



4 MP proposes up to KD 700 salary for housewives, with conditions



9 Anger in India as lychee-linked brain fever kills 113 children



19 UAE gift helps French palace reopen 'forgotten theatre'



28 Platini questioned in 2022 World Cup probe, denies wrongdoing



US piles pressure on Tehran with new troop deployments

Saudis call to secure waterways • New US acting defense secretary named

Amir to visit Iraq amid Gulf tensions

KUWAIT: HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah will visit Iraq today, state news agency KUNA reported, saying the trip comes amid escalating regional tensions after attacks on tankers near the Strait of Hormuz. Six tankers have been hit in the past month in two attacks near the Strait of Hormuz, through which almost a fifth of the world's oil passes, and Washington and Riyadh have accused Iran of being behind them, which Tehran denies.



HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

Sheikh Sabah's visit "comes amid rising and unprecedented tensions and developments witnessed by the region, particularly the acts which targeted the safety of oil supplies through destruction and strikes on oil and commercial vessels", KUNA said. Kuwait has described the tanker attacks as a threat to international peace and security, without assign-

ing blame. HH the Amir, who has worked to repair relations with Iraq following its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, has acted as a regional mediator on various occasions. It will be his second visit to Iraq since becoming ruler, KUNA said. — Reuters

WASHINGTON: China and Russia warned yesterday about escalating Middle East tensions after Washington said it would deploy 1,000 more troops to the region and renewed accusations that Iran was behind a tanker attack. The US moves came as Iran set a 10-day countdown for world powers to fulfill their commitments under a nuclear deal abandoned by Washington, saying it would otherwise surpass the uranium stockpile limit mandated by the accord.

Tensions between Tehran and Washington have escalated ever since the US quit the deal, with Washington bolstering its military presence in the region and blacklisting Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards as a terrorist organization. On Monday, Washington further upped the ante. "I have authorized approximately 1,000 additional troops for defensive purposes to address air, naval, and ground-based threats in the Middle East," acting Pentagon chief Patrick Shanahan said in a statement. "The recent Iranian attacks validate the reliable, credible intelligence we have received on hostile behavior by Iranian forces and their proxy groups that threaten United States personnel and interests across the region," Shanahan said.

Late yesterday, Trump said Shanahan has withdrawn from consideration to head the US military. Shanahan "has decided not to go forward with his confirmation process so that he can devote more time to his family," Trump tweeted after Shanahan faced questions over his past personal life and an allegation of domestic violence. Trump said the secretary of the Army, Mark Esper, will be named as the new acting defense secretary. Esper had been considered a leading contender for the job if Shanahan was ultimately not confirmed.



A handout photo made available by the US Department of Defense on Monday shows an Iranian patrol boat armed with a Russian-made ZU-23-2, a twin-barreled anti-aircraft cannon, after reportedly removing an "unexploded limpet mine" from one of two tankers in the Gulf. — AFP

The United States has blamed Iran for last week's attacks on two tankers in the Gulf of Oman, a charge Tehran denies as "baseless". The Pentagon released new images on Monday that it said showed Iran was behind the attack on one of the ships. The US argument centers on an unexploded limpet mine on the Kokuka Courageous tanker ship that it

Continued on Page 24

Environmental violations targeted in crackdown



By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: The environment police carried out a wide ranging campaign targeting gathering places at beaches and public parks, and 25 environmental citations were issued. The environmental violations according to article 143 (a) of environment protection law 42/2014 are as follows:

- 1- For throwing trash and not discarding it in designated places, the minimum fine is KD 50 and maximum KD 500.
- 2- For harming beaches and islands, the minimum fine is KD 250 and maximum KD 5,000.
- 3- For harming Kuwait Bay, such as by throwing rubbish or fishing, the punishment is a minimum of one year in jail and a maximum of three, with a minimum fine of KD 1,250 and maximum KD 5,000, or either punishment.
- 4- For harming the soil (according to article 40) by digging or harming its natural components, the fine is KD 250.

Expat curbs eyed to amend Kuwait demographics

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Cabinet's demographic adjustment committee is currently studying a number of measures to regulate and adjust Kuwait's population structure, including controlling the difference between the total numbers of various communities, reducing the number of marginal

laborers and dealing with legal loopholes some use to manipulate the law. In this regard, security sources said the committee, comprising of elements from the interior ministry, the manpower authority and a number of other bodies, suggested a number of measures, including the following:

- 1- Setting a limited quota per community for economic and security reasons.
- 2- Banning residency visa renewals for expats older than 65 years of age with legal exemptions of some professions.
- 3- Banning private sector visa transfers to other sponsors before five years and immediately deporting those who refuse to work for their own sponsors.
- 4- Banning visa transfers from the government to the

private sector and allowing the government sector to recruit expats already in the country instead of bringing others from abroad.

- 5- Increasing residency visa fees as soon as possible to match those imposed in neighboring countries in order to reduce the number of marginal laborers and match the services provided.
- 6- Intensifying security inspection campaigns to deport marginal laborers and visa violators on a monthly basis.
- 7- Taxing expat remittances.
- 8- Accelerating the construction of "bachelor" cities in order to reduce crimes and prevent the presence of single men in private residential areas.
- 9- Setting stricter penalties for harboring violating laborers and stiffening current laws.

Morsi buried in Cairo; thousands pray in Istanbul

CAIRO: Egypt's first democratically elected president Mohamed Morsi was buried yesterday, as the UN backed calls for an independent investigation into the causes of his death after he collapsed in a Cairo courtroom. The Islamist leader, who was overthrown in 2013 after a year of divisive rule and later charged with espionage, was buried at a cemetery in eastern Cairo's Medinat Nasr, one of his lawyers said.

Abdel Moneim Abdel Maksoud said family members had washed Morsi's

body and prayed the last rites early yesterday morning at the Leeman Tora Hospital. That lies near the prison where Egypt's first civilian president, a prominent Muslim Brotherhood member, had been held for six years in solitary confinement and deteriorating health. The prosecutor general's office said the 67-year-old leader had collapsed and "died as he attended a hearing" Monday over alleged collaboration with foreign powers and militant groups.

Abdel Maksoud told AFP that only around 10 family members and close Morsi confidants were present at the funeral, including himself. An AFP reporter saw a handful of mourners entering the cemetery complex, accompanied by police officers, but journalists were prevented from entering the site.

Continued on Page 24



ISTANBUL: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan addresses mourners during a symbolic funeral ceremony for former Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi at Fatih Mosque yesterday. — AFP

Cleaners' work timings changed amid searing heat

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: In a bid to boost cleaning companies' efficiency and improve cleaning levels in various governorates, as well as protect cleaners' health during the current heat wave, Municipality Director Ahmad Al-Manfouhi issued an administrative decision on the working hours of cleaners deployed on various streets. According to the decision, cleaners will start sweeping streets daily from 3 am to 11 am during the summer and from 4 am to noon during winter, in addition to a second shift from 4 pm to midnight. Manfouhi urged municipal officials to follow up the performance of cleaning companies and their commitment to the contracts signed with them.

Facebook takes on crypto world with 'Libra'

SAN FRANCISCO: Facebook unveiled plans yesterday for a new global cryptocurrency called Libra, pledging to bring a stable virtual money that lives on smartphones and brings the "unbanked" billions into the financial system. The Libra coin plan, backed by financial and nonprofit partners, represents an ambitious new initiative for the world's biggest social network with the potential to bring crypto-money out of the shadows and into the mainstream.

Facebook and some two dozen partners released a prototype of Libra as an open source code for developers interested in weaving it into apps, services or businesses ahead of a rollout as global digital money next year. The nonprofit Libra Association based in Geneva will oversee the blockchain-based coin, maintaining a real-world asset

reserve to keep its value stable.

The initiative has the potential to allow more than a billion "unbanked" people around the world access to online commerce and financial services at minimal cost, said Libra Association head of policy and communications Dante Disparte. "We believe if you give people access to money and opportunity at the lowest cost, the way the internet itself did in the past with information, you can create a lot more stability than we have had up until now," Disparte told AFP.

Libra Association debuted with 28 members including Mastercard, Visa, Stripe, Kiva, PayPal, Lyft, Uber and Women's World Banking. "Sending money to your friend shouldn't be harder than getting them an Uber ride home," said Uber head of payments and risk Peter Hazlehurst. "Libra has the potential to bridge the gap between traditional financial networks and new digital currency technology, while reducing the costs for everyone."

Facebook will be just one voice among many in the association, but is separately building a digital wallet called Calibra. "We view this as a complement to Facebook's mission to connect people wherever they are;

Continued on Page 24



Local



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah.

Amir, Crown Prince receive top state officials, figures

Amir sends condolences to Chinese President, former UN chief

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace yesterday. His Highness the Amir then received National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem, as well as His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah. His Highness then received Chairman of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce

and Industry Ali Mohammad Thunayan Al-Ghanem. Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince received Marzouq Al-Ghanem and His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad.

In other news, His Highness the Amir sent yesterday a cable of condolences to Chinese President Xi Jinping over victims and casualties of the earthquake that struck Sichuan province, southwest China. In the

cable, His Highness the Amir wished the wounded rapid recovery to overcome the aftermath of such natural disaster. His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister sent similar cables, while Speaker Ghanem sent a condolence cable to Chinese National People's Congress President Li Zhanhu. In the meantime, His Highness the Amir sent a condolence cable to former UN Secretary-General

and Co-chair of Ban Ki-moon Center for Global Citizens Ban Ki-moon over the death of his mother. In the cable, His Highness the Amir prayed Allah the Almighty to bestow mercy upon Ban's mother and patience upon her family. Another two condolence cables of identical sentiments were sent to the former UN chief by His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister. — KUNA

Kuwait marks 58th anniversary of independence

KUWAIT: Kuwait marks today the 58th anniversary of ending the British protection and declaring its independence on June 19, 1961. Years after the independence, Kuwait remains a beacon of diplomacy and humanitarian efforts, which was recognized by the UN through honoring the Gulf nation with the international center for humanitarian works and His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as a humanitarian leader. Kuwait's current non-permanent membership in the UNSC, from 2018-19, also reflected Kuwait's eagerness to be involved in solving international crises whether it was the Syrian conflict or preventing means leading to hunger, war, and armed conflicts.

The independence document was signed by then Amir the late Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, the 11th ruler of Kuwait, who was also named the 'Father of Independence', and the British commissioner for the Arabian Gulf Sir George Middleton, on behalf of his government. The document abolished the agreement signed by late Amir Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah, the seventh ruler of Kuwait, with Britain on January 23, 1899, to protect Kuwait against external ambitions.

Declaration of Independence

Upon declaring the independence, the late Amir Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem, ruler from 1950 to 1965, delivered a speech on the occasion. "On this memorable day of our beloved nation, on which we transfer from one phase to another phase of history and fold another page of the past with all its components and contents, to open a new page represented in this treaty which you read now, whereby Kuwait gained its full independence and sovereignty," said Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem. After the independence, an Amiri Decree was issued identifying the form of Kuwait's post-independence flag.

On the constitutional level, the first step was crystallized on August 26, 1961 with the enactment of the Amiri Decree calling for general elections to choose members of the constituent council to draft the country's constitution. Within nine months, the council finalized the draft constitution, consisting of 183 articles, which was submitted to Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, who ratified and passed it on the same day, 11th November 1962. On the political level, an Amiri decree was issued on August 19, 1961 to establish a foreign department that shall be in charge of the state's foreign affairs and merge Kuwait government secretariat in the foreign department, which turned with the 1st ministerial formation into the ministry of foreign affairs.

In 1962, Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem was appointed as a foreign minister in the first cabinet lineup, to be followed up by His Highness the current Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah who was appointed the minister of foreign affairs in the second cabinet, issued on January 28, 1963. On foreign relations, Kuwait submitted an application for membership in the Arab League, whereby the League board held a meeting on July 16, 1961 and passed a decree for accepting it as a member besides its sister Arab countries.

Joining the UN

On November 30, 1961, the United Nations Security Council started discussions over Kuwait's demand to join the UN. On May 14, 1963, Kuwait got the approval and became the 111th member. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, then the state's foreign minister, delivered Kuwait's speech at the UN in a historic moment of Kuwait's march. Later on, Kuwait joined various UN and international organizations such as, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Bank (WB), the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The road to independence had started with Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem's assumption to power in 1950 as he embarked on a series of measures to prepare the country for independence. In 1959, Kuwait took steps to enact laws and establish systems such as the Naturalization Law in 1959, the Kuwaiti Currency Law in 1960, the Passports Law and the Organization of Government Departments. He worked on issuing laws that are required to pave the way for the establishment of an independent state like judiciary organization law in 1959 and monetary law in 1960 amongst others.

Moreover, the Fatwa and Legislation Department was established in the same year and government departments were organized. As an appreciation of the great role played by the late Amir Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem in Kuwait independence and laying down the foundation of modern state, a decree was issued in 1963 to merge the National Day with Accession to the Throne Day corresponding to February 25, which is the date when he ascended the throne in Kuwait in 1950.



KUWAIT: This archive photo shows Kuwait's late Amir Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah signing the document of independence before declaring Kuwait an independent state on June 19, 1961. — KUNA

Anniversary celebration

Meanwhile, Envoy of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-

Mubarak Al-Sabah left yesterday for the United Kingdom to take part in the celebration of the 120th anniversary of signing the 1899 Kuwait-UK treaty, which established cooperation in several domains. — KUNA

Defense Minister heads SCPD's ninth meeting

KUWAIT: Kuwait's First Deputy Prime Minister, Defense Minister and General Secretary of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development (SCPD) Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah chaired the council's ninth meeting yesterday, in the presence of Minister of State for Economic Affairs Mariam Al-Aqeel. Sheikh Nasser said in a statement that the meeting approved the minute of the eighth meeting and discussed the reports of the SCPD economic development committee on drafting operational plans and the structure of public finance, indicating that the program falls within the framework of Kuwait's 2035 vision. The report addressed the objectives of privatization, diversifying sources of income and raising the level of services, and providing striking investment opportunities for citizens, noting that some institutions were nominated for privatization, in addition to revitalizing the education sector in Kuwait. The council also discussed health and education strategies and administrative reforms. — KUNA



KUWAIT: (From left) Economic Affairs Minister Mariam Al-Aqeel, Defense Minister Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Commerce and Youth Affairs Minister Khaled Al-Roudhan attend the General Secretary of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development's ninth meeting yesterday. — KUNA

Local

Bilateral ties, regional, int'l developments on agenda of Kuwait Amir's visit to Iraq

Amir to meet Iraqi president, prime minister



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Iraqi President Dr Barham Saleh during the latter's visit to Kuwait in November 2018. —KUNA photos



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah participates in an international conference to rebuild the liberated areas in Iraq, held in Kuwait in February 2018.

KUWAIT/BAGHDAD: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah heads to Iraq today to discuss bilateral ties and recent regional and international developments. This is the second visit for His Highness to Iraq, with the first being in March 2012 when he headed the Kuwaiti delegation in the Arab Summit in Baghdad. The visit comes as tension is rising in the region, especially with the recent attacks on oil tankers and commercial ships in Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

Although the Kuwaiti-Iraqi ties were severed for years as a result of the Iraqi invasion and occupation in 1990; the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir allowed the two countries to resume and boost their relations on all levels. In June 2013, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah had visited Iraq and signed six memorandums of understanding (MoUs) on diplomacy, economy, culture, environment, education and marine transportation. In May 2013, former Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari visited Kuwait and signed MoUs on maintenance of border markers and building a residential complex in Umm-Qasr.

Joint committee

In July 2013, the Iraqi parliament approved an

agreement on forming a joint committee to boost relations and cooperation and resolve issues between the two countries. In December 2014, former Iraqi Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi visited Kuwait, where joint cooperation and fighting terrorism were the main topics of discussion. In November 2018, Iraqi President Barham Saleh visited Kuwait for the first time after his assumption of power, to hold talks with His Highness the Amir. Moreover, the two visits of former Kuwaiti Prime Minister His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah in September 2010 and January 2012 paved the way to end the tension between the two countries and start a new level of relations. The 2010 visit was the first for a senior Kuwaiti official since 1990. Kuwait also played a role in speeding up the approval of the UN Security Council to remove Iraq from Chapter Seven of the UN Charter, which allowed Iraq to regain its sovereignty and economic power.



Historic visit to strengthen relations: Envoys

Meanwhile, the two sides exchanged visits by senior officials to boost cooperation in different fields, including investment, media and aviation. The two countries' cooperation in aviation saw a prominent turn when the first Iraqi Airways plane landed in the Amiri Airport in February 2013. As for the humanitarian side, Kuwait had donated \$1.5 billion in the conference to reconstruct Iraq in Madrid in 2003. It also organized blood donation campaigns and treated injured Iraqis at Kuwait's hospitals.

In 2014, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) welcomed a generous Kuwaiti donation worth \$9.5 million for the UN's humanitarian organizations to aid Iraq. In 2015, Kuwait donated \$200 million to aid displaced Iraqis and it also delivered 40,000 food baskets to displaced families in Iraq's Kurdistan region. The country also donated \$176 million as humanitarian aid during the donors conference for Iraq, held in Washington in July 2016. After Iraq's

Mosul was liberated from the so-called Islamic State (IS) in July 2017. Kuwait held an international conference to rebuild the liberated areas in February 2018. The conference collected pledges worth \$30 billion, with Kuwait donating \$2 billion.

Boosting relations

Iraq's Ambassador to Kuwait Alaa Al-Hashemi said that the visit of His Highness the Amir to Iraq is part of boosting bilateral relations. The visit is a continuation of the high-level visits between the two countries and it is a response to Iraqi President Barham Saleh and Prime Minister Adel Abdulmahdi's invitation, Hashemi said.

In the meantime, Kuwait's Ambassador to Iraq Salem Al-Zamanan said that His Highness the Amir's historic visit comes to strengthen relations between the two countries. His Highness's visit falls within the framework of mutual visits between top officials of the two countries and as a continuation of Kuwait's role in supporting the reconstruction of Iraq, Zamanan said. His Highness the Amir will be accompanied by a high-level delegation and due to meet with Iraqi President Saleh, Prime Minister Adel Abdulmahdi and Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament Mohammad Al-Halbousi. —KUNA

Kenyan official hails Amir's global peace role

NAIROBI: Chief Administrative Secretary of the Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ababu Namwamba yesterday praised the role of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah in achieving international peace and his mediation efforts to heal the Gulf rift. The Kenyan official praised the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) for its vital projects in his country, including the rehabilitation of irrigation facilities, hospitals development, schools and roads construction.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Assistant Foreign Minister for Africa Affairs Ambassador Hamad Al-Mashaan confirmed the invitation to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah to attend the African High-Level Regional Conference on Counter-Terrorism and Prevention of Extremism Leading to Terrorism, scheduled to be held in Nairobi on July 10-11. He also welcomed the joint invitation by Kenyan Foreign Minister Monica Goma and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office Vladimir Voronkov to attend the conference, confirming Kuwait's readiness to make this conference a success through its effective and appropriate participation. Mashaan extended an invitation to Namwamba to visit Kuwait. Meanwhile, Mashaan and the Kenyan Secretary General of the National Treasury discussed the development projects sponsored by KFAED in Kenya and the obstacles that hinder some of them.

Kuwait's nominations

In the meantime, Kenyan Assistant Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Ambassador Tom Amolo affirmed his country's readiness to support Kuwait and its nominations in international organizations' memberships. The remarks were made during the second political consultation meeting in Kenya between Ambassador Amolo, and Mashaan who was accompanied by Kuwait's Ambassador to Kenya Qusay Al-Farhan. Amolo said that his country is ready to support Kuwait and its nominations to join international organizations, namely the nomination of Kuwait Red Crescent Society chairman, Dr Hilal Al-Sayer, to the International Committee

of the Red Cross in a meeting to be held in Geneva next October. The Kenyan diplomat also expressed his country's readiness to support Kuwait's candidacy for the Postal Investment Council during the 27th International Postal Union (Ivory Coast 2020) Conference and its membership in the IMO Board of Directors for the period 2020-21, which will be held in London in November.

Ambassador Mashaan expressed his sincere appreciation to the government of Kenya for its support, especially during the brutal Iraqi invasion in 1990, in addition to supporting all international resolutions pertaining to Kuwait. Mashaan reviewed the role played by Kuwait during its membership in the Security Council and discussed Kenya's candidacy for non-permanent membership seat of the Council (2020-21), representing the African continent. He referred to the important role played by Kenya in the field of maintaining international peace and security, especially in the African continent, namely in Somalia and Sudan.

The meeting delved into means of enhancing cooperation and bilateral relations between the two countries in the political, economic and cultural fields. Mashaan's visit to Kenya comes within the framework of activating the memorandum of political consultations signed between the two countries. Kuwait was one of the first countries in the Middle East to recognize Kenya after independence. The Kuwaiti embassy was opened in Nairobi in 1966. —KUNA



NAIROBI: Kuwait's Assistant Foreign Minister for Africa Affairs Ambassador Hamad Al-Mashaan meets with Chief Administrative Secretary of the Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ababu Namwamba. —KUNA Photos



Kenyan Assistant Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Ambassador Tom Amolo poses for a group photo with Kuwait's Assistant Foreign Minister for Africa Affairs Ambassador Hamad Al-Mashaan and other officials.



NEW YORK: Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the UN Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi addresses a UN Security Council session on the latest political and humanitarian developments in Yemen. —KUNA

There can only be political solution to Yemen conflict: UNSC

NEW YORK: Members of the UN Security Council yesterday reiterated that there can only be a political solution to the conflict in Yemen, expressing full support for the Special Envoy of the Secretary General in this regard. This came during their meeting on the situation in Yemen; and heard briefings from Special Envoy Martin Griffiths, Undersecretary General Mark Lowcock, WFP Executive Director David Beasley and Lieutenant General Michael Lollsgard.

In a statement following the meeting, Security Council President, Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the UN Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi, said that the Council called on all parties to engage with the UN-led process to make progress towards a comprehensive political settlement in accordance with Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 2216, the Gulf Cooperation Council's initiative and its implementation mechanisms, as well as outcomes of the National Dialogue Conference.

Members also condemned in the strongest terms the attack by the Houthis on Abha International Airport in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on June 12, injuring 26 including women and children, he said. They also reaffirmed that this attack and the threat of further attacks against the Kingdom and the wider region constitute a violation of international law and threat to international peace and security and remind all parties of their obligations under International Humanitarian Law. They stressed the need to hold perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts

accountable, he added. They also condemned the misappropriation of humanitarian assistance and aid by the Houthis and reiterated their call for the rapid, safe and unhindered flow of commercial and humanitarian supplies and personnel into and across the country.

Threat to regional security

Otaibi had earlier condemned the recent attacks by the Yemeni Houthi militias on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, saying that these attacks pose threat to regional security and stability. In his address to a UN Security Council session on the latest political and humanitarian developments in Yemen, Ambassador Otaibi, President of the Council for June, said, "The past six months have seen Yemen's political progress slow to a stalemate." The Houthis persisted in launching drone and missile attacks on civilian targets in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, he said, citing the missile attack on Abha airport last week when 26 passengers, including women and children, were injured. Regarding the humanitarian situation in Yemen, he said, "A blockade remains in place and the suffering of the Yemeni people continues to escalate."

"No progress has yet been seen on the exchange of prisoners and detainees," he said, referring to the Stockholm and Hodeidah agreements. "Meanwhile, the Hodeidah Agreement's implementation must continue under the auspices of the tripartite committee," he said, referring to the Yemeni government, the UN and the Houthis. Emphasizing that there can be no military solution to the crisis, he condemned in the strongest terms all attacks against civilian targets, including those in Saudi Arabia, and expressed full support for the latter's sovereignty. "Indeed, attacks against neighboring countries constitute a breach of international law," Otaibi pointed out. Noting that Kuwait has already committed \$250 million in humanitarian assistance, he urged the Council to take action to end the chronic obstructions of humanitarian access in Yemen, which amount to violations of international law. —KUNA

Local

MPs demand special session on employment of citizens

Lawmaker proposes up to KD 700 salary for housewives

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: Ten lawmakers yesterday submitted a motion calling to hold a special assembly session on Sunday to debate the employment of Kuwaitis amid complaints by the legislators that the government was not doing enough to create job opportunities.

MP Mohammad Al-Mutairi said that 10 MPs have signed the request to hold the session. The request will be first studied by the assembly office before the session is approved. Unemployment is a very sensitive popular issue and lawmakers greatly focus on putting pressure on the government to create job opportunities for Kuwaiti citizens especially in the government.

The assembly has formed a manpower committee with the aim to propose policies and cooperate with

the government to resolve the unemployment problem among Kuwaitis although it is one of the lowest in the world. Among the proposals MPs urge is to increase the pace of dismissing expatriates in government departments to create vacancies for Kuwaitis.

In a related development, MP Majed Al-Mutairi submitted a proposal yesterday calling on the government to grant Kuwaiti housewives who have no work a monthly salary of between KD 500 and KD 700. He said the beneficiaries should not have any work in the private sector or own any private business. In addition, those wives should hire only one domestic

maid to assist her but must not appoint a private driver. Similar proposals were submitted many times in the past several years but did not even come up for debate in the assembly. They were also rejected by the government.



Pressure on govt to create jobs for Kuwaitis

6,000 travel bans a month in Kuwait

By A Saleh and Meshal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Statistics by the justice ministry's research and statistics department showed 18,314 travel bans had been issued during the first quarter of 2019, ie 6,000 a month and almost 200 per day. The quarterly statistical report explained that the sentence execution division carried out 1,024,284 measures, of which 46 percent (18,314) were travel bans and 29.8 percent were lifting travel bans. Statistics also showed that 29.1 percent of the lifted travel bans were made at the airport office, while only 3.3 percent were made at the Mubarak Al-Kabeer office.

Transactions suspended

The Public Authority for Manpower said transactions of companies whose owners fail to submit affidavits with information about authorized signatories and companies' contacts by Aug 14 will be suspended. In other news, Acting manpower authority director Abdullah Al-Motoutah yesterday received the Ambassador of Ghana to Kuwait Ahmed Refae Yahya and his accompanying delegation. Both sides discussed cooperation and possible job opportunities for domestic helpers from Ghana. Motoutah said both sides discussed educating prospective workers about the nature of jobs in Kuwait and the difference between domestic jobs and working in the private sector.

Payroll alternative

Chairman of the parliamentary human resources development committee MP Khalil Al-Saleh stressed that the strategic payroll alternative will be a historic opportunity for employment reform in various state bodies. Saleh also rejected any exemptions to be made by the government if the law is implemented, adding that strict implementation will put an end to discrimination and give equal opportunities to all state employees.

Road repair

Ministry of Public Works (MPW) undersecretary Ismail Ali Ahmed yesterday met Public Authority for Roads and Transportation (PART) acting director Soha Ashkanani, MPW assistant undersecretaries Khaled Al-Khazri and Abdul Aziz Al-Sabah and representatives of asphalt factories in Kuwait to discuss road repair plans.

GHP awarded Management Contract for Kuwait Hospital

KUWAIT: Kuwait Management Centre Holding Company (KMCH) announced that the GHP Group, a publicly listed healthcare group in Sweden, has been selected to become the operator of Kuwait Hospital, located in Sabah Al-Salem. The agreement with GHP runs for five years starting from 1st of July 2019 and can be extended thereafter, and the signing ceremony was attended by the Swedish Ambassador to Kuwait, the UAE and Bahrain, Henrik Landerholm. "After the extensive evaluation process involving several international health care operators, GHP was chosen based on their expertise in providing care that is focused on specialization and patient quality outcomes. We believe they will serve the local market well and allow Kuwait Hospital to stand out in the market," says KMCH's Chairman Hamad Al-Ghanem.

Kuwait Hospital is a privately-owned hospital with over 100 beds. In the coming months, works will be conducted to prepare the hospital for a soft opening, with a joint aim to have the hospital become fully operational 12 months after the start of the agreement. Within the management contract framework, GHP will appoint a number of key individuals to manage the hospital's operations. Performance metrics will be continuously monitored to track the development of the hospital and benchmark its outcomes to international benchmarks. Under the agreement, GHP will be responsible for efficiently managing and ensuring the high quality output of the business opera-



KUWAIT: The National Assembly building in Kuwait City. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Officials in a group photo after the agreement's signing.

tions, so that the medical, operational and financial results meet KMCH's expectations.

"Swedish health care represents high quality, cost efficiency and continuous development. This assignment will enable us, in conjunction with KMCH, to ensure that more people receive high-quality health care in Kuwait. Given our experience of running health care in the Nordic region, managing health care organizations in the United

Arab Emirates and our focus on social benefit, the assignment suits us extremely well," says GHP's CEO Daniel Ohman. During late 2015, GHP entered into an agreement to run four public hospitals in the United Arab Emirates. It is with this management contract that GHP has built the foundation of its international presence, and now, along with the agreement to operate Kuwait Hospital, GHP has further strengthened its presence in the region.



Environment police crack down on Sabah Al-Ahmad Sea City

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: The Relations and Security Information Department at the Interior Ministry said environment police and Ahmadi security department carried out a campaign to remove environmentally harmful debris in the Sabah Al-Ahmad Sea City (Al-Khairan Pearl Project) with Kuwait Municipality, Environment Public Authority and Commerce Ministry participating. The campaign resulted in impounding two caravans and removing 13 others from the third stage of Sabah Al-Ahmad Sea City.

Palestine hands property documents to Kuwaitis

KUWAIT: Palestinian Ambassador to Kuwait Rami Tahboub said yesterday that a number of Kuwaiti property owners have already received the documents of their properties in Palestine. In a press statement, Tahboub said that Chairman of Land Authority in Palestine, Judge Moussa Shakarna, arrived in Kuwait to meet with some Kuwaiti real estate owners and hand over the titles of their properties in Palestine. Tahboub said that during his visit, Shakarna met a num-



KUWAIT: Palestinian Ambassador to Kuwait Rami Tahboub with Chairman of Land Authority in Palestine, Judge Moussa Shakarna, and Kuwaiti citizens. — KUNA

ber of members of the Palestinian community and briefed them on land settlement issues in the West Bank with the Land Authority. — KUNA

Philippines Embassy files rape report on maid's behalf

KUWAIT: The Philippines Embassy lawyer lodged a complaint against a Kuwaiti man for raping a domestic helper. A police source said the lawyer informed them the accused took advantage of the family being out of the house, then went to the helper's room and locked the door before raping her. He then offered her money to remain silent. The source said the helper escaped to the embassy, and was sent to hospital, which reported that she was indeed raped.

Meanwhile, a helper was rushed to Mubarak Hospital for treatment of fractures she sustained after she threw herself from the third floor of a building where laborers are housed. A police source said the Indian woman was found with her legs fractured. An employee at the office told them the injured woman is an Indian helper who was returned to them and was waiting for another employer to hire her, and attempted to escape. Police detained the employer and lodged a case of restriction of freedom. The case was referred for investigations.

Harasser kidnaps boy

A Kuwaiti with criminal record snatched a woman's son because she did not respond to his advances. The mother told police that a citizen who lives near her house harassed her several times, but she rebuffed him. She said she was surprised to see him in front of her house, and when her domestic helper went out with the woman's son to throw the trash, the suspect abducted the boy and fled. The helper screamed, and the woman became hysterical. She then went to the police station and lodged a kidnapping complaint. The woman later saw the kidnapper in the area, so she argued with him. The suspect said he only wanted to get close to her. The prosecution ordered the suspect's arrest to face legal action. The boy is five years old.

Dogs to be spayed

The Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR) said a campaign to spay stray dogs will be launched soon to limit their reproduction, as their number has reached 20,000, and they are concentrated in some residential areas as well as Abdaly, Wafra and Kabd among others. Chairman and Director General of PAAAFR Sheikh Mohammad Al-Yousuf said there must be well-studied mechanisms and humanitarian means to face the spread of stray animals. — Translated by Kuwait Times from Al-Rai

CITRA calls telecom firms to commit to 5G marketing schemes

KUWAIT: The Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) has called telecommunication companies to commit to the marketing schemes for the newly-launched 5G service, including its various segments, categories, and prices. The Authority would carry out all legal actions against companies that fail to launch the new service with all its segments and categories, CITRA's Chairman and CEO Salem Al-Othaina affirmed. It is also important that telecom companies commit to CITRA laws regarding competition; otherwise, the Authority would be forced to take legal procedures against them, added Othaina. The 5G technology would be so essential for users and service providers in enhancing the telecom market in the country, he noted, adding it has already made a quantum leap in the Internet system around the world with a peak speed of 20 Gbps. Established in 2014, CITRA is responsible for overseeing the telecommunications sector, monitor and protect the interests of users and service providers and regulate the services of telecommunication networks in the country, while ensuring transparency, equality of opportunity and fair competition.

Ministry launches 5G

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Ministry of Information has become the first government body to employ 5G wireless technology, touted as the "next generation" of mobile communication, in conjunction with local telecom operator VIVA. The initiative supports His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's vision to build a new Kuwait, where high-tech infrastructure abounds, Information Minister Mohammad Al-Jabri said in a statement yesterday. He described the measure as an effort to embrace cutting-edge technology, citing an ongoing 5G trial period as per the instructions of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. On the joint endeavor, VIVA CEO Mazaid Al-Harbi said the company is proud to join forces with a prominent government body, helping equip the ministry of information with dazzling technology. The 5G wireless technology will be a useful tool for the ministry of information as it continues its extensive coverage of local events, he added. — KUNA

Kuwait Times bids farewell to long-time photographer Joseph Shagra



KUWAIT: Kuwait Times gave a fond farewell to our longtime photographer Joseph Shagra, who is returning to his homeland after serving the paper for 20 years. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



Kuwait Times Editor-in-Chief Abd Al-Rahman Al-Alyan (center right), Managing Editor Jamie Etheridge (left), and Executive Editor Mustafa Qamhiya bid farewell to Kuwait Times long-time photographer Joseph Shagra.



Kuwait Times long-time photographer Joseph Shagra



NISSAN

Innovation that excites

NISSAN X-TRAIL

GREAT SUMMER DEALS!



X-TRAIL

Starting from

6,250

KD



4 years service



Unlimited mileage warranty



3rd party insurance & traffic registration

www.nissankuwait.com




 nissankwt

1 804 888

Customer Care Center

شركة عبد المحسن عبد العزيز البابتين ذ.م.ك

Abdulmohsen Abdulaziz Al-Babtain Co. WLL





Fearful of China's grasp, many in Hong Kong flee

With cows, chickens, greenhouses, Qatar takes on regional boycott

Page 8

Page 9



ISTANBUL: People hold picture of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi during a symbolic funeral ceremony yesterday at Fatih mosque in Istanbul. Thousands joined in prayer in Istanbul yesterday for former Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi who died the previous day after collapsing during a trial hearing in a Cairo court. — AFP

Morsi: From president to death as inmate

Egypt's first democratically elected president dies at 67

CAIRO: Mohamed Morsi, who died Monday aged 67, was Egypt's first democratically elected president but spent just one turbulent year in office after the 2011 uprising before the army toppled him. The Islamist's overthrow was followed by a brutal crackdown that killed hundreds of supporters of his Muslim Brotherhood movement and dealt a major blow to political Islam.

Morsi was sentenced to death in May 2015 for his role in jailbreaks during the uprising that ousted his predecessor, longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak. He successfully appealed and was awaiting the final ruling of a retrial when he died in a Cairo hospital after fainting during an "animated" session in court, judicial and security sources said. A veteran activist and engineering professor, Morsi was among the Brotherhood leaders detained during the 18-day anti-Mubarak revolt in 2011, escaping with thousands of inmates who broke out of prison.

The son of a farmer, he was not the Brotherhood's first choice for president. Nicknamed "The Spare Tyre", Morsi emerged as a compromise candidate to run in Egypt's first democratic presidential election in 2012. Hailing from the movement's political wing—the Freedom and Justice Party—he was put forward after one of the Brotherhood's powerful financiers, Khairat Al-Shater, was disqualified on technical grounds. Many voters chose Morsi in a protest vote against

Mubarak's last prime minister, Ahmed Shafiq, and he narrowly won.

Deep divisions

When taking office in June 2012, the bearded and bespectacled Islamist promised to be president "of all Egyptians" and was feted by cheering crowds in Cairo's iconic Tahrir Square. But he was soon accused of failing to represent all Egyptians and of trampling the ideals of the anti-Mubarak uprising. His rule was marked by deep divisions in Egyptian society, a crippling economic crisis and often-deadly opposition protests. Derided by some as a "puppet of the Brotherhood", Morsi irritated the bureaucracy and many ordinary Egyptians by appointing members of the movement to key administrative posts.

Months after his election win, Morsi issued a decree that in effect shielded his decisions from judicial review, sparking deadly clashes outside his palace. He was removed by his then-defense minister and army chief Abdel Fattah El-Sisi on July 3, 2013 after millions took to the streets demanding his resignation.

Sisi became president a year later. Morsi denounced a "coup" and his supporters insisted he was still the legitimate president of the Arab world's most populous nation.

Hundreds were killed in clashes that erupted when security forces dispersed two pro-Morsi protest camps in Cairo in August 2013. Thousands of Morsi supporters were imprisoned in a crackdown and rights groups accused Sisi's regime of being even more repressive than the Mubarak authorities. The years following Morsi's overthrow saw a surge in bombings and shootings targeting security forces, particularly in the northern Sinai Peninsula, a stronghold of the Islamic State group. The jihadists say the attacks are in retaliation for the crackdown on Islamists.

'I am Dr Mohamed Morsi'

Morsi himself was put on trial several times on charges ranging from killing protesters to jailbreaks to spying for Iran, Qatar, and militant groups Hamas and Hezbollah. In the first verdict against him, a Cairo court convicted Morsi of inciting violence against

protesters during December 2012 clashes after he decreed that his decisions could not be challenged by the judiciary. He was sentenced to 20 years in jail in that case, and later received two life sentences in espionage cases. Morsi steadfastly rejected the authority of Egypt's courts to try him and launched frequent tirades against Sisi from the dock and accused military chiefs of violating the constitution.

"I am Dr Mohamed Morsi, the president of the republic... This was a military coup. The leaders of the coup should be tried," Morsi said on the opening day of his first trial in November 2013. He was later put in a soundproof glass dock to stop him interrupting the proceedings with outbursts. Born on August 8, 1951 in the village of El-Adwah in the Nile Delta province of Sharqiya, Morsi graduated with an engineering degree from Cairo University. He received a doctorate from the University of Southern California, where he was also an assistant professor in the early 1980s.

Morsi first entered the political arena in 2000 when he was elected to parliament as an independent, given the Mubarak-era ban on the Brotherhood. He was a lawmaker until 2005 and served seven months in jail in 2006 for taking part in a demonstration in support of reformist judges. In 2010, Morsi became a spokesman for the Brotherhood and a member of its politburo. He was married with five children and three grandchildren. — AFP



Morsi nicknamed 'The Spare Tyre'

Family branches out with novel tree house

JABALPUR: When the Kesharwanis decided to branch out and expand their family home, they came up with a novel way of dealing with an ancient giant fig tree in their garden—they built the house around it. Now the thick trunk of the 150-year-old tree is the central feature of their residence, growing through the middle of the building in the city of Jabalpur.

"We are nature lovers and my father insisted that we keep the tree," said Yogesh Kesharwani, whose parent built the house in 1994 with the help of an engineer friend. "The tree is some 150 years old. We knew it was easy to cut the tree but difficult to grow one like it," he told AFP.

The fig tree, known as peepal in Hindi, is considered sacred by many in India and cutting one down is considered inauspicious. "We believe that 350 million gods and goddesses reside in one peepal tree. The tree is also mentioned in the Geeta," a Hindu religious text, said Kesharwani. His wife can pray without having to leave home, sitting before the tree in the mornings. The family also wanted to send the message that people can put down roots in the



JABALPUR: Branches of a peepal tree (sacred fig tree) are seen protruding from the Kesharwani family's house in Jabalpur, in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. —AFP

middle of nature without destroying anything.

The four-storey building is a local landmark because of its unique facade. Leafy branches jut out from the windows, dwarfing the building and prompting curious looks from passers-by. "When the house was first built,

engineering students used to come here to try and understand the unique design," Kesharwani said. The tree has never caused any practical problems to the family, insisted Kesharwani. "We don't even realize that the tree exists because it doesn't come in our way. It just stands there silently." — AFP

'Sing Hallelujah' an unlikely anthem of Hong Kong protests

HONG KONG: The Christian hymn "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord" has emerged as the unlikely anthem of Hong Kong's protests against an extradition bill that have drawn millions of people onto the streets. Protests around the world often develop their own soundtrack, usually songs with lyrics of defiance and solidarity, aiming to keep crowds energized and focused.

But the hymn taken up in Hong Kong hardly ticks those boxes. For the past week, the hymn has been heard almost non-stop at the main protest site, in front of the city's Legislative Council, and at marches and even at tense stand-offs with the police. It started with a group of Catholic students who sang several Christian songs at the main protest site, with "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord" catching on among the crowd, even though only about 10 percent of Hong Kong people are Christian.

"This was the one people picked up, as it is easy for people to follow, with a simple message and easy melody," said Edwin Chow, 19, acting president of the Hong Kong Federation of Catholic Students. The students sang the songs in the hope of providing a cover of legitimacy for the protest. Religious gatherings can be held without a permit in the financial hub. "As reli-

gious assemblies were exempt, it could protect the protesters. It also shows that it is a peaceful protest," Chow said.

The hymn was composed in 1974 by Linda Stassen-Benjamin in the United States for Easter. Its five words are repeated over four stanzas in a minor key, which gives it an air of meditative solemnity. The protests over the past 10 days have been largely peaceful although police on Wednesday last week used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowds. "Stop shooting, or else we sing 'Hallelujah to the Lord'," read one protest placard after the rubber bullets were fired.

Protesters say the religious song has often helped defuse tension with the police. "It has a calming effect," said Timothy Lam, 58, a Catholic priest at Grace Church Hong Kong, 58-year-old Lam, who has attended the protest with other churchmen to promote peace. "The police had a lot of equipment, they were very tense and searching people. The students sang this to show they were peaceful," Lam said of a confrontation last week. Hong Kong's Beijing-backed government leader, Carrie Lam, has postponed the introduction of the extradition bill and apologized in the face of the huge show of opposition.

Critics say the law would undermine Hong Kong's independent judiciary and rule of law, guaranteed by a "one country, two systems" formula under which the former British colony returned to Chinese rule in 1997. Carrie Lam is Catholic and some protesters said they thought their adoption of "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord" might have helped sway her. "She is Catholic after all, it's one of the main reason we sing it," said Jamie, an 18-year old student who is not Catholic. — Reuters

Business

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019

12 HSBC sees investment opportunities despite complex global landscape**13** Heathrow publishes 'masterplan' for controversial third runway**14** Bahrain tops London, Silicon Valley for percentage of female startup founders

PARIS: A La Compagnie Airbus A321 neo is moved on the tarmac at the International Paris Air Show yesterday at Le Bourget Airport, near Paris. — AFP

Boeing and Airbus bag \$15bn of deals

Saudi, Philippines airlines place big Airbus orders at Paris Airshow

LE BOURGET, France: Airbus and Boeing bagged a combined \$15 billion of plane deals on day two of the Paris Airshow, as their sales teams scrapped for orders after a downturn in business at many airlines and the grounding of Boeing's top-selling jet.

Airbus extended its early lead in orders at the event with a \$6 billion deal yesterday to sell 36 planes to Philippines airline Cebu Air, including 10 of the new long-range A321XLR model launched on Monday. The European planemaker also struck a deal to sell a further 30 A320neo aircraft to Saudi Arabian Airlines, worth \$3.3 billion at list prices, while Malaysia's AirAsia converted 253 A320neo orders to the larger A321neo model. Financial terms of the AirAsia deal were not disclosed.

Saudi Arabian Airlines, the kingdom's national airline, said yesterday it had ordered 65 A320neo-type aircraft from Airbus, worth more than \$7.4 billion at list prices, giving an early boost to the European manufacturer at the Paris Air Show. The French aerospace bonanza is traditionally a key theatre for rivals Airbus and Boeing to clock up orders, but this year

Boeing enters the race handicapped by the fallout from crashes of two of its 737 MAX aircraft that together killed 346 people.

The Saudi airline plans to boost its A320neo fleet to up to 100 aircraft from 35 now. The deal includes 15 aircraft of the new A321 XLR type, capable of flying distances up to 8,700 kilometers (5,400 miles).

Of the total 65 orders, 35 are still options. "Passenger demand in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is experiencing strong growth on domestic, regional and international routes. The additional aircraft will be deployed to support the national carrier's plan to boost capacity," Airbus said in a statement. Airbus's neo line comprises aircraft with new engines designed to use 15 percent less fuel than the previous generation.

Airbus also signed a letter of intent with low-cost Philippines airline Cebu Pacific to deliver 31 aircraft, of which 16 are A330neos, 10 A321 XLRs and 5 A320neos. The A321 XLR models are to allow the airline to offer direct flights from the Philippines to India and Australia, Airbus said.

Airbus shares were up 0.6 percent at

1100 GMT, having touched a record high of 126.50 euros in early trade. Boeing, meanwhile, gained a much needed lift after a slow start to the show on Monday as Korean Air committed to buying 20 of the US planemaker's 787 Dreamliners, worth \$6.3 billion at list prices. Despite the flurry of activity, dealmaking at the aerospace industry's biggest annual event has been quieter than normal, fuelling speculation that a decade-long boom might be coming to an end.

With airlines struggling to contend with overcapacity, slowing economies and geopolitical tensions, some analysts warn that Airbus and Boeing could face a growing number of cancellations from their bulging order books. Boeing in particular is suffering after the grounding of its MAX 737 aircraft in March following two deadly crashes.

A321XLR takes off

However, the planemakers are confident of continued strong demand for more fuel-efficient jets as emissions regulations tighten and air travel continues to rise, driven by



PARIS: Picture taken on the Safran's stand shows Safran's engine presentations during the International Paris Air Show yesterday at Le Bourget Airport, near Paris. — AFP

Asia's growing middle classes. Boeing on Monday increased its 20-year industry demand forecast. "Although investors have started to ask questions about the state of

the upcycle, the aerospace industry remains very confident in the current state of the market," analysts at Vertical Research Partners said in a note. — Agencies

France demands 'guarantees' on Facebook's cryptocurrency

PARIS: France's finance minister said yesterday that strong guarantees were needed over the use of cryptocurrencies after Facebook announced it was leaping into the market with its own digital money. Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire, whose government has also initiated a new tax on digital giants like Facebook that has angered the United States, said such digital money could never replace sovereign currencies. "If Facebook wants to create an instrument for transactions, why not? But there is no question that this can become a sovereign currency," he told Europe 1 radio, saying a "limit" had to be set.

"It cannot and must not become a sovereign currency, with all of attributes of a currency" such as the capacity to issue sovereign debt and serve as a reserve currency. "The aspect of sovereignty must stay in the

hands of states and not private companies which respond to private interests," Le Maire added.

There need to be "guarantees" so that "this transaction instrument is not misused, for example, for the financing of terrorism or illicit activities," he said.

Le Maire, whose country currently holds the G7 presidency, said he had asked the group's central bank governors to prepare a report by mid-July. This would lay out the guarantees required from cryptocurrencies, he added, saying it was necessary to "protect consumers".

Facebook and some two dozen partners yesterday released a prototype of a cryptocurrency called Libra, whose rollout as a global digital money is expected next year. French lawmakers this year approved legislation-dubbed "Gafa" after Google, Amazon, Facebook and Apple-for a new tax on digital giants, and a joint commission of the upper and lower houses is now discussing the final details.

The plan was developed amid rising public outrage at the minimal tax paid by some of the world's richest firms. President Emmanuel Macron has presented himself as a supporter of new technologies but has also made clear that digital giants need to do much more to improve regulation.

He has been hugely critical of the failure of social media companies to crack down on extremism, and in May hosted Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg for talks in Paris.

"This transaction instrument will allow Facebook to again accumulate millions of millions of items of data," Le Maire said. "This reinforces my conviction on the need to regulate digital giants and ensure they are not in a monopolistic situation," he said.

Roller-coaster world

Cryptocurrencies live in a volatile, roller-coaster world, which Facebook is seeking to change with its new Libra digital money. The new digital currency will be overseen by a nonprofit association and backed with real assets to serve as a reliable, stable form of globally accepted money that lives essentially on smartphones. How do cryptocurrencies work? To use currencies like Libra, people will need to install software referred to as a digital wallet. Several digital wallets are available, but one called Calibra is being built by a Facebook subsidiary for Apple- and Android-powered smartphones and integrated with the social network's Messenger and WhatsApp mobile services.

This system "lets everyone store their money securely in their phone," Calibra vice president of product Kevin Weil said. A digi-



In this file photo, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg speaks during the annual F8 summit at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center in San Jose. — AFP

tal wallet chosen by the user is linked to bank accounts or credit cards for transfers or online transactions. "The same way you can pick any browser to go on the internet, you can pick any digital wallet," Weil said.

What are the advantages?

Libra was released as an open ecosystem, so any business or service may accept it for payments. Financial institutions could also offer credit or loans in Libra. "Imagine storing your life savings in your house; it is safer to take it with you on the go on your

phone," Weil said.

Calibra, for example, could be used to send money to friends or family members in another country, or shop at stores online or in the real world the same way they might use Apple Pay or Google Pay.

More than a billion people already use WhatsApp and Messenger to communicate, so providing a way to send money makes sense. "Over time, as the Libra ecosystem grows and Libra is built into products and services, there will be more things you can just do with Libra," Weil said. — AFP

Business

Heathrow publishes 'masterplan' for controversial third runway

Rivers and roads being routed to allay environmental concerns

LONDON: London Heathrow, Europe's busiest airport, yesterday issued plans for its controversial third runway, including the rerouting of rivers and roads, as it sought also to allay environmental concerns. Britain's government last year finally approved the third runway after decades of acrimonious debate.

"Heathrow today unveils its preferred masterplan for expansion," said a statement from the airport, which is owned by a consortium led by Spanish infrastructure giant Ferrovial.

The detailed plan includes "tough new measures" to reduce emissions, limit noise and curb night-time flights. The M25 motorway that rings London will be rerouted under the new runway, while river corridors will also be diverted. "We're working with those impacted residents, communities and local authorities to identify appropriate mitigation measures," the plan said.

"New river corridors will be created to channel the existing rivers and wildlife away from construction sites and the new runway." Construction is expected to start in 2022, with the runway built by approximately 2026. New terminals will not be ready until around 2050.

The expansion is expected to cost about £30 billion (\$38 billion, 34 billion euros), according to the BBC, including £14 billion on the first phase. The hub, west of London, aims to increase its total capacity to 130 million passen-

gers per day, compared with the current level of about 78 million.

Public consultation

"Expansion must not come at any cost," said Emma Gilthorpe, Heathrow's executive director for expansion, presenting a new public consultation that will run until September. "That is why we have been working with partners at the airport, in local communities and in government to ensure our plans show how we can grow sustainably and responsibly-with environmental considerations at the heart of expansion. "This consultation is an opportunity for people to have their say on our preferred masterplan," she added. Heathrow will also issue compensation for affected homeowners, and establish a noise insulation policy and a community fund. The third runway has faced stiff opposition for many years from campaigners who cited the negative impacts on noise and air pollution, habitat destruction, transport congestion, and climate change. Last month, London Mayor Sadiq Khan, along with environmental charities and local councils, lost a court battle to prevent the Heathrow expansion. Britain's Conservative government argues that the project will provide a major boost to Britain's post-Brexit economy and could create up to 114,000 local jobs by 2030.

Heathrow is owned by an investment consortium comprising also sovereign wealth funds from nations including China, Singapore and Qatar. —AFP



LONDON: A computer generated image released by Heathrow airport on June 18, 2019 shows what the airport will look like in 2050 following the completion of a third runway and new terminals. —AFP

Draghi's stimulus hints put ECB in Trump's crosshairs

SINTRA, Portugal: The European Central Bank will ease policy again if inflation fails to accelerate, ECB President Mario Draghi said yesterday, signalling one of the biggest policy reversals of his eight-year tenure and provoking the ire of US President Donald Trump.

With four years of unprecedented stimulus to revive the euro zone economy slowly bearing fruit, the ECB had been preparing markets for policy tightening, dubbed "normalization"—only to see a global trade war derail its plans within months. The problem is that with rates at record lows and the ECB's balance sheet already swelled to 4.7 trillion euros (\$5.3 trillion), its remaining ammunition is limited, raising doubts about the likely effectiveness of any further measures.

"In the absence of improvement, such that the sustained return of inflation to our aim is threatened, additional stimulus will be required," Draghi told the ECB's annual conference in Sintra, Portugal.

With just four months left of his term, the slowdown is also a threat to Draghi's legacy. The Italian's promise in 2012 to do "what-

ever it takes" to save the euro is widely credited with holding together the currency bloc during the darkest days of its sovereign debt crisis. "(We) will use all the flexibility within our mandate to fulfill our mandate—and we will do so again to answer any challenges to price stability in the future," Draghi said on Tuesday. "Monetary policy remains committed to its objective and does not resign itself to too-low inflation."

But the ECB is not alone in having to backtrack. After abandoning interest rate hikes, the US Federal Reserve may this week signal cuts in borrowing costs as global turmoil erodes confidence, hitting stocks and global trade. Trump, who has persistently called on the Fed to ease monetary policy, accused Draghi of trying to weaken the euro to gain an unfair advantage in trade. "Mario Draghi just announced more stimulus could come, which immediately dropped the Euro against the Dollar, making it unfairly easier for them to compete against the USA," Trump wrote on Twitter. "They have been getting away with this for years, along with China and others."

Trade is a main policy issue for Trump, who has raised disputes with a number of rival world economies including the European Union. Draghi's comments, which markets saw as unexpectedly dovish, sent the euro down by a quarter of a percent against the dollar while stocks crashed early losses and euro zone bond yields fell fur-

ther, many into record-low territory. Draghi has often said the ECB does not target a currency level, even if the exchange rate is an important factor for policy.

Draghi said the ECB, which has consistently undershot its inflation target of just under 2 percent since 2013, could still cut rates, adjust its interest rate guidance and had "considerable headroom" for more asset purchases.

Cameras

The P30 rivals the other latest smartphone models with three rear-facing cameras. Huawei has beefed up its chops in photography by partnering with Germany's Leica for designing the cameras for its high-end models, including the P30. The cameras are assembled by China's Sunny Optical.

Processor

The central processing unit is another area in which Huawei has sought to demonstrate its own technical prowess, developing its own line of Kirin processors, including the 980 used in the P30, but they are manufactured by a Taiwanese company. Other leading smartphone firms like Samsung and Apple have also recently moved to use their own CPUs in their phones.

But they all use a common architecture for these chipsets developed by the British firm ARM, which is now a unit of Japan's Softbank. The dedicated graphics processor also uses ARM architecture.

Memory

The RAM memory used by the processor is made by South Korea's SK Hynix, although previous versions of Huawei's top-line phones have used components from the US firm Micron. Micron,

of single-family housing units, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

Data for April was revised up to show homebuilding rising to a pace of 1.281 million units, instead of increasing to a rate of 1.235 million units as previously reported. Housing starts in March were also stronger than initially estimated. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast housing starts edging up to a pace of 1.239 million units in May.

Single-family homebuilding, which accounts for the largest share of the housing market, dropped 6.4 percent to a rate of 820,000 units in May. Single-family housing starts fell in the Northeast, the Midwest and West, but rose in the South, where the bulk of homebuilding occurs.

Some of the weakness in groundbreaking activity



LUXEMBOURG: European Central Bank (ECB) president Mario Draghi (L) looks on as he stands next to Italy's Economy and Finance Minister Giovanni Tria (right) during the Eurogroup meeting at the EU headquarters in Luxembourg. —AFP

like fellow US firms Qualcomm and Intel, has announced it will no longer supply Huawei in line with government directives.

He also said the ECB could offer "mitigating measures" to offset the unwanted side effects of negative rates, a comment indicating that a multi-tier deposit rate was also on the table. Adding an argument for urgency of action, he noted that risks to growth in the 19 countries that use the euro are tilted to the downside and that indicators for the coming quarters point to lingering softness.



In this file photo logos of US social network Instagram are displayed on the screen of a computer and a smartphone, in Nantes, western France. —AFP

Operating systems

With the exception of Apple, almost all other smartphones manufacturers use Android, the open source operating system developed by Google. The P30 uses the latest version, 9, called Pie. Like most smartphones companies, Huawei adapts Android slightly to create a unique user experience. —AFP

Connectivity

Huawei doesn't produce the wifi and Bluetooth antennas and modems used in smartphones, the standards of which are decided by associations of manufacturers. The US firms Qualcomm and Intel are the major manufacturers for wifi

New Pakistan central bank boss dismisses free floating rupee idea

KARACHI: Pakistan's new central bank governor Reza Baqir on Monday dismissed the idea of a free floating rupee as he outlined reforms aimed at ending instability in the South Asian economy.

Baqir was last month appointed to lead the central bank in Pakistan, which has been hit by ballooning current and fiscal account deficits and repeated devaluations of the rupee. Pakistan's policy is a "market based exchange rate system" that follows supply and demand, but that will not be left completely to the market, Baqir said in his first press conference as State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) governor.

"So, if there is a volatility, then state bank intervenes. You need to keep a close eye on the market. That is our regime and we want to go with this regime," Baqir added. Pakistan's currency has lost almost 50 percent of its value since December 2017, stoking inflation and putting pressure on the government as voter anger at higher prices grows.

Last week Pakistan's finance ministry signalled that worse is to come, with economic growth of 3.3 percent in the financial year ending June, well off the government's target of 6.2 percent, with growth seen falling to 2.4 percent in 2019/2020. Pakistan agreed in principle to a \$6 billion International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout in April amid speculation that the fund wanted Pakistan to adopt a free float as part of any assistance package.

Baqir, an ex-senior IMF economist, said that the government was enacting economic reforms aiming to shore up confidence. This included ending the "strong rupee" policy, which had led to pressures building up within the economy, but would not extend as far as a fully free floating currency. —Reuters

US firms say China tariffs will raise costs, see few sourcing alternatives

WASHINGTON: A wide range of US companies told a hearing in Washington on Monday that they have few alternatives other than China for producing clothing, electronics and other consumer goods as the Trump administration prepares new tariffs on remaining US-China trade. The comments came on the first of seven days of testimony on President Donald Trump's plan to hit another \$300 billion worth of Chinese imports with duties of 25 percent.

Sourcing from other countries will raise costs, in many cases more than the 25 percent tariffs, some witnesses told a panel of officials from the US Trade Representative's office, the Commerce Department, State Department and other federal agencies. Trump and top members of his cabinet have said that the tariffs, if imposed, would accelerate a move of manufacturing out of China.

But dozens of witnesses in oral and written testimony said that moving operations to Vietnam and other countries would not be feasible for years due to a lack of skills and infrastructure in those locations. China dominates global production in industries from shoes to electronics to port gantry cranes. "That 25 percent is just going to whack us on the head," said Rick Helfenbein, president of the American Apparel and Footwear Association. "If we could move more product out of China we would, but we haven't been able to." —Reuters

The smartphone: A global product

PARIS: Smartphones are a product with which China has demonstrated not only its manufacturing prowess, but its ambitions to become a cutting-edge technology developer thanks to the rise of Huawei. The company is not just in the lead in developing equipment for fifth-generation networks, it has also moved into the high-end smartphone segment.

But the US clampdown on the firm over fears Huawei's products could be used for Chinese spying demonstrates just how global the manufacturing of smartphones remains. Take for example Huawei's P30, its latest top-of-the-line smartphone, as the company's overseas sales have plummeted by 40 percent as the firm grapples with the ban on using US technology.

Screen

The P30 uses an AMOLED screen, a technology that was principally developed by the US firm Kodak. The two largest manufacturers of such screens are South Korea's Samsung and LG. Huawei buys the screens for the P30 from Samsung. Like many smartphone manufacturers, Huawei uses a chemically strengthened Gorilla Glass developed by the US firm Corning to cover the

US housing starts fall in May, but trend improving

WASHINGTON: US homebuilding unexpectedly fell in May, but data for the prior two months was revised higher and building permits increased, suggesting that the housing market was drawing some support from a sharp decline in mortgage rates. Housing starts dropped 0.9 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.269 million units last month amid a drop in the construction

What's On



Writer Abdullah Abbas Bowair recently organized a special ceremony to celebrate His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's birthday. The ceremony was also held to honor the families of the martyrs. It was held at the Crowne Plaza hotel.

Oncost Cash and Carry re-launches as Oncost

In an astute rebranding exercise, Oncost Cash and Carry has re-launched as Oncost, Kuwait's leading family grocer, and embarked upon an aggressive expansion plan that has seen its footprint increase rapidly across the country. It was in late November of 2018 that Oncost first announced it was taking over Gulfmart, the popular supermarket chain that had been operating in the country since 1999. In one swift move, the acquisition allowed Oncost to go from owning four strategically located stores, to becoming one of the leading retail brands in the country with 21 outlets spread across Kuwait.

Speaking about the takeover and the company's assertive expansion drive, the Chief Executive Officer at Oncost, Mr Saleh Al-Tunaib, said that with the takeover of Gulfmart, the total market share of Oncost in the local food market had gone up to 4 percent. He added, "Over the next five years, we plan on increasing the number of branches we own to 35, and look forward to entering new markets such as the Saudi and the UAE markets through strategic partnerships with professional retail groups in those countries."

In the wake of its acquisition and merger with Gulfmart and following a major organizational restructuring, each Oncost store is now discernible in one of three distinctive formats. The first store format, which

comprises of wholesale outlets, emphasizes the value proposition for volume shoppers. With wholesale outlets in, Sulaibiya, Hawally, Fahaheel, Jahra, Abbasiya, and two in Shuwaikh, this format is helping meet the needs of large families and small retail businesses that recognize the value of buying in bulk.

The second store format includes the supermarkets that are located in Abassiya, Salwa, Khaitan, Hawally, Fahaheel, and Farwaniya. The supermarket concept lays accent on the family shopping experience by providing a relaxing ambiance and enjoyable retail shopping environment for the whole family.

The third Oncost format follows an 'Express' concept, which has become one of the most 'in-demand' retail store formats that big supermarkets and hypermarkets are eager to expand into. The Oncost 'Express Stores', with 2 located in Salmiya and 1 Abu Halifa, reflect the friendly neighborhood grocery store, where housewives can pop down for any last minute ingredient missing in their cooking and snacks for the children. Besides the brick and mortar stores, Oncost has also had an online presence since 2017. Customers can place their orders on the website (oncost.com) and expect delivery to anywhere in Kuwait within three hours.

In addition, as part of the re-launch and restructuring, Oncost has revamped its popular membership program and rebranded it as Oncost Family Program that offers special weekly deals and wholesale family prices to members. Elaborating on the popular membership initiative by Oncost, COO Dr Remesh TA said, "Since we launched our free membership program in 2018, we now have over 80,000 members, to whom we offer cashback rewards, of up to 4 percent of purchase value, and weekly offers that provide great dis-



counts throughout the year. Furthermore, we have partnered with leading brands, such as Careem, Redtag, Twenty4, and Shifa Al-Jazira, to offer more value to our members."

Detailing the genesis of the company and its unique business model, Al-Tunaib said, "Oncost was established in 2010 as Kuwait's first professional membership based wholesale center. It was a natural development that leveraged our strength in owning slaughterhouses and operating Kuwait's Central Vegetables and Fruits Market in Sulaibiya. We opened our first branch in Alforda Market and became the first central market

to provide everything and anything from fresh vegetables, fruits, meat and fish, to household cleaning and washing products to customers at wholesale prices all under one roof.

Emphasizing the distinctive selling strategy and pricing policy of Oncost that focuses on offering an efficient assortment of products in a household-centered retail environment at competitive and wholesale prices, the CEO said, "We have a good, better and best pricing strategy that makes our product assortment accessible and affordable and attractive to all shoppers in Kuwait."

Give your mayo-heavy American potato salad a French twist

American-style potato salad, thickly dressed with mayonnaise and sweet pickle relish, is archetypal picnic fare and will always have a place on summer tables. But we've cooked (and eaten) piles of it over the years, and these days we yearn for something lighter and fresher to serve with grilled fish, chicken, and even meat.

In our mind, French potato salad is just the ticket. Having little in common with its American counterpart, French potato salad is served warm or at room temperature and is composed of sliced potatoes glistening with olive oil, white wine vinegar, and plenty of fresh herbs. We expected quick success with this seemingly simple recipe - how hard could it be to boil a few potatoes and toss them in vinaigrette? We sliced the hot potatoes, dressed them while they were still warm (warm potatoes are more absorbent than cool ones), and then served them up to our tasters.

The salad looked mangled, as the warm potatoes consistently broke apart upon slicing. We had chosen not to peel the potatoes for the sake of convenience and beauty, but the potato skins inevitably tore, leaving unsightly streaks. And the salad didn't taste much better than it looked. Despite an assertively seasoned vinaigrette, the potatoes themselves were uniformly bland. Another irksome point was that it was hard to tell when the potatoes were done. Unevenly sized potatoes made it difficult to avoid some over- or undercooked potatoes in the finished dish. This wasn't going to be as easy as we thought.

FRENCH POTATO SALAD WITH DIJON

Ingredients
Servings: 4-6

Start to finish: 30 minutes

2 pounds small red potatoes, unpeeled, sliced 1/4 inch thick (Use small



red potatoes measuring 1 to 2 inches in diameter)
2 tablespoons salt
1 garlic clove, peeled and threaded on skewer

- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons white wine vinegar or Champagne vinegar
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 small shallot, minced
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh chervil (If fresh chervil isn't available, substitute an additional 1/2 tablespoon of minced parsley and an additional 1/2 teaspoon of tarragon)
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh parsley
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh chives
- 1 teaspoon minced fresh tarragon

Preparation

Place potatoes in large saucepan, add water to cover by 1 inch, and bring to boil over high heat. Add salt, reduce heat to simmer, and cook until potatoes are tender and paring knife can be slipped in and out of potatoes with little resistance, about 6 minutes. While potatoes are cooking, lower skewered garlic into simmering water and blanch for 45 seconds. Run garlic under cold running water, then remove from skewer and mince.

Reserve 1/4 cup cooking water, then drain potatoes and arrange in tight single layer in rimmed baking sheet. Whisk oil, minced 7/8garlic, vinegar, mustard, pepper, and reserved potato cooking water together in bowl, then drizzle over potatoes. Let potatoes sit until flavors meld, about 10 minutes. (Potatoes can be refrigerated for up to 8 hours; return to room temperature before serving.)

Transfer potatoes to large bowl. Combine shallot and herbs in small bowl, then sprinkle over potatoes and gently toss to coat using rubber spatula. Serve.

Health & Science

Masters of manipulation: The evolution of 'puppy dog eyes'

WASHINGTON: Ever wondered how dogs learned to use their "puppy eyes" to bend us to their will? It turns out our pet pooches have evolved human-like eyebrow muscles, which let them make the sad faces that melt our hearts, according to a new study published on Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).

It involved dissecting the cadavers of domestic dogs and comparing them to those of wild wolves, our best friends' ancestors, whom they branched off from around 33,000 years ago (don't worry, no animals were killed for the research). A separate part of the study saw scientists videotaping two-minute interactions between dogs and a human stranger, then repeating the experiment with wolves, to closely track how much they used a specific muscle around the eye that produced an inner eyebrow raise.

The researchers found two muscles around the eye were routinely present and well formed in the domestic dogs, but not the wolves, and only dogs produced high-intensity eyebrow movements as they gazed at the human. "It makes the eye look larger, which is similar to human infants," Professor Anne Burrows of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, who was one

of the co-authors, told AFP. "It triggers a nurturing response in people."

Since the muscles were robust in the dogs but not wolves, "that tells us that that muscle and its function are selected," she added. The current study was led by Juliane Kaminski at the University of Portsmouth and also included researchers from Howard University in Washington and North Carolina State University. It builds on past work, including a notable 2015 paper by a group of researchers in Japan that demonstrated that gaze exchange between humans and their pet dogs led to a mutual spike in the so-called love hormone oxytocin, similar to an effect seen between human mothers and their babies.

But the latest work could explain how dogs are able to capture our attention in the first place. The paper also posits two other explanations for what is going on — eyebrow movement may be significant for human-dog bonding "not just because it might elicit a caring response, but also because it might play a role during dog-human communicative interactions." Humans tend to pay attention to the upper facial areas of fellow humans during communication, and the dogs could be responding to this dynamic. A final hypothesis is that exaggerated

eyebrow movements expose the white sclera of the dogs' eyes, which humans also have and find appealing in other animals (other primates have darkened sclera to camouflage their gaze).

Ancient breeds vs toy dogs

Intriguingly, a Siberian Husky that was dissected did not possess one of the two muscles that were present in other dog breeds, which pulls the corner of the eyelid toward the ears. That may be because Huskies are an ancient dog breed, and the best living representative of what the link between dogs and wolves may have looked like.

Burrows said the main limitation of the study was the small number of cadavers — four wild wolves and six domestic dogs — and that this is a potential avenue for future study. "We're also going to drill down into that interesting variation we saw in the Husky," she said. "So we would like to take a look at additional ancient breeds like the Malamute, the Samoyed, and compare that to the toy companion breeds like the Chihuahua and the Yorkie." The work could also be extended to other animals humans have maintained close contact with, including horses, who appear to produce a similar movement, and cats. — AFP



NEW YORK: In this file photo taken on September 26, 2017 Whippets gather at Madison Square Garden to celebrate 125 years of their competition in the Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. — AFP

CLINIC

PAGE

248 33 199

Dr. Ahmed Hosni Abd Elhamid
Consultant

Dr. Rany Essam Mitwally
Senior Registrar

Dr. Abeer Khattab
Specialist

Cataract Surgery

Glaucoma

Retina

General Ophthalmology

Follow-Up All Treatments

OPHTHALMOLOGY SERVICES

Follow us on Social Media: @hadclinickw

Tel: 1621282 | WhatsApp: +905-0000 2184

Dr Sahar Ghannam

Dermatology consultant, skin treatment and laser

Timing: Saturdays to Wednesdays from 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday, Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 am pm to 5 pm
Thursday from 9:30 am until 1 pm

Friday is a holiday.

Address: Fourth Ring Road - Abdallah Fadalah Street, Meidan Hawally, opposite fire station - block 35, building 31.

Clinic Phones: 25610407/ 409/ 314 Fax: 25610465
 Mobile: 90974754/ 99166746

saharpolyclinic
 Dr.saharghannamclinic
 Email: drsgderma@gmail.com

Call: 24833199 ext:101,102 or

Direct line: 24835616 / 24835617

or email: ads@kuwaittimes.com

WELCOME

Dr Tammam Abou Ali
Consultant ENT, Head & Neck, Facial Plastic Surgeon

*Following up the royal college of surgeons in UK and Ireland.
10 years work experience in King Fahad Hospital, MIM Kuwait.*

*As Head of ENT Department in Karama Hospital, MIM Kuwait.
10 years work experience in UK and Ireland.*

- Endoscopic Sinus Surgery
- Septoplasty and turbinate reduction surgery by laser or RF
- Snoring and OSAP Surgery
- Rhinoplasty with open and closed techniques
- Microscopic Middle Ear Surgery and Tympanoplasty
- Salivary gland and parotid surgery
- Thyroid and parathyroid surgery
- Micro laryngeal surgery

1 888 883

www.qmc-kuwait.com

Our Doctors Provide care For the entire Family

Book your appointments today!

Dr. Kran Turaka
Ophthalmologist

Dr. Zareena Zahir
Ophthalmologist

Dr. Hasan Khan
Senior Cardiologist

Dr. P. Seshendra Nath
Orthopedic Consultant (AUSTRALIA)
Specialist in Neck, Shoulder, Hip and Knee

50721507
24551555

www.exircenterku.com

EXIR MEDICAL SUBSPECIALITIES CENTER

Block No.4 Jahra - Kuwait

WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR INSURANCES

Tel: 24568857 / 24568858 | info@exircenterku.com | www.exircenterku.com

CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times

248 33 199

DR. MOHAMMAD AL HAJRY
Canadian Board of Otolaryngology
Head & Neck Surgery and Facial Plastics.
Fellow of Royal College of Surgeons-Canada
A rare Subspecialty in Microscopic Ear Surgery, Cochlear implant & Ear diseases

- Diagnosis/ Treatment of General Ear, Nose, and Throat conditions in adults & pediatrics
- Minimally invasive Endoscopic sinus surgery including Balloon sinuplasty
- Minimally invasive Microscopic Endoscopic Ear surgery
- Diagnosis & treatment of Otolaryngology and Audiology (Hearing loss, Tinnitus & balance disorders)
- Facial Plastic and reconstructive surgeries (Rhinoplasty, Otoplasty, Fillers & Botox injections)
- Diagnosis & treatment of snoring & obstructive sleep apnea in clinic without surgery
- Diagnosis & Treatment of voice and swallowing disorders.
- Diagnosis & Treatment of Head and Neck benign & malignant tumors.

Salmiya, Belajat Street, Tel: 1881122

DR. FAHAD S BUHAIMED
Consultant Cosmetic Dermatologist & Hair Transplant, NY

ACADAMIC CERTIFICATES:

- Dermatology board certified.
- Fellowship training program in cosmetic dermatology and hair transplant, New York, USA.
- Member of American cosmetic dermatology society.
- Referee reviewer of International Journal of Dermatology.

SPECIALIZED IN:

- Dermatology & Cosmetic Treatments.
- Laser Treatments.
- Hair Transplant & Restoration.
- Body & Face Contouring.
- Injectable Fillers & Botox.

SHARQ, Ahmad Alsheer st., Building 68, Floor 13.
Tel.: (+965) 22060777
@DrFahadmed, @FahadSabb, @FahadSabb
Email: drfahadmed@beautybeyond.com.kw

To advertise on this Page

Call: 24833199 ext:101,102
or Direct line: 24835616 / 24835617
or email: ads@kuwaittimes.com

Dr. Ahmad Alaeddine
Head of Cardiology departmenta at Dar Al Shifa hospital

- Consultant Interventional and conventional cardiologist.
- Specialised in the Diagnosis and treatment of all adult cardiac diseases, including those cases that need urgent intervention in Cath lab (primary angioplasty).

مسشفى دار الشفاء
Dar Al Shifa Hospital
Tele:1802 555

DR KHALED ALMERRI
Consultant interventional Cardiology
Department: Heart & Vascular Center

Specialized in:

- 1-Diagnostic and therapeutic cardiac catheterization (Angiography and Angioplasty). Aortic valve implantation.
- 2- Diagnosis and treatment of coronary artery diseases
- 3- Diagnosis and treatment of heart failure, cardiomyopathies and valvular diseases.
- 4-Diagnosis and treatment of high blood pressure and high cholesterol.
- 5- Diagnosis and treatment of syncope, palpitations and cardiac arrhythmias.
- 6- Non-invasive diagnostic procedures echocardiography, exercise stress test, and 24 hour blood pressure and Holter monitoring

Know your Doctor
Otorhinolaryngology (E.N.T)
Dr Hamoud Abdullah Alarouj
ENT Specialist

- Laryngology Fellowship - Canada
- Fellow of the European Board Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery
- Member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery
- Member of the British Laryngological Association
- Member of the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery
- Member of the European Laryngological Society

Specialized in:

- Management of benign and malignant vocal cord lesions.
- Vocal cord augmentation.
- Treatment of spasmodic dysphonia.
- Adenotonsillectomy using latest techniques.
- Thyroid surgery.
- Surgery for the deviated nasal septum.
- Endoscopic sinus surgery.
- Treatment of allergic rhinitis.
- Treatment of snoring.
- Treatment of vertigo.

IC INTERNATIONAL CLINIC
American Board Certified in General Surgery
Member of the Society of American Gastrointestinal & Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES)
Higher specialization in Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary surgery & Organ Transplantation
Member of many prestigious surgical societies.

- Day case surgeries
- Minor surgeries (lipoma, sebaceous cyst, ingrowing nail)
- Diagnosis, treatment and follow up of all surgical emergencies
- Hemorrhoids, fistula & anal fissure surgeries
- Surgery for morbid obesity (sleeve, gastric bypass)
- Breast surgeries
- Hernia repair
- Thyroid & adrenal surgeries
- Surgery for reflux disease
- Cholecystectomy & laparoscopic appendectomy
- Liver, pancreas & bile ducts surgeries

Dr. Hani Haider
General Surgery Consultant
http://www.international-clinic.com
Tel: 1886677

Scope of Clinical Practice:

- General & Laparoscopic Surgery
- Single Port Surgery
- Treatment of Colo-Rectal Diseases, including Colorectal Cancer
- Surgical Treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Abdomen
- Treatment of Perianal Fistula & Complex Perianal Fistula (complications)
- WART Procedure (Treatment of Fistula through Fistaloscope)
- Treatment of Irritable Bowel Symptoms
- Colonoscopy & Gastroscopy
- Stomach Balloon Insertion & removal
- Bariatric Surgery - Lap Sleeve-Gastroctomy
- Gallstones & Abdominal Hernia Surgery

Academic Certificates, Trainings & Fellowships:

- American Board of General Surgery
- Fellow of American College of Surgery
- Canadian Board of General Surgery
- Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada
- American Board of Colo - Rectal Surgery
- American Board of Surgical Critical Care

Dr. Abdullah Al Haddad
Surgery Department
Consultant General Surgery, Laparoscopic & Colo - Rectal Surgeon

مسشفى دار الشفاء
Dar Al Shifa Hospital
Tele:1802 555

DR. FAHAD AL-MUKHAIZEEM
Consultant Pediatrician

Consultant Pediatrician-Canadian & American Board in Pediatrics-Canadian Board in Pediatric Emergency

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

DR. WALEED S BUHAIMED
Consultant of General Surgery
Laparoscopic and Bariatric Surgery

Academic Certificates - Training

- Kuwait Board of General Surgery.
- (IFSO) member .
- Faculty member of (BEST).
- Member of Kuwait Surgical Association.

Scope of clinical Practice.

- Bariatric surgeries.
- Gallbladder stones surgeries.
- Abdominal wall and hernia surgeries.
- G.I. surgeries.
- Thyroid and para - thyroid surgeries.
- Anal surgeries.

email: wbuhaimed@gmail.com
Tel.: 965 22269411/ Mob.: 965 99212228
Jabriya, 4th Ring Road, Block 1A Floor 9 - Closer Center Mazaya Building

Lifestyle

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019



June's full moon, known as the Strawberry Moon, rises above the Apollo Temple in ancient Corinth, on June 17, 2019. — AFP

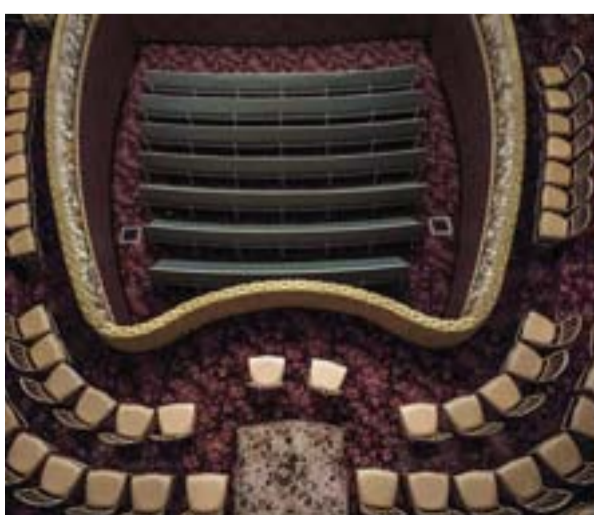
UAE gift helps French palace reopen 'forgotten theatre'



A lounge within the restored imperial theatre at the Fontainebleau palace in Fontainebleau.



Technicians putting the finishing touches to the restored imperial theatre.



A top view of the restored imperial theatre with the imperial loggia (foreground) at the Fontainebleau palace.

An exquisite 19th-century French theatre outside Paris that fell into disuse for one and half centuries has been restored with the help of a 10 million euro donation from oil-rich Abu Dhabi. The Napoleon III theatre at Fontainebleau Palace south of Paris was built between 1853 and 1856 under the reign of the nephew of emperor Napoleon I. It opened in 1857 but was used only a dozen times, which has helped preserve its gilded adornments, before being abandoned in 1870 after the fall of Napoleon III.

But during a state visit to France in 2007, Sheikh Khalifa, ruler of Abu Dhabi and president of the United Arab Emirates, was reportedly entranced by the abandoned theatre and offered 10 million euros (\$11.2 million) on the spot for its restoration. After a project that has lasted 12 years the theatre is now being reopened. An official inauguration is expected soon, hosted by French Culture Minister Franck Riester and attended by UAE Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan.

Now called the Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan Theatre, it is the latest example of the close relations between Paris and Abu Dhabi. The UAE capital already hosts the Louvre Abu Dhabi, opened by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed and President Emmanuel Macron in 2017, the first foreign institution to carry the name of the great Paris museum. Cooperation is also strong in diplomacy and the military, with the French government under fire over the use of French weapons by the UAE and its main ally Saudi Arabia in the war in Yemen.

'It had been forgotten'

For all its ornate beauty, the theatre has hardly ever been used for its original purpose, hosting only a dozen performances between 1857 and 1868, each attended by around 400 people. "While it had been forgotten, the theatre was in an almost perfect state," said the



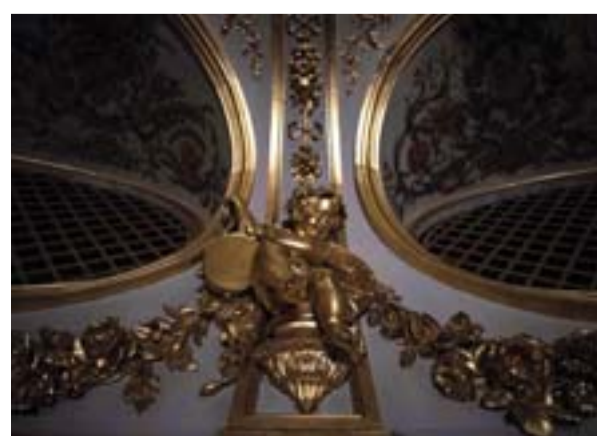
head of the Fontainebleau Palace, Jean-Francois Hebert. "Let us not waste this jewel, and show this extraordinary place of decorative arts," he added. According to the palace, the theatre is "probably the last in Europe to have kept almost all its original machinery, lighting and decor."

Having such a theatre was the desire of Napoleon III's wife Eugenie. But after the defeat, his capture in the Franco-Prussian war in 1870 and the declaration of France's Third Republic, the theatre fell into virtual oblivion. Following the renovation, the theatre will mainly be a place to visit and admire, rather than for regularly holding concerts. "The aim is not to

give the theatre back to its first vocation" given its "very fragile structure", said Hebert.

Short shows and recitals may be performed in exceptional cases, under the tightest security measures and fire regulations. But regular guided tours will allow visitors to discover the site, including the stage sets. The restoration aimed to use as little new material as possible, with 80 percent of the original material preserved. The opulent central chandelier—three meters high and 2.5 meters wide—has been restored to its original form.— AFP

A bride and groom visitors posing on the horseshoe-shaped stair case of the Fontainebleau palace in Fontainebleau some 60 kms south-east of Paris. — AFP photos



A sculpture adorning the restored imperial theatre at the Fontainebleau palace.



The ceiling of the restored imperial theatre at the Fontainebleau palace.



The imperial loggia of the restored imperial theatre at the Fontainebleau palace.



Inhaler singer **Elijah Hewson** knows dad Bono has helped his band

Bono's son Elijah Hewson admitted that his father's connections "opened doors" for his band Inhaler. The 19-year-old musician happily accepts that his dad's illustrious four-decade spanning career with U2 has allowed him more opportunities in the music industry, but he insists he feels "pressure" to succeed on his own as "those doors will shut just as fast as they open" if your songs are no good. In an interview with NME, he said: "For me and for us as a band, we've known that there's going to be doors open. There's no doubt about it, but those doors will shut just as fast as they open if we're not good. It's the pressure to step up

our game and not be s***e." The 'My Honest Face' singer went on to reveal that although he takes advice from his legendary frontman dad, Bono's opinion "doesn't take more weight than anyone else's" and insisted he doesn't "think about it too much". Elijah said: "I'll play him a tune and he'll go, 'You know what I think that has something', or he'll go, 'That's terrible.' That's really handy to have. "He's part of a four-piece too - his opinion doesn't take more weight than anyone else's. Friends and family help you along the way, but we don't think about it too much." It seems the 'Beautiful Day' hitmaker is definitely helping out his son as last month it was revealed that Bono had man-

aged to get Elijah and his bandmates a slot opening for Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds on their tour this summer and the former Oasis guitarist was clearly impressed by Inhaler, who he has described as sounding like "early U2". He previously said: "His son's got something. Eli has been getting it together for a few years and has gone through the stages most young people do. He started off a bit like The Clash, a bit angry. "They're good. They're going to do some gigs with me in the summer. They're a bit like [Echo and the] Bunnymen and early U2."

Ashcroft excited to see **Stormzy** at Glastonbury



Richard Ashcroft is backing Stormzy to provide a memorable headline performance at Glastonbury because he is the hottest pop star in Britain right now. The 'Surprised By The Joy' singer headlined the world famous festival in 2008 with his band The Verve and he believes that the timing is perfect for the Grime rapper to top the bill on the Pyramid Stage on the Saturday night because he is currently "riding the wave of popular culture". Speaking to the Daily Star newspaper's Wired column, he said: "I like Stormzy - there are times when you are riding the wave of popular culture and you are pop. They know you in the playground, they would know his name - that's how I define it. "It's like when I was a kid. We were all dancing to Madness. We didn't care where they fitted in. We just knew these songs were catchy." Some critics and commentators had questioned whether the headline slot had come too soon for Stormzy as he has only released one album so far, 2017's number one LP 'Gang Signs & Prayer'. However, the 25-year-old musician has vowed to give an "iconic" performance that will become part of Glastonbury's rich history. Stormzy previously said: "If you think I got booked for Glastonbury headline to come there and not give you an iconic headline performance, you've gone crazy. "There were so many doubters being like, 'Oh he hasn't got no number one song' or, 'Oh he's got one album out, he's not ready.' I'm there because I'm a serious musician."



Hughes' new covers LP helped him cope with Bataclan attack

Jesse Hughes says his new covers album has helped him cope with the trauma of the Bataclan attack. The musician was playing at the venue in Paris with his band Eagles of Death Metal when armed terrorists wearing suicide vests opened fire at their show on November 13, 2015, and killed 89 people and the 46-year-old musician has revealed that his new record - which was released under his pseudonym Boots Electric - helped him cope with "every bad feeling from then". Speaking to the Daily Star newspaper's Wired column, he said: "This is the playlist that walked me out of every bad feeling from then. I wanted to put a lot onto making this album so I could get those feelings out." 'Eagles Of Death Metal Presents Boots Electric Performing The Best Songs We Never Wrote' will see the star cover the likes of KISS and AC/DC but the 'Don't Speak' hitmaker explained that he took a "chance" on some of the more unexpected tracks on the record, such as Mary J. Blige's 2001 hit 'Family Affair'. He said: "There are some songs people told me I couldn't do. But in taking a chance and doing them I've performed better than I ever have." The new LP will also see Jesse perform Guns N' Roses' classic song 'It's So Easy' but despite the 'I Want You So Hard' singer covering the track, Jesse revealed that the band's frontman Axl Rose still isn't his biggest fan after he kicked Jesse off their joint tour in 2006. He said: "You want someone to hate you, but I still get laid off that dude hating me. Every Christmas I invite him to do a Christmas song with me, and I believe he'll say yes one day. If he called me to do a duet I would be there in a heartbeat."

Eavis wants BBC to stop focusing on Glastonbury weather

Emily Eavis wants the BBC to stop obsessing over the weather at Glastonbury Festival. The co-organizer of the legendary Worthy Farm event - who is the youngest daughter of the festival's founder Michael Eavis - wants broadcasters to stop focusing on wet weather at the event as she feels excessive coverage makes the rain seem worse than it is. In an interview with Radio Times, she said: "The TV producers have such power. They can focus on that and make it look much worse than it is. Do they need to capture the weather? How much of a talking point does it become? Sometimes you'd see John Peel totally drenched, with bin liners over his legs almost looking like, 'Help, get me out of here!' " Emily, 40, also went on to explain that organizers have chosen to prevent BBC cameras filming the late night areas in a bid to give festival goers more privacy. She said: "It's about giving people the choice, so they can see different stages, not just the Pyramid Stage. So we will access some of the further corners of the site and some of the smaller stages. But at the same time, we try to prevent cameras from being in the late night areas as much as possible. People don't want to think their aunt is watching them there!" Glastonbury will be headlined by The Killers, The Cure and Stormzy this year and will be joined on the bill by the likes of Liam Gallagher - who made his solo debut at the festival on the Other Stage in 2017 - Miley Cyrus, Johnny Marr, Billie Eilish, George Ezra, Kylie Minogue and many more.



Mustaine diagnosed with throat cancer



Megadeth's Dave Mustaine has been diagnosed with throat cancer. The 57-year-old frontman has revealed that he has recently found out he has the disease and he is currently undergoing treatment, which doctors have told him has a "90 per cent success rate". Announcing the news on Instagram on Monday Mustaine wrote: "I've been diagnosed with throat cancer. It's clearly something to be respected and faced head on - but I've faced obstacles before. I'm working closely with my doctors, and we've mapped out a treatment plan which they feel has a 90% success rate. Treatment has already begun." The 'Sweating Bullets' rockers have postponed all of their 2019 dates as a result, but they have vowed that their Megacruise, which takes place between October 13 and October 18, which sees them headline with acts including Anthrax, Testament and Suicidal Tendencies also due to perform, will still go ahead and they will be there in "some form". Mustaine - who is joined by David Ellefson, Kiko Loureiro and Dirk Verbeuren in the Grammy-winning thrash metal group - continued: "Unfortunately, this requires that we cancel most shows this year. The 2019 Megacruise will happen, and the band will be a part of it in some form. All up to date information will be at megadeth.com as we get it. Megadeth will be back on the road ASAP!" The Rock and Roll Hall of Famers are also still ploughing ahead with work on their first new record since 2016's 'Dystopia', whilst Mustaine says he is "thankful" to his fellow bandmates, team and his doctors for their support at this difficult time. The 'Symphony of Destruction' singer concluded: "Meanwhile, Kiko, David, Dirk and I are in the studio, working on the follow up to Dystopia - which I can't wait for everyone to hear. "I'm so thankful for my whole team - family, doctors, band members, trainers, and more."

Slipknot's Jim Root cannot compare new album to Iowa

Slipknot's Jim Root says it would be "contrived" to compare their new album to their second record 'Iowa'. The 47-year-old guitarist believes it is "bad" to talk about similarities between their forthcoming sixth studio album 'We Are Not Your Kind' and previous work the band have done, because the heavy metal outfit were different people in 2001. He said: "I would never in a million years compare anything we've done to anything we've previously done. "I don't believe in it. I think it's bad, because no matter ... I mean, you could say, 'Oh, we're gonna write the heaviest album of all time,' or, 'We're gonna write an album that sounds like 'Iowa.' " "Even if we set out to try to do so, it would never compare. We're not those people anymore. We're not that band anymore. "That was a place in time; it was a snapshot of who we were at that time; and to try to recreate that, I think, would be contrived, and our fans would see right through it. "And even if it was a great, really heavy, aggressive, organic record like that, the comparison wouldn't match up to it." Jim's comments come after Slipknot frontman Corey Taylor admitted 'We Are Not Your Kind' "lyrically has the force of 'Iowa'" and said the album "musically has the heaviness but the experimentation as well". While Jim insists he likes to look at all the band's new albums as "an evolution", he accepts the record-making processes could be compared. He added to Kerrang Radio: "I like to look at everything as an evolution. And if I'd compare anything, it wouldn't be the songs themselves; it might be the process itself. "Now, sonically, it's [the album is] gonna be different. That's another thing - sonically, you'll never match something you've done before. It's hard to chase a vibe and catch a vibe. "That's why I don't necessarily enjoy it when bands cover other songs. You'll never recreate what has been done, especially if it's something that's legendary and classic."



Rodgers headlining Liverpool International Music Festival

Nile Rodgers & CHIC will headline the Liverpool International Music Festival next month. The legendary musician and his iconic band are set to performing on July 20 as they bring the opening night of the festival to a close on the Central Stage as they are set to play the northern city's Sefton

Park. Reflecting on his memories of the city, the 66-year-old star said: "Liverpool has been the site of some of my greatest moments as an artist from our triumphant concerts there, where we are made to feel like we are from Anfield or the Old Swan to being honoured by Sir Paul McCartney at LIPA. "We cannot wait to be back to Merseyside not once, but twice this summer!" This weekend, Nile will be performing a headline concert at the Haydock Park Racecourse. When he returns to Merseyside next month for the LIMF, he joins a stacked lineup already featuring hip hop legends De La Soul alongside the likes of Ella Eyre and Kenny Dope, while there will also be a special 3Beat @ 30 30th Anniversary live performance featuring SIGMA, along with M-22, Geko and Anton Powers. Rising stars SG Lewis, NAO, Kara Mami and Grace Carter are all on the bill, while local acts LUNA, Raheem and KYAI will get to share the stage with some huge acts. Yaw Owusu, LIMF's music curator, previously said: "Amidst a stellar set of music events in Liverpool this year, I'm glad that again LIMF is able to do what it does best as it presents an accessible, inclusive and musically diverse line up that continues to be a platform for great performers and performances and truly reflects what's happening here in Liverpool. "Seven years in, it really feels like LIMF is hitting its stride and continually pushing the agenda. I look forward to seeing many people from across the city, the country and further afield, come together to enjoy great music in Sefton Park at LIMF 2019." 'Disco Classical featuring Sister Sledge with Kathy Sledge'.





US actor Dwayne Johnson accepts his Generation Award onstage during the 2019 MTV Movie & TV Awards at the Barker Hangar in Santa Monica. — AFP photos



US actress Jada Pinkett Smith accepts the Trailblazer Award onstage.



US director Anthony Russo accepts the award for Best Movie for "Avengers: Endgame" onstage.

Dwayne Johnson delivers inspiring speech at MTV Movie and TV Awards



US actor Nick Cannon (left), flanked by DJ D-Wrek, accepts the award for Best Host for "Wild 'n Out" onstage.



Daniel Levy accepts the Best Comedic Performance award for "Schitt's Creek" onstage.



Noah Centineo accepts the Best Breakthrough Performance award for "To All the Boys I've Loved Before" onstage.

Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson delivered an inspiring speech as he picked up the Icon Generation Award at the MTV Movie & TV Awards, urging people to be themselves. The 47-year-old wrestler-turned-actor decided he "wasn't going to conform to Hollywood" when he first joined the movie industry after being told to "stop working out" and to lose weight. In his acceptance speech for the prize, he told the crowd: "I thank you, all of you at home. You are the reason I'm getting this. I want to share a really quick lesson with you guys, I've learned the most powerful thing we can be is ourselves. We are still that little kid just aspiring to be something better, aspiring to be important. When I first got to Hollywood, Hollywood they didn't know what the hell to do with me. I mean I was half black, half Samoan, six-foot-four, 275-pound pro wrestler.

"I was told at that time you've got to be a certain way, you've got to drop some weight, you've got to be somebody different, you've got to stop working out, stop doing the things that I love, you've got to stop calling yourself 'The Rock.' For years I bought into it because you think, 'Oh, that's what I'm supposed to do,' and I was miserable doing that. I made a choice that I wasn't going to conform to Hollywood, Hollywood was going to conform to me. "When I was 15, I heard a quote and I'll never forget it, 'It's nice to be important but it's more important to be nice.'" "Avengers: Endgame" was the big winner at the ceremony, taking home three prizes, for Best Movie, Best Villain for Josh Brolin's role as Thanos, and Robert Downey Jr. triumphed in the Best Hero category for his part as Tony Stark/ Iron Man.

The win comes after fellow Marvel movies 'Avengers' and 'Black Panther' won the award in 2013 and 2018 respectively. Other winners at the ceremony, which was hosted by Zachary Levi at the Barker Hangar in Santa Monica, California, on Sunday night (17.06.19), included 'Game of Thrones', which won Best Show, beating off competition from the likes of 'Big Mouth', 'Riverdale', 'Schitt's Creek' and 'The Haunting of Hill House'. However, 'Thrones' stars Emilia Clarke and Maisie Williams missed out on victories in their respected nominated categories.



US actress Elisabeth Moss accepts the award for Best Performance in a Show for "The Handmaid's Tale".



US actress Sandra Bullock accepts the award for Most Frightened Performance for "Birdbox".

Best Performance in a Show and Best Hero. 'Surviving R. Kelly' - a documentary series in which several women accused the 'Ignition' hitmaker of sexual abuse - won the Best Documentary award.

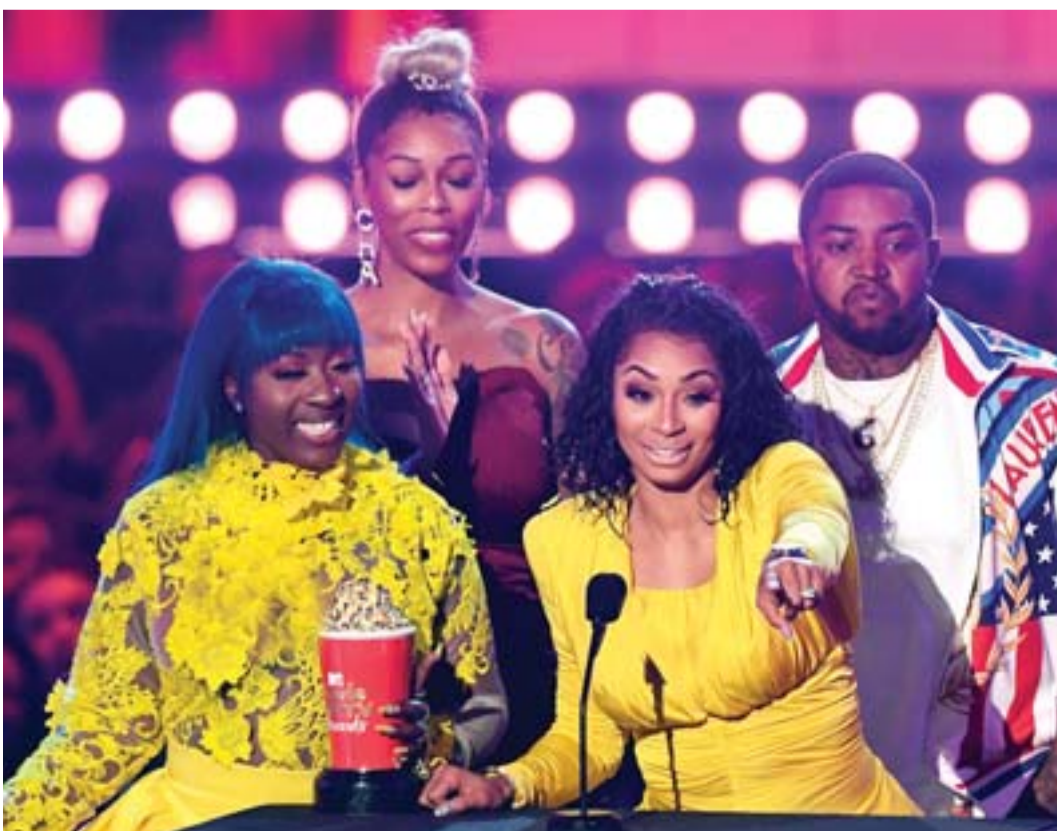
Accepting the accolade, Brie Miranda Bryant, an executive with Lifetime, told the audience: "Survivors walked through the fire and then stood again to tell this story." Noah Centineo took home two gongs on the night, scooping the Breakthrough Performance prize for his role as Peter Kavinsky in Netflix film 'To All the Boys I've Loved Before', and he and Lana Condor (Lara Jean) won Best Kiss for the film. 'A Star is Born' won two awards, with Lady Gaga taking winning Best Performance in a Movie, and another for Best Musical Moment. What's more, Jada Pinkett Smith won the annual Trailblazer Award.



(Center) Brie Larson and stunt doubles (Left) Ingrid Kleinig and Joanna Bennett accept the Best Fight award for 'Captain Marvel' onstage.

MTV Movie and TV Awards 2019 Winners

- Best Movie**
'Avengers: Endgame'
- Best Comedic Performance**
Dan Levy (David Rose) - 'Schitt's Creek'
- Breakthrough Performance**
Noah Centineo (Peter Kavinsky) - 'To All the Boys I've Loved Before'
- Best Performance in a Show**
Elisabeth Moss (June Osborne/Ofred) - 'The Handmaid's Tale'
- Best Documentary**
'Surviving R. Kelly'
- Best Hero**
Robert Downey Jr. (Tony Stark/Iron Man) - 'Avengers: Endgame'
- Best Kiss**
Noah Centineo & Lana Condor (Peter Kavinsky & Lara Jean) - 'To All the Boys I've Loved Before'
- Best Performance in a Movie**
Lady Gaga (Ally) - 'A Star is Born'
- Best Fight**
'Captain Marvel' - Captain Marvel vs. Minn-Erva
- Best Host**
Nick Cannon - 'Wild 'n Out'
- Most Frightened Performance**
Sandra Bullock (Malorie) - 'Bird Box'
- Reality Royalty**
'Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta'
- Most Meme-able Moment**
'The Bachelor' - Colton Underwood jumps the fence
- Best Show**
'Game of Thrones'
- Best Villain**
Josh Brolin (Thanos) - 'Avengers: Endgame'
- Best Real-Life Hero**
Ruth Bader Ginsburg - 'RBG'
- Best Musical Moment**
'A Star is Born' - 'Shallow'
- Icon Generation Award**
Dwayne Johnson
- Trailblazer Award**
Jada Pinkett Smith — Bang Showbiz



The cast of "Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta" accept their award for Reality Royalty onstage.



Brie Miranda Bryant (second left) Senior VP, Unscripted Development and Programming at Lifetime, flanked by Asante McGee (left), Lisa VanAllen (second right), Lizzette Martinez (right), and Faith Rodgers (third right), accepts the award for Best Documentary for "Surviving R. Kelly" onstage.



This aerial picture shows the road leading to the visitor centre for the Tham Luang cave, where 12 boys from the "Wild Boars" football team and their coach were trapped last year, in the Mae Sai district of Chiang Rai province. — AFP photos



Visitors walking up the road leading to the Tham Luang cave, in which 12 boys from the "Wild Boars" football team and their coach were trapped last year, in the Mae Sai district of Chiang Rai province.



Visitors taking photos in front of a mural, illustrating the efforts to rescue the 12 boys from the "Wild Boars" football team and their coach.

MIRACLE OF 'WILD BOARS' RESCUE TRANSFORMS THAI CAVE INTO TOURIST DRAW



Visitors exploring the visitor centre for the Tham Luang cave.



Visitors posing for photos in front of a statue of Saman Gunan, the Thai diver who died during the efforts to rescue the 12 boys from the "Wild Boars" football team and their coach.



Volunteers planting trees near the Tham Luang cave complex.

Tourists snap selfies by a bronze statue of the diver who died trying to save the 'Wild Boars' football team from a flooded cave, while mementos from their rescue fly off the shelves—scooped up by the 1.3 million people who have descended on a once serene mountainside in northern Thailand. "It's amazing what happened here. I followed everything from Australia," tourist John McGowan told AFP after taking photos at the visitor center around 100 meters from the Tham Luang cave entrance.

"I wanted to see it with my own eyes," the 60-year-old said, adding he was a little disappointed the cave is still off limits to visitors. For a few dollars tourists can get framed photos at the site, pick up posters of the footballers and take home a souvenir t-shirt — some printed with the face of Saman Gunan the Thai diver who died in the bid to save the group. There has been extraordinary global interest in the picturesque rural backwater of Mae Sai since 12 youngsters—aged between 11 and 16 — and their coach entered the Tham Luang cave on June 23, 2018.

They quickly became trapped by rising water levels and the daring, unprecedented mission to extract them through twisting flooded passageways captivated the world for 18 nail-biting days. When they emerged—after being heavily sedated and maneuvered out by expert divers—they did so into the center of a global media frenzy. The cave, which previously received around 5,000 visitors a year, has since been inundated by visitors both Thai and foreign. "A miracle has happened here with these children," Singaporean tourist Cheong, giving one name, said but adding Tham Luang "must still have a spiritual side" despite the mass popularity.

lion people visited," site manager Kawee Prasomphol told AFP. The government now has big plans for the area around the storied cave, Kawee added, allocating a total of 50 million baht (\$1.6 million) including a shopping complex, restaurants, hotels and several campsites outside the national park.



Visitors walking down the road away from the Tham Luang cave.

Vans disgorge streams of tourists who explore a visitor hub where the centerpiece is a mural entitled "The Heroes". It depicts the young footballers, stars of the rescue, and junta chief Prayut Chan-O-Cha—a reminder of the governmental fingerprints in aiding their cause. At the heart of the mural is the beaming face of Saman Gunan, the Thai Navy SEAL diver who ran out of oxygen attempting to establish an airline to the children and their coach—the only fatality across the near three-week rescue mission.

Laying white flowers at the foot of his bronze statue, Thai nurse Sumalee, who travelled four hours to the site, described him as "the hero of the whole country" in a sobering reminder of the risks involved in the rescue amid the blizzard of marketing opportunities now attached to the cave story. Nearby lottery ticket vendors are capitalizing on the perceived good fortune linked to the boys' survival and the folkloric appeal of a nearby shrine. The number of stalls has mushroomed from a few dozen to around 250. Kraingkrai Kamsuwan, 60, who moved his stall to the site weeks after the rescue, sells 4,000 tickets a month (\$2.5) but reckons more will arrive once the cave reopens. He told AFP: "People want to gamble after wishing for luck from the shrine." — AFP



Men building a new cafe on the road leading to the Tham Luang cave.

Tragedy and luck

Mae Sai district, where the cave is located, was considered off the beaten track for foreign visitors. But between October 2018 and April this year alone "1.3 mil-



A visitor buying a souvenir T-shirt on the road leading to the Tham Luang cave.



Vendors selling souvenir photos on the road leading to the Tham Luang cave.



Vendors setting up stalls along the road leading to the Tham Luang cave.



Vendors selling flowers for merit making on the road leading to the Tham Luang cave.

25 Shooting at rally marks Raptors celebration of NBA crown



26 Kuwait Amir 5th Int'l Shooting tourney concludes in Italy



27 Norway join China, Spain in WCup last 16 as France and Germany top groups



England thrash Afghanistan

England captain Morgan sets new world record of 17 sixes



MANCHESTER: England's captain Eoin Morgan plays a shot during the 2019 Cricket World Cup group stage match between England and Afghanistan at Old Trafford in Manchester, northwest England, yesterday.— AFP

MANCHESTER: England captain Eoin Morgan set a new world record of 17 sixes in an individual one-day international innings as the World Cup hosts thrashed Afghanistan by 150 runs yesterday.

Victory at Old Trafford saw favourites England go ahead of holders Australia to sit top of the World Cup group table on net run-rate. Morgan's six-hitting spree in his career-best 148 set the tone for England's team total of 25 sixes, which was also a new ODI innings record.

The Dubliner's innings was the centrepiece of England's 397-6. That was the highest total of the tournament so far and the largest England had made at any World Cup, surpassing their 386-6 against Bangladesh in Cardiff 10 days ago.

Even though bottom of the table Afghanistan, suffering their fifth defeat in five matches, posted their highest World Cup total of 247-8 they were never up with the required run-rate. There was a worrying moment

when Hashmatullah Shahidi, on 24, was hit on the side of the helmet by a Mark Wood bouncer and fell to the turf. But after several minutes' on-field treatment, Shahidi resumed his innings in a new helmet. Shahidi completed a gutsy 68-ball fifty on his way to 76, while his fourth-wicket stand of partnership of 94 with Ashgar Afghan (44) was a record for any Afghanistan wicket at a World Cup.

Earlier, Morgan, dropped on 28, dominated a third-wicket stand of 189 with Joe Root (88), whose contribution to their partnership was a mere 43. Afghanistan star leg-spinner Rashid Khan set an unwanted record with 0-110 in nine overs—the most expensive return at a World Cup and second costliest in all ODI cricket.

Morgan's tally surpassed the record of 16 sixes in an ODI innings previously shared by India's Rohit Sharma, South Africa's AB de Villiers and West Indies' Chris Gayle. He broke the record when he launched Gulbadin Naib for a flat

straight hit over the Afghanistan captain's head.

IMPRESSIVE MORGAN

But the very next ball saw Morgan hole out off Naib to end a 71-ball innings that also featured four fours. His innings, which featured 118 runs in boundaries, was all the more impressive as Morgan had been doubtful for this match with a back spasm suffered in England's eight-wicket win over the West Indies, in which he could not bat. Jonny Bairstow got England off to a solid start, with England accelerating after James Vince fell for 26 when he mishooked paceman Dawlat Zadran to short fine-leg.

In sight of his eighth ODI century, Bairstow's 99-ball innings ended when he chipped a return catch to Naib. Morgan, after an early mix-up that saw him sent back and get tangled up with opposing skipper Naib, settled in quickly.

He hit Naib for two sixes including a fine drive over

long-on. But the left-hander should have been out when he skied Rashid, only for Zadran at deep midwicket to make such a mess of the catch that the ball bounced out of his hands and over the rope for four.

Not even Zadran's eventual return of 3-85 could undo the damage of that costly error, with Morgan immediately hitting a soaring six off Rashid's next ball in a 36th over that cost 18 runs.

Root was denied a second successive hundred and third of the tournament when he holed out off Naib, whose 3-68 was a creditable return in the circumstances. But the sixes kept coming, Morgan's 11th bringing up a hundred in 57 balls, with only Ireland's Kevin O'Brien, Australia's Glenn Maxwell and South Africa's AB de Villiers having scored faster centuries at a World Cup.

England set the ODI team record for sixes when Moeen Ali launched the penultimate delivery of the innings, from Zadran, over long-on.— AFP

Platini detained in Qatar World Cup investigation

PARIS: Michel Platini, the former head of European football association UEFA, was detained for questioning by French police yesterday over the awarding of the 2022 World Cup soccer tournament to Qatar, a judicial source told Reuters.

Platini's lawyer, William Bourdon, said his client was innocent of all charges and that he was being questioned on "technical grounds."

The detention of the former soccer star was first reported by French investigative website Mediapart.

France's national financial prosecutor's office, which specialises in investigating economic crimes and corruption, has been leading a probe into the awarding of the 2022 tournament to the Gulf emirate since 2016.

It is looking into possible offences including private corruption, conspiracy and influence peddling.

"His lawyer, William Bourdon, would like to state as

strongly as possible that this is not an arrest, but rather being heard as a witness by the investigators within a framework preventing those being questioned and heard from consulting each other during the process," a statement issued on behalf of Bourdon and Platini read.

Officials with Qatar's World Cup organising committee said they had no immediate comment.

FIFA, the world governing body of soccer, said it was aware of the reports concerning Platini, who is a former FIFA vice-president, but said it had no details on the investigation.

FIFA "reiterates its full commitment to cooperating with the authorities in any given country of the world where investigations are taking place in connection with football activities," it said in a statement.

The decision in December 2010 to award the World Cup to Qatar surprised many given the lack of potential local audiences for the games, the extremely hot summer weather, and the poor performance of the country's national squad. It will be the first Arab state to host the competition. Le Monde newspaper reported that prosecutors were particularly looking into a lunch hosted by France's then president, Nicolas Sarkozy, nine days before the vote that awarded the cup to Qatar. Platini and Sheikh Tamim Ben Hamad Al Thani, who was Qatar's prime minister and is now the country's emir,

were guests at the lunch.

Platini has since acknowledged that he supported Qatar over a rival bid from the United States in the vote, but said Sarkozy "never asked him to", the newspaper said. Two of Sarkozy's aides at that time, then Elysee secretary general Claude Gueant and Sarkozy's adviser for sports Sophie Dion, were also questioned by police yesterday, judicial sources confirmed to Reuters. Dion remains detained with Platini. Gueant is a "free suspect", the source said.

A lawyer for Gueant, who was later appointed interior minister by Sarkozy, was not immediately available for comment. A spokeswoman for Sarkozy declined to comment. A lawyer for Dion could not immediately be reached for comment.

Under French law, suspects can be held for questioning for up to 48 hours. Platini was forced to leave his job as UEFA chief after he was investigated in another case over 1.8 million Swiss francs (\$1.8 million) that he received from FIFA in 2011. He was cleared in that case. As a player in the 1970s and 1980s, Platini was a prolific striker, mainly for Saint-Etienne in France and Juventus in Italy. He played in three world cups, captaining the national squad to the semi-finals in both 1982 and 1986, and leading France to victory in the 1984 European Championship.— Reuters



Michel Platini