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Kuwait keen on combating human trafficking: Jarallah



Al-Qallafeel: Chief wooden shipbuilders in old Kuwait



Fish in hospital as rains kill 80 in northern India



Neymar blames 'brattish' behavior on inner child



Govt to pursue legal action against fake degree holders

Foreign, education ministers diligently tackling issue

KUWAIT: The government underlined yesterday it will pursue "legal action" against employees who have obtained fake educational certificates, as well as collaborators. The government, in a meeting chaired by Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, said it was determined to pursue legal action against employees regardless of their positions - who sought fake educational certificates as well as those who helped them, Deputy Premier and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh said in a statement.

The Cabinet also decided to form a committee with a task of examining educational certificates of state employees - citizens and expatriates - to verify their authenticity. Legal action will be launched against any person who is found guilty of obtaining a fake certificate which resulted in obtaining promotions or financial benefits, said Saleh.

The committee will be chaired by the ministry of higher education, with the Civil Service Commission and the fatwa and legislation department as members. The committee, said Saleh, will provide a monthly

report including measures to address this issue and preventive action taken. The Cabinet, he noted, assigned the ministry of higher education to establish electronic links with relevant authorities to verify the

Meanwhile, Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah yesterday confirmed in a statement yesterday the ministry's intent to communicate with the ministry of higher education to make joint efforts to combat the phenomenon of fake certificates. In a statement released on the World Day Against Human Trafficking,

organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Jarallah said the ministry is in contact with Kuwaiti embassies and diplomatic missions abroad to coordinate efforts and find the root cause of the problem.

The ministry of higher education has referred a set of false certificates and degrees to the public prosecution, said Jarallah, who emphasized that the ministry of foreign affairs is also following up on the matter diligently to end this problem and detect false documents. — KUNA

Kuwaitis banned from leaving Sri Lanka over assault

COLOMBO: A Sri Lankan court yesterday impounded the passports of a Kuwaiti couple who tried to smuggle a dog into the country and assaulted five customs officers who tried to stop them. A magistrate ordered immigration authorities to prevent the couple from leaving Sri Lanka and fixed a court hearing for Aug 10. The 32-year-old woman and her 29-year-old male partner were arrested on Friday after they turned violent after being informed of quarantine requirements.

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India strips 4 million of citizenship

NEW DELHI: More than four million people left off a draft list of citizens in northeast India yesterday have effectively been made stateless, campaigners said, likening them to the Rohingya minority driven out of Myanmar. Fear gripped the border state of Assam as India's census chief released the list of Security was beefed up across Assam citizens in the state, which excluded as thousands of Muslims left off the those unable to prove they or their parents arrived before March 1971 when neighboring Bangladesh was created.

Assam lies on the border with Muslim-majority Bangladesh and is in the grip of social and communal tension as residents campaign against illegal

immigrants, a fight backed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist government. "Millions have now been rendered stateless," Meenakshi Ganguly, South Asia director at Human Rights Watch, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "There are grave reasons for concern that those without proper documentation will be targeted," she said, warning that "India should not become another Myanmar or United States".

Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya, a stateless Muslim minority, were driven out of Myanmar last year and are now in refugee camps in Bangladesh. registry worried about being sent to detention centers or deported. Critics see the citizenship test as a means to target Assam's Muslim minority, a charge Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) denies.

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SSAM: An Indian security personnel stands guard as residents stand in a queue to check their names on the final list of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Burgoan village in Morigoan district yesterday. — AFP

News in brief

Fuel cheap in Kuwait

KUWAIT: A Bloomberg report ranked a number of Arab countries amongst the world's cheapest in terms of gasoline prices, noting that Kuwait ranked first amongst Arab countries and third worldwide, with an average price of \$0.35 per liter. Egypt came second in the Arab world and fifth worldwide with an average price of \$0.43 per liter, while Saudi Arabia came third in the Arab world and sixth worldwide with an average price of \$0.54 per liter, followed by the UAE, which came fourth in the Arab world and ninth worldwide with an average rate of \$0.68 per liter. The report said Venezuela has the cheapest fuel prices with \$0.01 per liter, followed by Iran with \$0.28 per liter, Kuwait with \$0.35 per liter and Nigeria with \$0.41 per liter. On the other hand, the report showed Hong Kong tops the list of countries with the highest fuel prices of \$2.09 per liter, followed by Norway with \$2.02 and Netherlands with \$1.93 per liter. — A Saleh

Egypt probes bishop's death

CAIRO: Egyptian police are investigating the death of a Coptic Christian bishop who was found dead in his monastery northwest of Cairo on Sunday, the Coptic Church said. The body of Bishop Epiphanius "was handed to forensic investigators to determine the cause of the death and whether or not it was a murder", a security official said yesterday. "The body was found in one of the monastery's corridors with head injuries", added the security official. Bishop Epiphanius, 68, was the abbot of Saint Macarius monastery in Wadi el-Natrun. "In light of mysterious circumstances surrounding his death, the authorities were called and they are now carrying out their investigations," Coptic Church spokesman Boulos Halim said in a statement late on Sunday. — AFP

Seven found dead in east India

NEW DELHI: Seven members of a family in eastern India were found hanging inside their home, police told AFP yesterday, in what they said was a suspected case of mass suicide - although two victims were infants. The family was living in Ranchi, the capital of Jharkhand state, and the dead included two women and three men alongside the two children. "Initial investigations point to suicide. We have also recovered suicide notes pointing to the family's financial situation," Anish Gupta, senior superintendent of Ranchi police told AFP. "It looks like the two adult brothers, one of whom was married, helped others commit suicide before taking their own lives," Gupta added. — AFP

Iraqis fight to save cattle from drought

AL-ATTASSIYA, Iraq: Iraqi farmer Sayyed Sattar knows he'll soon have to let some of his buffalo go as he surveys the herd bathing in a dwindling pond close to the holy city of Najaf. As southern Iraq suffers through a punishing drought, desperate cattle breeders are having to sell off animals to keep others alive. Sattar, 52, has already seen some of his buffalo die of thirst. Now, in a bid to stop any others being lost, he's being forced to say goodbye to some of his prized beasts. "With the money, we will be able to buy water and hay for the rest of the herd," he tells AFP, his head covered with a traditional black and white keffiyeh scarf.

Sattar is far from the only farmer hit by the drought. Local authorities estimate that some 30 percent of cattle across the south of the country have been lost during the drought, either dying from thirst or sold off for slaughter. That is a major blow for the estimated 475,000 families who make their livings from livestock across the south of

the conflict-hit country. Herder Ali, 24, understands only too well the challenges being faced. He has to travel ever greater distances with his flock to find water. Around him, canals have run dry and the cracked earth, empty water pipes, and dead grass testify to how few options farmers now have. To quench the thirst of their animals they have to pay, and the price of water has shot up, he says

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Change sweeps Horn of Africa

NAIROBI: The presidents of Somalia and Eritrea yesterday agreed to establish diplomatic ties after more than a decade of animosity, in the latest lightning rapprochement between Horn of Africa rivals. Somali President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed's three-day visit to Asmara coincides with an extraordinary peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia part of dizzying change in a region burdened by war, proxy conflicts, isolation and iron-fisted rule.

"The two countries will establish diplomatic relations and exchange ambassadors," read a "joint declaration on brotherly relations" signed in Asmara by Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki and Abdullahi, who left for Mogadishu shortly thereafter. The declaration came just three weeks after Ethiopia and Eritrea declared an end to two decades of conflict, rapidly restoring diplomatic ties and flights between their capitals.

The history of the three nations, and their fallouts, have been intertwined. Somalia and Eritrea were once close.

Under Somali dictator Siad Barre, the military regime in Mogagishu backed Eritrea's long fight for independence from Ethiopia, which was attained in 1993. In 1998 Ethiopia and Eritrea began a bloody two-year war over their shared border which left 80,000 dead before settling into a bitter cold war. After the fall of Barre in 1991, Somalia fell into chaos. By around 2006, it became the site of what observers called a proxy war between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Ethiopia backed backing a weak interim government in Mogadishu while Eritrea was accused of backing the Islamic militants fighting to overthrow it, a charge it denied. The UN Security Council in 2009 imposed an arms embargo and targeted sanctions on Eritrea for its alleged support of the Al-Qaeda linked Al-Shabaab militants, which continue to launch regular deadly attacks despite losing territory in recent years.

The declaration placed special emphasis on its support for the Somali government. "Eritrea strongly supports the political independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Somalia as well as the efforts of the people and government of Somalia to restore the country's rightful stature and achieve the lofty



aspirations of its people," it said. The document, posted on Eritrea's information ministry website, also said the two nations "will endeavor to forge intimate political, economic, social, cultural as well as defense and security cooperation". They will in addition "work in unison to foster regional peace, stability and eco-

At a state banquet on Sunday, Isaias bemoaned the gloomy post-Cold War history of the Horn of Africa. He said the region had been destroyed by "ethnic and clan cleavages" and "external pillage and internal thievery" in the speech which

nomic integration."



of anarchy" by the United Nations and NGOs. "Under these bleak realities, interventionist and expansionist regional agendas in the name of religion, cultural intoxication under various extremist ideologies, terrorism, piracy, human trafficking, as well as trade in weapons and narcotics became the new normal," he said, according to a speech posted on the information ministry's website. "But this epoch of crises, conflict and instability is not inherently sustainable. As such, it is nearing its end. We are indeed entering a new, transitional, phase."—AFP

Amir offers his condolences over India's floods, Indonesia quake

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent vesterday a cable to Indian President Ram Nath Kovind, offering his condolences to the victims who fell in the heavy rain and floods hitting the northern state of Uttar Pradesh. His Highness the Amir expressed his sorrow towards who fell in the natural disasters, and wished for the swift recovery for those injured. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables.

day to Indonesian President Joku Widodo, extending his condolences to the victims of the earthquake in Lombok Island. HH the Amir expressed sorrow over those killed in the natural disaster, and wished the injured fast recovery. HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. HH the Amir had also received Argentine Ambassador to Kuwait Jorge Omar Antonio yesterday at Seif Palace on the occasion of the end his tenure. Deputy Amiri

Diwan Minister Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah Al-Sabah attended the

meeting. Kuwait's National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim had also sent cables of condolences to top lawmakers in India over the victims of heavy rain and floods hitting the northern state of Uttar Pradesh. Al-Ghanim also sent cable of condolences to his counterpart in Indonesia, extending his condolences to the victims of the earthquake in Lombok Island. He expressed sorrow over those killed in the natural disaster, and wished the injured fast recovery. — KUNA



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receiving outgoing Argentine Ambassadoi to Kuwait Jorge Omar Antonio yesterday at Seif Palace. — KUNA

Iraqi VP Maliki arrives in Kuwait



New batch of Palestinian teachers contracted

By A Saleh

Kuwait Rami Tahboub said they are wait-

ing for the Palestinian teachers who were contracted for the new school year, due to the confidence, competence and distinguished performances shown by them during the many years of excellent service in Kuwait. Ambassador Tahboub said the contracts committee of Kuwait's Education Ministry arrived in Palestine to start the contracting procedures with a new batch of teachers



Palestinian teachers to work for them. Oatar has already started the process of KUWAIT: Palestinian Ambassador to recalling Palestinian teachers due to their exemplary performances.

> MoI seeks to end paper use The director of IT Center at the Ministry of Information Abeer Al-Awadhi said the ministry is seeking to end bureaucracy and paper use. This is being done to enhance administrative work and internal correspondence, while transitioning into an all-electronic system. Al-Awadhi said enhancements include many programs such as the "inspection team report" for cinema inspectors, inspection program for the inspection office and archiving the

Kuwait keen on combating human trafficking: Jarallah

Deputy FM affirms support to UN efforts in Yemen

KUWAIT: Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah yesterday stressed Kuwait's support for the international community in its efforts to combat human trafficking. Jarallah made his remarks on the sidelines of his participation to mark the World Day Against Human Trafficking organized by the International Organization of Migration (IOM) mission in Kuwait. He said that Kuwait enjoys "a praiseworthy law, which keeps us away from all wrong human practices". He stressed Kuwait will not hesitate to deter and hold accountable those responsible for human trafficking, adding that there were contacts and cooperation with friends around the globe in this regard.

He pointed out to Kuwait's domestic employment law, national strategy for combating human trafficking and the establishment of the Public Authority for Manpower to prevent human trafficking. He said that Kuwait seeks to contain this phenomenon by providing a decent life for all workers and those living on Kuwaiti territory, adding that these steps were based on Kuwait's commitment to international conventions and laws regarding human rights. The deputy foreign minister confirmed that about three million foreigners live in peace and security in Kuwait.

Head of the IOM mission in Kuwait Iman Erekat said human trafficking was a crime against humanity affecting human dignity, praising Kuwait's efforts to combat this phenomenon. She said that Kuwait's Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah's sponsorship of this celebration affirms Kuwait's serious desire to combat such crimes. Erekat stressed this is also consistent with Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 10 over decent work, economic



growth and reduction of inequalities. Jarallah also said Kuwait supports the United Nations Special Envoy to Yemen Martin Griffiths on his mission to help the Yemeni people to overcome their dire situation. In a press release, Jarallah said Kuwait played a pivotal role in helping to resolve the Yemeni crisis. He indicated that the meeting between HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Griffiths had focused on Kuwait's stance with regards to the conflict in Yemen. He hoped that Kuwait and the

UN would continue to coordinate efforts in Yemen until a peaceful solution is reached.

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Meanwhile, Jarallah touched in his statement on the situation in Iraq and affirmed that Kuwait will do all that it can to help the Iraqi people. On the subject of a US-proposed Arab alliance similar to NATO, Jarallah said his country had submitted several proposals of similar nature in the Middle East, indicating that the US and Kuwait will hold talks to discuss the nature of such a strategic entity. - KUNA

Kuwait commemorates Iraq's 1990 invasion

KUWAIT: The government of Kuwait yesterday commemorated the August 2, 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, during which hundreds of people were martyred and left unaccounted for until an

February 1991. The government, in a meeting chaired by Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, said in a statement the Iraqi regime and its forces destroyed "all aspects of civilization and life" in Kuwait.

The cabinet, marking the 28th anniversary of the Iraqi invasion and seven-month occupation, due next Thursday, prayed to Allah the Almighty to bestow mercy upon souls of martyrs and innocent people who lost their lives during the occupation. It highly appreciated the faithful endeavors and sacrifices of late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the Father Amir Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Al-

fronting the aggression. The cabinet also expressed gratitude for all countries which supported Kuwait's just cause which led to the defeat of the aggressors.

It called on the Kuwaiti people to learn lessons from this agonizing experience, and safeguard security and stability of Kuwait, as well as oin hands to boost national unity. Iraqi regime forces invaded and occupied Kuwait for seven months before they were ejected by a US-led international alliance in February 1991. During the occupation, the Iraqi troops killed Kuwaiti people, looted and destroyed private and public properties, and held citizens as prisoners. The Iraqi forces also torched over 700 oil wells before leaving the country. — KUNA

Red Sea lane unrest to barely affect oil prices

Palestinian Ambassador

KUWAIT: In the wake of Saudi Arabia's decision to suspend oil shipments through the Red Sea's strategic Bab-el-Mandeb strait, the repercussions of the move on oil prices remain subtle, according to an analyst. Countries bearing the brunt of the Saudis' decision to halt shipments through Bab-el-Mandeb strait, where four to five million barrels of oil pass through the waterway each day, will now have to rely on commercial stocks until maritime transit through the significant shipping route is safe, oil expert Mohammad Al-Shatti told KUNA yesterday.

The security of oil supply has taken precedence among the international community in recent weeks, Al-Shatti explained, with the United States and other top oil consumers calling on OPEC to boost production in order to ensure stability in global markets. OPEC members struck a new deal last month to raise oil production and Al-Shatti said that it has proven immensely beneficial to the global market, emphasizing that the security of oil supply hinges on safe maritime transit routes.

Meanwhile, the analyst clarified that any attacks on oil shipments require responsive and urgent action, citing the UN's Convention on the Law of the Sea, which states that all ships and aircraft enjoy the right of unimpeded transit passage. He went on to say that the global oil market is at a perilous juncture given



Kuwaiti oil expert Mohammad Al-Shatti

the decline in oil production in some regions of the world, in addition to the soaring demand for oil, which prompted OPEC to boost oil output by 1 million barrels per day.

"If the security of oil supply is threatened in any way, then prices will begin to spiral out of control," Al-Shatti said, pointing out that as the world's biggest oil exporter, Saudi Arabia churns out between six to seven and a half million barrels of oil per day. Saudi Energy Minister Khalid Al-Faleh said last week that the kingdom is "temporarily halting" all oil shipments through Bab Al-Mandeb strait after two of its crude vessels were attacked by the Iran-allied Houthi group. The upheaval is expected to have a minimal effect on Kuwaiti oil shipments, where 90 percent of the Gulf state's crude exports go to southeastern Asia, a Kuwaiti oil official has said. — KUNA





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SCPD chief: Disabled persons integral part of Amir's vision

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's development vision is riveted on youth, including people with disabilities, said a senior development official on Sunday. Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development (SCPD) Khaled Mahdi made the remark during a conference on the disabled.

The event mainly aims at exploring effective ways to provide a better life for people with special needs in the context of Kuwait's 2035 development vision, he said. In this regard, the SCPD chief pointed out the necessity of overhauling the educational system, boosting societal awareness, providing an easy access to health and environmental services and offering jobs. Director-General of the Public Authority of the Disabled Shafiqa Al-Awadhi said it is imperative for everyone to support people with disabilities by helping incorporate them in the society. She hoped that the event would come up with recommendations that could effectively lead to better educational, health and job services.

She even called on all public and private institutions and agencies to work together in order to ensure fruitful blueprints purposed to take better care of people with special needs. Honorary President of the Kuwait Disabled Sports Club Sheikha Sheikha Al-



KUWAIT: Secretary-Genera of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development of Kuwait Dr Khaled Mahdi.



Kuwait Sports Club for Disable Sheikha Sheikha Al-Abdullal Al-Sabah. —KUNA photos

Abdullah Al-Sabah appreciated state and private departments for catering for young people in general and the disabled in particular. A country's development can be now gauged by how much it is interested in the affairs of young people, she said. She boasted that Kuwait has adopted one of the world's best laws for people with disabilities. —KUNA



Zanzibar hails Kuwait's continuous humanitarian support KUWAIT: President of Zanzibar Ali Mohamed Shein

hailed Kuwait's continuous humanitarian support, namely the recent donation of medical equipment to the blood bank in Mnazi Mmoja Hospital. The President's statement came during his meeting with Kuwait Red Crescent Society's (KRCS) Deputy Chairman Anwar Al-Hassawi and his accompanying delegation yesterday, after the blood bank's inauguration, with the presence of Kuwaiti Ambassador to Tanzania Jassem Al-Najim. In a statement released by Kuwait Embassy in Tanzania, Shein thanked KRCS for supporting Tanzania's largest hospital. KRCS team had visited an orphanage in Unguia city and an elderly care home to distribute aid. Meanwhile, Al-Hassawi noted that KRCS would continue to aid people in need and those affected by natural disasters and crises everywhere. —KUNA

EU-Kuwait relationship takes big leap forward

BRUSSELS: The recent announcement that the European Union is to open its Delegation (embassy) in Kuwait marks a significant turning point in relations between the 28-member European bloc and the Gulf country. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced in Brussels on July 13 after a meeting with EU High Representative Federica Mogherini that the EU will open its embassy in Kuwait by the end of this year.

He noted that the opening of the EU embassy in Kuwait would contribute to strengthening bilateral relations in all fields. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said Kuwait supports and participates in the role of the EU to find solutions to the problems in the region; in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Libya, the Middle East Peace Process, and the fight against terrorism. Kuwait also supports and participates in the EU's humanitarian efforts, he noted.

On her part, Mogherini at a meeting of EU Foreign Ministers in Brussels on July 16, announced her intention to open an EU Delegation in Kuwait to strengthen bilateral relations. The EU opened its first Delegation in the Gulf region in Saudi Arabia in 2004. The EU's Riyadh Delegtion is accredited to five Gulf Cooperation Council countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia).

A second EU Delegation opened in Abu Dhabi in 2013 and covers the United Arab Emirates. Observers note that Mogherini has played a key role in boosting ties between Brussels and Kuwait. She visited Kuwait In July 2017 to underline Europe's support to efforts by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to resolve the Gulf crisis. The EU's top diplomat visited Kuwait again in February 2018 to cochair the International Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq. During her press conferences in Brussels, Mogherini regularly praises His Highness the Amir's prominent humanitarian role and his peacebuilding efforts in the region.

She also lauded Kuwait's role as a force of stability and for coordinating the international effort to provide humanitarian assistance to Syria and other countries affected by the conflict and for Kuwait's cooperation with the EU in the UN Security Council. "Kuwait is doing excellent work in the Security Council. We are cooperating closely with them," noted Mogherini at the EU Foreign Ministers' meeting earlier this month.

Memorandum of Understanding

Kuwait's Ambassador to the EU, NATO, Belgium and Luxembourg Jassem Al-Budaiwi, supported by his young, talented and hard-working team of diplomats at the embassy deserve a big applause for their unrelenting and persistent efforts to deepen and expand ties with EU. In two years since he assumed his post in Brussels, Al-Budaiwi has made his mark through his energetic engagements on the diplomatic and political circles in the EU's capital, observers say. — KUNA





Qallaleef: The chief wooden shipbuilders in old Kuwait



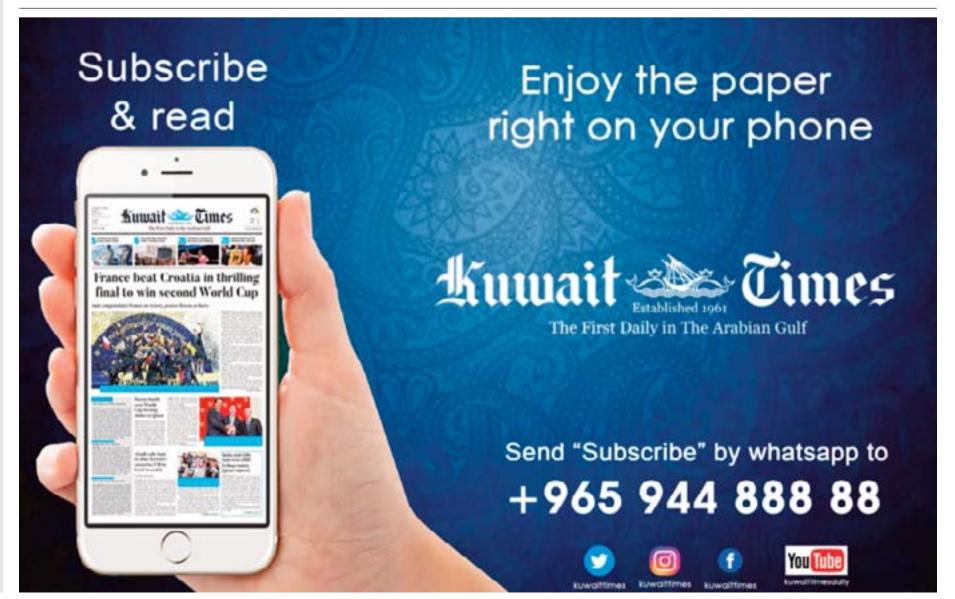


KUWAIT: A ship being built.



KUWAIT: The construction of small and huge wooden ships was a sophisticated and tiring occupation which only (Al-Oallaleef) could carry out in old Kuwait. A Qallaf, the singular of Qallaleef, was assigned alongside others to manufacture and con-

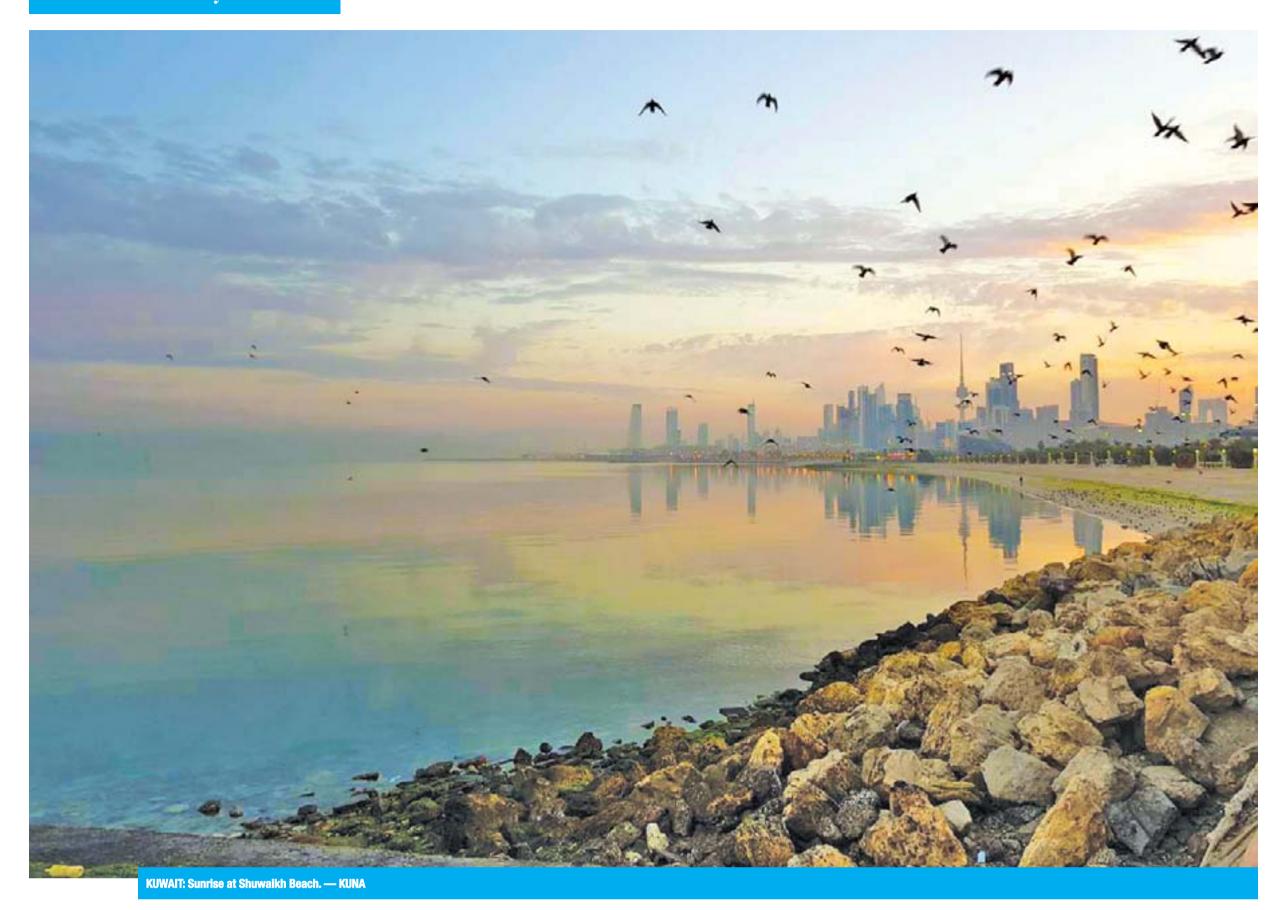
struct wooden ships of various types and designs. Through the passage of time, the profession became less prominent in Kuwait; however, Al-Qallaleef's decedents took the term and made it their own by having Al-Qallaf as a last name. —KUNA



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Photo of the Day



NBK launches the third session of 2018 Summer Internship Program

KUWAIT: National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) launched the third session of the 2018 Summer Internship Program. The program is custom-made for high school and college students aged between 14 and 21 years. Emad Al Ablani, NBK General Manager, GroupHuman Resources welcomed the students. NBK Summer Internship Program is specially designed for high school and college students as an extension of NBK's education outreach services. The program demonstrates NBK's long-standing social involvement as well as its national commitment towards providing the young generations with the appropriate opportunities to experience firsthand how the actual professional banking issues and transactions are handled and processed.

The 5-hour daily sessions of two-week internship featured a mixture of theoretical and practical training dedicated to providing the interns with invaluable knowledge on a variety of subjects such as; the team work, creative thinking, means of self expression and modern banking work procedure, in addition to helping interns to have greater exposure to daily banking work procedures. NBK regularly organizes and designs events and packages for the youth of the country to familiarize them with the world of banking and make them responsible citizens.



Bayt: Grads find banking and business consultation the most attractive industries

KUWAIT: The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is one of the most youthful regions in the world. Hence, there are a large number of fresh graduates that are seeking entry level jobs every day. In the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, a survey by Bayt.com and YouGov entitled "Fresh Graduates in the MENA" revealed that two in three fresh graduates (66%) believe that their educational background had prepared them for finding a job in their industry of choice.

When looking for a job, nearly 7 in 10 MENA respondents (67%) used or planned to use leading online job sites, followed by social media sites (55%) and direct applications to target companies (48%). The nature of the job/being passionate about the job emerges as the single most important factor for respondents when selecting a job. The same is true across all countries in the MENA region.

Most attractive industries

In the MENA region, banking/finance (21%), engineering/design (21%), and business consultancy (19%) emerge



as the most appealing industries from a career point of followed IT/Internet/e-commerce (18%), advertising/marketing/public relations (17%) and education/academia (17%). The industries that are hiring the highest proportions of fresh graduates according to respondents include military/defense/police (24%), advertising/marketing/public relations (20%), banking/finance (15%).

Lower expectations on salary (44%) is the main reason why respondents believe that some industries hire more fresh graduates than others, followed by more willingness to follow instructions (33%). Conversely, three in five fresh graduates claim that the lack of needed experience is the main reason why some industries are more hesitant to hire them.

Finding a job in MENA

Three in five MENA graduates claim they acquired work experience during or before their time in college and university, and more than half (53%) had worked for a period of up to six months. When asked which skills they believe are required to excel in the workplace, respondents mentioned computer skills (60%) as most important, followed by linguistic skills (40%). When it comes to personal skills, respondents rate

themselves highly across all skills. Still, finding a job (78%), saving money (40%), and being able to financially afford a basic lifestyle (38%) are the top challenges for fresh graduates in MENA today. Across the region, taking a long time to find a job in chosen field (50%) is the most common reason why respondents are not employed in their field of study. When asked what they will do if they do not find a job in their exact target job role/industry, almost half (47%) of the fresh graduates said they will keep looking until they do, while one-third (36%) said they will start looking into another role/industry of their choice.

"The job market is highly competitive today, and at entry level, due to the high numbers of young people across the region, competition is especially rife. To stand out, fresh graduates need to focus on fine-tuning both their transferable skills and leadership potential, via handson internship experiences or specialized courses.

Ultimately, our goal at Bayt.com is to arm these graduates with the right tools needed to thrive in today's everevolving employment sector. In fact, our job site features thousands of employment opportunities especially catered to fresh graduates. Entry-level candidates can also tap into different tools on Bayt.com that are designed to improve their skills and increase their professional knowledge," said Suhail Masri, VP Employer Solutions, Bayt.com.

The role of higher education

While MENA graduates are generally satisfied with the education they receive, many are finding it difficult to find their first job. The main reasons for these challenges are lack of previous work experience (51%), and not knowing

how to approach the job search effectively (42%). Seven in 10 respondents from MENA (67%) considered the availability of jobs in their field of study before deciding on their degree. However, for three in four MENA respondents, their college did not help them identify or apply for a suitable job. For the remaining 25%, their college helped in a number of ways including career days (36%) and job announcements (35%).

Across the region, engineering was the most popular subject amongst fresh graduates (22%), followed by accounting/finance (15%) and business/commerce/economics (14%). Other popular areas of study included information technology/computer sciences (13%), sciences (8%), and arts and literature/fine arts (7%).

"The recent survey suggests that, while graduates are getting a good and satisfactory education, they are facing serious challenges in their first job hunt. While academic performance is key, fresh graduates also need to rely on extrinsic skills development, work placement and search tools to connect with employers of choice and break into their industry. Even if these tools aren't offered by the educational institution, job seekers have plenty of online job sites and tools that prepare them for their career journey," said Kerry McLaren, Head of Omnibus MENA, YouGov.

Research was done with 1293 graduates, who had completed their most recent qualification in the last three years, and was conducted from 22 May until 28 June 2018, from the KSA, Egypt, Jordan, Algeria, UAE, Morocco, Sudan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Kuwait, Oman, Iraq, Libya, Palestine, Syria, Qatar, and Bahrain. All responses were collected online. — provided by bayt.com

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KFSD launches inspection campaign on elevators

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: As part of its activities to boost public awareness about safety conditions while using elevators, KFSD's prevention sector inspection teams launched an intensive inspection campaign of various buildings to make sure all elevators work safely and properly. KFSD deputy director for prevention affairs Maj Gen Khaled Abdullah Fahd urged various facility owners to have elevators regularly maintained by accredited licensed companies, install inner protection doors and replace all manual doors with automatic ones.

Hajj medical mission

MoH's media office manager Dr Ghalya Al-Mutairi said a special plan has been prepared to cooperate with the ministry of awqaf and the hajj medical mission. The aim of the plan is to provide all the data needed to avoid health problems for all age categories during the hajj season. Speaking on the sidelines of an awareness seminar organized by the office under the auspices of Health Minister Sheikh Dr Basel Al-Sabah for members of the

Mutairi stressed that pre-hajj vaccinations were a requirement. Pilgrims are also to be advised on the utmost importance of medical kits. She also highlighted the need to be fully prepared to deal with pilgrims with chronic diseases and the safe storage of medicines. Furthermore, Mutairi reminded team members that pilgrims will be possibly subjected to various types of infections developing amongst huge crowds, in addition to dehydration, sunstroke, exhaustion and gastric disorders, and urged them to be fully prepared to deal with

KPTC allowances

KPTC employees' syndicate chairman Khaled Abdullah Al-Awadhi said the syndicate had suggested paying citizens working in KPTC national labor support allowances. He stressed that MP Abdullah Al-Kandari supports this proposal and submitted it to the parliamentary financial and economic affairs committee on Sunday. Awadhi expressed hope that lawmakers will approve and pass this proposal because citizens work-

medical team due to accompany the hajj mission, ing for KPTC had not received any pay hikes for years like their peers in the government and private sector. "Unfortunately, KPTC employees are treated as private sector employees in various aspects but do not even get one quarter of the incentives citizens working for the private sector get," he underlined, noting that he had met KIA Chairman and Managing Director Farouq Bastaki, who promised to consider paying national labor support allowances to 70 citizens working for KPTC.

Overemployment problems

A number of young Kuwaiti graduates pleaded Minister of Commerce and PAI Chairman Khaled Al-Roudhan to accelerate the process of allocating an industrial plot in the Amghara scrap area in order to put an end to overemployment in government bodies and support Kuwaiti youth seeking entrepreneurship opportunities. In an official letter addressed to Roudhan, the young graduates demanded evicting the current occupants of sectors 1, 2 and 3 of the area who had lease contracts from Agility company, as the contract it had signed with PAI has expired. They also demanded divid-

ing the area into 5,000 sq m plots and offering them for bidding amongst Kuwaiti youth to help resolve the problem of unemployment, increase the state's revenues and achieve equality amongst citizens.

Summer trainingKuwait Science Club (KSC) Chairman Talal Jassim Al-Kharafi highly commended the ongoing cooperation with the Manpower and Government Restructuring Program (MGRP), namely in terms of hiring students during the summer vacation so that they could spend their holidays fruitfully. Speaking during a meeting with MGRP's training department manager Tareq Al-Kandari, Kharafi stressed that MGRP's summer training program had attracted many Kuwait students and that it provides them with ample chances to get first hand training to prepare them for their future jobs. Kharafi suggested offering students part-time jobs throughout the year as well. Kandari thanked KSC for its constant support to the student training program and stressed that the club is the most active in serving youth amongst various NGOs in Kuwait.

In my view

PhDs - at your service!



By Abdullah Bowair

he issue of fake bachelor, master and PhD degrees raised in various media is nothing new. It was raised before without receiving a proper response, when some citizens bought fake degrees from the Philippines and some Arab and GCC countries. I then wrote warning and expressing amazement at universities receiving students on Fridays, Saturdays and holidays. These people were spiritually supported and motivated to get higher degrees, which entitled them to unlawfully get new titles, promotions, power and money

"Why didn't you get such degrees back in the 1980s or earlier if you really relied on your own hard work?" I would ask those people, who could hardly get through high school. Studying was different in those days and wearing wireless earpieces was not an integral condition to sit for an exam. Since then, the issue has been having its ups and downs, where some ministers were very strict about it and others were more tolerant.

I recall the final results back in 1984, when I got my high school leaving certificate - half the students failed the final exam, a quarter passed with 47-50 percent, which was just enough for them to join PAAET, and only a few of us got over 60 percent. I was one of those lucky few and joined the only university in Kuwait -Kuwait University - while some colleagues joined the police or the army. Our high school certificate was tough to get and we could only obtain it through hard

Nowadays, those holding fake degrees have the highest positions, including academics and top officials who obtained their degrees without fear of accountability. The education ministry recently said hundreds of reports had been filed with the public prosecution concerning fake degrees. Where on earth was the ministry vears ago when we read news about the cost of getting degrees from the Philippines, including PhDs? Was MoE clinically dead then, when the problem was still snowballing? It seems that the ministry was busy spending its budget on expat teachers and supporting them. Teachers no longer teach their students and yet MoE yields whenever they demand pay raises!

Teachers nowadays are more keen on attracting more students for private tuitions, which 70 percent of the families have to provide. CSC will never be able to employ more citizens while MoE and other ministries recruit holders of fake degrees. While a citizen with an authentic degree gets KD 1,000 monthly, for example, holders of fake degrees may get up to KD 4,000, which is unfair because removing one of those people will provide job opportunities for three citizens.

It seems that these people did not have the magic lamp before 1990, but later they rubbed it and the genie came out shouting: "PhDs - at your service!"

Fight over 'Kiki' dance?

KUWAIT: Ahmadi detectives are looking for 10 men who allegedly attacked and beat up four young men inside a mall causing them fractures, cuts and bruises. The prosecutor has listed the case as a felony. Meanwhile, in another incident, a video clip shared on social media documented a fight in Shuwaikh area between two youths. The reason for the fight was unknown though some rumors indicate it was because of the Kiki dance. Kuwaiti authorities have banned the popular viral 'challenge' whereby social media users film themselves dancing alongside a moving car.

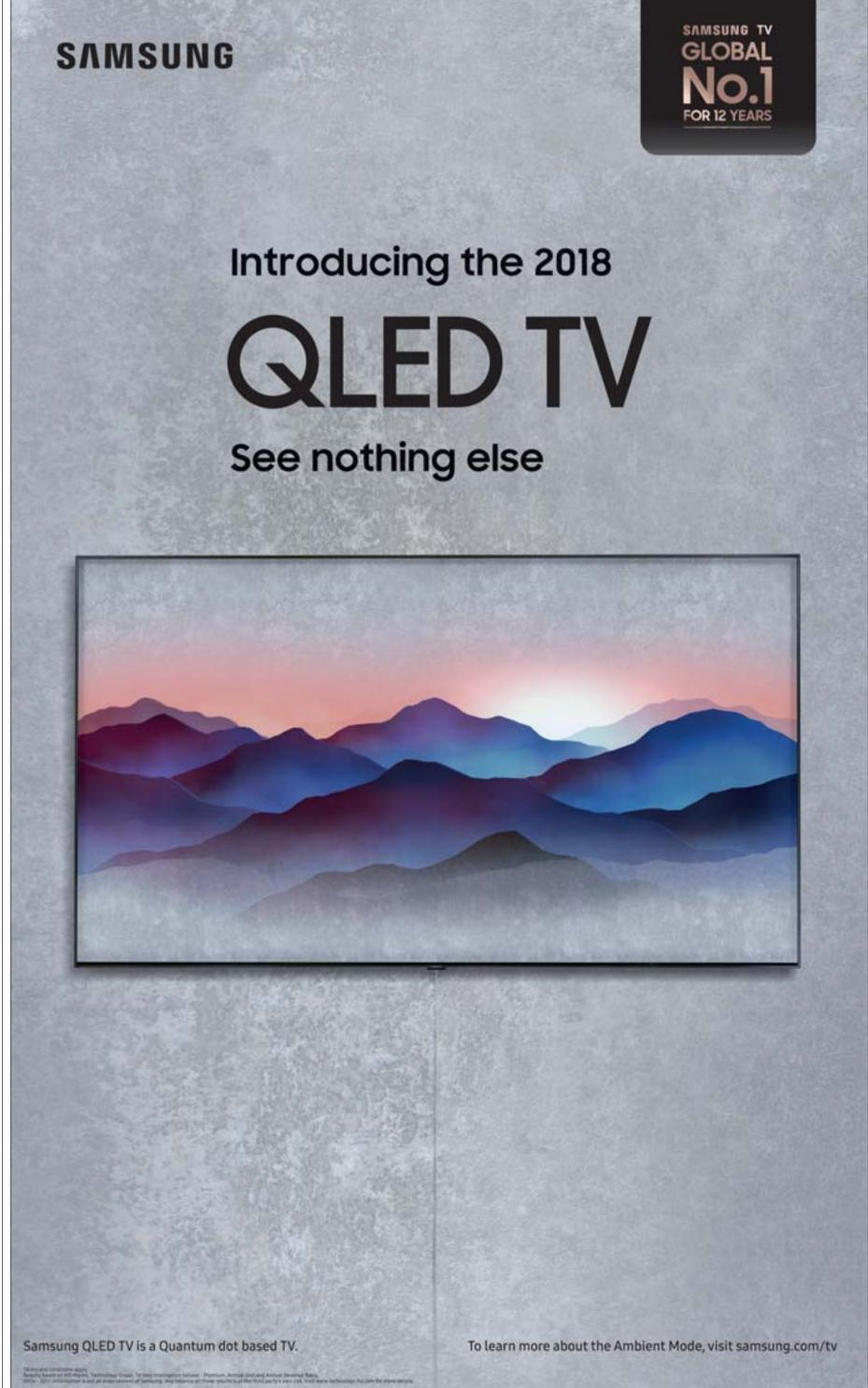
Keifan co-op theft

A young man was taken to Keifan police station charged with theft of three sets of earphones for mobiles phones. Police received a call from Keifan co-op, saying that a young man was caught in the act of stealing the earphones. The suspect confessed to taking the ear phones but denied that he intended to steal them. A case was filed.

Saudi kills brother, friend

Border policemen arrested a Saudi national who attempted to escape after killing both his brother and a mutual friend. The suspect was held at the border as a travel ban was placed on him for having prior debt charges. He then confessed to the killing and said he was attempting to escape the country. A security source said the suspect was taken to Um Al-Haiman where he committed the crime and where the bodies of the two victims were found in the house diwaniya. The suspect said he had used a machine gun to kill his victims.

—translated by Kuwait Times



Kuwait 🙅 Times International

Druze women and children kidnapped by IS in Sweida

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Pakistan opposition party calls for investigation of election rigging



Hikers start descent of Indonesia volcano after quake

Our country

is in the

Ring of Fire

More than 500 tourists, guides trapped on the mountain

MATARAM, Indonesia: Groups of hikers began to pick their way down the slopes of a Lombok volcano yesterday after a deadly earthquake triggered landslides that trapped more than 500 tourists and guides on the mountain. Tons of rock and mud were dislodged on Mount Rinjani in the 6.4-magnitude quake, which struck early Sunday and was followed by scores of aftershocks, blocking the hiking routes that crisscross the mountain.

Around 560 people were estimated to be trapped on Rinjani overnight, including citizens from the United States, France, the Netherlands, Thailand and Germany, as well as many other countries, search and rescue officials said. Search and rescue officials said tourists had now started to descend the active volcano but were unlikely to arrive at its base before nightfall. "At the moment both domestic and international tourists are on their way down," I Gusti Lanang Wiswananda, a spokesman for West Nusa Tenggara search and rescue, said.

Hikers were able to start descending the mountain after guides discovered an alternate route that was unaffected by the landslides, Wiswananda said, adding the evacuation will most likely stretch into today. Hundreds of other hikers managed to get off the mountain on Sunday, according to officials. At least 16 people were killed in the earthquake across affected areas of Lombok, while hundreds of buildings were

destroyed including a health clinic. The quake created panic on the holiday island and sent locals and tourists running outside their homes and hotels. Helicopters and search teams were deployed to scour the volcano's slopes and drop food supplies for those stranded on the mountain. The search will

be halted at sunset, search and rescue officials said. "For supplies, they can still survive for another one to two days," Agus Hendra Sanjaya, spokesman for Mataram's search and rescue agency, said.

Rising some 3,726 meters above sea level, Rinjani is the second-tallest volcano in Indonesia and a favorite among sightseers keen to take in its expansive views. Hiking trails on the mountain were closed fol-

lowing the quake due to fear of further landslides. Thailand's embassy in Jakarta said 239 of its citizens were stuck in the area surrounding the mountain. Thai national Thanapon Worawutchainan, who was at the summit when the earthquake occurred, posted a video on Facebook showing people stum-

bling down the slopes in the aftermath. He said the ground shook violently and people lay down until the tremors stopped. "It looked like the mountain in front of me was going to collapse," another stranded Thai, Funknathee Prapasawat, said on Facebook. "Some people were injured by rocks falling off the mountain."

Thousands in shelters

The epicenter of the earthquake was 50 km northeast of Lombok's main city Mataram, the United States Geological Survey said, far from the main tourist spots on the south and west of the island. The initial tremor was followed by two strong secondary quakes and more than 100 aftershocks. The jolt was felt some 100 km away

on the bustling resort island of Bali, although there were no reports of damage there. In the hard hit village of Medas, north of Mataram, the majority of houses were destroyed and the area was deserted Monday save for a few people searching for possessions in the rubble, an AFP reporter at the scene said. Some

160 people were injured in Lombok as a result of the quake, said Mohammad Rum, head of West Nusa Tenggara disaster agency. A Malaysian was among the dead, with another six citizens injured, the foreign ministry in Kuala Lumpur said.

A total of 5,141 people are staying in temporary shelters and in need of clean water, Indonesian disaster mitigation agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told MetroTV. Rinjawani Pebolaisia, an evacuee at a shelter in East Lombok, said they were lacking basic supplies. "We hope that aid will arrive quickly-there are only instant noodles here," Pebolaisia, 30, said. "We also need milk for the children, diapers, there are

also no blankets... Many people are sleeping outside." President Joko Widodo visited affected areas on Monday and promised financial support for those who have lost their homes. "We must be aware that our country is in the Ring of Fire, so people need to be prepared to face any disaster," Widodo said. Indonesia, one of the most disaster-prone nations on earth, straddles the so-called Pacific "Ring of Fire", where tectonic plates collide and a large portion of the world's volcanic eruptions and earthquakes occur.

In 2004 a tsunami triggered by a magnitude 9.3 undersea earthquake off the coast of Sumatra in western Indonesia killed 220,000 people in countries around the Indian Ocean, including 168,000 in Indonesia. —AFP

Fish in hospital as rains kill 80 in north India

NEW DELHI: Dirty water with fish squirming around flooded a hospital in northeast India after monsoon rain and at least 80 people died within days in one state in weather-related accidents, officials said yesterday. Patients sat gingerly with their feet up at the Nalanda Medical College hospital in Bihar state when water gushed into the intensive care unit, highlighting the annual havoc the monsoon wreaks on the country's creaking infrastructure.

"A portion of the ground floor was flooded on Sunday after a pipe choked amid heavy rains, causing waterlogging," Sitaram Prasad, principal of the college-cum-hospital, told AFP. Tens of thousands of buildings and homes across India regularly flood during the monsoon months of June to September, which bring death and destruction. Some 545 people have died across the country since May due to the rains, with over a million people affected in some way. Sanjay Kumar, the head of disaster management in Uttar Pradesh state west of Bihar, said 80 people have been killed by collapsing homes or walls since Thursday after heavy rain pounded much of the region. Neighboring states are also on alert, with authorities evacuating 3,000 residents from areas near the River brimming close to the danger mark. Gujarat in the west



Yamuna, which is flowing above the danger level in the capital New Delhi. A 150-year-old iron bridge was closed as water levels rose to touch its base.

Authorities in Haryana state said many rivers were

and the northeastern state of Assam have also been affected. More than 200,000 people are living in relief camps in Assam. Mumbai, the capital of the western state of Maharashtra, was pounded by days of torrential rain which disrupted transport and caused severe flooding. —AFP

Britain's Hunt misidentifies wife as Japanese

BEIJING: In a slip of the tongue during his maiden trip to China as Britain's new foreign secretary, Jeremy Hunt yesterday told his Chinese counterpart that his wife was Japanese, but backtracked quickly. At the start of talks in Beijing, the capital, Hunt told the government's top diplomat, State Councillor Wang Yi, that he had a long relation-ship with China, beginning with a backpacking trip when

"My wife is Japanese - my wife is Chinese. That's a terrible mistake to make," Hunt said, to laughter in the room. "My wife is Chinese, and my children are half-Chinese, and so we have Chinese grandparents who live in Xian and strong family connections in China." He married his wife Lucia in July 2009 and they have a son and two daughters, according to his website. Hunt, who took over this month following the resignation of his predecessor Boris Johnson, was visiting Beijing on only his second trip outside Britain since assuming his role as foreign minister. The rest of his talks with Wang, a former Chinese ambassador to Japan who speaks fluent Japanese, went much better, though. Hunt later told a news briefing that China had offered Britain talks on a post-Brexit free trade deal.—Reuters

Druze women and children kidnapped by IS in Sweida

Jihadists demand release of detained IS-linked people

BEIRUT: The Islamic State group kidnapped dozens of Druze women and children when it attacked their village last week in Syria's Sweida, residents of the southern province and a monitor said yesterday. Sweida, which is mainly government-held and populated with members of Svria's Druze minority, had been largely insulated from the conflict raging in the rest of the country since 2011. But on Wednesday, a string of suicide blasts and shootings claimed by IS left more than 250 people dead in the provincial capital and nearby villages, most of them civilians.

After the attack IS jihadists also abducted several dozen women and children from one village. according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and Sweida residents. The Britain-based Observatory said 36 Druze women and children were abducted, but that four women had since managed to escape while another two had died. That left 14 women and 16 children in IS captivity, said Observatory head Rami Abdel Rahman. Another 17 men were unaccounted for, but it was unclear if they were also kidnapped.

IS has not claimed the kidnappings and no details on them could be found on its propaganda channels. According to news outlet Sweida24, the 36 civilians were kidnapped on Wednesday from the village of Al-Shabki, in the eastern hinterlands of Sweida province. Sweida24 and other online outlets published a video that appeared to show one of the hostages making demands of the Syrian government, purportedly on IS's behalf. AFP could not independently verify its authenticity, but several Sweida residents confirmed that a woman appearing in the footage was among those missing

Talks over hostages

The hostages mainly hail from two large families in Al-Shabki, said reporter Nour Radwan, who heads Sweida24. The remote village lies in the eastern edges of Sweida province and suffered some of the deadliest violence from Wednesday's attacks, with more than 60 civilians killed in Al-Shabki alone, Radwan said. "Most of its residents are farmers and don't have much more than hunting rifles in terms of weapons, so there was little resistance from Al-Shabki compared to other villages," he told AFP.

"When IS saw that, it kidnapped a first batch of people from their homes and took them east towards the Badiya, according to survivors," Nour added. The Badiya is Syria's vast desert, which stretches from the country's centre to its eastern border with Iraq and includes several isolated ISheld pockets. IS has also reached out to the families of those abducted with pictures and videos. The jihadists are demanding the release by the Syrian government "of detained IS-linked people, whose numbers are now being negotiated", said Radwan.

IS also wants a halt to a Syrian regime offensive on jihadist positions, he said. Religious leaders from the Druze community have since stepped in, Radwan and another local source with knowledge of the talks said. "As of Sunday, the hostages were still being held in the Badiya. Negotiations are happening between Daesh and Druze sheikhs," said the source, using the Arabic acronym for IS.

Syrian government bombing

IS has lost urban strongholds in Syria but still holds parts of the Badiya, including northeastern areas in Sweida and territory by the Iraqi border. The jihadists also control a pocket in Daraa province, directly west of Sweida. Backed by Russia, Syrian troops have been waging an assault on an IS-held pocket of Daraa for nearly two weeks. Yesterday, they began bombing operations ahead of an attack on the main IS-held town of Ash-Shajara in Daraa, Syrian state television said.

Since its bloody rise to power in 2014, IS has carried out multiple mass abductions in Syria and Iraq, including of minorities. It kidnapped more than 220 Assyrian Christians in northeast Syria in 2015 and another 270 Christians from a central village the following year. Most of the hostages were released after negotiations. Under the group's ultra-conservative interpretation of Islam, minorities are considered "infidels" but IS also politicizes them as regime loyalists.

More than 350,000 people have been killed since Syria's conflict erupted in 2011. Wednesday's violence was the worst Sweida had seen since the



war began, and one of IS's deadliest attacks across the country. IS attackers detonated suicide bombs in Sweida city and villages to the north and east, while others shot and stabbed residents. A total of 139 civilians were among more than 250 people killed, according to the Observatory. The remaining were pro-government fighters or residents who had picked up arms to defend their homes. — AFP

Zimbabwe votes in 1st post-Mugabe election

HARARE: Zimbabweans cast their ballots yesterday in the country's first election since authoritarian leader Robert Mugabe was ousted last year, with concerns over fraud and the likelihood of a disputed result clouding voting day. President Emmerson Mnangagwa, Mugabe's former ally in the ruling ZANU-PF party, faces opposition leader Nelson Chamisa of the MDC (Movement for Democratic Change) in a historic vote for the southern African nation. Long lines formed from early morning outside polling stations in

"I just have to do this. I have to see a better Zimbabwe for my kids. Things have been tough," Tawanda Petru, 28, an unemployed man voting in Mbare, a low-income district of Harare, said. "I'm going to vote for Chamisa, for change. I am not afraid, I can tell you." Mugabe, 94, who was ousted by the military in November, made a surprise intervention on election eve, calling for voters to throw ZANU-PF

Zimbabwe's generals shocked the world last year when hey seized control and ushered Mnangagwa to power after Mugabe allegedly tried to position his wife Grace to be his successor. Mnangagwa, 75, who has promised a fresh start despite being from the ZANU-PF elite, is the front-runner with the advantage of covert military support, a loyal state media and a ruling party that controls government resources. But Chamisa, 40, who has performed strongly on the campaign trail, hopes to tap into a young population that could vote for change.

"I have no doubt that by the end of the day today we should be very clear as to an emphatic voice for change, the new, and the young-I represent that," Chamisa said as he voted in Harare, supported by chanting supporters. He again raised fraud allegations, saying "in the rural areas... if the ballot is a genuine one, not a fake one, victory is certain." The election is Zimbabwe's first without Mugabe, who led ZANU-PF to power in a vote when the country became independent from Britain in 1980 and held office for 37 years.

Speaking at his mansion on Sunday, Mugabe-who ruled with an iron grip-said he hoped the election would end "the military form of government". "I cannot vote for those who tormented me," Mugabe said, hinting he could vote for MDC-a suggestion that underlined Zimbabwe's haywire political scene since his fall. Mnangagwa, voting in his Kwekwe constituency in central Zimbabwe, said Mugabe had the right to express his mind under the new democracy. "I am very happy that the process for campaign was peaceful (and) voting today is peaceful," the current president added. Elections under Mugabe were marred by fraud and often deadly violence, and this year's campaign has been dogged by accusations the result will be rigged.

Fighting for justice in

S Korea, where truth

SEOUL: As soon as the Seoul office worker told police she

had been raped, her attacker struck back with a barrage of

complaints against her under South Korea's criminal

defamation law, which states that truth is not necessarily a

defense. "He kept filing complaints against me non-stop,

accusing me of defamation, insult, perjury, intimidation and

even sexual harassment," said the woman, who asked to be identified only as "D" for fear of her personal safety.

can be a crime

The MDC has raised repeated allegations of a flawed electoral roll, ballot paper malpractice, voter intimidation, bias in the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) and free food handed out by the ruling party. But campaigning has been relatively unrestricted and peaceful.

A recent Afrobarometer survey of 2,400 people put Mnangagwa on 40 percent and Chamisa on 37 percent, with 20 percent undecided-though polling accuracy in Zimbabwe is uncertain. Mnangagwa, who is accused of involvement in election violence and fraud under Mugabe, invited international observers-including the previouslybanned European Union team-to the poll. The EU team will deliver a preliminary report later in the week.

Desperate for investment

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights warned of alleged intimidation and threats of violence in the runup to polling day, but said it was encouraging to see open rallies and peaceful demonstrations. The next government must tackle mass unemployment and an economy shattered by the Mugabe-backed seizure of white-owned farms, the collapse of agriculture, hyperinflation and an investment exodus. Previously solid health and education services are in ruins and millions have fled abroad to seek work. Life expectancy has only just recovered to its 1985 level of 61 years. "The governing ZANU-PF party needs to maintain a semblance of free and fair elections in order to attract fresh foreign investment," said the London-based EXX Africa business risk consultancy. "However, there remain serious concerns over vote credibility." With 5.6 million registered voters, the results of the presidential, parliamentary and local elections are due by August 4.

A run-off vote is scheduled for September 8 if no presidential candidate wins at least 50 percent in the first round. Election day was declared a public holiday. Polling closes at 7:00pm (1700 GMT), with anyone in line at that time still allowed to vote. —AFP

silence, say legal experts and women's groups. "The whole system has a chilling effect on women," said Seo Hye-Jin of the Korean Women Lawyers Association. "Many abusers openly use the threats of lawsuits as an intimidation tactic, saying, 'I'll drop the false accusation and defamation suits against you if you drop the sex abuse complaint against me'."

Ulterior motive

Despite South Korea's technological and economic advances, patriarchal values endure in its society, and it is regularly at the bottom of OECD rankings for the gender pay gap or female presence in senior corporate roles. It has an unusually high proportion of female murder victims at 52 percent according to the UN Office of Drugs and Crime. That is far above the US and China, both around 22 percent, and even higher than the 41 percent for India, which is often in the spotlight over violence against women.

cation and religion.

bullying by him and his friends. — AFP



HARARE: Former Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe center, his daughter Bona and wife Grace cast their votes at a polling station at a primary school in the Highfield district of Harare during the country's general elections. — AFP

attackers in what was originally reported as a hit-and-run road accident, the interior minister said yesterday. "(The suspects) had knives and firearms," minister Ramazon Hamro Rahimzoda said of the attack that left tourists from the United States, Switzerland and the Netherlands dead and two others injured.

The dead were on a cycling tour in the impoverished ex-Soviet nation, in a group with three other tourists from Switzerland, the Netherlands and France. "One tourist received a knife wound and is being given medical assistance. The victim's condition is stable," said Rahimzoda without mentioning nationality. Another was being treated in hospital, while the French citizen survived without injury and was being questioned by the police, he added.

Two suspects in the case were killed after they "resisted arrest" and a further four have been detained, the minister said. Police are also pursuing other suspects. "We are considering all possibilities," Rahimzoda said of the criminal investigation. "We can't say if it is an act of terror," he added. However the minister said that "state institutions are being guarded...to provide safety for citizens and tourists".

Tajik President Emomali Rakhmon yesterday sent notes of condolence to the US, Switzerland and the Netherlands over the deaths. The US embassy in Tajikistan confirmed two of the fatalities were US citizens, but did not disclose names. The incident took place in the district of Danghara, 150 kilometers south of the capital Dushanbe. — AFP





ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE MOCI



Recall of following Ariston brand tumble dryers:

- Air-Vented dryers
- Condensing dryers

Whirlpool

Marks and Brands:

The Air-Vented and Condensing dryers, from Ariston which were produced between the duration of April 2004 until September 2015.

Defect:

In some rare cases, the remaining excess lint of the clothes may come into contact with the heating element which may present a risk of fire.

Procedures:

The company is trying to achieve an intensive work plan in order to get in touch with the consumers and to conduct maintenance to update the affected products to higher safety and quality standards to address this issue. If the consumer have an affected product, the company will arrange a visit from an engineer, free of charge, to modify or replace the defective part. Prior to carrying out any actions, you should unplug and do not use the tumble dryer before a modification has taken place or replacement was installed.

We believe that the proposed improvements are necessary and will further enhance the safety and quality of the dryer. If your tumble dryer has already been modified then no further action is required.

Contact Details:

For any questions, please contact Al Andalus Co. WLL on the following details: Phone: 24716612 / 24716614, Email: info@andalus.com.kw and khalid.h@andalus.com.kw Fax: 22452338 Address: Al Rai Industrial Area, Block 1, Street 5

This recall process is made in accordance with Articles (42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47) of the Ministerial Decision No. 27 of 2015 issuing the Executive Regulation of Law No. 39 of 2014 on Consumer Protection





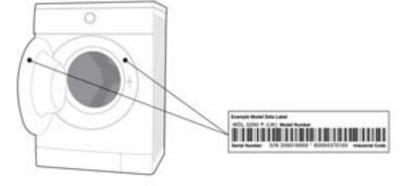
Contact Individual: Mr. Ayman







When you contact us, please make sure you have your model and serial numbers at hand. This can be found on the tag located either on the back of the dryer's door or on the recess of the dryer's door as follows:



"For months, I couldn't eat," she said. "I couldn't drink. I couldn't sleep. I felt like I was trapped in a swamp I could never escape." The man was later convicted of rape and sentenced to two years in prison, while all the accusations against D were dismissed. But the legal quagmire she faced is not rare in the South, where defamation laws make libel a crime and stating the truth can still be an offence if it is deemed to have tarnished others' social reputation.

A growing number of alleged sex abusers are seeking to use legal actions of their own to force victims into silence or into dropping their accusations. Filing a report to police is not of itself grounds for a defamation action, but if a rape victim goes public with their allegations a criminal complaint can be filed against them. And if the sexual assault case is later dropped by police or prosecutors, or the accused is acquitted, the victim can be pursued for false accusations.

That creates fertile ground for so-called "revenge accusations" by alleged abusers, driving many women into

South Korea's wildly popular TV dramas, which have wept Asia, regularly depict in a romantic light male leads physically dominating female characters to manifest their love-a cliche criticized as a "K-drama wrist grab" by overseas fans. But since last year, the #MeToo movement against the abuse of women has swept the South, with a growing number of women coming forward to accuse powerful figures in fields from politics and the arts to edu-

In D's case, an investigating police officer repeatedly asked about her "ulterior motive" for "trying to destroy a promising young man's life", and formally urged prosecutors not to charge her rapist. D quit her job and filed complaints to police, prosecutors and even a state rights watchdog to reverse the decision-while dealing with a flurry of criminal accusations by her rapist and relentless

International

Pakistan opposition party calls for investigation of election rigging

Foreign observers voice concerns over political climate in Pakistan

LAHORE: Pakistan's main opposition party called on up to the vote, saying that some parties had been disad-Sunday for a judicial investigation into what it said was rigging at an election this week that it lost. Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, or Pakistan Movement for Justice, emerged as the largest single party in Wednesday's vote, defeating the Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N) party of jailed former prime minister Nawaz Sharif. During the campaign, Sharif said the mili-

tary had influenced the judiciary to deny him a second term. The military denied this. It has ruled Pakistan for about half the time since the country's formation in 1947.

"We demand constitution of a judicial commission to probe incidents that took place on July 25," senior party leader Khawaja Asif told reporters in Lahore. "We will issue a white paper on the

election rigging and other incidents." "PML-N will not accept these elections as legitimate and we are ready to ... start movement along with other parties," Mushahid Ullah Khan, a senior leader, told reporters.

PTI did better than expected to win 16.86 million votes and beat PML-N, which got nearly 13 million votes. PTI opened coalition talks with at least one smaller party and independent politicians on Saturday. European Union observers were critical of the political climate in the runvantaged. The United States voiced similar concerns.

"Pakistan witnessed the most disputed elections in the country's history," Ahsan Iqbal, a senior leader of PML-N and former interior minister, told reporters. Sharif was taken to hospital in Islamabad on Sunday with a possible heart

problem, said a government official and Sharif's party. Sharif and his daughter Maryam were arrested on July

13, minutes after they returned from Britain seeking to revitalize their flagging PML-N party ahead of a July 25 election. An anti-corruption court sentenced him on July 6 to 10 years while his daughter and political heir was sentenced to seven years over the purchase of luxury flats in London in the 1990s. They were moved to Adiala jail in the garrison town of Rawalpindi.

"After initially refusing to be shifted to Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences ... Sharif agrees to be treated outside prison after consulting with his personal doctor," said a PML-N tweet on Sunday night. "Doctors at Adiala jail have observed changes in the ECG (electrocardiogram) of Nawaz Sharif," Punjab Chief Minister Hasan Askari Rizvi told Reuters. An ECG checks the heart's electrical activity. "We cannot take any risk about Sharif's health," Rizvi said.—Reuters



ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani youth takes a selfie with a poster of World Cup cricket hero turned politician and head of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (Movement for Justice) party Imran Khan in Islamabad. —AFP

News in brief

14 killed in car crash

HANOI: Fourteen members of the same family were killed in a car crash in central Vietnam yesterday en route to a wedding party, including the groom who died instantly when their van hit a container truck, police said. Road accidents are the leading cause of death in Vietnam, where traffic laws are loosely obeyed and road infrastructure is patchy. The victims of yesterday's car crash in Quang Nam were members of an extended family, including the groom, who were heading to the bride's family home in a neighboring province, a police officer said. Their 16-seater van collided with a container truck at around 2:30 am, killing 13 people instantly. Another died later in hospital.—AFP

Taiwan's Tsai to visit Paraguay

TAIPEI: Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen will transit in the US on a visit to Paraguay and Belize next month officials said yesterday, a move likely to anger China, which is deeply suspicious of ties between Washington and the self-ruled island. Beijing views Taiwan as part of its own territory-to be reunified by force if necessary-and has stepped up military and diplomatic pressure since independence-leaning Tsai came to power in 2016. Tsai will transit in Los Angeles and Houston during the trip set for August 12-20, officials said, although when asked if Tsai would meet US officials, vice foreign minister Jose Liu said details were "still pending confirmation." —AFP

MH370 report offers no clues

PUTRAJAYA: Investigators said yesterday they still do not know why Malaysia's Flight MH370 vanished four years ago in aviation's greatest mystery, sparking anger and disappointment among relatives of those on board. In a long-awaited report the official investigation team pointed to failings by air traffic controllers, said the course of the Malaysia Airlines plane was changed manually, and refused to rule out that someone other than the pilots had diverted the jet. But after years of fruitless searching for the Boeing 777 that disappeared in March 2014 with 239 people aboard, the report offered nothing concrete to grieving relatives of passengers and crew hoping for some sort of closure. —AFP

Afghan women report Islamic State rapes

SHEBERGHAN, Afghanistan: A mother of three from a remote area of northwestern Afghanistan remembers the day the head of a local Islamic State group came to her village, demanding money he said her husband had promised. "I told him we didn't have any money but that if we found any we would send it to him. But he didn't accept that and said I had to be married to one of his people and leave my husband and go with them," Zarifa said.

"When I refused, the people he had with him took my children to another room and he took a gun and said if I didn't go with him he would kill me and take my house. And he did everything he could to me." Even by the bloody standards of the Afghan war, Islamic State has gained an unmatched reputation for brutality, routinely beheading opponents or forcing them to sit on explosives. But while forced marriages and rape have been among the most notable features of Islamic State rule in Iraq and Syria they have been much less widely reported in Afghanistan.

While there have been reports in Nangarhar, the eastern province where Islamic State first appeared in 2014 and in Zabul in the south, deep taboos that can make it impossible for women to report sexual abuse make it hard to know its scale. —Reuters

Cambodia PM's party to win in flawed election

Most disputed

elections in the

country's history

PHNOM PENH: Cambodia's flawed elections are set to hand the ruling party of strongman Hun Sen all 125 parliamentary seats, a spokesman said yesterday, an outcome that would turn the country into a one-party state after a vote devoid of an opposition. Sunday's ballot has prolonged Hun Sen's 33-year rule, but observers say that questions of legitimacy may haunt the wily political survor as frustration sets in over lack of change

The ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) "will take all seats across the country," spokesman Sok Eysan told AFP at party headquarters, hailing "a landslide victory". In response the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), the country's only real opposition who were disbanded before the poll, issued a statement lamenting "the death of democracy" and a "new, dark day" in Cambodian history.

Some 8.3 million people registered to cast their ballots in the vote-Cambodia's sixth general election since United Nations-sponsored polls were held in 1993 after decades of conflict. Sok Eysan said the predicted clean sweep was based on initial results. Final figures are due August 15. Asked about the country turning into a one-party state, the CPP spokesman said it was "the decision of the people," adding that Cambodia's constitution allows for a multi-party system.

But the ballot lacked any serious challengers after Hun Sen cracked down on the opposition last year, leading to the arrest one of its leaders and then the dissolution of the party by the Supreme Court. Opposition figures had urged a boycott of the poll. But election authorities warned they would take action against those pressing for a "clean-finger" campaign and pointed to an 82 percent turnout as evidence that the boycott call had failed

Experts say high turnouts are common in authoritarian states where voter intimidation is more widespread. Yet in a sign of a kickback from unhappy voters, around 600,000 ballots-around 10 percent of the total-were spoiled, according to a preliminary count by the National Election Commission.

Neither free, nor fair

Hun Sen came to power in 1985 in a country still plagued by civil war and his CPP has won every election since 1998.

But wearied by a culture of impunity and corruption more than 44 percent of voters backed the opposition CNRP in 2013 polls, creating the most serious challenge to Hun Sen in years. This time the Cambodian leader ruthlessly moved against his critics in the election run-up, corralling civil society, independent media and political opponents.

That led many western governments to pull their support from the vote. It was "neither free nor fair and failed to represent the will of the Cambodian people," the White House said in a statement. The US would consider a "significant expansion" of visa restrictions introduced last year against some senior Cambodian officials, it warned.

In contrast China, a key Cambodia ally which has provided cash and soft loans to Hun Sen's government without raising questions over human rights and democracy, offered its "sincere congratulations" on the poll, according to Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang.

'It's him again'

The 65-year-old Hun Sen is also seen as a stabilising force in the eyes of many in a kingdom with a bloody and bitter recent history that spans civil war, the horrors of the Khmer Rouge and occupation by Vietnam. Hun Sen has cultivated his support base through rural and urban infrastructure and investment schemes that have added malls and condos to the skyline of the once sleepy capital Phnom Penh. The premier also adroitly turned to Cambodia's garment sector, which employs about 750,00 people, showering cash gifts on workers in the months ahead of polls.

"I am happy that the Cambodian People's Party won overwhelmingly, more than previous mandates," said supporter Sang Kimson, 38, the morning after the election. But many other Cambodians are despondent at the idea of yet another term for Hun Sen, who is among the world's longest-serving leaders. "It is him again," shrugged one man sitting outside a coffee shop who asked not to be named and who said he felt "hopeless" watching the results

Phil Robertson, deputy director of the Asia division at Human Rights Watch, predicted simmering discontent. "I think what we will see here in Cambodia is continued passive resistance and anger by the Cambodian people, they weren't given the opportunity to vote for the people they wanted," he said. Hun Sen has held onto power through political and family alliances in the police, military and media. He was installed as prime minister during the Vietnamese occupation of the 1980s after defecting from the Khmer Rouge, which killed a quarter of Cambodia's population from 1975 to 1979. —AFP

Bodies of 23 Myanmar landslide victims found

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

YANGON: The bodies of 23 victims of a landslide in Myanmar's northern jade mining area have been recovered, an official confirmed yesterday, after a days-long search hampered by heavy monsoon rains. Rescuers are still looking for a further four victims, many of whom belong to the small ethnic Rawang minority in the remote area of Kachin state, the heart of the country's notoriously shadowy multibillion-dollar jade industry. "We found 23 dead bodies by yesterday (Sunday) evening and we will try to find the remaining four if the weather is good today," an official from Hpakant's local government told AFP, requesting anonymity as he is not authorised to speak to the media. Landslides have killed dozens this year around the treacherous jade mines where impoverished locals comb deep gouges in the ground for pieces of the semi-precious gemstone.

This latest disaster in Set Mu sub-township hit the small Rawang ethnic group particularly hard. The mainly-Christian community number only about 70,000 people and are one of Myanmar's smallest ethnicities. "Funerals have been held by their respective families. This time our local villages have really been hurt badly," said Shwe Thein, a local resident helping with recovery operations

Much of the world's top-quality jade comes from Kachin state but most is smuggled over the border to feed the insatiable demand in China. It is big business for those at the top-watchdog Global Witness estimated that the sector in 2014 was worth some \$31 billion. The lack of regulations and poor oversight, however, mean that little of the profits end up in state coffers.

Kachin's abundant natural resources help fund both sides of a decades-long conflict between ethnic rebels and the military as they battle over control of the mines and the income they bring. More than 100,000 civilians have been forced to flee their homes-many multiple times-since a 17-year ceasefire broke down in 2011. —AFP

Trump claims **'business** relationship' with Mueller

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump renewed claims Sunday that Special Counsel Robert Mueller has 'conflicts of interest" that should bar him from probing Russian interference into the 2016 election, saying the pair had a business relationship. In a series of tweets targeting Mueller's credibility, Trump alleged he had "a very nasty & contentious business relationship" with Mueller. The message marked the first time Trump publicly elaborated on prior vague claims of conflicts of interest regarding Mueller.

"Is Robert Mueller ever going to release his conflicts of interest with respect to President Trump, including the fact that we had a very nasty & contentious business relationship, I turned him down to head the FBI (one day before appointment as S.C.) & Comey is his close friend," Trump said. In January, The New York Times reported that Trump had tried to fire Mueller in June 2017 but backed down after White

House Counsel Don McGahn threatened to resign if the president made him follow through with the order.

Trump, the Times said, cited three conflicts of interest Mueller had that disqualified him from the high-profile probe. The alleged conflicts included: a dispute over fees at Trump National Golf Club; work for a law firm that once represented the president's son-in-law Jared Kushner; and an interview for FBI director a day before being named spe-

Illegal Scam!

Trump, who has called the probewhich also seeks to determine whether the ex-reality TV star's campaign team colluded with Russia and whether he obstructed justice-a "witch hunt" and repeatedly demanded it be ended, claimed that Mueller's team is filled with Democrats. Mueller is a Republican like Trump, as is Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who hired the special counsel, and Attorney General Jeff

In his tweets, Trump also said the investigation was triggered by a damning dossier compiled by former British intelligence agent Christopher Steele, and questioned why Mueller wasn't investigating Democrats. "There is No Collusion! The Robert Mueller Rigged Witch Hunt, headed now by 17 (increased from 13, including an Obama



WASHINGTON: Activists hold letters reading the word 'Treason' in front of the White House during a sunset demonstration to denounce the link between the 2016 Trump campaign and Russia in Washington DC. —AFP

White House lawyer) Angry Democrats, was started by a fraudulent Dossier, paid for by Crooked Hillary and the DNC. Therefore, the Witch Hunt is an illegal Scam!" Trump said.

"Also, why is Mueller only appointing Angry Dems, some of whom have worked for Crooked Hillary, others, including himself, have worked for Obama....And why isn't Mueller looking

at all of the criminal activity & real Russian Collusion on the Democrats side-Podesta, Dossier?" Mueller's team recently indicted a dozen Russian intelligence agents for hacking into Democratic party computers. Four members of the Trump campaign also have been charged for alleged crimes, but they were not directly linked to collusion. —AFP



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Analysis

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Dems embrace gun control despite risks

ftab Pureval, a Democrat seeking to unseat a Republican congressman in Ohio, knows the political risks in calling for gun restrictions and taking on the powerful National Rifle Association, which has spent more than \$115,000 supporting his opponent over the years. But after a spate of school shootings, including February's massacre at a high school in Parkland, Florida, Pureval believes voters in the Republican-leaning district have had enough of congressional inaction. "The leaders that they sent to Washington, DC, to represent them have had their opportunity time and time again - and time and time again, they have failed," Pureval, 35, said after a rally with gun-safety activist and former congresswoman Gabby Giffords, who suffered brain damage from a gunshot in 2011.

A Reuters analysis shows Pureval is among Democrats in the most competitive U.S. congressional races who have embraced gun control in far greater numbers than in 2016, defying the conventional wisdom that doing so is a losing proposition in close contests. Thirty-eight of the 59 Democrats backed by the party's "Red-to-Blue" campaign - targeting vulnerable Republican districts - have supported gun restrictions in their official platforms, a review of campaign websites shows. Several others separately released state-

ments calling for limits. At this point in the 2016 election cycle, only four of 36 Red-to-Blue candidates backed gun limits in their platforms, according to a Reuters review of archived campaign websites. Reuters was unable to examine the websites for two candidates in the program that year. November's midterm elections will test whether gun violence has become a defining issue for US voters in the wake of the Parkland shooting that killed 17 students and staff and reignited a nationwide movement for stricter gun laws after a campaign by student

Nearly all the Democrats in the three dozen most competitive races for the US House of Representatives wrote multiple social media posts touting their support for anti-gun legislation and for the student-led protest, according to a Reuters review of their postings. But many Democrats have modulated their message, avoiding inflammatory terms such as "gun control" and voicing support for basic gun rights with "common-

Political risks remain. In past cycles, advocates for gun safety struggled to match the might of the National Rifle Association (NRA), the leader of the gun-rights lobby, which views any limits as an assault on the US Constitution. Reuters/Ipsos polling data shows gun-rights supporters are particularly motivated to vote in November. "It's been a big concern for Democratic candidates that a lot of people will support gun control - but won't make it an issue on which they'll base their vote," said University of California-Los Angeles professor Adam Winkler, the author of "Gunfight: The Battle over the Right to Bear Arms in

In 2014, the last midterm election, the NRA reported \$27 million in independent spending to back candidates who oppose gun limits, compared to \$8.6 million by gun-control groups, according to the non-partisan Center for Responsive Politics. The NRA did not respond to multiple requests for comment on its strategy for this year's midterms. Democrats believe now is the time to capitalize on the issue, said Tyler Law, a spokesman for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. "Republican inaction will continue to generate political backlash and help Democrats take back the House," he said.

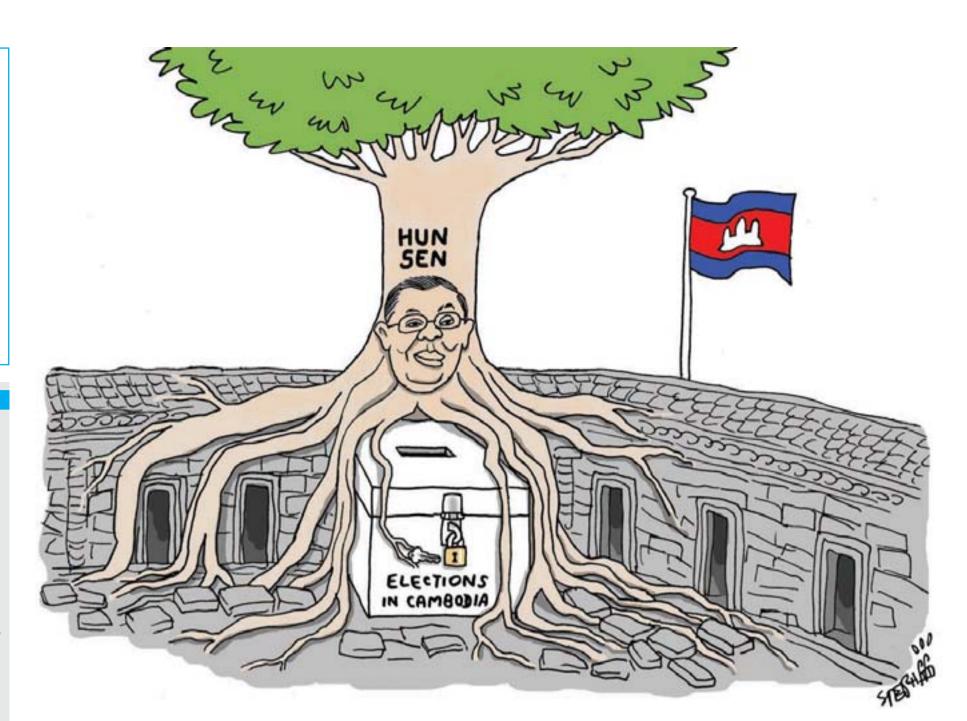
A spokesman for the Republican Party's congressional campaign arm, Jesse Hunt, said the politics of gun violence would play out differently in every district and that the party's candidates would pick their own positions. U.S. Representative Steve Chabot, the Ohio Republican running against Pureval, said he had heard from voters on both sides of the gun issue. "I don't think anyone knows if it's going to have an impact" on the election, said Chabot, who is unconvinced more gun restrictions will prevent violence.

Targeting suburban voters

Democrats have long feared that support for gun restrictions would cost them the backing of blue-collar swing voters - the group widely credited with tipping the presidential contest to Republican Donald Trump in 2016. This year, a different voter bloc could help Democrats flip the 23 Republican seats needed to take control of the House: educated, suburban women who might normally lean Republican but see gun violence as increasingly personal, said Stuart Rothenberg, an analyst with the non-partisan website Inside Elections.

Reuters/Ipsos polling shows support for gun control has risen over time, from 57 percent of Americans who supported strong or moderate firearms restrictions in 2012 to 68 percent this year. Women are more likely to support restrictions, up from 63 percent in 2012 to 72 percent in 2018. The problem with pushing gun-control in suburban districts is that many are not entirely suburban, said Kyle Kondik, an analyst at the University of Virginia Center for Politics.

"A lot of these districts have rural components that are not at all receptive to messages of gun control," he said. Many Democrats seeking Republican-held seats have made opposition to the gun lobby a feature of their campaigns. — Reuters



Imran Khan's difficult road ahead as PM

akistan's World Cup cricket hero Imran Khan is set to become prime minister of the nuclear-armed nation of 207 million, with an economy inching toward crisis and perennial conflict on its borders. Running the country will take considerable statecraft from Khan's relatively inexperienced party. He brings charisma, international name recognition and a sizeable election victory, though not enough to form a majority government. But critics say his star is diminished by sympathy towards extremists, and the unsportsmanlike nature of his win, which is widely alleged to have been fixed for him by Pakistan's generals. His first challenge is cobbling together a coalition. Here is a rundown of the issues Khan and his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party will face once at the political crease.

Demagogue or democrat?

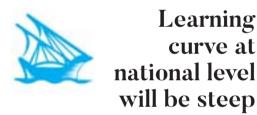
Khan has spent much of his political career as a populist agitator promising change rather than actually passing laws. "Imran Khan has been his own man. He doesn't even go to parliament," said political commentator Fasi Zaka. "He's been practiced in protest for five years." PTI, meanwhile, has only ever governed in a provincial setting. The learning curve at the national level will be steep. His success could depend on the coalition his party manages to form, and whether the outgoing Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and once-powerful Pakistan People's Party (PPP) end up joining hands in opposition.

Analysts have said it should be straightforward for Khan to form a coalition with independents and small Islamist parties, as they know he is favored by the powerful military. But he has already created unease by pandering to Islamists during the campaign, and such a coalition could fuel fears his government will cater to the religious right.

Relations with military

To Khan's rivals, he is the military's "blue-eyed boy".

However he will not be the first premier to take office on good terms with the armed forces. The fate of the last elected prime minister Nawaz Sharif, once favored by the generals only to be ousted and jailed, should prove a cautionary tale. There have long been questions over the extent to which the military, which has ruled Pakistan for roughly half its history, wanted to work with the mercurial Khan - and how much it simply wanted to install a pliant government that - unlike Sharif's - would not chal-



lenge its power and policies. "When he wants to wield power, does it converge with the military or clash?' asked retired general and analyst Talat Masood. "I think it's a big question mark.'

Economy

All indicators suggest Khan's government will immediately have to approach the IMF for what would be the country's 13th bailout from the fund. "Exports are down, debt is up, the macro indicators are pretty poor," said Sehar Tarig with the US Institute of Peace. But an IMF bailout would likely hamper his aim of creating an Islamic welfare system, at least in the short-term. The other option may be further borrowing from China. But there are already concerns about Pakistan's ability to hold up its end

of an opaque deal that is seeing Beijing pour billions in investment into the country.

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Corruption

When Khan first entered politics in the mid-90s, his goals were straightforward - rein in endemic corruption and weed out the venal political elite. But before the election he stirred controversy by bringing in so-called "electables" - politicians with huge vote banks but without clean records on corruption. Catering to theses electables and newly-minted coalition partners while trying to excise corruption may prove difficult. PTI has also vowed to force Pakistanis to pay their taxes - but there is a long way to go, with only around one percent of the population complying. "People don't pay taxes because they see how our ruling elite spends that money," said Khan during a victory speech last week. "I will protect the people's tax money.'

International relations

Pakistan is surrounded by enemies, has fallen out with its tenuous ally the US and has become overly dependent on its relationship with Beijing, some analysts say. Khan has already vowed to rebalance Islamabad's relationship with the US, months after US President Donald Trump suspended security aid over Islamabad's alleged failure to target militancy along its borders. But, said Tariq, "the road to better relations with Pakistan and the US is not a direct road... it goes through Afghanistan".

And Afghanistan may prove a sore spot. Khan has criticized the role of the US there in the past, which is not likely to endear him to Washington now. He has also called for open borders - a stark contrast to his military's highlypublicized efforts to build a costly fence to seal the frontier. Khan has also vowed to improve trade with arch-rival India and discuss disputed regions such as Kashmir, while reaching out to Beijing by invoking China as an example in his victory speech. — AFP

Trump sees like-minded European in Conte

S President Donald Trump receives Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte yesterday, welcoming to the White House a European populist with likeminded views on immigration and trade. The visit will begin with a one-on-one meeting followed by more extensive bilateral discussions, the White House said. "Italy is an important NATO Ally, a leading partner in Afghanistan and Iraq, and key in bringing stability to the Mediterranean region," the White House said in announcing the visit last month, the new prime minister's first.

Trump praised Conte as "great" after meeting him at the recent G7 summit in Canada, where they warmly shook hands during the family photo. Conte is "very strong on immigration - like I am, by the way," said Trump, who has pursued a policy of "zero tolerance" for illegal immigration, a crackdown that led to hundreds of children being separated from parents who crossed into the United States from Mexico without papers.

Conte was chosen to lead the Italian government by the leaders of parties that won March elections: the euro skeptic Five Star Movement and the far-right League party. The Italian press has suggested the meeting will serve to boost Conte's profile, often overshadowed by his deputy prime ministers and those parties' exuberant leaders: Matteo Salvini of the League party, and Luigi Di Majo of the Five Star Movement.

Conte wants to reform the Dublin Regulation, the EU law that says asylum

requests should be the responsibility of a single member country, usually the one where the refugee first arrived. Italy argues that the law places an unfair burden on countries that border the Mediterranean, and its new populist government has stepped up pressure on other EU countries to share responsibility for arriving refugees. It has closed Italy's ports to migrants and turned back several ships carrying refugees rescued at sea, threatening the future of those operations.

Friend of Russia

Both Trump and Conte also favor better relations with Russia. Already deeply at odds with US allies on trade, the environment and Iran, opened another front in Canada by calling for Russia to be brought back into G7 meetings, ending its isolation over its 2014 annexation of Crimea. "I think it would be good for Russia, I think it would be good for the United States, I think it would be good for all of the countries of the current G7," Trump said. Conte, who was making his international debut at the G7, said he agreed with Trump, setting himself apart from his European colleagues. On trade, the two men share the same skepticism when it comes to free trade: Trump has blasted several international pacts such as NAFTA and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), while Conte refused to ratify the CETA free trade agreement between the EU and Canada.

Missed target

But according to Nick Ottens of the Atlantic Council, Trump "may not find the ally he expects" in Conte. On trade, the new Italian government's skepticism of multinational agreements risks Trump's goal of eliminating all EU customs tariffs, according to Ottens. Meanwhile, in the defense realm, Italy has said it has no chance of reaching the target spending of two percent of GDP let alone Trump's stated goal of four percent at the latest NATO summit. — AFP

Hairdressing gives Syrians dream of independence

s a Syrian refugee in Lebanon, Nour knows life can be tough. Nour knows me can at the So the 15-year-old leapt at the chance to train as a hairdresser with L'Oreal, hoping one day to open her own salon in whichever country she ends up. "Sometimes life can knock you down, so you need to be able to stand on your own feet," she said, keeping water out of the eyes of a training mannequin having its hair washed in a classroom in Lebanon's

Bekaa valley. Around 20 Syrian and Lebanese girls and women will study hairdressing for six months under the L'Oreal Foundation's Beauty for a Better Life program, earning an internationally recognized certificate if they are successful. "The certificate will support us. We don't know what could happen to us, especially me. Maybe I won't be able to continue my education," said Nour, who grew up in Syria's Idlib before war forced her out. She declined to give her full name for safety reasons.

Lebanon has the world's highest share of refugees compared with its population, with around one in four people a refugee. Syria's war has killed an estimated half a million people, driven some 5.6 million people out of the country and displaced around 6.6 million within it. Many Syrians moved to the Lebanese town of Bar Elias where the training salon

is located, just 10 km from the Syrian $\,$ border, doubling its population and putting pressure on services and squeezing job opportunities. The United Nations classifies Bar Elias as one of the areas in Lebanon with the most vulnerable refugee and host communities and aid has been directed there to help Syrians and Lebanese.

The salon sits within an all-girls school built by the Kayany Foundation, a Lebanese educational charity. "The (L'Oreal) academy gives them the chance to be able to take their lives back in their hands and build a better future anywhere in the world, especially if one day they manage to return to Syria," Nora Jumblatt, head of the Kayany Foundation, told Reuters.

As the Syrian army, backed by Iran and Russia, has recovered more territory, some Lebanese officials have stepped up calls for refugees to return to parts of Syria where violence died down. However, UN officials and foreign donor states to Lebanon have said conditions for returns are not yet right, and many refugees say they are too scared to go home. But it is difficult for Syrians to find legal, secure work in Lebanon, with many scraping by on aid and low-paid jobs in sectors such as agriculture and construction.

Manal, 30, who lost her husband to Syria's war and fled to Lebanon with her children, is determined to get her certificate from the beauty academy and do the best for her family. "I'm not educated and that's the biggest blow for me ... I can't work as anything," she said, using a false name to protect her identity. — Reuters

Business

TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018

Saudi growth recovers on oil, non-oil sector output gains



Huawei CBG holds workshops for youth on smartphone photography



Taxi drivers join Spain strike against Uber





US unveils \$113m in new initiatives in 'Indo-Pacific'

Official denies investments to counter China's 'Belt and Road Initiative'

WASHINGTON: Building on President Donald Trump's "Indo-Pacific" strategy, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo yesterday announced \$113 million in new regional investments focused on technology, energy and infrastructure.

The announcement comes at a time when trade frictions with China have given US trade diplomacy a sharper edge. A senior US official said the investments were not aimed at countering China's Belt and Road Initiative, which consists of mostly state-led infrastructure projects linking Asia, parts of Africa and Europe.

"These funds represent just a down payment on a new era in US economic commitment to peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region," Pompeo said a speech to the US Chamber of Commerce.

He said he would visit Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia this week, where he would also announce new security assistance in the region. Pompeo said the United States "will oppose any country" which seeks to dominate the region in what appeared to be a reference to Beijing amid heightened tensions in the

"Like so many of our Asian allies and friends, our country fought for its own independence from an empire that expected deference," Pompeo said. "We thus have never and will never seek domination in the Indo-Pacific, and we will oppose any country that

does," he added. Countries in the region have been worried by Trump's "America first" policy, withdrawal from the Trans Pacific Partnership trade deal, and pursuit of a trade conflict with China that threatens to disrupt regional supply chains.

The United States first outlined its strategy to develop the Indo-Pacific economy at an Asia-Pacific summit



Pompeo to visit Asia-Pacific this week

last year. "Indo-Pacific" has become known in diplomatic circles as shorthand for a broader and democratic-led region in place of "Asia-Pacific," which from some perspectives had authoritarian China too firmly at its center. Among the new investments outlined by Pompeo, the United States will invest \$25 million to expand US technology exports to the region, add near-

monetary stimulus only gradually.

Major central bank activity is likely to be on investors' radar as the Bank of Japan ends a two-day meeting today, the Federal Reserve concludes its meeting on Wednesday and the Bank of England is expected to raise interest rates on Thursday, a week which could set the near-term course ly \$50 million this year to help countries produce and store their energy resources, and create a new assistance network to boost infrastructure development.

China's way, US way

Speaking to reporters ahead of the speech, Brian Hook, senior policy adviser to Pompeo, said the United States was not competing with China's mostly state-led infrastructure initiatives.

"It is a made-in-China, made-for-China initiative," Hook told reporters on a conference call. "Our way of doing things is to keep the government's role very modest and it's focused on helping businesses do what they do best." Critics of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative, which aims to recreate the ancient Silk Road, say it is more about spreading Chinese influence and hooking countries on massive debts. Beijing says it is simply a development project that any country is welcome to join.

Hook said Washington "welcomed" Chinese contributions to regional development, but said it wanted China to adhere to international standards on transparency, the rule of law and sustainable financing.

"We know that America's model of economic engagement is the healthiest for nations in the region. It's high-quality, it's transparent and it is financially sustainable," Hook said. — Reuters

for currencies. The Fed is not expected to raise interest rates this week. The BoJ will consider changes to its massive stimulus program to make it more sustainable, such as allowing greater swings in interest rates and widening its stock-buying selection, Reuters reported last week, citing people familiar with the central bank's thinking.

"Even if they tell us they are talking about making changes that is likely to be enough for the market to try and take JPY stronger," Brad Bechtel, managing director, at Jefferies in New York, said in a client note. Yesterday, the dollar was little changed against the

Investors will also be watching US economic data this week, including data on payrolls. Meanwhile, the Swedish crown jumped against the dollar after forecastbeating second-quarter GDP numbers from Sweden. The pound rose 0.32 against the dollar, even as its modest gains reflected concern among investors about the currency's prospects ahead of the widely anticipated interest rate hike. — Reuters

MIDEAST STOCKS

Property lifts Dubai, Kuwait lackluster

DUBAI: Strong earnings by Emaar Malls lifted Dubai shares and selective buying in top blue-chip companies helped Qatar rebound from early losses, as most Gulf markets ended in positive territory. Weakness in banking stocks weighed on the Kuwaiti index, pushing it down by 0.5 percent. Kuwait Finance House fell 1.7 percent. The stock is still up 14 percent so far this year, but has given up some gains in recent days as its merger talks with a rival Bahraini lender

Last week, advisors were named to assist Kuwait Finance House and Ahli United Bank, Bahrain's largest lender during their merger talks, the first cross-border tieup between Gulf banks in recent years at a time when several other banks are consolidating.

The region's biggest stock market, Saudi Arabia, ended flat as investors tried to digest quarterly earnings and were cautious about valuations for top companies after the index's nearly 15 percent rise so far this year. The Dubai index ended 0.8 percent higher, supported by property stocks after Emaar Malls reported a 15 percent rise in second-quarter net profit, broadly in line with market forecasts...

Emaar Properties ended 1.3 percent higher and Emaar Malls gained 0.8 percent, although it gave up some early gains when it had jumped by over 2 percent. Rival DAMAC Properties also gained 1.8 percent . The Qatar index rose 0.2 percent, helped by selective buying in Industries Qatar. which climbed 1.6 percent. Qatar National Bank also rose 0.7 percent. SAUDI ARABIA

* The index was flat at 8,309 points.

* The index rose 0.8 percent to 2,966 points. ABU DHABI

* The index rose 0.3 percent to 4,846 points.

The index was up 0.2 percent to 9,652 points. KUWAIT

* The index was down 0.5 percent at 5,364 points.

BAHRAIN

* The index was flat at 1,370 points. **OMAN**

* The index ended 0.4 percent lower at 4,320 points.

* The index fell 0.5 percent to 15,297 points. — Reuters

Dollar slips as central banks meet; euro gains ground

NEW YORK: The US dollar slipped against the euro yesterday, as the single currency recovered recent losses while most major currency pairs stuck to narrow trading ranges ahead of economic data and central bank monetary policy meetings this week. The US dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of six currencies, was down 0.43 percent at 94.27. Among the majors, the greenback slipped the most against the euro, with the common currency 0.48 percent higher, as it recovered from its worst weekly performance against the greenback

in six weeks. "The euro is a bit firmer, like it was on Friday, which is typical of the recent price action pattern, where the euro gets stronger on Fridays and often there is some follow through on Mondays," said Marc Chandler, global head of currency strategy at Brown Brothers Harriman in New York. "I call this pattern a tooth saw."

The euro's gains follow a sharp loss last week after the European Central Bank reaffirmed that rates would stay low through the summer of 2019. Analysts said the rebound was largely because traders felt it had been oversold last week. Yesterday, German and Spanish inflation remained slightly above the European Central Bank's price stability target in July, preliminary data showed yesterday, supporting the ECB's cautious approach of winding down its

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

NBK ECONOMIC UPDATE ON SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi growth recovers on oil, non-oil sector output gains

Kingdom unveils most expansionary budget to date

KUWAIT: The Saudi economy looks poised to rebound this year from 2017's contraction, with oil production expected to increase following OPEC's decision to boost output from July and non-oil activity likely to benefit from elevated government spending after the authorities unveiled their most expansionary budget to date. The improved outlook occurs against a backdrop of continuing structural reforms under the ambitious Vision 2030 umbrella but at a pace that is less likely to impinge on consumer demand and private sector activity. Growth prospects will, however, be contingent on higher oil prices.

The reforms have been broadly two-pronged, aimed at both fiscal sustainability-through a combination of lower fuel/utility subsidies and higher taxes e.g. on tobacco, expatriate residents and consumption (VAT)-and economic diversification. This the authorities intend to pursue through private sector stimulus packages, privatization of state assets and regulatory measures designed to attract more foreign investment and technology know-how to Saudi Arabia. We expect real GDP growth to accelerate from last year's decline of -0.9 y/y to reach 2.2 percent y/y in 2018 and 1.9 percent y/y in 2019. Just-released quarterly GDP data for 1Q18 supports the view of an economy slowly rebounding from recession. Real output expanded by 1.2 percent y/y, ending a run of four consecutive quarters of negative growth.

In the same quarter, the non-oil sector posted growth of 1.6 percent y/y, driven by gains in both the private and the government sectors, while oil GDP expanded by 0.6 percent y/y, helped by an increase in oil production, which the kingdom was able to achieve while still fulfilling its obligations to the OPEC production cut agreement.

Saudi crude production, which averaged 9.95 mb/d in 2017 (achieving a OPEC compliance rate of 122 percent), is expected to increase significantly during the second half of 2018 now that OPEC+ has announced its intention to boost aggregate output by a nominal 1 mb/d to relieve a tightening oil market and restrain oil prices from spiking higher. Without knowing the kingdom's share of this figure, we estimate conservatively that output could be 260,000 b/d higher on average at 10.2 mb/d compared to 2017. 2019 would see production rise further.

Meanwhile, the uptick in the performance of the non-oil sector in 1Q18 compared to 4Q17 was largely a reflection of output gains in the manufacturing, financial and real estate services sectors as well as in the government sector. Government spending is the lynchpin of the Saudi non-oil economy, with its expansive 2018 budget (SR978bn), pri-

vate sector stimulus package (SR72bn over 5 years) and privatization drive as well as citizens and household account programs, which aim to mitigate the burden on low income families of the pull-back in energy and utility subsidies. The recently launched privatization program will sell state assets (utilities, hospitals etc.) and encourage the formation of more public private partnerships (PPP). In the process, the government hopes to net SR35-40bn in direct sales revenues and achieve savings of SR25-35 billion, while creating 10,000-12,000 jobs in the private sector.

Recent POS and PMI data tend to confirm the rebound, albeit a moderate one, in non-oil activity. The value of POS transactions grew by 18 percent y/y in April, while the PMI, which indicates the level of business activity in the non-oil private sector, reached a 2018-high of 55.0 on higher output and new orders.

Bank credit growth to the private sector, however, continues to lag. At a lackluster 0.7 percent y/y in April, it is far below levels that would be commensurate with a deeprooted and sustainable private sector recovery.

Furthermore, Saudi unemployment continues to pose a challenge, more than two years into the government's Vision 2030 reform drive. The authorities intend to bring the unemployment rate down from 11.6 percent in 2015 to 7.0 percent by 2030. However, the rate keeps going up, reaching 12.9 percent in 1Q18-the fourth consecutive quarterly rise-as the labor force expands at almost twice the rate of employment. And this is despite an acceleration in the government's Saudization policy, (by penalizing employers that hire expatriates, for example) which has seen almost 700,000 expats leave the kingdom since the beginning of 2017.

Inflation slowing

Inflation has been moderating since the authorities rolled out the 5 percent value added tax (VAT) and instituted the second round of energy price hikes in January. Consumer prices surged 5.6 percent m/m and 6.8 percent y/y, with prices in the transport, food and restaurant & hotel categories in the CPI especially affected.

Nevertheless, we expect inflation to continue to ease to 2.9 percent (avg.) in 2018 as the one-off effects of January's price hikes wear off and given that housing and rental costs, which continue to fall due to a combination of weaker demand and government efforts to make housing more affordable, carry the largest weight in the consumer basket. As a corollary, growth in the Saudi real estate price index was -1.5 percent y/y in 1Q18.

Table 1: Key economic indicators

| | | 2016 | 2017 | 2018f | 2019f |
|----------------|----------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Real GDP | % y/y | 1.7 | -0.9 | 2.2 | 1.9 |
| - Oil | % y/y | 3.7 | -3.1 | 2.6 | 1.4 |
| - Non-oil | % y/y | 0.2 | 0.9 | 1.9 | 2.1 |
| Inflation | % y/y | 2.1 | -0.8 | 2.9 | 1.8 |
| Budget balance | % of GDP | -12.6 | -9.0 | -6.1 | -4.6 |
| Public debt | % of GDP | 13.0 | 17.3 | 20.9 | 24.6 |

Fiscal deficit to narrow

The kingdom's public finances should continue to improve as the authorities realize some of the gains targeted in the Fiscal Balance Program (FBP). While the government's objective of a balanced budget has shifted to 2023 in order to lessen the impact of austerity policies on demand, the fiscal deficit is expected to continue to narrow from 9.0 percent of GDP last year to 6.1 and 4.6 percent of GDP in 2018 and 2019, respectively. The realization of higher oil revenues through higher oil prices is key, given that oil proceeds account for 63 percent of all treasury receipts and especially since the authorities intend to boost spending by 5.6 percent y/y with their largest ever budget, an estimated 20 percent of which is expected to be spent on infrastructure projects.

The contribution of non-oil revenues, however, will continue to increase as the authorities capitalize on recently-added taxes such as the VAT, excise tax and the expat/expat dependents levy, which will increase again this year. Non-oil revenues have doubled since 2014 to SR256bn in 2017, equivalent to 36.7 percent of all revenues and 10 percent of GDP. Investment returns accrued to the treasury through the Public Investment Fund (PIF) should also rise, helped by higher US and global interest rates.

Govt debt rises

Central government debt is expected to rise from 17.3 percent of GDP last year to 24.6 percent of GDP by the end of 2019 amid continued local and international debt issuance. The authorities have already sold \$11bn worth of bonds this year, a figure that is expected to rise to around \$37bn by year-end-similar to last year's volume which

financed 61 percent of the deficit, with the remainder covered by reserves. We expect the authorities will increasingly try to minimize reserve drawdowns and rely more on debt issuance to take advantage of the still relatively low global interest rates. But while foreign reserve assets declined by 7.5 percent (\$40bn) in 2017, as of April, they were actually up 10 percent at \$506bn.

Tighter monetary conditions

Saudi monetary policy is focused on preserving the peg to the dollar and keeping in step with US interest rates in order to minimize capital outflows. SAMA has already raised its benchmark repo and reverse repo rates twice this year, by 25 bps each time, to 2.5 percent and 2.0 percent, respectively. In March the repo was raised, preemptively, for the first time since 2009 after interbank rates fell below their USD Libor equivalent, sparking concerns about dollarization and capital flight. The rise in the cost of funds comes at a particularly sensitive time for the authorities. Private sector credit, but also deposits, are barely increasing, which is weighing on economic activity. Outperforming its GCC peers by a considerable margin, the main Saudi stock index (TASI) is up 17.5 percent at 8,490 so far in 2018, having been boosted by the bourse's recent inclusion in the MSCI and FTSE Russell emerging market indices. At least \$10bn in passive foreign inflows are expected following the MSCI decision. Higher oil prices and affirmation of the sovereign's credit ratings by the likes of Moody's (A1) and Fitch (A+) have helped lift sentiments. Markets will be looking to the 5 percent IPO of Aramco, possibly in 2019, and further delivery by the regulator of financial reforms to spur positive sentiment.

Malaysia mulls curbs on foreign car imports, says Mahathir

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia may consider restrictions on foreign car imports to protect the country's "infant industry", Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday. Southeast Asia's third-largest economy had liberalized its automotive industry over the past decade, allowing for cheaper imports but at the expense of local automaker Proton which struggled to stay afloat as it faced increased competition.

"All the countries which produce motor vehicles have got restrictions, either on standards or because of taxes... so we need to protect our infant industry," Mahathir said at a press conference at the parliament lobby.

"We may think about the standards (to impose). We also may have to consider certain weaknesses that we have, which should be protected," the 93-year-old prime minister said, without elaborating.

Besides Proton, the other Malaysian automakers are Perodua and Naza. Honda Motor Co, Toyota and Nissan sell both imported and locally assembled units in the Southeast Asian country.

Perodua is the domestic market leader, with about 40 percent share in 2017, according to data from the Malaysian Automotive Association. Japan's Honda is the top-selling foreign brand in Malaysia, with about 21 percent market share last year, the data shows. Proton was founded in 1983 in an industrialization push during Mahathir's previous tenure as prime minister. Its domestic market share peaked at 74 percent a decade later as drivers took advantage of cheap loans as the government encouraged Malaysians to buy home-grown products.

But lower-standard cars, limited after-sales service and competition from foreign automakers saw its domestic market share drop, to around 14 percent in 2017, according to data from the automotive association. Proton received a boost last year, when Chinese automaker Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co Ltd bought a 49.9 percent stake in the Malaysian car company. The deal marked Geely's first push into Southeast Asia.

Earlier, during question time, Mahathir said developed countries have used conditions such as Euro 5 emission standards and certain tax structures to work around free trade arrangements and block Malaysian car exports.

"But we are very open. Every car that is produced, even if it is made using Milo tins, can enter Malaysia," Mahathir said, referring to a beverage popular in the country. "That is why we need to study the possibility of certain conditions, so that foreign cars cannot enter so easily into our country and also give Proton and local cars the chance to dominate the local market." — Reuters

Deutsche Bank clearing ops out of London as Brexit looms

FRANKFURT: Germany's biggest lender Deutsche Bank said yesterday it has moved "a big part" of its euro clearing operations from London to Frankfurt, in a new blow to the City as Britain leaves the EU.

With Brexit due on March 30 next year, "Deutsche Bank has begun to clear out a big part of its euro clearings to Eurex Clearing," said a spokesman for the bank, confirming a report in the Financial Times, which said the bank has shifted close to half of the operations. Eurex Clearing is a subsidiary of Deutsche Boerse, which over the last months has been seeking to claw away business from London's LCH Clearnet, the clearing house operated by the London Stock Exchange and which has long held a quasi monopoly on euro clearing operations.

Clearing houses are a key part of the financial system's plumbing, with trillions of euros being handled every year, almost exclusively out of London. Such institutions act as an intermediary between

FRANKFURT: The towers of German Company Deutsche Bank are pictured in Frankfurt, Germany. — AFP

buyers and sellers of financial instruments, and carry out operations like settling trading accounts.

Deutsche Bank said the shift would not involve job transfers. Rather, its employees in London would be "pushing another button" that sends the clearing operation to Frankfurt rather than to the clearing house in London, said the

But if other banks were to follow suit and move their clearing operations out of London, the City could lose its dominant position as a euro clearing hub. The question of whether euro clearing houses can remain in London is one of the most contentious issues when Britain negotiates its future trade relationship with the EU after its departure. — AFP

UK tells EU: Give the City access to EU

LONDON: Britain has warned the European Union negotiators that EU financial firms will face obstacles to working in the country after Brexit unless the City of London is allowed to operate in the bloc as it does currently, the Guardian reported yesterday.

The Guardian said that about 7,000 European based investment funds could be hit by regulators, citing a section of a presentation, seen by the newspaper, which made by Britain to EU negotiators during talks last week. A spokeswoman for Britain's Department for Exiting the European Union declined to comment on the report.

Last week, EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier said that he had agreed with Brexit minister Dominic Raab that future financial market access would be governed by autonomous decisions on both sides, but questions remain on how the relationship will work. Many had pinned hopes on a bid for "mutual recognition" for the financial sector

- whereby Britain and the EU would accept each other's rules in exchange for broad two-way market access - as the best way to protect financial contracts and activity worth trillions of euros once Britain exits the EU on March 29.

Prime Minister Theresa May has instead chosen to build trading ties on a legal mechanism known as "equivalence", whereby the EU deems a country's rules to be as robust as its own.

But critics said the regime exposed firms to sudden loss of EU market access, and Barclays' chairman told Reuters last week the government should act fast to negotiate "expanded equivalence". — Reuters

BoE: 'Low road' of protectionism will cost jobs and growth

LONDON: Bank of England Governor Mark Carney said a pursuit of the "low road" of protectionism would cost jobs and growth and there were tentative signs that a rise in trade barriers might be weighing on the world economy, Bloomberg said vectorday.

"We can choose between a low road of protectionism focused on bilateral goodstrade balances and a high road of liberalization of global trade in services," he said in an interview conducted last month.

"The low road will cost jobs, growth, and stability. The high road can support a more inclusive and resilient globalization." Asked about the increase in US trade tariffs under President Donald Trump, Carney said the impact of actions taken as of June were likely to be small. "However,

a larger increase in tariffs would have a substantial impact" and there would also be indirect effects on the economy via business confidence and overall financial conditions, he said.

Carney said global interest rates might eventually return to their pre-financial crisis averages, which in Britain was around 5 percent - 10 times their current level - "but a lot of things have to go right in order for that to be the case."

The Bank of England's top policymakers are due to publish a first estimate this week of the so-called equilibrium level of interest rates that will keep inflation and growth rates stable when the economy is running at full capacity. Carney told Bloomberg it was "more likely than not" that the equilibrium rate had begun to rise. — Reuters

EXCHANGE RATES

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY WLL

| CURRENCY | BUY | SELL | | America | | Thai Baht | 0.008775 | 0.009325 |
|--------------------|-------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Europe | | Canadian Dollar | 0.227476 | 0.236476 | | | |
| British Pound | 0.391682 | 0.405582 | US Dollars | 0.299400 | 0.304700 | | Arab | |
| Czech Korune | 0.005797 | 0.015097 | US Dollars Mint | 0.299900 | 0.304700 | Bahraini Dinar | 0.789938 | 0.806438 |
| Danish Krone | 0.043424 | 0.048424 | | | | Egyptian Pound | 0.014329 | 0.020047 |
| Euro | 0.346973 | 0.360673 | D I . I I . T . I | Asia | 0.002050 | Iranian Riyal | 0.000084 | 0.000085 |
| Georgian Lari | 0.137636 | 0.137638 | Bangladesh Taka Chinese Yuan | 0.003057 0.043293 | 0.003858 0.046793 | Iraqi Dinar | 0.000197 | 0.000257 |
| Hungarian | 0.001144 | 0.001334 | Hong Kong Dollar | 0.036920 | 0.039670 | Jordanian Dinar | 0.423765 | 0.432765 |
| Norwegian Krone | 0.033091 | 0.038291 | Indian Rupee | 0.030320 | 0.004639 | Kuwaiti Dinar | 1.000000 | 1.000000 |
| Romanian Leu | 0.064988 | 0.081838 | Indonesian Rupiah | 0.000017 | 0.000023 | Lebanese Pound | 0.000156 | 0.000256 |
| Russian ruble | 0.004853 | 0.004853 | Japanese Yen | 0.002653 | 0.002833 | Moroccan Dirhams | 0.020559 | 0.044559 |
| Slovakia | 0.009058 | 0.019058 | Korean Won | 0.000262 | 0.000277 | Omani Riyal | 0.781994 | 0.787674 |
| Swedish Krona | 0.030433 | 0.035433 | Malaysian Ringgit | 0.071605 | 0.077605 | Qatar Riyal Saudi Riyal | 0.079074 | 0.084014 |
| Swiss Franc | 0.299242 | 0.310242 | Nepalese Rupee | 0.002624 | 0.002964 | Saudi Riyai Svrian Pound | 0.079847 0.001286 | 0.081147 0.001506 |
| | | | Pakistan Rupee | 0.001773 | 0.002543 | Tunisian Dinar | 0.110683 | 0.001300 |
| | Australasia | | Philippine Peso | 0.005652 | 0.005952 | Turkish Lira | 0.057283 | 0.067583 |
| Australian Dollar | 0.216960 | 0.228980 | Singapore Dollar | 0.217663 | 0.227663 | UAE Dirhams | 0.037233 | 0.082907 |
| New Zealand Dollar | 0.200358 | 0.209858 | Sri Lankan Rupee Taiwan | 0.001588 0.010414 | 0.002166 0.010594 | Yemeni Riyal | 0.000986 | 0.001066 |
| | | | raiwan | 0.010414 | 0.010594 | remem rayar | 0.000000 | 0.001000 |

Business Tuesday, July 31, 2018

India may force e-commerce, social media firms to store data locally

Govt to

incentivize to

store data of

Indian customers

Draft e-commerce policy advocates tightening scrutiny of mergers

MUMBAI/NEW DELHI: India is considering asking e-commerce and social media firms to exclusively store customer data locally, a move that could affect global giants that operate in the country such as Amazon, Facebook and its messaging service WhatsApp.

The plan, which has also raised some concerns among privacy advocates, is laid out in an undated Draft National Policy document seen by Reuters that is mainly aimed at streamlining regulation of the country's burgeoning e-commerce sector.

It comes at a time when deep-pocketed foreign players are rapidly investing in India's e-commerce market, which Morgan Stanley estimates may be worth \$200 billion in a decade.

The draft policy, which was floated last week according to an e-commerce industry source, also mulls tightening scrutiny of mergers in the e-commerce sector so that even small deals that potentially distort competition are compulsorily examined by the country's anti-trust regulator.

Vinay Kesari, an independent Bengaluru-based lawyer who has advised global technology companies, said the plan was bound to "unsettle" the e-commerce industry "because it is at odds with the fundamental character of the internet".

The Indian e-commerce market is currently dominated by Amazon and local rival Flipkart that is in the

process of being bought by US retail giant Walmart - in a deal opposed by some local traders who fear it could drive mom-and-pop stores out of business.

Other players include Snapdeal, backed by Japan's SoftBank, Paytm E-Commerce backed by SoftBank and Alibaba Group, and Tiger Global-backed ShopClues.

Amazon, Flipkart, Snapdeal, ShopClues, Google and Facebook did not immediately respond to Reuters' request for comment on the draft policy. The government, according to the draft, will take steps to incentivize the storage of

data of Indians locally.

"Data generated by users in India from various sources including e-commerce platforms, social media, search engines etc," would have to be stored exclusively in India,

the draft said, adding companies could be given time to "adjust before localization becomes mandatory".

It also said the government "would have access to data stored in India for national security and public policy objectives subject to rules related to privacy, consent etc".

Raman Chima, global policy director at internet

advocacy Access Now, said it was beyond the mandate of an e-commerce policy to begin talking about how all internet players should store data in India.

"It is very troubling because it would quite likely lead to intrusion on people's privacy, especially since the legal measures regarding surveilling and accessing data of people online have not been specifically reformed,"

Chima said.

The draft policy follows a proposal last week from a government-appointed panel that all critical personal data on people in India should be processed within the country. The recommendations by the panel will go before parliament, which is formulating a data privacy law. Other meas-

Data protection

ures listed in the e-commerce draft policy include mandating that home-grown card network RuPay be included as a payment option for online transactions.

The company owned by a group of banks competes with global payment firms like Visa, MasterCard and American Express. India's central bank in April said payments firms such as Mastercard and Visa should within six months store data only in the country for "unfettered supervisory access". But US firms protested and India's finance ministry has recommended relaxing the directive.

Yesterdaty, a senior federal commerce ministry official, Anup Wadhawan, told reporters the e-commerce policy would help strike a balance between promoting business and enhancing security using data localization.

But some disagreed. Pratibha Jain, a partner at law firm Nishith Desai Associates, said the tone and tenor of the draft was "more protectionist", rather than being balanced. "By doing this we are playing to the domestic gallery and it will send out a protectionist message," said Jain, whose firm counts tech companies among its clients. The draft also said India would move to boost participation of micro, small and medium enterprises in online retail and proposed banning the bulk purchase of branded goods, such as mobile phones, by "related party sellers which lead to price distortions in a market".

Currently, sellers like Cloudtail, a joint-venture between Amazon's India unit and Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy, make up the bulk of the sales on Amazon's online marketplace. "Companies and sellers buying in bulk will be prohibited, killing the market and hampering the Indian e-commerce boom," an executive with an e-commerce firm said, declining to be named. —Reuters

Walmart discovers why the 'last mile' is the hardest

EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ: Standing before an audience of 14,000 people last year, Walmart Inc executives described a radical plan to help it fend off Amazon.com Inc and other online delivery services from stealing its customers.

Walmart's own store employees would bring online orders directly to shoppers' homes after completing their usual shifts of up to nine hours on the sales floors. Aiming to lower the retailer's shipping costs by tapping its massive workforce, the program was part of a multi-pronged strategy to boost its \$11.5 billion US e-commerce business and tackle one of the biggest challenges in retail: the so-called "last mile" of delivering goods to online customers.

Its workers, meanwhile, could earn extra money on top of their hourly pay, which starts at \$11 an hour. "Just imagine associates all over the world delivering orders to customers on their way home," Marc Lore, head of Walmart's e-commerce operations, said at its annual meeting in June 2017. "That can be a real game-changer."

But months later, Walmart quietly retreated from its original vision for the pilot program - launched in New Jersey and Arkansas - and ended it altogether in January, according to company documents obtained by Reuters and interviews with more than two dozen Walmart employees.

The story behind the foundering employee delivery initiative, which has not been reported, offers insight into Walmart's ongoing attempts to find unconventional ways to close the gap with Amazon in the game of cheap, rapid, doorstep delivery of packages. According to Walmart data, people who shop in stores and become online customers spend nearly twice as much as those who shop at one or the other.

Here in New Jersey, Walmart started the program with the idea that store employees could courier all items that would fit in a car. But the initiative failed to gain traction with skeptical employees who had to use their time after work, according to sixteen workers who participated in the trial.

Walmart is now testing a more modest service with just



four Walmart employees who deliver goods from a single store in Woodstock, Georgia, Reuters has learned. In this latest initiative, Walmart is also overhauling the guidelines for employees and limiting deliveries to groceries and related items such as paper plates.

Walmart spokeswoman Molly Blakeman confirmed that the retailer ended its first experiment early this year, without elaborating. Walmart is testing a variety of ways to deliver merchandise, she said, and is "encouraged by what we're seeing" in the Georgia store.

Despite having 4,700 US stores within 10 miles (16 km) of 90 percent of the US population, Walmart is still trying to figure out how to efficiently make deliveries and has poured billions of dollars into ecommerce in recent years. But as recently as the last holiday season, its online

sales disappointed some investors.

Walmart caters to US online shoppers by having them drive up to their local store themselves to collect merchandise they ordered online. It also partners with shippers

such as FedEx Corp, the United States Postal Service (USPS) for routine deliveries.

Still, Walmart aims to be able to deliver groceries to more than 40 percent of households in the country by the end of this year. Globally, Walmart is experimenting with

deliveries by motorbike in Mexico and with new small

supermarkets in China to make deliveries in 30 minutes or

less. In Japan, Walmart is opening a new warehouse to support orders, and expanding its online offerings to include meal kits. Earlier this year, Reuters reported the retailer's delivery partnerships with Uber and Lyft ended after the ride-hailing services struggled to deliver people and packages together. It continues to rely on third-party companies such as Postmates, Deliv and Doordash to help deliver groceries, and last week partnered with Alphabet Inc's Waymo.

Skeptical drivers

Walmart's associate delivery pilot program in the leafy, middle-class suburb of East Brunswick, New Jersey, started with store managers pitching employees an unusual new way to boost pay. Those who passed background checks could moonlight as drivers for the Walmart.com delivery service, they said.

Some staffers, who did not wish to be named fearing retribution for speaking to the media, told Reuters they balked at having to use their own cars and personal insurance policies for a program that would benefit Walmart.

To entice them to sign up, Walmart offered free TVs and iPads as gifts, they said. Eventually, about 50 of the store's more than 150 associates initially signed up, they added, though many had no prior experience as couriers with a delivery service.—Reuters

GFH fully settles \$200m Sukuk

MANAMA: Financial Group ("GFH" or the "Group" yesterday announced that it has paid the entire amount of its \$200 million Sukuk, which was originally drawn in 2007. The facility, which was payable over several tranches with final maturity in July 2018, has now been settled with a recent payment of an outstanding amount of \$34 million.



Jassim Al-Seddiqi

Commenting, Jassim Al-Seddiqi, Chairman of the Board of GFH said, "We are pleased to witness the repayment of one of the oldest facilities that we had in GFH. This Sukuk facility has been previously funded by a mix of GCC and international banks and our ability to make timely repayments and settlement on time increases the confidence in our Group despite market challenges, and underscores the strength of the bank and its debt to equity position."

With this repayment, GFH frees up further assets pledged under the Sukuk for potential disposal or exit. It's worth noting that in 2008, GFH had financing liabilities in excess of \$1 billion compared to \$125 million today.

Al-Seddiqi concluded, "With a prudent approach to managing our liabilities, strong cash generation and levels of liquidity, GFH continues to be better placed than ever to deliver value and further build our commercial and investment banking business lines."



Kuwait 1 (the New str.)
 Kuwait 2 (Panasonic Tower)
 Kuwait 3 (Sooq Sharq)
 Hawailli 1 (Tunis str.)
 Hawailli 2 (Bin Khaldon str.)
 Shuwaikh (4th Ring road)
 Al-Rai (4th Ring road)
 Salmiya (Salem Al-Mubarak str.)
 Farwaniya (Behind police Station)
 Fahaheel (Opp. General Parking)
 Jahra (Opp. Main Co-op.)
 Airport (Departure Hall)

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 Business

Zain launches new KD 1.5 weekly Internet bundle for eeZee customers

Double the Internet capacity to 6 GBs when auto-renewing weekly

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading telecommunications amazing experience on its biggest and most company in Kuwait, launched an all-new KD 1.5 weekly Internet bundle for prepaid (eeZee) customers, offering them the opportunity to double their Internet capacity to 6 GBs for the same price when renewing the bundle on the same day of every week.

Zain specifically designed the new bundle for its prepaid (eeZee) customers with the aim of enabling them to enjoy more Internet caps during the summer season and summer vacation for a competitive price. The company is keen on meeting its customers' needs and aspirations to offer them an advanced network in Kuwait.

Zain's new prepaid bundle offers 3 GBs of 4G LTE Internet for KD 1.5 valid for one week (7 days), and should the customer chooses to keep the auto-renewal service after subscribing to the bundle, the next Internet capacity will be doubled to 6 GBs for the same price (KD 1.5). The weekly capacity will stay at 6 GBs as long as the auto-renewal service is successful from the first attempt and enough balance remains in the line before autorenewal takes place. Prepaid customers can subscribe to the new bundle by sending "W" to 999.

The new offer was specifically designed to complement the needs and aspirations of Zain's prepaid customers. By launching this new prepaid bundle, the company aims at creating a new concept for the services it offers, as well as offering convenience with flexible plans that meet the different personal and professional needs of its customers.

Zain is committed to offer the most flexible and competitive offerings in the market for both prepaid and postpaid customers, reinforcing its leadership position and its pledge in offering the best services and offers to the largest family of subscribers in Kuwait.



United Real Estate achieves 9.38% growth in revenues for first half of 2018

KUWAIT: United Real Estate Company (URC), one of the leading real estate developers in the MENA region, announced its performance for the first half of 2018, achieving a growth in total revenues of 9.38 percent to reach KD 43.8 million, as compared to KD 40 million for the same period of last year. During the second quarter of 2018, URC achieved revenues of KD 23 million as compared to KD 19.3 mil-



Ahmad Kasem

lion for the same period in 2017 at a recorded growth of 19.44 percent that was mainly achieved due to increased contracting activities from construction and facilities management services.

URC recorded a net loss for the first six months of 2018 of KD 1.7 million as compared to a profit of KD 1.4 million for the same period in 2017, and a decline in earnings per share of 1.58 fils for the first six months of 2018 as compared to a profit increase of 1.34 fils per share for the same period in 2017.

The company attributed the loss in 2018 to increased provisions for impairment in account receivables and an increase in financing costs used for financing URC's projects and activities, offset by an increase in the profit of associates.

Commenting on these results, Ahmad Kasem, Acting Chief Executive Officer of URC, stated: "Despite the challenges our company have encountered in the first half of 2018, we remain confident to continue to move ahead in developing our current projects in accordance with URC's visions and strategies.'

Inflation in Germany slows in July

FRANKFURT: Inflation in Germany eased back slightly in July, preliminary data showed yesterday, but still surpassed the level targeted by the European Central Bank. Prices added 2.0 percent year-on-year, federal statistics authority Destatis said, compared with 2.1

The figure, based on data from several German states, marks the second consecutive month that price growth has slowed and disappointed analysts who had predicted a jump in inflation. But it remains above the ECB's goal of aiming for an inflation rate of "below, but close to" 2.0 percent. Using the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) yardstick preferred by the ECB, inflation stood unchanged at 2.1 percent, in welcome news for the bank as it readies to wean the eurozone economy off its crisis-era stimulus measures. —AFP

Samsung revolutionizes television experience by launching its new 2018 QLED TV in Kuwait

KUWAIT: Samsung Gulf Electronics has launched its all-new 2018 OLED TV in Kuwait. Samsung unveiled many exciting new features that enable incredible picture quality, smart capabilities and unique design elements that allow the TV to effortlessly complement the home's decor. New to Samsung's 2018 QLED TV lineup are several features that are designed to meet consumers' needs for better picture quality, convenience, connection and sharing, and enhanced home decor. These include new smart functionality featuring the redesigned One Invisible Connection. Further differentiating Samsung's unique TV design, the new lineup also features Ambient Mode, a futuristic solution that allows the TV to blend into the home environment like never before. Additionally, Samsung is reinforcing its commitment to ultra-large screen televisions by introducing several models across its lineup in sizes that are 75-inches and above.

"We continue to offer consumers an unforgettable experience when it comes to our new product launches. The 2018 QLED TV demonstrates Samsung's direction to deliver products and solutions that cater to a multitude of consumer lifestyle," said Jerric Wong, Head of

Burgan Bank announces winners of Yawmi account draw

KUWAIT: Burgan Bank, the second largest in terms of assets, announced yesterday the names of the daily draw winners of its Yawmi account draw, each taking home a cash-prize of KD 5,000.

- The lucky winners are: Mansour Fadhi Dabes Alrasheedi
- Fayez Zied Aqel
- Jarrah Abir Saad Dawod
- Mohammad Naser Abbas Alsalman In addition to the daily draw, Burgan Bank also

Mohammad Abdullah Ali

offers a quarterly draw with more chances to win higher rewards, offering the chance to one lucky customer to win KD 125,000 every three months. The Yawmi Account offers daily and quarterly draws, wherein the quarterly draw requires customers to maintain a minimum amount of KD 500 in their account for two months prior to the 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

Burgan Bank encourages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances of becoming a winner. The higher the level of the deposit, the higher the likelihood to win.

Established in 1977, Burgan Bank is the youngest commercial Bank and second largest by assets in Kuwait, with a significant focus on the corporate and financial institutions sectors, as well as having a growing retail, and private bank customer base. Burgan Bank has majority owned sub-

sidiaries in the MENAT region supported by one of the largest regional branch networks.

The Bank has continuously improved its performance over the years through an expanded revenue structure, diversified funding sources, and a strong capital base. The adoption of stateof-the-art services and technology has positioned it as a trendsetter in the domestic market and within the MENA region. Burgan Bank's brand has been created on a foundation of real values - of trust, commitment, excellence and progression, to remind us of the high standards to which we aspire. 'People come first' is the foundation on which its products and services

The bank was re-certified with the prestigious ISO 9001:2015, making it the first bank in the GCC, and the only bank in Kuwait to receive such accreditation for the Fifth consecutive time. The Bank also has to its credit the distinction of being the only Bank in Kuwait to have won the JP Morgan Chase Quality Recognition Award for twelve consecutive years.

Huawei CBG holds workshops for Kuwaiti youth on smartphone photography

KUWAIT: Huawei CBG, the global smartphone giant recently held smartphone photography workshops that focused on empowering young Kuwaiti photography enthusiasts with the latest skills to allow them to take perfect pictures from their mobile phones. Attendees at the series of workshops had a chance to experience the stunning and breakthrough features of HUAWEI Mate 10 Pro, HUAWEI P20 Pro and HUAWEI nova 3 series that are powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI).

'We've received overwhelming response at the workshops with full attendance at every session. Huawei CBG has always been committed to youth enrichment and to local market development. We focus on offering the best consumer experience possible by localizing the interaction we have with our customers. These interactive sessions allowed the young residents to learn about the latest techniques of smartphone photography when using Huawei devices. The workshops have been a huge success so far. Participants had the opportunity to experience HUAWEI Mate 10 Pro, HUAWEI P20 Pro and HUAWEI nova 3 series that are all powered by Artificial Intelligence in its overall functionality and the cameras are enabled with AI beautification solutions, AI scene recognition with exceptional AI night photography," Peter Wu, Director of Huawei Consumer Business Group, Kuwait.

A series of five workshops were initiated since March this year with the last one held recently in

the AV Division at Samsung Gulf Electronics. "We are

excited to bring our new TV lineup to Kuwait with features that offer more freedom to decide where and how

> Highlights of the 2018 lineup include: Perfect Picture Quality

QLED's Quantum dot display can also create over one

billion shades of color and can manage up to 2000 nits

brightness offering a thoroughly perfect picture quality

with more colors and even greater contrast, further brightening the bright and darkening the dark part of

an image, allowing you to see incredible details you

surely would have missed. Furthermore, the QLED TV

solved the problem of the reflection of objects around

the screen which can cause discomfort by using Anti-

reflection technology. Even under daylight or bright

lighting, an anti-reflective screen dramatically reduces

glare, allowing you to be more immersed in images

images with pristine contrast through Direct Full Array

(DFA) technology. Direct Full Array uses a panel with

zones of smartly controlled backlighting that adjust

Smart TV, Smartthings App

ary ways to set up the TV and find content. Effortless

Login uses the new SmartThings app* to drastically

The QLED line's smart capabilities offer revolution-

automatically to deliver deep blacks and pure whites.

Furthermore, the Q9F QLED TV delivers stunning

regardless of the surroundings.

The new QLED TV can produce 100 percent color volume in the DCI-P3 color space, the format for most cinema screen and HDR movies for television. The

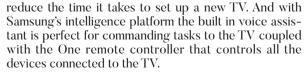
the TV can be best enjoyed within the home."

association with Saad Club, Kuwait. Huawei CBG collaborated with Kuwaiti Celebrity Photographer, Abdullah Al-Shayji to explore the breakthrough camera technology used by Huawei across its devices. Al-Shayji was supported by an associate photographer, Abdul Rehman Al-Badeh at the workshops. Al-Badeh shared his experience by showcasing the benefits of Leica camera on the Huawei devices that are enabled with Artificial Intelligence. These devices also offer AI beautification solutions that recognize age, gender, skin tone to optimize the photos. In addition, the AI powered scene recognition and low light photography feature allows consumers to capture the outstanding shots in one click.

"We will soon bring the next series of workshops and encourage photography enthusiasts to join as to upgrade their mobile photography skills," added Wu.







Ambient mode

Ambient mode provides useful information throughout the day - even when consumers aren't actively watching movies and TV. It can play music as well as display. Time & weather, decorative images and a collage of your own photos. For wall-mounted TVs, Ambient Mode can mimic the pattern on the wall behind the TV to create an astonishing visual effect in which the TV blends seamlessly into the wall.

One Invisible Connection

The new One Invisible Connection is one slim cable



that combines both consumer's power and AV data to the TV; it frees consumers from having to place their TV near data or power outlets.

Samsung 2018 QLED TV Lineup Details

The 2018 Samsung QLED TV lineup features different models, available in a variety of sizes and in both flat and curved display options.

* QLED TV: Models in the 2018 QLED TV lineup include - Q9F (75"), Q8C (65") and Q7F (55", 65"

The QLED TVs feature enhanced color and contrast, HDR10+ compatibility, Smart TV enhancements with One Remote Control, Ambient Mode and the One Invisible Connection. One Invisible Connection only can be used with Q7 series and higher models.

Samsung's 2018 OLED TVs are now available across all major retailers and Samsung brand stores in Kuwait.

Panasonic water dispensers to add luxury to Middle Eastern kitchens

New dispensers combine cutting edge technology with elegant look

DUBAI: Panasonic to reinvent the contemporary Middle Eastern kitchens with the introduction of new water dispensers that combine cutting edge innovation with stylishly elegant look. Designed in statement-making black and metal finish, Panasonic's water dispensers break the monotony of the plain white plastic design of common water dispensers - a perfect way to achieve that touch of chic luxury without compromising on reliability and functionality.

The range includes two top loading water dispensers, SDM-WD3238TG and SDM-WD3128TG, and the bottom loading SDM-WD3438BG model. Ideal for both homes and offices, these appliances have been engineered with Panasonic's advanced technologies to deliver maximum reliability, optimum usability and top-notch level of safety. Among the key features are:

• Hot, cold and normal water options - icy-cold, piping hot or room temperature water at your fingertips from a single fast-flowing spout

• LED light indicators - for safe and easy water dispensing in low-light conditions

• Stainless steel hot and cold-water reservoir - ideal for eliminating the 'plastic' water taste common with some water dispensers

• Child safety lock for hot water dispensing - to prevent accidents from unsupervised access by the lit-

• Double safety device - to prevent overheating

• Anti-finger proof stainless steel cabinet doors - for a clean, polished look always

Appliances

built with

an upscale

modern style

Keisuke Nakagawa - Director of Consumer Marketing Division, Panasonic, said, "Building on

Panasonic's extensive and innovative history in home appliances, our water dispensers are speciallydesigned to meet the needs of our Middle Eastern customers who appreciate unique features that make a genuine difference. These appliances - while adhering to top Japanese quality standards - were also built with an upscale modern style, in

line with our efforts of creating luxury home concepts accessible to almost everyone. We are confident to say that our water dispensers are great additions to Panasonic's popular range of premium home appliances that boast industry-leading technology.'

All Panasonic water dispenser models are now available in Panasonic showrooms and major retailer outlets across the Middle East.



Taxi drivers join Spain strike against Uber

BARCELONA: Taxi drivers across Spain joined a strike yesterday against ride hailing competitors such as Uber and Cabify who they say unfairly threaten their livelihoods. The strike began in Barcelona last week and spread Saturday to Madrid as drivers demanded action from the government, which is due to meet their representatives at

Strikes or partial stoppages have been called in Valencia in eastern Spain, Zaragoza and Bilbao in the north, and Seville in the south. The strike was sparked after the Spanish government appealed a ruling by the Barcelona authorities that limited the number of licenses for Uber-style services.

Taxi driver federations want the authorities to strictly enforce the legislation under which there should be 30 traditional taxis for each VTC (Tourism Vehicle with Chauffeur). Today there are only five traditional taxis for every VTC, they say, warning that they will extend their action to blocking ports, airports and even the border with France if Madrid fails to act.

In Barcelona, Spain's biggest tourist attraction, hundreds of black and yellow taxis parked for a third day on the Gran Via, one of the city's main roads. Some drivers camped out there, sleeping on mattresses on the ground, in tents or in their taxis.

VTC drivers have in turn criticized their traditional taxi peers, charging that they were attacked in Barcelona last



blackmail from violent people," said Unauto, the platform which represents Uber et Cabify.

The federation of Madrid taxis claimed all 15,000 drivers in the capital had joined the movement and that

week. "We sincerely hope that the state does not give in to it would spread to other cities. "All taxis have spontaneously and progressively stopped work, paralysing services in the capital, at the airport, around bus and railway stations", federation secretary Santiago Simon Vicente said. — AFP

From robots to girl power, getting Cameroon's women into work

Japan human trial tests iPS cell treatment for Parkinson's

TOKYO: Japanese researchers yesterday announced the first human trial using a kind of stem cell to treat Parkinson's disease, building on earlier animal trials. The research team at Kyoto University plans to inject five million induced Pluripotent Stem (iPS) cells-which have the potential to develop into any cell in the body-into patient brains, the university said in a press release.

The iPS cells from healthy donors will be developed into dopamine-producing brain cells, which are no longer present in people with Parkinson's disease. Parkinson's disease is a chronic, degenerative neurological disorder that affects the body's motor system, often causing shaking and other difficulties in movement.

Worldwide, about 10 million people have the illness, according to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation.

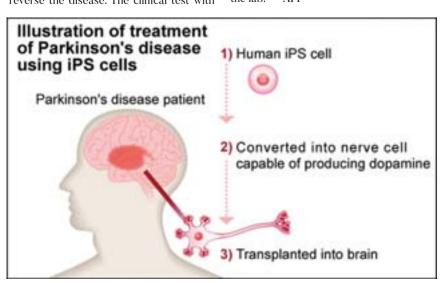
Currently available therapies "improve symptoms without slowing or halting the disease progression," the foundation says. But the new research aims to actively reverse the disease. The clinical test with

seven participants aged between 50 and 69 will begin tomorrow. The university will monitor the conditions of the patients for

two years after the operation. The human trial comes after an earlier trial involving monkeys. Researchers announced last year that primates with Parkinson's symptoms regained significant mobility after iPS cells were inserted into their brains. They also confirmed that the iPS cells had not transformed into tumors during the two years after the implant. iPS cells are created by stimulating mature, already specialized, cells back into a juvenile state-basically cloning without the need for an embryo.

These can be derived from the patient, making them less likely to be rejected, while also sidestepping ethical qualms about taking cells from embryos.

The cells can be transformed into a range of different types of cells, and their use is a key sector of medical research. In 2014, Riken, a Japanese governmentbacked research institution, carried out the world's first surgery to implant iPS cells to treat a patient with age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a common medical condition that can lead to blindness in older people. Osaka University is also planning a clinical test to treat heart failure by using a heart muscle cell sheet created from iPS cells. In the US, scientists from Duke University said in January they had managed for the first time to grow functioning human muscle from iPS cells in the lab. — AFP





YAOUNDE: With a flash of green light, a robot sputters and whizzes across the room, obeying the remote control commands 15-year-old Xaviera Nguefo and her team send its way.

It is a scene that would not look out of place in a futuristic sci-fi fantasy, but is instead playing out in Yaounde, the dusty capital of Cameroon with its potholed streets and frequent power outages. In a country where one in four girls do not even learn to read, Xaviera, one of about 20 voung Cameroonians studying at the NextGen centre in Yaounde, is picking up

the basics of artificial intelligence. "I love doing that because the physics that they teach us (at school) is all applied here," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "And it makes me a little bit smarter!" The center is the brainchild of Janet Fofang, a pioneering scientist and teacher who aims to train the future tech innovators of her country - with a particular focus on its girls. It enables young Cameroonians to learn to write code, make robots and acquire advanced computer skills, and is one of a range of initiatives Fofang has set up, including a technological school for 800 pupils.

"We've seen technology prove to every one of us that it's a good method to move away from poverty. And we all know that in these parts, women always remain at the poverty line," she said.

Nearly one in three girls in Cameroon are married by 18, according to a 2016 study by United Nations children's agency UNICEF, and this often means they drop out of full-time education early.

In 2016, 95 percent of all children out of school were girls, and UN data for 2010 the most up to date available - showed women and girls made up 60 percent of Cameroon's illiterate population. Studies suggest educating girls has a broader societal benefit that goes well beyond the individual child. If all girls had a secondary education, child deaths would be cut in half, saving almost 3 million lives across the globe, according to research by the UN cultural agency UNESCO. Fofang says teaching girls about technology can help break the cycle of "poverty from generation to generation", but says social attitudes, as well as a lack of opportunities, are still holding them back. "An overly ambitious girl in Cameroon is not a good one - if you're too ambitious, society judges you," she said.

One woman who has not allowed society to hold her back is chemical engineer Persis Mbangsi, one of a tiny minority of Cameroonian women who have broken through the glass ceiling. —Reuters

Global auto powers plotting response to Trump auto tariff threats

MEXICO CITY/OTTAWA: Canada, the European Union, Japan, Mexico and South Korea will meet in Geneva next week to discuss how to respond to threats by US President Donald Trump to impose tariffs on US imports of autos and car parts, officials familiar with the

The Trump administration has come under heavy criticism from automakers, foreign governments and others as it considers tariffs of up to 25 percent, a levy critics warn will hike vehicle costs, hurting auto sales

Several auto manufacturing powers have been talking to each other in recent days about their fears and a possible coordinated response to Trump's "Section 232" investigation, which he ordered on May 23, into whether auto imports are a threat to US security, sources say. The probe could be completed within weeks, although similar ones ordered last year that led to tariffs of 25 percent on steel and 10 percent on aluminum took about 10 months. The Commerce Department has 270 days to offer recommendations to the president after such a probe starts. He then has 90 days to act upon them.

It was not immediately clear what kind of response the countries could be looking at, although Canada, the EU and Mexico retaliated with their own tariffs after Trump imposed levies on steel and aluminum imports in March. Another option is to fight the United States at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Deputy ministers will gather in Geneva on July 31 to hear each other's views, a Canadian official and a Mexican official told Reuters, asking to not be named because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

"The meeting is meant to bring together major auto producing nations so we can discuss our concerns over the US Department of Commerce's Section 232 investigation of automobiles and parts," said the Canadian government official. Mexico's economy ministry confirmed Deputy Economy Minister Juan Carlos Baker will travel to Geneva for "work meetings about several subjects," including meeting World Trade Organization (WTO) chief Roberto Azevedo. The Canadian foreign ministry declined to comment.

According to the WTO website, Azevedo will meet Baker on Monday, followed by Canada's Deputy Trade Minister Timothy Sargent and Japan's Senior Deputy Foreign Minister Kazuyuki Yamazaki on Tuesday. The Mexican official said the meetings were related to the auto tariff issue. Eventual tariffs on autos could hit companies including Korea's Hyundai Motor Co, Japan's Toyota Motor Corp and Germany's BMW, as well as global factories for US brands General Motors Co, Ford Motor Co, and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV. Trump's agreement on Wednesday to refrain from imposing car tariffs on the EU in return for reduced trade barriers for US products has helped cool fears of a trade war, but his final decision will not be known until the security investigation is concluded in coming months.

The U.S. automakers lowered their full-year profit forecasts on Wednesday due to the trade frictions, and their stocks fell as investors bet the disputes would hurt margins and sales. Although hopes of a breakthrough in US-EU trade talks boosted carmakers on Thursday, the planned meetings are a sign that auto-producing nations want to prepare for the worst.

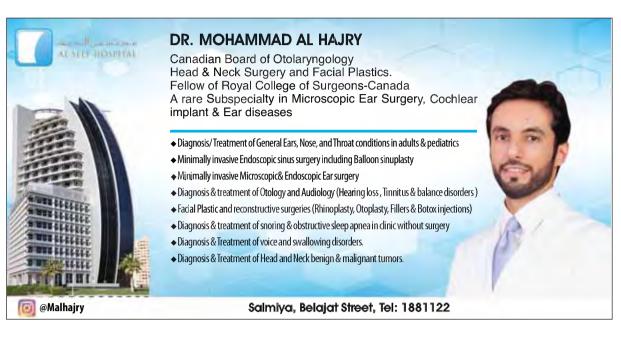
Managed trade

Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland raised the need for "cooperation by major interested nations" regarding the US auto investigation during a meeting in Ottawa with South Korean Trade Minister Kim Hyunchong last week, the South Korean ministry said in a statement after the meeting. On a tour that also took in the United States, Kim broached the idea of working together to face tariffs at a meeting of the Pacific Alliance trade bloc in Mexico yesterday, said another Mexican official and a diplomat with knowledge of the matter, asking to remain anonymous because they were not authorized to speak about it. Officials consulted by Reuters in Canada, Mexico and South Korea all said such discussions were preliminary, with another Canadian official characterizing them as comparing notes on the state of play of the tariff investigation, rather than discussing a coordinated reaction in detail. — Reuters

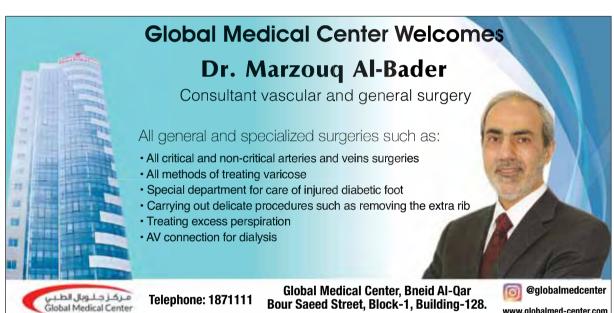
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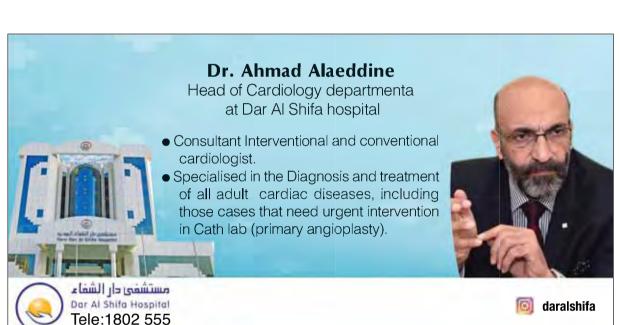


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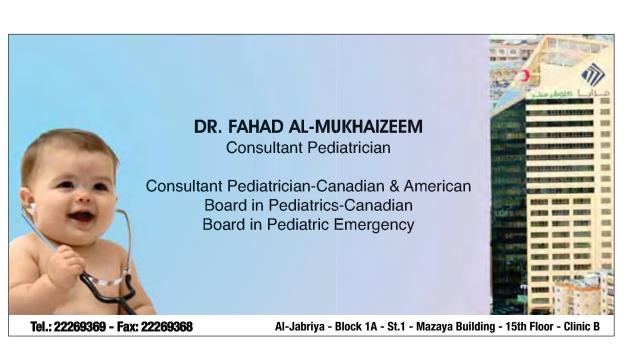
♦ American Board of Colo – Rectal Surgery

American Board of Surgical Critical Care











What's On Tuesday, July 31, 2018



LAPA concludes summer theatre training course

OYAC's Academy for Performance modern philosophers. The play included Arts (LAPA) recently concluded its one month long summer theatre training course with a special ceremony held at Al-Qibliya School attended by LOYAC's chairperson and a large number of parents, participants and visitors.

The ceremony included an absurd theatre play titled: 'Those Who Made Life Futile', which discusses the terrible consequences of wars by using themes from Greek methodology and other concepts of

two scenes respectively directed by Razi Al-Shatti and Shireen Hajji. Speaking on the occasion, Al-Shatti stressed that the play was the physical application of five previous workshops on theatre arts organized by LOYAC. On her part, Hajji said that the cinematography workshop held by Dr Kjholoud Al-Rasheedi at LOY-AC belond many trainers persoing the rele AC helped many trainers perceive the role of cinematography and other special effects on stage.











TIES announcement

Ladies' Games Night

adies are invited to bring their favorite board or card game to play with friends. Learn something new, increase

problem solving skills and make new friends in this relaxing and fun event. Tuesday, August 7 @ 6pm. Location is Villa No 67, Street 413, Block 4, Shuhada Area, Kuwait Phone: +(965) 25231015 Email: info@tiescenter.net







To mark the 39th anniversary of the peoples victory day of Nicaragua, the ambassador Mohamad Farrara Lashtar hosted a special reception at the nation's embassy. Nicaraguan community, local businessmen & media persons attended the event.

Stars

CROSSWORD 1973

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ACROSS

- 1. Narrow wood or metal or plastic run-
- ners used for gliding over snow. 4. A configuration or pattern of elements so unified as a whole that it cannot be described merely as a sum of its parts. 11. Plant with an elongated head of broad
- stalked leaves resembling celery. 15. Imperial dynasty that ruled China (most of the time) from 206 BC to 221 and expanded its boundaries and developed its bureaucracy.
- 16. Genus of low-growing mat-forming New Zealand plants.
- 17. (Norse mythology) One of the Aesir known for his beauty and skill with bow and skis.
- 18. Inquire about. 19. In a state of sleep.
- 20. Issue or terminate (in a specified way, state, etc.).
- 21. Philippine timber tree having hard red fragrant wood. 23. A mouth or mouthlike opening.
- 25. An Indian unit of length having differ-
- ent values in different localities. 26. A person who yields or surrenders. 29. Primitive predaceous North American
- fish covered with hard scales and having long jaws with needle-like teeth. 30. A game invented by American indians.
- 34. Insectivorous usually semiaquatic web-footed amphibian with smooth moist skin and long hind legs. 39. South American wood sorrel cultivated
- for its edible tubers. 40. Any place of complete bliss and delight
- and peace.
- 46. Tooth on the rim of gear wheel. 48. A person who is paid to pray for the
- soul of another. 50. Reduce to ashes.
- 53. A unit of current equal to 10 amperes. 54. The area in which something exists or
- 56. A particular geographical region of indefinite boundary (usually serving some special purpose or distinguished by its people or culture or geography).
- 57. A public promotion of some product or service. 58. Painter (born in Germany, resident of
- France and the United States) who was a cofounder of Dadaism. 59. A nucleic acid that transmits genetic
- information from DNA to the cytoplasm.
- 61. A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
- 64. (used as a combining form) Recent or
- 69. Any of several small ungulate mammals of Africa and Asia with rodent-like incisors and feet with hooflike toes.
- 70. Italian violin maker and grandson of Andrea Guarneri (1687?-1745).
- 73. A constellation in the southern hemi-
- sphere near Telescopium and Norma. 74. The elementary stages of any subject (usually plural).
- 75. A pungent colorless unsaturated liquid aldehyde made from propene.
- 76. An angular shape characterized by
- sharp turns in alternating directions. 77. The longer of the two telegraphic sig-
- nals used in Morse code. 78. Be about.
- 79. The compass point midway between northeast and east.

DOWN

1. Inclined to shake as from weakness or defect.

- 2. A river of southwestern Africa that rises in central Angola and flows east and then north (forming part of the border between Angola and Congo) and continuing northwest through Congo to empty into the Congo River on the border between Congo and Republic
- of the Congo. 3. A linen tape used for trimming as a dec-
- oration.
- 4. The father of your father or mother. 5. A Christian celebration of the
- Resurrection of Christ.
- 6. Relating to or derived from the sun or utilizing the energies of the sun.
- 7. The third day of the week. 8. Fermented alcoholic beverage similar to but heavier than beer.
- 9. A tumor consisting of fatty tissue. 10. A hard gray lustrous metallic element
- that is highly corrosion-resistant. 11. (Roman Catholic) A diplomatic representative of the Pope having ambassa-
- dorial status. 12. In addition.
- 13. On the positive side or higher end of a scale.
- 14. (Greek mythology) Greek god of war. 22. A gum used especially as a thickener or emulsifier.
- 24. An enclosed space.
- 27. A silvery ductile metallic element found primarily in bauxite.
- 28. Hormone released by the hypothalamus that controls the release of thyroid-stimulating hormone from the anterior pituitary. 31. Battle of World War II (1944).
- 32. Minute blackish gregarious flies destructive to mushrooms and 33. Gained or acquired.
- 35. Make more attractive by adding orna-
- ment, colour, etc.. A desert in southern Israel.
- 37. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group. 38. A nonmetallic largely pentavalent
- heavy volatile corrosive dark brown liquid element belonging to the halo-
- 41. A thin tapered rod used by a conductor to direct an orchestra. 42. A loose sleeveless outer garment made
- from aba cloth. 43. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked
- on a skewer usually with vegetables. 44. The sixth month of the civil year.
- 45. A parliamentary monarchy in southwestern Europe on the Iberian Peninsula.
- 47. Australian wild horse.
- 49. Coming into view.
- 51. Dignified manner or conduct.
- 52. Entangle or catch in in or as if in a mesh.
- 55. Any of a group of natural steroid alcohols derived from plants or animals.
- 60. Affect with wonder.
- 62. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
- 63. United States writer (born in Poland)
- who wrote in Yiddish (1880-1957).
- 65. Being the only one.
- 66. An elaborate song for solo voice.
- 67. A theocratic republic in the Middle East in western Asia.
- 68. An enclosure made or wire or metal bars in which birds or animals are
- kept. 71. Fiddler crabs.
- 72. A graphical record of electrical activity of the brain.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

You may feel a need for change is long overdue. You may want to break old habits and set out on a new path. You may find yourself drawn to a different lifestyle and find yourself going against the grain. You desire to be a part of a new and different crowd and feel as if something is pulling you in a direction beyond any comfort zone you have known. Today may find you lacking direction and this may lead to conflict in the work place as you appear lost with no focus. This is an internal conflict and there is no need to try to explain this to others close to you as it may cause frustration when your ideas are not met with acceptance by others.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

All that sparkles may not be gold, but it sure does catch your eye. You have deep appreciation for the beauty surrounding you and find it hard to pass by any sparkling treasure in your path. Admire it and move on Taurus, and this could be a very good financial period for you if you can resist the urge to spend. This may be a time of change in your life. The changes you are about to make or may be making may not be supported by those close to you. You may experience conflict or major pushback. You are longing to broaden your horizons, a longing to grow and have new experiences. Remember, Taurus, these things cannot occur without change.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

This is a great time for you to experience the breakthrough you have been focusing on. Everything seems to be working in your favor. You may find yourself being drawn to all that represents romance. Take a stroll in the park, have a nice lunch with someone dear to you, a great time to curl up with a book or just a nice long bath may be just what your need today. You may find yourself helping a friend in need today. You are often a source of support and help to others. A friend that everyone wants to have is you are looked at with admiration. Gemini, enjoy yourself today and appreciate the fact you are loved by so many.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You may find yourself feeling a bit left out. For a short period, you may find yourself feeling a sense of isolation. Your standards are high, and you may not approve of all that goes on within your social circle and may find that rather than face that disapproval your friends may recently be excluding you. This feeling won't last long, however; you may want to surround yourself with a group you fit in with. You may find that tension is high at this time and could easily find yourself surrounded by conflict. Isolation may be a positive thing in your world for now.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

You may find yourself realizing how special you are today. Appreciating all your gifts and talents and feeling a sense of pride. This is a great time of communication with those around you as you are able to express your emotions clearly to others. Dedication and devotion have gotten you to this point in life and you in a position you can provide much help to others. You are in touch with not only your emotions but also very in touch with the needs and emotions of those close to you. This is a very nice time in your life. You may find someone close shows great support and sympathy to you today when a situation you encounter puts you in need of a listening Leo.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

All that sparkles may not be gold, but it sure does catch your eye. You have deep appreciation for the beauty surrounding you and find it hard to pass by any sparkling treasure in your path. Admire it and move on Virgo, and this could be a very good financial period for you if you can resist the urge to spend. This may be a time of change in your life. The changes you are about to make or may be making may not be supported by those close to you. You may experience conflict or major pushback. You are longing to broaden your horizons, a longing to grow and have new experiences. Remember, Virgo, these things cannot occur without change.

Wordsearch Puzzle

Volleyball

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 39 letters spell a secret message

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SKTSTVERTICALJUMP

APPROACH ASSIST ATTACK BLOCKING BUMP CAPTAIN COACH COURT DEFENCE

FAULT

DOUBLE HIT DUMP

FOOTWORK **FORMATIONS** FOUL. GAME HITTER KILL KNEE PADS

MATCH

PASS PLAYERS

OFFENCE

RALLY REFEREE ROTATION SAVE SCORE SERVE SETS SETTER SHANK SIDELINES

QUICK HIT

SLIDE SPIKING SPORT SUBSTITUTION TANDEM TEAMS TRAJECTORY VERTICAL JUMP WEAK SIDE

SKY BALL

Libra (September 23-October 22)

This may be a day you need to keep your emotions in check. It seems some people are circumstances may irritate you. You may find you have a short fuse and are easily agitated today. It seems you are deep in reflection and past experiences are helping you deal with your present circumstances. You may realize there is someone in your life you need to forgive in order to be able to move forward. You're experiencing a more sensitive side and putting more thought into seeing things from other people's point of view. This helps you understand those close to you better and helps dissolve boundaries that have been standing in your way. This helps bring more peace into your life and harmony into your world.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You seem to have a real appreciation for yourself today. You like the thoughts that are running though your mind and new ideas seem to be flowing freely. You are open to learning and craving knowledge. Today would be a great time for doing some research or taking a class and introducing something new into your world. Also, you may find this would be a wonderful time to reconnect with an old friend. Take a walk down memory lane and you may find you come away with a real appreciation of what life has had to offer you and the accomplishments you have made along the way. Scorpio. Stay focused and work smarter rather than harder.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

We can't always have things our way. Today may find you with a strong to desire to throw all of your responsibilities out of the window and party hard. This is not a feasible choice for you today as your responsibilities will not permit it. Reality sets in and you realize you have to play the responsible role of adult today. You may be shunned by the crowd and suffer ridicule for backing out on plans. Ignore the haters. You will be rewarded for doing the right thing. Keep your priorities straight and your goals set high.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You face a bit of a challenge today. You may experience opposition in the work place or in another aspect of your life. You may want to take a moment to sit back, relax and re-evaluate your outlook. Open your mind to alternative solutions. You may find today a difficult one to express yourself today and this may frustrate you. Today finds you very talkative. Occasionally you find problems are easier worked out when talked out and this is one of those times. Even though you are not one who frequently finds themselves asking for help, today may be a great day to make that phone call, seek advice, and work through what is causing you conflict. You may find your communications skills are much greater than your problem-solving skills today.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

You may find that you are extremely assertive today. Your energy is high, and you are extremely driven and focused. You have an urge to keep pushing forward. No goal is out of reach as far as you are concerned. You will not allow anything to stand in your way. Others may find you to be very persuasive and you are easily able to express yourself and able to share your ideas with others and get support today. Aquarius, stay on this path and the rewards you reap will be great.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You may be putting a great emphasis on your sex life. A desire for intimacy and a partner are strong on your mind. It is a great time for you to reflect and discover how you truly feel about yourself and what is driving your focus. Today will be a nice day for you. You may be tempted to be too strict on yourself. Loosen up a bit and enjoy what this world has to offer. You may find yourself in the company of someone who eager to follow your lead. Do not hesitate to take control. Your ambition will be your driving force today, Pisces. You may find that you are appreciated and admired for your ambition today and others hold you in high regard.

Yesterday's Solution

USA States



Yesterday's Solution

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Daily SuDoku

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Yesterday's Solution

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| | 4 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| 1 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
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Lifestyle

TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018



INDIA EXCAVATORS FIND OVER THOUSAND 18th CENTURY WAR ROCKETS



ver a thousand rockets belonging to an 18th-century Muslim warrior king have been found by excavators in an abandoned well in India's southern Karnataka state, an official said Friday. The excavation of the open well in Shimoga district led to unearthing of rockets and shells that were stored by Tipu Sultan for use in wars, according to the state's assistant director of archaeology. The powerful ruler was killed in the fourth Anglo-Mysore war in 1799 after a string of victories in battle against the British East India Company. He is credited with developing an early, indigenous rocket known as the Mysorean rocket, a prototype of British Congreve rockets used in the Napoleonic wars.

"Excavation of the open well led to unearthing of over 1,000 corroded rockets that were stored during Tipu's times for use in wars," R. Shejeshwara Nayaka told AFP from the site, some 385 kilometers (240 miles) northwest of state capital Bangalore. "Digging of the dry well where its mud was smelling like gunpowder led to the discovery of the rockets and shells in a pile."

It took three days for the 15-member team of archaeologists, excavators and laborers to unearth the armory and the ammunition. The rockets, measuring between 23 and 26 centimeters (12-14 inches), would be kept for public display at a museum in Shimoga. According to archeological records, the fort area in Shimoga was a part of Tipu Sultan's kingdom and the rockets were used in the wars that the ruler fought against the East India Company. — AFP



Indian archeologists and onlookers standing over a pile of some of the hundreds of 18th century rockets excavated by the Indian Department of Archaeology in Nagara village in Shimoga district, in the southwestern Indian state of Karnataka. — AFP photos

Six-year-old YouTube star brings his own toy line to Walmart



Six-year old Ryan is shown in this undated handout photo. — Reuters

6-year-old boy whose toy reviews have drawn billions of views on YouTube will debut his own line of slime, stuffed animals and other merchandise at Walmart Inc next month, the retailer said yesterday. The star of the YouTube channel Ryan ToysReview, known simply as Ryan, helped select the toys and apparel that will be sold under the name Ryan's World, according to children's media company pocket.watch, which negotiated the deal with Walmart.

The Ryan's World merchandise will be sold exclusively at more than 2,500 Walmart stores in the United States and on the Walmart.com website starting Aug. 6. The products will expand to other retailers

6-year-old boy whose toy reviews have drawn billions of views on YouTube will debut his own line of slime, stuffed animals and other merchandise at Walmart Inc next he retailer said yesterday. The star of the

Pocket.watch has negotiated licensing deals for a handful of online video stars to expand their reach through toys, apparel and home products. The Ryan's World merchandise, designed for ages 3 and up, is the first to come to market. The products include T-shirts with four designs featuring some of Ryan's favorite things, including pizza. — Reuters



(Center, From left) Russian soprano Olga Peretyatko, Romanian tenor Ioan Hotea, French baryton Florian Sempey, Italian baritone Bruno De Simone, Russian bass Alexei Tikhomirov, Italian mezzo-soprano Annunziata Vestri, perform in Rossini's opera "Il barbiere di Siviglia" directed by Italian Adriano Sinivia and conducted by Italian Giampaolo Bisanti in Orange, southern France, during the Choregies d'Orange festival dedicated to opera, lyrical art and symphonic concert. — AFP

Lifestyle Music & Moivies

Better with age? Cruise's latest 'Impossible' tops box office

"mprobable? Maybe, but "Mission Impossible-Fallout," the sixth and latest stunt-filled edition of the Tom Cruise action franchise has topped the weekend box office in North America, outperforming the five earlier "Impossibles." The Paramount/Skydance production took in an estimated \$61.5 million for the three-day weekend, according to industry tracker Exhibitor Relations, more than quadrupling the \$15 million earned by second-place "Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again." "Impossible" has 56-year-old Cruise, who famously still does his own cliffhanging, car-rolling stunts, ordered to track down some missing plutonium and find a terror-minded villain. Critics seem to like the film despite its evident weaknesses: Though "often ridiculous," the Washington Post wrote, the film "works amazingly well." Universal's "Mamma Mia" clung to the second spot for a second straight weekend, though its take was nearly 60 percent below its opening.

With a star-studded cast including Meryl Streep, Amanda Seyfried, Colin Firth and Pierce Brosnan, the film uses plentiful flashbacks to fill in the story of Streep's carefree character on the only Greek island with a built-in ABBA

In third was Sony's "The Equalizer 2," with Denzel Washington again playing a former black-ops agent-and now low-profile Lyft driver-drawn into action to avenge a friend's death. It took in \$14 million. Fourth spot went to another Sony film, "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation," at \$12.3 million. The animated comedy, whose voice cast includes Adam Sandler and Selena Gomez, follows Count Dracula and his family as they get away from their hotel for their own vacation.

In fifth was a new release, Warner Bros' family-friendly "Teen Titans Go! To the Movies," at \$10.5 million, which Variety called slightly disappointing given the film's 90

percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes. The first feature film based on a popular animated series, "Titans" has a voice cast including Kristen Bell, Will Arnett and Greg Cipes.

- Rounding out the top 5 were: "Ant-Man and the Wasp" (\$8.4 million)
- "Incredibles 2" (\$7.2 million)
- "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" (\$6.8 million) "Skyscraper" (\$5.4 million)
- "The First Purge" (\$2.2 million)—AFP

In this file photo Actor and producer Tom Cruise arrives for a screening of 'Mission Impossible -Fallout' at the Smithsonian National Air and

Space Museum. — AFP





George Ezra will perform at **Absolute Radio's anniversary gig**

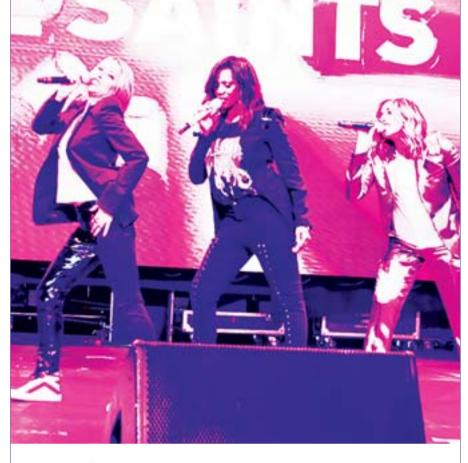
eorge Ezra will perform at gig, and it's going to be a great night of Absolute Radio's special 10th anniversary gig. The 'Shotgun' hitmaker will be joining Manic Street Preachers and Blossoms in performing to 2,000 fans at London's iconic O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire on September 25. The "biggest and best" party of the year will be hosted by the station's new breakfast show presenter Dave Berry, who couldn't be happier to be involved. He said: "It's only fitting we throw the biggest and best party for our listeners. "The Manics are in charge of organizing the magician, George is overseeing the decorations and Blossoms are getting the party bags. "I'm chuffed to be hosting the

live music to celebrate ten years of Absolute Radio!" Tickets will go on sale through Ticketmaster on Friday priced just £10 plus £3.50 booking feeds. Meanwhile, the 'Blame It On Me' singer recently admitted he didn't "expect" such a positive reaction to his second album, 'Staying At Tamara's'. Speaking exclusively to BANG Showbiz, he said: "The reaction has been much better than I was expecting. And that's not because I didn't believe in what I was doing, it's more that I just couldn't have ever anticipated it would do as well as it did.'

Robbie feels more 'emotionally invested' as a producer



argot Robbie feels more emotionally invested in a movie when she's producing the project. The 28-year-old star - who is best known for her acting talents - serves as a producer on her new movie 'Terminal', in which she also plays the lead role, and Margot has admitted to feeling hugely passionate about the thriller film. Asked whether producing complements acting or whether it gives her something acting doesn't, Margot replied: "It actually works hand in hand with acting. I assumed it would be more of a conflict of interests, trying to split myself between the two roles. But actually, I feel like it made me better at each job, being so involved. "And actually it does give me something I don't get just from acting ... you know, feeling like, 'Oh, that's our project.' As opposed to I got to be a part of someone's project." The Australian actress explained that having such a hands-on role with the movie means she feels more emotionally attached to the film. In fact, Margot likened the scenario to raising a child. She told Flickering Myth: "When you're there from the inception of the idea, to the development, to the pre-production, to the production - which you're there as an actor anyway - to post-production, marketing, distribution ... all that kind of stuff, you live with it for years. "And after years, it's like your baby and you have a greater sense of ownership over it. And therefore, a greater emotional investment, I think." — Bang Showbiz



All Saints are having more fun than ever

group, comprised of Shaznay Lewis, Nicole Appleton, Natalie Appleton and Melanie Blatt, originally split in 2001, because their friendship had broken down but now the 'Pure Shores' hitmakers are happier than ever and are enjoying performing together again. Speaking on 'Sunday Brunch', 42-year-old Shaznay revealed why the band is working so much better this time around. She said: "You know what it is, there are two parts of it. "At the beginning, it was obviously a lot more successful it was a bigger spectrum - but I think with that came a lot more pressure. I think the whole thing... we were constantly trying to keep up with it all. "Whereas this time around it's more enjoyable because we're able to just take in everything and appreciate and enjoy it all." The 'Never Ever' singer has also detailed how the band got together again for their second reunion. She said: "A producer friend

Il Saints are having more fun of mine just happened to contact me than ever before. The pop and he was asked by a promoter if we would go on the road with Backstreet Boys. "I mentioned it to the girls because we'd been hanging out, we just weren't making music together and we jumped at the chance. "Back in the day, we did so much promo that performing was one of the things we did the least." Shaznav also admitted the group never wanted to be labelled as a girl band. She said: "Our beliefs at the time and the band that we wanted to be - we never wanted to be a girl band, it just so happened that there were other girl bands at the time so we were lumped in with them. "But when we started doing All Saints, which was like years before, we were just a band. We wanted to be like TLC, they were never a 'girl band'. "And it was just because we happened to be at that moment in time... but I mean, we are definitely girls!"

Justin Bieber won't release new music until after wedding

ustin Bieber won't release any new music intil after he's got married. The 24-year-old singer has just dropped his new track 'No Brainer' with DJ Khaled but he has admitted there won't be any new songs coming his fans' way until after the wedding as he wants to focus on his fiancee Hayley Baldwin and their relationship. Asked by TMZ paparazzi what's next career-wise, he said: "Getting married!" The 'Sorry' hitmaker proposed to the 21-year-old model earlier this month following just five weeks of dating, although they have been romantically linked in the past, and, although he's not planning to drop any new content as of yet, it's believed he's keen to incorporate his Christian faith into his fifth studio album. A source said recently: "Justin is on the lookout for songs which really reflect where he is in his life in terms of spirituality. He has always been religious but the last two years have seen him grow closer to the Hillsong Church and it has changed his entire life. He has a totally different outlook now." Justin was said to have wanted to take a break from music after completing his 'Purpose' world tour - which came to an abrupt end when he axed the final 14 shows due to "unforeseen circumstances" - but his weekly church visits have "revitalised" him and he's already been back in the recording studio again. The insider explained: "After he finished his last tour he really wasn't interested in recording any music for a while. "But his time with the church has revitalised him and although he is working with a lot of the same people who helped to make his last album, 'Purpose', he is reshaping his sound so it is more in line with the church's values and beliefs. "There are key themes of love and redemption in the tracks he has ≠created so far. It will certainly ≠surprise some fans." With a wedding to plan and an album to finish, it's highly unlikely Justin will release any new material before the end of 2019.



Evangeline Lilly felt under pressure making Ant-Man and the Wasp

vangeline Lilly felt under pressure making a Marvel movie following the success of 'Black Panther'. The 38-year-old actress stars alongside Paul Rudd in 'Ant-Man and the Wasp', but she's admitted to feeling anxious about the release of her own movie after 'Black Panther' proved to be a huge success with fans and critics. Asked whether she felt a sense of pressure, the actress confessed: "I would love to be cool enough to say no, but at the beginning, when we were shooting ... I'm trying to remember the chronology of it, but I think 'Black Panther' was shooting at the same time. And you could just feel how cool that was going to be. He was the first African American to be a titled superhero in the MCU, and then I was going to be the first female. "Of course, 'Black Panther' became an international phenomenon, and I am not above admitting that a part of me just went, 'Eek. I can't do that. I don't know how to do that. What? Am I supposed to do that?! Is that what they expect me to be and do?' "And then you get over yourself and realize that a job's a job. You just have to go to work and do what you do. The results are not in your hands, and everything else has to be let go off, and that's not the point anyway."

Evangeline briefly retired from acting earlier this decade before she returned to star in 'The Hobbit' franchise. But the actress - who is also due to star in the next 'Avengers' movie - admitted she wrestled with the decision to join the Marvel cast. She told Digital Spy: "When I realized that I really wanted to do it - which at first I didn't think I did - then I was faced with a dilemma, because when I took the job on 'The Hobbit', in my mind I was just making an exception for Peter Jackson and doing this role that was a fantasy of mine since I was a little girl. And then I was going to bow right back out and it was just going to be a moment. "And I realized that I really think I want to become an Avenger - who wouldn't? So then I basically had a 'come to Jesus' talk with myself. 'Honey, it seems to me that this industry is not going to leave you be, you are not going to leave it be. You're going to continue to dance. So if that's the case, you either have to make your peace with it or you have to draw a line in the sand right now and tell Marvel no.' "And, as you can see, I decided to make my peace with it."



Lifestyle Features



People sit outside a library, open during the summer.



People read books outside a library, open during the summer.



People enter in a little library, open during the summer.



People read books outside a library, open during the summer, in Etretat, northwestern France. — AFP photos

Holiday reads: Beachgoers check out French seaside libraries

oing to the beach can be tough work, but if you need a break from all the gruelling swimming and sunbathing this summer, a trip to one of France's pop-up seaside libraries could be just the thing. Lulled by the gentle cries of seagulls in the distance, flocks of readers have been heading to the book-filled beach huts that authorities have opened along the coast of Normandy in northern France and elsewhere. "It's a perfect break for reading and relaxing between two dips in the sea," said 52-year-old hairdresser Isabelle from her deckchair at the library in Etretat, a Normandy resort famed for its dramatic white cliffs.

"Since I'm not going away on holiday, this is my treat every afternoon," she said, before diving back into a detective novel. Etretat is one of 12 local resorts where authorities have set up library beach-huts this summer. Open from July 7 until August 26, each of the wooden huts has been filled with 1,000 books. Normandy

oing to the beach can be tough work, but if you need a break from all the gruelling swimming and sunbathing this summer, a trip to one of France's seaside libraries could be just the alled by the gentle cries of seagulls in nce, flocks of readers have been heade book-filled beach huts that authorise opened along the coast of Normandy

Poetry and gentleman-thieves

In Normandy, anyone is welcome to dip into a book, with no registration needed-but readers must stay in the deckchairs provided, rather than taking them down to the sea to get sand between the pages. This year 400 chairs are up for grabs around the region at the beach huts, which are open every day between 2 pm and 7 pm, with some books in English, German and Italian provided for foreign readers. On a recent sunny afternoon in Etretat, a dozen readers-aged between nine months and 70 — come

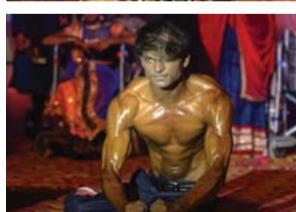
to transport themselves to other worlds from the

hut, overlooking the sea. 'We need more of this kind of place," said Romain Mace, an engineer on vacation from the city of Rouen, enjoying a volume of poetry as his baby slept beside him-a rare pleasure for sleep-deprived young parents. Since the books cannot be taken off-site, the hut's two librarians will happily put aside a novel you've started so that you can pick up the story where you left off the next day. Corinne Ait Amar, 47, had returned to delve back into the thrilling exploits of gentleman-thief Arsene Lupin while her daughter was engrossed in a Japanese manga comic. "It's perfect," said the nurse, on vacation with her family from the eastern city of St Etienne. "My daughter and I have been saying to ourselves that we might meet up with the rest of the family a little later than planned..."—AFP

"Divyang Fashion and Talent Show"

















Indian disabled models take to the catwalk during the "Divyang Fashion and Talent Show" organized by Narayan Seva Sansthan, a charitable organization known for its philanthropic services in various fields of treatments and rehabilitation of physically challenged people in Amritsar, north east Punjab. — AFP photos

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Lifestyle Features

SHARJAH STUDENTS 'RECREATE' RAPHAELITE MASTERPIECE

By Sajeev K Peter

n a rare artistic ensemble, a group of students from the American University of Sharjah (AUS) recreated a masterpiece of the era of European Renaissance-"Raphael's School of Athens.' The group gathered 61 students and the Faculty of the Architecture department including founder of AUS Prof Martin Giesen and Dean Varkki. They dressed up in the costumes of the era and posed for photographs outside the main building of the university. "Well, it started out as a pleasurable pastime, but eventually it evolved into a more meaningful endeavor," said Divya Mahadevan, a member of the ensemble.

The overarching themes of their recreations are to reconsider the rather limited representation, per today's context, in celebrated work from the past and to spark conversation about the accepted conventions of portrayed figures. One of the team members Tasnim Tinawi stitched and refined the taken photographs into an artwork. "Our work pays homage to the great maestros by re-imagining their artwork and re-positioning them in this place, day and age," Divva, an Indian expat from Kuwait, pointed out.

Re-gendering

To the students, the reenactments of these paintings explore multiple themes with a primary focus on the regendering of a traditionally all-male ensemble. As architecture students with a keen interest in art history, the girls began analyzing and re-interpreting the art they admired. The figures in the painting have also been re-represented in terms of regional and religious diversity. "To make it





more culturally specific, we re-costumed the figures using traditional attire such as sarees and shaylas," Divya point-

The Renaissance was a period in European history that marked the transition between the Middle Ages and what is now referred to as the Modern era. The movement began in Florence and signified the rebirth of art, architecture, politics, science and literature. During this period, there was a focus on an invented humanism that adopted the Greek concept "Man is the measure of all things".

Although the Renaissance saw revolutions in many intellectual pursuits, as well as social and political upheaval, it is perhaps best known for its artistic developments and the contributions of such individuals as Masaccio, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael.

"We also have re-contextualized the painting by using familiar settings on the AUS campus that feature similar compositional elements. In terms of the objects depicted in the paintings, we replaced them with tools that are essential to our architectural education," she added. As much as the reenactments were about generating significant images, the students realized that the process itself created a sense of community that was more meaningful than the final result. "This, for us, redefined what we considered most important about the effort and its relevance to our experiences as students of this college," she said.

The group used a small space in the department building to reveal the final image. "We called this event 'Redressing the Renaissance' and showcased the original Raphael's painting side by side with our image. We also wanted to show our evolution and how this idea occurred to us so we showed some of our earlier, more amateur, work that we did in the past years," she added.



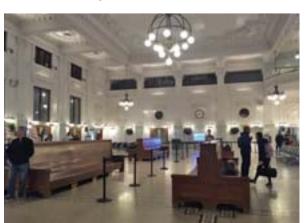
Passengers lounging in the observation car of Amtrak's Coast Starlight on the way from Los Angeles to Seattle.



Amtrak's Coast Starlight train at Union Station in Los Angeles.



Photo shows the northern California coastline from the window of Amtrak's Coast Starlight as the train journeys to Seattle from Los Angeles.



where Amtrak's Coast Starlight ends its 35-hour journey from Los Angeles.

The journey is the vacation this 35-hour train trip

By Nicole Evatt

t was late Friday night and we were scouring the usual sites touting the top things to do in Los Angeles. Uninspired by our options and facing a long weekend without obligations, my husband and I made a last-minute booking on Amtrak's Coast Starlight. Ten hours later we're settling in for a 35-hour train trip spanning 1,377 miles (2,216 kilometers) up California's picture-perfect coastline and Oregon's rugged terrain. Seattle may have been the end destination, but this weekend was all about the journey.



A passenger peers out the window at central California farmland as Amtrak's Coast Starlight Train makes its way from Los Angeles to Seattle.

10 AM Union Station, Los Angeles

At the station we are greeted by a friendly car attendant who shows us to our private room. Amtrak's top-tier accommodation sleeps up to three and includes a small work or lounge space, your own bathroom, shower and five meals. "This is gonna be fun!" our attendant beams as the train roars to life.

12:40 PM Santa Barbara

As the scenery changes from urban and industrial to the golden beaches of Ventura, we stumble toward the

dining car for lunch. Lunch options include tasty steamed mussels, spicy chilaquiles and a delightful chocolate raspberry tart. Making meal reservations and obsessing about what to order becomes a full-time job as we roll into hour three.

3:30 PM San Luis Obispo

With forced relaxation in full effect, it's time to kick off happy hour as we pass by the central coast's sprawling

10 PM Emeryville

Amtrak's sleeper cars offer turndown service and with little else to do, we tuck in for the night. Not exactly luxury, but a few notches up from camping, sleeping in the train's tight quarters was adequate with occasional interruptions from noisy neighbors, announcements or bumpy

8 AM Klamath Falls, Oregon

I wake in Oregon to high desert wilderness and snowdusted pine forests. We opt for the buffet breakfast and spend the morning taking in the panorama from the observation car, which offers comfy seating. Cell service is non-existent for most of day two, which meant board games, deep conversations and actual human connection sans social media.

9 PM King Street Station, Seattle

There were a handful of stretch breaks, including quick stops in Eugene and Portland, but I'm ready to get off when we reach the grand, granite-clad King Street Station. With only a few hours left in our spontaneous weekend adventure, we set out to explore Seattle's nightlife. Finally, an early flight brings us back to reality wobbly-legged and wonderfully rejuvenated from the journey. — AP



Photo shows the dining car of Amtrak's Cost Starlight



Photos shows people inside Los Angeles' Union Station.



People inside Seattle's historic King Street station, and is Amtrak's Coast Starlight passes by the Oceanside city of Carpinteria during a scenic 35-hour trek to Seattle.



The scenery changes to sprawling wetlands and snowcapped mountains as Amtrak's Coast Starlight kicks off day two of its 35-hour journey from California to Seattle near Klamath Falls, Ore. — AP photos

Classifieds



STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 6819 - 6817 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw



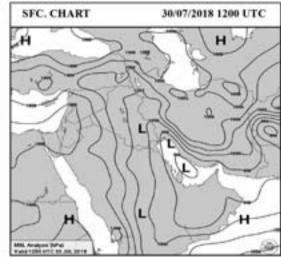
Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

BY NIGHT: Relatively hot with light to moderate freshening at times especially over coastal areas north westerly wind, with speed of 12 - 45 km/h with a chance for rising dust over some open areas.

BY DAY: Very hot with light to moderate freshening at times north westerly wind, with speed of 15 - 50 km/h causing rising dust especially over open areas.

No Current Warnings

| WEATHER WARNING | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| STATION | MAX. REC. | MIN, EXP. |
| KUWAIT CITY | 45 °C | 34 °C |
| KUWAIT AIRPORT | 47 °C | 32 °C |
| ABDALY | 47 °C | 30 °C |
| BUBYAN | °C | °C |
| JAHRA | 47 °C | 33 °C |
| FAILAKA ISLAND | 46 °C | 30 °C |
| SALMIYAH | 41 °C | 34 °C |
| AHMADI | 45 °C | 34 °C |
| NUWAISIB | 47 °C | 32 °C |
| WAFRA | 46 °C | 30 °C |
| SALMY | 45 °C | 28 °C |



| 5-22-20-20 | | P9707700.0407 | Temper | ratures | | 1000112100-000 |
|------------|-------|--|--------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| DAY | DATE | WEATHER | MAX. | MIN. | Wind Direction | Wind Speed |
| Tuesday | 07/31 | Very hot and rising dust especially over open areas | 47°C | 32 °C | NW | 15 - 50 km/h |
| Wednesday | 08/01 | Very hot and rising dust over open areas | 47 °C | 33 °C | NW | 15 - 45 km/h |
| Thursday | 08/02 | Very hot | 48 °C | 31 °C | NW-VRB | 08 - 38 km/h |
| Friday | 08/03 | Very hot | 47°C | 31 °C | NW-VRB | 08 - 30 km/h |

| TOMORROW P | RAYER TIMES |
|------------|-------------|
| Fajr | 03:38 |
| Sunrise | 05:07 |
| Zuhr | 11:54 |
| Asr | 15:30 |
| Sunset | 18:41 |
| Isha | 20:08 |

| RECORDED YESTERDAY AT 1 | CUWAIT AIRPOR |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| MAX. Temp. | 46 °C |
| MIN. Temp. | 29 ℃ |
| MAX. RH | 25 % |
| MIN. RH | 09 % |
| MAX. Wind | N 50 km/h |
| TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR. | 0 mm |

Hospitals

| dan Hospital | 23940620 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| on Sina Hospital | 24840300 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| l-Razi Hospital | 24846000 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| hysiotherapy Hospital | 24874330/9 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clinics | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kaizen center | 25716707 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rawda | 22517733 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Adaliya | 22517144 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Khaldiya | 24848075 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kaifan | 24849807 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shamiya | 24848913 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shuwaikh | 24814507 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Abdullah Salem | 22549134 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nuzha | 22526804 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Industrial Shuwaikh | 24814764 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Qadsiya | 22515088 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dasmah | 22532265 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bneid Al-Gar | 22531908 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shaab | 22518752 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Qibla | 22459381 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ayoun Al-Qibla | 22451082 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mirqab | 22456536 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sharq | 22465401 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Salmiya



NOTICE June 24, 2018



Mr. Nagoor Pitchai Shakul Hameed son of late Mr. Shakul Hameed, resident of O.No:63, N.No:80, Anandavallipuram, Peravurani PO & TK, Thanjavur, Pin: 614 804, Tamil Nadu, India and Ms. Kanmani Mathiazhagan daughter of late Mr. Mathiazhagan, resident of No: 67/59, Velu Thevar Colony, New road, Peravurani TK, Thanjavur - DT, Tamil Nadu - 614 804, both Indian nationals presently residing in Kuwalt, have given notice of intended marriage between them under the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969. If anyone has any objection to the proposed marriage, he/she may file the same with the undersigned occording to the procedure laid down under the Act/Rule within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice. Communications in this regard can be made by Email (attachecons@indembkwt.org, welforesection@indembkwt.org) I letters I telephonic calls (00965 -22550171, 00965 - 22533125).

(Sanjeev-Saklani) Attache (Consular) and Marriage Officer. Embessy of India, Kuwait.

Ph.00965-22550171 - 00965-22533125 Fax: 00965 - 22573910 Email: attacherons@indembkwt.org welforesection@indembkwt.org

Required

Career Opportunities for Teachers at Private American School for the 19-2018 Academic Year

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- * Curriculum Coordinator
- PE Teacher
- · Math Teacher KG Teacher
- English Teacher
- HS Science Teacher Secretary
- Computer Teacher
- Culinary Arts Teacher
- Counselor

Please put job you apply for in subject head

Interested applicants may send cover letter and resume to: recruitment@abs.edu.kw



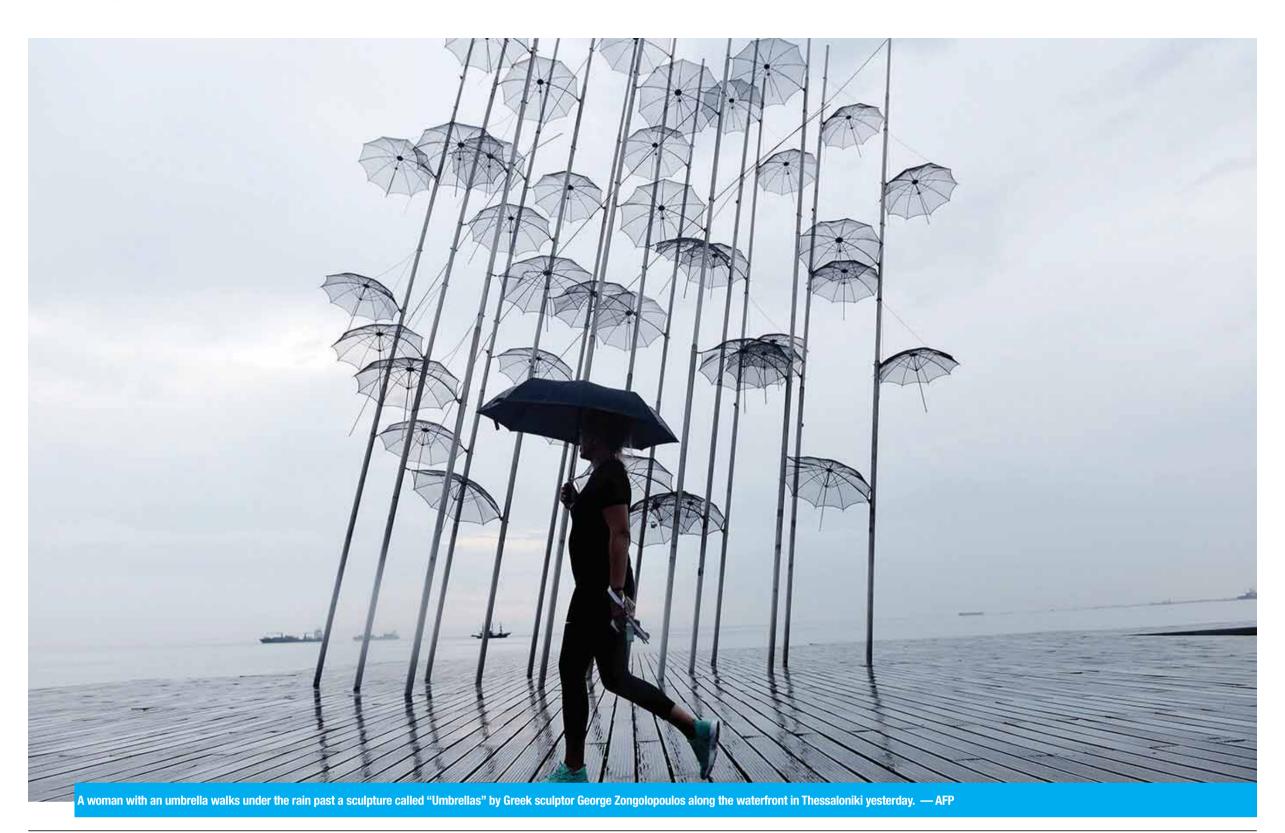
Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

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DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

| | | ghts on Tuesday 31/7/2018 | | PFA | 571 | KTM | 13:05 | | | lights on Tuesday 31/7/2018 | | JZR | 144 | Doha | 13:55 |
|----------|------|---------------------------|-------|-----|------------|-------------------|-------|----------|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----|------|-----------------|-------|
| Airlines | Flt | Route | Time | AXB | 393 | Kozhikode | 13:10 | Airlines | Flt | Route | Time | JZR | 124 | Bahrain | 14:00 |
| THY | 772 | Istanbul | 00:15 | FEG | 341 | Sohag | 13:50 | AIC | 976 | Goa/Chennai | 00:05 | MSR | 611 | Cairo | 14:00 |
| WAN | 886 | Sarajevo | 00:20 | KAC | 672 | Dubai | 13:55 | JAI | 573 | Mumbai | 00:30 | PFA | 572 | KTM | 14:05 |
| KAC | 102 | London | 00:50 | QTR | 1078 | Doha | 14:10 | MSR | 2615 | Cairo | 00:30 | JZR | 562 | Sohag | 14:05 |
| DLH | 625 | Dammam | 00:50 | KNE | 233 | Riyadh | 14:10 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | GFA | 221 | Bahrain | 14:15 | FDB | 072 | Dubai | 00:30 | AXB | 394 | Kozhikode | 14:10 |
| JZR | 539 | Cairo | 01:00 | | | | | JZR | 528 | Asyut | 01:05 | UAE | 872 | Dubai | 14:15 |
| PGT | 858 | Istanbul | 01:15 | FDB | 059 | Dubai | 14:20 | WAN | 341 | Sohag | 01:05 | JZR | 552 | Alexandria | 14:20 |
| RJA | 642 | Amman | 01:35 | KAC | 516 | Tehran | 14:20 | AZQ | 4566 | Baku | 01:30 | FEG | 342 | Sohag | 14:50 |
| UAE | 853 | Dubai | 01:40 | KAC | 618 | Doha | 14:20 | THY | 773 | Istanbul | 01:45 | KAC | 673 | Dubai | 15:00 |
| KLM | 446 | Bahrain | 01:45 | KAC | 286 | Dhaka | 14:25 | | | | | | | | |
| THY | 1464 | Istanbul | 01:50 | SVA | 500 | Jeddah | 14:45 | KAC | 285 | Dhaka | 01:50 | KNE | 234 | Riyadh | 15:00 |
| | | | | | 700 | | | DLH | 625 | Frankfurt | 01:50 | GFA | 222 | Bahrain | 15:00 |
| KKK | 1268 | Istanbul | 02:00 | KAC | 788 | Jeddah | 14:50 | KAC | 677 | Dubai | 02:00 | FDB | 060 | Dubai | 15:05 |
| AXB | 395 | Kozhikode | 02:00 | ETD | 303 | Abu Dhabi | 15:05 | KAC | 417 | Manila | 02:00 | QTR | 1079 | Doha | 15:15 |
| JZR | 267 | Beirut | 02:10 | KAC | 304 | Mumbai | 15:05 | | | | | SVA | 501 | Jeddah | 15:45 |
| GFA | 211 | Bahrain | 02:15 | KNE | 529 | Jeddah | 15:10 | PGT | 859 | Istanbul | 02:45 | | | | |
| ETH | 620 | Addis Ababa | 02:15 | OMA | 645 | Muscat | 15:20 | THY | 765 | Istanbul | 02:50 | KAC | 775 | Riyadh | 15:55 |
| | | | | KAC | 562 | Amman | 15:20 | AXB | 396 | Kozhikode | 02:55 | KNE | 530 | Jeddah | 16:00 |
| QTR | 1086 | Doha | 02:30 | | | | | KKK | 1269 | Istanbul | 02:55 | KAC | 785 | Jeddah | 16:00 |
| WAN | 416D | Beirut | 02:40 | ABY | 127 | Sharjah | 15:35 | ETH | | | 03:05 | KAC | 743 | Dammam | 16:05 |
| THY | 768 | Istanbul | 02:40 | KAC | 502 | Beirut | 15:35 | | 621 | Addis Ababa | | | | | |
| KAC | 414 | Bangkok | 02:40 | UAE | 857 | Dubai | 15:45 | KLM | 446 | Amsterdam | 03:10 | KAC | 563 | Amman | 16:10 |
| JZR | 553D | Alexandria | 02:50 | IAW | 157A | Baghdad | 16:00 | WAN | 311 | Asyut | 03:25 | KAC | 619 | Doha | 16:15 |
| JZR | 607 | Kochi | 02:55 | KAC | 118 | New York | 16:00 | UAE | 854 | Dubai | 03:30 | ABY | 128 | Sharjah | 16:15 |
| | | | | | | | | THY | 769 | Istanbul | 03:35 | OMA | 646 | | 16:20 |
| KAC | 418 | Manila | 03:05 | JZR | 535 | Cairo | 16:10 | | | | | | | Muscat | |
| ETD | 305 | Abu Dhabi | 03:05 | MSR | 575 | Sharm el-Sheikh | 16:10 | JZR | 142 | Doha | 03:45 | ETD | 304 | Abu Dhabi | 16:20 |
| OMA | 643 | Muscat | 03:05 | QTR | 8511 | Doha | 16:15 | JZR | 530 | Asyut | 04:00 | KAC | 615 | Bahrain | 16:40 |
| MSR | 606 | Luxor | 03:05 | QTR | 1072 | Doha | 16:15 | MSR | 607 | Luxor | 04:05 | MSR | 576 | Sharm el-Sheikh | 16:55 |
| KAC | 382 | Delhi | 03:10 | FDB | 051 | Dubai | 16:20 | OMA | 644 | Muscat | 04:05 | IAW | 158A | Baghdad | 17:00 |
| | | | | FEG | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MSR | 612 | Cairo | 03:15 | | 241 | Alexandria | 16:45 | ETD | 306 | Abu Dhabi | 04:05 | FDB | 052 | Dubai | 17:20 |
| PGT | 860 | Istanbul | 03:25 | NIA | 361 | Alexandria | 16:50 | QTR | 1087 | Doha | 04:15 | QTR | 1073 | Doha | 17:25 |
| QTR | 1076 | Doha | 03:30 | JZR | 125 | Bahrain | 16:55 | MSR | 613 | Cairo | 04:15 | UAE | 858 | Dubai | 17:40 |
| JAI | 572 | Mumbai | 04:00 | KAC | 542 | Cairo | 17:00 | PGT | 861 | Istanbul | 04:25 | KAC | 381 | Delhi | 17:45 |
| LMU | 5510 | Cairo | 04:00 | SVA | 510 | Riyadh | 17:15 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | GFA | 215 | | | JZR | 540 | Cairo | 04:40 | QTR | 8512 | Doha | 17:45 |
| KAC | 346 | Ahmedabad | 04:15 | | | Bahrain | 17:30 | LMU | 5511 | Cairo | 05:00 | FEG | 242 | Alexandria | 17:45 |
| KAC | 152 | Istanbul | 04:20 | JZR | 145 | Doha | 17:35 | JAI | 571 | Mumbai | 05:00 | NIA | 362 | Alexandria | 17:50 |
| JZR | 609 | Hyderabad | 04:30 | JZR | 777 | Jeddah | 17:35 | QTR | 1077 | Doha | 05:15 | KAC | | | 17:55 |
| KAC | 784 | Jeddah | 04:30 | JZR | 177 | Dubai | 17:40 | KAC | | | 05:35 | | 331 | Trivandrum | |
| FDB | 069 | Dubai | 05:05 | QTR | 1080 | Doha | 18:10 | | 303 | Mumbai | | KAC | 343 | Chennai | 18:00 |
| THY | 1414 | TZX | 05:05 | JZR | 483 | Istanbul | 18:20 | THY | 1465 | Istanbul | 06:00 | KAC | 283 | Dhaka | 18:00 |
| | | | | | | | | FDB | 070 | Dubai | 06:00 | SVA | 511 | Riyadh | 18:15 |
| DHX | 170 | Bahrain | 05:10 | WAN | 874 | Istanbul | 18:25 | THY | 771 | Istanbul | 06:30 | GFA | 216 | Bahrain | 18:20 |
| THY | 770 | Istanbul | 05:15 | WAN | 966 | Tbilisi | 18:30 | JZR | 1542 | Cairo | 06:40 | | | | |
| KAC | 1544 | Cairo | 05:20 | MSR | 620 | Cairo | 18:30 | | | | | JZR | 184 | Dubai | 18:20 |
| KAC | 332 | Trivandrum | 05:40 | RJA | 640 | Amman | 19:00 | GFA | 212 | Bahrain | 06:50 | JZR | 608 | Hyderabad | 18:25 |
| JZR | 561 | Sohag | 05:55 | GFA | 217 | Bahrain | 19:05 | RJA | 643 | Amman | 07:00 | JZR | 240 | Amman | 18:30 |
| | | | | | | | | JZR | 164 | Dubai | 07:15 | JZR | 512 | Sharm el-Sheikh | 18:30 |
| KAC | 362 | Colombo | 06:00 | UAE | 875 | Dubai | 19:05 | WAN | 133 | Doha | 07:25 | | | | |
| BAW | 157 | London | 06:10 | FDB | 063 | Dubai | 19:10 | | | | | JZR | 538 | Cairo | 18:35 |
| RUN | 6376 | Istanbul | 06:10 | KAC | 744 | Dammam | 19:10 | KAC | 167 | Paris | 07:30 | JZR | 650 | Lahore | 18:35 |
| WAN | 338 | Alexandria | 06:25 | ABY | 123 | Sharjah | 19:20 | RBG | 550 | Alexandria | 07:30 | QTR | 1081 | Doha | 19:20 |
| KAC | 284 | Dhaka | 06:25 | KAC | 156 | Istanbul | 19:25 | KAC | 413 | Bangkok | 07:40 | WAN | | | |
| | | | | | | | | JZR | 238 | Amman | 07:50 | | 135 | Doha | 19:25 |
| KAC | 204 | Lahore | 06:30 | NIA | 0161 | Cairo | 19:30 | | | | | MSR | 621 | Cairo | 19:30 |
| KAC | 678 | Dubai | 06:45 | KAC | 776 | Riyadh | 19:35 | KAC | 171 | Frankfurt | 07:55 | GFA | 218 | Bahrain | 19:50 |
| JZR | 603D | Mumbai | 06:45 | RBG | 555 | Alexandria | 19:40 | KAC | 501 | Beirut | 08:00 | FDB | 064 | Dubai | 19:50 |
| RBG | 559 | Alexandria | 06:50 | KAC | 674 | Dubai | 19:40 | BAW | 156 | London | 08:20 | RJA | 641 | Amman | 20:00 |
| KAC | 302 | Mumbai | 07:00 | FDB | 057 | Dubai | 19:50 | KAC | 165 | Rome | 08:25 | | | | |
| JZR | 605 | Ahmedabad | 07:05 | KAC | 178 | Vienna | 19:55 | KAC | 177 | Vienna | 08:30 | ABY | 124 | Sharjah | 20:00 |
| | | | | KAC | | Bahrain | 20:00 | | | | | RBG | 556 | Alexandria | 20:20 |
| WAN | 342 | Sohag | 07:20 | | 616 624 | | | RUN | 6376 | Dubai/Istanbul | 08:35 | NIA | 0162 | Cairo | 20:30 |
| JZR | 143 | Doha | 07:20 | DLH | 624 | Frankfurt | 20:05 | FDB | 054 | Dubai | 08:35 | FDB | 058 | Dubai | 20:30 |
| JZR | 529 | Asyut | 07:30 | OMA | 647 | Muscat | 20:05 | KAC | 613 | Bahrain | 09:00 | | | | |
| KAC | 122 | AĞP | 07:35 | MEA | 402 | Beirut | 20:15 | KAC | 787 | Jeddah | 09:05 | JZR | 602 | Mumbai | 20:30 |
| KAC | 358 | Kochi | 07:35 | JZR | 563 | Sohag | 20:15 | KAC | 117 | New York | 09:05 | UAE | 876 | Dubai | 20:35 |
| FDB | 053 | Dubai | 07:50 | KAC | 62 | Doha | 20:15 | | | | | KAC | 153 | Istanbul | 20:45 |
| KAC | 384 | Delhi | 08:05 | KAC | 166 | Rome | 20:25 | KAC | 671 | Dubai | 09:15 | DLH | 624 | Dammam | 20:50 |
| | | | | QTR | 1088 | Doha | 20:40 | KAC | 561 | Amman | 09:40 | KAC | 357 | Kochi | 21:00 |
| UAE | 855 | Dubai | 08:25 | KAC | 172 | Frankfurt | 20:45 | ABY | 126 | Sharjah | 09:40 | | | | |
| ETD | 301 | Abu Dhabi | 08:55 | KLM | | | | KAC | 741 | Dammam | 09:45 | OMA | 648 | Muscat | 21:05 |
| ABY | 125 | Sharjah | 09:00 | | 445 | Amsterdam | 21:00 | JZR | 534 | Cairo | 09:45 | MEA | 403 | Beirut | 21:15 |
| QTR | 1070 | Doha | 09:30 | JZR | 553 | Alexandria | 21:05 | | | | | KAC | 301 | Mumbai | 21:35 |
| IRA | 675 | Lar | 09:40 | UAE | 859 | Dubai | 21:15 | UAE | 856 | Dubai | 09:50 | QTR | 1089 | Doha | 21:50 |
| FDB | 055 | Dubai | 09:40 | ALK | 229 | Colombo | 21:15 | JZR | 482 | Istanbul | 09:55 | DHX | 171 | Bahrain | 21:50 |
| | | | | ETD | 307 | Abu Dhabi | 21:15 | KAC | 515 | Tehran | 10:00 | | | | |
| WAN | 312 | Asyut | 09:45 | KAC | 168 | Paris | 21:20 | KAC | 541 | Cairo | 10:00 | KAC | 205 | Islamabad | 21:55 |
| SYR | 341 | Damascus | 10:00 | THY | 764 | Istanbul | 21:30 | KAC | | | | ETD | 308 | Abu Dhabi | 22:05 |
| SVA | 512 | Riyadh | 10:00 | GFA | 219 | Bahrain | | | 101 | London | 10:00 | KLM | 445 | Bahrain | 22:10 |
| SAW | 703 | Damascus | 10:30 | | | | 21:50 | ETD | 302 | Abu Dhabi | 10:00 | JZR | 1540 | Cairo | 22:10 |
| GFA | 213 | Bahrain | 10:40 | KAC | 564 | Amman | 21:50 | KAC | 617 | Doha | 10:20 | | | | |
| | 531 | | | AZG | 565 | Baku | 22:00 | KAC | 155 | Istanbul | 10:25 | KAC | 543 | Cairo | 22:15 |
| JZR | | Asyut | 10:40 | ICV | 675 | Luxembourg | 22:05 | QTR | 1071 | Doha | 10:40 | ALK | 230 | Colombo | 22:20 |
| MEA | 404 | Beirut | 10:55 | QTR | 1082 | Doha | 22:05 | | | | | KAC | 383 | Delhi | 22:25 |
| QTR | 1074 | Doha | 11:00 | WAN | 884 | Sarajevo | 22:05 | FDB | 056 | Dubai | 10:40 | THY | 1403 | AYT | 22:25 |
| JZR | 541 | Cairo | 11:05 | ETD | 309 | Abu Dhabi | 22:10 | IRA | 674 | Lar | 10:40 | | | | |
| WAN | 134 | Doha | 11:10 | KAC | | | | SVA | 513 | Riyadh | 11:00 | UAE | 860 | Dubai | 22:35 |
| JZR | 165 | Dubai | 11:45 | | 786 087 | Jeddah | 22:15 | SYR | 342 | Latakia | 11:00 | KAC | 783 | Jeddah | 22:50 |
| KAC | | | | AIC | 987 | Chennai/Hyderabad | 22:25 | SAW | 704 | Damascus | 11:30 | GFA | 220 | Bahrain | 22:50 |
| | 614 | Bahrain | 12:20 | BBC | 043 | Dhaka | 22:30 | | | | | KAC | 795 | Madinah | 23:00 |
| MSC | 411 | Asyut | 12:30 | PIA | 239 | Sialkot | 22:35 | GFA | 214 | Bahrain | 11:35 | ETD | 310 | Abu Dhabi | 23:00 |
| UAE | 871 | Dubai | 12:45 | JZR | 185 | Dubai | 22:50 | MEA | 405 | Beirut | 11:55 | | | | |
| THY | 766 | Istanbul | 12:45 | JAI | 574 | Mumbai | 23:00 | JZR | 776 | Jeddah | 12:05 | KAC | 411 | Bangkok | 23:15 |
| KAC | 742 | Dammam | 12:50 | WAN | 136 | Doha | 23:10 | QTR | 1075 | Doha | 12:10 | QTR | 1083 | Doha | 23:20 |
| JZR | 239 | Amman | 13:00 | MSR | 2614 | Cairo | 23:30 | JZR | 176 | Dubai | 13:10 | PIA | 240 | Sialkot | 23:35 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | WAN | 337 | Alexandria | 23:40 |
| MSR | 610 | Cairo | 13:00 | FDB | 071 | Dubai | 23:35 | MSC | 412 | Asyut | 13:30 | | | | |
| JZR | 1543 | Cairo | 13:05 | JZR | 241 | Amman | 23:40 | THY | 767 | Istanbul | 13:40 | JZR | 560 | Sohag | 23:45 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

News Tuesday, July 31, 2018



Palestinian teen says no regrets after release

NABI SALEH: Palestinian teenager Ahed Tamimi said yesterday she was deeply changed by her eight-month sentence in an Israeli jail for slapping two soldiers, but does not regret any of her actions. Tamimi, who was 16 when she was arrested in December for hitting and kicking soldiers in front of her house in the occupied West Bank, was released Sunday and swarmed by media from across the globe.

In an interview the day after her release, the now 17year-old told AFP that she understood she had become a "symbol" of the Palestinian cause. "Of course my life has been changed a lot. I changed a lot in prison," said Tamimi. "I became more focused, more aware also. Prison ages a person. In one day you age 100 years," she said in the backyard of her home in the West Bank village of Nabi Saleh.

Asked if she would have done the same thing if she had known it would land her behind bars for months, she said yes. She pointed to the circumstances in which the soldiers had entered the garden of her house in December during a day of major protests that saw her cousin shot in the head with a rubber bullet. Her confronting of the Israeli soldiers was recorded and went viral online.

"I didn't do anything wrong that I should regret," she said. "If I had known I would be in jail eight months, of course I would have done it because it was a natural reaction to a soldier being in my house shooting at people, people from my village," she said. "Any person in this situation - I hit him, maybe there are people that would have killed him."

Israel's military said the two soldiers had been in the area to prevent Palestinians from throwing stones at Israeli motorists. The video of the altercation does not show the soldiers reacting to Tamimi's actions or using their weapons, and the teenager was arrested four days later. Tamimi said she hoped to study law to expose the issue of Israel's occupation to the rest of the world.

Israel has long said Tamimi and her siblings have been manipulated by her parents - longtime activists and used as pawns in staged provocations. When she was only 14, a picture of her biting a soldier's hand to prevent him from arresting a family member went viral. She denied claims that she had been exploited. "My family never exploited me once," she said. "I am mature enough and I know the cause. I know the consequences that will stem from choosing this path. I am not a child."

Tamimi and her mother Nariman were sentenced to eight months by an Israeli military court in a plea deal following the December incident. Israel has occupied the West Bank and east Jerusalem since seizing it in a 1967 war. Tamimi's village Nabi Saleh is close to a number of Israeli settlements.

'No ice cream'

Even though she's only 17, Tamimi's stint in jail has made her one of the best-known living Palestinians. Palestinians and their supporters see her as a hero standing up to the Israeli army unarmed. Many Israelis view her with contempt and some accuse her activist family of being supporters of "terrorism". Last week a 4-m mural of her was painted on Israel's separation wall that cuts off the West Bank. The Italian artists who painted it were arrested by Israel.

After her release on Sunday, throngs of media and supporters rushed to catch a glimpse of her and greet her. At times when speaking to AFP she sounded like a budding Palestinian politician, at others like the teenager she is. She said she still loves football and was crazy over the World Cup - watching the games when possible in



NABI SALEH: Palestinian activist and campaigner Ahed Tamimi listens during an interview with AFP in this West Bank village yesterday. — AFP

jail and supporting Brazil and Neymar in particular.

One of the first things she did after leaving prison was visit an ice cream parlor in central Ramallah, the West Bank city where the Palestinian government is based. "Of course there is no ice cream in prison ever. I love it a lot. When it was summer I would avoid food. I

would only eat ice cream for breakfast, lunch and dinner," she said. Asked if she had a message for Israelis who think of her as a "terrorist", she said she would ask them to "put themselves in my place, just that, nothing more". "Go back to their humanity a little so they can understand the reality." — AFP

bail. The dog, a Bernese mountain breed, remains with

them. The tourists were also ordered to be present at a

separate customs investigation. "We will question them

on Tuesday and appropriate action will be taken there-

after," customs department spokesman Vipula

India strips 4 million of...

Continued from Page 1

Campaign group Avaaz said it "bears stark parallels with Myanmar's removal of Rohingya rights and protections". "The international community is fighting to stop a process that is alarmingly on track to potentially render millions of people stateless, and vulnerable to indefinite detention, violence or worse," said Ricken Patel, Avaaz executive director.

Hundreds of thousands of people fled to India from Bangladesh during its war of independence from Pakistan in the early 1970s. Most of them settled in Assam. The tearich state of 33 million people has been racked by waves of violence for decades as residents, including indigenous tribes, have clashed with both Hindu and Muslim settlers, whom they accuse of plundering resources and taking away jobs. About 2,000 suspected migrants were butchered in a single day in Nellie in 1983. Nearly all were

Muslim, and many were children. The government said the draft was not meant to drive people out and those not on the list would be able to reapply in a process overseen by India's Supreme Court. "There is no question of any coercive action against anyone," said Home Minister Rajnath Singh. But Asmita Basu, programs director at Amnesty International India, said the government had failed to make clear what would happen to those rendered stateless. She urged it to extend the time for appeals beyond the deadline of Sept 28, provide legal aid, and ensure families were not torn apart in the process. "India does not even have an agreement with other countries, particularly Bangladesh, on deportation," she said. "It is crucial that the government make public their plan for dealing with those at risk of being rendered stateless and ensure that their rights are not violated."

The Assam government has brought in 25,000 extra security force members from outside the state in case of trouble. News of the draft register sparked opposition protests in the national parliament, forcing the adjournment of upper-chamber hearings for the day. Just over four million of the more than 30 million people who applied to be on the list were excluded from the draft, said Shailesh, the registrar general of India, who uses one name. "No genuine Indian citizens need to worry as there will be ample opportunities given to them to enlist their names in the final list," he told a news conference in Assam's biggest

He said appeals could be made under "well-laid-down procedures" starting Aug 30. The definitive list is to be finalized in December. "We are going to provide assistance to anyone whose names are not included in the document and whoever wishes to file a claim and objection in this regard," Shailesh added. BJP won control of Assam in 2016 after promising to expel illegal immigrants from mainly Muslim Bangladesh and protect the rights of indigenous groups. Assam, where one third of the population is Muslim, is the only Indian state to compile a reg-

ister of citizens. "I am feeling good after seeing the name of mine and other four members of my family in the draft list," Abdul Gani, a journalist based in Guwahati, told AFP. "We were a little worried as the first draft did not include our names. However, we had belief in the system." Satyendra Garg, a home ministry official who was at the Guwahati press conference, said there "was no question of sending anyone to detention camps based on the draft list". The Assam controversy comes as the government looks at amending the citizenship law to allow certain "persecuted minorities", including Hindus and Christians from neighboring countries, to obtain legal status after six years of residency in India. Other groups must wait 11 years to become naturalized citizens. — Âgencies

Kuwaitis banned from leaving Sri...

Continued from Page 1

They assaulted five customs officers who tried to stop them fleeing the airport with the animal, police said. The couple has been released on a 400,000-rupee (\$2,500)

Iraqis fight to save cattle from...

Continued from Page 1

The lack of water is painful in an area that once formed part of the so-called "fertile crescent".

Dubbed the "country of two rivers" due to the presence of the mighty Tigris and Euphrates, Iraq has seen its water supplies shrinking for years. This year rainfall has been particularly scarce and reservoirs currently stand at only 10 percent full. Beyond the natural causes there is also a human factor worsening the problem the sharing of water resources on a regional level. Neighbors Iran and Turkey have in effect rerouted several rivers and tributaries that used to help irrigate Iraq.

The recent launch of Turkey's Ilisu dam on the Tigris has provided another blow for Iraqi agriculture and in Iune the authorities were forced to make a tough call. The agriculture ministry suspended the growing of rice, corn and other cereals that consume a lot of water. To help keep livestock watered, trucks are making the

Minuwanpitiya told AFP. Bringing pets into the island without quarantine clearance can lead to the forfeiture of the animal as well as a fine of up to 100,000 rupees (\$625). Airport police said they had never recorded such a case over a pet dog. — AFP

rounds in southern Iraq, offering to fill up the plastic tanks around cattle sheds for \$20.

But as farmers see the costs soar, the price that their cattle fetch is collapsing. Animals that once could have gone for up to \$5,000 a head are now selling for as little as \$1,500, meaning that cashing in on a buffalo can only cover the herd for two months. To try to make ends meet many farmers have had to resort to taking out loans at banks and going into debt. Unable to pay off their bills, a group of farmers recently took to the streets in southern Iraq asking for delays in their payments. "Never in its history has Iraq known such a catastrophe," said Ahmed Al-Issawi, head of the agricultural cooperative in Najaf. "Our animals are forced to drink water where even mosquitos can't survive."

The drought has seen other problems increase disease, worms and epidemics. Animals "contaminate each other very quickly and die", Issawi says. The Mesopotamian Marshes, one of the biggest wetlands in the region, have long been seen as one of the jewels of southern Iraq. But now they no longer help guarantee an income for those who live there, meaning people have already started to move away - and more look set to follow. "There will be an exodus," Issawi warned. — AFP

Sports

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Newcomb just misses no-hitter as Braves cruise to a 4-1 victory

Diamondbacks go 3 deep to beat Padres, finish sweep

LOS ANGELES: Atlanta left-hander Sean Newcomb debut for New York to earn a win over visiting Kansas came within one out of a no-hitter, and the Braves posted a 4-1 win over the visiting Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday. After taking a close 1-2 pitch for a ball, Los Angeles' Chris Taylor ended the no-hit bid with a clean single to left field with two outs in the ninth inning. Newcomb, who threw 134 pitches, was immediately replaced by Dan Winkler. The reliever allowed Taylor to take second on indifference and permitted an RBI single to Manny Machado to end the shutout. Newcomb (10-5) struck out eight and issued one walk, to Yasiel Puig to start the sixth inning. There were no other close calls, although center fielder Ender Inciarte made a nice running catch on a fly ball by Enrique Hernandez.

Rangers 4, Astros 3

Ronald Guzman recorded the last of three sixthinning doubles, and Texas rode a strong pitching performance from Mike Minor to a victory and a threegame series sweep at Houston. The Astros dropped their fourth consecutive game and endured their first series sweep on the season. Houston claimed the season series from Texas 12-7 but entered the weekend having won eight consecutive games against the Rangers. Minor (7-6) recorded eight strikeouts, one shy of his season high, over six innings, issuing just one walk, which was intentional, while allowing two runs and four hits.

Rockies 3, A's 2

Tom Murphy homered, German Marquez pitched into the eighth inning, and Colorado beat Oakland to sweep the three-game series in Denver. Ryan McMahon, Trevor Story and Charlie Blackmon each had two hits for Colorado, and Wade Davis pitched the ninth for his 30th save. The Rockies have won four straight and 11 of their past 13. Matt Chapman and Khris Davis homered for Oakland, which came into the weekend on a six-game winning streak but couldn't solve Colorado's pitching.

Diamondbacks 5, Padres 4

Arizona scored all of its runs on homers by Paul Goldschmidt, AJ Pollock and Nick Ahmed off Padres rookie starter Joey Lucchesi, then held on to complete a three-game sweep in San Diego. Clay Buchholz (4-1) limited the Padres to three runs over 5 2/3 innings. Brad Boxberger pitched a scoreless ninth to pick up his 25th save. Ahmed finished with three hits for the Diamondbacks. The Padres lost their fifth straight and are 2-12 over their past 14 games.

Red Sox 3, Twins 0

Nathan Eovaldi pitched seven shutout innings in his Boston debut, and JD Martinez had two hits and drove in three runs in a win over visiting Minnesota. It was the third straight victory for Boston (74-33), which moved 41 games over .500 for first time since Sept 27, 1946. The Red Sox also improved to 37-14 at Fenway Park, where they have won 13 of their last 15 games. Eovaldi (4-4), acquired in a trade with Tampa Bay on Wednesday, allowed just four hits and didn't walk a batter while striking out five. It marked the eighth time in 11 games that the Boston starting pitcher didn't allow a run.

Yankees 6, Royals 3

JA Happ pitched six outstanding innings in his

City. Happ (11-6) allowed one run on three hits after getting traded in the days leading up to the non-waiver deadline for the fourth time in his career. The veteran left-hander also won for the first time since June 25 after going 0-3 in his last four starts for the Toronto Blue Jays. Aaron Hicks hit a two-run homer, fell a triple shy of the cycle and reached base four times for the Yankees. Salvador Perez, Hunter Dozier and Rosell Herrera homered for the Royals.

Orioles 11, Rays 5

Chris Davis hit two of Baltimore's four home runs and drove in four as the host Orioles defeated Tampa Bay. The Orioles won the last three games in the fourgame series thanks to their long-dormant offense, which scored a total of 37 runs in the three contests, registering at least 11 runs each day. Davis hit a pair of two-run shots. Jonathan Schoop homered for the sixth time in seven games, a three-run blast. Austin Wynns added a solo homer and three runs. The Rays got two homers from CJ Cron and one from Jake Bauers.

Cubs 5, Cardinals 2

Kyle Hendricks pitched seven strong innings as Chicago won at St Louis. Ben Zobrist and Anthony Rizzo hit home runs for the Cubs, who avoided a three-game sweep. Hendricks (7-9) allowed two runs on four hits. He didn't walk a batter and matched a season high with eight strikeouts. It was only the second time in six July starts that he went more than five innings. Carl Edwards Jr. pitched a scoreless eighth for the Cubs, and Pedro Strop worked a 1-2-3 ninth for his fifth save of the season.

Indians 8, Tigers 1

Corey Kluber bounced back from two subpar outings, Cleveland batters backed him with three homers, and the visiting Indians cruised past Detroit. Kluber (13-6) gave up one run on five hits and a walk in 7 1/3 innings while striking out five. The Indians ace surrendered nine earned runs and three homers while losing his previous two starts. Yonder Alonso had three hits, including a homer, and drove in three runs. Edwin Encarnacion contributed a solo shot among two hits and drove in two runs, and Melky Cabrera supplied three hits, including his first long ball of the season.

Marlins 5, Nationals 0

Jose Urena snapped an eight-game home losing streak and added an RBI single as Miami defeated Washington. Urena (3-10) won his first game at Marlins Park since beating the New York Mets on Sept. 20, 2017. He held the Nationals scoreless for six innings, giving up one hit and four walks while striking out five. He combined with Adam Conley, Brad Ziegler and Drew Steckenrider on a two-hitter. Martin Prado smacked a pair of RBI hits to help the Marlins split the four-game series.

Reds 4, Phillies 0

Luis Castillo pitched seven shutout innings, Scooter Gennett belted a two-run home run, and Cincinnati earned a series victory over visiting Philadelphia. Castillo (6-8) teamed with David Hernandez, Wandy Peralta and Raisel Iglesias on the Reds' third shutout of the season. Cincinnati earned three straight wins



after the first-place Phillies had won the opener of the four-game series. Gennett hit his 17th homer, and a two-run shot to cap a three-run third inning. Iglesias was credited with his 21st save.

Mets 1, Pirates 0

Zack Wheeler pitched six shutout innings and hit a two-out RBI double, leading New York to a win at Pittsburgh. Seth Lugo allowed one hit in two innings, and Anthony Swarzak pitched a perfect ninth for his third save to complete the six-hit shutout. Austin Jackson was 2-for-3 with a walk for the Mets, who ended a two-game losing streak and earned a split in the four-game series. Gregory Polanco was 3-for-4 with two stolen bases for the Pirates.

Blue Jays 7. White Sox 4

Teoscar Hernandez hit the game-tying homer, and Brandon Drury had the go-ahead two-run double as Toronto scored five runs in the ninth inning to win at Chicago. Jace Fry (0-2) allowed Hernandez's 16th homer to lead off the ninth, tying the game at 3. Kendrys Morales was hit by a pitch and took third on a double by Aledmys Diaz, who hit a solo homer earlier in the game. Jeanmar Gomez replaced Fry and allowed the two-run double by Drury, who took third on a groundout. Luke Maile followed with an RBI double, and Lourdes Gurriel Jr. later added a run-scoring single. Gurriel was helped off the field

with a leg injury after being thrown at second base on the play to end the inning. Gurriel was 3-for-5 with two RBIs to record his club-record 11th straight multi-hit game.

Giants 8, Brewers 5

Buster Posey collected four hits, including a basesclearing double in a four-run third inning, sending San Francisco past visiting Milwaukee. Pablo Sandoval laced a two-run triple and Gorkys Hernandez homered for the Giants, who prevented a four-game sweep by the Brewers and ended a four-game losing streak in the process. Ryan Braun, Hernan Perez and Travis Shaw homered for the Brewers, who lost for just the second time in six games.

Mariners 8, Angels 5

Seattle erupted for seven runs in the first inning and held on for a win over Los Angeles at Anaheim, Calif., avoiding a three-game sweep. Angels starter Felix Pena got only one out and was charged with all seven runs in the opening frame. The Mariners finished with 14 hits in all, including three each from Dee Gordon, Ben Gamel and Denard Span. Mike Zunino chipped in with two hits and three RBIs. Seattle starter Marco Gonzales (12-5) gave up two runs on seven hits and two walks in six innings, striking out seven. The only runs he gave up came on a two-run homer by Justin Upton in the fifth inning.— Reuters

New multi-sport European event breaks new ground

GLASGOW: The first European Championships, a new multi-sport event, gets under way on Thursday with Glasgow hosting the combined event of various continental championships. The idea is a simple one-instead of European Championships for different sports being held at separate venues and with their own schedules, they will be clustered together in a host city creating a similar vibe to an Olympics.

While the European Athletics Championships will be held in Berlin, Glasgow will host Aquatics, Cycling, Gymnastics, Rowing and Triathlon along with a new European Golf Team Championships. The sports have combined forces in terms of broadcasting so that even though athletics will be in Germany, it will be part of a multi-sports package going out on television across the continent and globally through a deal with the European Broadcasting Union.

"Many of the broadcasters have pledged a 'major event' production like the commitment they have for the Olympic Games or World Cup," Svein Arne Hansen, president of the European Athletic Association told Reuters. "We are currently looking at over 3,300 hours of broadcast intentions for the championships overall, compared to a standalone European Athletics Championships that had about 1,500 hours of broadcast hours for Zurich 2014. "We need to make sure athletics remains on the main free-to-air TV channels and the idea of the European Championships, where the whole is greater than the sum of the parts, will make sure that is the case," he added.

Top swimmers

The Aquatics event should attract the top swimmers from across Europe ahead of next year's World Championships in South Korea and the 2020 Tokyo Games. "With the other six European Federations we are convinced that the upcoming 12 days will offer much more benefits for all stakeholders than if anyone had done its own event alone," said Gergely Csurka, spokesman for European swimming's governing body LEN.—Reuters

Lexus powers to victory in GT500 class race

KUWAIT: Lexus powered to an overwhelming victory in the GT500 class race in the fourth round of the 2018 AUTOBACS SUPER GTseries held recently at the Chang International Circuit in Thailand, taking the first four places in the race. The No. 39 Lexus LC 500 DENŜO KOBELCO SARD driven by Heikki Kovalainen and Kamui Kobayashi, claimed its first win of the season, which also gave Kobayashi his first-ever GT500 win. Commenting on this significant win, Yugo Miyamoto, Chief Representative, Middle East and North Africa Representative Office, Toyota Motor Corporation, said, "I would like to congratulate the teams on this outstanding result.

This triumph adds to our proven record in motor-sports and we remain dedicated to continuously building on the experience gained on the racetrack to not only engineer amazing vehicles, but also ignite our customers' emotions. We extend our gratitude for their support and enthusiasm, which remain a key inspiration in our drive to create amazing experiences." As the only event of the season that is held outside Japan, the race started with clear skies, and the weather remained fair throughout the day, creating hot conditions for the drivers.

The 66-lap race got off to a flying start with the No. 16 rival car beginning in pole position followed by another rival car, No 17, which was quickly passed by Heikki Kovalainen in the No 39 Lexus LC 500 DENSÕ KOBELCO SARD. On the 11th lap of the race, a collision created an opening for the No. 19 Lexus LC 500 WedsSport ADVAN driven by Kenta Yamashita. A battle for fourth place then developed between the No 6 Lexus LC 500 WAKO'S 4CR and two other cars, until the Lexus LC 500 was able to break away. The No. 24competitor car was later involved in a collision and forced to retire from the race.

The No 16 looked to be in an unassailable position, but the No 19 Lexus LC 500 WedsSport ADVAN passed to take the lead during lap 19. An eventful first half saw all of the cars change position before the pit stops with the exception of the leading No. 39Lexus





LC 500 DENSO KOBELCO SARD, which at one point had opened up a lead of nearly seven seconds. By the 36th lap, all of the cars had completed their routine pit stops. At this point, the order of the top three was the No 39 Lexus LC 500 DENSO KOBELĈO SARD in the lead, followed by the No 6 Lexus LC 500 WAKO'S 4CR and the No 19 Lexus LC 500 WedsSport ADVAN,

giving Lexus a clean sweep of the top places. The battle for the lead began to heat up as the race Drivers'Championship table.

progressed. Furthermore, the pace of the No 38 Lexus LC 500 ZENT CERUMO, driven by Yuji Tachikawa and Hiroaki Ishiura, which had started from 10th position on the grid, was amazingly fast as it accelerated to fourth place. For Kamui Kobayashi, his first-ever GT500 podium finish was also his first win in a SUPER GT race. Meanwhile, Heikki Kovalainen's third victorysaw him move up to the top of the

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Jimenez wins Senior Open, joins Seve as a winner at St Andrews

Johnson in control as storms halt Canadian Open

ST ANDREWS: 'The Mechanic' leaked oil in the finish at 12-under-par 276, while Langer shot 68 for home straight but Miguel Angel Jimenez held on to win the Senior British Open by one stroke from Bernhard Langer at St Andrews on Sunday. Jimenez sank a clutch 10-foot par putt at the famous parfour 17th road hole before securing victory with a tap-in par at the last, the same hole where his late Spanish countryman Seve Ballesteros clinched the 1984 British Open. "It's a place where everybody wants to win," said Jimenez. "It's a place where Seve won his second Open and it's amazing to win here and make history.

Jimenez, nicknamed 'The Mechanic', carded 69 to

second place. Playing ahead of Jimenez, the German could only par the last after misjudging his approach shot to leave himself with a 50-foot putt for the tie. Earlier, Jimenez broke clear and had a short putt at the par-five 14th to go four shots ahead. But he missed the chance and when he bogeyed the next the margin, thanks to a Langer birdie at the same hole, was down to one stroke, which is where it remained as both players parred the final three holes. A 21times winner on the European Tour, Jimenez, 54, finished equal second at the US Senior Open in June.

In another development, Dustin Johnson was

zeroing in on his third PGA Tour title of the season, are all chasing their first PGA Tour titles, picked up holding a three-shot lead over South Koreans Kim Whee and An Byeong-hun, when play was halted at a stormy Canadian Open on Sunday with the world number one on the ninth hole. The final round began with a logiam at the top of the leaderboard with Johnson, An, Kim and Kevin Tway all sitting on 17 under and holding a four-shot advantage over the chasing pack. With 18 PGA Tour wins and a pair of runner-up finishes at Glen Abbey, Johnson's experience provided the edge as he wasted no time breaking free of the pack by collecting birdies on the first two holes while the three co-leaders, who

early bogeys.

With his challengers off to a shaky start Johnson seized control, opening up a three-shot lead through four holes. The American's charge stalled as he struggled with his putter and he had to settle for five consecutive pars before rolling in a 12-footer at the parfour eighth for his third birdie of the day. Tway, whose father Bob Tway won the Canadian title in 2003, saw his chances of joining him as Canadian champion evaporate with a disastrous outward nine that featured three bogeys before he recorded his first birdie at the ninth to leave him five off the pace. —Agencies

No beach as Hamilton plans to turn heat up

BUDAPEST: Championship leader Lewis Hamilton has no intention of lazing on a beach as Formula One takes its annual European summer break following his resounding triumph in Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix. Instead, he plans to fine-tune his physical and mental fitness in readiness to turn up the heat in his closely-fought title duel with Sebastian Vettel

The defending champion, who opened up a 24-point lead over his fellow four-time titleholder by winning Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix for a record sixth time, said he wants to come back stronger and ready to apply more pressure. "The second half of the season is always intense, but it is usually when it gets a bit better on our side," he said, referring to his Mercedes team, in the aftermath of their polished triumph at the Hungaroring. "So we will go away and prepare and make sure we come back stronger."

Hamilton's victory was a near-perfect send-off for him and Mercedes as the F1 circus set off for a four-week closedown that will end when the teams return to action in Belgium at the end of August. After his epic success in the rain in Germany, where he won from 14th on the grid, his Hungarian victory was another blow to Vettel, and Ferrari, after two race weekends they may prefer to forget. Despite superior speed in practice, in dry conditions, they were unable to claim the result they craved in a dark week that followed the death of the team's former chairman Sergio Marchionne.

But Hamilton refused to be drawn into title talk and warned that, with nine races remaining, more epic contests lay ahead. "Absolutely not," he said, dismissing the idea that he was closing in on a fifth title. "It is far too early. You have seen the ups and downs we have had - we've been ahead, then behind, then ahead. I don't believe there is ever a moment you have got your hands on the trophy..." Hamilton was also full of praise for Mercedes' teamwork on and off the circuit. "You see the teamwork me and Valtteri had, it worked pretty well," he said, pointing to the start and opening lap when they fended off a concerted Ferrari attack.

Selfless Bottas

"Valtteri and I started first and second, so we talked before the race," he explained. "Naturally, both of us want to get into the lead. So we get a good start, but it's also really important that we try to maintain position. "For instance, if I block him or corner him in, it gives the opportunity to the guys behind to pass him, so I tried not to make it too difficult for him in that respect.'

Hamilton also praised Bottas for his selfless driving during the race, when he had to cover the threat of Kimi Raikkonen in the second Ferrari, whose early pit-stop, forced Mercedes to follow suit. "He had to cover Kimi and that was unfortunate because that's a long, long way to go on the soft tyres..." For the luckless Bottas, it meant his final laps were reduced to a slithering defense of his position, two collisions, a late pit-stop and fifth place after which he not only received a 10seconds penalty, for colliding with Daniel Ricciardo's Red Bull, but was piqued by Mercedes team chief Toto Wolff praising his work as a "wingman".

Wolff later explained that his comments had been misconstrued. One of Bottas's collisions was with Vettel, who after crashing out of the lead in Germany, finished second in a damagelimitation drive. Like Hamilton, he maintained the title race is still wide open. "We know that consistency is the key, scoring points, and I did myself no favors last week," said Vettel. "But that is part of racing. Stuff happens." "Last year, we lost the championship because our car was not quick enough in the final part of the season, but this year it is more efficient and it is stronger and still has a lot of potential. "So, I am confident that we can improve and it should be a very exciting second half to the season."—AFP





Burgan Bank influences a positive social change

KUWAIT: Committed towards progress in the Kuwaiti community, Burgan Bank continues to foster positive youth development through its numerous contributions to sports initiatives. Sponsoring for the fourth consecutive year, the bank has been an avid supporter of the World Champion in Wheelchair Fencing Titleholder "Tareq Al-Qallaf" as his consistent winning performance in international tournaments serves as a core example of how challenges can be overcome.

Currently, Tareq is preparing to join the Colorado Springs at the US Olympic Training Centre along with a vide range of global players and renowned stars from the special needs category in August 2018. Followed by ten-day intensive trainings which involves strong power and determination to compete at the "Milwaukee Open" Championship, which will last for three days in October 2018 where he will represent Kuwait. Burgan Bank will continue to annually contribute to the talented national hero's successful journey as he brings pride to his country and raises the Kuwaiti flag high.

Burgan Bank has long been a patron of sports initiatives that influence positive change and raises awareness in the community about the benefits of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Burgan Bank ensures its full-fledged support of maintaining interest as well as providing new opportunities to fulfill the drive of ambitious young Kuwaitis. The bank believes that sports is a universal platform that has the power to unite and influence young minds from diverse cultures and economic backgrounds while helping them build their self-esteem and mutual respect for one another.

Sports represent a healthy outlet that demonstrates skill, improves physical wellbeing, and enables a happier co-existence through social interaction and teamwork. Burgan Bank views sports as a powerful means to community advancement and has sponsored a large number of other nationwide activities in partnership with local charities and non-profit including 'SPARK marathon.' 'SPARK marathon' is the largest charity race event in Kuwait; the first-of-its kind 'KBA Night Run' 5KM night run by the Kuwait Banking Association, "Walk-a-thon" to spread awareness on Autism in Kuwait by Autism Partnership - Kuwait: "Human marathon"- a voluntary youth project to integrate special needs with other individuals in the society; "9th Kuwait Open Tennis championship", "Kuwait National Arabian Horse Festival", the "Horse Racing Championship" organized by the Hunting and Equestrian Club of Kuwait, followed by the successful two - day Burgan Bank "Tri-festival".

Burgan Bank will continue to participate in several sporting and social events in the future to help advance health awareness among all segments of society in Kuwait. Falling in line with its community program, 'ENGAGE' - Together to be the change, Burgan Bank sheds light on important aspects affecting every segment of the society by promoting social welfare through educational, cultural, social and health initiatives. Burgan Bank's approach to 'ENGAGE' begins with a vital principle that as a Kuwaiti financial institution, its conduct and policies should be aligned with the needs and interests of the Kuwaiti society.

Lin Dan, 'nervous' **Axelsen ruthless** in worlds openers

NANJING: Chinese superstar Lin Dan and "nervous" number one Viktor Axelsen both made ominously fast starts at the badminton World Championships yesterday. The 34-year-old Lin is seeking a sixth world title and in front of an adoring crowd in Nanjing he made light work of Dutchman Mark Caljouw, winning 21-14, 21-14 in 49 minutes.

"Super Dan" nonchalantly ended one long rally with a deft flick, the shuttlecock dipping just over the net to

bring the arena to its feet in appreciation. Axelsen, the top seed and reigning champion from Denmark, was even more emphatic, needing just 26 minutes to thrash Duarte Nuno Anjo of Portugal 21-8, 21-7 in a mismatch. Also safely through on the first day of action was China's third seed Shi Yuqi, a comfortable 21-13, 21-11 winner over Adam Mendrek of the Czech Republic.

The 24-year-old Axelsen, who has endured an injuryaffected season, admitted afterwards to a bout of nerves - though it hardly showed. "I don't want to think too much (about my title defense), it is important for me," Axelsen was quoted by the Xinhua news agency as saying. "I need to be relaxed and see how far I can go. "I was a little nervous today, but I feel good about the arena, it's very big and easy for me to have a good control of the shuttle." Chen Long, the current Olympic champion and another realistic home hope, also eased through, 21-13, 21-15 against Taiwan's Hsu Ĵen-hao.— AFP



NANJING: Viktor Axelsen of Denmark hits a shot against Duarte Nuno Anjo of Portugal in their men's singles match during the badminton World Championships in Nanjing yesterday.— AFP

Ball-tampering a 'cry for help' in unbalanced sport

MUMBAI: South African paceman Dale Steyn believes this year's Australian ball-tampering scandal could be viewed as a "cry for help" because the balance between bat and ball in cricket has become so skewed in favor of the batsmen. Steyn, one of the most prolific wicket-takers of his generation, did not condone the actions of the Cape Town trio but said the incident exposed the need for cricket to change to prevent the loss of the art of reverse swing bowling.

"It's obviously not on, but if you think about it, it's almost like a cry for help. We need to do something," Steyn told Reuters in an interview. "There's so much in favor of batsmen these days. Fields are small, two new balls, powerplays, bats have got bigger than they used to be, the list can go on. "You bowl a 'no ball' and it's a free hit. But I have never seen a rule change that favors the bowler."

Steyn, who is tied on 421 wickets with Shaun Pollock as South Africa's highest wicket-taker in tests, felt the desperation to get the ball to swing was forcing cricketers to flirt with regulations. Typically, swing bowlers use the new ball to deviate it in the air to outwit batsmen but Pakistan fast bowlers stunned the world in the 1980s by introducing reverse swing to test cricket. The skill of making an old and battered ball move in the air in the opposite direction to conventional swing was developed into an art form in the following decade by their successors Wasim Akram and Wagar Younis.

In March, with South Africa already leading by more than 100 in the second innings for the loss of a single wicket on the third day of the third test, a trio of Australians hatched a plan to tamper with the ball to get that reverse swing.—Reuters

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Sports

Double world champion Kalisz wins 200m individual medley

US swimming championships close

IRVINE: Double world champion Chase Kalisz won the men's 200m individual medley in a blistering 1min 55.73sec on Sunday to cap the US swimming championships with a second IM title. Kalisz put himself atop the world rankings for 2018 heading into the Pan Pacific Championships starting in Tokyo on August 9. "That one was definitely my best race of the meet," said Kalisz, who was disappointed with his winning time in the 400m IM two days earlier. "I honestly didn't think I was going to go 1:55." Abrahm DeVine was second in 1:57.41 while Gunnar Bentz and Andrew Seliskar tied for third in 1:58.23.

Kalisz, the 2016 Olympic silver medalist in the 400m IM, swept the medleys at the World Championships in Budapest last year. He said he was looking forward to the Pan Pacs, where his 200m competition could include Japan's Kosuke Hagino and Daiya Seto and China's Wang Shun. The Pan Pacs are the biggest international meet for US swimmers this year, and also another qualifier for next year's World Championships in South Korea. Olympic 100m free gold medalist Simone Manuel completed a freestyle sprint sweep with a victory in the 50m in 24.10sec, breaking the US Open record wet by Australia's Cate Campbell in 2008. "I'm happy with that," said Manuel, who led all the way.

Abbey Weitzeil was second in 24.63 and Margo Geer third in 24.79. Michael Andrew, 19, sprinted to his fourth title of the week in the men's 50m free, besting a field stacked with world and Olympic champions with a time of 21.49sec. Caeleb Dressel, who won the 50m free at Budapest as part of a seven-gold World

Championships haul, was second in 21.67 and Nathan Adrian, the 2012 Olympics 100m free gold medalist, was third in 21.85. "Last one, fast one," Andrew, a former age group phenomenon who turned pro at 14, said after a meet that saw him qualify for his first senior international championships.

He had already won the 50m butterfly and breast-stroke and the 100m breaststroke. "Being on the team, there was no pressure," he said of the 50 free. I could race completely free. I wanted to see what I was capable of." Kathleen Baker, still riding high on the excitement of breaking the 100m backstroke world record on Thursday, went out hard and held on to win the 200m individual medley in a world-leading time of 2min 08.32. It was a US Open record for the 21-year-old, who sliced three seconds off her previous best in an event that has taken a back seat to backstroke in her international competition.

"I only slept like four and a half hours last night because I was so excited," Baker said. "When you're having such a great meet it really just carries into your other races and gives you a lot of confidence." Melanie Margalis was a distant second in 2:09.43 and Ella Eastin was third in 2:10.84. With world record-holder Katie Ledecky taking the night off, Ashley Twichell won the women's 1,500m freestyle in 15:55.68. Ally McHugh was second in 16:02.56 and Erica Sullivan third in 16:02.88. Zane Grothe won the men's 800m free in a US Open record of 7:44.57 — the first time he's swum under 7:50 in the event. Jordan Wilimovsky was second in 7:47.51 and Robert Finke third in 7:51.45.— AFP



CALIFORNIA: Chase Kalisz swims in the Men 200 LC Meter IM Prelims during day 5 of the Phillips 66 National Swimming Championships at the Woollett Aquatics Center on July 29, 2018 in Irvine. —AFP

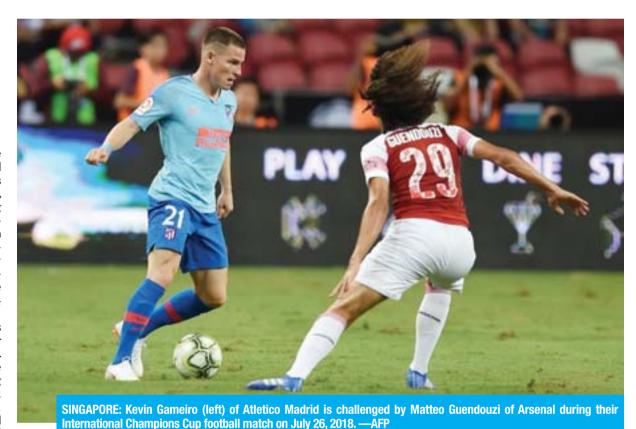
Hair to the throne? Arsenal's Guendouzi compared to Vieira

SINGAPORE: French whizz Matteo Guendouzi said he hopes he's embarking on a "big adventure" with Arsenal after a scintillating start which has drawn comparisons with the great Patrick Vieira. The 19-year-old midfielder, instantly recognizable by his long hair, had fans salivating in friendlies against Atletico Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain in Singapore. Guendouzi, a strong tackler with confident distribution, was a dynamo at the base of midfield, where against PSG he played alongside the similarly hirsute Mohamed Elneny. Arsenal have long missed a midfielder of the stature of Vieira, a member of the "Invincibles" side, which went through the 2003/2004 Premier League season unbeaten.

With only three appearances so far-also including this month's outing against Boreham Wood-it's early days for Guendouzi, an under-20 international signed from Lorient. But he said there was a positive feeling at Arsenal as the London club opens a new era under Unai Emery, following Arsene Wenger's 22-year reign. "I'm very happy about how the team played," he told AFP, after Arsenal's 5-1 demolition of a youthful PSG side at the International Champions Cup in Singapore. "It gives us confidence and it really made things easy for me. With such a good team and a good feeling around the team, I think we can really do some good things here."

'Working, working, working'

Arsenal is traditionally one of England's biggest clubs but Guendouzi's arrival is well timed as Emery rebuilds a team which finished only sixth in the Premier League last season. However, Emery has plenty of midfielders to choose from including Uruguay international Lucas Torreira, another new signing, and Switzerland's Granit Xhaka. Guendouzi said he hopes to get his chance in com-



petitive games but that he also wants to learn from teammates such as Henrikh Mkhitaryan, Mesut Ozil and Aaron Ramsey. "Yes I hope to play, that's true but this is a big squad, with a lot of great players with a lot of experience,"

Ramsey. "Yes I hope to play, that's true but this is a big squad, with a lot of great players with a lot of experience," he said. "It's a question of working, working, working, and afterwards the coach will make his choices. But I hope to play a few games." Arsenal complete their pre-season against Chelsea and Lazio before a tough start to the season when they play champions Manchester City and Chelsea in their first two games.

But they have the advantage of working with a nearly

full-strength squad as many of their rivals await the return of players after the World Cup. Emery has been drilling his players hard and his tactical changes have already been in evidence with a high-pressing, possession game with plenty of attacking threat. "It's a great atmosphere. It's a great environment to work in, we're working really well in training and we're playing well in the matches," Guendouzi said. "But it's only the start," he added. "Hopefully this will be a big adventure with Arsenal. "These are only friendly matches so I need to keep working-that's the most important thing for the future I hope to have at Arsenal."— AFP

Briefs

Iraq's age cheating

BAGHDAD: Despite having shaved to look younger, Baghdad airport officials knew there was something fishy about Iraq's under-16 football squad heading for a regional tournament in the Jordanian capital. Several of the 23 players for the West Asia Football Federation (WAFF) tournament starting tomorrow were found to be overage, said the Iraq Football Association (IFA), which immediately sacked the squad officials. Officials at the airport confiscated nine passports after suspicions were raised over the dates of birth, an Iraqi football source told AFP, on condition of anonymity. He said the players had shaved as instructed by team officials to look younger.—AFP

Skofterud dies

OSLO: Norwegian cross-country skier Vibeke Skofterud, an Olympic gold medalist and double world champion in relay, has died in a jet-ski accident at 38, Norwegian authorities said. Skofterud was reported missing on Saturday. Her body was found on Sunday morning on a small island near the town of Arendal. "All the indications are that it was a jet-ski accident," Sveinung Alsaker of the local police said in a press release. Skofterud won gold in the 4 x 5km relay at the Vancouver Winter Games in 2010. She was also part of the team that won the same event at the 2005 and 2011 World Championships. She retired from skiing in January 2014. — AFP

Ex-United star joins Adana

ISTANBUL: Brazilian midfielder Anderson, who spent almost a decade at Manchester United, has joined Turkish First League side Adana Demirspor on a three-year deal, the club announced yesterday. Anderson, who notched up 181 appearances for United between 2007-2015, was welcomed at the club in the south of Turkey by its chairman Murat Sancak, it said in a statement. The First League is the second flight of Turkish football after the Super League and Adana Demirspor will be hoping Anderson helps the club to win promotion after 12th place last season. The player, 30, won four Premier League titles and also the Champions League in 2007-2008 with Manchester United.— AFP

Sin-bins mandatory

LONDON: English soccer will continue its trials of temporary dismissals across 31 grassroots leagues in the new season before making 'sin-bins' mandatory for all leagues at Step Seven and below from 2019-20, the Football Association (FA) said yesterday. Sin-bins were introduced in select divisions in England's Step Seventhe lowest tier of the National League system-and lower leagues last year, with the focus on countering dissent. Players shown a yellow card for dissent have to leave the field for 10 minutes. The trial was introduced after the International Football Association Board, the sport's law-making body, approved the use of sin-bins at lower levels of domestic soccer worldwide in March last year. — Reuters

Bottas and Wolff reconcile

BUDAPEST: Valtteri Bottas and his Mercedes team chief Toto Wolff have reconciled the misunderstanding of their comments about his work as a "sensational wingman" following Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix. The Finn tweeted that he had not called for a meeting with the team and fully understood Wolff's remarks while the team boss said the selfless Bottas had delivered his best race for the team. "Some out of context news around ..." he tweeted. "I have not called a meeting with the bosses for Toto saying I was the perfect wingman in this race. There is no need to. "I was disappointed with my end result in the race and saw everything in a negative way for a moment. — AFP

Rummenigge revives call for Bundesliga to scrap ownership rule

BERLIN: Bayern Munich Chief Executive Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has reiterated his call for the Bundesliga to scrap the so-called 50 plus one rule which effectively bars big investors from taking over clubs. The rule bars commercial investors from having more than a 49 percent stake in a club, stopping them from taking over clubs and forcing changes against the wishes of supporters. Speaking at a news conference in Miami after the Bundesliga champions finished a pre-season tour, Rummenigge said that Germany was not a "desert island" and the rule was preventing Bundesliga clubs from competing in Europe.

"Our behavior in this matter is the cause of condescending smiles here in the United States," he said. "Everyone is worried and fearful that we will lose competitiveness if we open up the market. The opposite is true, Germany would benefit from it. Either we go down this path as well or we will wind up paying a price for not doing so." Rummenigge added: "We have to stop promoting populism in this republic, which we are pushing to an absurd level in almost all Bundesliga clubs but especially in associations. Germany is not a

desert island."

The most recent attempt to overturn the rule failed in March when a majority of the 36 first and second division clubs voted in favor of a motion from FC St Pauli to retain it. The rule is credited with keeping ticket prices down and stadiums full, giving Germany one of the healthiest fan cultures in European football. Investors who have held an interest in a club for at least 20 years can, however, ask for an exemption as were granted in the cases of Bayer Leverkusen and VfL Wolfsburg.

exception Another Hoffenheim, where software billionaire Dietmar Hopp was allowed to take majority control in 2014 after investing consistently over two decades. However, German clubs have struggled in European competitions recently and no Bundesliga side has reached an European final since 2013. Germany's group stage exit at the World Cup in Russia has added to the sense that change may be needed. Rummenigge said Bayern supported a suggestion from Eintracht Frankfurt that would allow each club to decide for itself whether it wants to continue to adhere to the rule. —Reuters

Crusaders wary of Lions mauling

WELLINGTON: The Canterbury Crusaders are wary of the Lions' "momentum-changing" maul ahead of Saturday's Super Rugby final, flanker Matt Todd has said. The Lions used their maul with aplomb in their comeback semi-final win over the New South Wales Waratahs at Ellis Park, with hooker Malcolm Marx grabbing a brace of tries from it.

Todd said the champion Crusaders, who saw off the Wellington Hurricanes 30-12 in their semi-final, would be busy during the week working out ways to counter the Lions' maul. "It's a real momentum changer for them - not just with tries but also getting them field position when they were under the pump a little bit at the start of that game," Todd told New Zealand media yesterday. "When a team has a big strength, as they do in that area, you have to put some time into it. (Forwards coach) Jase Ryan will come up with a good plan for us there."

Saturday's match will be a repeat of last year's final which saw the Crusaders win their record-extending eighth championship with a 25-17 triumph in Johannesburg. The crucial difference this year is that the Crusaders have hosting rights after finishing the regular season top of the standings. The Crusaders are virtually impregnable at their Christchurch stronghold, and most rugby pundits expect the Lions to suffer a third successive defeat in the final, having also lost the 2016 final to the Wellington Hurricanes. Lions coach Swys de Bruin admitted it would take something special to



CHRISTCHURCH: Hurricanes' Gareth Evans (top) jumps over Crusaders' George Bridge (bottom left) and teammate Beauden Barrett during the Super Rugby semi-final match between New Zealand's Canterbury Crusaders and Wellington Hurricanes on July 28, 2018. — AFP

upset the rampaging Crusaders in their backyard and claim a first championship for the Johannesburg team. "I believe in miracles and this team has

proven it. So anything can happen," he said. The Crusaders are the favorites - they are a very good team - but it is still 80 minutes between four white lines so it will be interesting." The Lions face an exhausting longhaul flight to Christchurch where they can expect to find a fresher Crusaders side spared the full rigors of the training track. We have to make sure we keep filling up those energy levels," said Crusaders coach Scott Robertson. "We have had a big four weeks at home, and made a lot of tackles against those teams. Defense has been a huge part of it, and it takes a lot of out of you. "We have got to have everything right for Saturday night." —Reuters

Sport Times

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Diamondbacks go three deep to beat Padres, finish sweep



Burgan Bank influences a positive social change

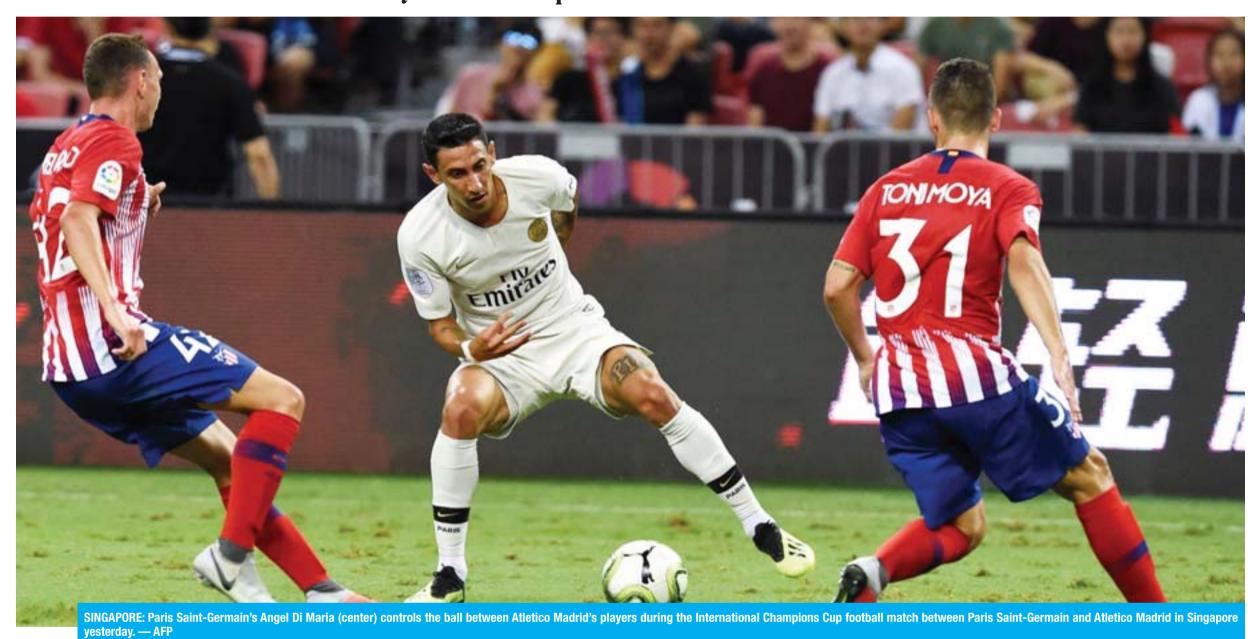


Double world champion Kalisz wins 200m individual medley



Postolachi's late strike seals PSG victory

Thomas Tuchel blindsided by Cavani report



SINGAPORE: Thomas Tuchel said it was his "biggest wish" for Edinson Cavani to stay at Paris Saint-Germain yesterday after reports linking the Uruguay striker to Real Madrid. Tuchel appeared surprised by Real's interest in Cavani, as reported by Spanish media, when he heard about it after a 3-2 friendly win over Atletico Madrid in Singapore. "This is my feeling and my biggest wish and I have not heard such a thing," Tuchel said, when asked if he would like to keep Cavani at PSG. "I talked to Edinson some days ago, he didn't mention anything. He said he was looking forward to coming back, he said he's looking forward to joining us to achieve all his goals with us and

"He's a key player for us and there's no thought about giving him away." Unconfirmed reports say European champions Real are interested in Cavani as a replacement for Cristiano Ronaldo, who has joined Juventus on a 100-million-euro deal. The elegant forward, a member of PSG's 'MCN' strike force along with Kylian Mbappe and Neymar, has been with PSG for five seasons after moving from Napoli. The 31year-old has reportedly admitted to having problems with Neymar, who arrived for a world-record fee last year, but said he had resolved them with the Brazilian.

'Unbelievable mentality'

Tuchel is still without his full squad with Marquinhos set to arrive on Tuesday and Neymar flying in ahead of Saturday's French Super Cup game against Monaco in Shenzhen, China. An understrength PSG have lost 3-1 to Bayern Munich and 5-1 to Arsenal already in pre-season but Virgiliu Postolachi's injury-time strike against Atletico gave Tuchel his first win at the helm. Moldova-born Postolachi, 18, curled a stunning winner past Antonio Adan after Atletico had recovered from 2-0 down,

helped by Antoine Bernede's own goal on 86 minutes. Christopher Nkunku's tap-in on 32 minutes was the highlight of a drab opening period before the International Champions Cup game exploded into life after PSG made nine changes at half-time. Eighteenyear-old Tim Weah was denied by Antonio Adan, and Adan then saved from Moussa Diaby-who rattled the crossbar from the edge of the box shortly afterwards. But Diaby, 19, made no mistake when he was selflessly put through by Weah on 71 minutes, planting his shot low and to Adan's left. Victor Mollejo reduced the

arrears on 76 minutes when he put away the rebound from his own shot, before Bernede's unfortunate own goal made it 2-2 with four minutes to go.

The game was headed for a draw until Postolachi popped up with the decisive strike from the top of the penalty area, prompting jubilant celebrations from Tuchel's young team. "We left our heart on the field and played with an unbelievable mentality against a team which is known for maybe having the best mentality in the world," Tuchel said. "The youngsters played amazing in the second half. They played with passion and intensity and gave everything." Argentina's Angel Di Maria and Italy international Marco Verratti both played the first half for PSG, while Kevin Trapp was in goal instead of newly signed Italian legend Gianluigi Buffon.—AFP

Neymar admits 'exaggerated' WCup reactions

RIO DE JANEIRO: Ridiculed the world over for faking and diving during a disappointing World Cup campaign in Russia, Brazilian forward Neymar has admitted to "exaggerated" reactions saying he is still learning to deal with frustration. In a 90-second video made for his sponsor Gillette and published on social media accounts and Brazilian television, Neymar sought to win back fans who criticized his behavior. "Studs on my calf, knee in my back, stamp on my foot," he said. "You might think I exaggerate and sometimes I really do exaggerate. But the fact is that I suffer on the field. "There's still a child inside me. Sometimes he enchants the world and sometimes he irritates the world."

The Paris St Germain striker had hoped the Russia World Cup would elevate him to a similar status enjoyed by thirty-somethings Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo - the two players who have shared the FIFA World Player of the Year award over the last decade. Instead, he bowed out at the quarter-final stage when Brazil lost to Belgium as fans



Brazilian forward Neymar

focused less on his football and more on the dives, rolls and tears he produced. The 26year old former Santos and Barcelona player, who suffered a serious foot injury in February and returned to action just days before the start of the World Cup, told fans in his homeland he was working to become a better person and deal with the disappointments football threw at him.

"When I seem rude, it's not because I am a spoilt child, it's because I haven't learnt to deal with frustration," he said in a voiceover to the black-and-white video. "It's taken me time to accept your criticism, it's taken me time to look into the mirror and transform myself into a new man. But I am here, with a new face and an open heart. I fell down but only those that fell down can get up. "You can keep throwing stones or throw those stones away and help me stand. When I stand on my own two feet, all of Brazil stands with me." — Reuters

Wiggins tips Thomas for more Tour glory

LONDON: Bradley Wiggins has tipped Tour de France winner Geraint Thomas to retain his title after the Welshman ended teammate Chris Froome's reign as champion. Two-time Olympic gold medalist Thomas finished nearly two minutes ahead of nearest rival Tom Dumoulin (Sunweb) on Sunday to secure his first yellow jersey, with Froome in third. The 32-year-old became the third Briton to win the Tour after Wiggins, who triumphed in 2012, and Team Sky teammate Froome, who had won four of the previous five races. Wiggins expects Thomas's profile to increase significantly on the back of his victory, saying he "may now be Wales's biggest sports star". "A lot of people win things like this and they get caught up in the moment and don't realise what they've achieved," he said on

"But with Geraint, he's watched the

Tour since he was a kid and to him he knows what it is. I don't think he ever imagined this would happen." Wiggins, also a former Team Sky rider, feels Thomas is entering his prime and is in a strong position to retain the yellow jersey in 2019. "He's at that ripe age now, 32. He's matured as a person and an athlete and his laid-back approach will continue to carry him through," said Wiggins. "This success won't change him at all and I wouldn't put it past him to win again next year. This could be the start for him now. He's won the Tour and it will only drive him on to do it again."

Wiggins believes the hostile reception for the dominant Team Sky during the race could have given them extra motivation. "I think for Sky it spurred them on, there was a definite unity with them," he added. "This isn't the first time they've had this, they've had it for a few years now. "Sky work the hardest as a team. The Tour de France is the highlight of their season. "It's not fair for them to be accused of being too dominant. Yes, they have big budgets and some teams can't compete with that, but you can't blame that on them. You can't blame Sky coming in and putting money into the sport."—AFP