. Yet there was a police check and they talked to the cab driver and that's when I started talking to the police officer. The police officer realized that I had been drinking and he took me to the police station. I don't understand. I was not driving.

Fajer: This is one of the most common concerns that I receive. Because there is an major emphasis in the West about drinking and driving, many people mistakenly think it is okay to drink in Kuwait, as long as they don't drive. That is not true. The punishment is as follows:

Article 206(d) of Kuwait Penal Law states that 'Any person who takes alcoholic or intoxicating beverages to a public place or to a place where he may be seen by others be it a public place or a private club and any person who brings the alcoholic or intoxicating beverage to the said place for another person to consume shall be penalized for a period not exceeding six months and/or fined not more than KD50. Any person who is found drunk will be punished the same.

Worst case scenario

Question: I was at a party and we had a lot to drink, after drinking we went downstairs and got into a car. I was drunk but I was not driving, my friend was. We were driving down the road, and my friend cut another car off. This made the other person lose his temper. So he stopped the car and my friend and this guy got into a fight. The police showed up and obviously we all had to go to the police station. This is when the police officers found out that I was drinking and therefore decided to hold me at the police station and put a case against me.

A.) What can I do?

Fajer: You need to get a lawyer as soon as possible. You will need to give the lawyer a Power of Attorney. Make sure you tell your lawyer the truth, so they can decide what to do.

B.) What could I be punished for? What will happen?

Fajer: Although there is no crime for consuming alcohol in private, being under the influence in public could cause the police to question you or keep you at the police station until you are no longer under the influence. I can't fully say what will happen as I don't know the specifics of the story. Were people hurt? Did you talk back to the police? Did you get violent at the fight, and so on. Usually though, these are the steps taken:

1. They will ask for your blood/urine test to see the percentage of alcohol in your body and add it to the investigation.
2. An investigator will ask you to come in and ask you questions about the incident.
3. A case will be opened and forwarded to court from the public prosecutor. Punishment options will be written in the statement.

C.) What is the worst case scenario?

Fajer: Again, I cannot answer the questions as I don't know the full circumstances, but being under the influence in public as I have stated above there is a punishment and it can be either deportation and/or a fine of up to KD 50 and/or jail time of up to six months. Usually if it is your first offense and no one else was hurt, you will be let off the hook.

I hope the above is helpful, please stay legal and safe.

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

HOTELS UNION JOINS HORECA 2017 AS GOLDEN SPONSOR

KUWAIT: Chairman of the Hotels Owners Union (HOU) Ghazi Fahad Al-Nafisi hailed the continuous success of Horeca Kuwait and its contribution to boosting the hospitality, catering and hotel equipment business. This contribution supports Kuwait's plans to achieve comprehensive touristic development, build new residential cities and launching new urban communities, he added.



Ghazi Al-Nafisi

Nafisi also expressed appreciation that Horeca 2017 would be launched under auspices of the Information Minister and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah, and under direct supervision from the tourism sector. "This is a great step in the course of developing the touristic sector and its role in providing more job opportunities for ambitious young men and diversify national income sources at the same time," he underlined.

Accordingly, Nafisi announced HOU's participation in Horeca 2017 as a golden sponsor due to the exhibition's significance. In addition, Nafisi said that the importance of the hospitality sector also comes in view of several mega projects that Kuwait is currently witnessing including the new terminal, hospitals and new cities. He also pointed out that the hotel room capacity in Kuwait has increased to more than 10,000 over the past two years and that restaurants' numbers exceeded 5,000, which all call for cooperation and combining efforts. Notably, Horeca 2017 is due to be organized by Leaders Group Company for Consulting and Development in collaboration with the Hospitality Services Company for the sixth straight year in the period of January 16-18, 2017.

WORK PERMITS ISSUED AS NORMAL

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GIVEN MORE TIME

By Meshaal Al-Enezi and A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Manpower will continue issuing work permits to various companies according to standard regulations and without any suspensions, official spokesperson and public relations director Aseel Al-Mazyad said. She explained that according to ministerial decision 747, labor departments will issue work permits approved by the labor assessment section for activities executing government contracts and companies fully owned by the government, shareholding companies, hospitals, medical centers, outpatient departments, pharmacies, banks, insurance companies, hotels, private schools, clubs, unions, NGOs, aviation companies, marine lines agents, engineering consultancy offices, law firms, fishing, agriculture, shepherding, press houses, automobile agents, opticians, money exchangers, universities and institutes approved by the Ministry of Education (MoE).

Mazyad added that the decision also authorizes the work permit committee to issue permits for companies listed on the KSE, rental companies, companies approved by the municipality and CTC, closed and holding shareholding companies, international brand agents, domestic healthcare companies, com-

panies specialized in firefighting, travel agents licensed by the civil aviation department, spas, shopping malls, cinema houses, department stores and crafts.

Date adjustment

Health Minister Dr Ali Al-Obaidi adjusted the date on which the retirement of ministry employees he recently referred to retirement takes effect to Dec 1 instead of Oct 31 so they could arrange matters and prepare to execute the decision. In another concern, Obaidi noted that 350 retirees have so far been hospitalized using their 'Afy'a' health insurance cards. Obaidi added that 63,496 Afya cards have been distributed so far.

Clinical labs

Dasman Diabetes Institute's clinical lab manager Asma Al-Hubail said that the lab has completed eight papers on diabetes and that eight more are currently under process. Hubail said the clinical labs were launched in 2007, when the tests done there were very limited, until the labs expanded their work and became accredited by the Canadian board and fully equipped with the latest equipment and highly skilled medical and nursing staffs.

'DISCOVER AMERICA WEEK' UNDERWAY

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: The 'Discover America Week' (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2016) kicked off yesterday, with several activities related to the US to be held, ranging from food, basketball, film, education, an investor seminar, cars and more. The Discover America Week seeks to strengthen ties between the US and Kuwait.

"We are happy to launch Discover America for the fourth consecutive year," US Embassy Press Attaché Heather E Ward told reporters yesterday at the US Embassy. "Many of the activities in the 'Discover America' event are the realization of our objective to strengthen our commercial, educational, tourism and business partnerships," she said. "We have great and outstanding bonds between us," she added.

US Embassy Commercial Attaché Jeff Hamilton said the Discover America Week is not only a promotion of the US' great products and opportunities, but also a way of thanking everyone for their continued patronage of US products. "For example, Chevrolet has been in Kuwait for

many years now. We have five generations of Kuwaitis believing in this brand and it is such a wonderful boost for us," he said.

Other activities include the opening of a five-day intensive American Film Showcase Workshop, a collaboration between the US Embassy, the Ministry for Youth Affairs and Dar Al-Athar Al-Islamiyyah (DAI). Two American film experts, Tim Sousken and David Glass, will lead participants through the steps to make a short film. "The program is part of the American Film Showcase person-to-person diplomacy connecting American film experts with foreign audiences," he said.

Also part of the Discover America Week is a seminar on procurement opportunities at the Camp Arifjan US military base. Discover America will highlight iconic US fashion brands, food, film, music, education, business knowhow, and tourism. The 11-day event will take place at venues throughout Kuwait City, including The Avenues, Sultan Center, Kuwait Chamber of Commerce, American Cultural Center, AUK and other locations.



KUWAIT: US Embassy Commercial Attaché Jeff Hamilton (left) speaks during the press conference as Press Attaché Heather E Ward looks on.

—Photo by Joseph Shagra

International Monetary Fund Middle East Center for Economics and Finance Kuwait "Interpreter/Translator" Vacancy Announcement

The mission of the IMF's Middle East Center for Economics and Finance (CEF) in Kuwait is to build capacity through hands-on training for policy makers from the Arab League countries, as well as to lead conferences, symposia and seminars geared at strengthening the design and implementation of sound economic policies in the region.

The Center is seeking an "Interpreter/Translator" to handle its English-Arabic written translation and simultaneous interpretation needs.

This is a full time position with an initial appointment term of two-years (renewable), and carries a competitive salary and benefits package commensurate with the successful candidate's experience and qualifications.

Qualifications and Skills:

- University degree in English language and/or translation or simultaneous interpretation;
- Knowledge of economics, and work experience in translation of economic and financial texts from/to English and Arabic;
- Ability to produce final translations in electronic format and to assist other interpreters in performing consecutive interpretation as needed;
- Ability to act as team leader for less experienced interpreters, and to play a major role in their development and evaluation;
- Must have Arabic as mother tongue;
- High level of competence in office automation;
- Initiative, versatility, good interpersonal skills as well as ability to work as part of a team that may include both outside freelancers and CEF staff.

Closing date of the application is November 6, 2016. Interested applicants should visit www.imf.org/jobs for the full vacancy information and to apply to job # 1600938

MINISTER SIGNS INFRASTRUCTURE DEALS WORTH KD 317.7 MILLION

KUWAIT: Minister of Public Works Ahmad Al-Jassar signed yesterday a pair of contracts dealing with infrastructure repair, including work to build a new maternity hospital at a total cost of KD 317.7 million.

The first deal signed by Jassar, who is also Minister of Electricity and Water and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, comprises work to build and refurbish a new maternity hospital at a cost of KD 220.7 million, a press statement by the Ministry of Public Works noted.

Moreover, the statement revealed that the hospital contains 780 beds, in addition to 37 operating rooms and 60 birthing rooms, adding that the facility stretches on 240 square kilometers, complete with two basements and a parking lot.

Meanwhile, the second deal includes infrastructure repair on the 6.5 ring road at a cost of KD 97 million. The deal is part of a project to build a new 6.5 ring road that would run parallel to the sixth ring road. — KUNA



Sheikh Mohammad Al Thani donates blood.



OOREDOO CELEBRATED HEALTH WEEK WITH EMPLOYEES

COOKING COMPETITIONS, SPORTS TOURNAMENTS, OTHER ACTIVITIES



Mijbil Alayoub



KUWAIT: Ooredoo, Kuwait's fastest network for 2016, concluded its health week activities for employees last Thursday. The week-long series of activities included seminars and competitions for all employees at Ooredoo's head office. The program was aimed at raising awareness about nutrition, diabetes, general health in addition to a first-aid certification program and a blood drive.

Speaking about this event, Corporate Communications Senior Director at Ooredoo Kuwait Mijbil Alayoub said: "We're very happy to have held such an informative event for our employees. We work according to a

year-long plan that includes a lot of activities and events focused on our employees, and this reflects the company's investment in its staff, which stems from our core values of caring and connecting."

The week activities kicked off with a day dedicated to raising awareness about nutrition, in which dietitian Wajid Al-Othman gave a lecture about adopting a healthy lifestyle. This was followed with a lecture by sports coach Jamie Karehana, in which he discussed how cooking healthy food in addition to leading an active lifestyle can help people achieve their health goals.

The second day was dedicated entirely for women, and was started with a lecture delivered by Dr Latifa Al-Kandari from the Ministry of Health, who discussed breast cancer, its prevalence and the latest ways of dealing with it. Dr Sarah Al-Hammouri talked about osteoporosis in women, vitamin D deficiency, and polycystic ovarian syndrome.

On the third day, Ooredoo organized its annual blood drive in cooperation with the Kuwait Blood Bank, where all employees in the head office were invited to donate blood. This was followed by two lectures: A

lecture about nutrition and whole food by nutrition coach Juna Alawadhi, and a lecture about Ayurveda by Dr Rameza Anwar.

The fourth day was dedicated to give staff essential training on first aid, in cooperation with the Emergency Medical Service department of the Ministry of Health. On the fifth day, employees were given informative lectures by Dr Ebaa Al-Ozairi from Dasman Institute for Diabetes, in addition to glucose level tests and consultations with health professionals. Aside from the lectures, the program included a number of activities for employees, such as a cooking

competition and sports games, in addition to a video game tournament.

Doctors and medical staff were present throughout the week to check blood pressure, glucose level and perform other routine tests. To distinguish each day, each theme carried a different color: green for nutrition, red for blood drive, blue for diabetes, yellow for first aid, and pink for breast cancer. Ooredoo is committed to support national and global initiatives throughout its various activities, with its comprehensive social responsibility policy both internally and externally.

Proud & Honored to serve our Country & Community



To honor Kuwait's Rio Olympic Heroes Fahad Al-Jetani and Abdullah Al-Turki, Mustafa Karam Co. is proud to present a Suzuki Grand Vitara and a Suzuki Jimny respectively, to mark their superb achievement in Shooting at Rio Olympics 2016.



Mustafa Karam Co. has gifted a 31 ft. boat with a Suzuki Marine eco-friendly engine, to Kuwait University Faculty of Science, for marine environmental research.



Mustafa Karam Co. has gifted two LT 500 ATVs to the heritage village Sabah Al-Ahmad on the occasion of National Day & Liberation Day.



Mustafa Karam Co. has donated one fuel-efficient, Suzuki Marine engines of 90 HP to the Environmental Voluntary Foundation to support them in their volunteering work.



Crime

Report

TRIO 'BROUGHT TOGETHER' BY DRUGS

KUWAIT: A car was spotted driving erratically in Ahmadi, so it was stopped, and police found two men and an Egyptian woman in an abnormal condition. The three had used drugs earlier, so their car was searched and 62 tablets of a banned substance were found. The Egyptian woman said she does not have any work relations with the men and it was the drugs that brought them together. The three are being questioned by the Drugs Control General Department.

Suicide threat

A man told police his wife was threatening to slash her wrists and commit suicide due to domestic problems, so police rushed to help and convinced the woman to change her mind.

Family row

An Egyptian man attacked his sister-in-law at her house and stole KD 900. The woman told police that her brother-in-law beat her while her husband was out of the country and took KD 900 before escaping. Police are investigating.

Shopper mugged

A man took advantage of a European woman being busy with her children at a Salmiya market and stole her bag that contained \$5,000 and KD 90, beside IDs and other documents.

Illegal entry

A Pakistani man succeeded in entering the country illegally by sea, but was caught by accident in Farwaniya. Police saw the man trying to hide from them, and he was arrested after attempting to escape on foot. He was taken to the police station where he confessed that he swam his way into the country, adding that he was dumped by a boat near Kuwait's territorial waters. He was sent to concerned authorities.

Bloody fight

A citizen in his twenties was stabbed by three persons following a fight which left him bleeding, so he was taken to Adan Hospital. A security source said the man sought the help of police and told them he was stabbed by three persons who were arguing. He added that he was bleeding, so an ambulance was dispatched, but his condition required the use of a medevac chopper, which flew him to Adan Hospital.

Reckless driving

A citizen in his twenties was arrested following reckless driving in Saad Al-Abdullah. He had hashish and 43 illicit tablets on him. He was sent to the Drugs Control Guard Department. —Al-Rai, Al-Anbaa



Al-Anbaa

JOBLESS PICKPOCKETS

By Salah Al-Sayer

Humanity is rapidly moving towards amazing worlds in which human beings are almost extinct and many old professions are disappearing. For example, alarm clocks put an end to the job of Abu Tbaila (a man who used to go door-to-door waking up people in Ramadan for suhoor meals before emsak and Fajr prayers), postmen have been jobless since the invention of emails and other means of communication.

Modern technology is dominating earth now. At some airports, passengers can be identified at gates by finger or eye prints and allowed to enter without having to deal with a passport officer. Back in the old days, parenthood used to be proved by appearances, but now this is a job done through DNA tests.

Smart hotels are becoming touristic attractions for many tourists where there are no receptionists, porters nor telephones to call room service. On entering such hotels' lobbies, you can find a computer screen welcoming you, checking reservations and scanning your eye to use it in opening your room, where you will find a touch-screen tablet to use in ordering whatever you need from room service. The luggage is carried by a robot that will surely not

ask for a tip. The world will surely face an unprecedented unemployment problem.

Security cameras also reduced the number of job opportunities for security guards, Smart taxis will put cabbies out of work. The same applies to smart trains run through central operation rooms. At smart gas stations, one can fill up a vehicle and have the price deducted from his bank account without paying cash to anyone. You can book a cinema ticket without having to wait in long lines and talk with clerks. Hundreds of electronic devices and applications will also help man pay electricity and phone bills, in addition to traffic and municipality fines, etc.

We have already started paying zakat using SMS and experienced online shopping. In order to avoid the problems of changing currencies on traveling somewhere in the past, we used to take traveler's cheques instead of money with us. Then, the world came to know credit cards. However, the glory of credit cards is over and they have given way to smart mobile phones. For shopping, you can use your mobile to deduct the purchase value from your bank account, and then pickpockets will run out of jobs and will have to start looking for another profession! —Translated by Kuwait Times



Al-Anbaa

AL-HAILAG YEARS

By Dr Saleh Al-Ojairi

There was a great famine in Kuwait in the years 1868-1871. These years were named Al-Hailag, which means the year of hunger. And, as usual, Kuwaitis used it to mark dates and history. At that time, Kuwait was ruled by the late Sheikh Abdullah II, the son of Sabah II. Sheikh Abdullah, may the Almighty have mercy on his soul, exerted a lot of efforts to ease the impact of the famine on the people despite the very limited resources he had then.

Amongst those who spent from their own money in providing relief aid for the needy were the late Yousef Al-Bader and Yousef Al-Subaih. It is noteworthy that Yousef Al-Sabeeh opened a house he owned in Zubair to feed the poor and the needy. And some people from Zubair moved south to Kuwait, where many Zubair women got married to Kuwaitis who had survived the plague of 1831, because they were out at sea when the plague struck Kuwait and killed their wives.

A famous poet wrote a poem praising what both Bader and Subaih did and highlighted their benevolence towards the people of Kuwait. He also wrote that dead people cannot take their wealth along with them. Those were the golden old days when Kuwaitis came together at all times, namely in times of distress! —Translated by Kuwait Times

News

in brief

Online renewal

KUWAIT: The Interior Ministry plans to launch a new project early next year that allows renewing driver's licenses, as well as Kuwaitis' passports and expatriates' visas online through the ministry's website, said Brigadier General Ali Al-Muaili, Director of the General Department of Information Technology. —Al-Rai

Demotion

KUWAIT: The Civil Service Commission and the Fatwa and Legislation Department are considering a decision to demote supervisors at state departments in case they fail to receive 'excellent' evaluation for two years starting from their promotion's date, sources said. —Al-Rai

Dental center

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Public Works handed over the dental center at Jaber Hospital to the Ministry of Health last Thursday, a source said, adding that the center, which contains 60 clinics, is expected to enter service within a month. —Al-Rai



KUWAIT: Interior Ministry's Undersecretary Assistant for Land Border Security Affairs Major General Abdullah Al-Muhanna met with Brigadier General Bruce Edward Hackett, Commanding General of the 451st Expeditionary Sustainment Command in the US Army. The two sides discussed boosting cooperation, and reviewed the measures followed at the Khabari Al-Awazem crossing at the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border.



KUWAIT: Interior Ministry's Undersecretary Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad met at his office yesterday morning Lieutenant Colonel Dhahi Al-Otaibi, head of the early alarm sector at the General Department of Civil Defense's operations division. Lt Gen Fahad honored Lt Col Otaibi for his hard work and dedication, the Interior Ministry said in a press statement.



KUWAIT: Major General Jamal Al-Bulaihees, Deputy Director for Prevention Affairs at the Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) honored firefighters who participated in tackling a number of blazes that Kuwait witnessed lately. —By Hanan Al-Saadoun



Clinton still grapples with negative views

ONE KILLED IN SUSPECTED JAPAN SUICIDE BLAST



VIRGINIA BEACH: Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump arrives to speak at a campaign rally at Regent University. —AP

TRUMP TEAM SAYS 'WE ARE BEHIND'

PLANS TO SUE ALL WOMEN WHO HAVE ACCUSED HIM OF GROPING

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump's campaign bluntly acknowledged yesterday that the real estate mogul is trailing Hillary Clinton as the presidential race hurdles toward a close, but insisted he still has a viable path to win the White House.

With barely two weeks left and early voting underway in most of the US, Trump's team said "the race is not over" and pledged to keep campaigning hard - even in states like Virginia and Pennsylvania that polls show is now safely in Clinton's control. Campaign manager Kellyanne Conway laid out a path to the requisite 270 electoral votes that goes through make-or-break states Florida, Iowa, North Carolina and Ohio.

"We are behind. She has some advantages," Conway said yesterday. Yet she argued that Clinton's advantages - like a slew of bold-name Democrats campaigning for her - belied her lack of true support. "The current president and first lady, vice president, all are much more popular than she can hope to be." She added: "We're not giving up. We know we can win this." Yet even as Clinton appeared to be strengthening her lead, her campaign was careful not to declare premature victory. "We don't want to get ahead of our skis here," said Clinton campaign manager Robby Mook. He said the "battleground states" where both candidates

are campaigning hardest "are called that for a reason."

'Liars will be sued'

As part of his closing message, Trump was laying out an ambitious agenda for his first 100 days as president. Yet he undermined his own attempt to strike a high-minded tone on policy issues when he announced in the same speech that he planned to sue the numerous women who have accused him of groping and other unwanted sexual behavior.

"All of these liars will be sued once the election is over," Trump said Saturday during an event near the Civil War battlefield of Gettysburg. He added: "I look so forward to doing that." Asked about Trump's remarks, Clinton told reporters between rallies Saturday in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia that she was done responding to what her Republican opponent is saying as Election Day nears and would instead focus on helping elect other Democrats.

A day earlier, Clinton attacked Pennsylvania's Republican senator, Pat Toomey, saying in Pittsburgh that he has refused to "stand up" to Trump as she praised his Democratic challenger, Katie McGinty. Noting Trump's comments about Mexican immigrants and his attacks on a Muslim-American military family, she said of Toomey: "If he doesn't have the courage to stand up to Donald Trump

after all of this, then can you be sure that he will stand up for you when it counts?" Toomey spokesman Ted Kwong said Clinton's comments highlight McGinty's lack of independence.

"Today is just further proof that hyper-partisan, ethically challenged Katie McGinty will be a rubber stamp for everything Hillary Clinton wants to do in Washington," he said. "Pat Toomey has been, and will continue to be, an independent leader in the Senate on issues ranging from gun safety to ending Wall Street bailouts."

Clinton rejected Trump's allegation, offered without evidence, that the dozen or so women who have come forward are being prompted by her campaign or the Democratic National Committee. The accusers emerged after the former reality TV star boasted of kissing women and groping their genitals without their consent. On Saturday, an adult film actress said the billionaire kissed her and two other women on the lips "without asking for permission" when they met him after a golf tournament in 2006.

Policy ideas

Trump has denied that all the other allegations, while insisting some of the women weren't attractive enough for him to want to pursue. His broadside against the women Saturday came at the start of an otherwise substantive speech that sought to weave the many policy ideas he has put forward into a single, cohesive agenda. The Republican nominee vowed to lift restrictions on domestic energy production, label China as a currency manipulator and renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement, familiar themes to supporters who have flocked to his rallies this year.

"This is my pledge to you, and if we follow these steps, we will once again have a government of, by and for the people," Trump said, invoking a phrase from President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Though mostly a recap of policies he's proposed before, Trump's speech included a few new elements, such as a freeze on hiring new federal workers and a two-year mandatory minimum sentence for immigrants who re-enter the US illegally after being deported a first time. In a pledge sure to raise eyebrows on Wall Street, he said he'd block a potential merger between AT&T and media conglomerate Time Warner.

Throughout the GOP primary, Trump was criticized for shying away from detailed policy proposals. But his speech, which aides said would form the core of his clos-

ing argument to voters, underscored how the billionaire has gradually compiled a broad - if sometimes vague - policy portfolio that straddles conservative, isolationist and populist orthodoxies. — AP

DOOR TO LEBANESE PRESIDENCY IS 'WIDE OPEN' SAYS HEZBOLLAH

BEIRUT: The leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah movement, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, said yesterday the door to electing a president was "wide open" and his members of parliament would vote for ally Michel Aoun at a parliamentary session at the end of October. Lebanon has been without a president for more than two years, part of a political crisis that has resulted in a breakdown in many basic services and concerns about the country's stability.

Lebanon's former Prime Minister Saad Al-Hariri said on Thursday he would back Christian leader Aoun to be president. Hariri stressed that his endorsement was a "political settlement" for the benefit of the whole country. "The past few days saw an important development: a

declaration by the Future Movement leader (Hariri) of his support for the nomination of General Michel Aoun for the presidency. The door is now realistically wide open for a successful presidential election," Nasrallah said.

Parliament will convene on Oct 31 for a session to elect the president, the 46th such sitting since the term of the last president, Michel Suleiman, expired in 2014. Each of the previous sittings failed to gain the two-thirds quorum needed for a vote. The position of president must be filled by a Maronite Christian. Nasrallah spoke at a commemoration event for a Hezbollah military commander recently killed fighting in the Syrian city of Aleppo. Iran-backed Hezbollah is fighting alongside Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad in the country's conflict. — Reuters

CONDOLENCES

The Owners, Management and Staff of



Al-Rashed International Shipping CO.

extend our heartfelt condolences to **Mr Narendran**

on the sad demise of his father,

Mr Bhaskaran Menon

who passed away on **22nd October 2016**

May his soul rest in Peace

YEMEN RAIDS INTENSIFY AS UN CALL TO EXTEND TRUCE IGNORED

ADEN: The pro-government Arab coalition yesterday stepped up air strikes on Iran-backed rebels in Yemen and clashes raged on the ground as warring parties ignored a UN call to renew a fragile ceasefire. The 72-hour ceasefire took effect just before midnight (2100 GMT) Wednesday to allow aid deliveries in Yemen, whose war has killed thousands of people and left millions homeless and hungry. It officially ended at midnight Saturday.

UN special envoy to Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, had appealed for a renewal of the ceasefire, saying humanitarian aid had during the truce reached areas that were earlier inaccessible. But Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdulmalek Al-Mekhlafi shrugged off the call as "useless", accusing the rebels of ignoring the ceasefire. The truce was the sixth attempt since the Saudi-led coalition intervened in March last year to support the government of President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi after

Houthi rebels and their allies overran much of the impoverished country.

Ahmed urged "all parties to agree to its extension for at least another renewable 72 hours", in a statement posted on the envoy's Facebook page shortly before it expired. The ceasefire was "largely holding despite reported violations from both sides in several areas", he said. "We noted over the last days that food and humanitarian supplies were provided to several affected neighborhoods and that UN personnel were able to reach areas that were previously inaccessible. We would like to build on this and we aim for a wider outreach in the next few days," he added.

Cross-border shelling

But shortly after the appeal, coalition warplanes yesterday pounded positions in Sanaa of the Shiite rebels and their allies, renegade troops loyal to for-

mer president Ali Abdullah Saleh, military officials and rebel media said. Rebel-controlled sabaNews.net website counted nine air strikes on the capital yesterday. The dawn raids also hit positions in Marib, east of the rebel-held capital, and the southwestern province of Taz, the officials said. The intensity of air raids by the Saudi-led coalition had eased during the ceasefire.

"An extension (of the truce) would be useless, because even if we accept it, the other party does not make any commitment to respect the ceasefire," Mekhlafi told AFP. "We respect the UN envoy's call for an extension, but in effect, there was no truce due to the violations" by the rebels, the foreign minister said. Fighting on the ground was showing no signs of abating. Fierce clashes raged in northern regions along the borders with Saudi Arabia over the weekend, killing at least 10 rebels and four Yemeni soldiers, military officials said.

Saudi civil defense also reported cross-border bombing which wounded a Yemeni resident of the southwestern city of Najran. Later yesterday, it said that more shelling from Yemen damaged two homes in the kingdom's Jazan region without causing casualties. The UN envoy said Friday he was liaising with the parties in an attempt to extend the ceasefire in order "to create a conducive environment for a long-lasting peace" in Yemen.

Nearly 6,900 people have been killed in the conflict, more than half of them civilians, while an additional three million are displaced and millions more need food aid. Hadi's government said yesterday that nine people had died of cholera in second city Aden as the infectious disease spread across the war-torn country. The last ceasefire attempt began in April and collapsed as UN-brokered peace talks hosted by Kuwait broke down in August. — AFP



KIRKUK: Kirkuk provincial Governor, Najm al-Din Karim (C), walks on October 22, 2016 alongside police and Kurdish security forces as he visits the damaged sites where fighting against Islamic State (IS) jihadists took place in the centre the Kurdish-controlled city. — AFP

FORCES ADVANCE NEAR MOSUL AS IS ATTACKS WESTERN TOWN

DEATH TOLLS TILL NOT RELEASED

KHAZER, Iraq: Iraqi and Kurdish forces advanced on a town near Mosul yesterday as part of an operation to retake the northern city from the Islamic State group, which staged an assault in western Iraq that appeared to be another diversionary attack. The Kurdish forces, known as peshmerga, said they "cordoned off" eight villages northeast of Mosul and are now less than 9 kilometers from its outskirts. They said the cordoned off area measures around 100 square kilometers and that they also secured a "significant stretch" of highway.

The statement said eight car bombs were destroyed in the operation, including three by US-led coalition aircraft, and "dozens" of militants were killed. Those gains came after Iraqi and Kurdish forces launched an offensive against the nearby town of Bashiqa. Maj Gen Haider Fadhil, of Iraq's special forces, said they had also taken part in the operation, and that the town was surrounded.

'Under control'

Over the last week, Iraqi and Kurdish forces have been battling IS in a belt of mostly uninhabited towns and villages around Mosul, contending with roadside bombs, snipers and suicide truck bombs. In western Iraq, IS militants stormed into the town of Rutba, unleashing three suicide car bombs that were blown up before hitting their targets, according to the spokesman for the Joint Military Command, Brig Gen Yahya Rasool.

He said some militants were killed, without giving an exact figure, and declined to say

whether any civilians or Iraqi forces were killed. He said the militants did not seize any government buildings and that the situation "is under control." The IS-run Amaq news agency had earlier said militants stormed Rutba from several directions. Lt Gen Stephen Townsend, the top US commander in Iraq, confirmed there had been a complex attack in Rutba and said he expects more such attacks as the militants try to divert attention from Mosul.

IS carried out a large assault on the northern city of Kirkuk on Friday, in which more than 50 militants stormed government compounds and other targets, setting off more than 24 hours of heavy fighting and killing at least 80 people, mainly security forces. The Mosul offensive involves more than 25,000 Iraqi ground forces as well as US-led coalition aircraft and advisers. It is expected to take weeks, if not months, to drive IS from Mosul, which is home to more than a million civilians.

Bashiqa is close to a military base of the same name where some 500 Turkish troops are training Sunni and Kurdish fighters for the Mosul offensive. The presence of the Turkish troops has angered Iraq, which says it never gave them permission to enter the country and has called on them to withdraw. Turkey has refused, insisting that it play a role in retaking Mosul from IS. US Defense Secretary Ash Carter has visited both countries in recent days, and arrived in the Kurdish regional capital, Irbil on Sunday.

'Agreement in principle'

After meeting with Turkey's leaders, Carter

had announced an "agreement in principle" for Turkey to have a role in the operation. But Iraqi Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi told Carter on Saturday that Mosul was an "Iraqi battle." The forces taking part in the Mosul offensive include Iraqi troops, the peshmerga, Sunni tribal fighters and state-sanctioned Shiite militias. Many fear the operation could heighten tensions between Iraq's different communities, which are allied against IS but divided over a host of other issues, including the fate of territories near mostly Sunni Mosul that are claimed by the largely autonomous Kurdish region and the central government.

Carter praised the peshmerga, saying they "fight extremely well," but also acknowledged that they had suffered casualties.

Brig Gen Halgord Hekmet, a spokesman for the Kurdish forces, told reporters that 25 of their troops have been killed since the battle to retake Mosul began and a "large number" had been wounded.

He said the peshmerga have had good coalition air support, but could use more armored vehicles and roadside bomb detectors. Most of the fallen peshmerga were riding in regular cars, he said. The UN agency for children meanwhile expressed concern over the more than 4,000 people it says have fled from areas around Mosul since the operation began. UNICEF's Iraq representative, Peter Hawkins, said that in at least one refugee camp the conditions for children were "very, very poor." He said UNICEF teams delivered water, sanitation and other supplies expected to last seven days. — AP

ISRAEL SHUTS PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES FOR HOLIDAY

JERUSALEM: Israel has arrested 19 people and temporarily closed the Palestinian territories as it prepares for the last of a month of Jewish holiday commemorations, authorities said yesterday. Palestinians will be barred from entering from the West Bank and Gaza Strip as the Sukkot festival wraps up with the Simchat Torah holiday, which begins at sundown Sunday and ends the next evening.

The closure, a frequent measure for major Jewish holidays, will remain in place throughout Sunday and Monday, with only emergency cases allowed through, the Israeli army said. Israeli police also announced they had arrested 19 Palestinians in various areas of annexed east Jerusalem in connection with recent clashes with security forces. Police said the clashes took place over the Yom Kippur holiday earlier in October and the arrests were "based on intelligence and operations".

The week-long Sukkot festival is the last of three successive Jewish holidays that have led to tensions with the Palestinians in the past. Earlier in October, Jews marked Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah, or New

Year. A Palestinian gun attack in Jerusalem on October 9 that killed two people raised fears of further violence and Israel has boosted security.

Last year's holiday period led to clashes and marked the start of an upsurge in Palestinian gun, knife and car-ramming attacks. Thousands of Jews visit the Western Wall in east Jerusalem's Old City during the holiday period, while a smaller number go to the nearby Al-Aqsa mosque compound. The compound is holy to both Muslims and Jews, who refer to it as the Temple Mount. The site is central to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with Palestinians fearing Israel may one day seek to assert further control over it.

Violence since October 2015 has killed 235 Palestinians, 36 Israelis, two Americans, one Jordanian, an Eritrean and a Sudanese national, according to an AFP count. Most of the Palestinians killed were carrying out knife, gun or car-ramming attacks, according to Israeli authorities. Others were shot dead during protests or clashes, while some were killed in Israeli air strikes on the Gaza Strip. — AFP

US WARNS CITIZENS OF 'ATTACK, KIDNAPPING RISK' IN ISTANBUL

ANKARA: The United States has warned its citizens of the potential risk of terror attack or attempted kidnapping of foreigners in Istanbul, which has been rocked by several bombings this year. The consulate in Istanbul said in a message late Saturday that extremist groups continued their "aggressive efforts" to attack Americans and other foreigners in the city.

"These attacks may be pre-planned or could occur with little or no warning, and include, but are not limited to: armed attack, attempted kidnapping, bombing, or other violent acts," it said in an online notice. The consulate did not specify which group was believed to be plotting such acts, but in the past year the city has suffered multiple bombings by the Islamic State group (IS) and Kurdish militants.

In June, 47 people were killed in a triple suicide bombing and gun attack at Istanbul's Ataturk airport, which authorities blamed on IS. Those visiting Istanbul or living in the city were advised to "review and update their personal security practices" when frequenting areas popular with Westerners or where they may live, the consulate said.

It is the latest warning from the US after the consulate in southern Adana province warned of a potential security threat targeting US-branded hotels in southern Turkey in late September. In the same month, the US embassy warned of the risk of a terror attack on businesses, including Starbucks, used by Westerners in Gaziantep, close to the Syrian border.

That warning came after a deadly suicide bombing in Gaziantep blamed on jihadists linked to IS in August. The attack on a wedding left 57 dead including 34 children. In the latest message, the con-

sulate also told its citizens to avoid traveling to southeastern Turkey and to stay away from large crowds—especially in popular tourist destinations—as well as political gatherings and rallies.

35,000 suspects arrested

Meanwhile Turkey has arrested more than 35,000 people over alleged links to the group run by the US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen, who is blamed for the failed July coup, local media reported yesterday. Turkish Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag said the suspects had been placed under arrest since the attempted putsch that fell apart within hours, quoted by NTV broadcaster. Another 3,907 suspects were still being sought while nearly 26,000 people had been released into "judicial control," he said.

Some 82,000 individuals had been investigated in total since the coup bid, he told the audience on Saturday at a ruling Justice and Development Party conference in Afyonkarahisar, western Turkey. Tens of thousands of people have been suspended, sacked or detained in the military, judiciary, police, education sector and media in connection with the July 15 attempted putsch blamed on Gulen and his Hizmet (Service) movement.

The unprecedented purge has come under heavy criticism from Turkey's Western allies, including the European Union. Brussels has urged Ankara to act within the rule of law, which Turkey insists it is. Ankara accuses Gulen of masterminding the coup, during which a rogue military faction tried to oust President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Gulen—who has lived in self-imposed exile since 1999 in Pennsylvania—strongly denies the charges. — AFP

BURUNDI POLICE ARREST US REPORTER, LOCAL JOURNALIST

NAIROBI: Burundi police said yesterday they had briefly arrested an American freelance journalist along with a local reporter working with her, who was still being held. Police spokesman Pierre Nkurikiye said on his Twitter timeline that journalist Julia Steers and Gildas Yihundimpundu were arrested on suspicion of "trying to destroy evidence of crimes by insurgents." Steers, who had official accreditation, was released, but her colleague was still being interrogated and her driver detained.

"Many thanks for concerns—I'm safe but remain extremely concerned for my Burundian colleague Gildas Yihundimpundu and our driver Pascal," Steers tweeted after her release. The pair are the latest in a long line of journalists arrested by Burundi authorities in a crackdown on the media since a crisis prompted by President Pierre Nkurunziza's disputed run for a third term in office in April 2015.

Marked by assassinations on both sides, attacks against the police and summary executions, the violence has left more than 500 people dead and forced more than 270,000 Burundians to flee the country, according to the UN. Burundi's government has silenced independent journalists at home and regularly lashes out at the international media, accusing the press of being part of a "conspiracy" to overthrow it.

The US-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) estimates 100 journalists have been forced into exile since the violence erupted. The CPJ this week urged Burundi's national intelligence service to release radio journalist Salvador Nahimana, detained since October 2. Another journalist, Jean Bigirimana, of the independent Iwacu newspaper, has been missing since July 22. — AFP

172 INMATES ESCAPE HAITI PRISON, 2 DEAD

PORT-AU-PRINCE: At least 172 inmates escaped a Haitian prison near the capital Port-au-Prince during an armed mutiny, killing one guard and many escaping with police weapons, local media reported. Le Nouvelliste newspaper quoted Archaie prison manager Heurtelou Paul Colson on Saturday as saying a guard was shot dead and two other police officers were wounded.

One prisoner climbed over a wall and fell to his death, while two other detainees were wounded and in hospital. The prison manager told Le Nouvelliste that Yvener Carelus, who was serving time for kidnapping, was the mastermind behind the escape. He was arrested. "He planned the escape from the inside with a few accomplices," Justice Minister Camille Edouard Junior told the newspaper, adding that security was being boosted at prisons across the country.

Human rights activist Pierre Esperance noted that the prison had housed "a lot of big-name prisoners, major criminals sentenced for theft, rape, kidnapping, drug trafficking, etc." Authorities have launched a manhunt for the escapees, with police checking all roads in the Arcadins coastal zone near Archaie prison. "The government strongly condemns the incidents that took place at Archaie prison, targeted in a mutiny by heavily armed individuals," the office of interim Prime Minister Enx Jean-Charles, who also serves as defense minister, said in a statement. "Special police units are on site to secure the area and prevent those responsi-

ble from causing further harm."

The foreign, justice and interior ministers, along with top national police officials, visited the prison

after the violence. Jean-Charles asked the justice minister to "take all necessary measures to remedy this unacceptable situation," his office said. — AFP



HAITI: A guard lies dead inside the Civil Prison after a jail break in the coastal town of Archaie. — AP

LITHUANIA OPPOSITION EYES POWER IN RUN-OFF ELECTION

VILNIUS: Lithuanians fed up with low wages and a labor exodus from their Baltic eurozone state began voting yesterday in a run-off election expected to dislodge the leftist government. The first round of the poll, held on October 9, gave the conservative Homeland Union the slimmest of leads with 21.70 percent of the vote (22 seats). The centrist Lithuanian Peasants and Green Union party (LPGU) won 21.53 percent (21 seats).

The ruling leftists finished third with just 14.42 percent (10 seats), a huge blow for Prime Minister Algirdas Butkevicius's Social Democrats. Sixty-eight of the 141 seats in parliament are up for grabs yesterday. Three small political parties are also in the race, signaling complicated coalition talks in the days ahead. Candidates have focused on wage growth and job creation in the country of 2.9 million people, which has been plagued by an exodus of workers seeking higher wages. Since Lithuania joined the European Union in 2004, an estimated 370,000 people have left-nearly half to

Britain, where concern over immigration from eastern Europe was seen as a key factor in the shock Brexit vote to leave the bloc.

Jobs are key

Tipped as the next prime minister, Homeland Union leader Gabrielius Landsbergis has presented himself as the face of change. The 34-year-old grandson of Lithuanian independence icon Vytautas Landsbergis has vowed to fight emigration by creating jobs, reforming education, boosting exports and foreign investment. He has rallied support among disillusioned young voters like Jonas, a biochemistry student in Vilnius.

"I'd like a coalition led by the conservative Homeland Union... The Social Democrats blew their chance over the last four years," he told AFP, declining to reveal his surname. Butkevicius promised further hikes in the minimum wage and public sector salaries. But analysts say a new labor law making it easier to hire and fire employees, cou-

pled with allegations of political corruption, have alienated voters already bitter over low wages and the labor exodus to western Europe.

Lithuania's economy shrank by nearly 15 percent during the 2008-9 global financial crisis but quickly recovered and is slated to expand by 2.5 percent this year. Even so, the average wage of just over 600 euros (\$670) per month after tax is one of the EU's lowest, and inequality and poverty remain comparatively high.

Neck-and-neck

Analysts also tip the farmer-backed LPGU-currently outside parliament and led by popular former national police chief Saulius Skvernelis-as key players after the vote. Skvernelis, 46, has said his party was open to coalition talks with both the conservatives and the Social Democrats. With the Homeland Union and LPGU likely to stay neck-and-neck in round two, Vilnius University analyst Mazvydas Jastramskis points to a possible impasse

ahead. "It won't be good if both parties win equal voter support. Both will want to spearhead talks" to lead the next government, he told AFP. But he added that non-aligned President Dalia Grybauskaitė could "invite certain party leaders she would like to see in the coalition to the negotiating table." Grybauskaitė has criticized Butkevicius while making it known she favors "changes".

Russia's deployment earlier this month of nuclear-capable Iskander missiles to its Kaliningrad exclave two weeks ago jangled nerves in neighboring Lithuania. But reassurance provided by NATO's beefed up regional presence-a move that all major parties approve-means that voters are more worried about their wallets than security. A total of 2.5 million citizens are eligible to vote. Officials pegged turnout at 50.6 percent in round one. Polls opened at 0400 GMT and close at 1700 GMT, with an early indication of the victors expected within hours. — AFP

WHY IT MATTERS: LGBT

NEW YORK: Same-sex marriage is now the law of the land, but there are other battlegrounds related to civil rights and nondiscrimination protections for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people. Two polarizing questions: What sort of access should transgender people have to public bathrooms? And are the advances for LGBT rights infringing on the religious freedom of some Americans?

Where they stand

Hillary Clinton is a staunch supporter of LGBT rights; she has endorsed the Equality Act, a proposed federal law that would provide comprehensive protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Donald Trump says he would be a better president for gays than Clinton, yet major LGBT-rights groups strongly oppose him. Among the reasons: He has balked at endorsing same-sex marriage, his evangelical advisory board has included prominent opponents of advances in LGBT rights and running mate Mike Pence, Indiana's governor, last year signed a law that critics said would allow businesses to deny service to gay people for religious reasons.

Why it matters

Whoever wins the presidency can only do so much to influence national LGBT-rights policies, unless, perhaps, if the winner's party sweeps control of Congress. The proposed Equality Act is unlikely to advance through a Republican-controlled House, even if Clinton wins. And the nationwide legality of same-sex marriage is unlikely to be threatened, though some conservatives cling to hopes that a Supreme Court reconfigured by Trump appointees might reverse the 2015 ruling extending that right to all 50 states.

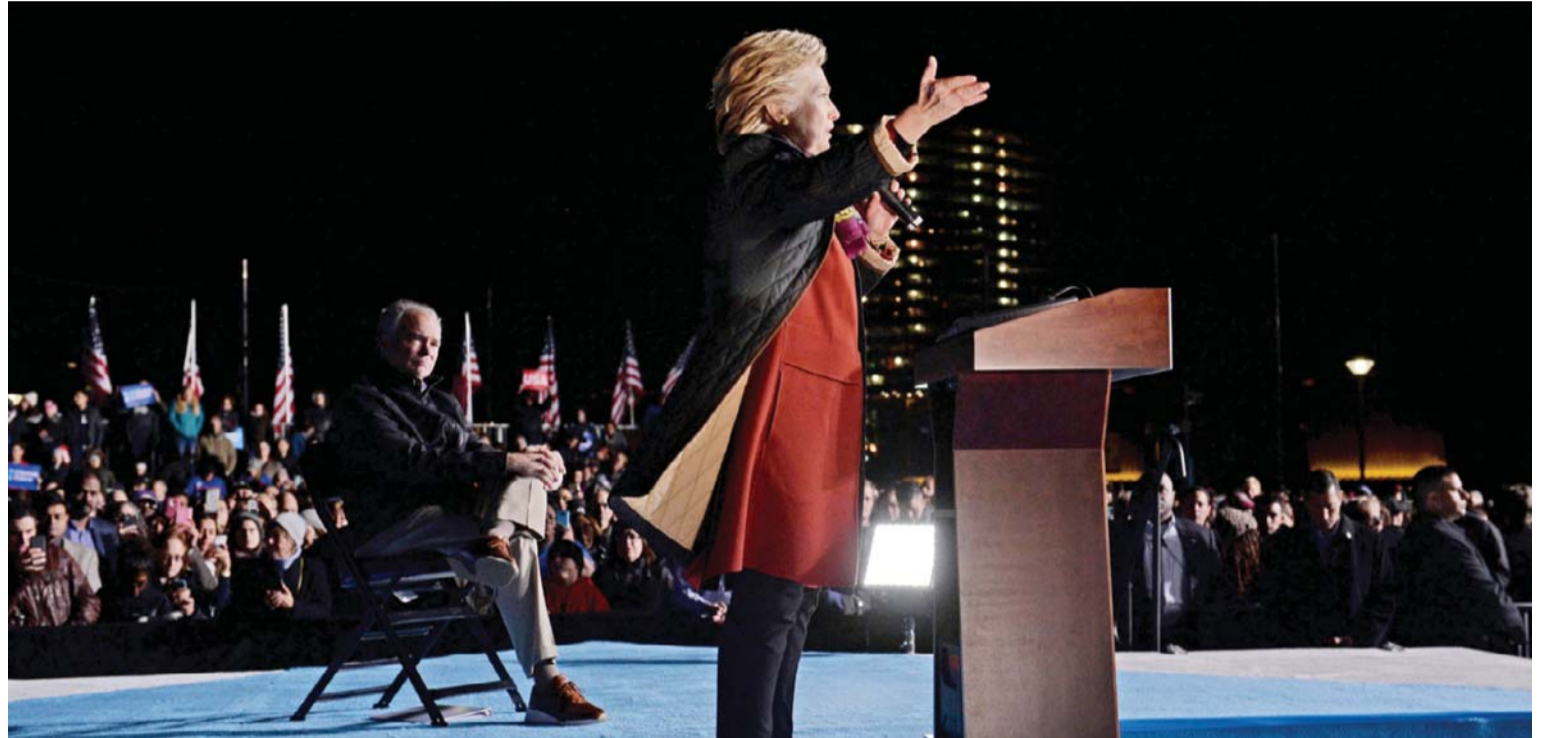
On some fronts, however, the outcome of the presidential race could have a major impact - for example, in how aggressively federal agencies work to expand LGBT rights. Clinton would probably maintain or intensify the Obama

administration's efforts to bolster transgender rights. This could mean pressure on school districts to let transgender students use school bathrooms based on their gender identity.

Some transgender students have become activists on this issue, saying they face harassment and discomfort if forced to use bathrooms on the basis of the sex on their birth certificate. There's also the matter of judicial appointments. Thus far, federal judges have generally been unsympathetic to arguments that certain types of anti-LGBT discrimination are permissible if in accordance with a person's religious beliefs. Trump has told conservatives he'd place a high priority on religious liberty and would seek to protect Christians from having to violate their beliefs. Among the types of cases in question: Whether wedding photographers or bakers who oppose same-sex marriage should be penalized for refusing to provide services for a same-sex wedding.

At the state level, the election could have important repercussions for LGBT issues. In North Carolina, for example, the Democratic candidate for governor, Attorney General Roy Cooper, opposes a law curtailing LGBT rights that was signed by his election opponent, incumbent Republican Gov Pat McCrory. That law - which includes restrictions on transgender people's bathroom access - has been the target of an expansive protest campaign.

In Indiana, Pence's decision to forgo a second term to run for vice president boosts Democratic hopes of winning the race for governor. The Democratic candidate, former House Speaker John Gregg, has vowed to push for full LGBT civil rights if elected; at present Indiana is one of 28 states with no statewide nondiscrimination protections for gays and lesbians. In Kentucky, there's an intriguing US Senate race matching incumbent Republican Rand Paul, who failed in his presidential bid, against Democrat Jim Gray, the openly gay mayor of Lexington. — AP



PHILADELPHIA: Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton attends a campaign event with her running mate Tim Kaine, October 22, 2016 at Penn Park. — AFP

VICTORY IN SIGHT, CLINTON STILL GRAPPLES WITH NEGATIVE VIEWS

VIEWED UNFAVORABLY BY MORE THAN HALF OF THE COUNTRY

WASHINGTON: Hillary Clinton bested Donald Trump in three debates. She leads in many preference polls of the most competitive states. Barring a significant shift in the next two weeks, she is in a strong position to become the first woman elected US president. But Clinton will end the campaign still struggling to change the minds of millions of voters who don't think well of her, a glaring liability should the Democratic nominee move on to the White House.

While many see her as better prepared to be commander in chief than Trump, she is consistently viewed unfavorably by more than half of the country. Most voters also consider her dishonest. Clinton's advisers have spent months trying to erase that perception. They've set up small events where she had more intimate conversations with voters. They've tested a seemingly endless stream of messages aimed at assuring the public that the former secretary of state was in the race to do more than fulfill her own political ambitions.

'Honest and trustworthy'

As Clinton starts making her closing argument to voters, her team appears to have come to terms that the mission remains unfulfilled. "Honest and trustworthy has become our most talked about metric because it's not great," said Jennifer Palmieri, Clinton's communications director. "But we've never thought it's the metric people make a decision on." If Clinton wins, that theory may be proven true. Just 36 percent of voters believe Clinton is honest and trust-

worthy, according to a recent Washington Post/ABC News poll.

That's compared with about 60 percent who believe she has the qualifications and temperament to be commander in chief. The public's perception of Clinton has bounced up and down throughout her time in public life. Her favorability rating fell below 50 percent at times during her years as first lady, but rose to its high water mark then and while she was as secretary of state under President Barack Obama.

Democrats blame some of the current negative personal perceptions of Clinton on the hard-charging tactics she's used to try to discredit Trump, though they believe her sustained assault on Trump's character and temperament has been crucial. Party operatives also say Trump's personal attacks on Clinton have made it all but impossible for more positive messages to break through. He's called her a "liar," a "nasty woman" and pledged to put her in jail.

"When you're under relentless assault from a reality TV star, it's hard to come out of that with anybody feeling good about anyone," said Bill Burton, a former Obama aide. Still, Clinton's advisers acknowledge that some of her troubles have been of her own making, including her penchant for privacy.

She's spent nearly the entire campaign struggling to explain why she used a private email server in the basement of her home while she led the State Department. She hid a pneumonia diagnosis this fall from nearly all of her senior staff, then left the public unaware of her

condition and whereabouts for 90 minutes after the illness caused her to rush out of a public event in New York.

"She is a politician that does not seek to be the center of attention and is inherently more private than most politicians, certainly presidential candidates," Palmieri said. "That doesn't always serve you great in a campaign for president."

Worrying transition

Clinton frequently shoots down questions about the public's negative perceptions by saying she's viewed more positively when she's doing a job rather than running for one. There's some evidence to back that up. When she ran for re-election to the Senate from New York in 2006, she won with 67 percent of the vote, a big jump from the 55 percent share from her first race in 2000. Her approval rating when she left the State Department, where her job kept her out of day-to-day politics, sat at an enviable 65 percent, according to the Pew Research Center.

But if Clinton is elected president, she won't have the luxury she had as secretary of state to stay away from the political fray - with Republicans in Washington in the opposition, and possibly Trump, too. The businessman keeps flirting with the idea he could contest the election results if he loses. There are also persistent rumors that, if he loses, he might try to harness the enthusiasm of his millions of supporters into some type of media venture. — AP



BOSTON: Democratic vice presidential candidate Sen Tim Kaine, D-Va, speaks to The Associated Press during an interview. — AP

KAINE SAYS CLINTON WILL TRY TO WORK WITH GOP

BOSTON: Tim Kaine is sounding a hopeful note that a Democratic White House could work with Republicans to bridge deep divides laid bare by this bitter presidential campaign. The vice presidential candidate told The Associated Press on Saturday that he and Hillary Clinton have already spoken about how to heal the nation if they should win. He said tackling economic anxieties, finding common policy ground with the GOP and perhaps bringing Republicans into the administration would be elements of unity, though he added that he and Clinton did not discuss Cabinet positions.

"We have not run this campaign as a campaign against the GOP with the big broad brush - we've run it against Donald Trump," Kaine said. He predicted: "We're going to get a lot of Republican votes and that will also be part of, right out of the gate, the way to bring folks back together." Clinton's campaign has been preparing for the possibility that Trump won't concede the election if he loses, based on his assertions that the contest is rigged. Kaine said he hasn't talked with Clinton about that scenario.

A self-described underdog, Kaine said he only recently began acknowledging the real possibility of victory. He's hired Wayne Turnage, a former chief of staff, as his transition director and is considering issues he'd pursue as vice president. "It's probably

only been in the last couple of weeks that I've started to think about, OK, the prospect of winning is such that we better start doing some thinking about practicalities," Kaine said.

Trusted relationships

As vice president, Kaine said he would hope to be central in forging relationships between the administration and mayors and governors. Kaine served as the mayor of Richmond and governor of Virginia before winning his Senate seat in 2012. He also wants to help shape US policy in Latin and South America, due to his fluency in Spanish and experience as a missionary in Honduras. Kaine still remains somewhat of an outsider in Clinton's world. She has developed trusted relationships with several aides over decades and Kaine is a new addition to the mix.

He's at times been out of the loop on major developments, such as not knowing about Clinton's pneumonia diagnosis in September until days later. The two campaign together infrequently, but communicate by text message, email and phone. Sometimes they talk every few days, but it could be as infrequent as once a week, Kaine said. Their scheduled joint appearance in Pennsylvania on Saturday was their first event together since Labor Day. — AP

KATY PERRY VISITS UNLV DORMS TO URGE STUDENTS TO VOTE CLINTON

LAS VEGAS: UNLV students relaxing in their dorms got an unexpected knock on their doors Saturday afternoon from Katy Perry, who was roaming the halls and drumming up support for Hillary Clinton on the first day of early voting in Nevada. The singer famous for songs like "Teenage Dream" and "Waking up in Vegas" was met with squeals and requests for selfies from the students. She sported bright red lipstick that matched her high heels and a T-shirt emblazoned with the phrase "Nasty Woman," which has become a rallying cry for Clinton supporters after Donald Trump uttered it during Wednesday's presidential debate.

"We're out here campaigning for Hillary Clinton. Ever heard of her?" she told a trio of young women after they invited her and a crowd of reporters into their dorm room. "Because there's no other alternative. We need our issues heard, we need our bodies taken care of, we need all that choice."

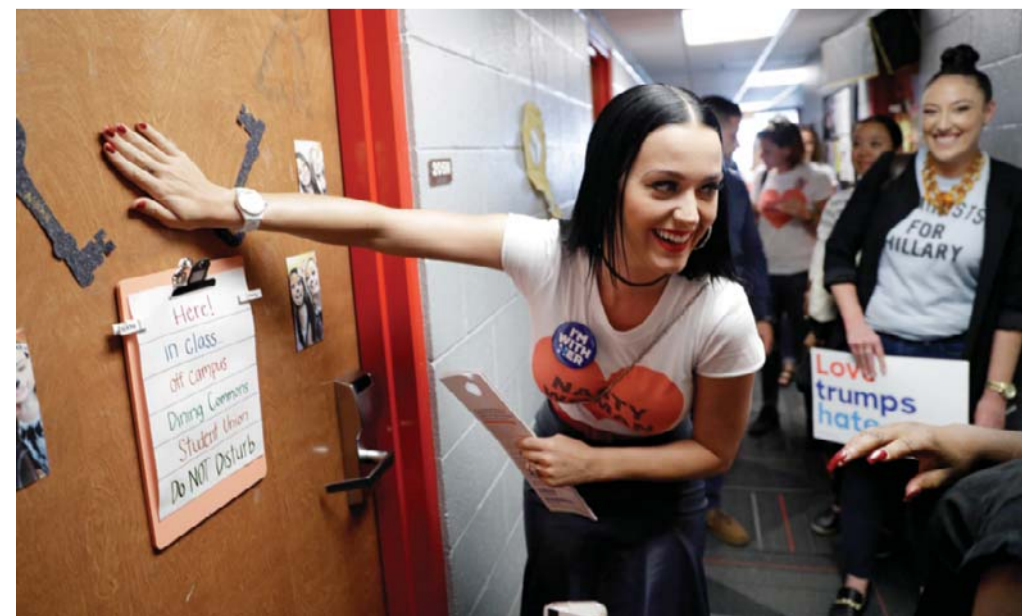
She encouraged one student she met who might have to drop out of the school to stay the course, telling her she'd been through her own troubles after being dropped from record labels three times. And she told about her own financial problems at 17 when she couldn't buy a bag of chips without getting an overdraft charge.

Perry followed up the surprise round of canvassing with a short outdoor rally on campus alongside Nevada Democratic Senate hopeful Catherine Cortez Masto. Perry didn't sing any of her songs to the crowd of a few hundred people, although they blared over the loudspeakers

while she greeted fans afterward.

Polls show both the presidential and US Senate races are close in Nevada. Experts say races like Cortez Masto's will ride on turnout - the majority of which is expected to come during Nevada's two-week early voting period. Democrats have been parading out a steady stream of stars to build excitement for the early

voting period that tends to favor their party. They hosted the Mexican band Los Tigres del Norte after Wednesday's debate and President Barack Obama yesterday. Saturday's stop wasn't the first time Perry has campaigned for Democrats in Nevada. She did a rally in Las Vegas for Barack Obama in 2012 wearing a dress decorated like a ballot. — AP



LAS VEGAS: Singer Katy Perry covers the peephole of a dorm room door after knocking on it while canvassing for Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton in a dorm at UNLV. — AP

BOSPHORUS SHIP SPOTTERS SET SIGHTS ON RUSSIAN WAR BOATS

ISTANBUL: Minutes after fishermen tip him off that a ship is about to pass through Istanbul's Bosphorus, Yoruk Isik drops what he's doing and rushes to his favorite vantage point, camera in hand. The vessel is not one of the dozens of cargo boats that pass through the strait between Europe and Asia every day. It is a Russian warship, in this case the landing ship Nikolai Filchenkov.

It makes stately progress through the strait towards the Sea of Marmara on a voyage that will eventually take it into the Mediterranean towards Tartus, Russia's naval base in Syria. Isik clicks the shutter, capturing Russian sailors at the rails taking in the view. The Russians can be seen returning the favour, keeping a close eye on the shore-side observers. Several Russian warships pass in both directions through the Bosphorus every week, transporting cargo for Moscow's military campaign in Syria, in a massive logistical effort known as the "Syrian Express".

Their passage through the densely-populated Turkish metropolis represents a unique chance to see close up a

deployed Russian warship that would usually be kept well away from prying eyes. And each time they come, a group of amateur but well-informed and hugely dedicated Turkish ship spotters are there to photograph them and share their work on social media where their following has shot up. Their work rose to prominence in December last year when they spotted a Russian soldier aboard the Tsezar Kunikov warship with a MANPAD shoulder-launched missile aimed at the shore, in a gesture slammed as "provocation" by Ankara. The pictures made headlines in Turkish media at a time of peak tensions between Russia and Turkey following the downing of one of Moscow's warplanes on the Syria border just 10 days earlier.

'They're saying hello!'

Standing by the old Ottoman fortress of Rumeli Hisari on the European shore of the Bosphorus where the strait is at its narrowest, Isik has been waiting for this particular Russian warship for several days. Through his contacts and social

media, he knows the vessel left Russia's Sevastopol base in Crimea—the Ukrainian peninsula annexed by Moscow in 2014 — several days before. "That ship could have arrived as early as yesterday but it appears to have travelled slower because of bad weather in the Black Sea."

Isik says he can estimate the ship's arrival time soon after it leaves its base, but notes it might change depending on weather conditions or its tonnage. "From Sevastopol to Istanbul, it is approximately 300 nautical miles. But the vessel may not always pass through the congested Bosphorus strait directly." As the nose of the vessel emerges, he cracks a big smile, reminiscent of a small child opening a Christmas gift.

"Look, someone on the ship is saying hello to me," he says, pointing out armed Russian soldiers on board through the camera lens. Like a nautical dictionary, Isik knows all of the technical specifications of this Tapir class tank-carrying landing ship—when it was built, where it was used, how many military tanks it can carry. — AFP



ISTANBUL: Yoruk Isik takes pictures of the Russian war ship BSF Nikolay Filchenkov 152 as it passes through the Bosphorus Strait, on its way to the eastern Mediterranean port of Tartus. — AFP



MADRID: A PSOE supporter holds placards reading "17 Judas out" "PSOE without chiefs" outside the Spanish Socialist Party (PSOE) headquarters during an extraordinary meeting of the PSOE Federal Committee. — AFP

SPAIN'S POLITICAL GRIDLOCK NEARS END AS SOCIALISTS LIFT LONG VETO

CONSERVATIVES CAN NOW FORM MINORITY GOVERNMENT

MADRID: Spain's embattled Socialists yesterday voted to lift a long-standing veto that has prevented the conservatives from forming a minority government, in what should finally end a ten-month political impasse. The conservative Popular Party (PP) of acting Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy won elections in December 2015 and again in June this year but without enough seats to rule alone. The PP therefore needs the main opposition Socialists to either support its government or abstain in a parliamentary confidence vote.

Yesterday, the policy-setting federal com-

mittee of the deeply-divided Socialists (PSOE) voted 139 to 96 for abstaining, the grouping announced on its Twitter feed. The vote capped a high-risk meeting that followed weeks of in-fighting within the PSOE, Spain's second largest party. The grouping has been weakened by dismal election results and internal strategy disagreements amid Spain's efforts to form a government after the two inconclusive general elections.

The divisions came to a head earlier this month when high-ranking Socialists amenable to a conservative government—so as to avoid a

third election—forced party leader Pedro Sanchez to resign. Sanchez had long opposed Rajoy, who came to power in 2011 and whose four-year term was marked by a series of corruption scandals. With Sanchez out of the way and the party run by an interim executive, many of the delegates at yesterday's meeting supported an abstention.

"Most Spaniards, more than 65 percent, don't want to go back to the ballot box and it's the same among Socialist voters," said lawmaker Ignacio Urquiza. Now that the Socialists have decided to abstain from another parliamentary confidence vote, Rajoy—who lost one in September—could submit himself to another one next week, with some confidence of victory.

Divisions persist

Still, divisions persist within the Socialists. "We are coming to the federal committee to support the 'No' against Rajoy and the PP," Idoia Mendia, head of the Basque socialists, whose position is shared by their Catalan colleagues, said as he arrived at the party's headquarters. Outside around 15 people braved the rain to voice their opposition to Rajoy. "This is not the PP headquarters," they chanted.

But For Guillermo Fernandez Vara, president of the western Extremadura region and who helped bring down Sanchez, "the worst results in our recent democratic history (mean) the PSOE finds itself in a key situation." Writing in his blog, he argued that only the Socialists could enable a government to be formed. After that, it could mount a "true opposition" once Rajoy was back in power, he wrote.

Socialists lost 'credibility'

By the beginning of November, Spain should finally get a government at a sensitive time as the country recovers from a devastating economic crisis. But with only 137 of the 350 seats in parliament, the PP's government would be weak. It would face opposition not only from the Socialists but also two upstart parties—the far-left Unidos Podemos and centrist Ciudadanos.

Their participation in the last two elections put an end to Spain's traditional two-party system. The Socialists, meanwhile, run the risk of alienating grassroots members staunchly opposed to the corruption-tainted PP. In a weekend interview with online daily El Espanol, Socialist lawmaker Susana Sumelzo said the party would "undoubtedly" do badly in future elections and had lost credibility among voters. "It's not just because of the abstention but also because of the shameful spectacle that the PSOE has presented in the past days," she said. "I predict that in the medium and long-term, it will be very complicated. We will have to work a huge amount to get our credibility back." — AFP

RACE TO TRANSFER 'JUNGLE' CHILDREN

CALAIS: With only hours to go before workers begin to demolish France's "Jungle" migrant camp today, officials are racing to process as many young people as possible to be transferred to Britain. The pace is therefore brisk at the camp outside Calais: Young migrants are shown into a container where British Home Office officials have set up shop, have their photo quickly taken, and then undergo a short interview to decide their fate.

"We have conducted 600 interviews in all, and this week 194 minors will have left Calais for Britain," said Pierre Henry, the head of France Terre D'Asile (FTDA), a charity involved in helping process the children on behalf of the French government. The aim is to deal with as many cases as they can, out of the around 1,300 minors identified in the camp, including 500 with links to Britain—and then to convince London to accept as many as possible. It is unclear how many Britain will take. "An aim of 600 transfers at least was given," said an official familiar with the talks. The issue is sensitive. A French official source described the negotiations with London as "very tough" and said: "We would like to go further." Only 70 children were transferred between the start of the year and early October, before plans to tear down the camp swung into high gear. Britain was accused of dragging its feet but France too was accused of holding up the process, by failing to present enough cases for consideration.

Enlarged family

As the demolition date loomed, the pace had to be stepped up: a list of minors was presented to Britain, who dispatched 17 officials from the Home Office to help carry out interviews, alongside around a dozen staff from France Terre d'Asile and support from the UN refugee agency the UNHCR. In the packed container, adolescents are invited to give more details—in languages including Arabic and Pashto—about their identity

and what family ties they have in Britain.

In many cases, the relatives are uncles or cousins. "It is rare that they have a mother or father there," said Henry. "I don't have a family, I've crossed Europe on my own," said Maharawi, a slender 17-year-old Afghan waiting in line Saturday with his friend Anwar, who has a brother in Britain. "I gave his telephone number, they are going to call him. After that I hope to leave," he said. It is up to the British to decide whether they are indeed minors, what their family ties are and if they should be transferred under an EU law known as the Dublin Regulation for asylum seekers. "If we can take all the minors who have the right under the Dublin procedure, we will do so," said a diplomatic source.

Vulnerable

But what happens to children with no family ties? This is where the matter becomes complicated. For them one option is to apply under a British legislative amendment that allows a limited number of vulnerable child refugees into the country, even if they do not have family in Britain. The so-called Dubs amendment passed in May was tabled by Alfred Dubs, an 83-year-old member of Britain's House of Lords who argued that the country should be more compassionate, citing his own story of fleeing the Nazis as a child in 1939. But deciding who is most vulnerable is tricky.

"It's more complicated because you have to determine if the child can meet the criteria for a refugee," said a diplomatic source. On Saturday, 53 girls were among the first "Dubs kids" to enter Britain under the amendment, Henry of France Terre d'Asile said. The French are hoping more will follow. "The British have to move on Dubs," a French official said. Minors who were passed over this week will see their chances of being admitted legally to Britain dwindle once the Jungle is razed—a major operation starting today. — AFP



CALAIS: Members of the "Direction departementale de la cohesion sociale" (DDCS) (Department for social cohesion and protection of the populations) give to migrants documents informing on the camp's demolition, at the temporary reception centre (CAP) in the "Jungle" migrant camp. — AFP

NIGER TOWN FEARS FOR ABDUCTED AID WORKER

ABALAK: For people living in the small city of Abalak in central Niger, the abduction of a longtime US aid worker over a week ago has left them angry and anxious. Jeffery Woodke was no stranger here. "We are furious and shocked by this kidnapping," said Ibrahim Adamou, a 16-year-old student, as he and neighbors of Woodke recalled the evening of October 14 when the American was seized at gunpoint from his home. "Like every night, he was drinking tea" in the courtyard of his house, along with his guards, when "two armed men in turbans" stormed in and grabbed him, killing his bodyguard and a member of the National Guard.

Woodke, reportedly in his 50s, "struggled" to break free from his captors. "We cried and shouted for help but the gunmen just threw him into their vehicle," said Aicha, one of the neighbors. A local official said they drove off "with no headlights on" taking the road that leads to Mali, where investigators have since tracked the kidnapers and believe Woodke is being held by the Al-Qaeda linked group, the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa (Mujao). A shopkeeper Mohamed said when he thought of Woodke, "I hear his laughter in my head".

The American had become one of them after running the aid group JEMET there since 1992, helping the local Tuareg community. He speaks their language Tamasheq fluently as well as Fula and Arabic. Jeff, as they call him, could be seen around town in a turban, leather sandals and a big boubou—a flowing African tunic. "He was with us through all the hardest times," said Abalak's Mayor Ahmed Dilou—the times of a food crisis, the droughts, the floods. The Friday night of Jeff's abduc-

tion "was such a devastating shock that the whole city cried," he said.

Jeff 'wasn't afraid'

But apparently Woodke was not concerned about living in this unstable Tahoua region of Niger, close to the borders of Mali and Algeria. Western embassies have issued strong warnings to their nationals against venturing there. A Nigerien official said he had "tried everything" to convince the American to leave the area but "he refused, insisting that he was not afraid". Investigators have sealed off Woodke's house. In the courtyard shaded by thorn trees, some bricks can be seen piled up next to sacks of cement. "He was rebuilding a wall that had collapsed after some heavy rains," explained Aicha.

Still, despite Woodke's popularity with the townspeople, a regional lawmaker said he believed the kidnapers "were helped by some locals". According to Interior Minister Mohamed Bazoum, who visited Abalak, around 350 kilometers northeast of the capital Niamey, the kidnapers "went straight to his home, guided by a motorcyclist". Last Sunday Bazoum said that Woodke—the first American abducted in the West African country—"was probably kidnapped by the Mujao or handed over to the Mujao".

"We have had no contact with the Mujao, which is a terrorist organization," he added. Niger's long, porous borders make it occasionally vulnerable to the armed violence in neighboring countries. No matter who is responsible, in Abalak, the mayor—speaking for the distressed people of his city—is categorical in his condemnation. "The kidnapping of Jeff is wrong," he said. — AFP

SWISS COURT FAULTS EMPLOYER FOR FIRING WOMAN OVER HEADSCARF

GENEVA: A Swiss court has ruled against a company that fired a longtime employee after she began wearing the Muslim headscarf, marking one of the first such rulings in Switzerland, media reported yesterday. A regional court in Bern ruled last month that a 29-year-old Serbian woman was fired without just cause from a dry cleaning business, and ordered the company to dish out backpay and damages to her, the Le Matin Dimanche weekly reported.

The woman, identified only as Abida, was fired in January 2015 from a job she had held for six years, after she began wearing the Muslim headscarf, it reported. Her employer in Bern had told her the headscarf violated hygiene rules, and told her to remove it or be let go. She reportedly offered to wash her headscarf daily or wear disposable headscarves, but her employer refused.

The Bern court ruled that the compa-

ny had violated her constitutional right to freedom of expression, according to the paper. It said wearing a headscarf can only be grounds for termination in cases where it makes it impossible to carry out duties described in the employment contract or if it "substantially affects" the working environment.

The case is one of the first of its kind in Switzerland, Le Matin Dimanche said, pointing to only one other known case dating back to 1990, when a machine manufacturer in the east of the country was also faulted for firing a woman for wearing a headscarf. The ruling was hailed by several Muslim groups. "It shouldn't matter if a woman wears a headscarf or a man wears the Jewish kippa. At work, competence should be the criteria and not the clothes that you wear," Omer Gunes of the Federation of Islamic Organizations in Switzerland told the paper. — AFP

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EU DIMS UK DEMAND ON FULL MEMBERSHIP

BRUSSELS: Britain will "continue to play a full role until we leave", Prime Minister Theresa May told fellow leaders at her first EU summit; but for many Britons in Brussels that is a forlorn hope. Formally, yes, the heads of European Union institutions say Britain and its citizens will keep seats at council tables and in Parliament or go on with EU civil service careers in the two to three years left before it quits the 28-nation bloc.

In reality, say British lawmakers and officials in Brussels some of whom were offered trauma counseling by employers after the Brexit referendum four months ago to the day - they are already being sidelined, and expect further isolation. "Why should anyone listen to us?" said a British member of the European Parliament who forecast a December mid-term reshuffle of posts such as committee chairs will see many compatri-

ots lose out. "People are polite, sympathetic," the MEP told Reuters. "But in the end, of course, we are leaving."

Although May cautioned fellow leaders not to bind Britain by decisions taken without her, as at last month's summit of 27 in Bratislava, they insist the EU must move on and are annoyed, for example, by London trying to thwart more EU defense cooperation. The leader of German Chancellor Angela Merkel's centre-right bloc in the European Parliament took to the BBC's flagship news show during last week's summit to warn Britons that such awkward tactics risk poisoning May's efforts to cut the kind of divorce deal she wants, keeping trade ties while curbing immigration.

"That is creating a lot of anger," Manfred Weber said of British opposition to new plans for EU defense cooperation that London says might hamper NATO. "Please

don't block it because that would have a lot of impact on the Brexit negotiations." Acknowledging Britain retains veto powers and votes in the EU for now, Weber said: "It's a question of behavior, whether you respect each other, not a question of rights."

"Why are you still here?"

Most British MEPs, including most of May's Conservatives, opposed Brexit. There has been anger at those who did not; EU chief executive Jean-Claude Juncker demanded of UKIP leader Nigel Farage in the chamber in June: "Why are you still here?" A German MEP, speaking anonymously since parties have yet to take positions on December's jobs round, sees a rout of British influence: "The mid-term changes may reflect the new balance of powers, with UK MEPs probably being removed from positions."

But despite some pressure from fellow MEPs to exclude the British now, lawyers advise that the 73 Britons in the 751-seat chamber must stay - and be able to vote, even on laws that may not affect Britain, or indeed those such as the form of the final divorce that affect it very particularly. Few expect the British to take part in the 2019 EU elections, however.

British officials representing London in the many councils of the European Union in Brussels say they are aware of the delicacy of their position but must defend the national interest on a range of issues - from fishing quotas to budget amendments - that have immediate impacts, before Britain leaves.

Yet as negotiators on both sides are preparing for formal talks to start by March in which continental and British diplomats will find themselves on opposite sides of the

table, Britain's backroom envoys in Brussels are avoiding taking too much of a role in discussions on longer-term policy issues. That would be "a bit weird", one acknowledged. So far, British officials say, attitudes to them in meetings have not changed hugely, as long as they get "the tone right".

Preparing for the future

Britons are keeping especially active in discussions on issues where there will continue to be close cooperation post-Brexit, such as foreign and defense policy - as May herself did during summit talks on Syria, Russia and migration. May's predecessor David Cameron even appointed a new British member to Juncker's European Commission to replace an ally who, like Cameron, resigned after the Brexit vote; Julian King is now running security policy for the EU executive.—Reuters

ONE KILLED AND SEVERAL HURT IN SUSPECTED JAPAN SUICIDE BLAST

72-YEAR-OLD SETS OFF EXPLOSIVE DEVICE

TOKYO: A retired soldier was killed and several people injured by twin blasts at a Japanese park yesterday in what may have been a bizarre suicide, police and reports said. A festival was under way at the park when the 72-year-old former member of Japan's Self Defense Forces apparently set off an explosive device that

killed him and left three people injured including two seriously, Kyodo News reported, citing police. "One person was found dead," a local fire department spokesman told AFP without elaborating.

Around noon police found pensioner Toshikatsu Kurihara at the park in the city of Utsunomiya, some

100 kilometers north of Tokyo, after receiving a call about a person engulfed in flames following what sounded like a blast, reports said. Police suspect that Kurihara killed himself and a suicide note with his name on it was found inside a sock he was wearing, Kyodo said. "I pay with my life," the note reportedly

said, expressing concerns about family issues.

'Smelled gunpowder'

A 64- and 58-year-old man were seriously injured in the blast while a 14-year-old junior high school student was left with minor injuries. Several cars, including Kurihara's, were found burning in a nearby parking lot at around 11:30 am local time (0230 GMT), following reports of blasts there. No one was injured in those explosions, Kyodo said. One man told public broadcaster NHK that he "smelled gunpowder in the area" after the explosions. The festival was called off following the blasts, the paper added.

Meanwhile, Kurihara's house in the city, where he reportedly lived alone, was burnt to the ground yesterday morning. Explosions of this kind are rare in Japan, although small pipe bomb blasts linked to extreme leftists occasionally hit near US military bases. In November last year a homemade pipe bomb exploded at a controversial Tokyo war shrine, damaging the toilets at the facility. No one was hurt. A South Korean man was later arrested and sentenced to four years in prison after admitting detonating the bomb at the Yasukuni shrine. It has been targeted by activists who see it as a symbol of Japan's militaristic past.—AFP



UTSUNOMIYA: Police officers investigate near a damaged wooden bench, right, following an explosion at a park.—AFP



DHARMSALA: Exile Tibetan students practice on the flute before marching out to perform during the founding anniversary celebrations at the Tibetan Children's Village School in Dharmasala, India. The school, which started as an orphanage in 1960, houses and educates over a thousand refugee Tibetan children.—AP

OVER 50,000 EVACUATED IN TYPHOON'S PATH IN CHINA

BEIJING: Typhoon Haima forced the evacuations of more than 50,000 people in southern China after hammering the northern Philippines with ferocious wind and rain, triggering flooding, landslides and power outages and killing at least 13 people. No deaths were immediately reported yesterday in China from the typhoon. Residents in the cities of Shanwei and Shantou, in China's Guangdong province, were forced to move to safer ground as the storm hit, local authorities and state media reported. Some villages experienced power outages and authorities remained on the lookout for possible landslides.

Chinese meteorological services said the typhoon made landfall shortly after noon Friday in Shanwei in Guangdong province, packing winds of up to 166 kilometers per hour before weakening to a tropical storm. China suspended dozens of flights and rail services in several southern provinces. In the city of Shenzhen, authorities ordered schools, markets and factories to close, halted public transportation and evacuated some areas.

Neighboring Hong Kong suspended trading on the stock market Friday and shut down schools, offices and commuter ferries as Haima lashed the financial hub with rain and wind gusts of up to 109 kph

(68 mph). The third most serious storm signal was hoisted, leaving an eerie calm in the streets of the normally bustling city. More than 740 flights to and from the city's international airport were canceled or delayed.

In the Philippines, Haima's blinding winds and rain on Thursday had rekindled fears of the catastrophe wrought by Typhoon Haiyan in 2013, which left 7,300 dead, but there has been no report of any major damage. Large casualties appeared to have been averted after more than 100,000 people fled to safer ground. Several villages were cut off by fallen trees, landslides and floods, impeding communications and aid.

At least 13 people were killed, mostly in landslides and floods, in the fast-moving storm, officials said. But the evacuations from high-risk communities helped prevent a larger number of casualties and thousands were still in emergency shelters due to a powerful that hit the north a few days. The extent of damage in Gagayan, about 500 kilometers north of Manila, where the typhoon made landfall, was evident in overturned vans, toppled or leaning electric posts and debris blocking roads. Most stores, their window panes shattered and canopies shredded by the wind, were closed.—AP

DUTERTE: FILIPINOS MIGHT RETURN TO DISPUTED SHOAL

MANILA: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said yesterday that Filipino fishermen may be able to return to the Chinese-held Scarborough Shoal in a few days after he discussed the territorial rift with Chinese leaders, but he did not provide details, including whether China imposed conditions.

Duterte said that in talks during his trip to Beijing this past week, he insisted that the shoal off his country's northwestern coast belonged to the Philippines, but added that the Chinese also asserted their claim of ownership. If Filipinos could sail back to Scarborough, a traditional fishing ground and storm shelter, Duterte said they would be prohibited from fishing inside a sprawling lagoon that is a fish spawning ground that should be protected.

"We'll just wait for a few more days. We may be able to return to Scarborough Shoal, the fishing by our countrymen," Duterte said in a speech in the northern city of Tuguegarao, where he visited after the region was lashed by a super typhoon.

Considering the delicate role of Scarborough's shallow lagoon, which is a spawning area for tuna and other fish, "I myself said that if we're able to sail back to Scarborough Shoal as its owner - and they insist they are also the owner - I myself will say, 'Don't fish there,'" Duterte said. "What I know is he has also asked the Chinese fishermen to go away so there won't be anybody who'll be seen there," he said without identifying the Chinese leader he talked with. "That's what we discussed. I'm not sure if they'll fulfill that."

'We won in the court'

In another speech yesterday in the typhoon-hit province of Isabela, Duterte said a Chinese official insisted on China's ownership of virtually the entire contested sea on historical grounds, citing the official as saying, "We will not give in on this." Duterte said he replied that the Philippines won't budge "because we won in the court." In a landmark ruling in July, an international tribunal in The Hague invalidated China's

historic claims in the South China Sea and ruled that the Chinese government violated the Filipinos' right to fish in Scarborough, which it declared a traditional fishing ground.

Duterte cited the Chinese as saying, "We can resolve this case peacefully, no fighting, no blood and it will take time." Duterte said he responded by saying, "It's OK ... we'll discuss the award that we got someday and we won't get out of this document ... we won in the ownership." "But I will not insist now, I will not impose now, I will not go to war now, I will not waste the life of my soldiers," Duterte said. "Our two FA-50s have no rockets, how will I wage a war? In five minutes, their planes will reach Manila while ours, on takeoff, will just get stuck there and won't be able to fly because they'll be bombed."

During his visit to China, Duterte met Chinese President Xi Jinping and other top officials. China effectively took control of Scarborough in 2012 after its ships had a tense standoff with Philippine vessels. Then-President Benigno Aquino III said US officials brokered a deal for a simultaneous withdrawal of the ships. Aquino withdrew his government's ships, but said China reneged on the verbal deal and went on to control Scarborough.

Since then, Chinese coast guard ships have guarded the shoal, blocking and driving away Filipino fishermen, who complained that the Chinese at times used water cannons or dangerously chased them away while yelling, through a bullhorn, that they were barging into Chinese territory. In 2013, Aquino's administration brought its territorial disputes with China to international arbitration, a move that China ignored.

China ignored the ruling by the tribunal and continued shoaling Filipinos away from the shoal. The tough-talking Duterte, who has reached out to China while stepping back from his country's close security alliance with the US, has said he would not immediately insist on China's compliance to the arbitration ruling. Instead, he said he would mend strained relations with Beijing and seek to expand two-way trade and investments with the Asian economic powerhouse. China committed to provide up to \$16 million in financial assistance, which could come next year, primarily for agriculture, aside from business deals with Philippine companies, Duterte said, praising China for "really being nice inside."—AP



BEIJING: In this Thursday, Oct 20, 2016 file photo, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte delivers a speech during the Philippines-China Trade and Investment Forum at the Great Hall of the People.—AP

CHINA'S XI TO CONSOLIDATE POWER AT KEY MEETING

BEIJING: The leaders of the world's most powerful political party gathered in Beijing yesterday for a conclave that could change the course of Chinese history. In meetings at the exclusive Jingxi Hotel, safe from the public's prying eyes, nearly 400 top members of the Chinese Communist Party will confer for four days, discussing changes to how the giant party will be managed.

The meeting, according to the official Xinhua News service, will focus on the issue of "party discipline". The dry rhetoric hides what may be a ferocious, high-stakes battle for control over the world's second largest economy. The Sixth Plenum, as the meeting is known, comes as the party—which has more than 88 million members—faces a period of tectonic change. Since taking its helm in 2012, General Secretary Xi Jinping has sought to bend it to his will, and taken control of more levers of power than any leader since Mao Zedong.

And his anti-corruption campaign has laid waste to the party's organizational chart, felling seemingly invincible bastions of power such as former security czar Zhou Yongkang, and paralyzing lesser bureaucrats across the nation with fear. Xi has described the party as a "magic weapon" that can be used to implement reforms necessary to achieve his goal of the "Great Rejuvenation" of the Chinese nation, an idea that he frequently describes as the "Chinese dream". But attempts to rein in sclerotic state-owned enterprises—which control strategic sectors of the economy and are sources of patronage for powerful politicians—have met stiff resistance from entrenched interests.

"These reforms have really gone

nowhere over the last three years," said Anthony Saich, an expert on Chinese politics at Harvard University. "Clearly, Xi sees the party as the only vehicle that can push ahead with reforms. He does not trust society or the state to move ahead with the reforms he wants." At the meeting, he added, "there will be jockeying between those who enjoy Xi's support and those who are negatively affected by the campaign against corruption and by the potential for further reforms of the state-owned sector".

Anti-corruption campaign

For Xi, improving party discipline means more than simply reducing cadres' bad behavior. "He has been very ambitious in grabbing power, in arrogating powers to himself," said Willy Lam, a China expert at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The "major motivation" of any new rules passed during the plenum will be to "consolidate (Xi's) position as the big boss," he said. Several measures have already been introduced to make sure party members toe Xi's line, he added, including prohibitions against officials making "groundless criticism".

"Only one person in the party, namely Xi Jinping, has the right to define what the political rules are," Lam added. The meeting comes as speculation mounts that Xi could look to stay on in power after 2022, when he would normally be expected to step down after two terms in office. Such a move would be "an extremely risky proposal, as it would create severe frictions among China's political elite", the Mercator Institute for China Studies' president Sebastian Heilmann wrote in a research note.—AFP



Families row boats on Rawal Lake on the outskirts of Islamabad yesterday. Lake View Park, alongside the Rawal Lake, has become a favorite picnic spot for Pakistani and foreign tourists. - AP

TRUMP WOULD '100%' ACCEPT ELECTION RESULT IF IT'S FAIR

WASHINGTON: Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump will "100 percent" accept the results of the US election if it is fair, his son Eric Trump said yesterday. "I think what my father is saying is, 'I want a fair election,'" Eric Trump said on ABC's "This Week". "If it's a fair outcome, he will absolutely accept it. There's no question about that." Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway acknowledged yesterday that Trump trails rival Hillary Clinton in national and key battleground state opinion polls.

"We are behind," she said on NBC's "Meet the Press," adding that Clinton had "tremendous advantages", including a larger campaign war chest that she can use to buy television commercials. As the polling gap has widened, Trump has repeatedly said the election is being "rigged" against him. He has not offered evidence and numerous studies have shown that the US election system, which is decentralized and run by the states, is sound.

At last week's debate with Clinton, Trump challenged a cornerstone of American democracy by refusing to commit to honoring the result of the US election. "What I'm saying is that I will tell you at the time. I'll keep you in suspense. OK?" Trump said. In the aftermath of the debate, Trump said he would accept the election outcome "if I win". The latest Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Friday has Trump trailing Clinton by 4 percentage points. The latest Reuters/Ipsos States of the Nation project found Clinton with a 95 percent chance of winning the needed 270 Electoral College votes.

An ABC News poll released yesterday morning had Clinton leading with 50 percent of likely support, compared to Trump at 38 percent. The poll found that the number of Republicans said they were likely to vote fell 7 percent from mid-October. Conway, also was pressed yesterday on CNN's "State of the Union" on whether Trump would accept the election results. "The system is rigged, especially against the little guy," said Conway without directly responding to the question. She spoke of any challenges to the election results as "hypothetical".

The efforts by members of Trump's inner circle to downplay his remarks about the integrity of the election indicate he would come under significant pressure to accept the result if he were to lose. Republican Party Chairman Reince Priebus said that by asking Trump to agree to concede, the media was making an extraordinary request. He said Trump would only fight if the election were close and is not trying to dispute a fair election. "That's not quite what he's saying. What he's saying is he wants to reserve all options and if there is ground for a recount I'll reserve all options," Priebus said on CBS's "Face The Nation".

Clinton and Trump were campaigning yesterday in the key swing states of Florida and North Carolina, where the latest polls show they are within only a few points of each other. Yesterday, Trump picked up his first endorsement of the general election from a major newspaper when the Las Vegas Review backed his candidacy. — Reuters

FIGHTING SHAKES ALEPPO AS CEASEFIRE EXPIRES

ALEPPO: Clashes and air strikes shook the Syrian city of Aleppo yesterday, as heavy fighting resumed after the end of a three-day ceasefire declared by government ally Russia. The unilateral ceasefire ended without any evacuations by the UN, which had hoped to bring wounded civilians out of the rebel-held east and deliver aid after weeks of government bombardment and a three-month siege. An AFP correspondent in the east of the city reported fresh air strikes on rebel-held neighborhoods and the sound of fighting yesterday afternoon.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said strikes and artillery fire hit eastern districts yesterday after heavy clashes overnight along the front line that divides the city's government-held west from the east. Rebel shelling also hit two western neighborhoods yesterday, the Britain-based monitor said. The Observatory late on Saturday had reported the first air strikes since Moscow announced a temporary halt in the Syrian army's Russian-backed offensive to recapture the east of the city.

It said at least three people were wounded in artillery fire on the east of the city, while rebels fired a barrage of rockets and mortar shells on a government-held neighborhood. Government forces and allied fighters, meanwhile, had advanced on the southern outskirts of Aleppo, the Observatory said on Sunday, seizing territory overlooking the rebel-held areas of Rashideen and Khan Tuman. The fighting killed at least 20 fighters, mostly from the former Al-Qaeda affiliate, the Fateh al-Sham Front, the monitor said.

UN Evacuation Plan Fails

The ceasefire was intended to allow civilians and rebels to leave the east. The army had opened eight evacuation corridors, but only a handful of civilians were reported to have crossed through a single passage. Russian officials and Syrian state media accused rebels of preventing people from leaving and using civilians as "human shields". Nearly 500 people have been killed and more than 2,000 wounded since the Syrian army launched a September 22 operation to recapture eastern Aleppo.

The United Nations had hoped to use the "humanitarian pause" to evacuate seriously wounded people and possibly deliver aid. But a UN official said on Saturday the requisite security guarantees had once again

not been received. "You have various parties to the conflict and those with influence and they all have to be on the same page on this and they are not," said David Swanson, a spokesman for the UN humanitarian office.

No aid has entered Aleppo since July 7 and UN chief Ban Ki-moon has warned food rations will run out by the end of the month. The UN had asked Moscow to consider extending the pause until Monday evening, but there was no indication from Russia that it would.

US Slams Regime 'Defiance'

Russia is a key ally of Syria's government and began a military intervention in support of President Bashar Al-Assad in September last year. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in an interview aired on Saturday that the intervention was meant to "liberate" Syria and keep Assad in power. "Either Assad is in Damascus, or Al-Nusra is," he said, referring to Fateh al-Sham's name before it broke with Al-Qaeda. "There is no third option here."

Elsewhere, at least two people were wounded on Sunday when a bomb strapped to a motorbike exploded in the northeastern city of Hasakeh, the Observatory said. The blast in a Kurdish-controlled district is one of a series to have hit the city, most claimed by the Islamic State group. More than 300,000 people have been killed in Syria and more than half of the country's population displaced since the conflict began in March 2011 with anti-government protests.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault yesterday urged the international community to "do everything" to end the "massacre" in Aleppo and resume efforts to reach a political agreement. "We cannot come to a negotiation under the bombs," he said. On Saturday, the White House condemned the Syrian regime's "defiance" of international law after UN experts said the army was responsible for a chemical weapons attack in March 2015. It was the third chemical weapons attack the UN panel has attributed to government forces. "We condemn in the strongest possible terms the Assad regime's defiance of the longstanding global norm against chemical weapons use," said US National Security Council spokesman Ned Price. — AFP

DEFICIT RESULT OF A 60% DECLINE IN OIL...

Continued from Page 1

The document covers the coming two-four years and focuses on six axes - first, financial reform including budgetary imbalances; second, the role of the state in the national economy; third, the contribution of the private sector to economic growth; fourth, the citizens' role in economic projects; fifth, the reforms of the labor market and the civil service system; and sixth, legislative and institutional reforms.

"The document is the fruit of interagency cooperation involving not only the ministry of finance but all government departments. The state departments started implementing the measures to rationalize expenditure, which led to saving up to KD 900 million a year and cutting the budget deficit from the initially-projected KD 6.6 billion to KD 4.6 billion," Saleh revealed.

Asked about aid provided by Kuwait to friendly countries over the last 15 years, he said Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) offers loans at low interest rates. "The assistance being offered by the Kuwait government represents only three percent of the budget," he said, adding that the government started putting caps on the budgets of various state departments two years ago.

The minister highlighted the need for the new National Assembly to endorse the document and maintain cooperation with the government. Saleh noted that despite the inability of the government to get parliamentary approval

of some decisions such as the hike in electricity tariffs, the relationship between the executive and the legislative authorities was mainly marked by cooperation.

"The legislative authority, backed by the confidence of the people, and the executive authority, backed by the confidence of His Highness the Amir, were able to reach compromise on the fuel price rise. Article 50 of the constitution provides for such cooperation in order to serve the public interests, particularly the interests of middle-income people," the minister pointed out.

On the state budget for FY 2016-2017 passed by the recently-dissolved parliament, Saleh said it is projected on the assumption that the oil prices will range around \$56 per barrel, thus striking a balance between revenues and expenditure. Asked whether oil prices could hit \$65 next year, the minister voiced hope that the meeting of oil ministers of the GCC states and Russia in Riyadh will lead to ratcheting the prices to \$50-60 in the coming 15 months.

Higher prices encourage investors in the oil industry, whether companies or states, to pump more funds into oil exploration, which in turn leads to more supply. He noted that the volume of investments in oil explorations and production went down by 26 percent in 2015 and 2016 due to low prices, expecting the same rate of decline to continue next year. Kuwait's five-year plan envisages huge projects in the field of exploration, but such explorations take a relatively long time to yield fruit and reach the stage of production, he explained. — KUNA

IRAQ BOOZE BAN SPARKS BACKLASH

Continued from Page 1

With Iraq involved in an offensive to retake the city of Mosul from the Islamic State jihadist group, its biggest military operation in years, one politician argued that the law sent the wrong message.

"This is a victory for the ideology of Daesh (IS)," said Haidar Al-Mullah, a politician from the Al-Arabiya alliance. "At a time when all the efforts of the Iraqi people are focused on fighting Daesh terrorists, a team of Islamist politicians in parliament gifted Daesh a victory," he said. "They are suppressing other beliefs, violating the freedom to practice other traditions and turning their backs on the constitution," Mullah told AFP.

Alcohol is rarely offered in restaurants and hotels in Iraq, but consumption is relatively widespread, especially in Baghdad. Iraq also has companies that produce various types of alcohol, such as Farida beer or Asriya arak (a regional anise-flavored spirit). Yonadam Kanna, a leading Christian politician, was furious after the vote on Saturday and went on television to condemn it and also to vow to challenge it in a federal court.

Many Iraqis also took to social media to ridicule their lawmakers. On his Facebook page, Hussein Al-Ameri replied to Mahmud Al-Hassan, one of the MPs who took credit for the passing of the law, and "congratulated" him. "Yes, that was one of the most important laws to focus on after eradicating unemployment, terrorism, corruption and terrorism," he wrote. In a jab at parliament, which has a reputation for being one of the hubs of corruption in the country, another Facebook user, Hammoudi Mohammed asked: "Drinking is un-Islamic but stealing is OK?"

In Baghdad's Bataween neighborhood, one of the capital's oldest districts now best known for prostitution and crime, Saad Amir shook his head as he rested against the cart from which he sells food on the street.

"Drinking is better than turning to drugs... There seems to be a decision to wreck this country. Parliament should review this decision," he said. Kanna also predicted that a ban on alcohol, if enforced, would lead to a rise in drug abuse, which is already a growing problem in areas such as Basra, where alcohol is harder to find than in Baghdad.

Maysoun Al-Damalji, another member of parliament, was appalled. "What bankruptcy! Not only was this law passed without a proper vote count, the article was sneaked into a law on another issue and the only people it will serve are those running the black market," she said.

Ammar Toma, an MP who voted in support of the ban, argued that it was the constitution that made it illegal to sell, produce or import alcoholic drinks. "The constitution says you cannot approve a law that goes against Islam," he told AFP, referring to an article stating that "no law that contradicts the established provisions of Islam may be established". Toma, a Shiite MP from the Fadhila party, rejected Kanna's assessment and said "the effects of alcohol on society are great, and include depuration, terrorism and social problems. As for the people who will lose their jobs, new jobs can be found for them," he said without elaborating.

Christian lawmaker Joseph Slaiwa said the "unjust" ban was slipped into a draft law regulating the income of municipal authorities without lawmakers being notified. The original article only called for imposing taxes on liquor stores and restaurants serving liquor, he said. "This ban is unconstitutional, as the constitution acknowledges the rights of non-Muslim minorities and ethnic groups who live alongside Muslims in Iraq," he said. "To those Muslim lawmakers I say: Take care of your religion and leave ours for us, we know how to deal with it." He said some lawmakers will submit an appeal at the High Federal Court. — Agencies

GHANEM FILES FOR RE-ELECTION, WELCOMES...

Continued from Page 1

Adasani slammed the so-called achievements of the dissolved Assembly, saying its achievement was very modest, reminding that the Assembly had scrapped his grilling against the prime minister.

In the meantime, the administrative court is due to look today into the case of former MP Abdulhameed

Dashti, whose request to file for nomination was rejected because he is not in the country. Dashti has been sentenced to over 30 years in jail for insulting Saudi Arabia and Bahrain and has been living outside Kuwait since March. His elder son tried to submit his nomination papers on Saturday, but the election department rejected his request. He filed a case in court, which will start hearing it today.

Kuwait Times
THE LEADING INDEPENDENT
DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF
ESTABLISHED 1961

Founder and Publisher
YOUSUF S. AL-ALYAN

Editor-in-Chief
ABD AL-RAHMAN AL-ALYAN

EDITORIAL : 24833199-24833358-24833432
ADVERTISING : 24835616/7
FAX : 24835620/1
CIRCULATION : 24833199 Extn. 163
ACCOUNTS : 24835619
COMMERCIAL : 24835618

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Focus

WILL THE UN
BELL THE CAT?

By P Justin Antony

Today marks UN Day. Founded in 1945 with 193 members, this global organization's peacemaking initiatives are highly praise worthy. The 2001 Nobel Peace Prize went to the UN and its former Secretary General Kofi Annan stands testimony to this. But there is a section of people, especially minority fisher folk, whose precious lives have been swallowed. Their cry is yet to be heard by the UN.

These anglers, well-known for deep-sea fishing, suffer a lot in mid-seas. Solutions are not sought for the numerous problems caused by pirates. It is an intense shock to learn about the killings of three Gulf-based fishermen by pirates in a little over a year. Thomas Cletus from Bahrain was killed in May 2014; Mathivalan from Saudi Arabia was killed in May 2015, while Antony Arul Anish from Qatar was killed in Aug 2015. He was the only breadwinner for his elderly parents and two young unmarried sisters. Who can console these three families?

These incidents are only the tip of the iceberg. At times, pirates carry weapons and loot fish catches from boats. Sometimes they force a fishing boat at gunpoint to sail to the shore and demand cash as ransom. However, when pirates see that a boat has many men and they can't possibly overpower it, they shoot at random.

Kidnapping at mid-sea has become an international menace and a threat worldwide. Just for ransom, several innocents are kidnapped and kept in custody for several weeks and months. While we are not able to tolerate the absence of our child for even a single hour, the cry of the dear ones of those kidnapped is understandable.

Recently, 26 Asian sailors from China, Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam and Taiwan held by Somali pirates since February 2012 were freed. It was learnt from the local mayor Hirsi Yusuf Barre that the crew is in Galkayo and will be flown to Nairobi, the Kenyan capital. The crew did not say if ransom was paid and he added that ship's captain was killed in the hijacking, while two others died from illness during their captivity, one of the longest among hostages seized by pirates in the Horn of Africa nation.

The sailors were held in Dabagala near the village of Harartheree, some 400 km northeast of the capital Mogadishu, a hamlet that was known as Somalia's main pirate base at the height of the crisis. The criminal violence, act of robbery and kidnapping people from commercial vessels has to be put to an end by this international body.

Pleas

INFIDET (International Fishermen Development Trust) has pleaded to the UN, followed by several reminders, to help stop pirate attacks on fishermen by setting up a maritime force. As the only effective solution to the problem, a unit like the UN peacekeeping force should be formed by the UN and sent wherever necessary in international waters for patrolling. The pirates should be punished severely, so that the acts of kidnapping will be initially reduced and stopped in the long run.

When the UN observes the theme of this year's concert as "Freedom First", let us all hope for a pleasant situation for these anglers to continue their profession with utmost freedom. The minority fisher folk pray that their uncontrollably flowing tears are put to an end by tackling the pirates. Who other than the mighty UN, that adopts global counterterrorism strategies, can bell these pirates?

The international community including the minority fisher folk remembers with gratitude what UN Secretary General Ban ki Moon said: "Humanity has entered the era of sustainability - with a global commitment to fulfill the great promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In the organization's 71st year, we have 17 goals to propel us towards a better future for all on a healthy planet".

All articles appearing on these pages are the personal opinion of the writers. Kuwait Times takes no responsibility for views expressed therein. Kuwait Times invites readers to voice their opinions. Please send submissions via email to: opinion@kuwaittimes.net or via snail mail to PO Box 1301 Safat, Kuwait. The editor reserves the right to edit any submission as necessary.



PARIS, THE UPSTART STARTUP CAPITAL

Could Paris, the City of Light, soon become known as the City of Innovation helping propel young entrepreneurs to push technological and business frontiers? While efforts by Paris to lure financial companies from London in the wake of Britain's vote to leave the European Union have dominated the headlines, a different sort of rivalry has also been playing out. With over three dozen startup incubators, including the continent's largest, and soon the world's largest, Paris is vying with London to become Europe's innovation capital.

Although perceptions are that France is not as friendly a place to do business - it ranked 27th compared with 6th for Britain in the World Bank's ease of doing business last year - a recent survey shows that Paris is catching up to London and other top spots among startups. "There isn't just Silicon Valley to help startups emerge, Paris is today in the top three worldwide," said Loic Dosseur, co-director of Paris and Co, the city's economic development and innovation agency.

The EY consultancy found that France squeaked by Britain for the number of start-up financing operations in the first half of this year. Part of the reason is an expanding network of incubators to foster the growth of startups. Incubators often provide startups with more than just office space, such as advice on different aspects of running a business and make them more visible to potential investors. Some focus on certain sectors to help promote better fertilization of ideas.

Startup Springboard

Take, for instance, The Tremplin, or Springboard in

English, an incubator dedicated to helping sports-related startups that is located inside Jean Bouin stadium in Paris. One of The Tremplin's clients is Yppa, which offers a platform to harness the smartphones of spectators for light shows at stadiums and concerts that launched in May. "You want to transmit, share what you've done, the adventure that you are living," said Yppa's co-founder Francois Decock.

The Tremplin is one of nearly a dozen incubators that has been set up by Paris and Co in a city that now hosts some 250 startups. Dosseur said The Tremplin's favorable atmosphere was in keen demand by startups, with eight applications for every place. And Paris is pushing forward to meet that demand. "We opened the Cargo this year which is the largest incubator in Europe with 15,000 square metres housing 50 startups," said Jean-Louis Missika, the assistant to Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo for economic attractiveness and development. Paris will soon get the world's largest incubator with Station F, a 34,000-sq-m facility bankrolled by Xavier Niel, who shook up the French Internet and mobile market with his low-cost Free service.

Funding Bonanza

The report by EY found that in the first half of the year, France edged out Britain in the number of financing operations for startups. France had 27 percent of the total operations, followed by 25 percent for Britain and 22 percent for Germany. "The trend is good and achieving first place is interesting as it gives us arguments to attract foreign investors that want to invest in Europe, in particular the Chinese and Americans," said Jerome Faul, head of the innovation capital committee at the AFIC association of

French private equity firms.

By the amount raised, however, Britain was far in the lead at 34 percent, with France in second place at 16 percent, although that was still over one billion euros. Martin Mignot, a partner at the Index Ventures, which operates in the United States and across Europe, says it is far easier to raise large amounts of late-stage funding in London due to the depth of the capital markets there. But for early stage startups "looking for only two, ten or even twenty million, then you can do it in Paris," said Mignot, whose firm has financed startups such as British food delivery service Deliveroo and the Paris-based online advertising firm Criteo, which has gone public.

Quant Advantage

While London still has the lead in attracting international talent, Mignot said Paris is attractive to companies as "it has a slightly lower cost base and probably more available talent, especially in engineering". Paris universities are especially known for producing quants - top-notch mathematicians - who create the algorithms behind software. "I think this is one area where France has a big advantage," he said. Mignot said he was practically alone when he began looking for startups in France to invest in seven years ago, but now there are a number of foreign venture capital firms with staff based in Paris, which he pointed to as an indication of the development of the market. The French state has also played an important role in funding startups, with a 600-million-euro seed fund that it launched several years ago, mindful that they can drive the creation of new jobs. — AFP

HOW A DRUG CARTEL BANKED ITS CASH IN NYC

In the photos, Alejandra Salgado and her little brother Francisco look like ordinary tourists strolling the streets of midtown Manhattan. He carries a shopping bag. She wears a white dress, a necklace and a leather tote slung over one shoulder. But the outings were hardly innocent. Over two hours, federal agents snapped pictures as the pair visited seven banks, stopping at each one to make cash deposits of just under \$10,000 - all from piles of drug money stashed in their bags.

Prosecutors say the flurry of modest deposits was one of the many schemes hatched by Mexican crime cartels trying to bring billions of dollars in drug proceeds back from the United States without attracting scrutiny from banking regulators. The cartels collect much of their cash proceeds from the U.S. market much the way the cocaine and other drugs come in, by sneaking it across the border.

But using regular banks remains in the mix, said James Hunt, head of the Drug Enforcement Administration's New York City office. The trick is keeping deposits small, because banks are required to report cash deposits of \$10,000 or more to the government. The benefit, he said, is that if investigators do catch onto such a scheme, less cash gets confiscated. The bagmen also often face less jail time. "It's a little more time-intensive but it's not as heavy a hit if you get caught," Hunt said.

Before they went to prison late last month, the Salgados were paid to launder up to \$1 million a month collected from drug wholesalers doing business with the notorious Sinaloa cartel, prosecutors said. Investigators say Alejandra Salgado, 59, who has a Mexico City address and was in the US on an expired visa, was supervised by a high-ranking member of the cartel.

Agents began watching her in New York after her name came up in an investigation of money-laundering cells in southern California, Michigan and Arizona being conducted by investigators from the DEA Drug Enforcement Task Force, Department of Homeland Security, the IRS and local agencies. Details from the case files of federal agents and narcotics prosecutors provided to the AP offer a look inside how the Salgados operated.

At one point she had been a courier who

would drive drug money over the border. But later, she was assigned by cartel leaders to deposit funds into multiple bank accounts held under fake names, then write checks to a produce company in San Diego controlled by the cartel. An undercover investigator wearing a wire recorded her calling the assignment a "hassle", but safer than her previous gig.

'Lot of Work'

After her handler told her there was "a lot of work" for her in New York, she and her brother, a legal resident with an Alaska address, set up shop at a Manhattan hotel in the summer of 2013. She preferred to collect payments from local drug dealers in mid-

town, rather than in their home territories in the Bronx or Washington Heights, for security reasons. "Like a friend of mine said: 'This is a business for tough people,'" she said in a conversation with the undercover agent. "And it's all based in trust."

While under investigation, the siblings made at least two dozen deposits in amounts ranging from about \$8,100 to \$9,600 at banks located from the Upper West Side to Canal Street. Following the money trail was worthwhile to "gain insight into the practices" of the cartels, said Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget G. Brennan, whose office prosecuted the case. At Francisco Salgado's sentencing, his lawyer, Jeffrey Taub, portrayed him as a small fish in

"an unfortunate situation". The penalties for the launderers can be lighter than in bigger federal conspiracy cases. The brother and sister took plea deals resulting in sentences of 1 to 4 years.

Alejandra Salgado's attorney, Robert W. Georges, said it's certain his client will be deported once she serves her time - a fate she's accepted. "She's remorseful and looking forward to getting on with her life in Mexico," Georges said. Prison and deportation probably wasn't what Salgado had in mind when she told an undercover agent, in a recorded call, that being a money courier was a nice way to make a living in a treacherous drug world. "I live in peace and I live tranquil," she said. — AP



In this Aug 2013 surveillance photo provided by the US Drug Enforcement Administration, Francisco Salgado and his sister Alejandra walk on New York's Third Avenue in midtown Manhattan where authorities say they made multiple cash deposits at banks within a few blocks of each other as part of a Mexican cartel money-laundering scheme. Authorities say the pair entered seven different banks making cash deposits of just under \$10,000, all from piles of drug money they were carrying in designer purses and shopping bags. — AP

MAGNUSSEN, PALMER AWAIT RENAULT FATE

AUSTIN: Renault have allowed an option on Danish Formula One driver Kevin Magnussen to lapse as media speculation swirls around who could get the second seat at the team next year alongside Nico Hulkenberg. "The option that Renault has on me was extended by two weeks but it's run out. I'm a free agent," Magnussen told Reuters after qualifying at the US Grand Prix on Saturday. "I'm very hopeful I can stay with this team. I think they are one of the teams that can fight for world championships in the future...but only time will tell." Magnussen or British team mate Jolyon Palmer, or possibly both, will leave at the end of the season after Renault last week announced Germany's Hulkenberg was joining from Force India. The second seat is the only one still open at a manufacturer-owned team and there are a number of potential candidates including Manor Racing's 20-year-old French rookie Esteban Ocon. Finnish driver Valtteri Bottas has also been mentioned in speculation although he is expected to stay at Williams. —Reuters

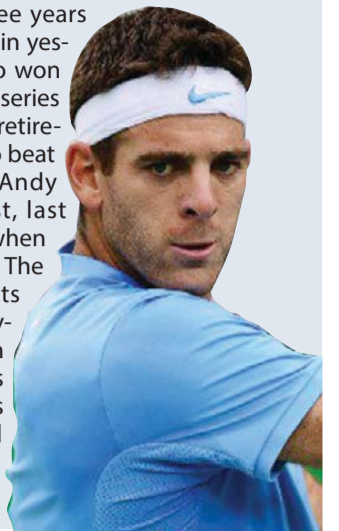


GRETZKY SKATES FOR OILERS AGAIN

MONTREAL: Wayne Gretzky, the all-time National Hockey League scoring leader, returned to the ice in an Edmonton Oilers jersey Saturday at age 55 for an outdoor alumni game against Winnipeg. The Canadian legend was among a host of retired standouts who took the ice for the Oilers and Winnipeg Jets in an exhibition game ahead of Sunday's NHL Heritage Classic between the current editions of the Jets and Oilers at the home stadium of the Canadian Football League's Winnipeg Blue Bombers. The Jets won 6-5 as Winnipeg's Teemu Selanne, the 46-year-old Finnish Flash who ended his career in 2014, scored on a penalty shot against Edmonton's Curtis Joseph with three seconds remaining. Selanne had two goals and three assists. "What a great experience," Gretzky said. "We had a wonderful day, just enjoyed playing the game." Gretzky, who retired in 1999 with records of 894 goals and 1,963 assists, led the Oilers to four Stanley Cups before being traded to Los Angeles in 1988. He later played for the St. Louis Blues and New York Rangers. But he lamented not playing better, complaining, "I stink." —AFP

DEL POTRO WINS FIRST ATP TITLE

STOCKHOLM: Former US Open champion Juan Martin del Potro clinched his first ATP title in almost three years with a 7-5, 6-1 victory over American Jack Sock in yesterday's final in Stockholm. The Argentine, who won at Flushing Meadows in 2009 before suffering a series of wrist injuries that pushed him to the brink of retirement, needed just over an hour and a quarter to beat sixth-seeded Sock. Del Potro, runner-up to Andy Murray in the Olympic final in Rio in August, last played a tour final in Sydney in January 2014, when he beat home favourite Bernard Tomic 6-3, 6-1. The world number 63 played just six tournaments across 2014 and 2015 but has gradually rediscovered the form that once enabled him to reach fourth in the world. The 28-year-old helped his country defeat Murray's Great Britain in this year's Davis Cup semi-finals and will seek to lead Argentina to their first title against Croatia next month. —AFP



Group picture of officials and winners in men category.



From left Information Minister, State Minister for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah, Eng Duaij Al-Otaibi with board members of KSSC.



Group picture of officials and winners in women category.

HH THE CROWN PRINCE SHOOTING TOURNEY CONCLUDES
STRONG COMPETITION FROM SHOOTERS AS PARTICIPANTS REACH OVER 300

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: Information Minister, State Minister for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah represented HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at the closing ceremony of Crown Prince Annual Shooting Tournament which came to conclusion on Saturday evening.

The closing ceremony was also attended by President of Arab and Kuwait Shooting Federations Eng. Duaij Khalaf Al-Otaibi, Deputy Chairman of Kuwait Shooting Sport Club Mohammad Mustafa Karam, Arab and Kuwait Shooting Federations Secretary General Obaid Munahi Al-Osaimi, KSSC Treasures Essa Butaiban, Assistant Secretary

Eng. Mohammad Al-Ghurba, Assistant Treasurer Adnan Al-Ibrahim and Board members Dr. Nedal Al-Asem and Eng Hussam Al-Roumi.

In his closing speech Eng. Duaij Al-Otaibi welcomed those present, adding that shooting club looks forward to organize this tournament annually which is dear to all Kuwait shooters, adding that this year's tournament saw the participation of shooters from Bahrain and UAE along with the club, National Guard, Police and military shooters as the number of participants reached over 300 competing in the Olympic shotgun, rifle, pistol and archery. He added that the tournament saw strong competition from all shooters who were seeking to win as it carries a dear name to all shooters

and opens the shooting sport's season.

Eng. Al-Otaibi said the distinguished achievements made by Kuwait shooters by Kuwait's Olympic wins by Double Trap Shooter Fuhaid Al-Daihani and Skeet Shooter Abdallah Al-Rashidi during the Rio de Janeiro 2016 Olympics contributed to adding to achievements made by Kuwait in various fields. He said Kuwait shooting once again appreciates the great support of HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and HH the Prime Minister to the athletes in general and shooters in particular.

Representative of HH the Crown Prince then distributed winners cups and prizes as follows:

Zaid Dakil Al-Mutairi in the skeet event
Tami Al-Rashidi in Trap,

Hamad Al-Afasi in the double Trap,
Sheikha Al-Rashidi in the women skeet,
Sarah al-Hawal in the women trap,
Ali Saad Al-Mutairi in the 10m air pistol,
Abdallah Al-Harby in the 10m air rifle,
Khalid Al-Subaie in the 50m rifle,
Abdallah Al-Harby in the three position 50 m rifle,
Hamad Al-Namshan in the 50 m pistol,
Heba Erzuqi in the 10m women air rifle,
Israa Bahman in the 10m women air pistol,
Bader al-Mutairi in the Olympic archery,
Ahmad Al-Shatti in the compound archery
and Shaheen Kiti in the junior's Olympic archery.

Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah said following the ceremony said he was honored to represent HH the crown

prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at the closing ceremony of this annual tournament. He said the shooting club is one of the clubs that overcame hurdles and difficulties in Olympic and international events, and HH the Crown Prince paternal care resulted in making the achievements that placed Kuwait's name in prominence.

Sheikh Salman thanked the club for the good organization and the success of introducing juniors who are the future of any sport including shooting, and we hope that they develop their plans and programs to continue their winning ways. He said a decision was taken in this regard at the Public Authority for Sports to support KSSC and the disabled club so that they become an example for the rest of sports entities.



Sheikha Al-Rashidi.



Afrah Adel, Duaij Al-Otaibi, Fatima Mansour, Amina Ismail.



Shahad and Sarah Al-Hawal.

AUSSIE SIMMONS PART OF GLOBAL REVIVAL PLAN FOR 76ERS

WASHINGTON: Australia's Ben Simmons, last June's NBA Draft top pick now sidelined by a fractured right foot, is part of a global initiative aimed at reviving the NBA's woeful Philadelphia 76ers.

Alongside fellow NBA newcomers Joel Embiid of Cameroon and Dario Saric of Croatia, Simmons will be called upon to help advance the fortunes of a club that went an NBA-worst 10-72 last season, barely beating the all-time worst full-season record of 9-73 set by Philadelphia's 1972-73 squad.

Just four seasons after winning just nine games, the 76ers made a run to the 1977 NBA Finals. A decade after the NBA's worst-ever season, they were league champions. It's that magic the

Sixers seek to repeat as new young talent matures.

In the 33 seasons since the 1983 crown, the 76ers reached the finals only in 2001, losing to the Los Angeles Lakers. Over the past 13 seasons, they have won only one playoff series. They haven't reached the playoffs since the labor-dispute shortened 2012 campaign. They haven't had a winning 82-game season since 2004-05.

So it's no wonder that Simmons, who broke his right small toe September 30 in the 76ers' last training camp scrimmage, had an update posted on Instagram that sounds like the same sort of message the team needs.

"Turning a negative into a positive is never easy," Simmons wrote. "Thanks to

everyone for the support and love. Looking forward to coming back stronger and better."

Sixers coach Brett Brown said that Simmons is in a walking boot and conducts his rehabilitation work in the team's training complex, emphasizing learning about the NBA, improving his health and working on his shooting.

"There's a portion that is education, where we will sit and show him different things on tape and educate him in the league. It's classroom stuff," Brown said.

"And then there's stuff where he will sit in a chair and get his elbow under the ball until he can actually stand, where we have a chance to help grow his shot."

In an NBA general managers poll, 70 percent said that in five years, Simmons

will be regarded as the top player from this year's NBA rookie class.

Embiid, Saric adjust to NBA

The 76ers have barely said hello to Embiid, the 22-year-old, 7-foot (2.13m) center they selected third in the 2014 draft, but he has scored 10.3 points and grabbed 5.5 rebounds a game in pre-season play.

"As far as game shape wise, I'm not 100 percent," Embiid said. "I still get tired. In practice, we've got to work on that."

Embiid says he is quickly adjusting to the NBA's speed and physical style. "When I look out on the floor, I don't see him take plays off," Brown said. "He's really trying to push himself. I feel like he is on path to arrive on opening night in a

really good place."

Saric, 22, was taken 12th by Orlando in the 2014 NBA Draft but played in Turkey the past two seasons before signing with the 76ers in July. He is averaging 8.4 points and 4.0 rebounds in NBA pre-season games.

Saric seeks consistency after shooting 9-of-13 in two pre-season games, then going 2-for-19 until making his last three in a row.

"I rush the last couple games," Saric said. "Maybe because I'm still young, I tried to maybe show the people I can shoot, I can play maybe because I'm a little so excited to show everything. Maybe I need to slow down, step-by-step, and if I do that, I think everything will be fine." — AFP

NHL results/standings

Chicago 5, Toronto 4 (SO); Montreal 4, Boston 2; Tampa Bay 4, Ottawa 1; Detroit 3, San Jose 0; Florida 5, Colorado 2; New Jersey 2, Minnesota 1 (OT); Philadelphia 6, Carolina 3; NY Rangers 4, Washington 2; Nashville 5, Pittsburgh 1; Columbus 3, Dallas 0; Los Angeles 4, Vancouver 3 (SO); St. Louis 6, Calgary 4.

Western Conference

Central Division

	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
St. Louis	4	1	1	19	15	9
Minnesota	3	1	1	16	13	7
Colorado	3	2	0	16	16	6
Chicago	3	3	0	23	22	6
Dallas	2	2	1	14	16	5
Winnipeg	2	2	0	14	16	4
Nashville	2	3	0	15	15	4

Pacific Division

Vancouver	4	0	1	13	10	9
Edmonton	4	1	0	20	16	8
San Jose	3	3	0	14	18	6
Los Angeles	2	3	0	14	18	4
Anaheim	1	3	1	10	14	3
Calgary	1	4	1	18	27	3
Arizona	1	3	0	12	18	2

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

Montreal	4	0	1	20	9	9
Tampa Bay	4	1	0	17	14	8
Detroit	4	2	0	20	15	8
Florida	3	1	1	16	12	7
Boston	3	2	0	15	13	6
Ottawa	3	2	0	18	20	6
Toronto	1	1	3	18	19	5
Buffalo	1	2	1	11	12	3

Metropolitan Division

Washington	3	1	1	13	10	7
Pittsburgh	3	2	1	13	19	7
NY Rangers	3	2	0	19	14	6
Philadelphia	2	2	1	19	19	5
New Jersey	2	2	1	8	9	5
Columbus	2	2	0	11	11	4
NY Islanders	2	3	0	12	14	4
Carolina	1	2	2	16	20	4

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



DETROIT: San Jose Sharks defenseman Marc-Edouard Vlasic (44) defends Detroit Red Wings center Andreas Athanasiou (72) in the first period of an NHL hockey game in Detroit, Saturday. — AP

HOWARD, NYQUIST LEAD RED WINGS OVER SHARKS

DETROIT: Jimmy Howard made 30 saves and Gustav Nyquist scored twice, helping the Detroit Red Wings beat the San Jose Sharks 3-0 on Saturday night. Andreas Athanasiou also scored for Detroit, which won its fourth straight after losing its first two games of the season. San Jose goalie Martin Jones stopped 29 shots. The Sharks have lost three of four. Howard got his 23rd career shutout and his first this season. Nyquist scored twice in the second period to give Detroit a 2-0 lead.

FLYERS 6, HURRICANES 3

Jakub Voracek scored twice and the Flyers pulled away from the road-weary Hurricanes. Wayne Simmonds and Shayne Gostisbehere each had a goal and an assist, and the Flyers won for the first time at home this season and snapped a three-game winless streak. Brandon Manning and Matt Read also scored for the Flyers. Steve Mason made 27 saves for his first win of the season. Justin Faulk, Jordan Staal and Lee Stempniak scored for the Hurricanes, who fell to 1-2-2 on the fifth stop of their season-opening six-game road trip. Eddie Lack made 21 saves.

CANADIENS 4, BRUINS 2

Carey Price stopped 19 shots in his second start, and Brendan Gallagher and Phillip Danault each had second-period goals to lift the Canadiens to a win over the Bruins. Price, playing just his second game after a bout with the flu at the start of the season, missed most of last season with a right knee injury. He won his season debut, stopping 27 shots against Arizona on Thursday. Torrey Mitchell and Paul Byron also scored for Montreal, which has not lost in regulation through its first five games (4-0-1). Byron's goal was short-handed. Dominic Moore and Ryan Spooner scored for Boston, which is winless in its last nine games at home against its longtime rivals. Backup goalie Anton Khudobin made 25 saves.

PREDATORS 5, PENGUINS 1

Kevin Fiala and Viktor Arvidsson scored two goals each to lead the injury-riddled Predators to a victory over the defending champion Penguins. Calle Jarnkrok also scored and P.K. Subban and Filip Forsberg each added two assists for Nashville. Juse Saros had 34 shots for his first NHL victory as the Predators snapped a three-game skid. Scott Wilson scored early in the first period for Pittsburgh. Marc-Andre Fleury gave up the five goals on 23 shots through the first two periods before being replaced by Mike Condon, who stopped all seven shots he faced in the third. Arvidsson tied the score on the power play at 3:08 of the first period, and Fiala started a four-goal second with his first of the season at 2:26.

BLUE JACKETS 3, STARS 0

Sergei Bobrovsky made 32 saves in his 13th

career shutout and the Blue Jackets beat the Stars. The Blue Jackets won their second game in two nights after losing their first two games of the season. Dallas is 0-1-1 in the last two games, both at home. Josh Anderson, Scott Hartnell and Matt Calvert scored for Columbus. Anderson's goal came at 16:04 of the second period. Boone Jenner passed across the goal mouth and Anderson tapped in the puck from the left side before Dallas goalie Kari Lehtonen could slide back into position. Hartnell scored at 9:02 of the third period. Calvert added an empty-net goal with 1:12 to play. Columbus has won seven of the last 10 games between the teams. Bobrovsky is 8-1-1 in his career vs. Dallas. Lehtonen had 23 saves.

RANGERS 4, CAPITALS 2

Rookie Jimmy Vesey scored the tying and go-ahead goals 3 minutes apart in the second period to lead the Rangers to a victory over the Capitals. Rick Nash scored a late empty-net goal and had an assist as New York won its sixth game in eight visits to Washington. Brandon Pirri also scored in a three-goal second period that began the Rangers' comeback from two goals down en route to their first road win. Alex Ovechkin scored his third goal of the season to give Washington a 2-0 lead in the first. Lars Eller added his first goal as a member of the Capitals, who had a three-game win streak snapped and failed to earn at least a point for the first time this season. New York's Henrik Lundqvist made 26 saves. Braden Holtby stopped 22 shots for Washington.

BLACHAWKS 5, MAPLE LEAFS 4, SO

Jonathan Toews and Artemi Panarin scored in the shootout to give the Blackhawks a win over the Maple Leafs after Chicago came back with two late goals to force overtime. Artem Anisimov scored his second goal of the game on a rebound with 2:28 left to cut it to 4-3, then Richard Panik knocked in a loose puck in front of the goal 60 seconds later. Anisimov connected as Blackhawks goalie Scott Darling was heading to the bench for an extra attacker. Darling was on the bench when Panik tied it. Toronto rookie William Nylander scored twice for his first multi-goal game, with his second goal putting the Maple Leafs ahead 4-2 early in the third. But Toronto blew a lead in the final period for the third straight game and failed again to win at Chicago for the first time since February 2003.

PANTHERS 5, AVALANCHE 2

Shane Harper scored his first two NHL goals to lift the Panthers over the Avalanche. Vincent Trocheck and Jonathan Marchessault each had a goal and an assist and Aaron Ekblad also scored a goal for the Panthers while Roberto Luongo made 26 saves. Matt Duchene and Blake Comeau scored goals for the Avalanche. Semyon Varlamov made 33 stops. The Panthers blew the game open in the third period as they scored three of four goals in a span of 2:26. Ahead 2-1,

Marchessault skated in on a breakaway and fired the puck between the pads of Varlamov at 4:30 to make the score 3-1. Harper followed with his second goal of the game on a one-timer from in front to stretch the lead to 4-1. Duchene poked in a rebound past Luongo 16 seconds later to close the gap to 4-2. Trocheck slid a loose puck into the net at 6:56 to make the score 5-2.

LIGHTNING 4, SENATORS 1

Andrei Vasilevskiy made 27 saves, Vladislav Namestnikov and Steven Stamkos scored early in the second period, and the Lightning beat the Senators. Alex Killorn and Valteri Filppula also scored for the Lightning, who were playing their first road game of the season. Chris Neil scored the lone goal for the Senators, and Craig Anderson stopped 31 shots. Anderson was solid for much of the game for the Senators, but Killorn was able to sneak one through his right arm to give the Lightning a 3-1 lead midway through the third. It was Killorn's fourth goal of the season. Filppula made it 4-1 late in the third.

DEVILS 2, WILD 1, OT

Taylor Hall scored 29 seconds into overtime and the Devils rallied to beat the Wild. PA Parenteau tied it late in the third period and Cory Schneider made 28 saves for the Devils. They won at home for the second time in two games and ended the Wild's three-game winning streak. Joel Eriksson Ek scored for Minnesota in his NHL debut and Devan Dubnyk made 30 saves. It marked the second straight home game in which Hall has provided the winner. He carried the puck into the Wild zone, left it for Adam Henrique and then went to the net and took the return pass and beat Dubnyk between the pads. After being stoned by Dubnyk on their first 26 shots, Parenteau tied it with 8:04 left in regulation. The right wing took a cross-ice pass from Mike Cammalleri and beat Dubnyk with a shot from above the right circle for his second goal of the season.

BLUES 6, FLAMES 4

David Perron scored his first three goals of the season and added an assist to lead St. Louis. Paul Stastny, Patrik Berglund and Alexander Steen also scored for the Blues, while defenseman Alex Pietrangolo had two assists. Jake Allen made 23 saves to improve to 3-1-1. Kris Versteeg scored his first two goals of the season for the Flames, who lost their second straight at home. Micheal Ferland and Mark Giordano also scored, while Chad Johnson stopped 34 shots. Calgary took a 2-1 just 3 minutes into the second thanks to two quick goals by Versteeg and Ferland. The Blues then scored the next four goals, including two by Perron, to take control.

KINGS 4, CANUCKS 3, SO

Tanner Pearson scored for the fourth time this season and got the lone shootout goal as Los Angeles handed Vancouver its first loss.

Alexander Edler tied it for the Canucks on a power play with 34.4 seconds left in the third period. The Kings had a power play for the final 1:16 of overtime but Jacob Markstrom made two keys saves to send it into a shootout. Markstrom made 28 saves. Pressed into service after Jeff

Zatkoff injured his groin in the morning skate, Peter Budaj stopped 22 shots for his second straight win. Brayden McNabb and Dustin Brown also scored for Los Angeles. Markus Granlund and Henrik Sedin scored to help Vancouver overcome a three-goal deficit. — AP

CRUTCHLOW WINS IN AUSTRALIA AFTER MARC MARQUEZ ERROR

PHILLIP ISLAND: Cal Crutchlow seized on a blunder by new world champion Marc Marquez at Australia's Phillip Island yesterday to win only his second MotoGP.

The Briton, who turns 31 next week and was competing in his 103rd MotoGP, capitalised when Marquez made a mistake and crashed out on lap 10 while holding a big lead.

Crutchlow maintained a solid race pace on his LCR Honda to beat Italian great Valentino Rossi on his Movistar Yamaha by 4.218secs, with Spain's Maverick Vinales third on a Suzuki Ecstar. The race turned dramatically when Marquez, who claimed his third premier class world crown with victory in Japan last weekend, slid off his Repsol Honda into the gravel on Turn Four when in command.

Crutchlow swept to the front and held off the nine-time world champion Rossi until the chequered flag as Vinales and Andrea Dovizioso battled for third.

He became the first British winner of the Australian MotoGP. It was Crutchlow's second victory in premier class after beating Rossi and Marquez in this season's Czech MotoGP in August. "Someone asked me last week what I thought about going to Phillip Island and I said I planned to come and win... it's nice to win one in the wet and the dry because peo-

ple only think you can ride in the rain when you win in it," Crutchlow said.

"I had to stay strong, I thought my pace in the race was good and better than in other years here," Crutchlow said. "I was pleased to be able to take advantage when it came and we look forward to Malaysia now."

Crutchlow had memories of his crash at the same corner two years when he trailed race leader Rossi on the last lap at Phillip Island. "I didn't brake into that turn and took it quite easy. I was in the rhythm and so I continued with that and I rode comfortably to the finish," he said. "I didn't want to make the same mistake but I knew I had to keep pushing if we lost the heat in the front tyre."

"I was quite confident I may have caught Marc but when he crashed I tried to keep the same pace and in the last 10-12 laps I didn't really push, I just made sure I kept the heat in the front tyre."

"I was confident I could have won with Marc in the race and we now look forward to the last two races." Rossi greatly improved his chances of finishing runner-up this season with his second placing. He now leads teammate Jorge Lorenzo by 24 points heading into the final two races.

Rossi has now finished 16 times on the podium in 20 trips to Australia amid his eight wins across all classes at Phillip Island.

"This morning we discovered that we have good pace and step by step I came back and I try to reach Cal, but today he was too fast and too strong for me," Rossi said.

"Cal is always very fast around Phillip Island, he can interpret the track, and for me the second half of the race was difficult and I could not do." Pol Espargaro was fifth and Lorenzo sixth in Sunday's race, with two races left in the championship in Malaysia and Spain. Swiss Thomas Luthi pipped Franco Morbidelli on the line to win an exciting Moto2 and pull to within 22 points of French championship leader Johann Zarco with two races left. Newly-crowned world champion Brad Binder of South Africa stretched his lead in the world championship to 130 points after a dominant win in the Moto3 race.

Many of his rivals were among a total of 14 riders to crash out, with the race shortened to 10 laps under a red flag. — AFP



PHILLIP ISLAND: TOPSHOT - LCR Honda's British rider Cal Crutchlow celebrates his victory on the podium after the MotoGP race at the Australian Grand Prix at Phillip Island yesterday. — AFP

MINJEE LEE KEEPS RIVALS AT BAY FOR CHINA WIN

BEIJING: Australia's Minjee Lee beat back stiff competition from rivals to land her third LPGA victory at the Blue Bay tournament on China's Hainan Island yesterday.

Lee carded a two-under par 70 to win by one stroke at 13-under par, one ahead of Jessica Korda and two ahead of

Thailand's Ariya Jutanugarn on the par-72 course. Lee and Korda shared the leaderboard top spot heading into the final round, but the 20-year-old from Perth edged ahead of the American Sunday, firing a birdie at the first hole.

At the par-three seventh hole a birdie by Lee and a bogey by Korda extended

that lead to three and the Australian closed out the tournament with rounds of 65-67-73-70 for a total of 275.

Lee is projected to move up in the Rolex Women's World Golf rankings after her Blue Bay win. Having pocketed the \$315,000 first prize, she has almost \$2 million in career earnings since turning

professional in 2014.

"I feel like I've been playing really solid golf the whole year. I know I won in Hawaii, but getting a win this week, it feels really good. Just really happy," said Lee on her win. "I'm glad I came out on top but it was a really good fight out there." Korda can take heart in her per-

formance, carding 67-72-66-71 and a total of 276 for her best finish of 2016, as she prepares for the SIME Darby LPGA in Malaysia where she is defending champion. Jutanugarn posted a final round two-under par 70 to finish third for her 14th top ten finish of the year, including five victories. —AFP

PAKISTAN BUILD COMMANDING LEAD OVER WEST INDIES

ABU DHABI: Openers Azhar Ali and Sami Aslam hit half-centuries to help Pakistan strengthen their grip on the third day of the second Test against West Indies in Abu Dhabi yesterday. Ali was unbeaten on 52 and Asad Shafiq five not out as Pakistan reached 114-1 at stumps, increasing their lead to 342 after dismissing West Indies for 224 in their first innings.

That had given Pakistan a first innings lead of 228 and left them firmly in control as they look to claim an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Pakistan won the first Test-a day-night affair played with a pink ball — by 56 runs to take a 1-0 advantage.

But despite the West Indies falling 29 runs short of avoiding the follow-on, Pakistan skipper Misbah-ul-Haq decided not to enforce it and batted again.

Both Ali and Aslam survived leg-before decisions through referrals after on-field umpire Michael Gough had raised his finger on both occasions. Gough has now seen four of his decisions overturned in the match with fellow English umpire Richard Illingworth forced to change his initial verdict three times.

Aslam was finally dismissed when he was caught behind off paceman Shannon Gabriel for 50, although only after West Indian captain Jason Holder called for a review.

Pakistan will look to stretch their lead

even further to leave the West Indies up against it on a wearing fourth and fifth day pitch at Sheikh Zayed Stadium.

Earlier, West Indies added just 118 to their overnight score before they were bowled out at tea with Pakistani leg-spinner Yasir Shah taking 4-86. Holder (31) and Gabriel (13) frustrated Pakistan with a 27-run last wicket stand before Shah took the final wicket of Gabriel, caught at mid-on to end the innings.

"We are in a commanding position," said Shah. "We know the pitch will help spinners from tomorrow onwards so if we get a lead of 500 then we can press for a win."

"It was good to get four wickets but I was facing a bit of difficulty after bowling with the pink ball in the first Test and then switching to red here." Shah also dismissed Roston Chase (22) and Shai Hope (11) after lunch while fast bowler Sohail Khan bowled Miguel Cummins (three) to finish with 2-35. Resuming at 106-4, West Indies lost overnight batsman Jermaine Blackwood in the seventh over of the day when he edged Rahat Ali to wicket-keeper Sarfraz Ahmed after scoring just eight.

Chase and nightwatchman Devendra Bishoo both survived lbw appeals but Sohail had the last laugh as he clean bowled Bishoo for 20, leaving West Indies struggling at 144-6. The third and final Test will be played in Sharjah from October 30-November 3. —AFP



MOHALI: India's Virat Kohli plays a shot during the third one day international (ODI) match between Indian and New Zealand at The Punjab Cricket Stadium Association Stadium in Mohali yesterday. — AFP

KOHLI TON POWERS INDIA TO 7-WICKET WIN OVER NZ

MOHALI: Virat Kohli struck a magnificent hundred as he joined forces with skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni to power India to a comprehensive seven-wicket win over New Zealand in the third one-day international in Mohali yesterday.

Kohli (154 not out) and Dhoni (80) put together a 151-run stand for the third wicket to help India achieve their 286-run target in 48.2 overs as the hosts took a 2-1 lead in the five-match series.

The batting duo not only put the innings back on track after India lost their openers early but also took the attack to the opposition bowling. Kohli, who hit 16 fours and a six during his 134-ball knock, dominated the New Zealand bowling as he hit the ball to all parts of the ground. Recording his 26th ODI ton, he made the most of a reprieve after he was dropped on six by Ross Taylor at gully off Matt Henry to consolidate his position as India's batting mainstay.

Dhoni, who recorded his 61st ODI fifty and went past the 9000-run mark, hit three towering sixes during his 91-ball stay but once again failed to finish off his opponents.

The 35-year-old, whose laboured knock in the previous game failed to take India over the line, scored his first fifty in a year after he promoted himself to number four.

Henry broke the big stand after Dhoni mistimed a delivery to short cover, the fielder strategically placed in that position for the wicket-keeper-batsman. Manish Pandey made sure that he gave Kohli the perfect support to canter home in dew-laden conditions at the Mohali Stadium. Pandey, who scored 28, and Kohli put on an unbeaten 97-run partnership to bring the home crowd to life.

Earlier Tom Latham and James Neesham struck fighting half-centuries and a late-order

SCOREBOARD	
MOHALI, India: Scoreboard of the third one-day international between India and New Zealand in Mohali yesterday.	
New Zealand	
M. Guptill lbw b Yadav	27
T. Latham c Pandya b Jadhav	61
K. Williamson lbw b Jadhav	22
R. Taylor st Dhoni b Mishra	44
C. Anderson c Rahane b Jadhav	6
L. Ronchi st Dhoni b Mishra	1
J. Neesham c Jadhav b Yadav	57
M. Santner c Kohli b Bumrah	7
T. Southee b Yadav	13
M. Henry not out	39
T. Bourt b Bumrah	1
Extras (w7)	7
Total (all out; 49.4 overs)	285
Fall of wickets: 1-46 (Guptill), 2-80 (Williamson), 3-153 (Taylor), 4-160 (Anderson), 5-161 (Ronchi), 6-169 (Latham), 7-180 (Santner), 8-199 (Southee), 9-283 (Neesham), 10-285 (Boult)	
India (target 286)	
R. Sharma lbw b Southee	13
A. Rahane c Santner b Henry	5
V. Kohli not out	154
M.S. Dhoni c Taylor b Henry	80
M. Pandey not out	28
Extras (lb2, w7)	9
Total (3 wickets; 48.2 overs)	289
Fall of wickets: 1-13 (Rahane), 2-41 (Sharma), 3-192 (Dhoni)	
Bowling: Henry 9.2-0-56-2, Boult 10-0-73-0, Southee 10-0-55-1, Santner 10-0-43-0, Neesham 9-0-60-0	
Did not bat: K. Jadhav, H. Pandya, A. Patel, A. Mishra, J. Bumrah, U. Yadav	
Result: India won by 7 wickets.	

flourish helped New Zealand post a competitive 285. The visitors suffered a batting slump after Latham fell for 61 but Neesham struck a 47-ball 57 to frustrate the Indian bowling attack. Umesh Yadav and Kedar Jadhav took three wickets each to reduce New Zealand to 199 for eight, but Neesham put on 84 for the ninth wicket with Henry before the visitors were bowled out with two balls to go. The left-handed Neesham, who recorded his maiden ODI fifty, struck seven boundaries while Henry scored an unbeaten 37-ball 39 with the help of four fours and a six.

Part-time spinner Jadhav, who has built a reputation for getting big wickets at crucial jun-

ctures, then spun into action to have skipper Kane Williamson lbw for 22.

Latham put on 73 for the third wicket with Taylor (44), the pair apparently at ease on a friendly batting wicket. Leg-spinner Amit Mishra and Jadhav worked in tandem to rattle the middle order as the visitors slipped from 153 for two to lose their next six wickets in 9.3 overs.

Neesham and Henry took the fight to the position as the Black Caps added 44 in the last five overs, but in the end the effort went in vain.

The two teams now head to Dhoni's hometown of Ranchi for the fourth ODI on Wednesday. — AFP

SCOREBOARD	
ABU DHABI: Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the second Test between Pakistan and West Indies played at Sheikh Zayed Stadium yesterday:	
Pakistan first innings 452 (Younis Khan 127, Misbah-ul-Haq 96; S. Gabriel 5-96)	(Brathwaite, 5-121 (Blackwood), 6-144 (Bishoo), 7-169 (Chase), 8-178 (Hope), 9-197 (Cummins) Bowling: Rahat 21-8-45-3, Sohail 19-8-35-2, Babar 21-6-39-0, Shafiq 1-0-2-0, Shah 28.4-6-86-4, Nawaz 4-1-8-0 (1nb))
West Indies first innings (overnight 106-4)	
L. Johnson lbw b Rahat	12
D. Bravo lbw b Shah	43
K. Brathwaite run out	21
M. Samuels c Aslam b Rahat	30
D. Bishoo b Sohail	20
J. Blackwood c Ahmed b Rahat	8
R. Chase c Shafiq b Shah	22
S. Hope b Shah	11
J. Holder not out	31
M. Cummins b Sohail	3
S. Gabriel c Sohail b Shah	13
Extras: (b2, lb7, nb1)	10
Total: (all out; 94.4 overs)	224
Fall of wickets: 1-27 (Johnson), 2-65 (Bravo), 3-106 (Samuels), 4-106	
Pakistan second innings	
Sami Aslam c Hope b Gabriel	50
Azhar Ali not out	52
Asad Shafiq not out	5
Extras: (b4, lb1, nb2)	7
Total: (for one wkt; 39 overs)	114
To bat: Younis Khan, Misbah-ul-Haq, Sarfraz Ahmed, Mohammad Nawaz, Yasir Shah, Sohail Khan, Zulfiqar Babar, Rahat Ali	
Fall of wicket: 1-93 (Aslam)	
Bowling: Gabriel 8-1-21-1 (2nb), Cummins 3-0-5-0, Brathwaite 13-2-27-0, Bishoo 12-0-45-0, Holder 3-0-11-0.	



ABU DHABI: Pakistani batsman Sami Aslam avoids the bouncer on the third day of the second Test between Pakistan and the West Indies at the Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi yesterday. — AFP

SCOREBOARD	
CHITTAGONG: Scoreboard yesterday at stumps on the fourth day of the first test between Bangladesh and England at Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium:	
England 1st Innings: 293	
Bangladesh 1st Innings: 248	
England 2nd Innings: 240	
Tamim Iqbal c Ballance b Ali	9
Imrul Kayes c Root b Rashid	43
Mominul Haque lbw Batty	27
Mahmudullah lbw Batty	17
Shakib Al Hasan c Bairstow b Ali	24
Mushfiquur Rahim c Ballance b Batty	39
Sabbir Rahman not out	59
Mehedi Hasan lbw Broad	1
Kamrul Islam c Ballance b Broad	0
Tajjul Islam not out	11
Extras: (9b, 13lb, 1w)	23
TOTAL: (For 8 wickets)	253.
Overs: 78.	
Still to bat: Shafiqul Islam.	
Fall of wickets: 1-35, 2-81, 3-103, 4-108, 5-140, 6-227, 7-234, 8-238.	
Bowling: Gareth Batty 17-3-65-3, Moeen Ali 14-2-60-2, Chris Woakes 7-3-10-0, Adil Rashid 17-2-55-1, Stuart Broad 13-4-26-2, Ben Stokes 10-2-15-0 (1w).	

BANGLADESH NEEDS 33 RUNS FOR VICTORY VS ENGLAND

CHITTAGONG: The first test between England and Bangladesh remains finely poised with Bangladesh requiring 33 runs with two wickets remaining to take the lead in the two-match series.

Before bad light brought a premature end to the day, Bangladesh made 253-8, chasing 286 for victory after a seesaw battle on the fourth day. Sabbir Rahman remained not out on 59 and will be crucial for Bangladesh to secure its first victory against England.

Rahman and Mushfiquur Rahim combined for an 87-run sixth-wicket partnership to raise the hope of a famous victory. "Tomorrow if we bat 10-15 overs, we will get that target. We have to get in there, spend as much time as possible in the middle," Bangladesh coach Chandika Hathurusingha said. "I am a bit disappointed that we could have been ahead of the game in the first innings, more than what we are now. We are chasing the lead that we conceded in the first innings." England fought back in the late afternoon and claimed three wickets for 11 runs to leave Bangladesh on 238-8, before Tajjul Islam (11 not out) helped Rahman weather the storm to keep Bangladesh alive.

The home side kept the target attainable, bowling England out for 240 in its second innings early Sunday. England survived just 4.2 overs to add 12 runs to its overnight total of 228-8. "Ideally it would have been great to

have finished the test match today," England fast bowler Stuart Broad said. "From our point of view as a team, to go back to the hotel, get some rest, be refreshed for that first hour tomorrow." "The batsmen have to play themselves in again. There has been quite a few wickets in that first hour every morning. We are not too disappointed to come off as a team. We have to make sure our intensity is very high." Bangladesh made an aggressive start with Imrul Kayes employing his feet well to neutralize the threat of spinners.

He and Tamim Iqbal added a quick 35 before Iqbal was deceived by the turn and bounce on a Moeen Ali delivery and got an inside edge to short leg.

Kayes and Mominul Haque then combined for 46 runs in just 10.2 overs, but Kayes fell two overs short of lunch as he top-edged a sweep on an Adil Rashid ball, with Joe Root at slip making the catch behind the wicket-keeper. Kayes sent the ball over the rope six times in his 61-ball knock. The visitors took the upper hand in the post-lunch session by taking three quick wickets.

Offspinner Gareth Batty dealt a double in his consecutive overs after lunch to get England back on track. He won a video review to dismiss Mominul Haque for 27 and removed Mahmudullah, who took a review in vain, for 17. Just when Shakib Al Hasan appeared to take the side to safety, offspinner

Ali again struck with a delivery that shaped in to take the inside edge of Shakib for 24.

Rahman joined Rahim and counterattacked to put England bowlers in disarray. While Rahman was aggressive, Rahim's approach was serene and Bangladesh regained control. Batty could only distract Rahim from his task when he got extra bounce to undo him, bringing an end to an 87-run partnership.

Rahim batted for almost three hours and played 134 balls in his 39-run knock. Rahman

by then hit three fours and two sixes to reach his maiden fifty off 76 balls but restrained himself as the day approached the business end. Stuart Broad, however, sent fuller-length deliveries perfectly to remove Mehedi Hasan (1) and Kamrul Islam (0). As England appeared to be heading for victory, Tajjul Islam stood tall to aid Rahman in ending the day without any further loss. Offspinner Gareth Batty took 3-65. Fast bowler Stuart Broad (2-26) and off-spinner Moeen Ali (2-60) claimed two wickets apiece. — AP



CHITTAGONG: Bangladesh Sabbir Rahman (L) and captain Mushfiquur Rahim run between wickets during the fourth day of the first Test match between Bangladesh and England at Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Cricket Stadium in Chittagong yesterday. — AFP

TOP-SEEDED KERBER TOILS TO WIN OVER CIBULKOVA AT WTA FINALS

SINGAPORE: Top-seeded Angelique Kerber struggled to defeat seventh-seeded Dominika Cibulkova 7-6 (5), 2-6, 6-3 on the opening day of the WTA Finals in Singapore yesterday.

Kerber, who secured the top ranking last month, battled Cibulkova for 2 hours, 17 minutes before the Slovakian finally succumbed. "It was a really good match from both of us, especially the first set," Kerber said. "It's a good start to the tournament like this, where you knew you had to play your best to win."

Earlier yesterday, third-seeded Simona Halep won the first match of the round-robin portion of the tournament by taking a 6-2, 6-4 decision over sixth-seeded American Madison Keys. In Red Group action, Kerber and Halep stand at 1-0, while Keys and Cibulkova are at 0-1.

Tomorrow, Kerber will play Halep, while Cibulkova and Keys, both making their WTA Finals debut, will play each other. Kerber posted 29 winners and 32 unforced errors to 36 winners and 34 unforced errors for Cibulkova.

Cibulkova dropped serve in the opening game of the match, which initially allowed Kerber to establish a 4-2 lead in the first set. Kerber didn't hold on to the advantage, surrendering her own serve on a second double-fault in the eighth game.

That sent the first set to a tiebreaker where the German eventually prevailed. "At the beginning I was too excited, but after a few games I started to play my game," Cibulkova said. "It was a really

tough one, really close, and in these kind of games it's about the small details."

Cibulkova dominated the second set, racing to 4-0 lead. In the third, Cibulkova was temporarily in charge with a 2-0 lead, but lost five of the next six games to end up on the losing side of the result.

It's been a stellar season for Kerber, who won her first two Grand Slam titles at the Australian and US Opens, and also brought home the Olympic silver medal from Rio. Kerber's never journeyed beyond the round-robin stage of the WTA Finals in three previous appearances in 2012, 2013 and 2015.

In the opening match, Keys played erratic tennis throughout the 69-minute contest, losing serve on four of 10 break points faced.

"I definitely think there were some nerves," Keys said. "I think one of her strengths is making you feel like you have to go for more and take the risks. I think sometimes she makes me uncomfortable and I back away from playing my game."

Keys held serve in the opening game of the match, but then saw Halep win the next five games for a 5-1 lead in the first set. Halep lost an initial 4-2 lead in the second set, but from 4-4 won the final two games. The Romanian reached the final here in 2014 and now holds a 5-1 head-to-head record against Keys. "I think I played exactly what I had to play against her," Halep said. "I was focused. Everything went as I wanted, so I'm happy." — AP



SINGAPORE: Angelique Kerber of Germany makes a backhand return to Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia during their singles match at the WTA tennis tournament in Singapore, yesterday. — AP

PINTURAUPT BEATS HIRSCHER IN OPENING WORLD CUP RACE

SOELDEN: Alexis Pinturault carried his outstanding giant slalom form from last year into the new World Cup campaign, dominating the season-opener yesterday to leave his rivals in awe. Having finished runner-up to Marcel Hirscher in the discipline standings for the past two years, the Frenchman won both runs on the Rettenbach glacier to immediately position himself as the main contender for the title.

"It's all completely new when you start a new season. Everything you've done before is over," said Pinturault after his commanding victory and his seventh straight podium in GS. Pinturault finished in a two-run time of 2 minutes, 14.01 seconds to lead defending overall champion Hirscher by 0.70. Felix Neureuther of Germany was 1.37 behind in third while Zan Kranjec of Slovenia took fourth for his first career top-10 result.

Olympic and world GS champion Ted Ligety improved from 14th position after the opening run to fifth, 1.65 seconds off the lead. The American competed in his first race since tearing the ACL in his right knee nine months ago. Only three of the last 37 World Cup giant slaloms have not been won by Pinturault, Hirscher or Ligety.

Pinturault built on his first-run lead to take his 16th career win and seventh in GS, matching the French record set by great Jean-Claude Killy in 1967-68.

"That's not really my goal," Pinturault said of chasing records. "Jean-Claude is one of the biggest French skiers of all time but there are so many other great skiers. I am just thinking about taking risks and skiing fast." Pinturault was clean in both runs and wasn't hampered by changing conditions. After a sun-soaked opening run, partly cloudy conditions dominated during the final run. "One thing is really easy in ski racing," he said. "There is no

strategy. You always have to push and go faster." Pinturault and Hirscher each won four GS races last season, while the Austrian captured the season title in the discipline.

The Frenchman's convincing performance made him the favorite for the GS title this time, maybe even for the overall title, Hirscher said. "If you watch at last year's season more in detail, you will see that Alexis in 2016 was dominating. He was flying through the gates," the Austrian said. "He is maybe the favorite for the overall. He can ski in all events so for me he is the man to beat." Hirscher, who hinted he wasn't satisfied with his own form in training, said he was "super happy" with finishing runner-up, especially since recovering from a near-crash halfway down his second run.

Third-placed Neureuther also said Pinturault skied "in a league of his own."

"I had two solid runs and did not make too many mistakes but Alexis and Marcel were out of reach today," the German said.

After a rather conservative opening run, Ligety showed flashes of his usual strength and used his trademark fast transition from the steep pitch onto the flat finish section to post the third-best time in the final run.

Coming fifth made him "not euphoric" but Ligety said he was "definitely happy with fifth place to start it off with" coming back from the knee injury that hampered his preparation in the offseason.

"My body feels good, I don't have any pain in my knee," said Ligety, who won here last year for a record fourth time and has never finished outside the top 10 in 10 starts. Ligety will skip the next race - a slalom in Levi, Finland, in three weeks - and fully concentrate on the next GS in Beaver Creek, Colorado, during the first weekend of December.—AP



SOELDON: (L to R) Second placed Marcel Hirscher of Austria, winner Alexis Pinturault of France and third placed Felix Neureuther of Germany celebrate with their trophies on the podium of the winner's presentation of the men's giant slalom of the FIS ski world cup in Soelden, Austria yesterday. — AFP



CHICAGO: The Chicago Cubs pose after defeating the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-0 in game six of the National League Championship Series to advance to the World Series against the Cleveland Indians at Wrigley Field on Saturday in Chicago, Illinois. — AFP

CUBS BEAT DODGERS 5-0 TO REACH FIRST WORLD SERIES SINCE 1945

CHICAGO: The Chicago Cubs won their first National League pennant since 1945 and are a step closer to ending a 108-year World Series drought after beating the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-0 on Saturday to clinch a 4-2 victory in the NL Championship Series.

Chicago's Kyle Hendricks outpitched Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw while Anthony Rizzo and Willson Contreras homered early at Wrigley Field. The pennant drought ended when closer Aroldis Chapman got Yasiel Puig to ground into a double play, setting off wild celebrations among the success-starved fans.

The Cubs will open the World Series at Cleveland tomorrow. The Indians haven't won it since 1948. "This city deserves it so much," Rizzo said. "We got four more big ones to go, but we're going to enjoy this. We're going to the World Series. I can't even believe that."

Hendricks pitched 7-1/3 scoreless innings. Aroldis Chapman took over and closed with hitless relief, then threw both arms in the air as he was mobbed by teammates and coaches.

Javier Baez and pitcher Jon Lester shared the MVP award for the series. Baez hit .318, drove in five runs and made several sharp plays at second base. Lester, a former World Series champion in Boston, had a 1.38 earned run average in two starts. The eternal "wait till next year" is over. No more dwelling on a history of failure - the future is now. "We're too young. We don't care about it," star slugger Kris Bryant said. "We don't look into it. This is a new team, this is a completely different time of our lives. We're enjoying it and our work's just getting started."

The Cubs shook off back-to-back shutout losses earlier in this series by pouncing the Dodgers for 23 runs to win the final three games. And they were in no way overwhelmed by the moment on Saturday, putting aside previous frustration.

In 1945, the Billy Goat Curse supposedly began when a tavern owner wasn't allowed to bring his goat to Wrigley. In 2003, the Cubs lost the final three games of the NLCS to Florida, punctuated with a Game 6 defeat when a fan reached out to snare a ball that would have been caught by an outfielder, allowing a Marlins rally that turned the course of the series.

Even as recently as 2012, the Cubs lost 101 games. This time, no such ill luck. Bryant drove in one run and scored in a two-run first. Dexter Fowler added two hits, drove in a run and scored

one. Contreras led off the fourth with a homer. Rizzo continued his resurgence with a solo drive in the fifth. Hendricks left to a standing ovation after allowing a single with one out in the eighth. The only other hit Hendricks allowed was on the game's first pitch.

Kershaw, dominant in Game 2 shutout, gave up five runs before being lifted for a pinch hitter in the sixth. He fell to 4-7 in postseason games over his career; a stark contrast to his dominance in regular season games.

The Dodgers haven't been to the World Series

since winning in 1988. Pitching on five days' rest, the three-time NL Cy Young Award winner was forced to throw 30 pitches in the first inning alone. Fowler led off with a double, and Bryant's single had the crowd shaking the 102-year-old ballpark. They had more to cheer when left fielder Andrew Toles dropped Rizzo's fly, putting runners on second and third, and Ben Zobrist made it 2-0 a sacrifice fly. The Cubs added a run in the second when Addison Russell doubled to deep left and scored on a two-out single by Fowler. — AP

BAEZ, LESTER SHARE NLCS MVP AWARD

CHICAGO: When Jon Lester was a free agent two years ago, one of the reasons he decided to sign with the Chicago Cubs was a group of promising prospects that included all-around dynamo Javier Baez.

Look where they are now. Lester and Baez were selected co-MVPs for the NL Championship Series on Saturday night after leading the Cubs to their first NL pennant since 1945. Baez hit .318 (7 for 22) with five RBIs against the Dodgers, picking up right where he left off in the Division Series. The versatile Baez also made a couple of the NLCS' most exciting plays, stealing home during Chicago's victory in the opener and robbing Adrian Gonzalez of a hit with a terrific barehanded scoop in Game 5 on Thursday night.

"Just having fun," Baez said. "Living my dream, playing like a little kid, moving everywhere, catching the ball and making plays."

Next up for Baez and the Cubs is the World Series against Francisco Lindor and the Indians, beginning Tuesday night in Cleveland. Baez and Lindor are part of a dynamic group of young players from Puerto Rico that also includes Houston shortstop Carlos Correa.

Baez "grew up in Puerto Rico, played a lot of baseball as a youth, played a lot of winter ball," manager Joe Maddon said. "He's been taught properly and well. And when he goes

out there, man, you saw him before the game sitting on the bench, saw him waving into the camera, he's just being himself. I love that."

Lester, one of baseball's most accomplished playoff performers, went 1-0 with a 1.38 ERA in two starts against Los Angeles. He has allowed just two runs in 21 innings in three postseason games this year.

Lester's \$155 million, six-year deal in December 2014 was a key moment in the Cubs' turnaround from also-ran to contender. The left-hander is a sure bet to get the ball in Game 1 against the Indians, looking to improve to 4-0 in four World Series starts after helping Boston win it all in 2007 and 2013.

"It's unbelievable. Going through this process, this is why they signed me," Lester said. "This is why they wanted me to come here to win a World Series. This is why I wanted to come here, to win a World Series for this city and this organization, this ownership, this front office. ... We still have a long ways to go."

Lester and Baez became the first NLCS co-MVPs since Cincinnati relievers Rob Dibble and Randy Myers in 1990.

The Cubs grabbed Baez with the ninth overall pick in the 2011 amateur draft. He made his major league debut in 2014, but really turned into a consistent force this year, batting .273 with 14 homers and 59 RBIs while playing several different positions. — AP

US STAR WAGNER WINS SKATE AMERICA TITLE

CHICAGO: Ashley Wagner, a three-time US champion and this year's world championship runnerup, captured her second Skate America women's crown Saturday after finishing second in the free skate.

Wagner took the title with 196.44 points to 121.59 for Mariah Bell, the 20-year-old American who won the free skate in only her second ISU Grand Prix event.

Bell set a personal best of 130.67 to win the free skate with Wagner next on 126.94 and Japanese teen Mai Mihara third on 123.53 to finish third overall on 189.28. Wagner, who also won the short program Friday, said she took momentum from her world second-place effort on home ice in Boston earlier this year into the event.

"That was huge," Wagner said. "The short program was one of my world class programs. That free program, I left it all on the table." At 25, she is skating at an age when many are leaving the sport.

"I'm not good at anything else. That's all I have," she said with a smile. "I love what I'm doing." Wagner, who also won the 2012 Skate America crown, captured US titles in 2012, 2013 and 2015 and took a bronze medal in the team event at the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.

Bell, eighth at last year's Skate America in her only prior Grand Prix start, was shocked to find herself on the podium.

"I feel like I don't know what's going on," she said. "I skated a program that I'm really proud of. To be on the podium, I'm speechless." It might be the shape of things to come for the US women with the next Winter

Olympics in South Korea only 16 months away. "I'm starting to realize my own potential and believe in myself, which is really cool," Bell said. "I'm really excited for the future." Mihara, a 17-year-old from Kobe making her Grand Prix debut, was second after the short program. She denied the hosts the first women's podium sweep at Skate America since Michelle Kwan led the way 20 years ago after reigning US champion Gracie Gold, a hometown hero who was third in the short program, fell twice in the free skate and settled for fifth.

Gold, 21, has won two of the past three US titles and was fourth at the 2014 Winter Olympics as well as the past two World Championships. Japanese 18-year-old Shoma Uno, who earlier this year became the first skater to land a quadruple flip in international competition, won the men's short program with 89.15 points.

Uno was last year's Skate America runnerup in his senior-level Grand Prix debut and third in last season's Grand Prix Final at Barcelona.

Reigning US champion Adam Rippon was second on 87.32 with 2015 American champion Jason Brown third on 85.75. Chicago hometown favorite Brown missed most of last season with a back injury and was unable to defend his crown earlier this year. Pairs gold went to the young Canadian duo of Julianne Seguin and Charlie Bilodeau, ahead of Americans Haven Denney and Brandon Frazier with Russians Evgenia Tarasova and Vladimir Morozov third. Men's and ice dance titles will be decided tonight. — AFP



CHICAGO: Ashley Wagner of USA celebrates winning first place in the ladies program at 2016 Progressive Skate America on Saturday in Chicago, Illinois. — AFP

LIPPI TO NET MILLIONS AS CHINA COACH: MEDIA

BEIJING: Marcello Lippi will earn almost \$5 million a year as China coach but will pocket far more through a tie-in with a football academy, state media said yesterday.

The 68-year-old Italian was named boss of the national team by the Chinese Football Association on Saturday and has the tricky goal of steering the Asian giant to qualify for the 2018 World Cup—a near impossible feat given recent losses to Uzbekistan and war-torn Syria.

Lippi's annual salary "should be in the

region of 4.5 million euros (\$4.9 million)" said state broadcaster CCTV on an official social media account. But the offer made to the Italian also includes income from Guangzhou Evergrande's football academy which will pay "Lippi and his team" 15.5 million euros annually to act as official "advisors" for the establishment, CCTV said.

The club, which is riding high atop the Chinese Super League, did not confirm the figure when contacted by AFP. Lippi coached Evergrande to great

heights, leading the side to three consecutive Super League titles between 2012 and 2014.

He was due to work with the club next season, but Evergrande announced Saturday it was breaking the agreement so the Italian could take the reins at a national level.

Lippi is committed to Guangzhou's football academy until "the end of January 2019", CCTV said. The CFA did not give details about the length of Lippi's contract.

The Southern Metropolis Daily, based in Guangzhou, quoted sources close to the Italian as saying that "as well as the CFA, the highest levels of government also invited Lippi" to coach the national side, a move that had "a direct bearing on his decision".

Improving the level of football at club and national level has been a priority for President Xi Jinping who, even before taking office, underlined his ambitions for China to qualify for the World Cup, to host the event and to one day win it.

Lippi, who masterminded Italy to their most recent World Cup triumph in 2006, has his work cut out in his latest assignment. China, the most populous nation on Earth, languish a lowly 84th in the FIFA world rankings—sandwiched between Kenya and Guatemala.

They have claimed just one point from four games in the latest World Cup qualification phase and are bottom in Group A, which includes Iran, Uzbekistan, South Korea, Syria and Qatar. —AFP

SCOLARI LEADS GUANGZHOU TO SIXTH STRAIGHT CHINA TITLE

BEIJING: Despite the hundreds of millions of dollars spent by a growing number of Chinese Super League clubs in 2016, Guangzhou Evergrande continues to dominate, winning a sixth straight title yesterday. Luiz Felipe Scolari made it two championships since arriving in June 2015 as the club was held 1-1 by Yanbian Funde but moved seven points clear of Jiangsu Suning in second with two games remaining. Guangzhou has dominated most of the season, helped by Brazilian internationals Paulinho, who scored against Yanbian, and Ricardo Goulart, the league's leading scorer, as well as a number of top Chinese players.

"Guangzhou are a worthy champion for sure," Mads Davidsen, assistant coach at fourth-placed Shanghai SIPG, told The Associated Press. "This is the sixth title in a row, so no doubt they are still the strongest team in China." Despite the dominance, the signs are promising for the Chinese Super League. The overall average attendance is set to finish close to the 25,000 mark this season, up from just over 22,000 in 2015. Once again, it is the highest in Asia.

"The fever here for football is something I have not seen before," Choi Yong-soo, the South Korean coach of Jiangsu, was quoted as saying by FIFA. "The stadium and the fans, it's all huge."

Chinese clubs such as Guangzhou, Jiangsu, Shanghai SIPG and Hebei CFFC spent over \$400 million in the winter transfer window on stars such as Alex Teixeira, Ramires, Jackson Martinez and Ezequiel Lavezzi. In the summer, Shanghai spent more than \$60 million on Brazilian striker Hulk. Choi believes that all the investment will make a difference. "The infrastructure is well-established and the management system of the club is well-organized," he said. "They essentially have laid out the groundwork for further growth. It is an indisputable fact that Chinese football is developing at an unprecedented pace."

The season also saw a number of prominent foreign coaches depart and arrive. Former AC Milan and Juventus boss Alberto Zaccaroni and ex-Brazil head coach Mano Menezes were fired in the first

half of the season by Beijing Guoan and Shandong Luneng, respectively. Menezes was replaced by former Bayern Munich boss Felix Magath, while ex-Real Madrid and Manchester City boss Manuel Pellegrini took over Hebei CFFC in August.

Scolari, who has lost just three league games in his time in China, is one of three coaches in the running to be named Chinese Super League coach of the year, along with Spaniard Gregorio Manzano of Shanghai Shenhua and Henan Jianye's Jia Xiuquan.

"I want to say thank you to the players for their efforts and the fans for supporting us so well," said Scolari. "This win was not easy. The league is getting tougher all the time and so it is very satisfactory to win the title once again."

Davidsen agrees that standards are rising. "We now have six or seven quite equal teams as Jiangsu, Shenhua and Hebei has stepped up this season," said the Dane, adding that big-spending Tianjin, promoted from the second tier with coach Fabio Cannavaro, will continue to invest in the top tier ahead of 2017. "Tianjin will probably finish in the top half as they have massive finances."

Scolari is expected to leave Guangzhou at the end of the season though the Brazilian refused to comment on his future on Sunday. Marcello Lippi, who led Guangzhou to three championships from 2012 to 2014, had been set to return before it was announced on Saturday that the Italian had been appointed as the national team head coach.

The appointment was warmly received as an up-and-down year for the national team enters its final weeks. In March, China made the third round of qualification for the 2018 World Cup for the first time since 2002. One point from the first four games in Group A triggered the resignation of Gao Hongbo on Oct. 11.

Lippi will take control of China for the first time after Qatar on Nov. 15. His first activity as the national team boss was to go and watch former club Guangzhou secure yet another title. —AP



CROTONE: Napoli's Spanish midfielder Jose Maria Callejon (R) scores during the Italian Serie A football match between FC Crotona and SSC Napoli at Ezio Scida stadium in Crotona yesterday. — AFP

NAPOLI ENDS LOSING STREAK, INTER LOSE AGAIN IN SERIE A

ROME: A visit to last-place Crotona was just what Napoli needed to end a three-match losing streak. Despite losing center forward Manolo Gabbiadini to a red card, ten-man Napoli won 2-1 yesterday to spoil Crotona's first Serie A match in its home stadium. Jose Callejon scored 17 minutes in and Nikola Maksimovic doubled the lead in the 33rd, shortly after Gabbiadini was sent off. Alejandro Rosi pulled one back for Crotona in the 89th.

Gabbiadini was on the ground after being fouled by Gian Marco Ferrari and reacted by flicking his boot into the back of Ferrari's leg. It was Gabbiadini's first red card in 153 career Serie A matches. Ferrari was shown a yellow. Both of Napoli's goals were aided by poor defense. Callejon redirected the ball in by the far post after a cross from Dries Mertens was deflected right toward him. Recently called up to Spain's national team, Callejon has been involved in a league-best eight goals this season with six goals and two assists. Maksimovic also scored near the far post, following a corner. Napoli had lost two straight in Serie A and was also beaten by Besiktas in the Champions League this week. Napoli moved back into third, four points behind Juventus and two behind AC Milan, which beat Juve 1-0 on Saturday.

Promoted to the top division for the first time in its 106-year history, Crotona played its first three home matches 600 kilometers (375 miles) away in Pescara while its Ezio Scida stadium was expanded to meet league regulations. The Calabrian club remained with one point. Later, Roma can move back above Milan into second with a win over visiting Palermo and Bologna faces Sassuolo in an Emilia-Romagna derby. Here's a look at the rest of the action in the Italian league yesterday:

ATALANTA 2, INTER MILAN 1

The crisis for first-year manager Frank de Boer deepened with Inter's third consecutive league loss. Mauricio Pinilla scored the winner for Atalanta with a penalty two minutes from time.

After Davide Santon was whistled for a foul on Franck Kessie, Pinilla drilled the spot kick into the top left corner, leaving Samir Handanovic no chance even though the Inter goalkeeper guessed the right direction. Andrea Masiello had put Atalanta in front with an early header and Eder equalized for Inter with a free kick after the break.

While Inter defeated Juventus in September, it's been a difficult debut campaign in Italy for De Boer, who was hired when Roberto Mancini resigned less than two weeks before the season started. "The only thing we can do is work hard to get out of this situation," De Boer said. "I want to see the squad have more courage with the ball. ... It's a tough time for everyone." Inter captain Mauro Icardi failed to put a single shot on target after being punished by the club for his comments about the team's hard-core "ultra" fans in his autobiography. Atalanta, which extended its unbeaten streak to four matches, moved up to eighth while Inter dropped to 14th.

TORINO 2, LAZIO 2

Torino and Lazio remained level on points, six points behind Juventus, after a draw that was determined with a penalty kick from Torino's Adem Ljajic in added time. After Iago Falque put Torino ahead midway through the first half, Ciro Immobile equalized for Lazio against his former club in the 71st with an acrobatic effort. Substitute Alessandro Murgia scored his first Serie A goal in the 84th for Lazio before Marco Parolo was whistled for a questionable hand ball to set up Ljajic's spot kick.

Nikola Kalinic scored a hat trick and Federico Bernardeschi added two more goals as Fiorentina won 5-3 at Cagliari. Empoli and Chievo Verona played to a 0-0 draw in which Chievo protested for

a goal even though goal-line technology showed that the ball wasn't fully in.

Also, French forward Cyril scored twice for Udinese in a 3-1 win over visiting Pescara. Udinese

has featured only foreign players in its starting lineup in all nine of its matches this season. It was Udinese's first win since Luigi Delneri replaced Giuseppe Iachini as coach three weeks ago. — AP

DEMBELE LATE SHOW SEES CELTIC BEAT RANGERS

GLASGOW: Moussa Dembele grabbed a late winner as Celtic clinched a place in the Scottish League Cup final with a 1-0 defeat of Old Firm rivals Rangers at Glasgow's Hampden Park yesterday.

Rangers looked a much improved side from the one hammered 5-1 at Parkhead in their last meeting with arch-rivals Celtic in August, but it was the Hoops who had the best chances, with Erik Sviatchenko's header ruled out for a foul before Scott Sinclair crashed a free-kick off the bar.

The game looked to be heading for extra-time before Dembele, who grabbed a hat-trick on his Old Firm debut, added the finishing touch to substitute Leigh Griffiths' cross in the 87th minute.

Celtic will join Aberdeen in the final after the Dons defeated Championship side Greenock Morton 2-0 in Saturday's first semi-final. Rangers had selected full-backs Lee Hodson and James Tavernier down the right to deal with the pace of Sinclair and Kieran Tierney, which caused them so much damage in their August mauling by Celtic.

After a frantic start it was the Hoops who threatened first with Sinclair cutting in from the left to pick out Tom Rogic, whose deflected strike landed on the roof of the net.

Rangers were appealing for a penalty moments later when Barrie McKay went down under a challenge from Jozo Simunovic but referee Craig Thomson instead booked him for simulation, much to the fury of the Rangers players.

A slack pass was then intercepted by

Dembele, who played Sinclair clean through, but Matt Gilks raced off his line to block his shot with his legs. Gilks breathed a sigh of relief when his attempted pass went straight to Rogic in the box, but the Australian couldn't find the target with his effort.

The Rangers keeper then redeemed himself as he made a point-blank save to keep out a close-range header from Dembele. The French striker was then lucky to avoid a booking for diving after he threw himself to the ground in the hope of a penalty as referee Thomson kept his cards in his pocket.

Celtic had the ball in the net three minutes after the break when Sviatchenko headed Sinclair's cross past Gilks but Thomson adjudged that the Dane had fouled Rangers defender Clint Hill in the build-up.

Sinclair and Rogic then combined to carve the Rangers defence open but Gilks blocked the English winger's effort.

Rangers had yet to threaten Craig Gordon's goal but the best chance of the match then fell to Jason Holt when Tavernier found him in the middle but his goal-bound effort was well blocked by Simunovic with McKay sending the follow-up straight into the hands of the Hoops keeper.

Only the crossbar prevented Celtic from taking the lead in the 69th minute when Sinclair's curling free-kick rattled the upright.

With the game heading to extra-time Celtic made the breakthrough as Griffiths got behind Lee Wallace and his cross for the right was prodded home by Dembele under pressure from Rob Kiernan. — AFP



CAEN: Saint-Etienne's Jordan Veretout (L) shoots to score a goal during the French L1 football match between Caen (SM Caen) and Saint-Etienne (AS Saint-Etienne) yesterday at the Michel-d'Ornano stadium in Caen, northwestern France. — AFP

QATAR ANNOUNCES 'WORK-RELATED' WORLD CUP STADIUM DEATH

DOHA: A worker on a Qatar World Cup stadium site has died in the first work-related fatality to be announced by organizers of the 2022 soccer tournament that has been dogged by concerns about labor conditions.

Qatar has previously reported three deaths at stadium construction sites but said they were not "work-related." The tiny, gas-rich country is relying on its large workforce of Asian laborers to build stadiums and related infrastructure to cope with staging soccer's biggest tournament in the Middle East for the first time.

The Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, which is tasked with building World Cup sites, did not name the worker who died on Saturday morning at Al Wakrah Stadium or provide his nationality.

"It is with deep regret we announce a work-related fatality on one of our projects," the committee said on its website. FIFA is awaiting a report from Qatari organizers.

"A full investigation is underway to determine the factors which contributed to the death of one of our workers," the Supreme Committee said. "The relevant authorities were immediately informed and the family of the deceased have been notified. We offer them all the necessary support they may need at such a difficult time."

Al Wakrah Stadium, which is 15 kilometers south of the capital Doha, is intended to resemble the sails on a traditional Qatari dhow boat and was designed by Zaha Hadid before the architect's death in March. The 40,000-capacity venue is due to be completed by 2018 and host games up to the quarterfinals at the 2022 World Cup.

The emirate is expected to spend tens of billions of dollars before the November-December 2022 tournament kicks off, preparing eight new and renovated stadiums and related projects such as transport links and accommodation. — AP



ROTTERDAM: Ajax Amsterdam's Lasse Schone (R) fights for the ball with Feyenoord Rotterdam's Karim El Ahmadi during the Dutch Eredivisie football match between Feyenoord Rotterdam and Ajax Amsterdam at De Kuip in Rotterdam yesterday. — AFP

Sports

**Cubs beat Dodgers
5-0 to reach first
World Series since
1945**



**Napoli ends losing
streak, Inter lose
again in Serie A**



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HOWARD, NYQUIST LEAD RED WINGS OVER SHARKS

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LONDON: Manchester United's Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic (L) heads the ball during the English Premier League football match between Chelsea and Manchester United at Stamford Bridge in London yesterday. — AFP

CHELSEA THRASH MOURINHO'S UNITED 4-0

 **Chelsea 4**

 **Man United 0**

LONDON: Chelsea supporters taunted Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho with chants of "You're not special anymore!" as his Stamford Bridge return yielded a humiliating 4-0 defeat yesterday. With seven major titles across two spells, Mourinho is Chelsea's most successful ever manager, but his return to his old stomping ground ended in one of the most chastening results of his career.

Pedro Rodriguez opened the scoring after just 30 seconds and Chelsea did not

look back, Gary Cahill, Eden Hazard and N'Golo Kante completing an emphatic Premier League victory. It was a fitting tribute to former Chelsea vice-chairman Matthew Harding, whose death in a helicopter crash 20 years ago was marked prior to kick-off with banners and a giant flag.

Antonio Conte's side have now won three consecutive league games without conceding a goal and climbed to fourth place, just a point below leaders Manchester City, Arsenal and Liverpool.

Mourinho, in stark contrast, has already tasted defeat three times in the league with United, who trail City by six points ahead of Wednesday's Manchester derby in the League Cup fourth round. The team sheet told a tale of two captains: United's, Wayne Rooney, was absent after reportedly injuring his thigh, while Chelsea's, John Terry,

remained on the bench following an ankle injury. Mourinho was greeted warmly by Terry and former assistant Steve Holland prior to the game, sharing a warm embrace with the former, but Chelsea's hospitality vanished within 30 seconds of kick-off. Chris Smalling inexplicably allowed Marcos Alonso's pass from Chelsea's left to bounce past him and Pedro nipped in to round United goalkeeper David de Gea and roll the ball home.

Mourinho, sacked for the second time by Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich last December, looked faintly shellshocked.

BAILLY BLOW

He saw his side squander a chance to level when Zlatan Ibrahimovic headed over after Antonio Valencia had stood up a cross from the right. More slack defending

allowed Chelsea to double their lead in the 21st minute, Cahill slamming home after Hazard's corner had struck Ander Herrera and bounced down inside the six-yard box.

A pocket of Chelsea fans beside the dug-outs turned Mourinho's 'Special One' nickname back on him, chanting: "You're not special anymore!" Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois had been relatively untroubled up to that point, although he produced a smart double save to repel Herrera's left-foot effort and Jesse Lingard's follow-up.

It was an ideal first half for Chelsea, but David Luiz was fortunate to escape with only a yellow card after planting his studs in Marouane Fellaini's knee five minutes before half-time.

Mourinho changed tack at half-time, sending on Juan Mata for Fellaini and mov-

ing Marcus Rashford up front alongside Ibrahimovic in a 4-4-2 formation. He was forced into another change seven minutes into the second half when Eric Bailly sustained a knock, with Marcos Rojo coming on at left-back and Daley Blind moving to centre-back.

Lingard sought to sound the revolt for United, wriggling away from a pair of Chelsea players and unleashing a crisp drive into the second half when Eric Bailly sustained a knock, with Marcos Rojo coming on at left-back and Daley Blind moving to centre-back. Lingard sought to sound the revolt for United, wriggling away from a pair of Chelsea players and unleashing a crisp drive into the second half when Eric Bailly sustained a knock, with Marcos Rojo coming on at left-back and Daley Blind moving to centre-back. Nemanja Matic's pass down the inside-left channel found Hazard, who checked inside Smalling and steered a shot into the bottom-right corner. Kante completed the rout, darting between Smalling and the sleep-walking Paul Pogba to tuck away his first Chelsea goal since his close-season switch from Leicester City. — AFP

MAN CITY BACK ON TOP BUT SAINTS DRAW RAISES DOUBTS

 **Man City 1**

 **Southampton 1**

MANCHESTER: Manchester City returned to the top of the Premier League with a 1-1 draw home to Southampton yesterday but the performance again raised questions over the title credentials of Pep Guardiola's team.

The stalemate was a fifth consecutive game without a victory for City, as Kelechi Iheanacho's eighth goal in his last 11 league games cancelled out Nathan Redmond's first-half opener for Southampton, which owed much to an extraordinary mistake by City defender John Stones. City, after winning their first 10 games under Spanish coach Guardiola, have suffered a major dip in form.

"We have to analyse what is the situation," Guardiola told the BBC. "In the period, apart from at White Hart Lane against Tottenham (losing 2-0) it's been good. Against Everton and Barcelona when it was 11 v 11 — the displays were as good as those in the first 10 games." Guardiola, who saw his expensively assembled side held 1-1 home to Everton last weekend, had spoken passionately in the wake of the midweek 4-0 defeat at former club Barcelona about his desire to stick to his footballing philosophy. Those beliefs, however, must have been sorely tested in a first half in which his side failed to test Fraser Forster in the

Southampton goal and fell behind to the visitors. The Saints went ahead in the 27th minute following a disastrous back pass from England centre-half Stones, who nonchalantly laid the ball back into the City penalty area despite the presence of Redmond. The forward retained his composure, beating returning skipper Vincent Company to the ball and rounding Claudio Bravo before converting into the open net.

"From watching them in preparation we knew they would give us chances, they only play three at the back," Redmond told Sky Sports. "I was anticipating it and it was just about keeping a cool head and putting the chance away." The draw was enough to put City back top of the Premier League on goal difference from Arsenal, with Liverpool third. All three are on 20 points. But following Bravo's costly defensive slip in the midweek Champions League defeat, it was another blow to Guardiola's determination to play attractive, passing football at all costs and a handful of home supporters booed the team off at the interval.

HARSH DECISION

For all their defensive problems, however, City were equally ineffective at the other end in the first half — their best effort coming when Stones had a 31st-minute effort ruled out for offside.

The defender appeared to have made amends for his earlier error when he headed home Kevin De Bruyne's free-kick only for referee Mark Clattenburg to rule it out a decision

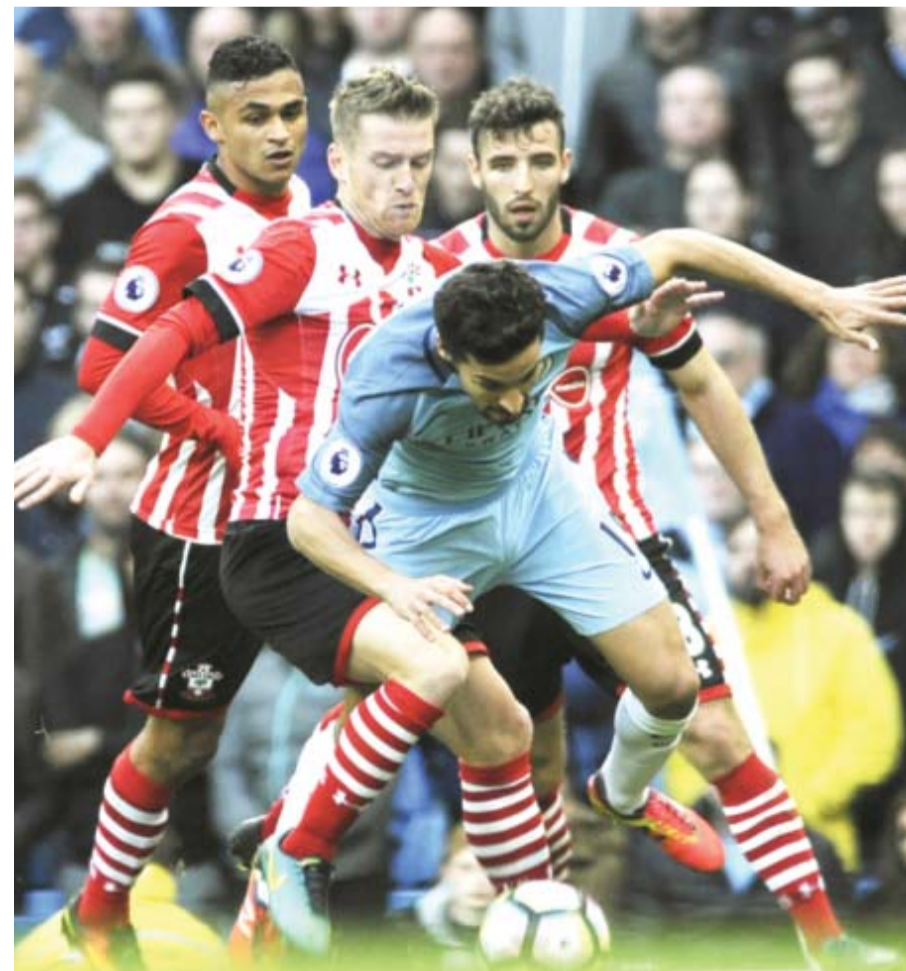
which replays suggested was harsh. An early David Silva cross was easily picked out by Forster, Ilkay Gundogan shot just wide from the edge of the area and Raheem Sterling drilled a shot way off target.

Indeed, the Saints looked more likely to score, particularly on the break, with Dusan Tadic testing Bravo with an early cross-shot. Guardiola wasted no time in altering his tactics at the interval, with Iheanacho replacing De Bruyne, who was clearly still below peak form following a recent injury lay-off.

City finally started to assert some control with Sterling's low 54th-minute cross just bouncing beyond Silva's far-post lunge. Moments later, Iheanacho equalised after a flowing move exposed gaps in Southampton's defence with passes from Fernandinho and Leroy Sane allowing the young Nigerian to sweep in a confident finish from six yards. "They did it for themselves in the second half" said Guardiola of his players. "They changed the game, I didn't change the game. We did think we were going to win it, but Southampton didn't make it easy. They have good defenders and are good at everything."

City's passing, so inconsistent in the first half, also improved markedly after the break and a concerted attack ended with Sterling finding Iheanacho, who turned and centred for Silva, only for a deflection off a defender to save the Saints.

Sergio Aguero also twice came close for City, first with a stooping, off-target header and then with a determined run and low shot which flashed across the face of goal. — AFP



MANCHESTER: Manchester City's Jesus Navas, front, is tackled by Southampton's Steven Davis during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester City and Southampton at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, England, yesterday. — AP

Kuwait Times 55th Anniversary BUSINESS

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IMF predicts risks of
rollover for GCC

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Al Tamimi & Co takes
home awards from IFLR

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Mercedes-Benz GLS
roadshow
arrives in Kuwait

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TOYOTA ADVANCES EFFORTS TO MAKE ALWAYS BETTER CARS

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BEAUMONT: Wind turbines are silhouetted by the setting sun as they produce electricity near Beaumont, Kansas. Energy independence has been a goal of every US President since Richard Nixon. Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump have very different ways to achieve it. How energy is produced and where it comes from affect jobs, the economy and the environment. —AP

OIL PRICE DOWN CYCLE 'NEARING END': FALIH

SAUDI LOOKS TO RUSSIA TO BOOST NON-OPEC COOPERATION

RIYADH: Saudi Oil Minister Khalid Al-Falih said yesterday that the current cycle of falling crude prices is close to an end as market fundamentals improve. Oil prices are currently hovering at around \$50 per barrel after hitting a 10-year low of less than \$30 in January, down from a peak of more than \$100 in mid-2014.

"The current down cycle is nearing an end," Falih told a joint press conference with his Russian counterpart Alexander Novak yesterday after a Gulf ministerial meeting in Riyadh. "Market fundamentals, in terms of supply and demand, have begun to improve," Falih said, adding: "We are optimistic that oil prices will continue to improve in the future." Falih said he had invited his Russian counterpart Alexander Novak to meet Gulf Arab energy ministers in Riyadh as part of efforts to cooperate with non-OPEC members to stabilize the oil market.

"Russia is one of the world's biggest oil pro-



Saudi Oil Minister Khalid Al-Falih

ducers ... and is one of the influential parties in the stability of the oil market," Falih said at the opening session of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Falih said Novak had welcomed the invitation, "as a clear indication of sincere desire to continue coopera-

tion and coordination with the oil producing and exporting countries for more stability in the market."

Novak had said on Friday he would take "some" proposals to the meeting in Riyadh. Last month in Algiers, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries agreed modest oil output cuts. The goal is to cut production to a range of 32.50-33.0 million barrels per day (bpd).

"The Algeria meeting last month was successful in pushing the path of cooperation between oil producing and consuming countries and included important talks between experts from OPEC countries and outside of OPEC about oil markets," Falih said calling on his Gulf energy counterparts to work together as a bloc. Falih also said that the low oil price environment had led to a decrease in investments which could lead to a shortage in supply in the future and have a negative effect on

the global economy.

Qatar's energy minister, Mohammed Al-Sada, whose country holds the rotating presidency of the OPEC oil exporting cartel, also said the "difficult phase is over".

"Although the market is heading to being balanced, it needs our joint effort, and we all agreed that we need to take measures to bring back this balance," he said. Novak said he and his Gulf counterparts had discussed ways to "develop the best mechanism to solve the issue of stabilization". "We have reached an unprecedented level in our relations and cooperation" with Saudi Arabia, he told reporters, adding that he agreed with Falih "to continue to work and remain in continuous contact to achieve... concrete mechanisms". OPEC has invited Russia and key non-members to a meeting later this month as the cartel and Moscow seek to tighten cooperation to boost historically low crude prices.

The invitation was announced after a meeting between top OPEC energy ministers and Novak in Istanbul, aimed at advancing joint efforts to bolster oil prices whose lows have hurt the highly dependent economies of crude producers. The cartel and Russia will meet today, ahead of the OPEC technical meeting in Vienna on October 28-29, to which Russia and others have been invited.

Last month at a meeting in Algiers, the cartel agreed its first production cut in eight years, although it remains to be seen how this will be complied with and implemented.

President Nicolas Maduro of OPEC member Venezuela was in Riyadh yesterday for talks a day after calling in Iran for increased cooperation between oil-rich nations to stabilize prices. Maduro, who is also due to visit Qatar on a Middle East tour, currently faces an economic and political crisis at home, compounded by the collapsing price of oil. —Agencies

BULLISH SENTIMENT LIFTS SAUDI AS EGYPT COOLS

MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS

DUBAI: Major stock markets in the Gulf rose yesterday with Saudi Arabia outperforming its peers, continuing to climb on the back of upbeat investor sentiment following the mammoth international bond sale at the end of last week. Egypt's index slipped on profit taking.

Riyadh's index added a further 1.6 percent, taking its gains since Wednesday to 5.1 percent as a little over 80 percent of the traded shares rose. Banks continued their climb with Saudi Hollandi Bank gaining 3.4 percent. At the end of last week bank shares rallied after the kingdom conducted a \$17.5 billion international bond sale with success.

Investor optimism has been buoyed despite some weak quarterly results. About three-quarters of Saudi's listed companies have so far reported, with generally lower earnings and a few companies missing analysts' estimates by

a wide margin. "There has been a string of positive events that have helped revive optimism towards Saudi shares, namely because of the successful bond sale, payment by government to construction sector and relatively supportive oil prices," said Kunal Damle, head of brokerage institutional sales at SICO Bahrain.

Valuations at current levels will encourage investors further, another factor Damle believes is underlying the market rally over the last two sessions. The banking sub-index is trading at a price-to-earnings of 8 times, according to Thomson Reuters data, a discount to its five year average.

Dar Al-Arkan, the most traded stock yesterday, soared by their 10 percent daily limit after it reported a 21.4 percent rise in third-quarter net profit to 112.5 million riyals (\$30.0 million), double the forecast by analysts at NCB Capital. The company attrib-

uted the rise to higher revenues from property sales and lower operating expenses, such as payroll and consultancy fees.

Analysts at NCB Capital said the surprise came from higher than expected land sales of 570 million riyals versus their estimate of 390 million riyals. Supermarket operator Al-Othaim jumped 4.5 percent after the company reported a better than expected third-quarter net income of 36.64 million riyals, higher than NCB Capital's estimate of 29.3 million riyals.

Analysts at NCB said in a note lower than expected operating expense and higher income from its associate were the key drivers for the earnings' coming ahead of their forecast.

UAE, EGYPT

Dubai's main index added 0.5 percent as the largest listed developer Emaar Properties, which has

yet to publish its third-quarter net income, rose 2.6 percent. But DXB Entertainments, pared gains and fell 0.6 percent ending its three session of strong gains. Its shares have outperformed over the last several days in anticipation of the opening of its theme park at the end of the month.

Blue chips lent the main support to Abu Dhabi's index, which added 0.1 percent. Aldar Properties advanced 1.1 percent and National Bank of Abu Dhabi, which announced yesterday its shareholders and those of First Gulf Bank will both meet on Dec. 7 to approve the merging of the two, climbed 2.3 percent. Egypt's index of the 30 most valuable shares dipped 0.04 percent as two-thirds of the stocks declined as some of the best performing shares on Thursday gave back some gains. Orascom Telecom, the most traded share, pulled back 3.6 percent.—Reuters

BELGIUM FACES TODAY'S DEADLINE TO SUPPORT CANADA TRADE DEAL

BRUSSELS: The European Union has given Belgium until late today to overcome opposition to a free trade deal with Canada from its French-speaking region or a summit to sign the pact that could boost both economies is off, EU sources said yesterday.

EU trade negotiators are rushing to assuage the Walloon government's concerns before the Monday deadline set by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to decide whether to fly to Brussels, according sources familiar with the matter. Canada, the EU's 12th-largest trading partner, says it is ready to sign the pact as planned on Thursday and year-long negotiations were over, with trade minister Chrystia Freeland saying "the ball is in the EU court."

All 28 EU governments back the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), which supporters say could increase trade by 20 percent, but Belgium cannot give assent without backing from its five sub-federal administrations.

French-speaking Wallonia has steadfastly opposed it, saying the deal is bad

for Europe's farmers and gives too much power to global corporate interests.

In a last ditch bid to secure Walloon backing, EU trade officials are offering to tweak a political declaration appended to the treaty, an EU source said. Many EU leaders suspect the local government in Namur is using its devolved powers to play domestic politics. "This is first of all an inner-Belgian matter," an EU source said.

Walloon Socialist leader Elio Di Rupo, one of the most vocal opponents of the deal, cast doubt a deal could be reached next week. "They took years to negotiate #CETA and we are refused a few weeks," Di Rupo, a former Belgian prime minister, tweeted yesterday. "Will we reach a solution? All depends on the contents. If it doesn't change enough, we will maintain our opposition."

European Council President Donald Tusk, who chairs the collective body of the EU's leaders, will speak to Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel by late on Monday, EU sources said, before informing Trudeau's government of the state of play. —Reuters

IMF PREDICTS RISKS OF ROLLOVER FOR GCC

KUWAIT FISCAL BREAK-EVEN OIL PRICE BELOW \$50/BBL

KUWAIT: Finer details and forecasts of the MENA region were released in IMF's Regional Economic Outlook on 19th October 2016, and the agency now forecasts GCC real GDP to grow by 1.7 percent in 2016 & 2.3 percent in 2017. Economic growth in the GCC region is projected to be relatively slower, despite the increase in hydrocarbon output, as fiscal tightening and declining liquidity in the financial sector are expected to drag growth down from 3.4 percent in 2015. GCC non-oil GDP growth in 2016 slower than earlier expected: Higher oil and gas production led to an upgrade of 80bps to the real oil-GDP growth forecast for 2016 (1.8 percent) as compared to IMF's April-16 update for the region. Real non-oil GDP on the other hand is expected to come in slower than earlier expected by 70bps (1.8 percent) for 2016, while the corresponding estimate for 2017 was expanded by 10bps. Fiscal consolidation, credit constraints due to slowing deposit growth are expected to contribute to the drop in non-oil GDP in the current year.

Kuwait fiscal breakeven

Kuwait's fiscal breakeven oil price was lowered from IMF's earlier update and is now estimated at close to over \$47/bbl, the lowest in the GCC, and closest to YTD average oil prices. Estimates for Saudi Arabia were raised, in particular for 2016, by \$13/bbl, as an oil price of \$79.7/bbl is now required to balance its fiscal budget. Non-oil fiscal balance for the GCC region in 2016 is expected to improve by 8.6 percent points of non-oil GDP as compared to 2015. KAMCO expects the rollover of risks to give more leeway to the GCC: Though we remain optimistic about the measures taken so far by the GCC states, with some of the measures already showing desired results, the deferral of global risks leaves more room for employing additional initiatives to boost non-oil private sector growth. Funding gaps would need to be plugged in by tapping into international markets if need be, while credit outlay to high priority projects would still be needed, to steer through this period of transition.

Production target

Oil production estimates for the GCC was raised yet again by the IMF for 2016, while keeping estimates for 2017 unchanged. Production, is now expected to grow to 18.04 mb/d from the earlier estimate of 18.01 mb/d for 2016. Key driver for the increase in forecast was the production estimate of Saudi Arabia, which was increased from 10.22 mb/d to 10.30 mb/d. Nevertheless, this increase comes against the backdrop of OPEC agreeing to cut production by as much as 700,000 mb/d in Sept-16, its first major agreement since the oil bear market began in 2014. Saudi Arabia in September also announced that it would reduce production if other fellow OPEC members would freeze its own production. Russia also agreed to support the effort to reduce the global glut of an estimated 1.0 -1.5 mb/d. Finer details of the production cutback would be worked out at the next OPEC meeting in Vienna on 30 Nov-16. The extent of production cut from Saudi Arabia will be of paramount interest at the event. Furthermore, the signaling impact on non-OPEC players, and which non-OPEC players would be first to undertake the necessary action, would

KAMCO ECONOMIC REPORT

be keenly followed. On the other hand, according to the IMF, GCC oil exports are projected to be lower than expected in April 16. Oil exports from the region were brought down from 13.48 mb/d to 13.37 mb/d in 2016 and from 13.46 mb/d to 13.37 mb/d in 2017. The drop is ascribed to a decline in exports from UAE & Saudi Arabia and is likely to be due to the weaker global trade conditions and rising domestic consumption, in our view.

In terms of the breakeven oil prices required for GCC countries to balance their fiscal budgets, all countries were running deficits, as oil prices YTD were lower than all individual breakeven targets. As per our analysis of IMF data, the gap between average oil prices and budgeted breakeven oil prices were largest for Bahrain and Saudi Arabia at over \$56/bbl and \$40/bbl respectively. Kuwait and UAE had the least gap between their budgeted oil prices and average oil prices YTD in 2016 with a gap of over \$8/bbl and \$19/bbl. Moreover, Kuwait is expected to be the only GCC country that is able to balance its fiscal budget when oil prices are below \$50 per barrel, as per the IMF, as Kuwait has the lowest breakeven oil price of \$47.8/bbl and \$47.7/bbl for 2016 & 2017. The breakeven oil prices for Kuwait were lowered since April-16 by \$4.3/bbl and \$5.1/bbl for the aforementioned years. UAE's fiscal breakeven oil prices was lowered by double digits, and would now require \$58.6/bbl and \$60/bbl for a fiscal neutral budget. On the contrary, the same estimates for Saudi Arabia were raised, in particular for 2016, by \$13/bbl, as the country would now need an oil price of USD 79.7/bbl to balance its fiscal budget as against \$66.7/bbl estimated in April-16. As per our calculations, in order to reach the average oil price of \$50/bbl, oil prices would now need to average over \$100/bbl, which we deem as highly unlikely, given the fundamentals of the market.

Current account deficit

The partial recovery in oil prices recently also meant that the deficit in current account balance to GDP ratio for the full year would be lower as compared to April-16 estimates, by the IMF. The current account deficit estimate for 2016 is now pegged at -3.7 percent of GDP as against -7.0 percent of GDP estimated in IMF's previous update. The absolute value of deficits is also expected to decline by 44 percent in 2016, as compared to earlier estimates of \$91 billion. Saudi Arabia alone is expected to contribute to about 83 percent of the deficit in 2016, as the IMF expects the country to report current deficit of 6.6 percent of GDP for the year.

Fiscal balance to GDP ratio

The most recent estimates of the fiscal balance to GDP ratio for the GCC region also shows improvement from earlier estimates for the current year and 2017. The fiscal deficit of the GCC is expected to be 9.8 percent of 2016 GDP, lower than the 12.3 percent deficit of GDP estimated in IMF's previous update. The agency expects an improvement for 2017 as well, as the deficit is expected to lower to 6.9 percent of GDP, as compared to the earlier estimate of 10.8 percent of GDP. Saudi Arabia's fiscal

deficit to GDP ratio in 2016 was kept constant at 13.5 percent as against their previous update, but the corresponding figure for 2017 is expected to dip below double digits at 9.5 percent of GDP for the year, compared to a previous deficit estimate of 10.8 percent. The IMF continued to reiterate the need for further policy priorities other than the ones recently announced, which would be needed along with a well-defined medium-term fiscal framework for the region. Further policy initiatives in terms of additional streamlining of current expenditures, including the public sector wage bill, increasing the efficiency of public investment and additional energy price reforms were advised by the agency as well. Fiscal consolidation would also continue to require a mix of spending cuts and pro revenue measures.

Energy price reforms

GCC states have implemented energy price reforms in varying degrees as means of curtailing their state spending. The reforms in the form of higher price is also expected to contribute to a slowing down of energy consumption in the region, and is also expected to provide fiscal adjustment support, as per the IMF. Data from the IMF also suggests that the implicit energy costs for the GCC is expected to drop from 6.7 percent of GDP in 2014 to 3.4 percent of GDP in 2016, as a result of the reduction in subsidies and higher revenues from the domestic sale of energy products.

Risks to rollover

Though the twin deficits in the GCC have shown some signs of alleviating in 2016 and 2017, we expect this to be only partially contributed by spending cuts and measures adopted so far to increase revenues. Significant global risks in terms of waning global trade activity, a slowdown in China, tighter liquidity conditions from a potential near term interest rate hike in the US, and the impact of Brexit have been rolled over to 2017 and beyond. Nevertheless, KAMCO Research remains optimistic about the avenues available to GCC states and the ability to successfully boost their non-oil economies, as some of the measures have already started showing positive results. However, the implementation of ongoing measures and the introduction of new initiatives would be needed to further boost the private sector non-oil growth. Deficit funding measures such as international bond issuances, along with healthy credit growth backed by conventional or alternative funding for high priority projects, would be incrementally positive in our view.

To understand the impact of past measures in boosting the non-oil sector in the GCC, we looked at the non-oil fiscal balances data of the region published by IMF over the long term, which included forecasts for the current year and the next year. Data suggested that the non-oil fiscal balance to non-oil GDP ratio worsened from the average estimate of 2000 -2012 until 2014 from 43.1 percent to 56.8 percent of non-oil GDP. Nevertheless, deficit reduction measures in the region brought down the deficit figure in the non-oil sector to 45.5 percent of non-oil GDP in 2015. The IMF further estimates the average non-oil deficit to fall by about 20 percent of non-oil GDP over 2014 to 2017.

News

in brief

US dollar up against KD at 0.303, euro down

KUWAIT, Oct 23 (KUNA): The US Dollar's exchange rate against the Kuwaiti Dinar was up at 0.303 Sunday while the euro went down to KD 0.329 compared to Thursday's exchange rates, said the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK).

Meanwhile, the exchange rate of the Sterling Pound was also down to KD 0.370, while the Swiss Franc was stable at KD 0.305. The Japanese Yen was unchanged at KD 0.002.

The USD rose to its highest level in eight months against major currencies during last Friday trading's.

This came after the statement of the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York William Dudley, that the US central bank is likely to raise the interest rate if the economy continues on its current path.

Barwa Real Estate wins 600m riyal financing

DUBAI: Qatar's Barwa Real Estate, one of the Gulf Arab state's largest listed developers, said yesterday it had secured a 600 million riyal (\$164.8 million) financing facility from Qatar International Islamic Bank. It said the money was to fund part of the company's new projects under construction. It did not specify which projects.

Dubai's Mashreq Q3 net profit falls 24.8%

DUBAI: Mashreq continued its earnings slump yesterday as Dubai's third-biggest lender by assets posted a 24.8 percent fall in third-quarter net profit, weighed by putting aside more cash to cover for bad loans. The lender made a net profit of 414.95 million dirhams (\$112.98 million) in the three months to Sept. 30, it said in a statement, a decrease on the 551.44 million dirhams recorded for the corresponding period of 2015. Mashreq, which had reported falling profits in the preceding four quarters, suffered in the latest quarter as allowances for impairments jumped by 82 percent over the period to reach 470 million dirhams. Banks in the United Arab Emirates are facing a more difficult operating environment as the more-than-two-year collapse in oil prices feeds through into higher levels of soured loans and compressed net interest margins.

Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Q3 net profit falls 17%

ABU DHABI: Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank missed analysts' forecasts, after posting a 17 percent fall in third-quarter profit yesterday, due to higher impairments and lower interest income. It is the second Abu Dhabi bank to report weaker earnings as lenders continue to be hit by reduced government spending in the United Arab Emirates and tight liquidity conditions in the wake of lower oil prices. A further three Abu Dhabi lenders are due to report earnings later this week. The emirate's second-largest bank by assets made a net profit attributable to shareholders of 999.1 million dirhams (\$272 million) in the three months to Sept. 30, compared to 1.20 billion dirhams in the same period a year ago, according to its financial statement. Three analysts polled by Reuters had on average forecast a net profit for the quarter of 1.10 billion dirhams. ADCB booked higher impairments of 380.4 million dirhams in the quarter, compared to 66.0 million dirhams in the year-ago period.

UAE'S NMC HEALTH TO ENTER QATAR, OMAN

ABU DHABI: United Arab Emirates-based hospital operator NMC Health plans to enter Qatar and Oman before year-end and expand in Saudi Arabia as low oil prices constrain governments' ability to provide healthcare, the company's deputy chief executive said. Many industries in Gulf Arab countries, including construction and to a lesser extent banking, are going through tough times as shrunken oil and gas revenues force governments to cut spending and state investment.

But companies in essential services such as healthcare may actually benefit from the trend as they fill the gap left by governments. Rapid population growth in the region, and people's susceptibility to lifestyle diseases such as diabetes and obesity, may create further opportunities.

"We are preparing to enter Qatar and Oman by end of the year," Prasanth Manghat said in an interview at the Reuters Middle East Investment Summit. "The penetration of private hospitals is low in these countries and governments are not spending on infrastructure," he said, adding that NMC was about to start construction of greenfield medical facilities in Qatar and Oman.

The London-listed company, with \$200 million in cash plus \$100 million in unused

financing facilities, also plans to expand in Saudi Arabia through organic growth as well as acquisitions if opportunities arise, he said. NMC entered Saudi Arabia in August, investing in a new hospital in the kingdom's western region and acquiring a majority stake in a hospital in the east, adding 260 beds to its total count.

"We can do a lot of expansion in long-term care provision, rehabilitation and specialty services such as fertility and geriatrics," Manghat said of Saudi Arabia. NMC will also continue to grow in the UAE, its home market, by building new hospitals or acquiring existing ones, he added. Since it listed on London's stock market in 2012, the company has made eight acquisitions, four in the UAE, three in Europe and one in Saudi Arabia.

Billionaire Indian businessman B.R. Shetty, the chief executive of NMC Healthcare, came to the UAE in 1973 as a trained pharmacist and opened a medical centre which grew into NMC. Shetty holds a 25.6 percent stake in the company. NMC has 1,135 beds around the world and accounts for 26 percent of the UAE's private healthcare beds. In the long term, "there's no limit on increasing our bed count" given opportunities in the Gulf, Manghat said. — Reuters

BELTONE FINANCIAL STILL CAN SEAL CI CAPITAL DEAL

CAIRO: Egypt's Beltone Financial is still interested in acquiring local investment bank CI Capital and will revive the deal to create one of Egypt's largest investment banks should it secure regulatory approval, its chief executive said. Beltone signed an agreement in February to buy CI Capital, part of Egypt's largest listed company Commercial International Bank, for \$104 million.

But the deal failed to secure approval from the Egyptian Financial Supervisory Authority (EFSA). The two companies repeatedly renewed the deal pending approval, but allowed the terms to lapse in June. Beltone CEO Bassem Azab told the Reuters Middle East Investment Summit there was still hope the deal would proceed.

"We are ready with the cash and the finance ... We got approval from the general assembly and we are waiting to close the deal," Azab said in an interview at the Summit.

"We are waiting for a comment from EFSA to give us the green light or we stop proceeding in the transaction ... I think we have a chance." Already the country's largest asset manager, Beltone had planned to merge itself with CI Capital to create one of Egypt's largest integrated financial institutions.

But EFSA said the deal could not go through until Beltone's parent company,

Egyptian billionaire Naguib Sawiris's OTMT, resolved a dispute related to the 2011 demerger of Orascom Telecom Holdings, which resulted in OTMT's current shareholding structure.

Sawiris said in March the deal was being delayed by security concerns and said state meddling in business would discourage investors. OTMT said this month the dispute had had a bad effect on the company.

There was no immediate comment from EFSA or CI Capital, which owns one of Egypt's biggest financial leasing firms. If EFSA rejects the CI Capital deal, Azab said Beltone's next move would be to pursue other Egyptian leasing businesses, which finance the purchase of assets like real estate.

"We have a number of targets that we are looking at and we are waiting to be in this leasing business... We have prospects but we did not study any of them yet," he said.

IPOs, DIVERSIFICATION

The company expects to manage three initial public offerings this quarter and two more in the first quarter of next year, with a total value of 3.5-4 billion pounds, Azab said. The appetite for IPOs is increasing as investors rush to buy before the implementation of a capital gains tax in May, Azab

said. Egypt froze plans for a 10 percent tax on capital gains in May 2015 following investor complaints. The tax is now due to be implemented starting May 2017. Azab said so many companies were interested in doing an IPO that Beltone could pick and choose which ones to take on. "I think investment banking will do very well next year because of this rush."

Beltone said earlier this year it planned to increase its assets under management to 50 billion Egyptian pounds from about 30 billion. But a central bank decision to limit the amount that banks can invest in money market funds could hamper its growth in that direction.

Azab said Beltone was now looking to diversify away from money market funds, which currently represent about 80 percent of its assets under management (AUM).

"We did not lose anything when it comes to AUMs, however, it will affect us in a year or two. We are diversifying our products and planning to launch a number of different funds right now," he added. Beltone, which also specializes in securities brokerage, private equity, investment banking and research, is in the process of launching special opportunity funds and funds with a focus on equities, he said. — Reuters

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES	
Japanese Yen	292.820
Indian Rupees	4.550
Pakistani Rupees	2.900
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.071
Nepali Rupees	2.845
Singapore Dollar	218.980
Hongkong Dollar	39.181
Bangladesh Taka	3.875
Philippine Peso	6.300
Thai Baht	8.678

GCC COUNTRIES	
Saudi Riyal	81.097
Qatari Riyal	83.537
ani Riyal	789.891

Bahraini Dinar	807.630
UAE Dirham	82.789
ARAB COUNTRIES	
Egyptian Pound - Cash	25.100
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	34.617
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.221
Tunisian Dinar	135.390
Jordanian Dinar	428.490
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.026
Syrian Lira	2.0167
Morocco Dirham	31.238
EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES	
US Dollar Transfer	303.950
Euro	323.830
Sterling Pound	373.860
Canadian dollar	231.320
Turkish lira	99.410

Swiss Franc	307.950
Australian Dollar	233.430
US Dollar Buying	302.750
GOLD	
20 Gram	256.010
10 Gram	130.930
5 Gram	66.310

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD	
Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	34.200
Canadian Dolla	228.290
Sterling Pound	373.120
Euro	332.185
Swiss Frank	303.220

Bahrain Dinar	804.180
UAE Dirhams	83.050
Qatari Riyals	84.270
Saudi Riyals	81.740
Jordanian Dinar	428.645
Egyptian Pound	34.160
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.069
Indian Rupees	4.539
Pakistani Rupees	2.897
Bangladesh Taka	3.869
Philippines Peso	6.295
Cyprus pound	160.330
Japanese Yen	3.925
Syrian Pound	2.425
Nepalese Rupees	3.835
Malaysian Ringgit	73.540
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	45.355
Thai Bhat	9.640
Turkish Lira	98.945



EXCLUSIVELY AT
ALGHANIM AUTO

THE 2017 FORD MUSTANG SHELBY GT350 ROARS IN STYLE

NOW AVAILABLE IN THREE
NEW EYE-CATCHING COLORS

As part of its ongoing mission to exceed the expectations of performance-minded enthusiasts in Kuwait, the 2017 Ford Mustang Shelby GT350 is now exclusively available at Alghanim Auto showroom in 3 new colors: Grabber Blue, Lightning Blue, and Ruby Red. As a masterpiece of form beautifully following function, the 2017 Shelby GT350 embodies the pure exhilaration that enthusiasts have come to expect all while being generously packaged with great services and benefits by Alghanim Auto. Indeed, as the only destination in Kuwait to feature the 2017 Shelby GT350, customers are encouraged to pre-book their favorite world-class sports car at the earliest opportunity by either calling 1898900 or visiting the new showroom in the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, across from SIRBB Circuit.

The new GT350 builds on Carroll Shelby's original idea – transforming a great every-day car into a dominant road racer – by taking advantage of a dramatically improved sixth-generation Mustang to create a truly special driving experience. Driving enthusiasts behind the wheel of a Shelby GT350 can expect to be treated to the most balanced, nimble and exhilarating production Mustang yet. Ford engineers took an innovative approach with GT350. Rather than develop individual systems to perform well independently, every component and shape is optimized to work in concert; balance is the key. While paying rigorous attention to detail, the team pushed the envelope with cutting-edge materials and technologies.

PERFORMANCE

Unique to the Shelby GT350, the 5.2-liter flat-plane crankshaft V8 produces 526 horsepower and 429 lb.-ft. of torque. At 102 horsepower per liter, it is both the most power-dense and the most powerful naturally aspirated road-going engine in Ford history. With a redline of 8,250 rpm, the all-new 5.2-liter engine is the highest-revving production V8 in Ford history.

INNOVATIVE ENGINEERING

MAGNERIDE SUSPENSION MAKES FIRST APPEARANCE FOR MUSTANG

The star of the Shelby GT350 suspension is the first-ever Ford application of continuously variable MagneRide dampers. This is a system designed not just to make the car handle better, but to instill greater confidence in even the best driver. With near instant adjustment of the suspension performance, the system adapts to constantly changing road and driving conditions for optimum handling performance.

MOST POWERFUL BRAKES EVER FITTED TO A PRODUCTION MUSTANG

Due to the significant speeds the car can develop, the Shelby GT350 features the most track-credible brake system ever offered on a Ford vehicle in terms of absolute stopping power, fade resistance and brake pedal feel. The brakes are two-piece cross-drilled iron brake discs with massive 394-millimeter front rotors clamped by Brembo six-piston fixed callipers and 380-millimeter rotors at the rear clamped by four-piston callipers.



BALANCED DYNAMICS

The new Mustang platform is the strongest in the history of the brand, with torsional stiffness increased 28 percent over the previous model. That stiff structure ensures the suspension geometry remains consistent, even under hard driving on back roads and tracks. The front track has been increased while spring rates and bushings have been recalibrated all around, with ride height reduced compared to Mustang GT. The Shelby GT350 has been weight-optimized to balance capability with on-track durability. Lightweight components are engineered to offset added extreme-performance hardware, and, as a result, the standard GT350 tips the scales at 1,705 kilograms.



WHEELS AND TIRES FIT FOR THE TRACK

The Shelby GT350 makes use of extra-stiff 19-inch aluminum alloy wheels – 10.5 inches wide in front, 11.0 inches in the rear – clad in state-of-the-art Michelin Pilot Super Sport tires specifically designed to deliver maximum grip on both the road and the track.

FOCUS-DRIVEN COCKPIT CHANGES

Like everything else about the Shelby GT350, the interior has been optimized for driving, beginning with the specially designed Recaro sport seats with a unique cloth that is both comfortable in daily driving and capable on the track. A flat-bottom steering wheel makes it easier for the driver to get in and out and more ergonomic on the racetrack. Gauges are upgraded to reflect the enormous performance capability of the car, finished off with aluminum interior trim for that sporty look.

The advanced technology inherent to Mustang has been deployed for duty in the Shelby GT350. An all-new integrated driver control system allows selection of five unique modes that tailor ABS, stability control, traction control, steering effort, throttle mapping, MagneRide tuning and exhaust settings depending on driver preference to achieve maximum performance. Shelby GT350 Mustang features Performance Shift Light Indicator display with Track, Tach and Drag mode. This Performance Shift Light Indicator provides the benefits of a shift light while allowing drivers to keep their eyes on the track at all times. The technology behind Heads-up shift light was developed by reimagining existing hardware and is standard on



All Ford enthusiasts interested in the 2017 Shelby GT350 are encouraged visit the Alghanim Auto New Vehicle Showroom, Service and Spare Parts Center in the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, opposite from the Classical Car Museum and Sirbb Circuit. The showroom is open from 9 am to 8 pm everyday except Fridays.

To get in touch with Alghanim Auto, customers can simply call the customer care center at 1898900; visit www.fordalghanim.com or directly on social media channels at the handle @FordAlghanim.



US, UK GROWTH DATA TO STEER MONETARY POLICY

GLOBAL ECONOMY WEEKAHEAD

LONDON: Third-quarter growth figures from the United States and Britain will be scrutinised by financial markets in the week, and a business survey will provide the first evidence on how the euro zone has fared going into the fourth quarter.

Disappointing growth in the world's largest economy might make it less likely the US Federal Reserve will raise interest rates in December. Markets now put the chances the Fed will act at about 70 percent. "A number in the 2.5 percent range seems reasonable to expect, and that would likely be good enough

for the Fed even if it's only the first decent quarter for growth in the past four quarters and ahead of the frequent Q1 growth disappointments," said Derek Holt at Scotiabank.

Stubbly weak inflation has so far stayed the Fed's hand after it nudged rates up late last year. Policymakers have repeatedly said they want more concrete evidence of a turnaround before pulling the trigger again. Several Fed policymakers are due to speak early in the week, before the blackout period preceding the Nov 2 meeting. But they would have to be unusually hawkish to swing expectations towards a rate

increase hike next month, which comes just before the Presidential election.

On Thursday, Britain publishes the first full quarter of economic growth data since the country voted to leave the European Union at the end of June. Soon after the referendum, most economists predicted the country would fall into a shallow recession. Since then, official data and private surveys have all shown the economy has proved resilient so far. However, suspicion that Prime Minister Theresa May is leaning towards a "hard Brexit" - giving up trying to remain in the EU's single market in order to impose controls on

immigration - could rekindle those fears.

Brexit proceedings have yet to begin, so there are few clues as to what path they will take. However, all but one of 27 economists polled by Reuters recently said they expected the EU to take a hard or very hard line with Britain. "I say very firmly, (if) Mrs May wants a hard Brexit, the negotiations will be hard," French President Francois Hollande said at an EU summit on Thursday.

The overall outlook for growth remains significantly weaker than it was before the referendum. Figures on Thursday are likely to show Britain's economy expanded 0.3 percent last quarter, less than half the second quarter's 0.7 percent rate.

"The economy is clearly not out of the woods yet. There is probably still a decent chance of a cut in Bank Rate to 0.10 percent, perhaps as soon as November," said Ruth Gregory at Capital Economics.

Despite years of ultra-loose monetary policy, the European Central Bank has so far failed to raise inflation in the eurozone anywhere near its target, just below 2 percent. It was just 0.4 percent in September. The ECB kept interest rates at historic lows on Thursday. Its president, Mario Draghi, gave few hints about what measures the Bank might take later this year to ensure its asset-buying program continued smoothly. A Reuters poll before the meeting had predicted no move but said the ECB would tweak its asset purchases, announcing an extension by year-end.

Draghi said the ECB was committed to pursuing substantial asset purchases to fuel growth and inflation. A preliminary Purchasing Managers' Index from IHS Markit due today will indicate how the eurozone economy is performing this month. It is expected to show growth accelerated, but forecasters may focus on a sub-index that has shown companies have cut prices for most of the past five years. "December's Governing Council meeting will be key. And in the run-up to this, data on activity, price pressures and credit flows will form essential inputs to the GC's decision," wrote economists at Investec.

Central banks in Norway, Russia and Sweden also announce policy decisions this week. None is expected to move. — Reuters

Weaker growth

"The flash estimate of Q3 GDP data will be scrutinised in the UK, with markets looking for evidence of any initial Brexit impact," said Madhur Jha at Standard Chartered.

"While real economy indicators have yet to show any material slowdown, sentiment indicators suggest weaker growth over the coming quarters."

Sterling has fallen about 18 percent against the dollar to multi-decade lows since the referendum. That should help exporters, but it also means inflation is likely to rise sharply, muddying the monetary policy outlook. Concern about inflation has split economists' views on interest rates. A slim majority in a Reuters poll thinks the Bank of England will trim the Bank Rate by another 15 basis points, dropping it to a record low of 0.1 percent.



Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report

Sunday 23 October 2016

Index	Change	Closing	Last Closing	High	Low
Price Index	▲ 9.03	5,330.49	5,321.46	5,331.29	5,318.68
Weighted Index	▲ 2.11	348.22	346.11	348.22	346.13
KSX 15	▲ 7.23	812.23	805.00	812.23	804.72

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
MARIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	92	▲ 0.0
IKARUS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	29	▲ 0.0
IPG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	345	▲ 0.0
NAPESCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	780	▲ 0.0
ENERGYH	43.0	43.0	7,500	323	3	43.0	▼ -1.0
GPI	38.5	36.5	6,655,525	250,913	147	36.5	▼ -1.0
ABAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	85	▲ 0.0
Oil & Gas			6,663,025	251,236	150	747.52	▼ -2.93

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
KFOUC	164	162	125,000	20,300	6	162	▼ -2.0
BPCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	450	▲ 0.0
ALKOUT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	600	▲ 0.0
ALQURAIN	198	196	140,399	27,773	11	198	▲ 2.0
Basic Materials			265,399	48,073	17	896.42	▲ 0.95

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
KCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	370	▲ 0.0
REFRI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	300	▲ 0.0
CABLE	370	365	69,907	25,766	8	370	▲ 0.0
SHIP	154	154	110	17	1	154	▲ 0.0
PCEM	920	920	5,000	4,600	1	920	▲ 0.0
PAPER	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	250	▲ 0.0
MRC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	66	▲ 0.0
ACICO	285	280	5,058	1,441	3	285	▼ -5.0
GGMC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	350	▲ 0.0
HCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	128	▲ 0.0
KBMM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	▲ 0.0
NICBM	196	196	35,000	6,860	1	196	▼ -10.0
EQUIPMENT	41.5	41.0	614,900	25,361	33	41.0	▼ -1.5
NCCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	50	▲ 0.0
GYPSON	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	▲ 0.0
SALBOOKH	56	54	53,400	2,886	8	55	▼ -1.0
AGLTY	470	465	2,328,687	1,094,471	53	470	▼ -5.0
EDU	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	192	▲ 0.0
CLEANING	37.5	37.5	10,000	375	2	37.5	▼ -0.5
KGL	47.5	46.0	9,200	423	2	47.5	▲ 0.0
KKPC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	170	▲ 0.0
HUMANSOFT	1,600	1,600	11,151	17,842	5	1,600	▲ 0.0
NAFAIS	180	180	118,000	21,240	1	180	▼ -2.0
SFAWAN	390	390	40,000	15,600	4	390	▲ 10.0
GFC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	33.0	▲ 0.0
MAYADEEN	30.0	29.0	6,819,364	201,771	92	29.5	▲ 1.0
CGC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	650	▲ 0.0
MTCC	54	53	2,000	107	2	54	▲ 1.0
UPAC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	670	▲ 0.0
ALAFCO	216	216	200,000	43,200	4	216	▲ 0.0
MUBARRAD	49.0	48.0	175,001	8,431	15	49.0	▲ 0.5
LOGISTICS	75	75	38,000	2,850	1	75	▲ 2.0
SCEM	80	80	30,000	2,400	1	80	▲ 0.0
GCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	74	▲ 0.0
QIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	68	▲ 0.0
FCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	77	▲ 0.0
RKWC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	94	▲ 0.0
SPEC	79	74	11,000	819	3	79	▲ 0.0
Industrials			10,576,778	1,476,460	240	1179.10	▼ -2.18

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
KSH	140	140	900	126	2	140	▲ 0.0
NSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	64	▲ 0.0
PAPCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	▲ 0.0
CATTL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	214	▲ 0.0
DANAH	84	84	105	9	2	84	▼ -1.0
POULT	176	176	10,000	1,760	1	176	▲ 0.0
FOOD	2,620	2,600	170,000	445,000	10	2,620	▲ 20.0
Consumer Goods			181,005	446,895	15	1108.98	▲ 0.54

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
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
Health Care			0	0	0	1055.20	▲ 8.40

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
KCIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	960	▲ 0.0
KHOT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	300	▲ 0.0
SULTAN	54	54	10,000	540	2	54	▲ 0.0
CABLETV	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	61	▲ 0.0
EYAS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	385	▲ 0.0
IFAHR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	158	▲ 0.0
OUAFUEL	110	108	125,853	13,839	17	110	▲ 2.0
MUNTAZAHAT	73	72	20,110	1,448	4	73	▲ 1.0
JAZEERA	840	840	57	48	1	840	▲ 0.0
SOOR	110	108	20,853	2,268	15	108	▲ 0.0
FUTUREKID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	97	▲ 0.0
ALRAI	148	148	26,000	3,848	2	148	▲ 2.0
ZIMAH	42.0	41.5	2,450,842	102,065	53	42.0	▲ 1.0
UFIG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	170	▲ 0.0
Mezzan	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,000	▲ 0.0
Consumer Services			2,653,715	124,056	94	915.19	▲ 3.37

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
ZAIN	375	365	3,722,558	1,377,681	84	375	▲ 10.0
OOREDOO	1,060	1,060	1,538	1,630	5	1,060	▲ 20.0
HITSTELEC	34.5	33.5	3,405,564	116,111	38	34.5	▲ 0.0
VIVA	830	820	18,342	15,073	17	830	▲ 0.0
Telecommunications			7,148,002	1,510,496	144	663.39	▲ 4.74

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
NBK	580	570	1,305,771	757,227	21	580	▲ 10.0
GBK	232	228	651,744	149,966	22	228	▼ -2.0
CBK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	380	▲ 0.0
ABK	310	310	10,000	3,100	1	310	▲ 0.0
ALMUTAHED	380	375	95,165	35,931	7	380	▲ 0.0
KIB	188	184	1,357,515	252,487	25	188	▲ 4.0
BURG	320	315	1,179,746	371,719	15	320	▲ 5.0
KFIN	470	465	450,805	210,378	26	465	▲ 0.0
BOUBYAN	380	375	2,326,881	872,708	33	380	▲ 5.0
AUB	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	▲ 0.0
ITHMR	32.5	32.0	220,000	7,100	4	32.5	▼ -1.0
WARBANK	192	192	411,272	78,964	62	192	▲ 10.0
Banks			8,008,899	2,739,579	216	781.78	▲ 6.00

Security	High	Low	Trades				Change
			Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	
KINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	236	▲ 0.0
GINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	630	▲ 0.0
AINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	475	▲ 0.0
WINS	102	102	4,269	435	2	102	▼ -4.0
KUWAITRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	184	▲ 0.0
FTI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	39.5	▲ 0.0
WETHAQ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	29.0	▲ 0.0
BKIKWT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	355	▲ 0.0
Insurance			4,269	435	2	942.17	▼ -4.51



MERCEDES-BENZ GLS ROADSHOW ARRIVES IN KUWAIT



KUWAIT: A.R. Albisher and Z. Alkazemi Company, the Authorised General Distributor of Mercedes-Benz in Kuwait have announced the arrival of the GLS roadshow to Kuwait. Offering car enthusiasts the opportunity to experience the emotional and technical aspects of Mercedes-Benz's GLS 500 first-hand, the vehicle will be displayed in Dome three of The Avenues Mall on Thursday 27th and Friday 28th October.

Alongside the vehicle, a new GLS Lounge will provide visitors with the opportunity to glimpse inside the dynamic world of the GLS driver. A variety of lifestyle images adorn the walls of the lounge, and highlight what it means to drive the seven seater luxury SUV. Visitors can also view new GLS video clips, speak with knowledgeable sales consultants and register for a test drive while at the lounge.

"Kuwait is the last stop in the regional roadshow, which has been well received across the GCC. The new GLS lounge concept really invites visitors to come and immerse themselves in the emotional experiences of a GLS 500, as well as its physical and technical side," said Michael Ruehle, Chief Executive Officer, A.R. Albisher and Z. Alkazemi Company. "This is a vehicle which embodies elegance, quality and exclusivity and can switch effortlessly from everyday driving to off-road explorations, making it the perfect choice for families and adventure seekers alike - so we encourage people to

come and visit the Lounge to enjoy the full experience for the short time it is on offer."

Being the full-fledged seven-seater in the Mercedes-Benz SUV range, the GLS boasts ample spaciousness and combines luxury with impressive levels of comfort, agile dynamics and also best-in-class safety. A new, dynamic exterior and revised, luxurious interior clearly underscore the impressive character of the GLS, with designers adapting the full-size luxury SUV to the current Mercedes-Benz design idiom. On the exterior, the focus has been placed on a redesign of the front end, while the rear has been modernised primarily in the area of the bumper and taillights. Eye-catching highlights in the interior include the newly designed instrument panel with semi-integrated Media Display, the new 3-spoke multifunction steering wheel, the modified centre console with touchpad and also the new appointment colours and trim elements.

The powerful GLS 500 4MATIC with V8 biturbo engine featuring direct injection now generates 455 hp, some 20 hp more than the preceding model, and at a maximum torque of 700 Nm combines outstanding performance with the high level of motoring comfort of these engines.

The Mercedes-Benz GLS 500 display will be located in Dome Three of The Avenues Mall on Thursday 27th and Friday 28th October 2016.



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK STILL ON HOLD

NBK WEEKLY MONEY MARKETS REPORT

KUWAIT: US interest rates path remain a key focus for investors in the wake of the presidential election, with a December rate hike still on the table. Federal Reserve Vice Chairman Stanley Fischer said that economic stability could be threatened by low interest rates, but it was "not that simple" for the Fed to hike. The next decision is scheduled for the second of November; however, markets priced out a rate hike and pushed it further to December with odds of a rate hike climbed to 70 percent.

Back in Europe, the ECB meeting sent a dovish signal to market although policymakers left the policy rate and the QE program unchanged. President Mario Draghi indicated that there were no discussions about tapering or extending QE at the meeting. Draghi also confirmed he would wait until December to decide whether to extend beyond 2017 with the Euro 80 billion asset purchase program formulated earlier this year.

The GCC was in the news this week with Saudi Arabia setting a record with a USD 17.5 billion bond issuance, being the government's first international offer. Factors supporting the issuance included ultra-low global interest rates and the lack of high yielding assets around the world.

On the currency front, the US dollar Index extended its recent rally from May's low at 91.91 and reached as high as 98.80 by the end of the week.

The euro on the other hand opened the week at 1.0972 against the US dollar and managed to reach a short lived high at 1.1039. The pair slowly weakened as financial markets reacted to the European Central Bank's decision to leave interest rates unchanged. The currency pair managed to close the week at 1.0887 on a stronger dollar theme.

The pound sterling lost 20 percent of its value since the vote to leave the EU, making inflation expectations sky rocket and decreasing the probability of a rate cut by the BOE in November. Investors are demanding additional premium for buying bonds from the government causing yields to increase by 37 basis points, the largest movement since the last financial crisis. The Pound remains extremely volatile opening the week at 1.2186 and closing at 1.2238.

In Asia, the Bank of Japan Governor Kuroda spoke in the parliament on Friday stating that the BOJ will evaluate the appropriate yield curve at every meeting and the yield curve can change depending on economy. The Japanese yen opened the week at 104.25 against the US dollar and remained stable despite an ongoing bullish momentum in the dollar. The currency range traded between a low of 103.15 and a high of 104.39 closing the week at 103.85.

On the commodities side, oil prices climbed almost 3 percent to the highest level in more than a year after a report showed unexpected drop in US crude stockpiles. Crude futures were trading at more than \$52 per barrel, the highest level since July 2015 after a government report showed US stockpiles surprisingly dropped by 5.2 million barrels last week. Investors were expecting an increase of 2.1 million barrels.

US consumer price index

The consumer price index increased by 0.1 percent to 0.3 percent month on month. The CPI recorded the biggest gain in five months in September as the cost of gasoline and rents surged. In the 12 months through September, the CPI accelerated 1.5 percent, making it the biggest year-on-year increase since October 2014. Core CPI gained 0.1 percent last month after climbing 0.3 percent in August.

Unemployment claims

In the week ending October 15, initial jobless claims came at 260,000, an increase of 13,000 from the prior week's revised level. The earlier week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 246,000 to 247,000. The 4-week moving average was 251,750, an increase of 2,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 249,250 to 249,500. There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 85 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

New home construction surprisingly dropped in September on the back of a falling multifamily building while permits rose more than market expectations, in signs of an ongoing progress in residential real estate. Housing starts came weaker than expected at -9 percent on a monthly basis while expectations were for a 2.9 percent increase. Single-family starts however continued to climb, rising 8.1 percent in September to a rate of



783,000. In addition, building permits continue to show a healthy market coming at 6.3 percent month on month versus expectations of 1.1 percent increase.

The outcomes from the October Manufacturing Business Outlook Survey suggest that regional manufacturing conditions continued to improve. Indexes for general activity, new orders, and shipments were all positive this month. Firms expect continued growth for manufacturing over the next six months and are becoming more optimistic about employment growth. However, the index for current manufacturing activity in the region fell from a reading of 12.8 in September to 9.7 this month. The index has now been positive for three consecutive months. The new orders index increased significantly this month, increasing from 1.4 in September to 16.3 in October. The percentage of firms reporting increases in new orders this month rose to 40 percent from 30 percent last month.

ECB keeps stimulus unchanged

The European Central Bank kept its quantitative easing program and interest rates unchanged as uncertainty has built up over a possible extension of the bond-buying program later this year. The Governing Council left the main refinancing rate at zero, the deposit rate at minus 0.4 percent and asset purchases at 80 billion euros a month, on market expectations. According to Draghi's statement, "the Governing Council continues to

expect the key ECB interest rates to remain at present or lower levels for an extended period of time, and well past the horizon of the net asset purchases". Moreover, "the Governing Council confirms that the monthly asset purchases of 80 billion euros are intended to run until the end of March 2017, or beyond, if necessary, and in any case until it sees a sustained adjustment in the path of inflation consistent with its inflation aim."

Draghi also reiterated that inflation is likely to return to the ECB's goal of just below 2 percent by early 2019 at the latest, while the majority of economists' views are that the Council will eventually extend QE to reach that goal. The ECB Council is assessing options for a redesign of the program to ensure that purchases can continue, after concerns emerged that qualified assets might be running low.

Euro area consumer price

The inflation rate in the Euro zone doubled in September as energy prices picked up momentum for the past 4 weeks, although the core rate also watched by the European Central Bank was unchanged for the fourth consecutive month. The services sector, which is the largest component of the economy in the eurozone, prices were 1.2 percent higher year-on-year in September and 1.1 percent higher in the previous month. Nevertheless, the inflation figure is still far from ECB's target of just below 2 percent even though the Central Bank has been injecting 80 billion euros every month into the economy.

Britain's consumer prices index climbed by 1.0 percent in the year to September 2016, compared with a 0.6 percent rise in the year to August. The rate in September was the highest since November 2014, when it was also 1.0 percent. The official statistics show most of the rise in September actually came from biggest monthly jump in clothing prices in 6 years and rising fuel costs. The Bank of England forecast in August indicated that inflation would hit its 2 percent target in a year, and then likely overshoots for the next couple of years as a weakened sterling pushes up inflation costs. Moreover, the core consumer price index increased from 1.3 to 1.5 percent year on year in the month of September.

The October's employment data showed that the number of people seeking unemployment benefits rose by just 0.7K in September from August. However, the August value was highly revised from 2,400 up to 7,100. The unemployment rate held steady at 4.9 percent in August and average weekly earnings rose 2.3 percent in three months through August compared to the same period a year ago. Both those indicators were in line with expectations.

Strong UK retail sales

Britain's retail sales recorded their strongest quarter of growth in Q3 2016 since late 2014. In the three months to September, retail sales volumes expanded by 1.8 percent on a quarterly basis and 5.4 percent from a year earlier, although September figures were disappointing as retail sales remained flat against an estimate of 0.3 percent month on month. The sharp depreciation of the Sterling pound by 20 percent since Brexit caused prices to rise decreasing consumers overall demand.

Kuwait

Kuwaiti dinar at 0.30310
The USD/KWD opened at 0.30310 yesterday morning.

ITALY'S FRONTLINE IN FIGHT TO SAVE BANKS

MILAN: Storage rooms crammed with loan documents have emerged as a hidden front line in Italy's battle to save its banks from the threat of financial crisis. Dozens of analysts have been toiling in back offices of the nation's third-largest lender, Monte dei Paschi di Siena, in the first stage of a campaign to sell or recover much of Italy's 360 billion euros (\$395 billion) worth of problem loans.

The analysts, engineers from a loan data firm, have worked for almost a year with the bank's officials to comb through ageing files, copies of which are kept in binders tied together with string and stacked in cupboards, in order to help prepare a 28 billion euro bad loan sale.

"Ours is a painstaking job," said Luca Mazzoni, chief executive of Protos, which has been hired by Monte dei Paschi. "Documents associated with a single loan can take up an entire cupboard. In one case I remember half a room filled with papers related to just one loan."

Monte dei Paschi, Italy's weakest major lender, is under pressure from the European Central Bank to resolve its bad debt problem by the end of the year, but foreign investors have so far shown little enthusiasm in supporting its rescue plan.

The arduous work of Protos' engineers shows how the patchy state of loan records at Italian banks is likely to hamper sales of bad debts for some time, despite a regulatory push. Experts say Italian banks may struggle to meet deadlines set by the Bank of Italy to periodically provide very detailed information about bad loans above 100,000 euros. "Banks are getting hit from all sides: they don't have the time... They may be stretched in terms of resources and they can't fix things like their IT system overnight," said Joe Giannamore, head of AnaCap Financial Partners which owns a gross 9 billion euros worth of Italian bad loans.

"If they don't have information captured centrally in one place, banks face a long, manual and very labour-intensive job." Lenders failed to keep records up to date as Italian bad loans quadrupled following the onset of the financial crisis in 2007. When they came under pressure to sell, they realised their databases lacked much of the information that buyers demanded.

DATABASES

Protos analysts have what they call their "war rooms", where they take the information dug out from piles of documents and build easy-to-consult databases. High-quality information can improve the selling price of a loan portfolio by up to 10 percent, according to Mazzoni.

"One important lesson learnt in the disposal is (that) if you have a good database, the price is higher," BPER CEO Alessandro Vandelli said after the bank sold 450 million euros in bad loans in July.

This is key as banks normally offload bad debts at a loss. Monte dei Paschi's ambitious recapitalisation would be an even tougher challenge if a lower selling price for its loans had blown a bigger hole in its accounts. To shed the bad debts, Monte dei Paschi is relying on a guarantee provided by the state and a major investment by Atlante, a state-sponsored bailout fund financed by leading Italian financial institutions. —Reuters

AL TAMIMI & CO TAKES HOME AWARDS FROM IFLR

KUWAIT: The Kuwait office of Al Tamimi & Company, the largest independent law firm in the Middle East, was recently awarded by the International Financial Law Review "IFLR", the market leading financial law publication for lawyers, the "Debt & Equity-Linked Deal of the Year 2016" for its involvement as legal counsel for Boubyan Bank K.S.C.P. (Bank), a leading Kuwaiti Islamic Bank, in its issuance of Sukuk worth \$250 million. Al Tamimi & Company was also recognized by IFLR as the National Law Firm of the Year.

The awards ceremony was held in Dubai on 19 October 2016, which honored all parties involved in the deals at a prestigious black tie event held at Burj Al Arab. Several Partners and key managers collected the Awards on behalf of the firm. Accepting the awards on behalf of Al Tamimi & Company were Alex Saleh (Partner & Head of Office)

and Omar Handoush (Head of Banking & Finance).

The transaction is the first Sukuk issued by a Kuwaiti Bank to enhance Tier 1 Capital. The transaction used a Mudarabah structure in order to ensure Shari'a compliance. It will be listed in the NASDAQ market as well as the Irish Stock Exchange and will be priced at 6.75 per cent.

Boubyan Capital, the investment arm of Boubyan Bank, served as the global coordinator for the issuance along with Standard Chartered and HSBC. Other financial institutions involved in the issuance as bookrunners and joint lead managers include NBD Capital, Dubai Islamic Bank, Emirates, KFH Capital, and the National Bank of Kuwait.

The Al Tamimi team was led by Head of Office and Partner, Alex Saleh, as well as Head of Banking & Finance Omar Handoush,



Associate El Hassan Abdelrazek and Associate Abdullah Masud.

The Awards are chosen from a pool of globally nominated deals and are presented to leading firms in their chosen categories and markets. The judges looked for evidence of legal expertise, innovation and strategic vision in the deals that were nominated. Al Tamimi & Company was up against a strong pool of other international law firms within these areas. Partner and Head of the Kuwait office, Alex Saleh, commented on the awards by stating, "We are extremely pleased to receive such notable recognition and accolades from the IFLR. We want to thank everyone involved on the deal for their dedication and efforts, especially to the members of Boubyan Bank who made us part of such a ground breaking transaction in the field of Islamic finance. It is truly an honour."

اربح لغاية 60,000 KD
استخدم بطاقات "بيتك" وقد ترحب لغاية سيارتين مرسيدس-بينز وجوائز نقدية لغاية 60,000 دك

KFH ANNOUNCES WINNER OF MERCEDES BENZ GLE 450 COUPE

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced the winner of Mercedes Benz GLE 450 Coupe in the second and last draw of the banking cards campaign themed "Use KFH Cards and You May Win up to 2 Mercedes-Benz SUV's and Cash Prizes up to KD 60000", Ali Mutlaq Alsubaei. The draw was held under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

For every KD 10 spent on their KFH cards, clients will gain a chance to enter a draw and win up to 2 Mercedes-Benz cars and a chance to win the value of their purchases up to KD 600 daily for 100 days. It is worth noting that KFH Credit and Prepaid cards used in domestic and international purchases and KFH Debit cards used in international purchases are eligible for the daily draw.

Moreover, clients will gain the chance to enter 2 draws to win 2 Mercedes-Benz cars. The first draw was for the first car Mercedes Benz GLE 400. This draw was held after 50 days of the launch for purchasing transactions conducted from day 1 to day 50, while the second draw has been for the second car Mercedes Benz GLE 450 Coupe, and was held after 100 days of the launch for purchasing conducted from day 51 to

day 100 of the campaign. KFH strives to continuously offer its clients new promotions and offers that differentiate them among peers, whilst also bolstering the bank's pioneering position in the field of banking cards.

KFH marketing campaigns play a significant role in underlining KFH's principles that include boosting sales, while benefiting clients and merchants.

This new campaign is part of KFH's efforts to reward its clients and grant them additional value; thus achieving higher customer satisfaction. The campaign also aims at enhancing the bank's presence, especially that it dominates the largest market share in the field of banking cards in Kuwait.

KFH has won several awards in the field of banking cards which reinforces its success and efficiency in banking cards market. KFH enjoys high confidence and leadership in the market in addition to high quality products which have enabled it to achieve growth in cards market and increase the number of customers. KFH occupies the leading position as the issuer of banking cards and one of leading banks at the GCC level.

now... "Yawmi" account offers
KD 125,000 quarterly
and KD 5,000 daily
"Yawmi"... changed my day

BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF YAWMI ACCOUNT

KUWAIT: Borgan 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. Abdullah Saleh Obaid Yashoul
2. Khaled Saleh Mohammad Al Rzaihan
3. Mohammad Ahmed Mohammad Al-Mesbah
4. Asam Jaffer Jasem Abdulrahim
5. Yousef Abdullah Dawood Sulaiman

In addition to the daily draw, Borgan 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 two 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.

Borgan Bank encourages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances of 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 Borgan 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. Customers can also log on to Borgan Bank's www.borgan.com for further information.

MOODY'S MAINTAINS GIC'S A2 RATINGS AND STABLE OUTLOOK

KUWAIT: The Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) announced yesterday that Moody's Investor Service, in their recently published Credit Analysis report, have maintained its Long Term rating at A2 and Short Term rating at P-1. The Stable outlook was maintained as well.

Earlier this year, in June 2016, Fitch Ratings reaffirmed GIC's Long Term rating, Short Term rating and Stable outlook. These affirmations, from leading international rating agencies, reflect GIC's strong ownership structure and sound business model.

It is also indicative of the corporation's strong funding profile, good asset quality, robust internal control framework, in a challenging future business environment. It is especially commendable that the rating confirmations come despite a period of increased turmoil within the regional and international operating environments.

Commenting on the ratings, Ibrahim Al-Qadhi, CEO, said "The fact GIC has maintained its strong ratings and stable outlook despite challenging geopolitical and economic environment surrounding the region, is testimony to the success we have achieved in establishing and maintaining strong financial fundamentals, and GIC's proactive and conservative strategies have proved beneficial in facing an extremely challenging business environment". The CEO, while seeing a bright future for GIC, has expressed his utmost confidence that the GIC is well positioned to take advantage of emerging investment opportunities.

Established in 1983, GIC is a regional financial institution owned entirely and equally by the six GCC states of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. It is headquartered in the State of Kuwait.



Ibrahim Al-Qadhi

BANKS PREPARING TO LEAVE UK OVER BREXIT

LONDON: Big international banks are preparing to move some of their operations out of Britain in early 2017 due to the uncertainty over the country's future relationship with the European Union, a top banking official said. Writing in the Observer newspaper, Anthony Browne, the chief executive of lobby group the British Bankers' Association, said the public and political debate was "taking us in the wrong direction" and businesses could not wait until the last minute.

"Most international banks now have project teams working out which operations they need to move to ensure they can continue serving customers, the date by which this must happen, and how best to do it," said Browne.

"Their hands are quivering over the relocate button. Many smaller banks plan to start relocations before Christmas; bigger banks are expected to start in the first quarter of next year." Many of the world's major banks have their European headquarters in Britain, where the financial sector employs more than two million people and makes up almost 12 percent of the economy.

Banks in London depend on a European "passport" to serve clients across the 28-country European Union from one base and lenders worry that this right will end after Brexit. Browne said while finance minister Philip

Hammond and Brexit minister David Davis were "making the right noises", he was concerned that some high-profile Brexit supporters believed banks did not need passporting and could rely on so-called equivalence, under which the EU can allow access to its markets for countries whose regulations are similar to the bloc's.

"The EU's equivalence regime is a poor shadow of passporting, it only covers a narrow range of services, can be withdrawn at virtually no notice, and will probably mean the UK will have to accept rules it has no influence over," he said. "For most banks, equivalence won't prevent them from relocating their operations."

Banks have already said they are making contingency plans to move some of their operations to continental Europe if Britain does not negotiate access to the EU single market after Brexit.

Prime Minister Theresa May has said she will trigger formal talks to leave the EU by the end of March 2017 after Britain voted to leave in a referendum last June.

She has said she will fight to retain access to the single market but several EU leaders have insisted that will depend on Britain accepting free movement of workers from the EU - a condition Britain has vowed to curtail. —Reuters

WEAK STERLING'S IMPACT ON UK CORPORATES

by Hayder Tawfik

Sterling has fallen by over 20 percent against the US dollar, 16 percent against the euro and 23 percent against the Japanese yen since the 23rd of June 2016 and it could fall more if the Brexit terms is not triggered. This might not be good news but there are some winners out of what we can call a real and long waited devaluation of the pound sterling. As the impact of the devaluation filters down to the economy, it is already affecting many companies, investors, consumers and the tourism industry. All impacted in different ways and shapes. In the short term and for the long haul. Much will also depend on how much further the pound keeps falling and for how long.

Most UK companies that have very high export ratio should benefit tremendously from this massive devaluation. Companies that sell most of their products outside the UK can now be very competitive against their competitors. Companies like Burberry, Rolls Royce, British Aerospace, HSBC and the tourist industry etc. The tourist industry should benefit from the devaluation of the pound immediately as foreign tourist can spend more time in the UK for less money.

CA problem

The UK current account should see increase in all income from abroad. This should offset Britain's reliance on foreign goods and capital. Economists surveyed by Bloomberg see the country's current-account deficit, near a record 7 percent of GDP, falling to 3.9 percent by mid-2017 while the Bank of England expects it to halve over the next three years. The UK FTSE stock market has rallied by nearly 20 percent from the date of the Brexit vote. This was not comfort for foreign investors as it just offset the fall in Sterling. Local investors gained the most from the fall of the pound.

UK consumers might be one of the big losers out of the pound devaluation. The pound's decline is set to boost inflation to 2.2 percent on average next year from virtually zero in 2015, according to the latest economic forecast. This means consumers' money will be worth less and less. Consumer price growth already surged to 1 percent in September, the highest level in almost two years, with the prospects of more to come as some food retailers have already warned of possible price hikes.

Overall, this might be bad news for the UK economy as it has been relying on consumer spending for its steady economic growth. Latest official data show that Input prices-including raw material, imported parts and equipment and other costs - rose an annual 7.2 percent in September, leaving companies with having to choose between trimming profit margins or hitting customers with higher prices. Also British savers will lose out by rising inflation, savers will see the purchasing power of their savings decline, whether they're planning to cash out or diversify into non-pound-denominated assets.

Interest rates

Meanwhile, interest rates will likely remain at record lows after the Bank of England cut rates in August and suggested more easing may be on the way. The British people voted for leaving the European Union but the government will drag its feet with Brussels to get the best exit terms. This could take a while to happen and meanwhile the pound could weaken further. — Rasameel

JARIR SAYS RETAIL SLUMP MAY BE NEAR ENDING

RIYADH: The slump in Saudi Arabia's retail sector may be close to ending as consumption starts to stabilise after shrinking because of low oil prices and government austerity policies, the chairman of one of the kingdom's biggest retail chains said. "We think the sharp decline is fundamentally over, or will be over by the end of this year," said Muhammad Alagil, chairman of Jarir Marketing Co, which focuses on selling consumer electronics, books and office supplies.

Next year, the company may be able to grow both profit and sales at rates in the high single digits or low double digits, he added - though much of that growth would come from opening new stores rather than increasing business at existing outlets.

Saudi Arabia faces its most difficult economic times in a generation as the government cuts spending in order to curb a huge budget deficit caused by shrunken oil revenues. The retail and wholesale sectors, including restaurants and hotels, shrank 0.6 percent from a year ago in the second quarter of this year. Jarir's net profit edged up 0.7 percent from a year earlier to 220 million riyals (\$58.7 million) in the third quarter as its sales dropped 1.0 percent to 1.52 billion riyals. Alagil said low oil prices were hurting his stores' business not merely in Saudi Arabia but also in other Gulf Arab economies.

"If it falls 15 percent in Saudi, it is falling 10 percent at our stores elsewhere in the Gulf," he said in an interview at the Reuters Middle East Investment Summit. Alagil said there was uncertainty in the Saudi retail sector because of cuts to the allowances of public sector employees announced last

month and the risk of more austerity steps to follow. Authorities have said they plan to introduce value-added tax, at a rate of about 5 percent, in 2018.

"It is very difficult to be clear about how much the impact of these steps will be. Nobody is really sure." Reflecting that uncertainty, Jarir's share price has plunged 45 percent this year to 87.00 riyals, a level which Alagil described as excessively cheap. He said he didn't exclude the possibility of a share buy-back, although that would depend on the board's decision.

Alagil said there were several reasons to think the worst of the slump was ending. One reason was that many people had begun dipping into their savings to sustain spending. Also, consumer spending by many millennials - young adults in the late teens, 20s or early 30s - was remaining quite strong because they had little debt or family obligations.

While Jarir's sales of office supplies fell at annual rates of 20 to 25 percent earlier this year as companies cut back, especially in the embattled construction industry, the pace of decline has slowed substantially, Alagil added. If consumption stays sluggish next year, it could trigger a shakeout in the retail sector that allows Jarir to gain market share, he said; the company plans to open four new stores in Saudi Arabia and two in Kuwait next year, and is sticking to a previously announced plan to have 60 stores by the end of 2018 compared to 44 now.

"Because a lot of people think the situation is bad, it is an opportunity to push the envelope for growth," Alagil said, noting that the 1980s, another period of low oil prices which hurt the Saudi economy, was a time of growth for Jarir. — Reuters



TOYOTA ADVANCES EFFORTS TO MAKE ALWAYS BETTER CARS

TOYOTA HAS BECOME ONE OF BEST GLOBAL BRANDS: REPORT

KUWAIT: According to Johan Heislitz Senior Business Director Toyota at Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer "Toyota is continuing to evolve as brand driven by innovation aiming to lead the future of mobility through product development, sustainability and focus on people. The top automaker brand recognition is a testimony of Toyota's commitment to build ever-better safe, exciting and fun-to-drive vehicles."

Pioneering Efforts Towards Sustainability
The concept of environment friendly vehicles was revolutionized with the groundbreaking unveiling of Mirai, world's first mass-produced hydrogen fuel cell vehicle and launch of the fourth generation Prius, world's first mass-produced hybrid vehicle.

Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050 was announced in October of last year, setting challenges that it will undertake in order to

reduce the negative impacts automobiles have on global environmental health to as close to zero as possible, and to contribute to the creation of a sustainable society.

In order to fulfill these challenges, Toyota is working to expand its lineup of hybrid vehicles even further and will work to contribute to the environment by achieving annual sales of 1.5 million units, and cumulative sales of 15 million units by 2020.

Extensive Focus on Research and Information

In 2015-16, the company announced the establishment of two new companies: Toyota Research Institute (TRI) and Toyota Connected Inc (TC). TRI focuses on research and development in the areas of artificial intelligence, robotics, and materials science. The results of



the research will help provide mobility to more people, improve transportation safety, and enhance Toyota's leadership in autonomous mobility. Toyota Connected was established to provide data-driven services to support Toyota globally, and provide industry-

leading solutions in the fields of data management, data analytics, and service development. The end result aims to offer consumers a more contextual driving experience, where the car and its technology can be used more effectively and efficiently.

Toyota New Global Architecture (TNGA)

TNGA is an integrative framework inclusive of planning, purchasing and production which consists of three operational steps. The first is to improve the vehicles themselves and enhance the emotional appeal of eye-catching style and "fun to drive" as well as the rational appeal of excellent functionality. The second is grouping development, which enables "smart sharing" of parts and components across different models. This achieves both individual and overall optimization at a

high level. The third is "smart Monozukuri (manufacturing)" in which TMC and suppliers work as one to eliminate waste from the planning and development process. Accelerating these three operational steps to deliver "Always Better Cars" to customers.

About Interbrand's Top 100 Brands:

Interbrand's publishes top 100 brands report based on a unique methodology analyzing the many ways a brand touches and benefits an organization, from attracting top talent to delivering on customer expectation. Three key aspects contribute to a brand's value: the financial performance of the branded products or services; the role of the brand in the purchase decision process; and the strength the brand has to command a premium price, or secure earnings for the company.



AT&T's \$85.4BN DEAL FOR TIME WARNER: A NEW BET ON SYNERGY

NEW YORK: AT&T's \$85.4 billion purchase of Time Warner represents a new bet on synergy between companies that distribute information and entertainment to consumers and those that produce it. The acquisition would combine a telecom giant that owns a leading cellphone business, DirecTV and an internet service with the company behind HBO, CNN, and some of the world's most popular entertainment, including "Game of Thrones," the "Harry Potter" franchise and professional basketball. It's the latest big media acquisition by a major cable or phone company - such as Comcast's 2011 purchase of NBC Universal - and aimed at shoring up businesses upended by the internet.

Regulators would have to sign off on the deal, no certain thing. The prospect of another media giant on the horizon has already drawn fire on the campaign trail. Speaking in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump vowed to kill it if elected because it concentrates too much "power in the hands of too few." Sen. Al Franken, a Minnesota Democrat, said the deal "raises some immediate flags about consolidation in the media market" and said he would press for more information on how the deal will affect consumers.

MEDIA MERGER MANIA

Network-owning companies like AT&T are investing in media to find new revenue sources and ensure they don't get relegated to being just "dumb pipes." In addition to the Comcast-NBC Universal deal, Verizon bought AOL last year and has now proposed a deal for Yahoo to build a digital-ad business.

After its attempt to buy wireless competitor T-Mobile was scrapped in 2011 following opposition from regulators, AT&T doubled down on television by purchasing satellite-TV company DirecTV for \$48.5 bil-



NEW YORK: Pedestrians walk by an entrance to the Time Warner Center in New York. On Saturday, several reports citing unnamed sources said AT&T is in advanced talks to buy Time Warner, owner of the Warner Bros. movie studio as well as HBO and CNN. — AP

lion. AT&T is expected to offer a streaming TV package, DirecTV Now, by the end of the year, aimed at people who have dropped their cable subscriptions or never had one. The venerable phone company has to contend with slowing growth in wireless services, given that most Americans already have smartphones. And it faces new competitors for that business from cable companies. Comcast plans to launch a cellphone service for its customers next year.

AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson, who will run the combined company, said on a conference call that the deal will allow AT&T to offer unique services, particularly on mobile, though he didn't provide details. Jeff Bewkes, the Time Warner CEO who will stay with the company for an undefined transition period, added that more money will help fund production of additional programming and films.

Both men stressed that it will be easier to "innovate" when the companies are joined and don't have to negotiate usage rights at arm's length. (AT&T, of course, will still have to strike such deals with

entertainment conglomerates it doesn't own.) The combined company is also likely to lean more heavily on advertisements targeted at individuals based on their interests and personal details. Buying Time Warner may be "a good defensive move" against Comcast as the cable giant continues stretching into new businesses, New Street Research analyst Jonathan Chaplin said in a Friday note. Comcast also bought movie studio DreamWorks Animation in August.

POTENTIAL DOWNSIDES

Even if the AT&T deal overcomes opposition in Washington, it's possible that regulators might saddle the combined company with so many conditions that the deal no longer makes sense.

"It's not hard to imagine what you can do on paper. They would keep HBO exclusive for only DirecTV subscribers, or only make TNT or TBS available over AT&T Wireless," said analyst Craig Moffett of research firm MoffettNathanson, referring to Time Warner networks. "But as a practical matter, those kinds of strategies are expressly

prohibited by the FCC and antitrust law." Then there is the \$85 billion that AT&T is handing over to Time Warner, almost 40 percent more than investors thought the company was worth a week ago. "Count me as a skeptic that there is real value to be created," Moffett said. Amy Yong, an analyst at Macquarie Capital, recalled many celebrated media deals of the past have turned into duds - in particular, Time Warner's disastrous acquisition by AOL in 2001. "If you look at history, it's still an unproven" that big deals make sense, she said. AT&T, she noted, was paying "a huge price." Still, Yong said that AT&T and other phone companies feel they have to act because the threats to their business seem to be coming from every direction. "At the end of the day, these companies are trying to compete with Google and Facebook and Amazon, not just traditional competitors," she said. "You see Google pivoting into wireless."

John Bergmayer of the public-interest group Public Knowledge, which often criticizes media consolidation, warned of harm to consumers from the AT&T deal. He said, for example, AT&T might let wireless customers watch TV and movies from Time Warner without counting it against their data caps, which would make video from other providers less attractive.

MARKET MOVES

Shares of AT&T, as is typical of acquirers in large deals, fell on reports of a deal in the works on Friday, ending the day down 3 percent. But the prospect of more media acquisitions sent several stocks soaring Friday. Netflix and Discovery Communications each jumped more than 3 percent. Time Warner rose nearly 8 percent on Friday, and is now up 38 percent since the start of the year. The company has moved aggressively to counter the threat that sliding cable subscriptions poses to its business. —AP

INDONESIAN NATIONALISM TAKES A BITE OUT OF APPLE

JAKARTA: Apple is battling to gain a foothold in Indonesia after nationalistic regulations hit the US tech giant's efforts to compete in the booming emerging market against Samsung and other rivals.

The iPhone 6S and 7 are yet to be released in Southeast Asia's top economy as Apple struggles to fulfil requirements that phone makers must have 20 percent "local content" for 4G handsets sold in the country. South Korea's Samsung has been able to meet the demands and gain a share of the market in Indonesia - a country of 255 million people, with an army of young consumers - more than 25 times bigger than Apple.

Officials say the regulations that came into force this year are aimed at supporting the growth of the local manufacturing industry, which lags behind its Asian peers, and plan to raise the local content requirement to 30 percent at the start of next year. But to critics, it is just the latest example of misguided nationalistic rules that hamper rather than help business in Indonesia, which is ranked 109th on the World Bank's ease of doing business index. The new rules "force companies to rethink the entire supply chain and that is expensive for them to do," Sudev Bangah of International Data Corporation (IDC), a consumer technology

market research firm, told AFP. Apple has encountered problems in other emerging markets, notably India where the Silicon Valley giant is facing roadblocks in its quest to open stores instead of selling products through third-party retailers.

The Indian government reportedly refused in May to exempt Apple from rules stating foreign single-brand retailers must buy at least 30 percent of their parts locally to open their own outlets.

Local content rules

In Indonesia meeting the local content rules has been easier for Samsung, as it already had factories in the country, and has added assembly lines to the plants to carry out the final stages of production. Other competitors, including Asus, Lenovo, Oppo and BlackBerry - which used to dominate in Indonesia but has seen its market share obliterated - have also taken steps to fulfil the government's demands. However officials admit that so far the rules are not boosting Indonesia's phone manufacturing industry as they had hoped. Firms have met the demands by getting local vendors to supply simple parts, such as boxes, manuals and chargers, and hi-tech components are still being imported. — AFP



JAKARTA: Sales staff waiting for customers at a smartphone store in a shopping mall in Jakarta. Apple is battling to gain a foothold in Indonesia after nationalistic regulations hit the US tech giant's efforts to compete in the booming emerging market against Samsung and other rivals. — AFP

ORBITAL CARGO SHIP ARRIVES AT SPACE STATION

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida: The International Space Station received its first shipment from Virginia in more than two years yesterday following a sensational nighttime launch observed 250 miles up and down the East Coast. Orbital ATK's cargo ship pulled up at the space station bearing 5,000 pounds of food, equipment and research. "What a beautiful vehicle," said Japanese astronaut Takuya Onishi, who used the station's big robot arm to grab the vessel. The capture occurred as the spacecraft soared 250 miles above Kyrgyzstan; Onishi likened it to the last 195 meters of a marathon.

Last Monday's liftoff from Wallops Island was the first by an Antares rocket

since a 2014 launch explosion. Orbital ATK redesigned its Antares rocket and rebuilt the pad. While the Antares was grounded, Virginia-based Orbital ATK kept the NASA supply chain open with deliveries from Cape Canaveral, Florida, using another company's rocket.

NASA is paying Orbital ATK and SpaceX to stock the station, but now SpaceX is grounded. The California company is investigating why one of its Falcon rockets exploded in a massive fireball during launch pad testing on Sept. 1. Following liftoff, Orbital ATK's Cygnus capsule orbited solo for twice the usual amount of time. NASA wanted the Cygnus - named after the swan constellation - to wait for three astronauts

to launch from Kazakhstan. They arrived Friday, doubling the size of the crew. Besides Onishi, the crew includes two Americans and three Russians.

Helping Onishi with the Cygnus yesterday morning was NASA astronaut Kate Rubins. Their four-month mission will end next weekend. This particular Cygnus, meanwhile, is officially known as the S S Alan Poindexter. Orbital ATK named it after a former space shuttle commander who helped to build the station.

He was killed in a jet ski accident in 2012. Once the Cygnus is unloaded, it will be filled with trash and set loose to burn up in the atmosphere in mid-November. — AP



The Cygnus resupply ship slowly approaches the International Space Station (ISS) before the Canadarm2 reaches out and grapples it yesterday. — AFP



In this photograph taken on April 19, 2016, an Afghan farmer harvests opium sap from a poppy field in the Chaparhar district of Nangarhar province. — AFP

AFGHAN OPIUM CULTIVATION UP AS ERADICATION COLLAPSES

ADDICTION LEVELS HAVE RISEN SHARPLY

KABUL: Afghanistan saw a 10 percent jump in opium cultivation this year because of bumper harvests, collapsing eradication efforts due to growing insecurity and declining international aid to combat drugs, the UN said yesterday. Cultivation dropped last year due to drought but it has been on the rise in the past decade, fuelling the Taliban insurgency and spurring a growing crisis of drug addiction despite costly US-led counter-narcotics programs.

High levels of cultivation this year meant the estimated opium production soared 43 percent to 4,800 tons, a UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) report said, underscoring a "worrying reversal" in efforts to combat the scourge of drugs. "The cultivation has increased by 10 percent this year compared to the same time in 2015 - from 183,000 hectares to 201,000 hectares," counter-narcotics minister Salamat Azimi told reporters while releasing the UN report.

The statistics represent the third-highest level of cultivation in Afghanistan in more than two decades - after a record high in 2014 and 2013. Officials cited favorable weather, rising insecurity and falling international donor support as the main reasons for the increase in cultivation in Afghanistan, the world's leading producer of opium. Ninety-three percent of the cultivation took place in the southern,

western and eastern parts of the country, the report said.

The southern restive province of Helmand remained the country's top poppy-cultivating province, followed by Badghis, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Nangarhar and Farah - all hotbeds of insurgent activity. "I believe with the existing equipment, facilities and civilian task force, we cannot fight the cultivation of poppy in insecure areas," said Baz Mohammad Ahmadi, deputy minister of interior for counter-narcotics. "The challenges of deteriorating security in different parts of the country took away the opportunities to destroy poppy farms."

Seeds of War

Eradication efforts appeared to have collapsed. A total of 355 hectares of poppy eradication was carried out this year, a 91 percent plunge from 2015. "In 2016, farmers' resistance against poppy eradication operations was occasionally expressed through direct attacks on eradication teams," the UN report said. "No eradication took place in the provinces with high levels of opium poppy cultivation due to the extremely poor security situation in those areas and logistical/financial challenges to organize the eradication teams on time."

Afghanistan saw a drop in opium cultivation last year for the first time since 2009, a UN report said,



Heroin addicts, covered by a sheet, smoke opium at a park in Kabul yesterday.

citing drought as a key reason for the decline. But that was seen as a temporary blip. Poppy farmers in Afghanistan are often taxed by the Taliban, who use the cash to help fund their insurgency against government and NATO forces. "Most of the conflicts in Afghanistan are financed by income from poppy. Anywhere you see poppy in Afghanistan you see fighting there," said Ahmadi.

International donors have splurged billions of dollars on counter-narcotics efforts in Afghanistan over the past decade,

including efforts to encourage farmers to switch to other cash crops such as saffron. But those efforts have shown little results. Addiction levels have also risen sharply - from almost nothing under the 1996-2001 Taliban regime - giving rise to a new generation of addicts since the 2001 US-led invasion of Afghanistan.

"We explain to the international community that now is the time to increase support for counter-narcotics in Afghanistan," said UNODC regional chief Andrey Avetisyan. — AFP

CHILDREN OF BONDED LABORERS USE MEMORIES TO SAVE OTHERS

BENGALURU, India: They are not easy to spot. Working in vegetable patches and on millet fields in India's southern state of Karnataka, farm laborers caught in debt bondage suffer mainly in silence. But Gopal V has lived with this silence for long enough. Now 44, the son of bonded laborers is on a mission to identify workers trapped in debt bondage - and to make sure they get justice. "My parents worked endless hours not for money, just food," Gopal said. "They worked for a landlord in my village, whose house I still can't enter. He paid them back with a little food, and my father died in bondage."

Now, he travels across villages around Anekal, near the city of Bengaluru, looking for people like his parents. There is an urgency to his search, he says, because he wants to "get them out before they die". India banned the practice of bonded labor in 1976, but the country is still home to 11.7 million bonded laborers, according to the International Labor Organization (ILO). The laborers may be working to pay off a loan from their employer, or a debt inherited from a relative.

Jeevika, a non-profit organization that works to eradicate bonded labour in the southern state, said it identified 12,811 bonded laborers in Karnataka between 2012 and 2015. Most of them are still waiting for state authorities to give them release certificates and compensation money, it said. Its founder, Kiran Kamal Prasad, estimates that there are up to 200,000 bonded laborers across Karnataka. "It is a perennial problem that persists in the agriculture sector," said Druthi Lakshmi of the state's rural development department. "We know they are really poor, illiterate people who often go back to the same landlord for work after they are rescued because the rehabilitation money is not enough."

The government is in the process of undertaking a more comprehensive survey to identify people in bondage, she added. Gopal and others like him who work in partnership with Jeevika use their childhood memories of suffering and debt bondage to encourage others to find a way out of it. "The fear of the landlord still exists

in our (lower-caste) Dalit communities and people refuse to acknowledge they are in bondage," said Ramakrishna V, also the son of a bonded laborer. "It takes a lot of talking before they break down and admit they are paying off a loan they took many, many years ago," said Ramakrishna, now a lawyer fighting for workers' rights in court.

Threats

Activists say most people trapped in bonded labour are unaware of the fact they might have paid off their initial loan 10 times over. In addition, the 1976 Abolition of Bonded Labour Act cancels any dues that may be pending when a worker is rescued from bondage, they said. Jayaboraiah, 47, recalled how he was studying in his room when the landlord of his hostel came knocking. "He said my father had disappeared without repaying the 800 rupees (\$12) loan he had taken to start a sericulture (silk production) business. I dropped out of school and spent eight years working in his home and field to pay off that loan," Jayaboraiah said.

But a glance at a report on bonded labor in a newspaper one morning led him to a government office to ask for help. "Now I know the law and am able to explain to families in debt bondage that they have repaid their dues and should now be demanding minimum wages," he said. All three men said their personal experience of growing up in the shadow of debt bondage helps them to start a conversation about the issue in villages where traditionally lower-caste people still find it "almost impossible to leave the clutches of a landlord". Gopal said: "We are constantly threatened and so are workers, but we keep going to villages and areas where Dalits live and we lived until recently." "It takes a lot of probing before anyone admits to having taken a loan and working to repay it. It takes us months to build trust," he said. Gopal's three daughters have documented the lives of their grandfather and uncles who worked as bonded laborers. "I tell them about it because it is the reality from which they have emerged, and it makes them sensitive to the fact that many more still need help," Gopal said. — Reuters

CHOLERA KILLS 9 IN ADEN

ADEN: Yemen's government announced yesterday that nine people had died of cholera in second city Aden as the infectious disease spread across the war-torn country. Ten other people in the southern port city have been diagnosed with the potentially fatal disease which is transmitted through contaminated drinking water and causes acute diarrhoea, the health ministry said. A ministry statement said 190 cases of severe diarrhoea had been admitted to hospitals in Aden, which hosts the government's temporary headquarters.

The ministry said that around 200 cases of cholera had been reported nationwide. The United Nations this month announced an outbreak of cholera in Yemen, the Arabian Peninsula's poorest country even before the war broke out. A Saudi-led coalition began a bombing campaign in March 2015 against pro-Iran rebels who seized the capital Sanaa and large parts of Yemen in a war the United Nations says has killed nearly 6,900 people.

This month, the World Health Organization said it had confirmed 11 cases of cholera in Sanaa. The WHO warned that the scarcity of drinkable water has worsened hygienic conditions and fuelled a marked increase in cases of severe diarrhoea, in particular among people displaced from their homes in central Yemen. The UN's child agency UNICEF said cholera could prove fatal in up to 15 percent of untreated cases.

The agency says nearly three million people in Yemen need immediate food aid, while 1.5 million children suffer from malnutrition, including 370,000 with severe malnutrition that weakens their immune systems. Doctors in Aden said that the WHO and the Emirati Red Crescent have supplied hospitals in the city with medical aid to help treat cholera cases. The United Arab Emirates is a key member of the Riyadh-led Arab coalition battling the Iran-backed Houthi rebels and their allies. — AFP

FERAL FELINES DEPLOYED IN NYC WAR ON RATS



NEW YORK: Sylvester, a feral cat, sits in a loading dock at the Jacob Javits Convention Center on Oct 20, 2016. — AP

NEW YORK: Multitudes of feral cats roam New York City's concrete jungle, and some now have a practical purpose: They're helping curb the city's rat population. A group of volunteers trained by the NYC Feral Cat Initiative traps wild cat colonies that have become a nuisance or been threatened by construction, then spays or neuters and vaccinates them. The goal is to return them to their home territory, but some end up in areas rife with rats.

Feline rat patrols keep watch over city delis and bodegas, car dealerships and the grounds of a Greenwich Village church. Four cats roam the loading dock at the Jacob K Javits Convention Center, where food deliveries and garbage have drawn rodents for years. "We used to hire exterminators, but nature has a better solution," said Rebecca Marshall, the sustainability manager at the 1.8-million-square-foot center. "And cats don't cost anything."

About 6,000 volunteers have completed workshops where they've

learned proper ways to trap cats. The program is run through the privately funded Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals, a coalition of more than 150 animal rescue groups and shelters. It estimates as many as half a million feral and stray cats roam New York's five boroughs.

The life of a street cat is a tough one. Some are former pets, abandoned by owners. Plenty die of disease and malnutrition or are hit by vehicles. Others ingest poisoned cat food - set deliberately to get rid of them, cat advocates say. Many of the animals are displaced as a result of New York's development, with new construction creating perilous conditions for those that once inhabited the city's nooks and crannies, from vacant lots, decaying factories and empty warehouses.

One colony of two dozen cats living in a lot on Manhattan's West Side are about to be displaced by construction on a new \$3 billion office tower. A City Council member is working with residents and developers to make

sure the creatures are moved to a safe location. The Javits Center's quartet of cats - Sylvester, Alfreda, Mama Cat and Ginger - were lured to its 56 loading docks about two years ago with pet food brought by animal-loving employees. On a recent fall morning, Sylvester stationed himself next to a commercial truck, ready to pounce if needed.

The cats are predators but don't necessarily kill rats. Instead, experts say the feline scent and droppings repel the rodents. "A mother rat will never give birth near a predator because the cats would eat the babies," said Jane Hoffman, president of the mayor's alliance. The cat population is controlled through spaying and neutering, provided free of charge by the Humane Society of New York and the ASPCA. In most cases, adoption is out of the question for feral cats because they are just too wild to be domesticated. Thanks to the volunteers, says Marshall, "we're protecting wildlife in the city, and the cats get a second chance at life." — AP



YILAN, Taiwan: Owner of Bee Farmer cafe and education center Huang Tung-ming checks a hive next to his colleague at a bee farm on October 4, 2016. — AFP photos

A beekeeper sorts out a hive at a bee farm.

TAIWAN BEEKEEPERS BATTLE TO CASH IN ON PURE HONEY BUZZ

ILAN, Taiwan: Under a shady starfruit tree Taiwanese beekeeper Jiang Hwan-bin tends his hives, pumping out pure honey for a rapidly growing market of health-conscious consumers. Jiang's family has been keeping bees for 80 years and he now manages 500 hives in the northwest county of Hsinchu. In total his family run around 2,000 across northern Taiwan. A string of food safety scandals in Taiwan has driven demand for clean, traceable produce, with pure honey seen as particularly beneficial - whether stirred into water as a summer thirst-quencher or used as a sugar substitute in desserts.

But although domestic appetite is voracious and outstrips supply, which keeps prices high, beekeepers say it is hard to fully capitalize as climate change and disease hamper expansion. This year alone saw a series of typhoons and an unusually cold January affecting early blossoms. Jiang, 54, who sells most of his produce through his shop in Hsinchu city under the name "Ah-bin Pure Honey", says his production fell 30 per cent due to the adverse conditions.

The situation for the whole family is even worse: overall production across the thousands of hives they run has dropped by two thirds, he says. The unpredictability of the seasons is reflected in islandwide honey output over the past five years. Taiwan produced 11,726 tonnes of pure honey in 2015, more than doubling in a decade, with the number of bee farms going up by over a fifth to 860. The industry is worth Twd\$2.7 billion (\$85.9 million) annually. But production has been unstable since 2011, when it peaked at 15,000 tonnes, with extreme weather a major factor.

Jiang says his fundamental focus is now disaster prevention. "We prepare for everything as much as we can," he told AFP. "What we can do is manage the bees well and do our best to keep more bees. The rest depends on the weather."

Hard Lessons

Disease problems troubling beekeepers around the world have also taken their toll on Jiang's stock. In 2005 he saw half his bees wiped out by a bacterial infection. He quarantined his queens, burned the infected frames from his hives, and started again, sharing those hard lessons with other local beekeepers. The government says it is also giving bee farmers advice on disease prevention and violent weather swings. "In Taiwan, climate change has been huge," says Wu Tzu-hsien, a senior apiculture expert for the government's agriculture ministry. "If the changes are too extreme, bees cannot control their body temperature and die."

Brand Building

In rural Yilan county in the northeast of Taiwan the "Bee Farmer" cafe and education centre sits against a backdrop of misty mountains. Giant bee statues greet visitors, who buy everything from royal jelly to pollen sachets at the store inside. There is a honey museum and active hives to teach the public about bees. Visitors come mainly from Taiwan, although some from Hong Kong and Singapore also drop in.

The business belongs to Huang Tung-ming, a fourth generation bee farmer who manages 300 hives in the area, producing a variety of honeys, including longan, lychee and melon. He has diversified to prosper, selling produce from other local bee farmers as well as his own. There are 10 "Bee Farmer" shops around Taiwan but the company sells mostly online through its Chinese-language website, a more modern approach than most traditional beekeeping families. The business brings in Twd\$50 million each year.

"In the past, farming villages were isolated. When you produced honey you didn't know where the customers were," says Huang. "Now with the Internet, with branding, packaging and a corporate image, it's much easier than before." Building a bee brand has helped Huang offset the challenges of bad weather and bee health, both of which have affected his farms. Eight years ago, many of Huang's bees deserted their hives, unable to find their way home after going out for nectar.

Huang, 61, believes inbreeding affected the bees' sense of direction and has since developed a method of isolating the best pairs. That has meant his hives have not succumbed to illnesses that have killed so many bees worldwide, he says. Despite the pressures, his son Huang Chun-yen, 33, who helps run the business, says there are still keen young bee farmers who consider it a good option in the face of Taiwan's economic stagnation. "Young people can't find jobs that pay well," he says. "As the value of bee products is high, young people go to farming villages to learn to keep bees and develop their careers."

For Jiang in Hsinchu, looking after bees means more than just business. He sees it as a global issue, key to environmental protection and food provision. "Almost one third of human food relies on bee pollination. Bees play an important role in the ecosystem," he says. Meanwhile, he does his best to defend his own hives against whatever nature throws at them. "We believe we have to work hard first, and then heaven will help us," he says. — AFP



Hsinchu, Taiwan: Customers look at products at Ah-bin Pure Honey store on October 5, 2016.



A woman walking past the entrance of the Bee Farmer cafe and education center.

CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times
248 33 199

Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem
استشاري أطفال
M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAP. PEM

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



Victoria Silverman, spouse of the US ambassador with Hakan Petek, GM of Jumeirah during the opening of the event. —Photos by Joseph Shagra



Hakan Petek, General Manager at Jumeirah speaks at the event.



Balkis Mahmoud Ali



Dalia Al-Hennawi



Dr Noha Al-Saleh

FIGHT LIKE A GIRL: AMERICAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE HOSTS CANCER AWARENESS EVENT

By Faten Omar

The American Women's League (AWL) hosted its second annual breast cancer awareness event titled 'Fight Like a Girl' on Saturday at the Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel and Spa. The event aimed to help spread awareness of the causes, management and prevention of breast cancer.

AWL organized an educational "five-round" battle against breast cancer. Round one started with Victoria Silverman, wife of the US ambassador to Kuwait, who shared her mother's experience in fighting cancer, along with three cancer survivors who shared their personal stories about battling this life-altering disease - Balkis Mahmoud Ali, Dalia Al-Hennawi and Munira Al-Kharafi.

During round two, Dr Noha Al-Saleh discussed diagnosing breast cancer and treatment options. In round three, Dr Nour Al-Huda Karmani discussed treatment options for men diagnosed with breast cancer. Doctors Juliet Dinkha and Nisrene Abu Alhosn tag-teamed in round four and addressed mental health wellness for cancer patients and family members. In the fifth and final round, Dr Fahd Al-Mulla discussed DNA testing for genes that predict a patient's probability of developing breast cancer. The attendees were treated to musical entertainment and lots of giveaways provided by the corporate sponsors.

The American Women's League donates to the Hayatt Breast Cancer Foundation Kuwait. The mission of Hayatt is to provide charitable funding for the best cancer treatment and outreach



Munira Al-Kharafi

through the Kuwait Cancer Center. Hayatt provides free, high-quality service and support for those in need regardless of their religion, race, nationality or financial status. While demand for their services continues to increase, it continues to provide personalized information and support to cancer patients and their families in an atmosphere of warmth and understanding.



MARINA HOTEL KUWAIT LAUNCHES ITS MUCH AWAITED BARBEQUE NIGHTS ENJOY THE BBQ NIGHTS AMID PANORAMIC VIEWS EVERY WEDNESDAY



The popular barbeque season is back at Marina Hotel Kuwait as it welcomes the eagerly awaited cooler months. Following last season's success, the hotel launched its Barbeque Nights in the presence of local media representatives and senior management, promising them a personalized and entertaining experience. General Manager, Nabil Hammoud along with the hotel's management team welcomed media representatives upon their arrival. They were treated to a warm and relaxing evening filled with live oriental music, shisha amid the breathtaking views of the Arabian Gulf.

On the occasion, Hammoud said: "We launch the BBQ nights at a time when people crave for a soothing and uniquely elevating experience. Our chef has put together a wide range of

BBQ specialties which will delight all tastes. The BBQ nights will offer barbequed fresh meats, seafood, variety of delightful salads and desserts every Wednesday from 7:30pm onwards."

The evening was further enhanced by the sounds of soft oriental music which complement the barbeque delights. The event lasted until after midnight and Marina Hotel ensured that every guest had a truly memorable evening.

Guests can enjoy a delightful and very pleasant dining experience with their family and friends, surrounded by a warm and welcoming ambience. With live popular entertainment, tantalizing shisha and attentive associates, the unique poolside location has a capacity to accommodate up to 150 guests at a time and has a special area for groups and gatherings.



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 23715414 23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92	24575518 24566622
Capital	Ahlam Khalidiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khalidiya Coop	22436184 24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan	Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11	24734000 24881201 24726638
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Salmiya-Amman St Hawally-Beirut St Hawally & Rawdha Coop Jabriya-Block 1A Jabriya-Block 3B Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	25726265 25647075 22625999 22564549 25340559 25326554 25721264 25380581 25628241

STATE OF KUWAIT
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



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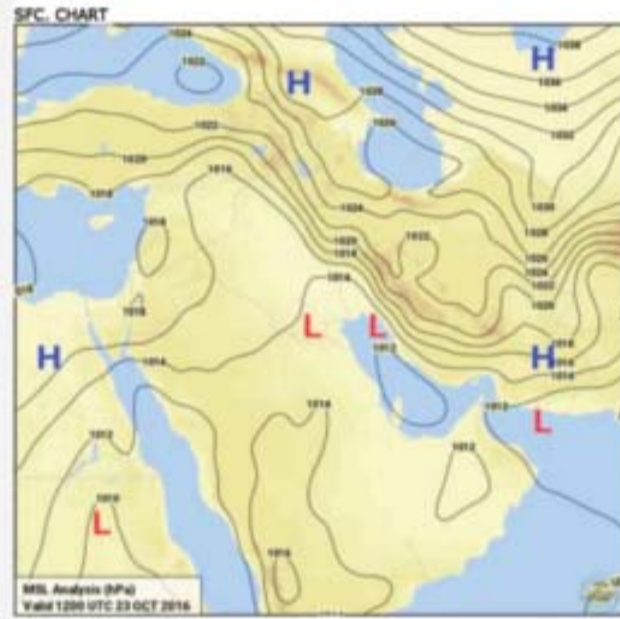
Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

Issued 23/10/2016-19:00 LT UTC +3hr

MIN Temperature 19 °C

By Night: Fair and relatively humid weather especially over coastal areas with light variable wind, with speed of 08 - 18 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear

By Day: Hot with light variable wind, with speed of 08 - 20 km/h and some high clouds will appear



Four-Day Forecast

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Expected Weather	hot + high clouds	Relatively humid + scattered clouds	Humid + scattered light rain	humid + clouds + chance for fog
Min Temp °C	19	19	19	18
Max Temp °C	36	36	36	34
Wind Direction	variable	south easterly to southerly	south easterly to southerly	south easterly
Wind Speed km/h	08 - 20	10 - 32	15 - 35	15 - 35

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

Kuwait Forecast

Station	MIN °C	EXP	Max °C
KUWAIT CITY	21		37
KUWAIT AIRPORT	19		37
ABDOLY	19		37
BUBYAN	20		33
JAHRA	22		38
FAILAKA ISLAND	22		35
SALMIYAH	25		33
AHMADI	25		33
JAL ALIYAH	21		37
QAROH ISLAND	26		33
UMH AL-MARADEM	26		35
NUWAISIB	22		35
WAFRA	20		37
MANAGISH	19		37
SALMY	18		35
NUTRIBA	18		39

Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	37
Min Temp (°C)	18
Max Rel Hum (%)	35
Min Rel Hum (%)	13
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	21 W
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm
Sunrise	05:55
Sunset	17:09

Prayer Times

Fajr	04:35
Sunrise	05:55
Zuhr	11:32
Aer	14:44
Sunset	17:09
Isha	18:27

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
Antigua	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	Panama	00507
Cook Islands	00682	Papua New Guinea	00675
Costa Rica	00506	Paraguay	00595
Croatia	00385	Peru	0051
Cuba	0053	Philippines	0063
Cyprus	00357	Poland	0048
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Portugal	00351
Czech Republic	00420	Puerto Rico	001787
Denmark	0045	Qatar	00974
Diego Garcia	00246	Romania	0040
Djibouti	00253	Russian Federation	007
Dominica	001767	Rwanda	00250
Dominican Republic	001809	Saint Helena	00290
Ecuador	00593	Saint Kitts	001869
Egypt	0020	Saint Lucia	001758
El Salvador	00503	Saint Pierre	00508
England (UK)	0044	Saint Vincent	001784
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Samoa US	00684
Eritrea	00291	Samoa West	00685
Estonia	00372	San Marino	00378
Ethiopia	00251	Sao Tome	00239
Falkland Islands	00500	Saudi Arabia	00966
Faroe Islands	00298	Scotland (UK)	0044
Fiji	00679	Senegal	00221
Finland	00358	Seychelles	00284
France	0033	Sierra Leone	00232
French Guiana	00594	Singapore	0065
French Polynesia	00689	Slovakia	00421
Gabon	00241	Slovenia	00386
Gambia	00220	Solomon Islands	00677
Georgia	00995	Somalia	00252
Germany	0049	South Africa	0027
Ghana	00233	South Korea	0082
Gibraltar	00350	Spain	0034
Greece	0030	Sri Lanka	0094
Greenland	00299	Sudan	00249
Grenada	001473	Suriname	00597
Guadeloupe	00590	Swaziland	00268
Guam	001671	Sweden	0046
Guatemala	00502	Switzerland	0041
Guinea	00224	Syria	00963
Guyana	00592	Serbia	00381
Haiti	00509	Taiwan	00886
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Tanzania	00255
Honduras	00504	Thailand	0066
Hong Kong	00852	Togo	00228
Hungary	0036	Tonga	00676
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tokelau	00690
Iceland	00354	Trinidad	001868
India	0091	Tunisia	00216
Indian Ocean	00873	Turkey	0090
Indonesia	0062	Tuvalu	00688
Iran	0098	Uganda	00256
Iraq	00964	Ukraine	00380
Ireland	00353	United Arab Emirates	00976
Italy	0039	United Kingdom	0044
Ivory Coast	00225	Uruguay	00598
Jamaica	001876	USA	001
Japan	0081	Uzbekistan	00998
Jordan	00962	Vanuatu	00678
Kazakhstan	007	Venezuela	00582
Kenya	00254	Vietnam	0084
Kiribati	00686	Virgin Islands UK	001284
Kuwait	00965	Virgin Islands US	001340
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Wales (UK)	0044
Laos	00856	Yemen	00967
Latvia	00371	Yugoslavia	00381
Lebanon	00961	Zambia	00260
Liberia	00231	Zimbabwe	00263
Libya	00218		
Lesotho	00266		



PRIVATE CLINICS

Ophthalmologists	
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
Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT)	
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner	24555050 Ext 510
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali	25644660
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel	25646478
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah	25311996
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daory	25731988
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620166
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
General Practitioners	
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
Urologists	
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

Plastic Surgeons	
Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf	22547272
Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari	22617700
Dr. Abdel Quttainah	25625030/60
Family Doctor	
Dr Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581
Psychiatrists	
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047
Dr. Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0
Gynaecologists & Obstetricians	
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
General Surgeons	
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher	25327148
Internists, Chest & Heart	
Dr. Adnan Ebil	22639939
Dr. Mousa Khadada	22666300
Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan	25728004
Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra	25355515
Dr. Mobarak Aldoub	24726446
Dr Nasser Behbehani	25654300/3

Paediatricians	
Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898
Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300
Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444
Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099
Dr. Snaa Maarouf	25713514
Dr. Pradip Gujare	23713100
Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282
Dermatology	
Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University	23845955
Dentists	
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
Neurologists	
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875
Gastrologists	
Dr. Sami Aman	22636464
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030
Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali	22633135

Endocrinologist	
Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330
Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari	25658888
Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr	25329924
Physiotherapists & VD	
Dr. Deyaa Shehab	25722291
Dr. Mused Faraj Khamees	22666288
Rheumatologists:	
Dr. Adel Al-Awadi	25330060
Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290
Internist, Chest & Heart	
DR.Mohammed Akkad	24555050 Ext 210
Consultant Cardiologist	
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

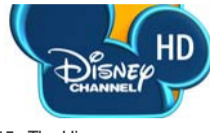
ANIMAL PLANET HD

- 04:25 Grizzly Uprising
- 05:15 River Monsters: Top Ten Beasts
- 06:02 Deadly After Dark: Polar Bear Invasion
- 06:49 Attack Of The Giant Jellyfish
- 07:36 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 08:00 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 08:25 Preposterous Pets
- 09:15 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert
- 10:10 Deadly After Dark: Polar Bear Invasion
- 11:05 Tanked
- 12:00 Preposterous Pets
- 12:55 Bondi Vet
- 13:50 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert
- 14:45 Gator Boys
- 15:40 Deadly After Dark: Polar Bear Invasion
- 16:35 Tanked
- 17:30 Crocodile Hunter
- 18:25 River Monsters (Best Of Series 1-5)
- 19:20 My Cat From Hell
- 20:15 Tanked
- 21:10 Crocodile Hunter

- 12:25 Guy Martin: Wall Of Death
- 13:15 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 14:30 Storage Hunters
- 14:55 Garage Gold
- 15:20 Gold Diver: Under The Ice
- 16:10 Alaskan Bush People
- 17:00 Deadliest Catch
- 19:30 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 19:55 How Do They Do It?
- 20:20 Gold Diver: Under The Ice
- 21:10 Storage Hunters
- 21:35 Garage Gold
- 22:00 Gold Diver
- 22:50 Deadliest Catch
- 23:40 Railroad Australia
- 00:30 Fast N' Loud
- 01:20 For The Love Of Cars
- 02:10 Gold Diver
- 03:00 Deadliest Catch
- 03:50 Railroad Australia

- 16:02 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 16:26 Ways To Save The Planet
- 17:14 How The Universe Works
- 18:02 Superhuman Showdown
- 18:50 Ways To Save The Planet
- 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 Ways To Save The Planet
- 01:30 How Do They Do It?
- 01:55 Food Factory
- 02:20 NASA's Unexplained Files
- 03:10 How The Universe Works
- 03:50 Discovery World
- 04:00 Discovery World

Discovery Family



BBC FIRST

- 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 The Musketeers
- 11:15 Stella
- 12:05 Doctors
- 12:35 Eastenders
- 13:05 New Tricks
- 14:00 The Musketeers
- 14:55 Stella
- 15:40 Doctors
- 16:10 Eastenders
- 16:40 New Tricks
- 17:35 The Musketeers
- 18:30 Stella
- 19:15 Casualty
- 20:05 New Tricks
- 21:00 The Kettering Incident
- 22:00 Programme To Be Confirmed
- 22:55 Silent Witness
- 23:50 Orphan Black
- 00:40 Casualty
- 01:35 The Kettering Incident
- 02:30 Programme To Be Confirmed
- 03:25 Silent Witness

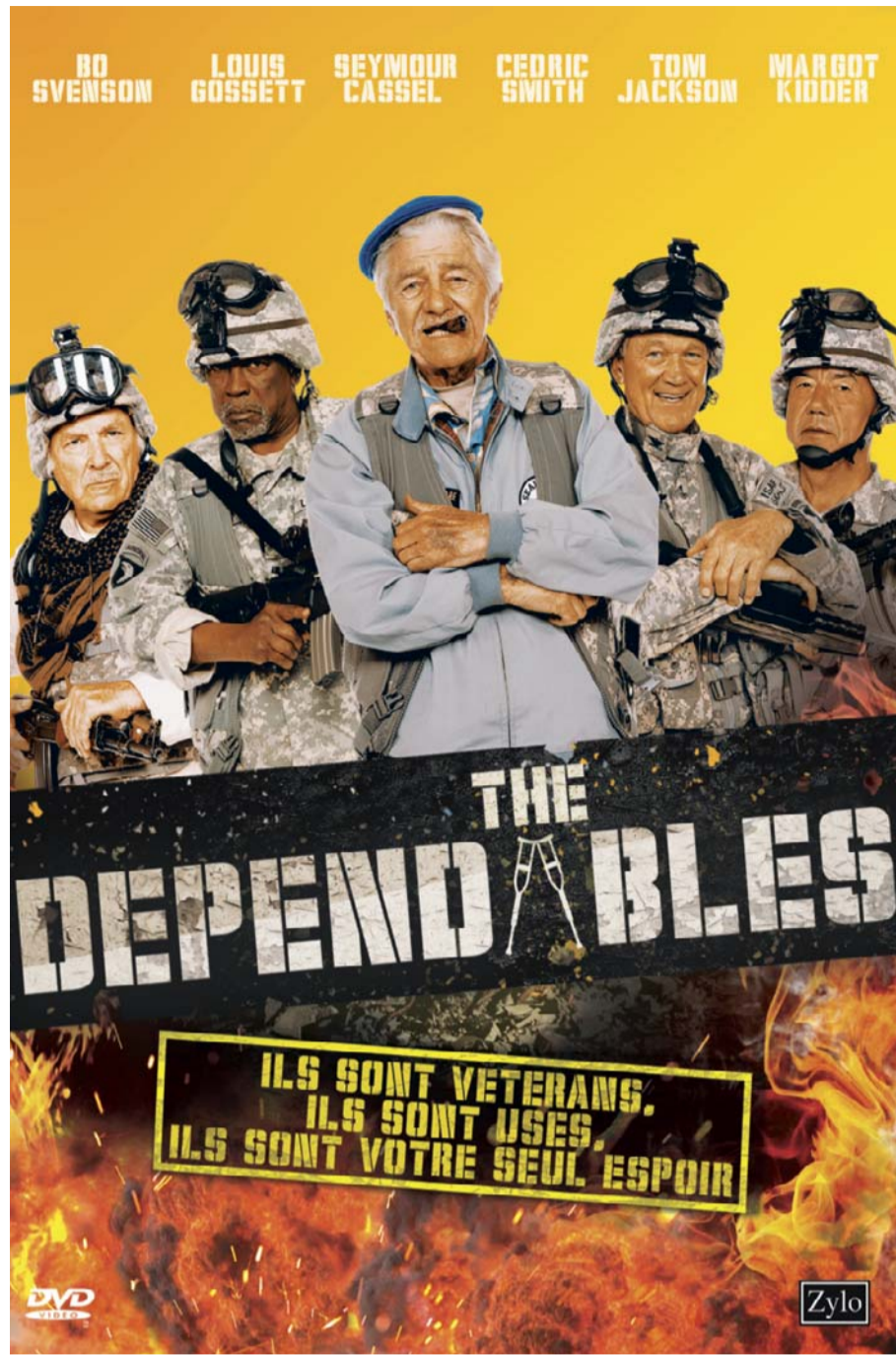
- 04:00 Strangest Weather On Earth
- 04:50 Ultimate Survival
- 07:20 How It's Made
- 08:00 Kenny The Shark
- 08:25 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
- 08:50 Too Cute! Pint-Sized
- 09:40 How It's Made
- 10:05 How It's Made
- 10:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
- 11:20 Mythbusters
- 12:10 Bondi Vet
- 13:00 Too Cute! Pint-Sized
- 14:40 How It's Made
- 15:05 How It's Made
- 15:30 Strangest Weather On Earth
- 16:20 Mythbusters
- 17:10 Kenny The Shark
- 17:35 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
- 18:00 Kids Do The Craziest Things
- 18:50 Pick A Puppy
- 19:15 Pick A Puppy
- 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 Pick A Puppy
- 23:25 Pick A Puppy
- 23:50 Destroyed In Seconds
- 00:15 Destroyed In Seconds
- 00:40 Ultimate Survival
- 01:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
- 02:20 Kids Do The Craziest Things
- 02:45 Kids Do The Craziest Things
- 03:10 Pick A Puppy



COMEDY CENTRAL

- 04:00 Workaholics
- 04:25 Catch A Contractor
- 04:50 Ridiculousness
- 05:15 Key And Peele
- 05:40 Ridiculousness
- 06:30 Impractical Jokers
- 07:20 Tosh.0
- 08:15 Tattoo Disasters
- 09:05 Ridiculousness
- 09:55 Impractical Jokers
- 10:45 Workaholics
- 11:35 Ridiculousness
- 12:00 Catch A Contractor

- 04:00 Betrayed
- 04:48 Deadly Affairs
- 05:36 Deadly Affairs
- 06:24 Deadly Affairs
- 07:12 Deadly Affairs
- 08:00 Disappeared
- 08:50 I Almost Got Away With It
- 09:40 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
- 10:30 Deadly Affairs
- 11:20 Imposors
- 12:10 California Investigator
- 12:35 California Investigator
- 13:00 Disappeared
- 13:50 I Almost Got Away With It



THE DEPENDABLES ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

- 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
- 18:55 Unbungleable
- 19:00 The Lion Guard

- 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
- 16:35 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

- 05:20 The Jonathan Ross Show
- 06:15 Home Fires
- 07:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 08:05 The Chase: Celebrity Specials
- 09:00 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
- 10:00 The Jonathan Ross Show
- 11:00 Home Fires
- 11:55 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 12:50 The Chase: Celebrity Specials
- 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 Brief Encounters
- 18:50 Home Fires
- 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 Brief Encounters
- 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

- 07:00 Poh & Co
- 07:25 Poh & Co
- 07:50 American Food Battle
- 08:15 Croatia's Finest
- 09:05 Eat Street
- 09:30 Bangkok Airport
- 10:20 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 11:10 Fearless Chef
- 12:00 Tales From The Bush Larder
- 12:25 Food School
- 12:50 Poh & Co
- 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 Lee Chan's World Food Tour
- 19:10 Poh & Co
- 19:35 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet
- 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 Lee Chan's World Food Tour
- 23:05 Poh & Co
- 23:30 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet
- 23:55 American Food Battle
- 00:20 Croatia's Finest
- 00:45 Croatia's Finest
- 01:10 Eat Street
- 01:35 One Man & His Campervan
- 02:00 David Rocco's Dolce Vita
- 02:25 Top Tables, Top Cities
- 02:50 Top Tables, Top Cities
- 03:15 Eat Street
- 03:40 Meat v Veg

OSN FIRST HD

- 05:00 Marvel's Agent Carter
- 06:00 Good Morning America - Weekend
- 08:00 Heartbeat
- 12:00 Heartbeat
- 13:00 Criminal Minds
- 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 Criminal Minds
- 20:00 Royal Pains
- 21:00 The Fosters
- 22:00 Quantico
- 23:00 Roadies
- 00:00 Sleepy Hollow
- 01:00 Prison Break

OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

- 05:00 The Dependables
- 07:00 Surrogates
- 08:45 The Dogs Of War
- 10:45 Divergent
- 13:15 Mutant World
- 14:45 Surrogates
- 16:30 The Dogs Of War
- 18:30 Divergent
- 21:00 The Maze Runner
- 23:00 AWOL 72
- 01:00 The Watermen
- 02:45 Hansel & Gretel

OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY

- 05:00 10 Things I Hate About You
- 07:00 The Single Moms Club
- 09:00 The Hundred-Foot Journey
- 11:15 10 Things I Hate About You
- 13:00 Easy A
- 14:45 Bringing Down The House
- 16:45 The Hundred-Foot Journey
- 19:00 Take Care
- 21:00 Wild Hogs
- 23:00 Unfinished Business
- 01:00 This Is 40
- 03:15 Take Care

NAT GEO WILD HD

- 04:45 Animal Storm Squad
- 05:40 Badass Animals
- 06:35 World's Deadliest Animals
- 07:30 Caught In The Act
- 08:25 Animal Storm Squad
- 09:20 Badass Animals
- 10:15 World's Weirdest Animal Faeces
- 11:10 Bear Nomad
- 12:05 Restless Planet
- 13:00 Amazonia's Giant Jaws
- 13:55 World's Deadliest Animals
- 14:50 Caught In The Act
- 15:45 Animal Storm Squad
- 16:40 Mission Critical
- 17:35 Amazing Animal Selfies
- 18:30 Grizzly Caudron
- 19:25 Restless Planet
- 20:20 Animal Storm Squad
- 21:10 Mission Critical
- 22:00 Amazing Animal Selfies
- 22:50 Grizzly Caudron
- 23:40 Restless Planet
- 00:30 Amazonia's Giant Jaws
- 01:20 World's Deadliest Animals
- 02:10 Caught In The Act
- 03:00 World's Deadliest
- 03:50 Wild Case Files

OSN MOVIES FESTIVAL

- 04:15 Blood
- 06:00 The Fold
- 07:30 Foxcatcher
- 10:00 Mood Indigo
- 12:15 Veronica Guerin
- 14:10 Anna Karenina
- 16:15 Second Coming
- 18:00 Mood Indigo
- 20:15 What Maisie Knew
- 22:00 A Thousand Times Good Night
- 00:00 Heaven's Gate
- 03:45 Second Coming

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL HD

- 04:50 Wicked Tuna: North vs. South
- 05:45 Dead 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 Planes That Changed The World
- 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
- 03:55 Mega Factories

OSN MOVIES HD KIDS

- 04:00 Jackie & Ryan
- 06:00 The Good Lie
- 08:00 Make Your Move
- 10:00 Cuban Fury
- 11:45 Avengers: Age Of Ultron
- 14:15 Away And Back
- 16:00 The Duff
- 18:00 Inside Out
- 20:00 Fantastic Four
- 22:00 Risen
- 00:00 Hitman: Agent 47
- 02:00 Infinitely Polar Bear



JACKIE & RYAN ON OSN MOVIES HD

- 12:25 Tattoo Disasters
- 13:15 Nathan For You
- 14:05 Impractical Jokers
- 14:30 Impractical Jokers
- 14:55 Ridiculousness
- 15:45 Tattoo Disasters
- 16:35 Tosh.0
- 17:00 Tosh.0
- 17:30 Workaholics
- 18:50 Hungry Investors
- 19:39 Ridiculousness
- 20:03 Ridiculousness
- 20:27 Impractical Jokers
- 21:13 Catch A Contractor
- 22:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah
- 22:30 IdiotSitter
- 22:54 Chappelle's Show
- 23:18 Broad City
- 23:42 Tosh.0
- 00:05 Tosh.0
- 00:30 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah
- 01:00 Lip Sync Battle
- 01:25 IdiotSitter
- 01:50 Chappelle's Show
- 02:15 Tosh.0
- 02:40 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah

- 14:40 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
- 15:30 Deadly Affairs
- 16:20 Imposors
- 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 Southern Fried Homicide
- 21:20 Mansions & Murders
- 22:10 I Almost Got Away With It
- 23:00 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall
- 23:50 A Haunting
- 00:40 A Haunting
- 01:30 Deadly Sins
- 02:20 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall
- 03:10 A Haunting

- 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
- 02:40 Hank Zipzer
- 03:05 Binny And The Ghost
- 03:30 Violetta



- 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
- 10:20 PJ Masks
- 10:35 Miles From Tomorrow
- 10:45 Doc McStuffins
- 11:00 Sofia The First
- 11:25 The Lion Guard



- 07:00 Booster
- 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
- 12:20 Annedroids
- 12:45 Annedroids

EHD

- 04:40 Botched
- 06:30 Celebrity Style Story
- 07:00 LA Clippers Dance Squad
- 07:55 El News
- 08:25 LA Clippers Dance Squad
- 10:15 Catching Kelce
- 10:45 Fashion Bloggers
- 11:10 El News
- 11:40 Catching Kelce
- 13:10 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 Miami
- 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 EJ NYC

NAT GEO people HD

- 04:00 Nat Geo AD HD
- Nat Geo People HD
- 04:30 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 04:55 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
- 05:20 Fearless Chef
- 06:10 Tales From The Bush Larder
- 06:35 Food School

HISTORY HD

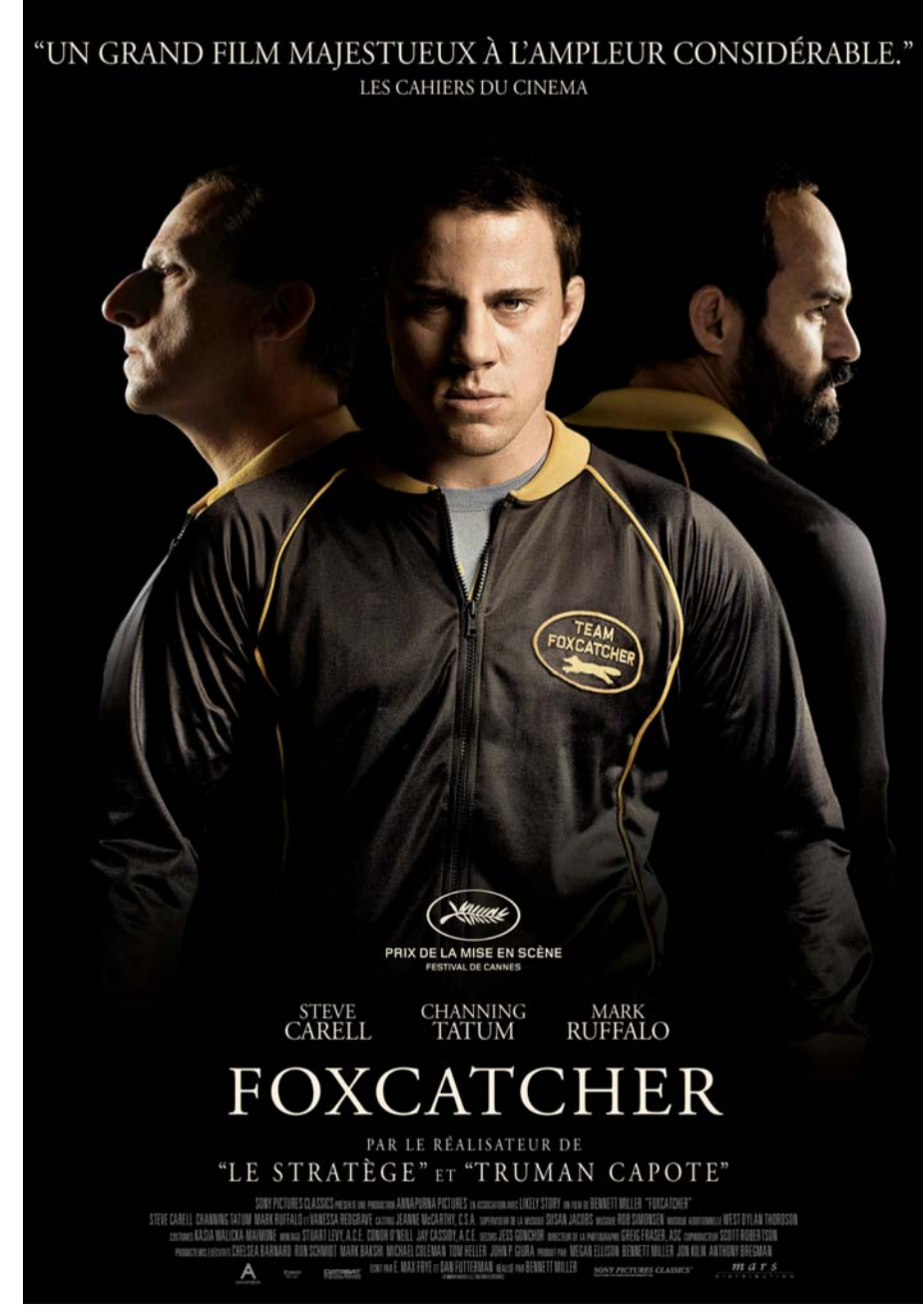
- 04:40 Counting Cars
- 05:30 Pawn Stars
- 06:00 Mankind The Story Of All Of Us
- 07:00 Shipping Wars
- 07:50 American Pickers
- 08:40 Pawn Stars
- 09:05 Pawn Stars
- 09:30 American Restoration
- 09:55 Counting Cars
- 10:45 Car Hunters
- 11:35 American Restoration
- 12:25 Mankind The Story Of All Of Us
- 13:15 Mountain Men
- 14:05 The Curse Of Oak Island
- 14:55 Pawn Stars
- 15:45 Pawn Stars South Africa
- 16:35 Shipping Wars
- 17:00 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
- 03:00 Storage Wars: Best Of
- 03:25 Storage Wars Texas

Discovery Channel HD

- 04:40 Fast N' Loud
- 05:30 Garage Gold
- 06:00 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 06:30 How Do They Do It?
- 07:00 Deadliest Catch
- 07:30 For The Love Of Cars
- 08:00 Fast N' Loud
- 08:30 Gold Diver: Under The Ice
- 09:20 Garage Gold
- 10:20 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 11:10 How Do They Do It?
- 11:35 Wheeler Dealers

Discovery Science

- 04:00 How The Universe Works
- 04:48 How The Universe Works
- 05:36 How The Universe Works
- 06:24 How The Universe Works
- 07:12 How The Universe Works
- 08:00 How Do They Do It?
- 08:26 Ways To Save The Planet
- 09:14 How The Universe Works
- 10:02 Superhuman Showdown
- 10:50 How Do They Do It?
- 11:14 Food Factory
- 11:38 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 12:02 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 12:26 Ways To Save The Planet
- 13:14 How The Universe Works
- 14:02 How Do They Do It?
- 14:26 Food Factory
- 14:50 Superhuman Showdown
- 15:38 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger



FOXCATCHER ON OSN MOVIES FESTIVAL

CLASSIFIEDS



MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2016

Kuwait Times

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KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (20/10/2016 TO 26/10/2016)

Programme	Time	Programme	Time	Programme	Time
SHARQIA-1 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK SACRIFICE SACRIFICE ASAL ABYAD ASAL ABYAD SACRIFICE	1:30 PM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:30 AM	SACRIFICE FANAR-2 INFERNO INFERNO ASAL ABYAD ASAL ABYAD ASAL ABYAD INFERNO	1:00 AM 12:15 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM	PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO	2:15 PM 4:15 PM 6:15 PM 8:15 PM 10:15 PM 12:15 AM
SHARQIA-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:45 AM 2:15 PM 4:45 PM 7:15 PM 9:45 PM 12:15 AM	FANAR-3 PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO THE MERMAID PRINCESS THE MERMAID PRINCESS PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO	12:30 PM 2:30 PM 4:30 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM 10:00 PM 12:15 AM	AVENUES-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART II - 3D 4DX JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	11:45 AM 2:15 PM 4:45 PM 7:30 PM 10:00 PM 12:30 AM
SHARQIA-3 INFERNO THE MERMAID PRINCESS FRI THE MERMAID PRINCESS THE MERMAID PRINCESS INFERNO LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	1:00 PM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 5:15 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM 11:45 PM	FANAR-4 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:15 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	AVENUES-3 LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	1:15 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:30 AM
MUHALAB-1 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK ISM- Telugu ISM- Telugu ISM- Telugu ISM- Telugu LAF WA DAWARAN ASAL ABYAD ASAL ABYAD LAF WA DAWARAN	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 1:30 PM 4:30 PM 7:30 PM 10:30 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 11:30 PM	FANAR-5 KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:00 PM 3:15 PM 5:15 PM 7:15 PM 9:15 PM 11:45 PM	AVENUES-4 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:00 PM 3:30 PM 6:00 PM 8:30 PM 11:00 PM
MUHALAB-2 PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO INFERNO PRECIOUS CARGO INFERNO PRECIOUS CARGO PRECIOUS CARGO	11:45 AM 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:15 PM 8:15 PM 10:45 PM 12:45 AM	MARINA-1 KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES ASAL ABYAD ASAL ABYAD KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 6:00 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:30 AM	360°-1 KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES	12:30 PM 2:45 PM 5:00 PM 7:15 PM 9:30 PM 11:45 PM
MUHALAB-3 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:15 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	MARINA-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 4:30 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM 12:05 AM	360°-2 INFERNO INFERNO INFERNO INFERNO INFERNO	12:15 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM
FANAR-1 SACRIFICE SACRIFICE LAF WA DAWARAN SACRIFICE LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	12:00 PM 2:15 PM 4:15 PM 6:30 PM 8:30 PM 10:45 PM	MARINA-3 INFERNO INFERNO THE MERMAID PRINCESS LAF WA DAWARAN INFERNO INFERNO	12:15 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 11:45 PM	AL-KOUT.1 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:15 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM

Needed for a Kuwaiti household

Cook

- 8 years minimum experience.
- Immediate transferable residency.

Salary 200 KD

Experienced Housemaid

- 8 years minimum experience.
- Immediate transferable residency.

Salary 150 KD

Contact: 50399999

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Syed Ayub S/o Shaik Hussain Peera**, holder of Indian Passport No: M8391273, Civil ID No: 267120203104 has changed my name to **Shaik Mahammad Ayub** hereinafter in all my dealings and documents. I will be known by the name of **Shaik Mahammad Ayub**. (C.5225) 24-10-2016

March 2002. The Last Name of the children should read as **ABDELRAHMAN ABDEFATTAH MOHAMED BASSIONY** instead of **ABDUL RAHMAN BASSIONY**. Any person having knowledge and/or claiming interest or may be adversely affected by said Petition, file his written opposition with the Embassy within ten (10) working days. 23-10-2016

EMERGENCY 112

PRAYER TIMINGS

Fajr:	04:35
Shorook	05:55
Duhr:	11:32
Asr:	14:44
Maghrib:	17:09
Isha:	18:27

The public is hereby notified that **MS. ELIZABETH SYBINGCO** has filed with the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines, State of Kuwait, Migrant Petitions for Correction of Entry In the Last Name of her children **Mahmood Sybingco Abdel Rahman Bassiony** and **Ahmed Sybingco Abdel Rahman Bassiony** in the Report of Births filed with the Philippine Embassy on 17

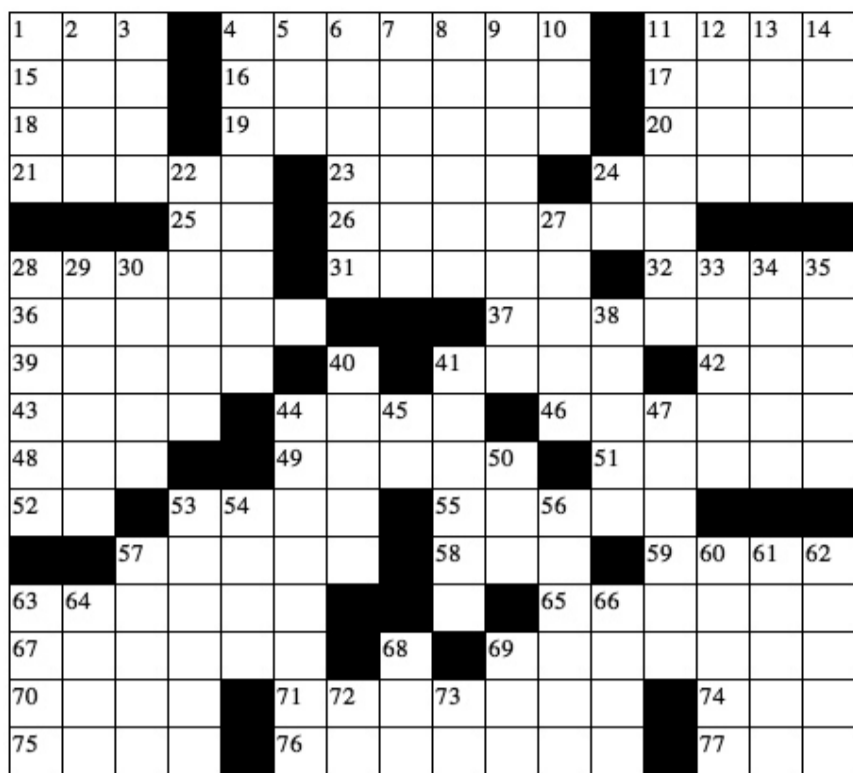
Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Monday 24/10/2016				Departure Flights on Monday 24/10/2016			
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	Airlines	Flt	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
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	MSC	416	Sohag	01:05
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40
CLX	736	Luxembourg	01:35	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:40
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	THY	765	Istanbul	02:45
MSC	501	Alexandria	02:00	KKK	6505	Istanbul	02:55
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:00	CLX	736	Hong Kong	03:05
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45
CEB	018	Manila	02:20	KAC	417	Jeddah	03:55
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	MSC	502	Alexandria	04:00
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	OMA	644	Muscat	04:05
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25	PGT	861	Istanbul	04:30
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30	QTR	1077	Doha	04:35
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40	CEB	019	Manila	04:50
DHX	170	Bahrain	04:35	JZR	560	Sohag	05:00
FEG	933	Sohag	05:00	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	FEG	954	Asyut	06:00
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	JZR	164	Dubai	07:15
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	BAW	156	London	08:25
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	KAC	173	Munich	08:35
KAC	156	Istanbul	08:00	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45
KAC	362	Colombo	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	Abu Dhabi	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
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	KAC	541	Cairo	12:05
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	UAE	874	Dubai	12:10
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	KAC	103	London	12:10
FEG	953	Asyut	12:55	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:15
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10	MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30
KNE	231	Riyadh	14:00	FEG	934	Sohag	13:55
KAC	672	Dubai	14:00	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
QTR	1078	Doha	14:05	THY	767	Istanbul	14:10

CROSSWORD 1409



ACROSS

1. A health resort near a spring or at the seaside.
4. The attribute of being capable of rapid acceleration.
11. (Irish) Mother of the Tuatha De Danann.
15. A boy or man.
16. Having a play of lustrous rainbow-like colors.
17. Wading birds of warm regions having long slender down-curved bills.
18. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
19. A monoamine oxidase inhibitor (trade name Marplan) that is used to treat clinical depression.
20. 100 sene equal 1 tala.
21. Left-hand page.
23. Produced by a manufacturing process.
25. A soft yellowish-white trivalent metallic element of the rare earth group.
26. Tropical American shrub bearing edible acid red fruit resembling cherries.
28. Essential oil or perfume obtained from flowers.
31. Long pod containing small beans and sweetish edible pulp.
32. A communication system using fiber optic cables.
36. A unit of apothecary weight equal to an eighth of an ounce or to 60 grains.
37. Confined to bed (by illness).
39. (Greek mythology) A princess of Colchis who aided Jason in taking the Golden Fleece from her father.
42. Neckwear consisting of a long narrow piece of material worn (mostly by men) under a collar and tied in knot at the front.
43. In bed.
46. Doglike nocturnal mammal of Africa and southern Asia that feeds chiefly on carrion.
48. A caustic detergent useful for removing grease.
49. A domain in which something is dominant.
51. (of complexion) Blemished by imperfections of the skin.
52. A toxic nonmetallic element related to sulfur and tellurium.
55. Cruel or inhumane treatment.
58. Airtight sealed metal container for food or drink or paint etc..
59. The basic unit of money in Bangladesh.
63. A way of access consisting of a set of steps.
65. Having or resembling a beak.
67. 1 species.
70. A member of the Siouan people inhabiting the valleys of the Platte and Missouri rivers in Nebraska.
71. Of or relating to or characteristic of Afghanistan or its people.
74. A decree that prohibits something.
75. A circular segment of a curve.
76. An island in Antigua and Barbuda.
77. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.

DOWN

1. Speaking a Slavic language.
2. Especially one side of a leaf.
3. The sixth month of the civil year.
4. (Old Testament) An ancient city near the Dead Sea that (along with Sodom) was destroyed by God for the vice and depravity of its inhabitants.
5. A federal agency established to coordinate programs aimed at reducing pollution and protecting the environment.
6. Covered with paving material.
7. Wool of the alpaca.
8. United States writer and dramatist (1897-1975).
9. An organism (especially a bacterium) that does not require air or free oxygen to live.
10. A yearning for something or to do something.
11. Characteristic of or peculiar to a woman.
12. Assist or encourage, usually in some wrongdoing.
13. (Babylonian) A goddess of the watery deep and daughter of Ea.
14. A person who makes use of a thing.
22. Spaced apart.
24. A silvery ductile metallic element found primarily in bauxite.
27. A religious belief of African origin involving witchcraft and sorcery.
29. Having or denoting a high range.
30. (Greek mythology) The god of the underworld in ancient mythology.
33. Of or related to or derived from oats.
34. Wild ox of the Malay Archipelago.
35. The function or position properly or customarily occupied or served by another.
38. Mountain avens.
40. A fine-grained unstratified accumulation of clay and silt deposited by the wind.
41. A large and stately mansion.
44. A horizontal bar that goes across something.
45. A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.
47. Any organic compound formed by adding alcohol molecules to aldehyde molecules.
50. A master's degree in business.
53. Having a tail.
54. A sensation (as of a cold breeze or bright light) that precedes the onset of certain disorders such as a migraine attack or epileptic seizure.
56. Straighten up or out.
57. A republic on the west coast of Africa.
60. Jordan's port.
61. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
62. A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
64. United States poet and critic (1899-1979).
66. English essayist (1775-1834).
68. One of the five major classes of immunoglobulins.
69. The first month of the year.
72. A heavy ductile magnetic metallic element.
73. A trivalent metallic element of the rare earth group.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

The extroverted side of your personality takes over today while the Moon is traveling through animated Leo. But the Sun's shift into secretive Scorpio and your 8th House of Intimacy reminds you to temper your spontaneity with empathy for others. Teaming up with the right people will add power and passion into your life. Acknowledging their gifts and respecting their limits create lasting and rewarding relationships. Enrich your life by expanding your community.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Discussions with young people can be enlightening. You may learn as much from them as they learn from you. You will benefit from logical insights-getting to the heart of things. Stay away from the emotional and find the facts of whatever subject is at hand. You may enjoy learning a few jokes or light-hearted stories from these young people. They will learn from your patience. A few tricks with clothes or shoes might be fun and you may realize just how long it has been since the school bell rang for you. A date this afternoon is fun and may consist of a movie. There are many conversations around the movie, the plot, the ending, etc. You may want to end the evening with a light dinner and a sweet goodbye as work comes early tomorrow.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You are so good at knowing how to fit colors together and arrange furniture so that people are most comfortable and space is best utilized that people want to come and see your house to gain ideas. You could charge for your services; you might find people would be willing to work out a trade if they do not want to pay you. This is a rewarding day where you can grab the attention or the benefits. Dare to be extraordinary. You will prosper through new insights, inventions and an independent point of view. Your friendships can deepen and new opportunities appear to add to more people to your list of friends. You enjoy hobbies later this afternoon.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

This morning starts out with a multitude of learning. Perhaps a child needs help with homework or perhaps some media format is interesting enough for you to become engrossed. Religious, cultural or philosophical controversies and crusades have a way of stirring your blood. Discussions can be quite involved but you are good to mention how important it is that everyone has their own thoughts and their own beliefs. Giving information to others is the helpful ingredient to understanding society and its needs as well as the people that say they can help fill those needs and provide security. An exciting end to this month is a wonderful beginning to next month. There is a lot of power in the voting booth and you encourage that privilege soon.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Sexual needs are just one of the life issues emphasized for you at this time. There is an instinctive need to be powerful and in control. This may lead to a greater interest or experience in healing and investing and in the great mysteries of life and death. There is a feeling that anything is possible if you set your sights high enough. There is confidence in your work and how you come across to others. Explore your feelings; enjoy the opportunity to make a path to new emotional experiences. Your support system, such as your family, home and those who give you nourishment, becomes more secure. You are able to dispense with some of the unessential and develop what is most basic and true in your environment.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You may come face to face this Sunday with someone who has very different values than you. You could find yourself cast in an opposing position and this might require compromise and understanding on your part. You will be very pleased at the outcome of the situation as you are able to communicate truths and bring about a good understanding of your position. This is a good time to be creative and secure the positive. Picking up a sketch pad this afternoon, you are able to create an example of the object of your desire. This could be car seat covers, clothes for toddlers, costumes for a play or masks for a party. If you think of a design, you can create it. You may find several people looking over your shoulder and making requests this evening.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Today you will find the best energies for traveling. Perhaps a vacation is due. If you are not traveling, consider what it would be like to visit certain parts of the country. A library or used bookstore would be an excellent place to purchase a variety of items that would clue you in on the place or the activity you might like to enjoy. Who knows, you may change your mind and look for some place or some activity that is different from what you imagined. In the workplace, your hard work is beginning to pay off-others will be giving you credit for your efforts. This next week is a great time to be in a group project-you look forward to next week's projects most positively. Quick answers, great wit and a surplus of insights are available for you.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You have a natural sense of what the public wants at this time and political issues are considered this Sunday. There may be an opportunity to help a candidate receive more votes from your city through your help. Placing flyers in shopping centers urging people to vote, volunteering to help a group drive the elderly to the voting place will all be received with grateful cheer. There is time later today to organize and plan your next project around your home. Your inventive mind is at work and there are opportunities to be recognized for your creativeness. This day will find you in a mood of self-enjoyment and you appreciate all the people who give you their support and help. You come to appreciate an older person more than usual this evening.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 19)

Secrets, conspiracies and the hidden links that unite all things take on greater importance in your life now. A family member that loves to chat and visit may point out some important points for you to ponder. Digging into the past for hints about the present and future uncovers a lot of answers to the questions that will not go away. "The unexamined life is not worth living." temptations are easy to find but you are in control and can succeed in overcoming most anything. Learning what really counts is an important lesson that may be learned in time-patience. A new family has moved into your neighborhood and you and your family are looking forward to getting to know a new family. Your family might treat the new family to some baked goods.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

The dieting experience may be more tolerable if a friend could join you in your new adventure. Try a new creative, heart-healthy frame of mind. This is the time where the energies will be working in your favor to make any nutritional changes that your body is in the mood to make. A form of physical, mental or creative endeavors will be incentive for others as they see you make a few most positive changes. Someone tells you a story about a memory from his or her past and you may remember it differently. Many times it would be okay to help with a few gentle corrections but this time it would be better just to say that you remember the telling of the story as well. Do not fall into the temptation of making corrections... Your inactivity will bring a smile.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Everything is run through your checkpoint to see if it holds up and can pass the test. You can be a stickler with details. Your social agility and animal warmth comes through as you endeavor to entertain or organize others for a social affair this afternoon. Your no-nonsense approach to things is obvious to all. This deliberate sense of responsibility comes across and is central to your personality and the way you relate to other people. Your attention to difficult matters proves successful at every turn. Some people with special needs have your attention and you will be wise to plan ahead in appointing one person for each individual that may need special attention. This evening is for you alone but you might choose to continue the spirit of sharing.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Work and career seems on your mind more than family or taking a little time away from work so you may have projects lined up next week that are on your mind. Go ahead and give yourself a full two hours to work on your outline or list for next week and then walk away. Now... This afternoon there is just enough time to enjoy your friends or family in athletic games. You will cheer each other on and share important time with each other. Later today there is a chance to meet the new neighbor that everyone was so curious about. At some point in your visiting, you may think that the world is pretty small to link up with someone with whom you have similar likes; time will tell. Tonight is spent in food preparation for next week and then there is music.

Wordsearch Puzzle

Computer Jargon 2

Find and circle all of the computer words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an additional computer word.

Grid for word search puzzle with words: ASCII, BANDWIDTH, BIOS, BUG, CACHE, CHIP, COPY, CPU, CRASH, CYBERSPACE, DATABASE, DESKTOP, DISK, DOCUMENT, DOWNLOAD, DRIVER, EMOTICON, ETHERNET, FAQ, FIREWIRE, FONT, FREWARE, GIGABYTE, HACKER, HARDWARE, INPUT, JAV, JPE, KEYBOARD, LINUX, MENU, MODEM, MULTIMEDIA, NETIQUETTE, OPEN, PASSWORD, PCI, PERIPHERAL, PORT, PRINTER, REBOOT, RESOLUTION, SAVE, SERVER, SMILEY, SOUND CARD, SPYWARE, TERAFLAP, TROJAN HORSE, UPLOAD, USB, USERNAME, VIRUS, WEB BROWSER, WINDOWS, ZIP FILE.

Yesterday's Solution

90's Songs 3

Grid for 90's Songs puzzle with words: ANGELS, ANOTHER NIGHT, BABY, BLACK, CANDY RAIN, CUPID, DITTY, DREAMLOVER, EVERY MORNING, FLY AWAY, FORTUNATE, FROZEN, HANDS, HIGH ENOUGH, HOLD ON, HOOK, HYPNOTIZE, I BELIEVE, IMPULSIVE, INSENSITIVE, IRONIC, JEREMY, KISS ME, LAST NIGHT, LULLABY, MIAMI, MY BODY, ONE WEEK, POISON, REGULATE, RELEASE ME, SABOTAGE, SHINE, SHY GUY, SWEET LADY, TEMPTATION, THE POWER, THIS HOUSE, TOGETHER AGAIN, TOO MUCH, TUBTHUMPING, UNPRETTY, WATERFALLS, WHAT'S UP, WHATTA MAN, WILD NIGHT, ZOMBIE.

The hidden song title is: SMELLS LIKE TEEN SPIRIT

Yesterday's Solution

Grid for Yesterday's Solution crossword puzzle with words: SPANISH, ADORABLE, UMBRELLA, LAHORE, LIBERIAN, TADPOLE, OCA, ARENCA, LHASA, BABY, ACOSMA, HAM, ASCH, SERRA, POSSE, IDIGRESS, ECT, LBBD, ECLAT, PEACE, MEANS, HERO, SAY, ANCI, URTH, MOD, INST, EAD, BLEEDING, EAK, BLAEGE, TERRASS, ADA, AMOEB, FADF, FLASK, GIBRAN, TURKI, GCA, ULL, CANARIES, DAM, SEE, KABBALAH, ABA.

Daily SuDoku

9 5 3 6 4 5 2 3 9 6 9 4 2 8 4 7 1 2 5 8 1 5 7 4 8 2 3 1 2 5

Yesterday's Solution

4 3 7 6 1 2 8 5 9 8 6 2 5 9 3 4 7 1 1 5 9 8 4 7 3 6 2 3 4 5 9 6 8 1 2 7 7 2 8 1 3 5 9 4 6 9 1 6 2 7 4 5 3 8 2 9 3 4 8 6 7 1 5 6 7 1 3 5 9 2 8 4 5 8 4 7 2 1 6 9 3



Turkish helmer Yesim Ustaoglu on her feminist drama 'Clair-Obscur'

Not long after her new movie, "Clair-Obscur," world premiered in Toronto, an audience member asked the acclaimed Turkish helmer Yesim Ustaoglu how the powerful, provocative film would fare back home, at a time of growing conservatism in her country. Sharing her concern with a packed house after a recent screening in Antalya, the director laughed and shrugged. "I'm showing it here tonight," she said triumphantly. Over the course of a career that saw her emerge two decades ago as part of a new wave of pioneering Turkish filmmakers, Ustaoglu has been a pugnacious presence in local cinema, unafraid to use politically charged themes as the backdrop for her intense interpersonal dramas.

Her second, groundbreaking feature, "Journey to the Sun," examined Turkey's explosive Kurdish conflict through the tragic story of two friends; four years later, she explored the fate of Turkey's Greek minority during World War I in "Waiting for the Clouds." With her sixth feature, she uses the interwoven stories of two women from different social classes to raise questions about the limitations facing Turkish women today.

For Ustaoglu, of course, "Clair-Obscur" isn't simply an issue-based film. "It's not just for women," she insists. "It's for everyone." But at the story's heart is a visceral evocation of Turkish womanhood and sexuality, told with a candor not commonly seen in local films. The helmer might argue that's precisely the point. Ustaoglu has been outspoken throughout her career about what she sees as a reluctance by Turks to ask difficult questions about their society and the uglier chapters in their nation's history. "It's one of our traditions to try to hide everything," she says.

Dead period

Buried beneath the headlines of recent political unrest, for example, are the ghosts of the military coup in 1980, echoes of which rang out on the streets of Istanbul and Ankara this July after the army's failed efforts to overthrow President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. That coup ushered in a brutally repressive decade, remembered by Ustaoglu and other Turkish bizzers for how it sent the industry into a tailspin, with production all but collapsing throughout the '80s.

Ustaoglu was among a generation - including such auteurs as Palme d'Or-winner Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Zeki Demirkubuz, and

Golden Bear-winner Semih Kaplanoglu - who helped to bring it back from what she describes as "a dead period." It wasn't an easy road to travel. "We were completely alone," she says. "And it was an analog period, too. It was an expensive time, difficult to get money." Yet to hear Ustaoglu reminisce about that time is to imagine it, too, as her own journey to the sun. "It was also so free," she says. "I did what I wanted." That freedom was due in part to a successful career as an architect, which provided the income she used to get her start as a filmmaker. Though she produced several award-winning shorts in the '80s, it wasn't until the release of her second feature, "Journey to the Sun" (1999), that she broke through, premiering in Berlin to critical acclaim. The movie's frank depiction of Turkey's suppression of ethnic minority Kurds, though, all but blacklisted "Journey" back home. "For three years, nobody touched [it]," she says. With local media and distributors effectively imposing a ban, Ustaoglu and her partners literally took matters into their own hands, traveling around the country with eight prints of the film and convincing theater owners to screen it. "Journey" was a sensation. "It was in the prisons. It was everywhere," she says. Ustaoglu would hear stories of audience members sneaking Super-8 cameras into theaters to record the movie. On the streets of Istanbul, a hawk's rapturous sales pitch convinced her to buy a pirated copy herself. As Ustaoglu has solidified her reputation as one of the most important directors in Turkey today, her films still struggle to put a dent in the domestic box office. While her politically charged themes have certainly scared off distributors in the past, the helmer says it's an even stronger indictment of Turkish exhibitors who refuse to give arthouse pics a chance in theaters.

Ethnic minority

Perhaps that makes B.O. success, when she finds it, even more rewarding. Her fifth feature, "Araf-Somewhere in Between," was panned by Turkish critics and again turned down by distributors. But when it was finally released in 2012, the film - about a young woman in the countryside whose affair with a truck driver has terrible consequences - found support in unlikely places, winning over audiences in small towns and conservative parts of Turkey. Ustaoglu admits, "The country can be surprising." — Reuters

Bollywood film set to screen after Pakistani actor ban

A top Bollywood movie mired in controversy for featuring a Pakistani actor will open as scheduled in India after an industry body agreed to ban actors from across the border in future. A hardline Hindu nationalist party had threatened to attack cinemas that showed prominent Indian director Karan Johar's film "Ae Dil Hai Mushkil", as tensions run high between New Delhi and Islamabad. But the Film and



Indian Bollywood actress Anushka Sharma attends the 'Jio MAMI 18th Mumbai Film Festival'.

Television Producers Guild of India has now promised to bar Pakistani actors in future under a deal brokered between the sides on Saturday.

The movie starring Pakistani heart-throb Fawad Khan is set for release next weekend, two days before the Diwali Hindu festival of lights, a major holiday in India. "In the larger interest of the sentiments of the people and the soldiers and the entire country, we will not work with any Pakistani artist in the future," guild president



Indian writer-producer and director, Karan Johar attends the 'Jio MAMI 18th Mumbai Film Festival' Movie Mela for the upcoming Hindi film 'Ae Dil Hai Mushkil', written-produced and directed by Karan Johar, in Mumbai. — AFP photos

Mukesh Bhatt told reporters after the meeting. Bollywood is the latest battleground for heightened tensions between nuclear-armed archrivals India and Pakistan, sparked by a deadly attack last month on an Indian army base blamed on Pakistani-based militants.

In a series of tit-for-tat moves in the entertainment industry, Pakistan has suspended screening all Indian movies until tensions calm, while Hindu nationalists in India have threatened violence at cinemas showing films with Pakistani actors. India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence in 1947. Under the deal, Johar and his colleagues have agreed to contribute 50 million rupees (\$747,220) to the Indian army as "penance" for using a Pakistani actor in the first place.



Indian Bollywood actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan attends the 'Jio MAMI 18th Mumbai Film Festival' Movie Mela for the upcoming Hindi film 'Ae Dil Hai Mushkil'. — AFP photos

They have also agreed to run a tribute to the soldiers who were killed before the film starts, according to Raj Thackeray, head of the far-right regional party Maharashtra Navnirman Sena. The firebrand leader said protests against the film have now been called off, but it was unclear if agreement was reached on his wider demand for all moviemakers to pay a penance if they had cast a Pakistani actor previously. The deal was struck at a meeting between Johar, the guild and Thackeray and brokered by Devendra Fadnis, chief minister of Maharashtra state. The state capital Mumbai is the home of Bollywood. "Ae Dil Hai Mushkil" ("This Heart is Complicated"), which stars Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Ranbir Kapoor, will hit Indian theatres on October 28. — AFP



US actress Scarlett Johansson and her husband Romain Dauriac (left) attend the opening of the Yummy Pop gourmet popcorn shop in the Marais district of Paris.



US actress Scarlett Johansson greets customers at the opening of the Yummy Pop gourmet popcorn shop in the Marais district of Paris. — AFP photos

Johansson turns popcorn girl in Paris

Hollywood superstar Scarlett Johansson swapped the red carpet for a turn behind the counter at her new popcorn shop in Paris on Saturday. The "Lost in Translation" actress-decked out in a classic French blue and white striped top-dished out the crunchy treat to punters at the launch of the

Yummy Pop store she and husband Romain Dauriac have opened in the city's trendy Marais district. The couple hope their unusual twists on the classic cinema snack-including the 31-year-old "Avengers" star's favorite truffle, parmesan and sage flavor-will wow customers in the gastronomic capital of the world.

Ahead of the launch, Johansson's spokesman in Los Angeles said she was passionate about popcorn, adding that it was cooked and mixed fresh on the spot with seasonal ingredients. After Saturday's soft launch, an official grand opening is planned for a later date. — AFP



Singer Wizkid was named artist of the year and best male musician and also won the prize for top collaboration at the 2016 MTV Africa Music Awards. — AFP

Nigeria's Wizkid, S Africa's Semanya take top MTV awards

Nigerian afro-pop star Wizkid and South Africa's Olympic gold medalist Caster Semenya won top prizes at the 2016 MTV Africa Music Awards in Johannesburg on Saturday. Wizkid was named artist of the year and best male musician and also won the prize for top collaboration at the awards, which celebrate pan-African music, youth culture and talent, with the winners chosen by public vote. Semenya, who won gold in the women's 800-metres at the Rio Olympic in August, received loud applause when she was crowned personality of the year.

"I would like to thank God for this precious talent. It's been a fantastic year for me," the runner, who has been dogged by questions around her gender, said. The Saturday night ceremony was originally set to be hosted by South African comedian and US television star Trevor Noah, but he called in sick so South African TV personality Bonang Matheba stepped in. South

Africa's jazz icon and Grammy award winner Hugh Masekela won the legend of the year award, and briefly rapped as he accepted his prize. For a second consecutive year, Nigerian artist Yemi Alade walked away with the best female award trophy while Kenyan Afro-pop band Sauti Sol took the best group award.

Alex Okosi, senior vice president of Viacom International Media Networks Africa, which runs the MTV Awards said Saturday's awards "brought the continent together, showcasing the amazing creativity and talent that Africa has to offer."

A recent study has found growing demand for homegrown contemporary music across Africa, which is driving a creative boom in an industry otherwise battered by falling CD sales and rampant piracy. The MTV Africa music awards were first staged in 2008 and have each year recognized iconic musicians from across the continent. — AFP

Review: 'Jack Reacher' sequel not as good as 2012 original

It's not the acting or the action that makes "Jack Reacher: Never Go Back" inferior to the original 2012 hit. It's the story. The first film, "Jack Reacher," established the title character as a brilliant, brutal loner dedicated to justice. He's a former military officer turned drifter, unfettered by emotional ties, motivated purely by exacting righteousness. What makes an archetypal character like this fun to watch is an unpredictable story, where the audience and protagonist together uncover the mystery. The 2012 film achieved this beautifully, packing action into a compelling thriller that developed the villains as much as the hero.

In "Never Go Back," the bad guys are one-dimensional caricatures and the lone wolf is driven by protecting a teenager whom he insists from the start isn't his daughter. This leaves the film riding on its action sequences and the charm of its central characters, played by Tom Cruise and Cobie Smulders. And while they're incredibly appealing, they can't do more than the story allows. Cruise, who has made himself this generation's ultimate action star, is perfect as Jack Reacher. He's steely, strong and almost accidentally handsome. The ageless actor does most of his own stunts and effectively uses his eyes to convey his character's guarded sensitivity.

Smulders, who's played a small role in the "Avengers" films, proves herself an action star and leading lady as Susan Turner, an Army major who has taken over Reacher's post in the military police force. Turner is investigating the murders of two soldiers in Afghanistan when she's removed from her office and jailed on espionage charges. Reacher comes to her aid, but another official warns him off, taunting him with a pending paternity lawsuit that claims Reacher fathered a now 15-year-old girl. Reacher denies it, but goes after the girl (Danika Yarosh) anyway. Suddenly, he'll do anything to protect her. This contrivance undoes the suspension of disbelief. Nothing about Reacher's character sug-

gests he's yearning for fatherhood, and yet she becomes his main motivation. "Never Go Back" is based on Lee Child's 18th Reacher novel. The 2012 film was adapted from a much earlier work in the series, so perhaps Reacher's desire to be a dad is covered in the volumes in between.

Middle East

The teenager is the pawn in this story as Reacher and Turner try to uncover corruption high in the military ranks. They find that beyond a cover-up of the soldiers' murders, crooked officials may be supplying weapons to insurgents in the Middle East. The villain appears to be a white guy in a suit with an American flag pin on his lapel, but he isn't named and doesn't speak until the film's third act. Meanwhile, a trenchcoated heavy (Patrick Heusinger) is tailing Reacher, Turner and the teen. He's the catalyst for the chases and fight scenes,

which director Edward Zwick cuts together so quickly, their grace is hard to appreciate.

Still, there are some breathtaking action sequences, including a chase through New Orleans' French Quarter that sees Reacher scaling wrought-iron balconies above a bustling Halloween parade on Bourbon Street. Smulders handles her share of the action and holds her own with Cruise, which is great to see. Turner may be female, but her character's depth and strength matches Reacher's. With Smulders and Yarosh on camera almost as much as Cruise, "Never Go Back" doubles the number of key women from the 2012 film. If only the story was as good. "Jack Reacher: Never Go Back," a Paramount Pictures release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "sequences of violence and action, some bloody images, language and thematic elements." Running time: 118 minutes. Two stars out of four. — AP



In this image released by Paramount Pictures and Skydance Productions, Tom Cruise appears in a scene from "Jack Reacher: Never Go Back." — AP



Cheryl gives ex-husband three rings

Cheryl Fernandez-Versini has reportedly handed three rings back to her ex-husband Jean Bernard Fernandez-Versini. The 33-year-old pop star and the French businessman recently finalised their divorce after a 19-month marriage and Cheryl has seemingly wasted no time in giving Jean Bernard's gifts - including her engagement ring and a £15,000 wedding band - back to him. Cheryl is also sending back Jean Bernard's mother's ring, which was a gift from the 36-year-old businessman on their first wedding anniversary, according to the Sunday People newspaper. She will, however, retain her £20m fortune as part of their divorce settlement, which was confirmed by the Central Family Court in London earlier this month during a hearing that lasted 14 seconds. The 'Call My Name' hitmaker filed for divorce shortly after their split in August 2015 and she has blamed the French hunk for her dramatic weight loss during their marriage. The brunette beauty said her now ex-husband's "unreasonable behavior" caused her "stress" and affected her health. The pair tied the knot on Macaroni Beach in Mustique on July 7, 2014, after only three months of dating following a meeting at the Cannes Film Festival in France. Now, Cheryl is dating One Direction star Liam Payne, 23, and the celebrity duo are rumored to be expecting their first child together, although they have remained tight-lipped on the speculation. Cheryl is said to be much happier since ending her relationship with Jean Bernard and falling in love with Liam. A source said recently: "Last year was a terrible year and she's a completely different person now. She's relieved she can finally move on with her life."

Jay Z and Kanye West falling out 'is shocking'

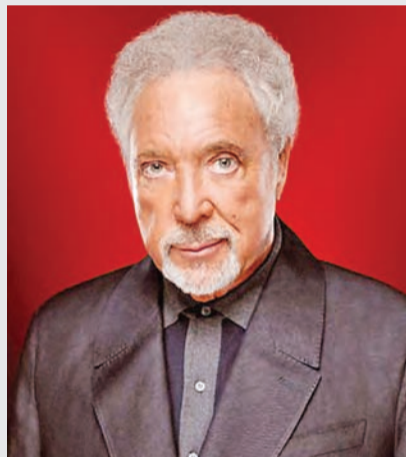
Jay Z's former business partner is shocked by the rapper's fallout with Kanye West. Kareem Burke co-founded Roc-A-Fella Records with Jay in the 90s and has admitted to being bemused by Kanye's recent on-stage rant against his 'Watch the Throne' collaborator. Kareem said: "I was shocked to hear what Kanye said onstage. There was never anything rumbling ... so when you hear these things in public, it's a little shocking." Although he didn't explicitly name Jay during his rant, Kanye is believed to have been talking about his one-time mentor when he blasted someone for not visiting Kanye's family after his wife Kim Kardashian West was robbed in Paris. Kanye also said: "Our kids ain't never even played together." Kareem revealed he was surprised by Kanye's outburst, especially as he has always enjoyed such a good relationship with Jay. He told the New York Post newspaper: "The last I saw [West], he spoke really highly of Jay. I'm not sure about the relationship at this point. I spoke to Jay [after Kanye's rant] and we're both just like, 'We miss the old Kanye.'"



"From what I know of Kanye, he's usually really honest. So it sounds like something he's going through right now. He may [say] something like that, and then three weeks later he may be back to, 'That's my brother.' But at this point, with everybody's career, we're a little too old for rap beef." Kareem's comments comes shortly after it was reported that Jay "can't stand" Kanye. The 'Empire State of Mind' hitmaker has simply "tolerated" Kanye until recently, as he prefers to be away from the spotlight. An insider explained: "Jay can't stand him. He looks at him as this crazy, eccentric man he can tolerate in small doses. Kanye is a nut job. Everyone knows that. He tolerated him [because] there was so much money to be made. Jay was like, 'I'm gonna knock this out. We're going to do a tour to bring in millions of dollars. I can tolerate that.' "The reality is that Jay doesn't want that much to do with him. He likes his own space and is private. They're very much not the same person. Jay's immediate circle is very insular, and Kanye is just a guy who always wants something in the spotlight."

Sir Tom Jones hears his wife in his sleep

Sir Tom Jones is still struggling to come to terms with the death of his wife Linda. The 76-year-old star lost his wife of 59 years to cancer in April, but Sir Tom has admitted he still hears Linda's voice in his sleep and is yet to overcome his heartbreak. He shared: "I hear her voice. I see her a lot at night. When I dream that she's still here and then I wake up and she's not, that's the hardest." Sir Tom also revealed he has not considered finding love again following the death of his wife. He told the Sunday People newspaper: "I haven't even thought about that - I really haven't. It was a devastating thing because we found out she had lung cancer - she didn't know. She had emphysema, you see, then all of a sudden, boom. I was on tour at the time and I came home and they didn't know how long we had. It was terminal. So I had to stop at that point and I didn't know whether I would be able to sing again because it hurt so much because we had been together since we were kids. It's still hard. I didn't know whether I'd be able to get up on stage and be emo-



tional with songs, especially songs that she liked. But I can be and it's lifted me up and she's there." Prior to her passing, Sir Tom described his wife as the "most important thing in my life". The 'She's a Lady' hitmaker explained: "An unbelievable woman. Linda is the love of my life and she still is, even though she doesn't look like she did. I don't look like I did, either, but I try my best."

Mel C regrets her tattoos

The 42-year-old singer had a number of inkings during her time with the Spice Girls and admits she wishes she'd thought about her appearance in the future when she had them done. Asked her biggest regret, she said: "When I was young, I didn't think too much about the future - I was very much in the present. But fashion choices change and maybe I would have made different choices with my tattoos." And Mel has already warned her young daughter, seven-year-old Scarlet - who she has with ex-partner Thomas Starr - about the pitfalls of getting inked. She added: "I've already told Scarlet she isn't getting any [tattoos]." The 'Northern Star' singer is very close to her daughter and considers her her best friend. Asked who her best friend is, she said: "At this point, my little girl, Scarlet - she's such good company. We have some good girly chats... Often my work takes me away and I've never missed anybody physically before but I ache to cuddle her when we're apart." After leaving the Spice Girls, Mel underwent a dramatic change of image with a short blonde crop and though she loved the style, it was very difficult to grow out afterwards. She said: "I loved it when I went solo and had short, spiky hair, but it went through a difficult stage when I was growing it out. I



should have invested in extensions." The 'Stop' singer also confessed one of the Spice Girls once relieved themselves in a plant pot while on a promotional tour of Japan - but insists it wasn't her. She told Britain's Grazia magazine: "The Spice Girls were in Japan doing promotional work once and there was nowhere to wee so an unnamed girl did it in a plant pot. It wasn't me!"

Priscilla Presley:

I fear people will forget about Elvis

Prisilla Presley fears people will forget about her ex-husband Elvis. The 71-year-old actress was married to the iconic musician from 1967 until 1973 and she feels responsible for ensuring that Elvis' "legacy" lives on. She shared: "My fear is that people will forget about Elvis. I feel a responsibility for keeping his legacy alive. You'll never see his sort of stardom again. He was so authentic and, in lots of ways, innocent. What you saw was what you got." Priscilla first met the 'Heartbreak Hotel' hitmaker during her teens and she admitted it was a life-defining moment for her, even though their marriage did not work out. She explained: "Meeting Elvis when I was 14 changed the course of my life. Sure, that was young, but he left Germany [where they had met] to return to the US not long after. We stayed in touch for two years before we saw each other again. He was a gentleman in all ways while we courted." The Grammy Award-winning star died in 1977 in Memphis, Tennessee, at the age of 42. And Priscilla admits he would have struggled to cope with his level of fame were he alive in the 21st century. She told the Guardian newspaper: "Elvis would have found modern times difficult. He was an intensely private man who was quite protected by his inner circle. The way he lived then wouldn't be possible in 2016. Our lives - whether you're famous or not - are so public now."



Michael Buble praises Meghan Trainor



Michael Buble thinks Meghan Trainor is the "most talented 21 year old in the world". The 41-year-old singer's new album 'Nobody But Me' features a track co-written by the 'All About that Bass' hitmaker and One Direction hunk Harry Styles, and though he didn't know the blonde beauty before they collaborated, he was blown away by her abilities. He said: "It's the first time I've had an original song on a record that I didn't write. I didn't know Meghan but I'd met Harry and really liked him. They wrote a great song called 'Someday'. I liked it so much that I called her minutes later then met her on FaceTime. Three weeks later, the most talented 21-year-old kid in the world showed up in the studio with her mom and dad. And she was wearing a teddy bear onesie that Ariana Grande had bought for her. She was awesome. She's just a really warm and really good girl. So talented." Michael is impressed by how young stars such as Meghan and Harry

cope with growing up in the spotlight. He told Canada's HELLO! magazine: "I was singing in nightclubs [at 21]. It wasn't as good for me then. You know, I look at Harry and Meghan and just think, 'Wow they're handling fame really well.' Justin Bieber too. I have a lot of respect for how hard it is. The public eye is on you all the time and that light is very hot. Growing up is making mistakes and learning from them. The only difference is everything you do is documented closely by an adoring public. We're just human beings and we screw up at any age." However, one young person Michael won't be turning to for musical help is his three-year-old son Noah, his eldest child with wife Luisana Lopilato. Michael - who also has nine-month-old son Elias said: "I do not ask Noah [for advice]. Because if it was up to him, every song would be 'Spider-Man'. And we'd just fight all day. [His favourite song is] just the 'Spider-Man' theme. Constantly. Over and over again."

Azealia Banks wants to collaborate with Zayn Malik

The '212' hitmaker recently apologized to Zayn for an expletive-laden Twitter tirade she launched against the former One Direction star earlier this year, and has now revealed she would be open to working him in the studio. She shared: "I definitely would love to collaborate with Zayn. From here, I watched the Naughty Boy thing and I have always seen where he's going. He's definitely helped him get that sound, that sound that's different but still cool, very relevant but it's different and it's new and special - which is something I think I do very well." Azealia recently penned an open letter to Zayn in which she said sorry for her Twitter tirade - and she's now explained why it was important to be so public with her apology. She told MailOnline: "I actually apologized a couple of times, but I don't think it got through to people. I think when the situation was still so fresh, people weren't just not wanting to hear it. I guess I didn't give the apology I thought people could really hear because there was just so much going on. And now that the coast is clear, I thought, 'Let me tell you guys again what I meant, I'm very sorry.'" The 25-year-old



star also said that apologizing was the first step towards her forgiving herself for the episode. She said: "It's just with all this stuff that's happening with me. I can't be involved in this type of [controversy]. It's definitely overshadowed



my music and definitely pushed unnecessary drama onto my life. I may have just got carried away and whatever the excuse is, it was uncalled for and I just needed to apologize so I could begin forgiving myself for it."



Hayek claims Trump asked her repeatedly

Salma Hayek says Donald Trump planted a story about her because she rejected his romantic advances. The 'Sausage Party' actress has claimed the 70-year-old US presidential hopeful - who is 20 years her senior - harassed her for a date and when she refused him he leaked fake information to the National Enquirer newspaper saying he had, in fact, turned her down because of her height. She said: "When I met that man, I had a boyfriend, and he tried to become his friend to get my home telephone number. He got my

number and he would call me to invite me out. "When I told him I wouldn't go out with him even if I didn't have a boyfriend, [which he took as disrespectful], he called - well, he wouldn't say he called, but someone (from his camp) told the National Enquirer. "Someone told the National Enquirer. I'm not going to say who, because you know that whatever he wants to come out comes out in the National Enquirer. It said that he wouldn't go out with me because I was too short." Salma - who is now married to billionaire business-

man Francois-Henri Pinault with whom she has eight-year-old daughter Valentina - revealed Donald called her after and tried to convince her they should prove the story was incorrect by dating. Speaking about his bizarre pick-up method, she told Radio Centro 93.9's 'El Show del Mandril': "Later, he called and left me a message. 'Can you believe this? Who would say this? I don't want people to think this about you.' He thought that I would try to go out with him so people wouldn't think that's why he wouldn't go out with me."

Chrissy Teigen wants to meet Prince William and Kate

Chrissy Teigen wants to meet Britain's Prince William and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge. The 30-year-old model - who is married to singer John Legend - expressed her wish to hang out with the hip royal couple to her 2.8 million Twitter followers and asked them how she'd go about setting up a date. On Saturday she penned: "How do I make an appointment to hang out with Prince William and Kate Middleton is there a sign up sheet (sic)" Chrissy and Catherine - as she's been formally known since she married Prince William in 2011 - would have much to discuss since they both have young children and are scrutinized by the public nearly every day. Chrissy recently had to defend herself and call out "mummy shammers" who attacked her online over the way she was holding her six month old daughter Luna recently. Chrissy blasted her critics and those who judged her parenting



skills and when one fan tweeted a picture of Chrissy carrying her daughter and said "this is not how a baby is held" she fumed back: "Really because that's how I'm holding her." She then posted a follow-up tweet which read: "Photos are literally split-second moments in time that evolve. I despise mommy shammers. I am a proud shamer of mommy shammers. (sic)" The onslaught of tweets didn't stop there, as she then received another tweet that claimed she was holding Luna in an "incorrect" way. The tweet read: "There are incorrect ways to hold infants whether shielding her from a fire or pap! (sic)" Chrissy simply responded: "Please, do shut up." The news comes just a few weeks after the beauty made her Twitter account private, claiming she wasn't "strong enough" to allow the whole world to see her tweets. Now, only those users she has approved are able to see her updates.



Amy Adams: People prefer my husband

Amy Adams thinks people like her husband more than her. The 'Nocturnal Animals' actress - who has six-year-old daughter Aviana with spouse Darren LeGallo - admits the artist's support is invaluable, and she thinks his emotional nature is the perfect balance for her more practical attitude to life. She said: "He'll kill me for saying this but he's not very practical. He's an artist. He paints and does music. "He's awesome about what I have to do in this job. "I think it helps that everyone likes him better than they like me. It's true! It's one of our arguments. He's so nice." The 42-year-old actress admitted she is a "quiet, weird" person at parties who favors one-on-one interactions, whereas her husband is much more outgoing. She said: "He's extremely social, outgoing and curious. I feel like I'm just tired and antisocial." Amy grew up as one of seven children and admitted the anxiety she felt from growing up in a "chaotic" household is partly the reason why she and Darren have only had one child. Asked if there's a connection, she said: "Yes. If there's a lot of chaos or noise or conflict, I get very anxious. I can manage it now, as a grown-up, but the family chaos I grew up in caused me a lot of anxiety." The 'American Hustle' star originally had ambitions of being a doctor when she was younger but her parents couldn't afford the tuition fees and she didn't have the grades to get a scholarship. She recalled to Britain's ELLE magazine: "I just had to look at what I could do. I wasn't very good at school - I was decent, I didn't fail, but I didn't excel. B-grade students don't get scholarships. "So I just started working as a dancer and kept making decisions that let me continue with it."

Apatow pays tribute to late comedian Meaney

Judd Apatow has paid tribute to Kevin Meaney, who died aged 60. The 'Uncle Buck' star and stand-up comedian known for the famous catchphrase "That's not right" passed away at his home in New York on Friday and was described as someone who could "make you lose your mind laughing" by the 'Trainwreck' director. Judd tweeted: "Kevin Meaney was as funny as they get and the nicest man. He could make you lose your mind laughing. A very special person." Meaney was due to perform on Saturday night in Rhode Island and his cause of death is not yet known, however, his agent confirmed the news in a statement to CNN on Saturday and tributes have flooded in for the star on Twitter as the news has spread. 'Ratatouille' star and comedian Patton Oswalt described Meaney as: "A true, and rare, comedy legend. And one of the nicest guys you could ever hope to meet as well." While Bobcat Goldthwait said: "Kevin Meaney was sweet, hilarious and courageous. A silly, wonderful, man. The best. My heart goes out to his fans, friends and family." Meaney found fame on 'The Tonight Show

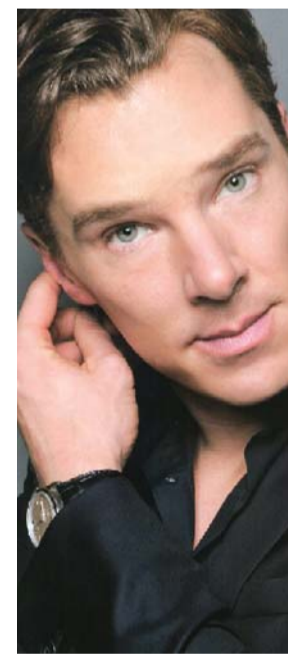


Starring Johnny Carson' and went on to star in 1988 movie 'Big' alongside Tom Hanks and play the title role in the sitcom version of John Candy comedy 'Uncle Buck' in 1990. Most recently he had parts in '2 Broke Girls', 'Space Ghost Coast to Coast' and 'Dr Katz Professional Therapist'.

Cumberbatch doesn't have a 'bucket list'

The 40-year-old actor - who has 16-month-old son Christopher and is expecting his second child with wife Sophie - has experienced a number of personal and professional achievements recently but doesn't see reaching his goals as a box ticking exercise of things to do before he dies. Benedict - who was speaking on the set of his new movie 'Doctor Strange' - said: "I don't really have a bucket list. I have, though, in the past, undergone one of the most life-changing moments in my personal life, and also 'Hamlet', and now I'm here. The joy of it is in the contrast. I literally flew off to Kathmandu (to film 'Doctor Strange') two days after we finished 'Hamlet'. It was a massive gear change, but I love what it is to be part of this huge body of work

and people. It's great fun." Meanwhile, the star plays the legendary English detective Sherlock Holmes in the modern day BBC drama and Marvel superhero and neuroscientist Doctor Strange in the upcoming eponymous movie but thinks his "pea-sized brain" will never fully understand science. He told The Guardian newspaper: "You know, every time I dig a little bit deeper into science with my pea-sized brain, I hit a wall. "I have a sense of wonder at what is beyond our understanding. There is wonder in logic, and, whether on the macro or micro scale, it just gets bizarre, extraordinary and unfathomable. And we have only five senses to understand and appreciate it, whether it's theoretical physics or microbiology or circadian rhythms. It's incredible."



Midler has cooked lunch for Adele



The 70-year-old screen-and-stage legend was introduced to the 'Hello' hitmaker by their mutual friend Sir Elton John, and she was "touched" that Adele

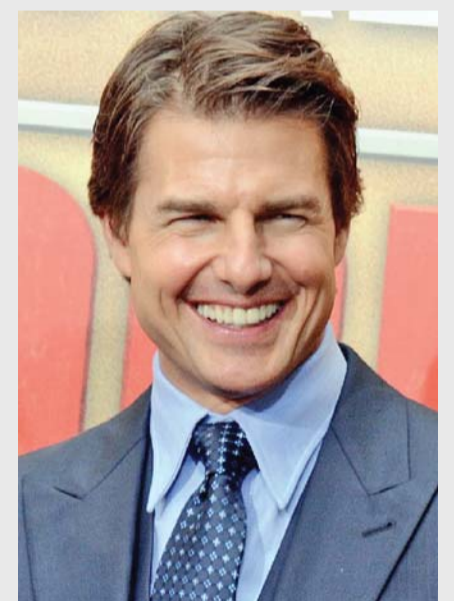
wanted to meet her so she invited her over to her home for a meal. In an interview on Magic Radio, Bette said: "I think [Adele] is one of the greatest vocalists of our time. I love her song writing skills. She's a wonderful communicator, she's hilariously funny. I've met her and spent time with her in LA. Elton John introduced us. He had a luncheon for her when she came to town a couple of years ago and she wanted to meet me. I was so touched because people don't often ask to meet me! They'll ask to meet Paul McCartney or Bruce Springsteen but not me. I didn't expect at my late stage that someone like that would be a fan of mine. I love her, she came to the house, yes she did, we cooked for Adele." And Adele isn't the only modern chart-topper the 'Hocus Pocus' actress can call a friend. Bette and Katy Perry have bonded over the recent US Presidential election debates between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. She revealed: "I tweeted 'I need a drink' [during one of the election debates] and she said I'm coming over with a bottle. I thought that was so adorable. She's a nice girl. I like her a lot." On the topic of the upcoming US election, the 'Wind Beneath My Wings' singer is most definitely backing Democratic candidate Hillary, and thinks her rival, Republican Trump, should be jailed for some of the controversial comments he has made. Bette said: "I mean the things [Donald Trump] has said, I'm surprised that they didn't jail him. He threatened Hillary Clinton with death. You know he threatened her with jail. I mean I've never in my life seen or heard of any such thing like that. We're very dismayed." — Bang Showbiz



Dylan criticized as 'impolite and arrogant' by Nobel academy member

Bob Dylan has been slammed as "impolite and arrogant" for refusing to comment on his Nobel Prize win. Academy member Per Westberg is frustrated with the 'Blowin' in the Wind' hitmaker because he's failed to speak publicly about being named the winner of the award for Literature and reportedly hasn't even returned numerous calls from the Nobel committee. Per Westberg told Swedish newspaper Dagens Nyheter: "One can say that it is impolite and arrogant... He is who he is." He added: "We were aware that he can be difficult and that he does not like appearances when he stands alone on the stage". Last week a notice on the 75-year-old star's website featured the text "WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE" in a piece promoting a book of his lyrics however it was later removed. And Dylan's decision to not acknowledge the accolade has led some to believe he will bail on the prize-giving ceremony in Stockholm on 10 December. However Swedish Academy permanent secretary Sara Danius - who announced the news Dylan was going to be the first singer/songwriter to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature on October 13 - said she was "not at all worried". She told Swedish state radio SR: "I think he will show up. "If he doesn't want to come, he won't come. It will be a big party in any case and the honor belongs to him." President Barack Obama took the time to congratulate Dylan on Twitter and said the legendary folk rock singer was his one of his "favorite poets". He penned: "Congratulations to one of my favorite poets, Bob Dylan, on a well-deserved Nobel!" The 'Like A Rolling Stone' singer was chosen for the prestigious accolade "for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition", according to Sara Danius, permanent Secretary of the Nobel Foundation. Dylan - who changed his real name from Robert Zimmerman to his stage name because he was inspired by Welsh poet Dylan Thomas - is also the first American to win the accolade since novelist Toni Morrison in 1993.

Cruise 'feels lucky' Jack Reacher: Never Go Back has strong female role



Tom Cruise "feels lucky" his new film 'Jack Reacher: Never Go Back' features a strong female lead role. The 54-year-old actor plays the all-action ex-military man Reacher in the movie sequel and is delighted Cobi Smulders - who stars as Army major Susan Turner - "embodies" a powerful woman character because they are sometimes lacking in Hollywood blockbusters. Cruise - who was a producer on the title - told Yahoo Movies UK: "I feel really lucky that we have Cobi because Cobi is someone who really embodies it, you know she's got to play a major, she plays Jack Reachers equal and also she was the Commander. And she just embodied that character beautifully, she's got incredible intelligence and power. And great physical ability that she really worked on in the movie." Cobi rose to fame starring in comedy sitcom 'How I Met Your Mother' and went on to play a SHIELD agent Maria Hill in the Avengers franchise, and said the gap between the number of strong roles for men and women is closing. She added: "With the Avengers franchise is doing good things with that, the Marvel world is doing good things with that. Yeah it's becoming more and more important." The film is a sequel to 2012 blockbuster 'Jack Reacher' and in the sequel the character makes it his goal to prove that Major Susan Turner (Cobie Smulders) is innocent of espionage. But after crossing paths with the law, Reacher must uncover the truth behind a major government conspiracy that involves the deaths of US soldiers. Talking about his return to the role and the similarities between him and his character, Cruise told BANG Showbiz: "He's a character that travels around a lot and I certainly travel around a lot... I'm always working - I work seven days a week - I'm usually shooting one film while I'm post-production on another and prepping the next one, so, maybe that. He went on: "It's a pretty good genre that's able to connect with the audience that watched the first one to see that it's expanded. It's such a funny character you don't know what this guy is going to do next. It's just... I love playing him."



Models present creations of MIKIO SAKABE designed by Mikio Sakabe and Shueh Jen-Fang during the 2017 Spring/Summer Collection show at Tokyo Fashion Week. — AP/AFP photos

Harajuku, cheesy, sci-fi: subculture in Tokyo fashion

The Marc Jacobs of Japan, singing cats and models cloaked in armor: J-pop and science fiction transformed Tokyo Fashion Week spring/summer 2017 into a style fest unlike any other. In a world where fashion mines entertainment like never before, Japan's established and break-through labels pounced on musical hook-ups, street culture and animation to drive interest. Here are the most outlandish shows that closed the week.

Marc Jacobs of Japan

Mikio Sakabe got the biggest applause of the week for his show in Miyashita Park, a last hurrah before it closes for renovations ahead of the Tokyo Olympics. His seven-inch platform shoes were the star-laced up to the ankle with thick ribbon-similar to those already seen on the New York runway at Jacobs this year, though Sakabe told AFP he had been working on them before the master of American high fashion set his loose. As with Jacobs, the look crafted an impossibly long silhouette that either drowned the models in oversized suiting or flashed legs for miles in the tiniest of skirts or belted shorts that hung below the backside, the wearers' blushes saved by striped shirts. In a nod to Japan's Lolita culture, Harajuku street fashion and "Kawaii"—meaning

cute, loveable and childish—there were girly dresses embellished with feathers, a black plastic and metallic plated skirt, and a beige culotte suit covered in bunny rabbits thrown in for good measure. The label, known for avant-garde fashion, is beloved by Japanese pop stars and celebrating its 10th birthday. Sakabe told AFP he wanted to mix '70s, '80s and '90s influences and was motivated to find a new silhouette given that Japanese designers normally focus on texture. "I wanted to make something new," he explained.

Singing Cats

Less Andrew Lloyd Webber smash-hit "Cats" and more something else entirely. Up and coming designer Yukihiro Teshima could win cheesiest show of the year for brand Yukihiro Pro-Wrestling. Held in a nightclub, the usual 10-minute show was ditched in favor of a 40-minute music bonanza starring all-girl band Yumemiru Adolescence, Western models dressed Andy Warhol style and Japanese actors. It was a riot of color, humor and kitsch with a hefty side order of cheese as the singers bopped around in cat ears, playsuits covered in multicolored wool and Campbell Soup ruffles. His models strode out in 1950s pink and orange-rinse wigs, and overpainted



matching lipstick pouts a la Warhol's famous portraits of Marilyn Monroe and Elizabeth Taylor. They wore a monkey motif called Monchhichi, popular in the 1970s, revived

with Hello Kitty in the 1990s and subsequently exported to Britain as "Chicaboo." There were also peeled banana cutouts pinned to jeans. So what was the message from the man who

designs for film, pop groups and wrestlers? "I want to tell people that having fun is important," Teshima said.

Silver plaits

Designer Keiichiro Yuri, a former 3D graphic designer best known for creating bags whose label Keiichiro sense made its fashion week debut only last season, was perhaps the oddest of all. The show started with the sound of the swelling sea and closed with Prince track "Gold" as the designer strutted around in futuristic platforms and tucked two plastic dolls into his waistband. There were enormous wide-brimmed Little Bo Peep hats, plastic science-fiction style armor and shell-like sheaths worn over metallic skirts straight from a space-age or alien movie.

There were incredible free-standing blouses and capes, shaped like discs and zipped up like cushion covers that encased the upper body. Silver lace-up arm warmers and Rapunzel-style plaited hair, complete with silver extensions, finished off the look. "This is my way of expressing Cool Japan," the designer told AFP. "The youth create our future. I think the Harajuku look is absolutely right. I want to tell them it is you guys who make the next age!" — AFP



Daniel Friedman, founder of the tailoring shop Bindle & Keep, does a fitting with Ashley Merriman, a client of the shop who came to try on a new custom-made androgynous suit in Brooklyn, New York. — AFP

Bespoke Brooklyn tailor evolves with trans clients

It's a suitable tale of metamorphosis: a tailoring shop for businessmen in Brooklyn transforms into a bespoke company in full bloom thanks to its gay and transgender clientele. The agent of change is Daniel Friedman, a 37-year-old American-Canadian who himself is straight. Friedman had no apparent bent for tailoring, but lead poisoning—apparently from paint he used to decorate his university room—forced him to give up his dream of becoming an architect.

Within several months, this slight, hyper-energetic man became unable to read or write. But because he loved suits and design, he decided in 2011 to open a tailoring shop, Bindle & Keep, in Brooklyn. The clientele were mainly Wall Street financiers who came for their fittings in Brooklyn, while the garments were sewn in a small shop near Bangkok. "When I started the company and wrote a business plan, I thought these were the guys who needed suits, they had the money for them and were always looking for new opportunities to find a new custom tailor," he said.

Then, at the end of 2012, Friedman hired a new apprentice, Rae Tuter, who runs a blog popular with the gay and trans community, and everything started to change. Tuter, who is non-binary transgender-identifying neither as male nor female—wrote about the tailor shop, and the first of a new wave of customers began to trickle in. "At first we did not know what we were doing," Friedman admitted. At the time same sex marriage was still banned in the United States—it would be legalized in June 2015 — and there was little public discussion about transgender issues. He quickly realized that sensitivity would be key. "We do what all custom-suits companies do: We take measurements of the body, we build a suit. The difference is instead of discussing, 'Hey, what's the style that you want?', we talk about, 'How do you want to feel?'" Many gay and trans people struggle to find

the right fit of clothes—with the effect of making them uncomfortable in their body, he said. "Probably 50 percent of everything that we do is about empathy." "There is a therapy element to this and a psychological element that we include in the manufacturing of the suit that a lot of other companies might skip over."

"Thankful that you exist"

In November 2013, his new clientele sparked an article in The New York Times. "At the time none of us in the company thought it was a big deal, it was just, like, make people happy and the Rolodex of customers grows and we will survive," Friedman said. But the day the article appeared, he said, "I checked my inbox and there were about 300 emails from all over the world." Among them was one from a mother in Paris, who wrote: "I suspect my child might transition soon and I am just so thankful that you exist because it means my child will be OK." "That's when I knew this wasn't just a business, that we hit a vein and a very important wedge... in the evolution of societies all over the world," Friedman said. Ashley Merriman, one of his clients, agrees. The lesbian chef at a trendy Manhattan restaurant discovered the shop this summer when she was looking for her first custom-made suit for her wedding. "When it came time to get married, I was really dreading getting dressed, and that's when I came here," said Merriman, 40, who has dressed in men's clothing for more than 20 years.

"I finally found something that fits... the experience was great from A to Z. It certainly changes the way I feel... now I am so much more confident," said Merriman, who is five feet, 11 inches (1.8 meters) tall. Merriman praised Friedman's "magnanimous" approach, including asking intimate questions key to a custom fit, such as the use of binding to compress the chest. — AFP



Hanbok Fashion Show



Models wear the traditional South Korean "Hanbok" dress during a Hanbok fashion show at the 14th-century Gyeongbok Palace, one of the well-known landmarks in Seoul, South Korea. — AP photos

Reebok starts making shoes in US again

Sports equipment manufacturer Reebok is bringing some of its shoe-making back to the United States, unveiling plans to open a new manufacturing lab next year using innovative liquid material and 3D drawing. Some parts of the 300 pairs of shoes planned will come from Asia, but the most technical components will be manufactured in Wixom, Michigan, the company said Saturday. German chemical giant BASF

developed with Reebok a liquid material that is drawn across the outsole of the shoe for a three-dimensional fit with the help of 3D drawing. The material helps absorb shock.

"This is the very first use of this process to make athletic footwear. We borrowed and enhanced it from a process we found in the automotive industry," said Bill McInnis, Head of Future at Reebok. "The Liquid Factory concept is proprietary to

Reebok." All of Reebok's shoes were previously made in Asia. "This is ultimately a local for local program. Once we define a manufacturing cell, we can do it anywhere," McInnis said.

In the short term, Reebok will only produce a small series of the shoes at the relatively high price (\$189 for the first version) due to still expensive development costs. In the long term, Reebok hopes to use this technology to create a product

with competitive prices. "The Liquid Factory process is very flexible in that each machine can be used to create as many different concepts as imagination allows—it's programming, not molds," McInnis explained.

"Scaling up is a matter of installing more Liquid Factory machine setups. The local manufacturing also gets us much closer to the consumer in terms of speed to market." Reebok is not alone in localiz-

ing production. In May, Germany's Adidas announced it was opening a production site operated mostly by robots in the city of Ansbach, due to begin mass production next year.

An Adidas site is due to open next year in the US. Among other sports equipment makers, Under Armour has a small operation in Maryland geared toward athletes under contract with the brand, not the public as a whole. — AFP



Models present creations by Greek designer Olga Karaververi during the Athens Exclusive Designers Week in Athens, Saturday. — AP photos



Athens Exclusive Designers Week



Jakarta Fashion Week 2017

Models walk the runway wearing designs by designer Restu Anggraini during Jakarta Fashion Week 2017 in Jakarta, Indonesia.



Joyalukkas dazzles this Diwali with a sparkling new collection and up to 15KG gold to be won



Diwali, 'Festival of Lights', is one of the most important festivals for the Indian community around the world. Many rituals and traditions are associated with the celebration, most prominently the lighting of lamps and candles or diyas to usher in prosperity.

For the world's favorite jeweler, it has also become tradition to give away big prizes and launch a fabulous new collection on the days leading up to Diwali.

Joyalukkas dazzling Diwali gives customers a chance to win up to 15KG gold with a minimum spend on gold and diamond jewelry.

They can also avail other exciting offers, such as zero deduction on old gold jewelry exchange and guaranteed gold rate protection with just a



10% down payment. Even more exciting is the free quarter gram gold coin with every jewelry purchase on Dhanteras Day, October 28,

2016. Joyalukkas Dazzling Diwali is from October 13 to November 5, 2016 across Joyalukkas showrooms in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait and Oman.

"Diwali is a celebration of positivity and goodness. It is a time to share happiness, and of course gifts, with families and friends," says John Paul Alukkas, Executive Director, Joyalukkas Group "and because our customers are at the heart of everything we do at Joyalukkas, every year we try to offer them something extra special for this most special occasion. We wish our most loyal and supportive patrons a very happy Diwali. We hope that the amazing prizes, gifts and offers make your festivities even brighter."

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Palestinian artist Osama Sebata, 26, uses boxing gloves to draw a mural of American boxing icon Muhammad Ali in Gaza City. — AFP

Syria's Kurds restore ancient names to Arabized towns

On a dusty road in northeast Syria, a woman and her four children stand beside a freshly erected green sign for Joldara, the Kurdish name of her village known for decades as Shajra.

As part of an ambitious project by Kurdish authorities, hundreds of towns and villages in northern Syria are shedding Arabized names adopted in the 1960s in favor of their traditional Kurdish ones. In Joldara, 70-year-old Abdulrahman Hawas Hamo recounts the history of his village's name as he fixes an old white truck in his yard.

"Joldara in Kurdish means a plain covered in trees," he says. "This was the name of the village before it was Arabized by the Syrian government in 1962 and changed to Shajra," which means tree in Arabic, he explains. A

'Original, historical names'

Soon after Syria's uprising erupted in 2011, President Bashar al-Assad granted citizenship to thousands of Kurds and regime troops withdrew from Kurdish-majority areas in 2012. Since then, Kurds have erected a parallel system of institutions, complete with schools and police units, to govern swathes of the country's north. "We are not renaming towns and villages—we are returning to their original, historical names," says Joseph Lahdo, co-chair of the autonomous municipalities commission in Hasakeh. Local committees are being consulted on the original Kurdish name of their hometowns.

"The autonomous administration then uses these names in its records and communication," Lahdo says. "Maps will include the origi-



Syrian government employees write down names of towns and inhabitants at the civil registry in Amuda, some 30 kilometers west of Qamishli.

nal Kurdish name with the Arabized name in parentheses." The process is not recognized by the central government in Damascus, which has preserved the Arabized names in its own registers. Researcher Zohrab Qado says the Arabization of town and village names accelerated when Syria's Baathist regime came to power in the 1960s, but had begun the previous decade under the short-lived United Arab Republic of Syria and Egypt.

Between 1978 and 1998 alone, Qado says, the names of more than 500 villages in Hasakeh province were Arabized, as well as other towns like Kobane, which became known as Ain Al-Arab. "These procedures weren't innocent—the Arabization was planned," Qado tells AFP in his office, sur-

rounded by history books in Kurdish and Arabic. The town of Derek "was changed to Al-Malikiyah in 1957 in a formal decree in memory of Adnan al-Maliki", the founder of Syria's modern army.

According to Qado, Syria's government even distributed land around Kurdish villages to Arab farmers coming from the nearby province of Raqa in a bid to transform the demographic composition of northern Syria. Among these, Ahmad Al-Abduli's family travelled as part of this government program to a village now identified by its Kurdish name of Himo. "We came from Raqa in the 1970s, and the village name was changed at the time to Hanadi. But today it has gotten its older name back," the 45-year-old says. Kurdish families saw the land distributions and renamings as an attempt to erase their identity. Sheikhmous Rasho, a Kurdish farmer in his 60s, gestures excitedly in his hometown, which several weeks ago regained its original name of Girsor.

"Our village is... more than 200 years old," he says. "But they changed the Kurdish names to Arabic, so they could say these were Arab villages and distance us from our Kurdish nationality and language." Residents of Amuda were thrilled after the municipality announced they could add Kurdish-language signs outside their shops. Outside the store where he sells roasted cashews and other nuts, Adnan Hoshi carefully writes out "Emise Hejar"—Kurdish for "Nut shop." "It's a victory for us to be able to write the name of our shops in Kurdish," he says with a grin. — AFP



Syrian government employees write down names of towns and inhabitants at the civil registry in Amuda, some 30 kilometers west of Qamishli, a Kurdish-majority city in Syria's northeastern Hasakeh province. — AFP photos

handful of modest one-room mud houses make up the village, which lies in Syria's arid Hasakeh province against a backdrop of dry hills. The roads into and out of Joldara are lined with new signs bearing the Kurdish names of nearby villages in both Arabic and Latin script. Syria's Kurds, who number about three million, have been denied basic rights for decades by the ruling Baath party.

The community was banned from speaking or teaching the Kurdish language and celebrating Kurdish feast days, and some were barred from holding Syrian nationality. The names of hundreds of villages and towns were also Arabized in the government's official registers—but Kurdish authorities are now reversing the procedure.

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An employee at the government's civil reg-

istry in Amuda, also in Hasakeh province, says place names were officially Arabized "in a formal letter from the ministry of interior." "Even newborns had to have their names approved and Arabized by security agencies," says the employee who requested anonymity.

Tourists walk through a three mirrored surface, a floor and two angled walls, interactive installation by Cuban artist Rachel Valdes Camejo titled "The Beginning of the End" in Times Square in New York. The human Kaleidoscope by Rachel Valdes Camejo is her first solo show in the United States. —AFP

