



**2** Kuwait compiles first climate change report



**7** Houthis free 290 prisoners in move hailed by UN, ICRC



**13** Kenyans rush to swap old notes as cash ban looms



**25** Qatar to test new stadium during Club World Cup



# Controversy in S Africa over shipment to Kuwaiti abattoir

## Animal rights groups claim conditions dire on Kuwaiti livestock ship



FREMANTLE, Australia: Kuwaiti-flagged livestock carrier Al Shuwaikh is berthed at North Quay in Fremantle Harbour in Western Australia in this Oct 2, 2016 file photo. — Photo used for illustrative purposes

**PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa:** Animal rights activists in South Africa are trying to stop over 60,000 goats, sheep and cows being shipped to a Kuwaiti abattoir, saying many of them would die en route. An inspection of the Al Shuwaikh vessel revealed miserable and cramped conditions, the National Council of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA) said. "Disease, overcrowding, pneumonia, motion sickness, physical trauma and injuries, and stress creates the perfect environment for excruciating suffering and many animals will die in transit," it warned.

The Kuwaiti-flagged vessel is docked in the southeastern port of East London. The animals will be packed like sardines and "not be able to lie down or rest," NSPCA spokeswoman Meg Wilson told AFP. An online petition against the shipment has gathered 77,000 signatures so far. The NSPCA also conducted two inspections at a farm where the sheep are being raised which it said revealed abysmal conditions.

"The sheep were fighting for food, there was no shelter, including in the hospital pens, some animals looked underfed with ocular and nasal discharge. Some were blind, limping and bruised all over their bodies," Wilson said. Authorities in the Eastern Cape province, where East

London is located, said they were not aware that a ship was due to leave for Kuwait shortly carrying live animals. However, they added that all vessels had to meet "strict requirements" for animal welfare, agrarian reform ministry spokesman Ayongezwa Lungisa said.

According to the NSPCA, the ship was supposed to have left in mid-September but could not confirm if it had departed. This is the first time the Al Shuwaikh is attempting to import live animals from South Africa. Previously for a decade, it had imported animals from Australia. Last week, Australia lifted a temporary ban on controversial live sheep exports, with the first ship departing for Kuwait from Fremantle in Western Australia state last Tuesday with about 60,000 animals on board.

Australian live export trade has been under scrutiny since horrific footage of dead and dying heat-stressed sheep on vessels bound for the Middle East was released in April 2018, prompting a public outcry and forcing sweeping reforms to the industry. Though the government resisted calls to outlaw the practice entirely, a review led to a temporary embargo on live exports during the northern-hemisphere summer from June to September this year. — AFP

## Ban on shisha in indoor areas

**KUWAIT:** The Municipal Council yesterday approved a proposal to ban smoking hookah in indoor areas of cafes and restaurants. The decision will now be referred to Minister of Municipal Affairs Fahd Al-Shoula for final approval. The council also approved another proposal to seek retirees' services for preserving marine life and public parks. Moreover, it agreed to a plan to employ state-of-the-art methods and equipment for waste transport in cities and suburbs. The council turned down a request to allow contractors to use plots of land not larger than 500 sq m to erect temporary offices or warehouses throughout the country. — KUNA

## Indian workers in Kuwait, Gulf face new test

**CHENNAI:** As producer of a long-running television show that spotlights the problems faced by Indians working in the Gulf, Rafeek Ravunther is used to hearing their heart-rending stories of exploitation. But a few years ago, he started noticing something

new. Migrant workers, many of them women, were calling the show from Gulf countries saying they were being held for ransom. Their stories all followed a similar pattern - recruitment agents were holding them hostage, demanding large sums of money from their families in exchange for their release.

"The journey back home has become even more difficult for these migrants because of the demands for ransom by the agents," Ravunther told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "Many are just stuck there, often under house arrest, because their families can't pay this ransom." Ravunther's account chimes with what labor activists say is a new and growing

form of exploitation in the Gulf states, where the International Labor Organization estimates 9 million Indians work.

Last month, relatives of three victims lodged a petition with India's highest court criticizing official complaint mechanisms - the first time the government has been taken to task in court for its perceived inaction. Many victims are unskilled or semi-skilled workers lured by job agents' promises of good pay and easy work who find themselves trapped in low paying domestic jobs, often working up to 15-hour days and having to endure verbal or physical abuse.

Continued on Page 24

## MBS prefers political solution to Iran crisis

**WASHINGTON:** Saudi Arabia's crown prince warned in an interview broadcast on Sunday that oil prices could spike to "unimaginably high numbers" if the world doesn't come together to deter Iran, but said he preferred a political solution to a military one. Speaking to the CBS program "60 Minutes", Mohammed bin

Salman also denied ordering the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi by Saudi operatives last year, but said he ultimately bears "full responsibility" as the kingdom's de facto leader.

While Khashoggi's death sparked a global uproar and tarnished the crown prince's reputation, the Trump administration's tense standoff with Saudi arch-foe Iran has more recently dominated US policy toward Riyadh, especially after Sept 14 attacks on the heart of the Saudi oil industry. "If the world does not take a strong and firm action to deter Iran, we will see further escalations that will threaten world interests," Prince Mohammed, known as MBS, said through a translator.

Continued on Page 24



Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman

## Iran to open oil terminal outside Gulf

**TEHRAN:** Iran said yesterday that it is on track to create a new oil terminal on the Sea of Oman that would open a new export route for its crude and allow tankers to bypass the strategic Strait of Hormuz. The National Iranian Oil Company signed a contract worth around \$52 million yesterday with three local companies to supply 50 pumps for the pipeline project, according to the Iranian oil ministry's Shana website.

The pipeline will run from Bushehr province on the Gulf to Bandar-e-Jask on the Sea of Oman, on the other side of the Strait of Hormuz. "Construction of the Goreh-Jask pipeline and the crude oil export terminal at Jask Port are among the priority plans," Shana reported. The approximately 1,000-km pipeline will bring oil from Goreh in Bushehr to Jask, making it "strategically important as the country's second-largest crude oil export terminal," Shana reported. According to Tehran's official IRNA news agency, Jask will export its first crude within 18 months.

In Sept 2018, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani announced "a major part" of Iran's exports would be shifted to Jask from the Kharg Island terminal - deep in the Gulf. He said the project would be completed by the end of his term in summer 2021. To reach the oil terminal on Kharg Island, tankers must pass the chokepoint Strait of Hormuz - through which most Gulf oil passes - slowing deliveries by several days.

Iran has in the past repeatedly threatened to block the strait - which is used by its Gulf rivals including Saudi Arabia - when faced with sanctions on its oil exports and possible military action by the US. Washington and Tehran came close to armed conflict in June following a military escalation in the Gulf. — AFP



PATNA, India: Patients and their relatives rest in beds amid floodwaters during heavy monsoon rain at the waterlogged Nalanda Medical College and Hospital in the northeastern state of Bihar on Sept 28, 2019. — AFP

## Late monsoon fury kills 113 in north India

**LUCKNOW, India:** Heavy rains have killed at least 113 people in India's Uttar Pradesh and Bihar states over the past three days, officials said yesterday, as floodwaters swamped a major city, inundated hospital wards and forced the evacuation of inmates from a jail. India's monsoon season that begins in June usually starts to retreat by early September, but heavy rains have continued across parts of the country this year, triggering floods.

An official said that at least 93 people had died in most

populous Uttar Pradesh since Friday after its eastern areas were lashed by intense monsoon showers. Rising water levels forced authorities to shift 900 inmates from a prison in eastern Ballia district, police officer Santosh Verma said. In neighboring Bihar, an impoverished agrarian region that was hit by floods earlier this year, the death toll from the latest bout of rain had reached 20 yesterday, a state government official said.

Bihar's capital city of Patna, home to around 2 million, has been badly hit, with waist-deep flood waters across many streets, and entering homes, shops, and even the wards of a major hospital. In some parts, authorities deployed boats to rescue residents.

Continued on Page 24

## Iran now 'capable' to destroy Israel; Iraq blames Israel for base attacks

**TEHRAN/BAGHDAD:**

The commander of Iran's Revolutionary Guards said yesterday that destroying archrival Israel has become an "achievable goal" thanks to his country's technological advances. "This sinister regime must be wiped off the map and this is no longer... a dream (but) it is an achievable goal," Major General Hossein Salami said, quoted by the Guards' Sepah news site. Four decades on from Iran's Islamic revolution, "we have managed to obtain the capacity to destroy the imposter Zionist regime", he said.

Salami's comments, while not unusual for Iranian officials, come amid particularly heightened international tensions over Iran's nuclear program and a series of incidents that have raised fears of a confrontation

Continued on Page 24



Hossein Salami

## Local

# Kuwait Cabinet refers 2019-2020 state budget to Finance Ministry for further action

## Acting PM chairs weekly Cabinet session, reviewing various issues

**KUWAIT:** Ministers were briefed yesterday about a recommendation included in minutes of the meeting of the government's economic affairs committees regarding reports of the economic development commission of the Supreme Council of Planning and Development, with regards to the proposed state budget for 2019-2020, as well as government borrowing. The Cabinet decided to refer the two reports to the Ministry of Finance to take the proper decision in this regard, in coordination with the higher council. The Cabinet also examined a request by Kuwait University to approve compensation for students studying in the US who were affected with the cyclone Florence and decided to task the university, in coordination with the ministry of finance, to allot required funds for this purpose.

### Amir's letter

The Kuwaiti Cabinet held its weekly session under chairmanship of the Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Seif Palace yesterday. At the start of the session, the ministers examined a letter addressed

by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, expressing congratulations on classifying Kuwait among the 20th top countries with respect of ease of doing businesses. His Highness the Amir, in the address to His Highness the Prime Minister, affirmed significance of such uplifting for Kuwait in terms of overhauling the national economy, boosting competition, as masterminded by the head of the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority, with participation of 12 government apparatuses, in addition to contributions by civil society associations.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah informed the executives about his participation as part of the official delegations, led by His Highness the Prime Minister, to the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly and contents of the premier's address in which he called on the international community to cooperate with the UN for bolstering the world's security, stability, and combating terrorism. His Highness the Prime Minister had affirmed



**KUWAIT:** Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah chairs the Cabinet's meeting yesterday. —KUNA photo

necessity of peaceful co-existence, underlining the State of Kuwait resolve to continue supporting the UN efforts for sake of global peace and stability, as well as for backing up development for an honorable living for humankind throughout the globe, Sheikh Sabah Khaled noted during the session. He addressed the session about his participation in the annual consultative meeting of the GCC foreign ministers, held on sidelines of the

UNGA session. He also briefed his colleagues about the talks he had also held on the same occasion with his Norwegian counterpart and peers from friendly and sisterly nations.

### Condolences

The Cabinet also expressed deep condolences to French President Emmanuel Macron and the French people over the demise of former president Jacques Chirac. During the

meeting, they recalled his historic position in favor of the Arab issues and rights. The Cabinet also condemned the recent explosion in Al-Arish area in Sinai, Egypt, in which a number of security men were killed, expressing their sincere condolences to Egyptian president, government, and people as well as the victims' families, stressing Kuwait's firm stance in rejecting terrorism in all its forms and types. —KUNA

### News in brief

#### 15,000 traffic violations per day

**KUWAIT:** Traffic statistics raised a red flag towards increased violations reaching 15,000 per day, ie 645 traffic violations per hour. The traffic planning and research department recorded 4 million violations since the start of the year until Saturday. It was noticed that women were more compliant with the traffic law, as 500,000 violations were recorded by them, compared to 3.5 million violations committed by men. Stats also showed that speeding topped the number of violations, followed by running red lights. Meanwhile, 400 violations were recorded against policemen for speaking on the phone while driving, while hundreds of the motorists were involved in texting while driving. Psychologists warned that a lack of applying the law equally will result in more violations and points at a social defect. They said violating the traffic law is an aggression against state rights and endangers people's lives. It also indicates that concerned authorities are unable to enforce the law. —Al-Qabas

#### Kuwaitis marrying non-Kuwaiti women

**KUWAIT:** Justice ministry statistics over the past five years showed 2018 saw the highest number of Kuwaitis marrying non-Kuwaiti women. Stats showed 2,500 marriages of Kuwaitis with non-Kuwaiti women, compared to 2,253 cases in 2017, 2,316 in 2016, 2,306 in 2015 and 2,276 in 2014, a total of 11,651 such marriages in five years. —Al-Qabas

#### 'Nonfunctioning' security cameras

**KUWAIT:** Informed sources said the public prosecution's investigations into the border security cameras deal, based on a memo from the interior ministry, revealed that several of them were not operated since they were installed in 2014, and others were not completely installed. Moreover, several of those cameras malfunctioned only days after installation and were not repaired despite the valid warranty at the time, adding that this caused losses of more than KD 100,000. The sources said a public prosecution team examined the cameras along the country's borders for 18 hours. They said the cameras are heat-seeking and supposed to photograph anyone attempting to infiltrate the country or attempt to smuggle banned material under all weather conditions. But the surprise was that the cameras were out of commission for five years without any interior ministry leaders calling for their repair or calling the supplying company for maintenance. The investigations revealed correspondence between the border departments and the financial department at the interior ministry regarding the cameras' functionality, but those sectors did not demand their replacement or repair as stipulated in the warranty contract with the supplier. —Al-Jarida



**KUWAIT:** Nuwaiseeb customs officers found a pistol and five rounds with a Gulf national upon his arrival into the country. The pistol was hidden under the seat. The suspect and the gun were sent to concerned authorities. — By Hanan Al-Saadoun

## Kuwait compiles first climate change report

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's Environment Public Authority (EPA) has issued its inaugural report over the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which contains the latest information on how the Gulf state is coping with the global challenge. When compiling the report, Kuwait's environment agency strictly adhered to the provisos under the aforementioned UN framework, EPA chief Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Sabah said in a statement. He mentioned His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's plan to have 15 percent of the country's energy needs come from renewables, which in turn, would help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the long run. The report was a major collaborative effort

involving numerous state bodies, the official revealed, saying EPA remains committed to all global conventions over climate change. The report primarily pinpoints the factors responsible for climate change in Kuwait, according to EPA's Assistant Director General for Environmental Inspection Dr Sameera Al-Kanderi. On climate change statistics, total greenhouse gas emissions recorded in Kuwait in 2016 amounted to 86,336 million tons, with that figure likely to be slashed by four percent by the year 2035, said Sharif Al-Khayat, an EPA researcher. The oil industry's marquee projects, including those focusing on renewable energy, will be highly instrumental in bringing that plan to fruition, he added. —KUNA



**KUWAIT:** EPA chief Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Sabah (right) and assistant director general Dr Sameera Al-Kanderi attend a press conference yesterday to announce the report. — KUNA

## Kuwait's Deputy FM meets UN official



**KUWAIT:** Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah meets with the WFP Regional Director for Eastern and Central Africa Erika Jorgensen. — KUNA

**KUWAIT:** Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah met yesterday with the UN World Food Program (WFP) Regional Director for Eastern and Central Africa Erika Jorgensen and her accompanying delegation on the occasion of visiting the country. The talks between the two sides focused on means of enhancing bilateral ties and cooperation

between Kuwait and the World Food Program. During the meeting, Erika Jorgensen praised Kuwait's leading role in the humanitarian field and supporting the program activities. The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister for the Deputy Foreign Minister's office Ambassador Ayham Al-Omar. — KUNA

## Gulf security requires clarity at states' level: Kuwait



**RIYADH:** Officials attend the General Security Directors of the GCC's meeting in Riyadh yesterday. — KUNA

**RIYADH:** Kuwaiti Interior Ministry Undersecretary for General Security Affairs Sheikh Faisal Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah affirmed yesterday that security development in the region requires clarity and sincerity, hinting to the favored approach that should be taken by the regional nations in this respect. This came in a statement after the meeting of the General Security Directors of the GCC. Sheikh Faisal stressed on responsibility to achieve "our

peoples' aspirations and hopes in stabilizing the region." He confirmed that GCC countries are working together as a whole in securing the area and facing all challenges that threaten it. He noted that despite the rising concerns because of terrorism and radicalism, all GCC countries are cooperating in defeating them. The undersecretary expressed his appreciation to all officials for preparing and organizing this meeting. — KUNA

## Kuwait Progressive Movement ends boycott, to run for parliament

By A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Progressive Movement (KPM) yesterday announced its intention to take part in the upcoming parliamentary elections to be able to address the public and mobilize public opinion against violations of freedoms, democracy and public gains. In a press release it issued yesterday, KPM added that the aim of taking part in the elections is to expose what it described as the organized looting of Kuwait fortunes, expose corruption, defend public funds and gains and reject any infringement of those gains. "For us in KPM, running for the coming parliamentary elections is not motivated by illusions about achieving reform from within the parliament regardless from the role to be played by the people. It is rather a chance to address the people and mobilize public opinion," the KPM statement.

Further, KPM noted that after boycotting parliamentary elections in 2012 and 2013 in protest against the one-vote law, which it still rejects, with the nearness of the opening of the last term in this parliament's tenure, the proximity of the coming elections and the noticeable electoral activity by many nominees and political blocs, it decided to run in the coming elections to advocate public freedoms and social and democratic gains, expose corrupt practices and "organized looting of public funds and fortunes." KPM also promised to follow a different electoral and parliamentary approach and to make use of and revive earlier democratic opposition experiences of the 1960s and 1970s.

## Minister hypes up arts gathering

**KUWAIT:** A pan-Arab gathering bringing together arts enthusiasts in Kuwait next week is an opportunity for the youngsters to exchange views over their common hobby, said a minister yesterday. The five-day forum, which will attract participants from the Gulf region and beyond, is a testament to the fact that Arab youth have increasingly begun to foray into the field of arts, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Mohammad Al-Jabri said in a statement. The event, which features a slew of workshops and lectures given by experts, will "prove beneficial" for participants as they seek to further their fledgling art careers, added the minister. Such gatherings are also indicative of the support youngsters in the Gulf region have been offered, he emphasized, saying he was confident that Kuwaiti participants would steal the show. — KUNA

Local

# Kuwaiti Deputy Amir receives Kenyan ambassador, Sheikh Dr Ibrahim Al-Duaij

Acting Prime Minister, UAE ambassador discuss relations



KUWAIT: His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Ambassador of Kenya to Kuwait Ali Abbas. — KUNA photos



His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Sheikh Dr Ibrahim Al-Duaij Al-Sabah.



Acting Prime Minister and Defense Minister Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah meets with UAE Ambassador to Kuwait Saqer Nasser Al-Raisi.

KUWAIT: His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received yesterday at Seif Palace Ambassador of Kenya to Kuwait Ali Abbas, over the end of his duties. Head of Protocol at His Highness the Crown Prince's Diwan Sheikh Mubarak Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah attended the meeting. Meanwhile, His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad received Sheikh Dr Ibrahim Al-Duaij Al-Sabah.

Separately, Acting Prime Minister and Defense

Minister Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah met with UAE Ambassador to Kuwait Saqer Nasser Al-Raisi, holding talks on bilateral relations. The discussions dealt with vital issues of common interest as well as relations, said the Ministry of Defense in a statement. Raisi extended an invitation to Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad from Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum to attend the 16th Dubai Airshow

2019 in November, it added. Sheikh Nasser Al-Ahmad expressed appreciation to Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid for the invitation and wished him good health and for the UAE to continue prospering.

In other news, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of condolences on Monday to the President of the Republic of China Xi Jinping, expressing sorrow over earlier factory fire that broke out in Ninghai county, eastern

Zhejiang province. In his cable, His Highness the Amir wished as well speedy recovery to all injured in the fire. His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables on the tragic incident. Earlier, the fire incident occurred at a facility owned by the Ruiqi Daily Necessities Company, killing 19 people and injuring 10 others. — KUNA



KUWAIT: His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah meets with French President Emmanuel Macron. — Amiri Diwan photos

## Amir's representative attends France ex-president's funeral

PARIS/KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's Representative, His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, attended the funeral ceremony of former French President Jacques Chirac, Sheikh Nasser passed on the condolences of His Highness the Amir and His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for the passing of the late president.

Meanwhile, Deputy Minister of Amiri

Diwan Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah visited the French embassy in Kuwait and conveyed condolences on behalf of His Highness the Amir for the death of Chirac. In addition, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah also conveyed condolences from His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah as well as Kuwaiti people and Government for the death of former president. —KUNA



His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah attends the funeral of former French President Jacques Chirac.



French Ambassador to Kuwait Marie Masdupuy welcomes Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah.

Ready for the Beach ??

**Kuwait Times**  
Established 1961

Subscribe or renew your subscription  
& get K.D 50

**1 Coupon FREE**

P.O. Box 1301 Safat, 13014 Kuwait | Tel: 24833199 - 24833358 - 24835616/7  
Fax: 24835620 - 24835621 | E: info@kuwaittimes.net

## Local

## Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: Men stare at the sea through a window from Al-Hamra Tower in Kuwait City yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

# Warba Bank launches Al-Rowad Program, adopting university students' innovations

Supporting the young generation being a key pillar of development and sustainability



A group picture on the sidelines of the events.



KUWAIT: Shaheen Hamad Al-Ghanem, Warba Bank's CEO (left), speaks during the launching event of Al-Rowad Program 3rd edition. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT: Shaheen Hamad Al-Ghanem, Warba Bank's CEO, stressed the bank's endeavors to support students and youth, being the most important pillar of comprehensive development, and the most important element of sustainability which comes within the priorities of Warba Bank. He also pointed that the key reason behind achieving positive results and growth at various levels is the huge investment Warba Bank is dedicating to its manpower.

During his speech at the launching event of Al-Rowad Program 3rd edition, Ghanem said "Al-Rowad has succeeded in stimulating the capabilities of Warba Bank employees to innovate more banking products and services that satisfy customer needs. The 3rd edition has been dedicated for university students from all over Kuwait and will kick off in September 30th and ends on December 1st, 2019."

He further elaborated that the idea of Al-Rowad Innovation Program has emerged from the bank's desire to support its employees and allow them to play a key role in enhancing the bank's position, along with the possibility of professional development, especially as their innovative ideas will be adopted and later implemented. They will be rewarded by the bank for their dedication and interaction with this Program yielding in the best interest of the bank. Through this program, employees wishing to participate can present their developmental and innovative ideas in the bank's various operational and administrative processes. These include: improving online and mobile banking channels, designing new and unique products and services, proposing mechanisms to develop customer service and increase their loyalty, in addition to presenting perceptions on how to enhance the bank's brand.

Due to the great success the program has achieved, Warba Bank decides to expand the scope of the program to allow university students to enroll as well. Warba Bank's initiative stems from its corporate social responsibility towards the youth to help them become apprentices

under experts in the financial sector; experience difficulties and challenges they may encounter later; formulate deep understanding of the customer needs and try to respond thereto by introducing more innovations that contribute to making each customer's banking experience a pleasant and seamless one. The program also stimulates youth spirit of innovation and competition while adopting their ideas turning them into real banking

products. Participating students at Al-Rowad will have the opportunity to receive valuable cash prizes at the end of the program.

This year, Warba Bank will open the field for the third and fourth year students of Kuwait University, Australian College of Kuwait, Gulf University for Science and Technology and the American University in Kuwait to participate in Al-Rowad Program in its third edition, where a specialized committee from Warba Bank will select the talented candidates from each university so that a team representing the university consisting of 5 students in any discipline will be formed later, not necessarily from the Faculty of Finance and Banking, in order to compete among themselves. The program will last for 10 weeks, with a number of workshops so as to enrich the students' knowledge in this field and provide them with all the necessary knowledge in the banking sector in order to

make it easy for them to develop innovative services and products that enrich the banking sector. "The winning team will be selected from the participating teams based on several criteria including innovation, outside the box ideas. In addition to adopting the idea and converting it into a final banking product launched on a further stage by Warba Bank. The participants will receive rewarding prizes," Ghanim said.

In his speech, Mohammed Atef Al-Shareef, Chief Strategy and Digital Officer at Warba Bank, stressed that Warba Bank aspires to be the Islamic bank champion in the investment and corporate sectors as well as to provide digitally enabled retail banking services to its customers, in order to achieve this goal, Warba Bank launched Rowad program back in 2016 to represent Warba's innovation program in the form of a box of ideas that allows employees to share their innovative and creative ideas, which once selected, will be transformed into a banking product. He further elaborated that the expansion of Al-Rowad program to include university students stems out of the bank's social corporate responsibility and the bank's desire to pass this experience to the younger generation so that they have the opportunity to enter the banking sector and unleash their ideas and innovations in this field.

Meanwhile, Professor Antonis Sementeras, the Dean of the Faculty of Management Sciences at the Gulf University of Science and Technology, welcomed Warba Bank initiative saying: "We highly appreciate Warba's initiative to support university youth and give them the opportunity to participate at Al-Rowad. We highly believe in our students' abilities to achieve progress and success in their academic and practical lives due to the skills we implant in them during their study at GUST. We highly believe in our students due to their several previous experiences in similar competitions and programs that focus on finding solutions in science, IT, marketing and communications."

In the same context, Dr Hanan Muthaffar, Vice

President for Student Affairs at the American University in Kuwait, said: "We are delighted to be part of Al-Rowad where our students will have the chance to develop their skills and enhance their career path. Al-Rowad will provide them with a real-life experience to practice what they have learned at the American University of Kuwait, through a solid program, while building their teamwork, work ethics, competing spirit and gain the necessary skills they need to succeed in their future careers."

Dr Asma Al-Fadhil, Director of Innovation Center at Kuwait University, commented on the participation of Kuwait University students. "I would like to thank Warba Bank for cooperating with the Innovation Center at Kuwait University and giving our students the opportunity to be part of this program which also comes in line with our strategy to develop the scientific and practical skills of our students and enthruse them to compete."

In his speech, Dr Iyad Salhia, Assistant President of Student Affairs at ACK, said that Al-Rowad is an excellent platform to work with banking experts as well as a golden opportunity for students to demonstrate their academic and personal skills. He added that being part of Al-Rowad program comes in line with the vision of the Australian College of Kuwait which aims to build manpower equipped with necessary practical knowledge and skills in order to efficiently contribute to economic development in the State of Kuwait. This vision is based on meeting the needs of the labor market through providing our students with the required educational program and experiences gained through problem solving, project implementation and systematic training."

In conclusion, Ghanem expressed his wishes and firm determination saying: "Warba Bank will provide favorable environment for the students to widen their horizons and prepare them for the labor market. Participation in the program will give them the chance to join Warba Bank team where they will be able to achieve further development on their future career."



First of its  
kind in  
Kuwait

# New China in 70 years: From agrarian backwater to industrial powerhouse



Trainees attend a training course in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, July 22, 2019. (Xinhua/Li Yibo)



A staff member controls a robot with 5G technology during an international mobile Internet of Things expo in Yingtan, east China's Jiangxi Province, July 18, 2019. (Xinhua/Zhou Mi)

An agrarian backwater that struggled to feed its population 70 years ago, China is now an indispensable supplier in the global industrial chain, manufacturing and exporting everything from daily necessities to high-speed trains.

The following are quick walk-throughs of the tectonic shifts in China's industrial strength and the drivers behind the changes, which may offer a glimpse of the country's industrial future.

## How was the 'world factory' built from scratch?

From having only mining, textile and some simple manufacturing industries to covering nearly all industrial categories, China's emergence as the 'world factory' is built upon low labor and production costs compared with that of more developed countries.

The country's reform and opening-up drive in the

late 1970s enabled the more adventurous entrepreneurs in coastal cities to start their own businesses, overcoming difficulties and successfully turning small workshops into big manufacturing companies.

Since then, China's manufacturing sector started to take off. World Bank data showed that China overtook the United States as the world's largest manufacturing country in terms of added value in 2010 and has retained first place ever since.

## How China has moved up the industrial value chain?

Coming into the 21st century, China started to focus on high-tech and advanced manufacturing sectors, with a modern industrial system gradually taking shape.

Apart from the traditional 'Made in China' tags on the store shelves, high-speed trains and semi-conductors are becoming the new signatures for Chinese

manufacturing.

In 2017, the high-tech sector's prime operating revenue above the designated size came in at 15.9 trillion yuan (about 2.2 trillion U.S. dollars), up 55.8 percent than the same period in 2012.

The rapid development can be attributed to the continuous investment in research and development, with its expenditure surging 83.6 percent in the same period to 318.3 billion yuan.

## How will China's industrial strength contribute to a shared future?

Over the past decades, China's industrial development has benefited from open cooperation with other countries, and its gaining strength will in turn help deliver more opportunities for other market players.

In June 2019, China officially approved 5G com-

mercial services, marking the start of a smart new era as the application of the superfast wireless technology helps connect more things, services and market players.

Foreign enterprises including Nokia, Ericsson, Qualcomm and Intel have been deeply involved in the experimentation of the technologies, and Chinese regulators have welcomed enterprises from home and abroad to actively participate in the building, application and promotion of its 5G network and share the sector's development dividends.

As the 5G case has showed, China's industrial ambition means more opportunities for domestic and foreign companies to compete and prosper together. The one propeller for the country's industrial upgrading is to keep opening up its market and economy to the world.

## Seventy years of change measured in just 'one hour'

In China, what can be achieved in a single hour? The answer today is quite different from that 70 years ago when the People's Republic of China was founded. Sitting in his reaping machine, Zhao Shunhua, a 53-year-old farmer in central China's Hunan Province, can harvest rice from nearly 0.2 hectares of field within one hour. It is about 30 times faster than the past when he used to finish the same amount of work manually.

'I can still remember the old days when I worked in the fields before dawn and got sunburned, just to reap the early rice and plant for the next season,' Zhao said.

In every hour in the first half of 2019, each Chinese contributed 7.4 yuan (about 1 U.S. dollar) to the country's GDP, over 500 times higher than in 1952.

The hourly money spent online by Chinese consumers today is 1.1 billion yuan, while the country's total retail sales of consumer goods was only 3 million yuan in 1952.



A giant screen displays sales on Alibaba's online marketplace Tmall for Singles' Day shopping spree in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 11, 2018. (Xinhua/Huang Zongzhi)

Most Chinese people in 1949 never dreamed of setting foot on foreign soil, while there are 19,000 trips made every hour today by Chinese travelers going abroad.

A single mine in Shenmu, a major coal production base

in northwest China's Shaanxi Province, has an annual output higher than the country's total in 1949, digging out 3,700 tonnes of coal every hour on average.

Seventy years on, China has transformed itself into the second largest economy in the world, with

the largest foreign exchange reserves, the largest social security system and the largest output of industrial products.

Even greater Chinese miracles promise to emerge as the hourglass is turned once more.



A farmer harvests wheat in Xizhuang Village of Tangshan City, north China's Hebei Province, June 18, 2019. (Xinhua/Liu Mancang)

## Chinese life expectancy more than doubled in past 70 years

'Many people died in their 30s or 40s when I was a child, and living to be 60 was considered longevity,' said Chen Zhixiang, an 81-year-old retired teacher who grew up in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

Chen can't remember eating meat during his childhood. As he recalled, people suffered from a scarcity of food and clothing at that time, and if anyone caught an epidemic disease there was little hope of a cure.

That, however, has become history. The average life expectancy of Chinese people has more than doubled in the past 70 years.

According to statistics from the National Bureau of Statistics, the life expectancy of Chinese people has been continuously increasing from 35 in 1949 to 57 in 1957, 68 in 1981, and reaching 77 years in 2018.

China's per capita disposable income was 49.7 yuan (7 U.S. dollars) in 1949 but reached 28,228 yuan in 2018, an increase of nearly 60 times in real terms after deducting price factors.

With a more affluent life, people are enjoying healthier and more nutritious diets. Fresh vegetables and fruits of every season and from every corner of the country are available all year round.

Smallpox has been eradicated completely, and there are no more local cases of malaria. Endemic diseases, such as iodine deficiency disorders, have been effectively controlled or eliminated. Full basic medical coverage has been achieved.

'My little sister died of diarrhea and dehydration at the age of three. If only she had been born now!' Chen sighed.



An elderly couple poses for photos at the library of Binhai New Area in north China's Tianjin, Aug. 7, 2019. (Xinhua/Li Ran)

Not only has death from minor illnesses become history, but living a long and healthy life is increasingly becoming the norm.

China has been promoting the Healthy China initiative, which aims to improve the national health policy and ensure the delivery of comprehensive lifecycle health services for the Chinese people.

In 2016, China's healthy life expectancy reached

68.7 years, surpassing that of the United States for the first time. Chinese people not only live longer lives, but also healthier ones.

'Now people over 65 can enjoy a free physical examination every year, and most diseases can be found and treated in time,' said Shi Kecun, 86, who lives in Shizhai Village of Shanxian County, east China's Shandong Province.

'The number of people looking after their health is increasing. Living to my age is not rare in the village, and some people even live to over 100 years old. Our county has been rated a 'longevity town', Shi said.

Living a long and healthy life, the sincere wish of Chinese people for thousands of years, is becoming a reality.



Shen Xuean (2nd R, front), 84, has a gathering with her family members at Jiu'an senior center in Nanxun Town of Huzhou City, east China's Zhejiang Province, Sept. 13, 2019. (Xinhua/Tan Jin)



Islamabad summons Indian diplomat over cross-border shelling

Diplomatic gatecrashers? UN sees dueling delegations from Venezuela

Page 9

Page 9



PARIS: A view shows pall bearers carrying the coffin of former French President Jacques Chirac as relatives attend a private burial for the late President at the Montparnasse Cemetery in Paris yesterday. Former French President Jacques Chirac died on September 26, 2019 at the age of 86. —AFP

# France bids farewell to ex-president Chirac

## Ex-president opposed US invasion of Iraq; Putin among leaders at funeral

**PARIS:** World leaders, past and present, stood in silence in Paris yesterday at a funeral service for Jacques Chirac, the French leader remembered at home for his folksy charisma and abroad for opposing the 2003 invasion of Iraq. France's Emmanuel Macron, Russia's Vladimir Putin and former US president Bill Clinton were among the mourners in the aisles of the Saint Sulpice church for the mass in memory of Chirac, who died last week aged 86.

Chirac's coffin, draped in the French flag, rested at the front of the church after having been driven in a procession escorted by police motorcyclists along streets lined by thousands of Parisians. Chirac, who served as president from 1995 to 2007, was feted by many French people for asserting their country's role as a global player, a stance that put him at odds with Washington over the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Chirac was from his earliest years a member of the French establishment, but he also had a knack for con-

necting with ordinary people outside the urban elite. A court conviction after he left office for misusing public funds did little to tarnish his image. "This former president ... had a true love for people, equally at home in the salons of the Elysee or the living room of a farmer," Archbishop of Paris Michel Aupetit told the roughly 2,000 people gathered in the church. He said Chirac embodied a love for his fellow man that is missing from today's society. "Goodbye, and thank you Monsieur Chirac," Aupetit added.

### Widow absent

Chirac's widow Bernadette was absent from the funeral mass because of frail health, the archbishop said. Earlier, 86-year-old Bernadette and other members of Chirac's family attended a private service in the Hotel Des Invalides, the public building where Chirac's body had lain in state over the weekend. Other leaders at the Saint-Sulpice funeral included German President

Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Lebanese Prime Minister Saad al-Hariri. Prince Edward, youngest son of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, also attended. European Commission head Jean-Claude Juncker pulled out for health reasons, a spokeswoman said.

President Macron will host the visiting leaders at a lunch at the Elysee Palace, though Putin was expected to fly out before the lunch, the Elysee said. Earlier yesterday, Chirac's coffin was taken from the Hotel Des Invalides - originally a home for wounded servicemen - by a military honor guard. A somber-looking Macron bowed his head in front of Chirac's casket before 10 members of the elite Republican guard lifted the coffin onto their shoulders and marched out of the building's courtyard as a band played Chopin's funeral march.

### Venue changed

The last three French presidents to die, Charles de Gaulle, Georges Pompidou and Francois Mitterrand, all

had their funeral masses at Notre Dame cathedral. The Saint-Sulpice church was chosen for Chirac's service because Notre Dame was partially destroyed in a fire in April this year. Chirac is to be buried later on at the Montparnasse cemetery in Paris, in a plot next to his daughter Laurence, who died in 2016. Over the weekend, thousands of people queued outside the Hotel des Invalides to pay tribute to Chirac. His coffin was on display, draped in the French flag and in front of a large photograph of a smiling Chirac.

Chirac was "someone who had a different idea of his role, of France's role in the international community, who showed it in difficult situations," said Paris resident Remu Issons, who was among the crowd at the lying-in-state. Crowds gathered too at Paris town hall, where Chirac served for 18 years as mayor. "My heart is heavy," said Anne Firmin, who was looking at a display of photographs of Chirac at the height of his political power. "For me, it's my whole youth." —Reuters

## Reinforced grave and tamper-proof casket: Battle for Mugabe's corpse

**HARARE:** After weeks of delays Zimbabwe's former ruler Robert Mugabe was finally buried over the weekend, closing a battle between the state and his family over the fate of his remains. Mugabe was buried at the weekend in a low-key private ceremony at his natal village. But the decision to finally bury him at a private rural home amid tight security came after a battle played out for weeks between Mugabe's family, local traditional chiefs and the government.

Mugabe, who died aged 95 at a Singapore hospital on September 6, was laid to rest 22 days later in a concrete cast grave in the courtyard of his rural Kutama home, 90 kilometers west of the capital Harare. Inside the grave, the coffin was placed in a container and then covered with a maroon lid. At its head, "RG Mugabe" was inscribed on a yellow plate. Heavy rectangular blocks matching the shape of the grave were piled on top of the coffin, an AFP photographer saw.

The original coffin, in which Mugabe's remains were flown from Singapore, was changed, said family spokesman Leo

Mugabe, the former president's nephew. "We wanted a tamper-proof casket because of (the fear of) rituals," he told the Zimbabwe Television Network last week. Mugabe had told his wife to guard his body once he died for fear it could be used by his opponents for ritualistic purposes, he added. "People are after his body or his body parts," Leo Mugabe was quoted as saying.

### 'Rituals, privatized legacy'

Family members have said the decision to bury Mugabe at the village should not be misconstrued as bad blood between the government, the ruling party and the former first family, but a fulfillment of his wishes. The family had initially agreed to a government-sponsored special mausoleum. Its construction was already underway at a public shrine in Harare, where dozens other liberation war heroes are buried.

But in a surprise about-turn it was announced the burial was going to be Kutama village. It was only at the burial on Saturday that family members explained that Mugabe had indicated that when he died he did not want to be buried at the national shrine because he had been "ridiculed". Mugabe was bitter over his ouster nearly two years ago and the role played by his then deputy, Emmerson Mnangagwa, who was elected president after Mugabe was toppled.

A family source told AFP that one family member had even wanted to bury Mugabe

on the grounds of his vast Blue Roof mansion in an opulent Harare suburb, but municipal laws forbid burial in non-cemetery designated space. The burial of the former statesman, who was idolized as a pan-Africanist, has been shrouded in mystery, political intrigue and superstition. On Saturday Mugabe's sister Regina Gata praised his widow Grace for "standing her ground and defending the body so that it would not be defiled".

While she did not name anyone, she said there were people who had wanted to carry out traditional rituals, but "we stood firm because Mugabe was a Christian". Nevertheless, one family member has said that hours before the body was brought out of the house for burial, Grace, a traditional chief and a few other relatives had shut themselves in the room where the Mugabe's body lay in state. "We don't know what they were doing and some family members are suspecting there were some rituals," said the family source, who asked not to be named.

### 'Political gimmicks'

Fewer than 300 relatives attended the burial, and no top government officials were present, something Leo Mugabe refused to comment on. But for independent political scientist Richard Mahomva, it was tragic that Mugabe's legacy was being "privatized", "trivialized" and "villagized" by having him buried in a private space. "It erases him from his illustrious contribution to the birth of



KUTAMA: A lid bearing a number plate with the name RG Mugabe is seen on the coffin of former Zimbabwe president Robert Mugabe as the coffin is lowered at his home village in Kutama on September 28, 2019.

Zimbabwe, it erases him from being an international political stalwart," Mahomva said. There has been a "battle for the corpse of Mugabe" between the state and Mugabe's political allies, he said.

"The state also had interest in the corpse of Mugabe because the state needed legitimacy following the 2017 coup, he added. "It was not just a corpse.... it was a corpse that

was engraved with so much political access for anyone who is interested in legitimizing their political stand." The ruling Zanu-PF said in a statement that it respected the family's wishes to bury him wherever they wanted to. But it added that it was "saddened when manoeuvres that border on political gimmicks begin to unfold on an issue concerning an illustrious liberation icon." —AFP

International

# Yemeni rebels free 290 prisoners in a move hailed by UN and ICRC

## Houthis announce the capture of hundreds of loyalist forces

**SANAA:** Yemen's Houthi rebels have freed 290 prisoners, including dozens of survivors from a Saudi-led coalition strike on a detention centre earlier this month, the ICRC said yesterday. The International Committee of the Red Cross hailed the move as "a positive step that will hopefully revive the release, transfer and repatriation of conflict-related detainees" under a deal struck last year between the rebels and Yemen's government. The Houthis recently announced the capture of hundreds of Yemeni loyalist forces in an August offensive near the Saudi border, but they were not among those freed yesterday.

The United Nations' special envoy for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, welcomed the initiative to "unilaterally release detainees". "I hope this step will lead to further initiatives that will facilitate the exchange of all the conflict-related detainees as per the Stockholm Agreement," Griffiths said, referring to the 2018 accord. He called on all parties to work together to speed up the release of prisoners, saying they and their families had "endured profound pain and suffering." In a statement, he urged the parties to meet at the "nearest opportunity" to resume discussions on future exchanges. The Houthis' own announcement on the prisoner release said there were 350 in the group, including three Saudis. "We have presented to the United Nations a unilateral initiative to release 350 prisoners," Abdel Kader Mortaza, the Houthi official in charge of prisoner affairs, said at a press conference in Sanaa.

**'Break the deadlock'**

Mortaza reiterated Houthi claims that they had taken prisoner more than 2,000 fighters, including Saudi sol-

diers, in the August offensive near the southern Saudi region of Najran. Footage aired by the Houthis on Sunday, which had been billed as showing proof of the mass capture, was short on details. A government source confirmed to AFP that 200 prisoners were killed in the fighting, but said that the number of prisoners taken was less than the Houthis claimed, estimating the number to be about 1,300 Yemeni soldiers. Mortaza said the fighters were held in what he described as the rebels' largest "operation to capture prisoners" and that they would be treated "humanely".

However, he described yesterday's release of prisoners as designed to "break the deadlock that has prevailed for several months". "This initiative reasserts our seriousness and credibility when it comes to the implementation of the (Sweden) agreement," Mortaza said. "We urge the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross to press the other side into taking a similar step or give us the same number of their prisoners in any future deal."

Years of conflict in Yemen have killed tens of thousands of people, mostly civilians. Since the Saudi-led coalition intervened to back up the government in 2015, the fighting has plunged the country—the poorest in the Arab world—into what the UN calls the globe's worst humanitarian crisis. In early September, the coalition struck a former college in the western city of Dhamar, used by the Houthis as a detention centre. The Red Cross said over 100 people were killed. Riyadh said the attack was aimed at a "legitimate military target" and that the site was not on any no-strike list.—AFP



**SANAA:** Yemeni prisoners, said to belong to the Saudi-backed government forces, line up as they are prepared to be released by the Houthi rebels from the central prison in the capital Sanaa yesterday.—AFP

## Al-Shabaab attacks US base, EU convoy

**MOGADISHU:** The Al-Shabaab militant group claimed responsibility for an attack on a US base in Somalia yesterday, as the European Union confirmed a separate strike against a convoy of Italian advisers. The militants struck the US base at Baledogle, about 110 kilometers northwest of the capital Mogadishu, with explosives before gunmen opened fire on the compound. In a statement, Al-Shabaab said: "In the early hours of yesterday morning, an elite unit of soldiers... launched a daring raid on the US military base".

"After breaching the perimeters of the heavily fortified

base, the Mujahideen (holy fighters) stormed the military complex, engaging the crusaders in an intense firefight." The US Mission to Somalia denied Al-Shabaab fighters penetrated the camp defenses, saying Somali security forces repelled the attack. "The security forces stopped this ultimately failed attack due to their alertness and swift response, not allowing the attackers to breach the outer defensive perimeters of the base," the mission said in a statement. "We are thankful that there were no SNA (Somali National Army) casualties between the multiple attacks." Baledogle is a major launching site for US drone operations against Al-Shabaab, an Al-Qaeda-linked group which controls large parts of Somalia, and the Islamic State in Somalia outfit. "Two heavy explosions occurred, the first one bigger than the other. There was also a heavy exchange of gunfire after the blasts but we don't know about the details," Mohamed Adan, a Somali

elder close to the scene of the attack, told AFP by phone.

**Car bomb hits convoy**

In a separate incident yesterday, a security official said EU advisers training the Somali National Army were also attacked by a car bomb in Mogadishu. "There was a car bomb targeting the EU military advisors along the industrial road. A vehicle loaded with explosives was rammed into one of the convoy vehicles," said Omar Abikar, a Somali security officer. A statement from the EU Training Mission in Somalia confirmed the convoy had been "hit by an explosion" while returning from the army headquarters. "No EUTM-S soldiers were injured in the explosion. Two vehicles sustained damage," read the statement.

The mission offers military advice and provides training to Somalia's army, currently still propped up by some 20,000 African peacekeepers as the country recovers

from decades of civil war and an Islamist insurgency. Italy's defense ministry said in a statement that two armored vehicles in an Italian convoy "were involved in an explosion," adding: "For the instant there have been no consequences for Italian soldiers". SITE Intelligence, which monitors jihadist activities worldwide, said Al-Shabaab had claimed responsibility for both attacks.

The US Africa Command, AFRICOM, said in a brief statement emailed to AFP that it was "monitoring the situation. We are working to confirm details on the incident and will have more information as soon as we can confirm facts on the ground." Baledogle is a Soviet-built base which, despite secrecy surrounding US operations in Somalia, has emerged as one of the bases from where they carry out their strikes. US strikes in Somalia surged in April 2017, after President Donald Trump declared the south of the country an "area of active hostilities". —AFP

Rediscover your  
**LOVE FOR TRAVEL**  
with special fares

The perfect time for your next getaway is now. Pick from multiple destinations around the world and take off on a much-needed break with special fares. Book by 10 October 2019 for travel until 31 July 2020\*. Visit [emirates.com/kw](http://emirates.com/kw)

DESTINATION	ECONOMY CLASS RETURN FROM (KWD)*	BUSINESS CLASS RETURN FROM (KWD)*
Dubai	52	220
Bangkok	116	499
Paris	135	699
Kuala Lumpur	161	699
Rome	161	719
Phuket	166	599
Manchester	177	999
Madrid	179	999
New York	235	929
Mauritius	270	899

**FLY BETTER**

\*Terms and conditions apply. Valid for sale until 10 October 2019 for travel until 31 July 2020. Seasonality, inbound blackouts and flight restrictions will apply. For more information contact your travel agent, call Emirates on 2 205 5155, or visit us on [emirates.com/kw](http://emirates.com/kw)

## International

# Trump suggests 'arrest for treason' of Democrat in impeachment probe

## Trump-Putin phone calls in US Democrats' sights: Schiff

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump railed against the Democratic lawmaker leading the impeachment probe yesterday, suggesting he be arrested for treason for depicting him as using mafia-like tactics. Adam Schiff, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, opened a congressional hearing last week by pretending to be the president speaking like a mob boss to pressure Ukraine's leader to probe rival Joe Biden.

The impersonation was intended to dramatize Schiff's contention that Trump's July 25 phone call to Volodymyr Zelensky was a classic mafia-like shake-down - but has been widely criticized by conservative media. Trump denounced it on Twitter as a "FAKE & terrible statement," saying Schiff "pretended it to be mine as the most important part of my call to the Ukrainian President, and read it aloud to Congress and the American people. It bore NO relationship to what I said on the call. Arrest for Treason?"



### Trump-Putin calls

Congress is determined to get access to Donald Trump's calls with Russian President Vladimir Putin and other world leaders, the US House Intelligence Committee's chairman said on Sunday, citing concerns that the Republican president may have jeopardized national security. "I think the paramount need here is to protect the national security of the United States and see whether in the conversations with other world leaders - and in particular with Putin - that the president was also undermining our security in a way that he thought would personally benefit his campaign," Democrat Adam Schiff said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The Democratic-led House last week launched an official impeachment inquiry into Trump in the aftermath of a whistleblower complaint from an individual within the US intelligence community that Trump solicited interference by Ukraine in the 2020 election for his own political benefit. The whistleblower's complaint cited a telephone call in which Trump asked

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to open an investigation of former Vice President Joe Biden, a leader among Democratic candidates seeking to challenge Trump in 2020, and his son Hunter. Hunter Biden sat on the board of a Ukrainian gas company.

Trump, in a series of Twitter posts on Sunday evening, said he wanted to "meet" the whistleblower, who he called "my accuser," as well as "the person who illegally gave this information" to the whistleblower. "Was this person SPYING on the US President? Big Consequences!" wrote Trump, who added without providing evidence. "I want Schiff questioned at the highest level for Fraud & Treason." The CBS program "60 Minutes" reported that the whistleblower is under federal protection after receiving threats.

Trump's July 25 phone call came shortly after the United States froze nearly \$400 million in aid to Ukraine, prompting concern that the president was using the taxpayer money approved by Congress as leverage for his personal political gain. The complaint said White House lawyers directed that an electronic summary of the call be moved

### Trump wants to 'meet' the whistleblower

from the place where such things are usually kept to a separate electronic system reserved for classified and especially sensitive material - a move Democrats have called part of a cover-up.

"If those conversations with Putin or with other world leaders are sequestered in that same electronic file that is meant for covert action, not meant for this, if there's an effort to hide those and cover those up, yes we're determined to find out," Schiff said on NBC's "Meet the Press." Schiff did not say whether he plans to subpoena that information. The White House did not respond to a request for comment. The intelligence committee has reached an agreement with the whistleblower to appear before the panel. Schiff told ABC's "This Week" Schiff said he hoped the whistleblower would appear very soon.



WASHINGTON: Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) speaks at an anti gun violence rally on Capitol Hill. US Democrats' explosive launch of an official impeachment inquiry of Donald Trump has set off a massive political battle, raising multiple questions about the process and its consequences for the Republican's tempestuous presidency. —AFP

The Ukraine scandal arose just months after Special Counsel Robert Mueller finished an investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election that concluded that Moscow waged a campaign of hacking and propaganda to boost Trump's candidacy. Mueller's investigative report, released in redacted form in April, laid out numerous contacts between Russian officials and Trump's campaign, but found insufficient evidence to determine that a criminal conspiracy had taken place.

### 'Deep state operative'

Trump has defended his phone call with Zelenskiy and called the whistleblower a "political hack." White

House adviser Stephen Miller took up the attack on Sunday, accusing the whistleblower of being part of a "deep state" government conspiracy against Trump. "I know the difference between a whistleblower and a 'deep state' operative. This is a 'deep state' operative pure and simple," Miller told "Fox News Sunday."

"The president of the United States is the whistleblower. And this individual is a saboteur trying to undermine a democratically elected government," Miller added. Trump's former homeland security adviser Tom Bossert, in a break with the president, called himself "deeply disturbed" by Trump's call with Zelenskiy, and not just because the president sought assistance in getting political dirt on Biden.—Agencies

## Far-right terror group in dock in Germany over attack plot

BERLIN: The trial of a neo-Nazi "terrorist" cell accused of plotting a violent political uprising in Germany opened yesterday amid reports the country's far-right scene is growing more armed and radical. Eight members of the so-called Revolution Chemnitz group aged between 21 and 32 are answering to charges of "forming a right-wing terrorist organization".

The suspects are accused of "coming together to achieve their political goals - to shake the foundations of the state - with serious violent acts", a spokeswoman for the superior regional court said. They allegedly sought to carry out "violent attacks and armed assaults" against immigrants, political "opponents", reporters and members of the economic establishment.

Authorities believe the group's members were trying to acquire semi-automatic weapons for a potential bloodbath last year in Berlin on October 3, Germany's National Unity Day. "This is one of the most important trials to date dealing with far-right terrorism," chief federal prosecutor Peter Frank said. Security agencies hope the trial, which is set to last until at least April 2020 and hear around 75 witnesses, will reveal what exactly was being plotted and the scope of the network.

Almost a year to the day after most of the suspects' arrest in coordinated raids, the proceedings are taking place under tight security in Dresden, the capital of Saxony state, a stronghold of the extreme right. Resentment runs deep in the region over Merkel's liberal refugee policy that led to the arrival of more than a million asylum seekers to Germany since 2015. The anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim Alternative for Germany (AfD) party scored 27.5 percent in a state election earlier this month, just shy of the 32 percent garnered by Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives.

The defendants belong to the hooligan, neo-Nazi and skinhead scene in and around Chemnitz, another city in Saxony, which was the site of anti-migrant street violence following the murder of a German man in August last year. Last month a 24-year-old Syrian man was sentenced to nine-and-a-half years in jail for the knife killing. In the hours after the stabbing, thousands of people took to the streets in protest, answering calls by the AfD and nationalist group PEGIDA, which campaigns against what it calls the Islamisation of the West.—AFP

## Cameroon opens dialogue to end separatist crisis

YAOUNDE: Cameroon launched a national dialogue yesterday in a bid to end a separatist conflict in the country's anglophone provinces, though key rebel leaders have already refused to participate. Nearly 3,000 people have died and half a million fled their homes since fighting broke out in 2017 between the army and insurgents who want independence for Cameroon's two English-speaking provinces.

The talks opened at the Congressional palace in the capital Yaounde yesterday, an AFP journalist said, and debating would begin after a speech by Prime Minister Joseph Dion Ngute, who is leading the negotiations. The dialogue is scheduled to run to October 4. President Paul Biya, who has been in power for 37 years, hopes the talks will end the crisis that is also hurting the economy of the coffee and cocoa-producing Central African state. October 1 marks the second anniversary

## UN, mayor call for transfer of migrants after a deadly fire

MORIA: The UN and the mayor of Lesbos yesterday called for the immediate transfer of migrants from an overcrowded Greek refugee camp on the island after a deadly fire sparked riots. Greek officials yesterday confirmed the death of a woman in Sunday's blaze at Moria, Europe's largest migrant camp, which houses around 13,000 people but has facilities for just 3,000.

However, Greek media reported that a burnt blanket possibly containing the charred remains of a baby had been found next to the woman, matching earlier police sources saying a mother and her child had died. Another 17 injured migrants were transferred to a hospital on the island at Mytilene, the health ministry said yesterday. "Many refugees are so sad, they are stressed, they fear an accident can happen again," Farid, a young Afghan who did not give his last name, told AFP.

ners yesterday, despite resounding success in parliamentary elections. His OeVP party won a clear victory with around 37 percent in Sunday's vote, a marked improvement on its performance in 2017.

The result means Kurz will have the responsibility of sounding out other parties - which may be an uphill task. "We will of course talk to all parties... to see with which parties we could have a stable government," Kurz told the national public radio yesterday, adding this could stretch for more than the two months it took him last time to form a pact

of the spiral towards conflict - the declaration of the self-described "Republic of Ambazonia" for Cameroon's English-speaking minority.

Even before it began, the national dialogue ran into trouble with many activists arrested and experts voicing skepticism that it would yield tangible results. English-speakers account for about a fifth of Cameroon's population of 24 million, who are majority French-speaking. Anglophones are mainly concentrated in two western areas, the Northwest Region and the Southwest Region, that were incorporated into the French-speaking state after the colonial era in Africa wound down six decades ago. Many locals in the two regions complain of discrimination and marginalisation.

In a report published last week, the International Crisis Group estimated that around 3,000 people have been killed by separatist violence and the military crackdown. The ICG said the talks do not include separatists or anglophone leaders who support more federalist solutions. "It thus risks further frustrating anglophones widening the gulf between the two sides and empowering hardliners," the group said. "The government should make

The incident came as the number of migrant arrivals has been steadily climbing in recent months, creating dangerous conditions in the camps of the Greek islands that are in the forefront of the influx. The UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) yesterday warned the "critical" situation at Moria required "urgent" action. "We are calling to accelerate the transfers and improve conditions in Moria," said Boris Cheshirkov, UNHCR's spokesman in Greece. Lesbos mayor Stratos Kytelis also urged the "immediate decongestion of our islands".

EU Migration Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos is set to visit Greece and Turkey this week with the foreign ministers of Germany and France to discuss the explosive situation in the camps on the Greek islands. "The increased arrivals in Greece over the past weeks have put an immense strain on an already flawed system and are creating unsustainable conditions as we have already had the opportunity to point out in the past," European Commission spokesman Mima Andreeva said yesterday, describing the Moria fire as a "truly tragic event".

Moria camp has become like a small town, with UN refugee agency tents for

with the far-right.

But that government collapsed in May after his junior coalition partner, the anti-immigration Freedom Party (FPOe), was engulfed in the so-called "Ibiza-gate" corruption scandal which led to the resignation of its leader Heinz-Christian Strache. In the week before the vote, the FPOe was hit by further allegations of expenses abuse by Strache and suffered a worse than expected loss, down almost 10 percent from 2017 to around 16 percent, according to projected results.



BUEA: The wreckage of burnt out car is pictured - allegedly destroyed by separatists fighter in a recent attack, as a Cameroonian soldier patrols the edge of the abandoned market in the majority anglophone South West province in Buea. —AFP

greater space for anglophones, particularly federalists who are willing to attend. It should also seek a neutral facilitator." Biya's government has rejected both a return to more federalism and any proposed separation. But anglophone supporters are also divided

between those two options for their regions. The government's dialogue spokesman George Ewane said Cameroonian authorities had held preliminary discussions with some separatists, adding that even hardliners were welcome to join the talks.—AFP



LESBOS ISLAND: A man holds a boy during clashes with police outside the refugee camp of Moria on the Greek island of Lesbos. —AFP

around 8,000 people sprawling into the olive fields of nearby Moria village. Others are housed in containers. A plane helped extinguish the fire, which reportedly started

in a mobile vendor's stall. But police later fired tear gas to control an angry crowd who accused authorities of taking too long to respond to the incident.—AFP

## Austria's Kurz faces a tricky search for partners

VIENNA: The 33-year-old leader of Austria's centre-right People's Party Sebastian Kurz faces the start of a tough search for possible coalition part-

The OeVP-FPOe alliance - hailed as a model by nationalists across Europe, including Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban - now seems unlikely to be repeated as FPOe leaders say they would prefer to lick their wounds in opposition. Dejected current FPOe leader Norbert Hofer says steps towards the "reconstruction" of the party will be announced in the coming days, while the influential Strache, who led the party for 14 years, could be expelled if the expenses allegations turn out to be true.—AFP



## International

# Clashes erupt across Indonesia as thousands protest legal reforms

## Police fire tear gas to break up sex-ban law protests

**JAKARTA:** Riot police fired tear gas at stone-throwing protesters as fresh protests erupted across Indonesia yesterday, sparked by a raft of divisive legal reforms including banning pre-marital sex and weakening the anti-graft agency. At least two students have died and hundreds more were injured as unrest swept across the Southeast Asian archipelago, just weeks before President Joko Widodo kicks off a second term as head of the world's third-biggest democracy.

In the capital Jakarta, some 26,000 police and soldiers were deployed while large crowds - including placard-carrying students and factory workers - chanted for change near parliament, which was barricaded with barbed wire. Military vehicles rumbled along the streets as some students - with toothpaste smeared beneath their eyes to protect against tear gas - hurled projectiles. Many rallies, however, were peaceful.

The demonstrations have been fuelled by a proposed bill that includes dozens of legal changes - from criminalizing pre-marital sex and restricting contraceptive sales, to making it illegal to insult the president and toughening the Muslim-majority country's blasphemy law. The protests are among the biggest student rallies since mass street demonstrations in 1998 toppled the Suharto dictatorship.

More than a thousand demonstrators were on the streets in Bandung on Java island, where a female protester held a sign saying: "What is in our pants is none of the government's business." "I decided to join the demonstrations after I heard about the death of university students and that some were attacked by tear gas," said Banyu Biru, a Bandung student still dressed in his high-school uniform. "That's just absurd - is this how the police protect the people?" Passage of the controversial reforms has now been delayed.

### 'Pull them out'

Widodo has also said he would consider revising a separate bill that critics fear would dilute the powers of Indonesia's corruption-fighting agency, known as the KPK. "Why is this law being changed?" said Lukmanul Hakim Ahbr, a 24-year-old Indonesian who said he returned from his studies in neighboring Malaysia to join the protests.

"We students... reject any revision that will weaken the KPK," he added. Protesters have also demanded troops be pulled from Indonesia's restive Papua region, where fresh violence killed more than 30 people this month. They are also demanding a probe into the deaths of two university students on Sulawesi island last week, including one who was shot during the anti-government protests. The police said they are investigating, but denied responsibility.

At the rally in Bandung, high school teacher Iwan Hermawan was keeping a close eye out for his students. "If any students join this rally and engage in violence I'll immediately pull them out," he told AFP. Yesterday, scuffles broke out between authorities and some 2,000 university students on Lombok, an island next to Bali where hundreds also rallied. Ahead of today's inauguration of hundreds of members of parliament, Indonesia's chief security minister Wiranto - who goes by one name - warned that any bloodshed would not be tolerated.

"I'm reminding protesters not to engage in violence or disrupt the inauguration of new lawmakers," the minister told a press briefing. Officials have portrayed the protests as being hijacked by agitators aiming to disrupt government - and suggested they were similar to May's deadly post-election riots that paralyzed Jakarta. Updating Indonesia's criminal code, which dates back to the Dutch colonial era, has been debated for decades but there was a renewed push this year backed by conservative Islamic groups. — AFP



**JAKARTA:** Indonesian students set items on fire as police shoot tear gas during a protest outside the parliament building in Jakarta yesterday. — AFP

## Abdullah claims victory over Ghani in Afghan vote ahead of results

**KABUL:** Afghanistan chief executive Abdullah Abdullah claimed victory yesterday over incumbent Ashraf Ghani in the weekend's presidential election, far ahead of the release of any official results. The move is likely to stir political tensions across Afghanistan and brings to mind the election Abdullah and his top rival Ghani bitterly contested in 2014 that sparked a constitutional crisis and prompted US intervention.

"We have the most votes in this election," Abdullah said at a news conference, without providing evidence. "The results will be announced by the IEC (Independent Election Commission), but we have the most votes. The election is not going to go to a second round." Abdullah's announcement came after one of Ghani's running mates, Amrullah Saleh, on Sunday claimed to have garnered the lion's share of votes.

"According to our information, 60 to 70 percent of the people have voted for our team," Saleh told Voice of America's Dari- and Pashto-language services. The claims come even before the IEC has finished tallying turnout from Saturday's election, with hundreds of polling centers still unreported. Preliminary results are not due until October 19, and if the leading candidate doesn't secure more than 50 percent of the vote the top two will roll off in a second round.

Almost immediately, senior IEC official Habib Rahman Nang slammed Abdullah's announcement as premature. "No candidate has the right to declare himself the winner," Nang said. "According to the law, it is the IEC that decides who is the winner." Abdullah, who is seeking the presidency for the third time after losing in 2009 and 2014, said his team would "make the new government". Without giving details, Abdullah also mentioned reports of "some government officials" meddling in the election process.

His remarks follow the release on social media of several videos purporting to show election workers stuffing ballots in favor of Ghani. Shortly after Abdullah's comments,



**KABUL:** Afghan presidential candidate and current chief executive officer, Abdullah Abdullah (center), gestures as he leaves after addressing a press conference in Kabul yesterday. — AFP

EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini called on candidates to respect the electoral timeline. "We expect that the candidates exercise restraint, await the official announcement of preliminary and final results by the (IEC) and submit any evidence-based complaints through the established institutional complaints mechanism," she said in a statement.

### Safeguards against fraud

The IEC's complaints division head, Zuhra Bayan Shinwari, said the panel had so far received 2,569 complaints. Previous Afghan polls have been marred by widespread allegations of systemic fraud, so the stakes are high for the IEC, which has promised a clean process this year with rigorous steps to curtail cheating. Commentators suggested the videos of apparent ballot stuffing could either have been made by rivals trying to discredit Ghani, or else produced as proof that the rigging had actually been carried out.

But even if true, the IEC insists it has ample safeguards against such blatant fraud through new technology and voter verification techniques, particularly biometric devices designed to ensure each person only voted once. "The management of election day was better than previous elections and security was better," said Ahmad Zubair Habibzada, a spokesman for the Transparent Election Foundation of Afghanistan, an election watchdog that dispatched about 5,200 observers across the country.

Despite a large pool of candidates, the election was seen as a two-horse race between Abdullah and Ghani. They both claimed victory in the 2014 poll - a vote so tainted by fraud and violence that it forced the administration of then-US president Barack Obama to push for a compromise that saw Abdullah awarded the subordinate role. Saturday's election was also marred by hundreds of small-scale Taliban attacks at polling stations, but the insurgents were unable to steal the headlines with any significant bloody assault. — AFP

## Pakistan summons Indian diplomat over cross-border shelling

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan's government yesterday summoned India's top diplomat in the country over accusations of deadly shelling by India in its portion of the disputed region of Kashmir, as tensions run high between the nuclear-armed rival nations. A 60-year-old woman and 13-year-old boy were killed and three wounded in shelling over the Line of Control (LOC), near the informal border with India, on Saturday and Sunday, Pakistan's foreign ministry said.

"The ceasefire violations by India are a threat to regional peace and security and may lead to a strategic miscalculation," said Pakistan's foreign ministry statement, adding that its spokesman had summoned Indian Deputy High Commissioner Gaurav Ahluwalia to condemn the incident. A spokesman for India's foreign ministry said it had no immediate comment on the matter. India and Pakistan both accuse each other of breaching a 2003 ceasefire agreement by shelling and firing over the LOC, killing dozens this year.

India has also accused Pakistan of providing support for militants on its territory, a claim Pakistan denies. The latest incident comes amid tension between the neighbors that escalated sharply following New Delhi's move to revoke the autonomy of its portion of Kashmir in August. Pakistan expelled India's ambassador and suspended bilateral trade soon after and launched an international diplomacy campaign in an attempt to draw global condemnation of India's treatment of Kashmiris. Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan made an impassioned address at the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Friday, saying there would be a bloodbath once India lifts a curfew and that any all-out conflict between the nations would reverberate far beyond their borders.

Both India and Pakistan control Kashmir in part while claiming it in full. India says its revocation of autonomy is an internal matter that will allow its portion of Kashmir to develop economically. — Reuters

## Japan posts radiation levels on South Korea embassy website

**TOKYO:** Japan's embassy in South Korea has begun posting the daily radiation levels of Fukushima and Seoul after new questions about the lingering effects of the 2011 nuclear disaster. The embassy website said the information reflects that "interest in radiation levels in Japan has recently been increasing, particularly in South Korea". The move comes amid worsening ties between Japan and South Korea over a long-running disagreement about Japanese use of forced labor in South Korea during World War II.

The two countries have taken retaliatory trade measures against each other, and South Korea has tightened radiation checks on Japanese food imports. The readings show levels in three Japanese cities are almost the same as in major cities outside of Japan, including Seoul, the embassy says. "The Japanese government hopes the South Korean people's understanding about Japan's radiation levels will deepen as we continue to provide accurate information based on scientific evidence and explain it fully with clarity," it says in Japanese and Korean on the site.

Questions have also been raised about the safety of the Olympics being held in Tokyo next year, with some South Korean lawmakers pushing for a boycott and travel ban over what they portray as radiation risks from Fukushima. A 9.0-magnitude earthquake in March 2011 triggered a massive tsunami that knocked out cool-

ing systems at the Fukushima Daiichi atomic power plant on the Pacific coast in the nation's northeast. The plant spewed radioactive materials into the air, soil and water in the worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl in 1986.

Fukushima City, some 70 kilometers away from the stricken nuclear power plant, will host baseball and softball games during the Olympics. And food from the Fukushima region is expected to be served to Olympic athletes as part of government efforts to tout the safety of produce from the area and its strict safety controls. The Japanese embassy in Seoul began posting the radiation levels last week, showing figures for two cities in Fukushima prefecture along with levels in Tokyo and Seoul.

The latest post shows the level in Fukushima City was 0.135 microsieverts per hour, a similar reading to 0.120 in Seoul. The level in Fukushima prefecture's Iwaki City, 30 kilometers away from the plant, was 0.060, while in Tokyo, more than 200 kilometers away, it was 0.036. Iwaki was chosen because it is the most populated city close to the Daiichi plant, according to the foreign ministry. The posts use data taken by radiation monitoring authorities in both countries as well as by local offices in Fukushima.

One microsievert is a thousandth of a millisievert, and the observed levels translate into a yearly dose of a maximum 1.182 millisieverts in Fukushima City and 1.051 millisieverts in Seoul. The worldwide average annual dose from natural background radiation is about 2.4 millisieverts, according to a UN report. For the general public, the International Commission on Radiological Protection recommends a yearly limit of 1 millisievert above exposure from natural background radiation. — AFP

## Gatecrashers? UN sees Venezuelan dueling delegations

**UNITED NATIONS:** Virtually all countries sent diplomats to the United Nations for the General Assembly, but Venezuela was a special case-it had two delegations, each dueling for recognition. Neither President Nicolas Maduro nor opposition leader Juan Guaido - who is recognized as interim president by more than 50 countries including the United States - came to New York for the world's biggest annual summit, but both had teams working the hallways.

Maduro's government, which is backed by Russia and China, retains the UN seat and Venezuela's official delegation was led by Vice President Delcy Rodriguez and Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza. But Guaido's forces were also at the United Nations, including his foreign affairs chief, Julio Borges. Guaido's representatives "go around the United Nations like ghosts," Arreaza told reporters. "Nobody invited them," he said. "We have a word for them in Venezuela that is very clear-gatecrashers. They are gatecrashers here."

Arreaza said that the opposition envoys managed to get into the UN headquarters by being accredited by other Latin American countries, which he called "the most absurd thing." Rodriguez said that Maduro was legally the president. Guaido argues that he is the de jure president as he heads the elected National Assembly, which has rejected the legitimacy of a presidential vote last year that gave Maduro a new term and was widely alleged to have irregularities.

UN chief Antonio Guterres, while saying the world body had dialogue with both sides, had ruled out meeting Guaido's team. Guaido's envoys were nonetheless able to keep a busy diplomatic schedule. They met with US President Donald Trump and representatives of more than 20 countries in Latin America. Guaido's team was seeking more pressure including targeted sanctions to oust Maduro, who presides over a crumbling economy that has caused millions of people to flee.

Borges, Guaido's top diplomat, said there was a strong contrast between the reception of the two delegations. "Nobody wanted to receive them," Borges said of Maduro's representatives at a press conference at the Venezuelan consulate in New York-which is a short walk from Venezuela's UN mission but administered by Guaido's team. "In halls full of ministers and presidents, Arreaza was a sorry sight, chasing them and seeing if he could take furtive photos," Borges said as a handful of pro-Maduro demonstrators chanted outside the consulate.

He said that Arreaza's meetings involved nations that are "toxic" or ministers whom the foreign minister "ambushed" for photos he could post on social media. On Twitter, Arreaza posted pictures or videos of himself meeting the presidents of Iran and Turkey, the prime minister of Pakistan, and the foreign ministers of China, Spain, The Netherlands, Uruguay, Belize, South Sudan and Nepal. Spain's foreign minister, Josep Borrell, met with both sides. Spain has taken a leading role on Venezuela, and Borrell soon takes over as the European Union's foreign policy chief. — AFP



**NEW YORK:** Vice President of Venezuela Delcy Rodriguez holds up a photo of Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaido with a suspected member of the paramilitary group 'Los Rastrojos' as she addresses the United Nations General Assembly in New York. — AFP

## Analysis

**Kuwait Times**  
Established 1961  
The First Daily in The Arabian Gulf

THE LEADING INDEPENDENT  
DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF  
ESTABLISHED 1961

Founder and Publisher  
**YOUSUF S. AL-ALYAN**

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

EDITORIAL : 24833199-24833358-24833432  
ADVERTISING : 24835616/7  
FAX : 24835620/1  
CIRCULATION : 24833199 Extn. 163  
ACCOUNTS : 24833199 Extn. 125  
COMMERCIAL : 24835618

P.O.Box 1301 Safat, 13014 Kuwait.  
Email: info@kuwaittimes.com  
Website: www.kuwaittimes.net

## After Saudi attacks, Russia makes its regional presence felt

In the two weeks since attacks blamed on missiles or drones shut down half of Saudi Arabia's oil output, the country that has arguably moved most deftly to position itself for any upside is Russia. Within hours of the attacks, Moscow's state arms exporter said it would hold talks with countries in the Middle East on selling them new anti-drone weapons systems, muscling in on a market long dominated by the United States.

Next month, President Vladimir Putin is set to visit Saudi and the Gulf, a chance to deepen cooperation on energy and oil, drum up investment and promote Russia's Pantsir group of anti-UAV weaponry, the arms systems the state export company will put on display at the Dubai Airshow in November. "Recent events in the world have shown that the effective fight against reconnaissance and strike UAVs, as well as other air attack weapons, is becoming increasingly important to ensure the protection of high-priority facilities," Rosoboronexport said in a press release issued days after the Saudi attacks.

To a large extent Moscow's maneuverings reflect opportunism - Putin seldom misses an opportunity to expose any perceived US shortcoming or to needle his rivals. But it also underscores his growing confidence in projecting influence in the region, building on the role Moscow has played in shoring up Bashar al-Assad in Syria, managing to deal with both Israel and Iran, and selling missile systems to NATO member Turkey despite US objections.

At a news conference in Ankara on Sept 16, where Putin attended a summit with the presidents of Turkey and Iran, his self-assurance was on full display, all but troling the United States, which sells the Patriot missile-defence system to Saudi, in saying that Riyadh should buy from Moscow instead. "All the political leaders of Saudi Arabia have to do is take a wise decision, as Iran did by buying the S-300 missile system, and as President Erdogan did when he bought Russia's latest S-400 Triumph anti-aircraft system," he said, prompting chuckles from President Hassan Rouhani alongside him. To Moscow watchers, the intent is clear. "Russia is positioning itself as a systemic actor in the Middle East, which means no 'problem' big or small will be left unturned by the Kremlin," said Mathieu Boulegue, a research fellow in the Russia and Eurasia program at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London. "They want to be everywhere and meddle in everything to become an indispensable actor," he said, describing the ultimate ambition as becoming a 'rule shaper' for the region.

### Space to act

While that process has been under way since Putin went all-in by sending troops to Syria in 2015, it has gained strength as the United States has pulled back, first after President Barack Obama sidestepped deeper engagement in Syria despite evidence of Assad's use of chemical weapons, and then as Donald Trump has talked tough but mostly avoided action in the region.

The latest example of that is the Saudi attacks, which Trump has blamed on Iran. After initially saying Washington was "locked and loaded" to retaliate, he has held back from a punchy response, instead tightening sanctions on Tehran further. That leaves open the question of whether the United States is ready to use its military might to defend Riyadh, its closest Arab ally, a gap in commitment that may play to Russia's hand.

"If I were the Saudis, I'd be beating a path to Moscow, beating a path to Beijing, to find somebody more reliable than the United States," said Kori Schake, deputy director-general of the International Institute for Strategic Studies and a former director for defense strategy at the National Security Council. "There are opportunities that Russia will harvest from their investment in Syria," she said. "Showing that they are willing to run risks that countries in the West will not... may be comforting to the kingdom of Saudi Arabia right now."

Schake and others emphasize that this is far from Putin attempting to replace the United States as the overall security guarantor in the Gulf, a role the US has played since the 1950s. It's also the case that Putin is not without problems at home, where he is under pressure to raise living standards, diversify the economy away from oil and improve growth. But it does remind the world that Russia retains geopolitical reach and a readiness to act. Even in Europe, where a cold shoulder has been turned to Moscow since its annexation of Crimea in 2014, there are signs of a shift.

In recent weeks, French President Emmanuel Macron has led calls for Europe and Russia to work more closely together, although he has underlined that EU sanctions, imposed after Crimea's seizure, should not be lifted until Russia takes steps to resolve its disputes with Ukraine. — Reuters

All articles appearing on this page are the personal opinion of the writers. Kuwait Times takes no responsibility for views expressed therein.



A picture taken during a guided tour with the Russian army shows damaged buildings in Aleppo on Sept 27, 2019. — AFP

## In Aleppo, reconstruction makes slow start

Among the destroyed buildings of Syria's Aleppo, a battered sign between two army checkpoints welcomes visitors to an area earmarked to become a beacon of post-war reconstruction. "The industrial city of Aleppo thanks you for your visit," it reads. Once the country's powerhouse, Aleppo was devastated by Syria's ongoing civil war before Russia-backed government forces expelled the last rebels in late 2016 after a devastating siege.

As some of the city is slowly rebuilt, the Russian army this week showed reporters around, as Moscow seeks to highlight its role in reconstruction of the war-torn country. Several factories have reopened in the almost three years since the fighting ended in Aleppo, large parts of which were flattened. At Katerji Engineering and Mechanical Industries, 1,000 people are employed in metalworking jobs. About a fifth of the workers recently returned to Aleppo.

"We started work again a year ago and today we have four operational warehouses," said Salah Mitar, the engineer in charge. "We hope to expand to 11 by 2020," he told AFP, as employees bustled around him in one huge warehouse. But Mitar said international sanctions against President Bashar al-Assad's government and associated businessmen meant the factory cannot import sophisticated machinery.

The two main shareholders of Katerji Engineering and

Mechanical Industries - Hussam and Baraa Katerji - are targeted by European Union and US sanctions respectively. The factory was under rebel control until Aleppo's recapture and production ground to a halt during fighting. For the past eight months since the factory re-opened, employee Khaled said he had received a good salary. But "very high prices in town" still make life difficult for him and his family, said the 38-year-old father of five. After fuel shortages the government blames on sanctions, the value of the Syrian pound fell to its lowest level ever on the black market earlier this month.

### 'Customers will return'

Aleppo's UNESCO-listed historic centre and its centuries-old covered markets are also returning to life. The frontline once ran through the old souqs, but today large parts of the historical trading centre have been restored. Workers still shovel rubble in some alleys, as coffee shops and stalls - most still empty - prepare to receive merchandise. Among them, 59-year-old Abdel Rahman Mahmud could not wait to see shoppers back in his two-decade-old shop, where he will resume selling soap and spice. "Customers will return. I'm sure of it. We just need to wait a bit," said the trader, who lost a son in the war.

The civil war has killed more than 370,000 people and displaced millions since starting in 2011 with the repression of anti-government protests. But, Mahmud said, "our

lives have changed a lot these past few years. Things are a lot better - we have electricity, water."

### Russian pipes and cables

Assad's government has won back large parts of the country from rebels and militants since Russia intervened militarily on its side in 2015. After blistering military campaigns and Russia-brokered surrender deals, Damascus now controls more than 60 percent of Syria and is looking to rebuild with Russian support. Moscow says it has delivered thousands of tonnes of water pipe and hundreds of kilometres of high-tension cable to improve water and power supplies. Its military police on the ground have deterred looters, Russia says.

Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov, a longtime Kremlin protegee with vast resources, has offered to fund the restoration of Aleppo's centuries-old Umayyad Mosque after it was damaged in the fighting. But in the east of the city, residential neighborhoods once under rebel control still largely lie in ruin. Flattened apartment blocks lie on either side of deserted streets, dotted only by army checkpoints. And just 10 km away, fighting has continued. The city lies east of the jihadist-run region of Idlib, where a Russia-announced ceasefire has largely held in recent weeks, despite sporadic bombardment. The governor of Aleppo province, Hussein Diab, said fighting wounded 123 people in the province in September. — AFP

## Day of employee of diplomatic service of Tajikistan

In the historical process of formation and development of Tajikistan as a sovereign and independent state, its foreign policy occupies pride of place. The specific historical conditions of the development of the Republic of Tajikistan, the features and content of international transformation over the past quarter century have determined the special importance of the external factor in the life of our society and the close connection of the country's internal development with international reality.

In the controversial situation of the first years of independence, the establishment of external relations and a worthy representation of the newest state in the international arena was one of the most important areas of state building. From this point of view, Sept 29, 1993 is considered a really important date in the modern history of the foreign policy of the Republic of Tajikistan.

On this memorable day from the highly esteemed ros-

trum of the United Nations, the entire world community was first presented with creative plans, peace goals and good intentions of the young independent state of Tajikistan as an equal subject of international relations. From the point of view of content, ideas and political aspects, this event has historical significance not only for diplomatic workers of the country, but also for independent Tajikistan.

September 29 in the Republic of Tajikistan is celebrated as "Day of the Workers of the Diplomatic Service of the Republic of Tajikistan". Currently, more than 30 Tajik diplomatic missions outside the country daily seek to protect the rights and interests of citizens and in general to protect the national interests of the Republic of Tajikistan. The activity of the ministry of foreign affairs in recent years to implement innovations in the public service system is commendable and is constantly supported by the Government.

Some time ago, an electronic visa system was introduced in the country, which is one of the first experiments in the Commonwealth of Independent States space and creates favorable opportunities for each foreign citizen to obtain a corresponding visa through consular authorities inside Tajikistan and beyond. It is indisputable that during independence, the ministry of foreign affairs of Tajikistan has done a lot of work to promote the for-

eign policy of the government. It should be noted that before the period of independence, Tajikistan had some experience in various spheres of governance, however there was no experience in foreign policy. The ministry of foreign affairs of Tajikistan, formed in 1944, carried out only some protocol and representative issues. Under the conditions of independence, the structure of the ministry of foreign affairs and the framework of its activity as a government body have significantly changed.

The basis of foreign policy, along with the promotion and protection of national and state interests, is a worthy representation of the country to the world community. Undoubtedly, knowledge, experience, diligent behavior, communication ethics, knowledge of foreign languages, especially the language of the host country, high patriotic feeling and honesty of Tajik diplomats play an important role in fulfilling this task.

One of the key tasks of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and diplomatic missions is to promote real knowledge of Tajik society, the development processes of its socio-political and socio-economic life abroad. It is no secret that the history of Tajik statehood has rich diplomatic experience, dozens of books and monographs have been written about the features and qualities of envoys or, as the ancestors of Tajiks said, "firistodagon". — Embassy of Tajikistan

## Brotherhood sidelined in Egypt protests

Outlawed and repressed, the Muslim Brotherhood was not behind the recent protests in Egypt, but has sought to capitalize on a new wave of dissent, analysts say. The protests first erupted on Sept 20 after an exiled Egyptian businessman in a series of online videos called for people to demonstrate against President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, accusing him of wasting taxpayers' money on vanity building projects.

The videos by contractor and actor Mohammed Aly tapped into simmering anger against the country's economic woes and went viral, stirring rare political debate across the media and social networks. Analysts in Egypt rule out any link between the Muslim Brotherhood and Mohamed Aly, who has so far refused AFP requests to comment on the situation.

But "the Brotherhood certainly benefited from his videos and their channels exploited what he was saying to portray a negative image of Sisi's leadership," said Mustafa Kamel Al-Sayyed, a political science professor at the American University in Cairo, told AFP.

In the mercurial Aly, the Brotherhood saw an opening for renewed resistance rallying its supporters online. The Islamist group, which has been banned since 2013 with thousands of its members jailed in a crackdown, quickly threw its support behind the demonstrations calling for

Sisi's removal. Many pro-Brotherhood figures have bombarded social networks with hashtags proclaiming anti-Sisi messages and slickly produced videos, highlighting the shortcomings of his rule.

And Islamist-leaning television channels, such as Al Jazeera, and their social media influencers have battled against pro-government loyalists and bombastic hosts broadcasting daily on Egyptian satellite channels.

### 'Idea based on Islam'

Sayyed believes the Brotherhood still holds sway with a sizeable part of the overall religiously conservative population, amid the backdrop of the dire economic situation for millions of Egyptians. "The Brotherhood is an idea before it is an organization and with the deteriorating economic situation for Egyptian society, this idea based on Islam will continue to attract many," he explained.

Founded by Egyptian scholar and schoolteacher Hassan Al-Banna in 1928 as an Islamic charity and political movement, the Brotherhood grew rapidly, spawning offshoots from Morocco to Turkey, many of which remain active today. But in Egypt its political currency ran out after its leader Mohamed Morsi became the country's first elected president in mid-2012 but remained in office for just one tumultuous year after the 2011 revolution that toppled long-time autocrat Hosni Mubarak.

Morsi was toppled by the military in 2013 and Egyptian troops killed some 800 Muslim Brotherhood supporters in a single day in August that year in what became one of the worst atrocities in the country's modern history. Morsi, who only briefly held the reins of power, died earlier this year collapsing in a Cairo courtroom while on trial. "The Brotherhood is hiding behind Mohammed Aly's appeal

because they do not have the capacity to call for a rally," said Amr El-Shobaki, a former parliamentarian and analyst at the state-supportive Ahram Centre for Political and Strategic Studies. "Their capacity to recruit new members has been weakened," he added. Thousands of Muslim Brotherhood supporters have been jailed since Morsi's ouster, dozens executed and many have gone into exile finding safe havens in Turkey and Qatar.

Despite being chased from the political landscape, the Egyptian media often dwells on conspiracy theories that the Islamist group can easily organise and move supporters in from overseas. But Shobaki argued "the Brotherhood wasn't behind or even participated in the small-scale protests on 20 September". "Rather, it was everyday youth, those economically marginalized, that went down" to the streets, he said. Nearly one in three Egyptians live below the poverty line, according to official figures, as the government has imposed harsh austerity measures since 2016 causing prices to considerably soar.

### 'Vying for power'

Seizing the moment however, Sisi himself appeared to blame the Muslim Brotherhood for the protests in a meeting with US President Donald Trump in New York earlier this month. Asked about the small-scale protests, Sisi replied: "The region will remain in a state of instability as long as there's political Islam vying for power". Shobaki maintains if the Brotherhood has any hope of being re-integrated into the political scene in the future, they must shed their "cultish" legacy. "They can reorganise themselves as a political party again like Ennahda in Tunisia or the PJD in Morocco. The idea of this 'divine' group is why they have consistently failed for 91 years". — AFP

## Business

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019

**12** KFH opens new banking lounge for Ruwwad, Tamayouz customers**13** Fast-fashion retailer Forever 21 to file for bankruptcy, close 178 US stores**14** Volkswagen faces first mammoth diesel lawsuit on its home turf

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Capital Markets Authority (CMA) will launch the public offering of Boursa Kuwait Securities Company (BKSC) today.

## Boursa Kuwait public offering starts today

## Boursa Kuwait privatization key to realizing 'Kuwait Vision 2035' goals

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's Capital Markets Authority (CMA), the regulatory body for securities and current owner of 50 percent of Kuwait's only stock exchange, Boursa Kuwait Securities Company (BKSC), will launch today the public offering of its full stake in BKSC. Upon conclusion of the public offering, 94 percent of Boursa Kuwait will be owned by private investors (corporate and individual investors), making it the only stock exchange in the Gulf that is 94 percent owned by the private sector.

The transaction, led and managed by KAMCO Investment Company, is the second and final phase of the privatization process of Boursa Kuwait following the sale of 44 percent of the company to strategic investors in February 2019.

**Public offering highlights**

- Subscription period: October 1, 2019 to December 1, 2019.
- Eligibility: By law, CMA's 50 percent stake in BKSC is offered only to Kuwaiti citizens.
- Offering price: 100 fils per share

CMA Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and Managing Director Dr Ahmad A Al-Melhem said, "This

transaction is a landmark transaction in the history of Kuwait's capital markets, and an important step towards achieving the ambitious national development goals set out in Kuwait Vision 2035 with an aim to strengthen the country's position as a regional financial center and give the private sector a stronger role and a greater opportunity to develop the national economy."

He added, "Kuwait, home to the first stock exchange in the Gulf, will soon become home to the only stock exchange in the Gulf that's 94 percent owned by the private sector. This move not only validates Kuwait's reform policy but also reflects the CMA's commitment to upgrade the Kuwaiti capital markets and its core drivers."

Boursa Kuwait was founded in 2014 by the CMA Board of Commissioners Resolution No 37/2013 to replace the Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE).

Since then, the CMA has embarked on a mission to transform the company into a leading regional exchange that is built on global best practices and structures. The transformation program introduced reforms to increase competitiveness and liquidity, reinforce transparency and management, elevate investor confidence, and attract international, regional, and domestic investments.

As a result of the successful implementation of these reforms since 2014, Boursa Kuwait was upgraded to Emerging Market status by the leading global indices. The exchange was included FTSE Russell Emerging Markets Index (FTSE) in September 2017 and S&P Dow Jones Global Benchmark Indices with an emerging market classification in December 2018. The privatization process is being implemented in two phases. The first phase took place in February 2019 wherein by law and through an open and transparent process, a strategic consortium consisting of domestic and international Securities Exchange operator acquired a 44 percent stake in the company.

The consortium comprised Athens Stock Exchange, National Investments Company, First Investment Company, and Arzan Financial Group. The second phase, the nation-wide IPO, is expected to be implemented in the last quarter of 2019 with the distribution of the CMA's 50 percent stake in the company to citizens. Upon the allocation of the remaining 50 percent of Boursa Kuwait's shares, Boursa Kuwait will be owned by citizens and the private sector (94 percent), while the Kuwaiti government through the Public Institution for Social Security will retain the remaining 6 percent.



KUWAIT: CMA Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and Managing Director Dr Ahmad A Al-Melhem during a press conference. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## Fitch cuts Saudi credit rating; oil prices drop

**DUBAI:** Rating agency Fitch downgraded Saudi Arabia's credit rating to A from A+ yesterday, citing rising geopolitical and military tensions in the Gulf following an attack on its oil facilities and a deterioration of the kingdom's fiscal position.

The Saudi finance ministry said it was

disappointed by the "swift" downgrade and urged Fitch to reconsider it, arguing the move did not reflect the kingdom's response to the Sept. 14 attack or its capacity to handle adversity.

The move - which places Saudi Arabia one notch above the assessment of peer rating agency S&P Global - is a blow to the largest Arab economy as it seeks investment to diversify away from oil and prepares a potential international sale of US dollar denominated Islamic bonds.

"In our view, Saudi Arabia is vulnerable to escalating geopolitical tensions given its prominent foreign policy stance, including its close alignment with US policy on Iran

and its continued involvement in the Yemen war," Fitch said yesterday.

"We have revised our assessment of the vulnerability of Saudi Arabia's economic infrastructure to regional military threats as a result of the most recent attack," Fitch said. Fitch is the first agency to change Riyadh's credit rating - used by investors to assess the level of risk associated with a debt issuer - since the attacks. S&P Global Ratings last week affirmed its A-(minus) rating, saying however that its rating could come under downward pressure should the country's oil infrastructure undergo repeated foreign attacks.

Meanwhile, oil prices fell more than one

percent yesterday after Saudi Arabia said war with Iran would destroy the world economy and hinted instead at a non-military solution. Washington, Riyadh, Berlin, London and Paris blame Iran for attacks that damaged the Saudi oil sector on September 14 and forced the world's largest crude exporter to sharply reduce production.

"In terms of geopolitical concerns, common sense is prevailing for now in Saudi Arabia," noted analyst Naeem Aslam at traders ThinkMarkets, in reference to the comments by Saudi Arabia's crown prince in an interview with CBS show "60 minutes" broadcast over the weekend. Mohammed bin Salman said a war would

be catastrophic for global growth.

"Oil supplies will be disrupted and oil prices will jump to unimaginably high numbers that we haven't seen in our lifetimes," the prince said. "The region represents about 30 percent of the world's energy supplies, about 20 percent of global trade passages, about four percent of the world GDP. Imagine all of these three things stop," he said.

"Oil supplies will be disrupted and oil prices will jump to unimaginably high numbers that we haven't seen in our lifetimes," the prince said. "This means a total collapse of the global economy, and not just Saudi Arabia or the Middle East countries." —Agencies

Business

# KFH opens new banking lounge for Ruwwad, Tamayyouz customers

Al-Nahedh: Improving our branch network, keeping abreast of latest fintech



Bushehri, Al-Nahedh and KFH officials during the inauguration



The banking lounge in Mubarak Al-Kabeer

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) opened banking lounge for Ruwwad, Tamayyouz customers in Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governorate. This comes as part of KFH vision in offering superior customer service as per highest standards of quality, while strengthening ties and communication with its customers.

The Governor of Mubarak Al-Kabir Mahmoud Bushehri opened the banking lounge in the presence of KFH executives led by the Group CEO Mazin Saad Al-

Nahedh. Bushehri praised the significant role of "KFH" in supporting and developing the national economy along with the distinctive banking and financial services offered to customers.

Meanwhile, Al-Nahedh said that opening banking lounge in Mubarak Al-Kabeer branch to serve Ruwwad and Tamayyouz customers is a new milestone in KFH customer service strategy. KFH is continuously keen on providing the best innovative services and products to its

customers as per highest technological development.

Al-Nahedh demonstrated to the Governor the queuing system: Skipino service, the first of its kind in the Kuwaiti banking sector for online appointments booking in the branches via smart phones.

He added that KFH uniquely offers branches dedicated for ladies as a privilege advantage, indicating the bank applies the best practices in banking as per highest international standards, in addition to the pro-

fessionalism of innovation and customer services across huge network of branches spanning Kuwait. He underlined the full compliance of KFH with Sharia principles and the regulations of regulatory authorities. He concluded: "KFH will continue its efforts in opening similar banking lounges as it targets to open 8 banking lounges by end of 2019. This contributes in delivering superior customer experience as per highest standards of quality."

## Wall Street Week Ahead

### Data will show damage of tariffs, strong dollar on US exporters

**NEW YORK:** It's no longer a probability, it's a reality: the escalating US-China trade war and the strengthening dollar appear to be inflicting measurable damage on US goods makers that rely on global markets.

Market participants will get a picture of the extent to which trade tensions and currency have hurt US manufacturers when the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) releases its purchasing managers index (PMI) for September on Tuesday. Its August report showed the manufacturing sector, which accounts for about 12 percent of the US economy, contracting in for the first time in 3-1/2 years, and more worryingly, its export component hit a more than 10-year low. "The exporters are at least a half a step or full step closer to the predicted recession," said Robert Pavlik, chief investment strategist, senior portfolio manager at SlateStone Wealth LLC in New York.

The August report's New Export Orders plunged to 43.3, its lowest level since April 2009, when the United States was in the throes of the great recession. A PMI reading below 50 indicates contraction. In the August PMI survey, manufacturers told ISM "business is starting to show signs of a broad slowdown," and that "tariffs continue to be a strain on the supply chain and the economy overall." China already has implemented tariffs on about \$110 billion in US goods, in return for President Donald Trump's tariffs on Chinese imports. The first tranche took effect at the beginning of this month and the second is due to follow on Dec. 15. US goods would already be more expensive on global markets due to a stronger dollar, which has been boosted by simmering geopolitical unease and negative interest rates in Europe.

Market-rattling tit-for-tat tariff hikes from

Washington and Beijing have created a perfect storm. "Geopolitical tensions do two things," said Peter Tuz, president of Chase Investment Counsel in Charlottesville, Virginia. "They compel big companies to sit back and not spend as much as they would." "And as tensions increase and the dollar rises, (US) products become more expensive and you see demand fall off." The dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of major world currencies, hit a 29-month high on Sept. 3, the very day ISM released its dismal PMI report. Indeed, in the first quarter of 2018, during which Trump fired the opening salvo in the trade war, the negative currency impact on North American corporate earnings was an estimated \$40 million, according to cloud treasury services firm Kyriba.

One year later, that number ballooned to \$23.4 billion. The arrival of third-quarter earnings season next month will provide a clearer view of the damage the trade war and strong dollar have wrought on companies' bottom lines. Over the last year, third-quarter analyst earnings estimates for a basket of 15 top US exporters by dollar value have dropped by an average of 17.3 percent, according to Refinitiv data, and by 12.3 percent in the last three months. Fourth-quarter estimates for the same companies have been revised down 15.6 percent on average since September 2018 by 10.3 percent since June. Third-quarter earnings estimates for Apple Inc are 7.4 percent lower than they were a year ago, and down 16.7 percent for the essential October-December holiday quarter. Non-US revenue contributes 63.1 percent of the iPhone maker's total. General Electric Co gets about 61.5 percent of its revenue from abroad. Analysts currently see the conglomerate's third-quarter earnings coming in 44.6 percent below the level seen a year ago, and its fourth-quarter EPS estimates are now 43.5 percent lower. Chipmakers, particularly vulnerable to trade concerns and technology exchange issues, have seen their earnings estimates slashed most.

Micron Technology Inc relies on non-US business for 88.1 percent of its revenue. Third quarter earnings estimates for the company have plunged 83.4 percent over the last year and 42 percent from last quarter. Overseas customers contribute 97.4 percent of



NEW YORK: A screen shows the numbers after closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on Friday at Wall Street in New York City. — AFP

Qualcomm Inc's revenue. Analysts have slashed their third quarter earnings estimates for the company by 47.7 percent over the last year. Nike Inc, which derives 62.5 percent of its revenues from overseas, reported its first-quarter earnings for fiscal year 2020 on Tuesday.

The sportswear company's revenue and profit beat analyst estimates, but it said currency and trade concerns remained headwinds and it expects the impact of tariffs will be "most pronounced" in the current quarter. "The manufacturing side of our economy is in the early stages of a recession and we should be concerned about the possibility of a full recession spreading here and around the world," said Tim Ghriksy, chief investment strategist at Inverness Counsel in New York. "If (the ISM PMI) export number remains weak that will point to deepening overseas weakness," Ghriksy added. "But a strong number would surprise me given what's happening around the world." — Reuters

### Households helped limit hit to UK economy as it shrank in Q2

**LONDON:** Households helped to limit the damage to Britain's economy as it shrank in the second quarter ahead of Brexit, according to new data that also showed their financial health was less fragile than previously thought. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) confirmed the economy contracted at a quarterly rate of 0.2 percent in the second quarter, a hangover from a stockpiling boom before the original Brexit deadline that was postponed until Oct. 31.

While British industry and investment wilted in the escalating Brexit crisis, household spending increased at a quarterly rate of 0.4 percent, marking the fastest growth in a year. The new ONS data also showed Britain's households have been net lenders to the economy rather than net borrowers ever since the second quarter of 2017. Previous data had shown households were net borrowers non-stop since late 2016.

The status change reflected people donating less to charity than previously thought, meaning households held more assets, as well as landlords earning more money, ONS said. "A healthier picture of households' balance sheets gives us some confidence that household spending will continue to underpin growth," Andrew Wishart, economist at consultancy Capital Economics said. Changes to the measurement of student loans also contributed to change in the status of households to net lenders, although the figures still showed a "significant" deterioration since the 2016 Brexit vote. Lending to British consumers slowed to its weakest rate in more than five years in August, a sign household demand may be softening in the run-up to Britain's departure from the European Union, Bank of England (BoE) figures showed yesterday. Sterling and British government bonds showed little reaction to yesterday's data.

Monday's ONS figures showed Britain's current account deficit in the second quarter narrowed by less than expected, to 25.2 billion pounds (\$31.02 billion) from 33.1 billion pounds. At 4.6 percent of gross domestic product, the deficit was larger than any economist had expected in a Reuters poll which had pointed to a deficit of 19.5 billion pounds. "The fact that the current account deficit was still elevated ... in the second quarter is a concern—as an elevated shortfall is a potential source of vulnerability for the UK economy," economist Howard Archer from the EY ITEM Club consultancy said. — Reuters

## EXCHANGE RATES

### AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

#### EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

US Dollar Transfer	304.900
Euro	335.240
Sterling Pound	376.550
Canadian dollar	231.510
Turkish lira	55.240
Swiss Franc	309.540
US Dollar Buying	297.550

#### ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japanese Yen	2.826
Indian Rupees	4.328
Pakistani Rupees	1.963
Sri Lankan Rupees	1.671
Nepali Rupees	2.693
Singapore Dollar	221.990
Hongkong Dollar	38.886
Bangladesh Taka	3.596
Philippine Peso	5.886
Thai Baht	10.008
Malaysian ringgit	77.980

#### GCC COUNTRIES

Saudi Riyal	81.361
Qatari Riyal	83.798
Omani Riyal	792.463
Bahraini Dinar	810.150
UAE Dirham	83.068

#### ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash	21.100
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	18.723

Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.225
Tunisian Dinar	110.870
Jordanian Dinar	430.500
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	0.203
Syrian Lira	0.000
Morocco Dirham	32.367

### DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

#### Rate for Transfr Selling Rate

US Dollar	304.190
Canadian Dollar	230.813
Sterling Pound	373.865
Euro	337.075
Swiss Frank	301.815
Bahrain Dinar	808.955
UAE Dirhams	83.220
Qatari Riyals	84.460
Saudi Riyals	82.015
Jordanian Dinar	430.328
Egyptian Pound	18.398
Sri Lankan Rupees	1.683
Indian Rupees	4.233
Pakistani Rupees	1.944
Bangladesh Taka	3.602
Philippines Peso	5.861
Cyprus pound	18.097
Japanese Yen	3.850
Syrian Pound	1.590
Nepalese Rupees	2.648
Malaysian Ringgit	73.505
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	43.110

Thai Bhat	10.935
Turkish Lira	54.175
Singapore dollars	218.554

### BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY WLL

#### CURRENCY BUY SELL

EUROPE		
British Pound	0.367575	0.381475
Czech Korune	0.004894	0.014194
Danish Krone	0.040610	0.045610
Euro	0.325734	0.339434
Georgian Lari	0.121680	0.121680
Hungarian	0.001149	0.001339
Norwegian Krone	0.029547	0.034747
Romanian Leu	0.065366	0.082216
Russian ruble	0.004586	0.004586
Slovakia	0.009123	0.019123
Swedish Krona	0.027102	0.032102
Swiss Franc	0.300932	0.311932
AUSTRALASIA		
Australian Dollar	0.197609	0.209609
New Zealand Dollar	0.184764	0.194264
AMERICA		
Canadian Dollar	0.224871	0.233871
US Dollars	0.300800	0.306100
US Dollars Mint	0.301300	0.306100
ASIA		
Bangladesh Taka	0.002937	0.003738

Chinese Yuan	0.041345	0.044845
Hong Kong Dollar	0.037000	0.039750
Indian Rupee	0.003651	0.004423
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000017	0.000023
Japanese Yen	0.002741	0.002921
Korean Won	0.000244	0.000259
Malaysian Ringgit	0.069213	0.075213
Nepalese Rupee	0.002652	0.002992
Pakistan Rupee	0.001343	0.002113
Philippine Peso	0.005732	0.006032
Singapore Dollar	0.215403	0.225403
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001322	0.001902
Taiwan	0.009713	0.009893
Thai Baht	0.009623	0.010189
Vietnamese Dong	0.000013	0.000013

#### ARAB

Bahraini Dinar	0.802598	0.810664
Egyptian Pound	0.018669	0.022029
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000086
Iraqi Dinar	0.000215	0.000275
Jordanian Dinar	0.425139	0.434139
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000157	0.000267
Moroccan Dirhams	0.021613	0.045613
Omani Riyal	0.786815	0.794723
Qatar Riyal	0.083092	0.083928
Saudi Riyal	0.080220	0.081520
Syrian Pound	0.001293	0.001513
Tunisian Dinar	0.102302	0.110302
Turkish Lira	0.046841	0.056686
UAE Dirhams	0.082379	0.083207
Yemeni Riyal	0.000991	0.001071

## Business

# Fast-fashion retailer Forever 21 to file for bankruptcy, close 178 US stores

## Brand succumbs to the onslaught of online sellers

**NEW YORK:** Fast-fashion retailer Forever 21 Inc filed for bankruptcy late on Sunday, joining a growing list of brick-and-mortar companies that have succumbed to the onslaught of online sellers such as Amazon.com Inc and ever-changing fashion trends.

Forever 21, which popularized trendy and inexpensive clothing, has fallen out of favor with shoppers due to strong competition from other retailers such as H&M and Zara. Adding to its problems, younger and more environmentally conscious shoppers are now choosing brands that ethically source garments instead of retailers that use cheap fabrics to make T-shirts that are snapped up for \$5.

"The brand (Forever 21) has lost much of the excitement and oomph, which is critical to driving footfall and sales," said Neil Saunders, managing director of retail research firm GlobalData Retail. Forever 21, which has 815 stores in 57 countries, said the restructuring will allow it to focus on the profitable core part of its operations and shut stores in some international locations.

It has requested approval to close up to 178 US stores, with decisions as to which outlets it will close still pending. Forever 21 still expects a significant number of its stores in the United States to

remain open and does not expect to exit any major markets in the country.

Founded in 1984, the teen apparel retailer plans to close most of its stores in Asia and Europe but would continue operations in Mexico and Latin America, it said. Since the start of 2017, more than 20 US retailers including Sears Holdings Corp and Toys 'R' Us have filed for bankruptcy as more customers shop online and eschew large malls. Forever 21 also said on Sunday its Canadian subsidiary filed for bankruptcy and it plans to wind down the business, closing 44 stores in the country.

"Slimming down the operation and reducing costs is only one part of the battle. The long-term survival of Forever 21 relies on the chain creating a sustainable and differentiated brand," Saunders said.

Forever 21 lists both assets and liabilities in the range of \$1 billion to \$10 billion, according to the court filing in the US Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. The retailer said it received \$275 million in financing from its existing lenders, with JPMorgan Chase Bank NA as agent, and \$75 million in new capital from TPG Sixth Street Partners and certain of its affiliated funds. —Reuters



**NEW YORK CITY:** In this file photo, a Forever 21 store stands in Union Square in Manhattan in New York City. Global fast-fashion retailer Forever 21 said it was filing for voluntary bankruptcy on Sunday, — AFP

## German economy set for weaker growth, but still showing bright spots

**BERLIN:** Germany's leading economic institutes have lowered their growth forecast for the economy for this year, sources told Reuters yesterday, adding to fears that a recession among export-driven manufacturers is spreading. The institutes, whose forecasts feed into the government's own growth estimates, see growth of 0.5 percent in 2019, two sources said, down from an earlier figure of 0.8 percent.

Germany's export-reliant manufacturers are suffering from a slowing world economy and business uncertainty linked to a trade conflict between the United States and China as well as Britain's planned exit from the European Union.

The institutes, which will present their new forecasts on Wednesday, expect growth of 1.1 percent in 2020, one of the two sources said, down from a projection of 1.8 percent in April. The German economy, Europe's largest and a bellwether for the economic health of the euro zone, is still showing bright spots despite expectations of a recession in the third quarter.

Data published earlier yesterday showed German unemployment fell unexpectedly in September and retail sales rose in August, temporarily allaying concerns that a manufacturing slump is taking its toll on a consumption-driven growth cycle. Data from the Federal Labor Office showed the number of people out of work fell by 10,000 to 2.276 million in seasonally

adjusted terms. That compared with the Reuters forecast for a rise of 5,000.

The office revised down the joblessness figures for August to a rise of 2,000 from a previously reported increase of 4,000. The jobless rate in September held steady at 5.0 percent — just above the record-low of 4.9 percent reached earlier this year.

### Robust labor market

Labor Office head Detlef Scheele said the economic downturn was partly reflected in the joblessness data. "But all in all, the labor market is still in a robust shape," he added. Employment remains high but is losing momentum while the demand of companies for new employees continues to slow down at an elevated level, Scheele said.

In a further positive sign for domestic demand, retail sales rose 0.5 percent in real terms in August after an upwardly revised drop of 0.8 percent the previous

month, data from the Federal Statistics Office showed. For the year, retail sales rose 3.2 percent after an upwardly revised increase of 5.2 percent the previous month, the data showed. Retail sales are a volatile indicator often subject to revision. Separate data showed German annual inflation unexpectedly slowed for the third month running in September, lending support to doves among ECB policymakers who argue more monetary stimulus is needed to guarantee price stability in the euro zone.

The slowing economy also means that consumer price inflation remains moderate, with the effect that employees have more money in their pockets to spend thanks to wage hikes of up to 6 percent.

Preliminary data from several states released yesterday showed that consumer price inflation slowed in September. It fell to 1.1 percent from 1.4 percent in the previous month in Bavaria and dropped to 1.0 percent from 1.4 percent in Saxony.

## Kenyans rush to swap banknotes as cash ban looms

**NAIROBI:** Last week a man walked into a Nairobi car yard and paid for a luxury Mercedes with a mountain of 1,000 shilling (\$10/9 euros) banknotes, desperate to offload cash that within days would be worthless. With a deadline looming before the Central Bank of Kenya bans all old edition 1,000 shilling notes, big fish with their fortunes stashed in cash are under pressure to find ways to jettison their money. A new print of the 1,000 shilling banknote, the largest denomination, was rolled out in June, with Kenyans given to September 30 to exchange their old bills at the bank or be stuck with bundles of useless cash.

The operation is aimed at flushing out dirty money being hoarded by tax evaders, crooked businessmen and criminal groups. Large deposits of the old notes, embossed with the image of Kenya's founding father Jomo Kenyatta, raise alarm bells at banks and require paperwork to prove their origin.

The central bank in June said there were roughly 218 million 1,000 shilling notes in circulation, but declined to say what proportion was being stashed as black money.

Kenyan economist Aly-Khan



**NAIROBI:** A bank clerk exchanges old-issue currency bills received from a client to exchange for new-issue tender at a branch of a local bank in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, yesterday. Kenya demonetized its old-series tender at midnight in favor of new currency notes, a move intended to curb laundering of money acquired through corruption, especially in government accounting, that is rampant in the East African nation. —AFP

Satchu said devaluing these bills works by "taking its owners by surprise".

"Four months is a short period of time when you want to launder big sums of money," he said. "People who have that money will definitely try to save what they can".

### Car wash

So people are getting creative, devising schemes to quickly unload small amounts of their cash while avoiding detection by the authorities. John, a car dealer in Nairobi, recalled his customer last week counting out thousands upon thousands of banknotes to

purchase a luxury car worth \$74,000 (67,000 euros). "People want to get rid of their old notes, but they know very well that questions will be asked if they go put the money themselves in the bank," said John, who declined to offer his real name due to the nature of his business.

"When I go to the bank to deposit money from a car sale, people ask for the papers from the sale, sometimes even copies of emails, but it never goes further." Other businesses are finding a lucrative side trade in washing 1,000 shilling notes through their tills-for a bit in return. —AFP

view that the slowdown is both structural and cyclical and it has started showing up in some of the important indicators like the core sector," said N. Bhanumurthy, an economist at the government funded National Institute of Public Finance and Policy.

India's economic growth in April-June fell to a six-year low of 5 percent. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a slew of measures in the last month including cutting the corporate tax rate to bring it in line with other Asian peers. The government also merged 10 state-run banks into four and made an upfront capital infusion of 700 billion rupees into the state-run banks.

"I think some of the measures the government has initiated together with some of the measures Reserve Bank of India has already taken should help in reviving core sectors in the coming months," Bhanumurthy said.

RBI has cut policy rates by 110 basis points since February to spur investment and demand in the economy through cheaper loans. Economists also think the country's central bank may further cut rates in the next meeting on Oct. 4.

During April-August, infrastructure output grew 2.4 percent from the year-ago period, according to the data. —Reuters

## India infrastructure output down in August for first time since 2015

**NEW DELHI:** India's infrastructure output in August fell from a year earlier for the first time since April 2015, signalling the economic growth recovery in Asia's third largest economy may be slow despite a cut in the corporate tax rate and other policy measures designed to spur investment.

India's August infrastructure output fell 0.5 percent in August from a year earlier, government data showed yesterday. Infrastructure output, which comprises eight sectors such as coal, crude oil and electricity, accounts for nearly 40 percent of India's industrial output.

The contraction was mainly due to the decline in the five economic segments: coal, crude oil, natural gas, cement and electricity. "The data supports our

## Furthering Kuwait's eCommerce potential with Visa

By Ankush Devadason, Visa's Country Manager for Kuwait

The GCC region has taken a unique route to digital adoption and today, it is one of the fastest-growing markets for eCommerce globally. The total eCommerce market size is forecast to be worth \$48.6 billion in 2022, up from \$26.9 billion in 2018. Kuwait has all the favorable factors in place (rising disposable income, growing card usage, young adult demographics, tech savvy consumer base and high internet and smartphone penetration) to further its eCommerce potential.

### Consumer experience is key

To capture the eCommerce opportunity that lies ahead, both online retailers and traditional retailers alike in Kuwait should focus on enhancing the consumer experience. And the first step in this process is understanding consumers' evolving expectations and how they can be met.

Visa's 'Stay Secure' study in partnership with the Kuwait Banking Association (KBA) highlighted that Kuwaiti consumers are increasingly comfortable paying and transacting with cards overall (in-store and online), with 92% of respondents finding cards more secure than cash. Among online shoppers, 73% prefer to pay by card driven by factors such as security (77%), budget management (66%), and availability (60%).

So, within this context, two facets about the Kuwaiti consumer's online behavior become apparent. One is the increased penetration and usage of digital payments for online transactions, demonstrating that convenience is a key consideration for the consumer when shopping. The other is that security features as a vital component in the consumer's shopping experience.

### Catering to consumers' expectations for increased security and convenience

As consumers increasingly shop online or in-store using their mobile phones, the need for a seamless and secure digital payment experience becomes crucial. And this is where Visa's tokenization technology comes handy. A key enabler for mobile wallets such as Apple Pay, Samsung Pay, and Google Pay, Visa Token Service replaces sensitive account information, such as the 16-digit account number, with a unique digital identifier called a token. The token allows payments to be processed without exposing actual account details that could potentially be compromised.

Tokenization also provides online retailers with an innovative and secure way of handling payments. Visa's tokenisation technology therefore creates a win-win situation for both merchants and consumers by empowering frictionless payments in digital commerce environments.

Like security, online shoppers' expectations related to convenience can be tackled effectively if retailers were to offer card payment option (mobile POS) upon product delivery. This could help with converting Cash on Delivery (COD) customers into digital payers. The survey indicates that 95% of those customers preferring COD would pay by card if a mobile POS machine was available upon delivery.

Another approach is Three-Domain (3-D) Secure,



Ankush Devadason - Kuwait Country Manager - Visa

Visa's messaging protocol that gives merchants and issuers a way to authenticate cardholders for eCommerce transactions prior to authorization. The protocol was recently updated to address industry concerns over user friction. Now referred to as 3-D Secure 2.0 (3DS 2.0), the new protocol promotes greater data exchange between stakeholders to collaboratively manage fraud and maximize authenticated transactions.

With this risk-based authentication, issuers can take a more selective or segmented approach and instead of requiring all online transactions to be actively authenticated. Irrespective of their characteristics, banks can identify the small proportion that look in any way suspicious. With such a small proportion of transactions deemed to be higher risk, the bank can invoke a strong and appropriate authentication method - this could include dynamic passwords, the type of challenge questions used in their existing online banking solutions, or one-time-passwords delivered via SMS text messages. Risk-based authentication offers tangible benefits to all parties involved and for a for a consumer especially - the speed, simplicity and convenience of the checkout process is improved - which translates to a better consumer experience. For higher risk transactions, a step-up authentication is invoked - which can bring a sense of reassurance to more cautious online shoppers.

### The exciting eCommerce opportunity

Kuwait consumers are increasingly seeking seamless and secure online shopping experiences. Today, an increasing number of Kuwaitis and expatriates in-country are shopping online, driving the expansion of the eCommerce market, which has grown almost 30% over the last three years and is estimated to rise to almost \$1.1bn by next year. So, Visa will continue to support an enhanced customer experience with security as its cornerstone in order to help fully harness Kuwait's eCommerce potential and accelerate the country's digitization efforts.

## Business

# Volkswagen faces first mammoth diesel lawsuit on its home turf

## Germany's largest post-war industrial scandal erupted 4 years ago

**BRAUNSCHWEIG, Germany:** A case pitting hundreds of thousands of owners of manipulated diesel cars demanding compensation opened against German car behemoth Volkswagen yesterday, four years after the country's largest post-war industrial scandal erupted.

Around 450,000 people have joined a first-of-its-kind grouped proceeding, introduced by lawmakers after the "dieselgate" emissions cheating scandal broke in 2015.

The first hearing in what is likely to be a grinding, years-long trial began at 10 am (0800 GMT) in Brunswick, around 30 kilometres (19 miles) from VW headquarters in the northern city of Wolfsburg. The second is planned for November 18. Consumer rights group VZBV, representing the plaintiffs, says the German carmaker deliberately harmed buyers by installing motor control software that allowed vehicles to pollute far more on the road than under lab conditions.

"I would like Volkswagen to reimburse the purchase price" said Andreas Sarcletti, a customer who had made the trip from nearby Hanover, "but I'm worried the trial is going to last a very long time."

Uwe Reinicke, who bought a manipulated vehicle in 2011, said "I don't think it's right, the way Volkswagen treated us." "VW ought to finally, properly admit that they lied," he added.

The trial is Germany's largest so far in the tentacular diesel scandal, which last week saw VW chief executive Herbert Diess charged with market manipulation over his role.

### 50 questions for judges

"Several regional tribunals have already found against Volkswagen" and granted plaintiffs compensation, judge Michael Neef noted as the proceedings opened. Alongside the grouped proceeding, 61,000 individual lawsuits have been filed in Germany, but Brunswick may not follow those earlier rulings.

Of the around 50 questions about the case

judges must decide on, whether Volkswagen "caused harm" by acting "dishonestly" will be "one of the central, difficult questions," Neef added. "We're confident of our chances, since Volkswagen committed fraud," VZBV lawyer Ralph Sauer told AFP ahead of the hearing.

VW lawyer Martine de Lind van Wijngaarden countered that there was "no harm and no basis to this claim" because "hundreds of thousands of cars are used" on the roads without problem. Judges said that even if they find there was harm, the amount diesel owners receive in compensation would be based on the present-day market value—not the original purchase price.

Every owner registered in the trial will have to claim individually, even if the plaintiffs were to win the case. VW thinks a final judgement could arrive in 2023 at the earliest, if the case is appealed all the way to the Federal Court of Justice. Individual proceedings could then take at least another year—in the court of first instance.

By then, the cars' market value will have further eroded, making a buyback cheaper for the firm.

Instead, the judges mentioned the possibility of a settlement, while allowing that such talks "would not be easy" given duplicates and foreign residents on the list of plaintiffs.

The VZBV says it is "open" to an out-of-court settlement but "in that case, VW would have to pay a significant sum after all," Mueller said. VW for its part finds a mass settlement "hard to imagine".

### 30 billion euros

Since 2015, when Volkswagen admitted to manipulating 11 million vehicles worldwide to fool emissions tests, the scandal has cost the group over 30 billion euros (\$33 billion) in fines, compensation and legal costs. Most of that sum — \$22 billion—has gone to the US, while in Germany VW has so far paid just 2.3 billion euros spread across three fines.

Alongside car owners, investors are claiming



**BRAUNSCHWEIG:** Prosecution lawyer Ralph Sauer (left) of the Federation of German Consumer Organisations (VZBV) discusses with Volkswagen's defending lawyers Martina de Lind van Wijngaarden (center) and Patrick Schroeder (right) at the Stadthalle venue on the first day of the model case proceedings in Germany against German car maker Volkswagen (VW) over its cheating in emissions tests involving millions of diesel cars, yesterday in Braunschweig, northern Germany. —AFP

damages for losses they suffered when the group's share price plummeted after it came clean. And earlier this week, chief executive Herbert Diess and supervisory board chief Hans Dieter Poetsch were charged with market manipulation.

Former chief executive Martin Winterkorn, who stepped down over the scandal, has been also charged with fraud. Away from the legal battlegrounds, "dieselgate" has sped up the fuel's decline from its status as lower-carbon alternative to petrol, favored with government subsidies. In Germany, its

market share among new registrations has fallen from 46 to 33 percent. Car bans are also looming in some city centres because of the level of nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions.

The diesel scandal is "part of the group's history" just like the famous Beetle and Golf models, says VW brand chief Ralf Brandstaetter. "The diesel crisis was a catalyst for our transformation," Brandstaetter told AFP in a recent interview, pointing to VW's 30 billion euro investment in a new electric range to "regain society's respect". —AFP

## Warba Bank announces winners of Al-Sunbula draws

**KUWAIT:** Warba Bank, "the Best Investment Bank" and "Best Corporate Bank" in Kuwait, held its weekly Sunbula draw number 37. The draws announced the 8 lucky winners in the presence of representatives from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and bank officials. The bank proudly announced the weekly draw number 37 and five lucky winners of KD 1000 prize: Ahmad Salah Naser Al-Mesbah, Mohammad Naser Meshaab Al-Mutairi, Molla Samran Motlaq Al-Azmi, Abdullah Hussain Johar Ali and Ghazi Obaid Merdhi Al-Enezi.

Al-Sunbula both account and fixed deposits are the perfect choices for customers who wish to save money and achieve steady returns while at the same time have the opportunity to win cash prizes throughout the year. In line with the bank's mission to develop and differentiate its offerings, Warba Bank has enhanced its Sunbula campaign for 2019 with more cash and prizes reaching more than KD 1 million. Warba Bank will continue its weekly draws for five winners of KD 1,000 each. What's new in 2019 are the "Mega Draws" which will be held every quarter to reveal five winners, the 1st winner will get KD 100,000! The four winners thereafter will each get the latest Land Cruiser VXR. Furthermore, the final mega draw held in January 2020 will feature 2 more Land Cruiser VXRs!

As for the chances for winning, each customer is eligible to enter the draw against each KD 10 in the Sunbula Account. Nevertheless, Sunbula Fixed Deposit investors also get chances in the Sunbula draws along with high expected returns that reach up to 3.5 percent distributed either monthly or at maturity upon the customer's preference.

Furthermore, Warba Bank is leveraging on its Customer Onboarding solution, in line with its ambitious five-year strategy that enables non-Warba Bank customers to request the opening of Al-Sunbula account in a simple electronic manner without having to visit the branch, through 5 simple steps in 5 minutes. New customers will be able to request opening the account at anytime, anywhere, through the new and unique electronic system used to implement this service. Representatives will then contact the customer to determine the appropriate time to visit the branch to get required signatures, verify the customer's identity, deliver his/her debit card, and activate the account.

## ZEE5 Global wins 'Digital Content Service of The Year'

**DUBAI:** ZEE5 Global, the largest entertainment platform for Indian content, has been crowned Digital Content Service of The Year at the 2019 Telecoms World Middle East Awards in Dubai. The 'Digital Content Service of The Year' award recognizes OTT platforms, content providers or broadcasters in the region who have set themselves apart in a hyper-competitive industry. The award was received by Archana Anand, Chief Business Officer, ZEE5 Global from a panel of judges at a ceremony held at The Conrad Hotel, Dubai on 24th September.

As the largest and most comprehensive OTT platform for Indian content worldwide, ZEE5 Global is well loved by not only Indians and South Asians across the Middle East but also the local population that loves Bollywood movies. Its content library includes over 2000 movies including latest Bollywood blockbusters as well as TV Shows, exclusive Originals, 60+ Live TV channels and more, across 17 languages, making it a truly unparalleled global offering. A freemium proposition, ZEE5 Global has

been extremely aggressive in the Middle East market. The platform has already partnered with key players in the region to enable users to seamlessly access the premium content via telco billing and also built key offline retail partnerships with LuLu and Eurostar. ZEE5 Global has also recently partnered with Jalesh Cruises.

Amit Goenka, CEO, ZEE International and ZEE5 Global said "As we expand across the globe, we are deeply committed to offering a highly localized entertainment experience for our audiences across key markets. The Middle East is one of the most dynamic and competitive regions in the world, and we are extremely happy to have been recognized for our performance here."

Archana Anand, Chief Business Officer, ZEE5 Global said, "We are thrilled to receive this recognition within the first year of our presence in global markets. Telecoms World Middle East is a highly coveted platform and we are glad that our efforts and ambitions especially in an important market like the Middle East are being recognized. Through a strong tech backbone, key ecosystem partnerships, high quality content including a huge library of Bollywood movies, and well-defined audience strategies, this win further fuels our drive to deliver the best entertainment experience to our global audiences."

The ZEE5 app can be downloaded from the Google Play Store or iOS App Store. The app is also available on Samsung Smart TVs, Apple TVs, Android TVs and Amazon Fire TV.



## SMEs must harness strengths of their logistics providers

**KUWAIT:** Contributing more than 22 percent to the GCC's GDP, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are collectively creating new business opportunities and shaping the economy, whilst fast-tracking structural changes. In Kuwait, SMEs currently contribute three percent to the country's GDP. A \$6.5 billion National Fund seeks to drive growth in the sector by providing start-up capital and increasing mentorship. To sustain this momentum, SMEs need to stay on top of new platforms and advancements to retain their competitive edge and continue reaching a global audience. At a time when global trade has never been more accessible to smaller businesses, the success and realization of growth opportunities within the SME sector can be achieved by aspiring to enable seamless trade flows and customer service, alongside managing financial cash flow requirements, foreign currency reserves and customs clearance more efficiently. This is in addition to building an understanding of regulations and overcoming barriers such as language and cultural gaps.

To be able to grow and expand into new markets, SMEs should focus on marketing their strengths, leaving infrastructure and delivery of products to specialists. For the modern consumer today, deciding

factors for choosing a brand goes beyond product features, with purchase decisions often influenced by delivery times, the availability of package information, and a seamless return or exchange process. Technology and operational aspects aside, these businesses are ultimately driven by people; people who are the end-users of the products and services. Therefore, we encourage business owners to develop a keen understanding of the export market and gain an overview of local standards and the business environment. Digitization has helped the logistics industry, who in turn support companies with online tools which can help manage customs and manage documentation online, boosting transparency and eliminating guesswork. Services such as calculating duties and taxes, paperwork support, and streamlining cross-border returns are capabilities now embedded within logistics service providers.

Your logistics provider can assist you with improving customer experience and managing costs, in addition to managing the challenges of cross border trading and delivering your products on time. Your logistics provider can also support you with the flexibility to scale your business without hiring additional staff, buying a fleet of vehicles or being involved with long-term building leases. Working as partners, business owners can collaborate with logistics providers to build a solid integrated supply chain, opening access to new markets and boosting revenue streams. Going one step further, they can even provide value-added suggestions and identify gaps that businesses don't necessarily have visibility in. SMEs across the world are mostly optimistic about the prospect of exporting despite perceived barriers.

Findings from a specially commissioned global research study by FedEx Express4 indicate that SMEs in Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, the Indian subcontinent and African regions are particularly bullish: approximately 70 percent see themselves doing international business and enjoying higher international revenues by the end of the decade. At FedEx, we believe in the power of our global networks to connect people and possibilities around the world. In our experience, a strong national SME sector that has opportunities for growth into new markets, and reaching new customers not only helps those businesses prosper, but enables communities to flourish, and people to thrive. In short, a growing SME sector makes the world a better place for everyone involved. My personal recommendation to businesses is to progress at a pace that suits them, and not feel pressured to go international before they are truly ready. Also, invest time in understanding your supply chain, work with your logistics provider to understand the real-world costs of delays and what the actual timelines might be. This will help you plan your business better.



Jack Muhs

## Gulf Bank announces winners of Al-Danah weekly draw

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank held its weekly draw on 29th September 2019 announcing the names of the winners for the week of 22-26 September 2019. The weekly draw consists of five winners who receive

KD 1,000 each, every week.

The winners this week are:  
Nazih Abdulhameed  
Ali Reda Fathallah Gholamy  
Taleb Hussain Alsaraf  
Bader Erkhayes Albadri  
Abdullah Menkhi Khalaf Alfadhli

Gulf Bank's final Al-Danah draw for KD 1,000,000, will be held on 16 January 2020, where the Al-Danah millionaire will be announced at a live event.

Gulf Bank encourages customers to increase their

chances of winning with Al-Danah by depositing more into their Gulf Bank accounts using the new ePay (Self-Pay) service, which is available on Gulf Bank's online and mobile banking services.

Al-Danah offers a number of unique services to customers, including the Al-Danah Deposit Only ATM card, which allows account holders to deposit money into their accounts at their convenience. Account holders can also calculate their chances of winning the draws through the 'Al-Danah Chances' calculator available on the Gulf Bank website and app.

What's On

# Fly to stunning destinations in Dubai, Europe or Asia with Jumeirah escapes



As the end of 2019 approaches, now is the perfect time to book a winter break or tick off a bucket list holiday destination before the New Year begins. Why not feel the sand between your toes, admire mesmerizing sea views or explore new destinations on an action packed city break on your next getaway with Jumeirah Escapes? Enjoy a fun-filled holiday and make memories to last a life time - from treasure hunts and ice-carving, to turtle feeding, camel rides, lifeguard training and fitness challenges, Jumeirah extends a warm welcome to couples, parents and children alike.

### Year round sunshine in Dubai

Dubai is one of the world's premier holiday destinations and the perfect place to unwind in the sun. Check into Jumeirah Al Qasr, Jumeirah Mina A'Salam, Jumeirah AlNaseem or Jumeirah Dar Al Masyaf and discover our 2km stretch of private beach. For endless family fun, explore Jumeirah Beach Hotel or check into Burj Al Arab, for an once-in-a-lifetime experience at the world's most luxurious hotel. If you're yearning to escape the city, discover Jumeirah Zabeel Saray's palatial surroundings on Palm Jumeirah.

Explore Jumeirah Emirates Towers or Jumeirah Creekside Hotel in the city for easy access to old and new Dubai. Remember, if you stay at any of our hotels in Dubai, you can enjoy unlimited access to Wild Wadi Waterpark. The waterpark includes rides and attractions for the whole family. Take it easy and relax in a rubber ring on the lazy river or hurtle down the adrenaline fuelled 120-metre high Jumeirah Sceirah at speeds of 80km/h.

### City, desert or island life in Abu Dhabi

Modern and cosmopolitan, here you can choose from our city, beach or desert resorts, or why not combine all three? Jumeirah at Etihad Towers offers the perfect place to explore the city, stroll along the private beach or enjoy

a revitalizing massage in the Talise Spa. Relax into the island way of life, take a front-row seat to nature and admire the turquoise waters as you check into Jumeirah at Saadiyat Island Resort. Or discover the ultimate desert retreat, trek across the sands on horseback and explore Jumeirah Al Wathba Desert Resort and Spa, our newest wellness destination.

### Discover azure waters in Bahrain

One of the first states in the Gulf to discover oil, this small island is perhaps best known for hosting the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix each March. The Jumeirah Royal Saray offers the perfect beach-sidebase if you're planning to witness this world-class event. Aside from the F1 and our glittering 5-star hotel, you'll find exhilarating watersports, fantastic coffee shops, incredible malls and the city's thriving Bab Al-Bahrain bazaar where you'll find everything from colorful hand-woven fabrics, to spices and pearls.

### Family breaks in Kuwait

The Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa offers a wonderful family experience and a comfortable, luxurious stay. This idyllic beachside getaway is located on the southern coast of Kuwait. Bask in the sunshine on the Messilah beach, sample cuisine from around the world in the seven restaurants or enjoy time with your kids in the Sinbad Kids' Club. For extended stays with the family, check into one of the beautiful villas, complete with private plunge pool and service quarters.

### Explore the best of Frankfurt

This city of culture offers something for everyone. Characterized by a myriad of skyscrapers, Frankfurt also has a very different side. Admire the city's traditional half timbered buildings in the medieval Altstadt (old town), visit beautiful taverns which serve delicious local food or explore quaint neighborhoods, cafes, boutiques, beautiful



parks, gardens and riverside paths. Jumeirah Frankfurt is ideally located in the heart of the city, just a few steps away from the popular 'Zeil' shopping street and the financial district.

### A London mini-break

One of the world's most visited cities and home to beautiful Jumeirah hotels, you'll find everything from history to culture, fine food, world-class sporting events and attractions for the whole family. Whatever you choose, treat yourself to five-star luxury at either Jumeirah Lowndes Hotel or Grosvenor House Suites by Jumeirah Living.

### Mediterranean views in Mallorca

Nestled amidst the Soller Valley and the UNESCO

World Heritage Tramuntana Mountain range, Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel and Spa offers views over the Mediterranean sea and the charming town of Port Soller. Boasting a selection of international and Mediterranean cuisine, the award-winning Talise Spa, three heated pools, a state-of-the-art gym, and some of the best sunsets on the island, the hotel is the ultimate escapist enclave.

### Barfoot luxury in the Maldives

Explore Jumeirah Vittaveli, our Indian Ocean haven where every experience is exceptional. Famed for its powder white beaches, azure waters and turquoise lagoons, the resort is just a 20-minute luxury catamaran transfer from Male. The newly revamped Infinity Pool Ocean Villa with Slide offers fun for the young and young at heart.

## LAPA signs coop agreement with artist George Khabbaz

LOYAC Academy of Arts (LAPA) announced the signing of a joint cooperation agreement in theatrical works and art projects with the great artist George Khabbaz. The signing of this memorandum comes out of the desire of both parties to enhance cultural and artistic exchange between the two countries. The cooperation agreement will benefit from the expertise of George Khabbaz in various artistic fields such as theater, cinema and music through future performances and festivals aimed at enriching the cultural and artistic atmosphere in Kuwait.



## ICSK Junior awards winners of Pearls arts fest 2019

A dazzling award ceremony that celebrated the student's forays into the beautiful world of art, literature was held in ICSK Senior auditorium on 21st September 2019 to celebrate the winners of Pearls and culture Art fest competitions. Art, a combination of imagination, creativity and skill expresses human emotions, transmits ideas and values inherent in every culture across space and time. Every child is an artist who never fears to express emotions through the innocence and so every enthusiastic participant of Arts fests 2019 has accomplished something.

The weeklong array of cultural and literary competitions saw more than 4400 participations from the enthusiastic students. And the lessons and skills the students learnt as they painted, sang, danced will stay with them for a long time to come. Art fest, the celebration of art is a wonderful opportunity provided by ICSK. This year marks the completion of sixty glorious years of ICSK, the first ever school opened for Indian Nationalities that paved way for many others to follow. The chief guest Mr Amitabh Ranjan, Second Secretary, Education and Community Affairs, Indian Embassy, congratulated the students and the school for the success of the event.

Principal Mrs Sheryl Dennis lauded the efforts of the students, parents and teachers alike for the wonderful efforts they had put to make the event a grand success. She also had a word of advice for the students and the parents to take the competitions with right spirit and enjoy participation. A total of 246 winners along with their proud parents received their trophies and the certificates of merit from the esteemed dignitaries. The students who excelled in each category were awarded with the titles Kalathilak and Kalapratibha trophies and certificates. The Vice Principal Mrs. Sheeja in her vote of thanks, thanked the management, the teachers, support staff, parents, students and all those who made year's Arts fest a memorable one.



## AUK Student wins award at Sciences Po

The Kuwait Program at Sciences Po and the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) hosted a student paper competition whereby students from every university in Kuwait can submit a paper that discusses issues related to the Arab world or the Gulf region.

American University of Kuwait (AUK) senior international relations student Hussam Helmy submitted a paper entitled, (En) gendering Orientalism: The Representation of Women in Amin Maalouf's Samarkand. The paper argues that the representation of women in Maalouf's ostensibly postcolonial novel actually reinforces the very same imperialism and colonialism that it sets out to condemn.

Helmy expressed his gratitude, "I am honored to receive the SciencesPo Student Paper Award for my senior thesis paper, and I am very grateful for the opportunity afforded by KFAS and the Kuwait Program at SciencesPo. I am also deeply indebted to AUK and to my supervisor, Dr Angelica DeAngelis who



provided strong guidance, endless encouragement, and indefatigable support throughout the research and writing process." Chosen among six winners, Helmy was awarded a cash prize along with publishing his paper in the Sciences Po Kuwait Program website.

The Kuwait Program is a partnership between the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) and Sciences Po-a social sciences university in France. The American University of Kuwait also has a standing student exchange program with Sciences Po that allows students to study at one of the school's seven urban campuses.

## Burgan Bank offers free coffee on 'International Coffee Day'

Burgan Bank is partnering with Toby's Estate, home of specialty and high-quality coffee to provide its valuable customers free coffee. Burgan Bank customers are entitled to receive any of their favorite coffee drink for free on International Coffee Day, Tuesday, October 1, 2019. The campaigns' offer will be available in two of the Toby's Estate local branches, situated in Sharq and Shuwaikh.

Burgan bank strives to reward its customers with exclusive offers that fits their lifestyle. By presenting a hit collaboration with globally renowned brands, Burgan Bank is committed to exceed its customers' expectations by constantly inventing new ways to bring them within easier reach of their desired products. To know more about Burgan Bank's latest offers, or any of its products and



services, customers can visit any of the Burgan Bank's branches or Burgan Banks Instagram page on @BurganBankKuwait.

Health & Science

# Giant telescope project in Hawaii delayed by protests

LOS ANGELES: Anger is brewing on the Big Island of Hawaii over plans to build a giant telescope on a dormant volcano that is highly sacred to the region's native population. For months, hundreds of protesters have delayed the start of construction on Mauna Kea volcano of the so-called Thirty Meter Telescope, or TMT, which astronomers say will have a dozen times the resolution of the Hubble Space Telescope.

The demonstrators, who have converged on the site peacefully, argue that the \$1.4 billion project would sit on a volcano that is sacred to Native Hawaiians and would harm the environment. Celebrities like Dwayne Johnson, Jason Momoa and Bruno Mars have lent their support to the protesters. "What I realized today, and obviously I've been following this for years now, is that it's bigger than a telescope," Johnson, who lived in Hawaii as a child, reportedly said when he visited the site earlier this summer. "It's humanity. It's culture," he said.

Work on the project — set to be completed by 2027 — was supposed to start in 2015 but has been hampered by repeated protests. "Construction has been delayed for years because of this situation," Christophe Dumas, a French astronomer and head of operations at TMT, told AFP. "The cost has also risen significantly... and the process to obtain a construction permit lasted 10 years."

Protest leaders say the consortium of sci-

entists behind the project can build their scope on a less controversial site, including on a mountain in Spain's Canary Islands, where they say it would be a win-win situation for everyone. Dumas argues, however, that Mauna Kea "remains the ideal site" in the Northern Hemisphere because of its altitude — 13,796 feet (4,205 meters) above sea level — as well as its remoteness and clear skies which make it one of the best places on the planet for astronomical observatories. The new telescope, according to scientists, would enable astronomers to see "forming galaxies at the very edge of the observable universe, near the beginning of time." Already, Mauna Kea, which means White Mountain, is home to 13 telescopes housed in 12 facilities at or around the summit, which have been the source of a host of new discoveries and scientific studies. Some question whether one more telescope — albeit a giant one — would make such a big difference. The answer is a resounding "yes" from opponents.

**'Enough is enough'**

"I talked to the leaders of the opposition and they made it real clear that not only is it too big, but it's just one too many," said Greg Chun, executive director of Mauna Kea stewardship at the University of Hawaii. "They tell me we have shared this mountain long enough. Enough is enough." He said Native Hawaiians have repeatedly expressed concerns about the development

of the mountain but their complaints have, for the most part, fallen on deaf ears.

Scientists began flocking to Mauna Kea after a tsunami in 1960 devastated communities along the base of the volcano and local authorities, in a bid to revive the economy, began a drive to attract astronomers. "From the very beginning, the development of astronomy has raised concerns about the development of the mountain," Chun said. "So it's not something new." But many observers say the Mauna Kea debate goes beyond just a telescope and reflects deep-seated resentment by some Native Hawaiians over past abuses and the legacy of colonialism in the Hawaiian islands.

Jonathan Osorio, an expert on Hawaiian culture and a longtime opponent of the planned telescope, insists that he and fellow protesters are not opposed to science but they object to telescopes being built on sacred land. Dumas for his part argues that the telescope is being used as a tool to pressure authorities to seek more autonomy for the native population. "The telescope would not sit atop the mountain and will be visible from only a small section (14 percent) of the island," he said. He said his team has gone to great lengths to respect local custom and tradition but the project now needs to urgently get off the ground. "We can't wait much longer and the next few weeks are going to be critical," he said. — AFP

## French MPs approve IVF for single women

PARIS: France moved Friday towards allowing lesbians and single women to conceive children with medical help, setting the stage for a clash with conservatives who say it would create generations of "fatherless" kids. To loud applause, France's lower house of parliament approved a controversial draft bioethics law in a move that has already sparked outrage from defenders of the traditional family unit, and even opponents in President Emmanuel Macron's own centrist party.

For now, only heterosexual couples have the right to use medically-assisted reproduction methods such as in vitro fertilization, commonly known as IVF. Given the green light by the National Assembly, the bill must also get the go-ahead from the upper house, or Senate, before it can become law. The National Assembly passed the draft law by 55 votes to 17. It represents Macron's biggest social reform since coming to power in 2017. But Macron has acknowledged the political risk he is taking,

and is mindful of the backlash six years ago against gay marriage, legalized under his Socialist predecessor Francois Hollande.

A coalition of grassroots religious groups, Catholic figures and right-wing political opponents organized mass demonstrations against Hollande. About 20 conservative groups have called for a rally in Paris on October 6 against the proposed legal changes they say will "deprive children of their fathers". Under the bill — for which lawmakers have suggested a total of 2,500 amendments — the child of a lesbian couple would have the names of the "mother and mother" on its birth certificate instead of the "mother and father".

"The state is going to lie to a child by saying that you are born from two mothers," far-right National Rally leader Marine Le Pen told RTL radio on Tuesday. "The state should not lie on a birth certificate... you can say that you are born from an unknown father." The conservative Le Figaro newspaper said in an editorial yesterday that the reform "threatens the foundation of our humanity", while the prestigious French Academy of Medicine has raised worries about a potential psychological impact on children. Under the proposed law, the country's health care system would cover the cost of the procedure for all women under 43. — AFP

CLINIC

PAGE





248 33 199

BEAUTY THERAPY



Madona Al Gemayel

Beauty Therapy Technician



Wafaa Belgoumi

Beauty Therapy Technician





1808088 taibahospital.com  
@taibahospital

BEAUTY THERAPY

— These services include, but are not limited to, the below:

- Deep facial cleansing
- Skin lightening treatments for dark spots and melasma for pregnant women
- Deep cleansing of oily skin for removing blackheads
- Dark circles treatment
- Crystal peel
- Vitamin C peel
- Fruit acid peel





1808088 taibahospital.com  
@taibahospital

CLINIC

PAGE





Dr. Rany Essam Mitwally

Senior Registrar



Dr. Ahmed Hosni Abd Elhamid

Consultant



Dr. Abeer Khattab

Specialist









1828282  
WhatsApp Us  
+965-6000 2184

Dr Sahar Ghannam

Dermatology consultant, skin treatment and laser

**Timing: Saturdays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 5 pm**

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 am 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




Email: drsgderma@gmail.com

To advertise on this Page

Call: 24833199 ext:101,102 or Direct line: 24835616 / 24835617

or email: ads@kuwaittimes.com

WELCOME

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

— Fellowship of the royal college of surgeons in UK and Ireland  
— 20 years work experience in Qatar Hospital QIBB Doha

— As Head of ENT department in Farafra Hospital QIBB Doha  
— 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. Kiran Turaka  
Ophthalmologist



Dr. Zareena Zahir  
Ophthalmologist



Dr. Hasan Khan  
Senior Cardiologist



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



50721507  
24551555

www.exircenterkuwait.com

EXIR MEDICAL SUBSPECIALITIES CENTER

Block No.4 Jahra - Kuwait

WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR INSURANCES

Tel : 24568857 / 24568859 info@exircenterkuwait.com www.exircenterkuwait.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 Alieher st., Building 6B, Floor 13.**  
Tel.: (+965) 22060777  
@DrFahamed, @FahadSabb, @FahadSabb  
Email: drfahamed@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.

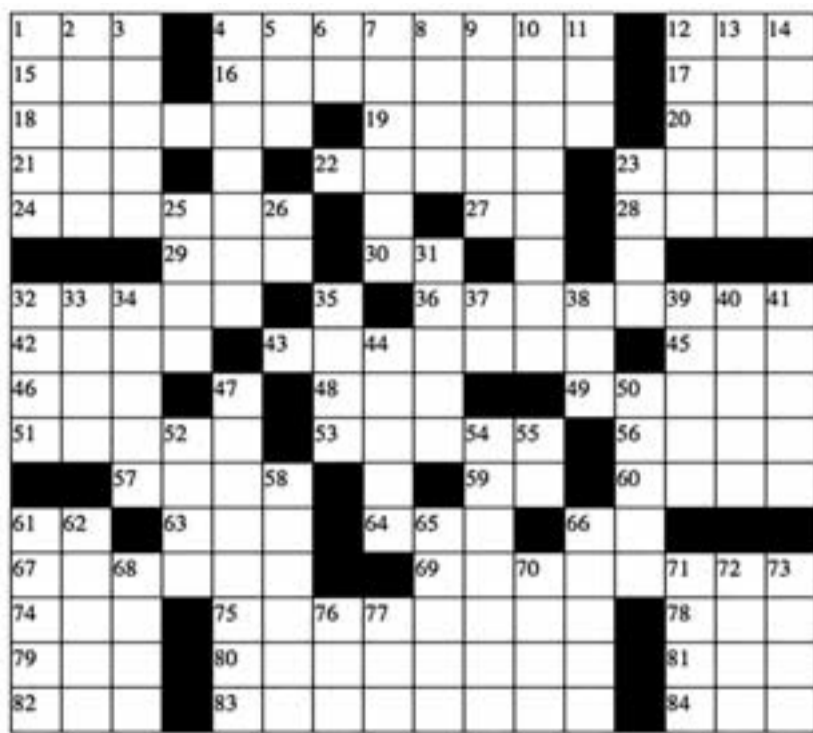
**Scope of clinical Practice.**

- 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

Stars

CROSSWORD 2321



- ACROSS**
- Immense East Indian fruit resembling breadfruit of.
  - Of or relating to Jamaica (the island or the country) or to its inhabitants.
  - A caustic detergent useful for removing grease.
  - A unit of surface area equal to 100 square meters.
  - Egg-shaped vegetable having a shiny skin typically dark purple but occasionally white or yellow.
  - (prefix) Reverse of or absence of.
  - A medicinal liquid preparation intended for use in an atomizer.
  - (Judaism) A Jewish festival (traditionally 8 days) celebrating the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt.
  - A period marked by distinctive character or reckoned from a fixed point or event.
  - Fiddler crabs.
  - Someone given to teasing (as by mocking or stirring curiosity).
  - A midnight meeting of witches to practice witchcraft and sorcery.
  - The district occupied entirely by the city of Washington.
  - (informal) Being satisfactory or in satisfactory condition.
  - A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
  - A Mid-Atlantic state.
  - A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
  - The childhood of a girl.
  - Not easy.
  - Stem of the rattan palm used for making canes and umbrella handles.
  - Perennial herb of East India to Polynesia and Australia cultivated for its large edible root yielding Otaheite arrowroot starch.
  - A condition (mostly in boys) characterized by behavioral and learning disorders.
  - The Tibeto-Burman language spoken in the Dali region of Yunnan.
  - A support that consists of a horizontal surface for holding objects.
  - English monk and scholar (672-735).
  - Enthusiastic approval.
  - German industrialist who was the first in Germany to use an assembly line in manufacturing automobiles (1871-1948).
  - A large mass of ice floating at sea.
  - 16 ounces.
  - A Chadic language spoken in Chad.
  - A white soft metallic element that tarnishes readily.
  - A federal agency established to regulate the release of new foods and health-related products.
  - A doctor's degree in dental surgery.
  - Any organic compound formed by adding alcohol molecules to aldehyde molecules.
  - Of or relating to or characteristic of the country of Romania or its people or languages.
  - Explosive consisting of a yellow crystalline compound that is a flammable toxic derivative of toluene.
  - Scale-like plant-eating insect coated with a powdery waxy secretion.
  - A Turkish unit of weight equal to about 2.75 pounds.
  - Adult female chicken.
  - Not consciously observing.
  - The bill in a restaurant.
  - An agency of the United Nations affiliated with the World Bank.
- DOWN**
- (Roman mythology) The Roman god of doorways and passages.
  - Any of several tall tropical palms native to southeastern Asia having egg-shaped nuts.
  - Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
  - A loose cloak with a hood.
  - Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
  - 1/1000 gram.
  - Add to the very end.
  - A large genus of dicotyledonous trees and shrubs of the family Aquifoliaceae that have small flowers and berries (including hollies).
  - Covered or protected with or as if with a case.
  - Without law or control.
  - Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series.
  - Marked by quiet and caution and secrecy.
  - Spanish poet and dramatist (1898-1936).
  - Resembling a serpent in form.
  - The 10th letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
  - An unofficial association of people or groups.
  - A hard gray lustrous metallic element that is highly corrosion-resistant.
  - (computer science) A system of worldwide electronic communication in which a computer user can compose a message at one terminal that is generated at the recipient's terminal when he logs in.
  - An informal term for a father.
  - A unit of dry measure used in Egypt.
  - A very young child (birth to 1 year) who has not yet begun to walk or talk.
  - A radioactive element of the actinide series.
  - Any of several small ungulate mammals of Africa and Asia with rodent-like incisors and feet with hooflike toes.
  - Large African forest tree yielding a strong hard yellow to golden brown lumber.
  - A worker who oils engines or machinery.
  - Little known Kamarupan languages.
  - Closed with a lace.
  - Aromatic seeds used as seasoning like cinnamon and cloves especially in pickles and barbecue sauces.
  - A family of Amerindian languages spoken in California.
  - Quick and skillful in movement.
  - Tropical American herbs sometimes included in genus Episcia.
  - A metallic element of the rare earth group.
  - Soft blue-gray mineral.
  - (of complexion) Blemished by imperfections of the skin.
  - An appliance that removes moisture.
  - Relatively nontoxic South African herb smoked like tobacco.
  - An inactive volcano in Sicily.
  - Tough Asiatic grass whose culms are used for ropes and baskets.
  - A tiny or scarcely detectable amount.
  - A Kwa language spoken in Ghana and the Ivory Coast.
  - (Babylonian) God of wisdom and agriculture and patron of scribes and schools.
  - The residue that remains when something is burned.
  - A unit of length of thread or yarn.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

Your organizational abilities and sense of responsibility will be what guides you and proves successful. Your career could assume a much more determined and solid form—a firm foundation. Making your mark on the world has special significance for you. Achievement, ambition and authority are things that take on greater importance. Organizing and administering people and projects will become central to your lifestyle. Speculative ventures fare well at this time. You may finally see some results from an investment you have held for some time. A relationship will improve as the evening moves along; you can help your loved one to relax with a massage.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

At the workplace today there is a sense of emotional coolness or detachment at the personal level. Although you may wonder what in the heck happened, you could find this a good setting for working and accomplishing much. It is ideas that count for you now, more than narrowly personal concerns—and you may have little tolerance for people who do not operate at this level. You value what is honest and straightforward and have a particular dislike of what is secret, intense and private. The new, unusual and at times, the whimsical are the things that instinctively appeal to you, particularly this day when you can add something special to a work project.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You must be open to the opportunities around you. Exert the initiative it takes to use each moment to the benefit of your progress. This is an active day. If you feel that there is more stress in your day than you would prefer, help your physical wellbeing by softening your diet. At home this evening, you enjoy the communication between friends and family. There is an appreciation for ideas and thoughts that are innovative. Many times you have been pressed for time, yet you know that your interaction with family and friends requires special attention. You are wise to take time to be with loved ones. It is easy for you to love and be compassionate and to value what life offers. You have a sense of unity and brotherhood that will stay with you.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Satisfying days make up for all the stress that comes with the challenging days. This is a rewarding day; you can grab the attention or the benefits. Work is easy to complete. Travel and adventure are compelling temptations as you dare to stretch your horizons. You can demonstrate great understanding and sensitivity to the needs of others just now and are in a good position to communicate concerning groups and society. You may be able to bring a group together with words or ideas that transport others. Poetry and art may bring a fun pastime to your waiting moments. Creative endeavors may bring monetary rewards—praises for the depth of your imagination.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Although you shy away from challenges, you cannot escape facing a few of them. Challenges are what help us grow—teaching us about our capabilities. Challenges also help us to improve our problem-solving skills—today may be challenging. An irresistible force meets an immovable object—proceed with caution! There are appropriate times to express your feelings. Today your problem-solving skills may be more directed toward learning how to stay out of a sticky situation. There is a lot of energy available for whatever is needed. The secret to a successful day is a good meal and breaks where you can really enjoy some quiet time, which may include a walk or some exercise routine. Water, music and an animal are forms of relaxation this evening.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

This morning you are up early and in the mood to clean and clear away any clutter, whether it be inside or outside your living area. You are in a determined mood to make things look neat and to clear away the cobwebs, so to speak. Clear thinking is important just now. Today you could be teaching or attending a lecture. Your words and ideas can transport and enchant listeners, carrying them beyond the world as they know it and into the world as they wish it could be. You may decide that this afternoon is the time to put your energies toward some environmental concerns. You may help to organize some benefit for the kids in your town. Children certainly have your attention as you want very much to help them have a good start in life.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Contracts signed now through the end of this month will have positive results. High-tech gambles could pay off in big ways. Superiors seem to demand more than usual today. Making this a harmonious day may depend on your willingness to tend to someone else's needs. Turnabout-is-fair-play will happen for you soon, but for now a patient attitude will be most important. Unconventional hobbies and other forms of self-expression that break from the norm play a bigger part in your life. A child or lover may be rebellious—or perhaps simply ahead of his or her time. Romance and recreation take on an unusual character, out of step with ordinary expectations. You may find that you have intuitive abilities that you had never noticed before.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

If professional advice is needed, this week is the most productive time to seek that advice. Stresses and blocks that previously were in your way, now seem to be fading. You want to gain the advantage over life's stresses and use them to your best advantage so you want to learn how. Faith untested is not worth bothering with; that's the lesson that takes center stage in your life now. Legal, political or educational experiences require serious thought and planning. This afternoon you could be plotting your next move to success. You could have some fun times with young people later today. You are very imaginative when it comes to other people and relationships of all kinds.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

You may have trouble getting moving, but once rolling, others better move aside. This is an excellent time to be in school, or to work at a job. You will benefit from logical insights, getting to the heart of things. After you have given some time for thought and focus, negotiations during this time can be quite positive. If you take it easy and do a bit of research, you will find yourself in a good position to resolve or finalize plans. You may have a wonderful opportunity to socialize this evening. This could be in a restaurant or at a community get-together. Networking at this time, with people who share your interests, provides both support and feedback for future achievements.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You may be helping people that find difficulty in listening or grasping what is told to them. Try not to personalize the situation and repeat yourself in several different ways. Sometimes people need to hear an explanation in a different sort of presentation or explanation. Much is accomplished this day. This could mean that some form of teaching, lecturing, conference or research work is accomplished. Your mind is very clear and your thoughts are brought to a sharp focus. It is easy to organize your thoughts and communication of all kinds is furthered. Write that book—take that course. Your thoughts count—so use your mind and communicate.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Today is a big communication day. Continue with ongoing negotiations and expect positive end results. There are good results as you dare to take risks. You will prosper through new insights and an independent point of view—do not hold back. You plan to do some entertaining in your home and may decide that now is the time to shop for more updated furniture. You could find some good sales that will help you make decisions on what you want. You must realize that some furniture stores may not have the furniture ready as quickly as you would like; a planning attitude may be the best attitude for now.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Examine and reorganize your workplace to reflect an environment that will increase productivity. Speculative ventures have tremendous promise. Retirement planning also can be especially fortunate. This is a good time to promote your talents or to make proposals. Your discipline and focus in creative endeavors help you to be creative in the way you make your presentations. You tend to take everything with great passion. Your drive to get at the heart and truth of things is constantly invoked and serves as a common theme in your life. You may find that your personal growth depends upon how you can handle some very sensitive subjects this afternoon—patience. You make the right choices when you give yourself time to think before you speak.

Wordsearch Puzzle

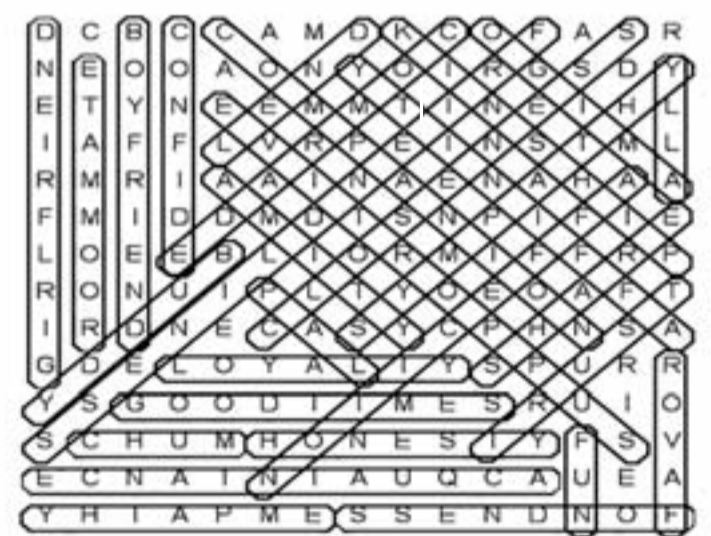
Fruit

Find and circle all of the fruit that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an additional fruit.



- |             |            |             |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| APPLES      | DATE       | ORANGE      |
| APRICOT     | FIG        | PAPAYA      |
| AVOCADO     | GRAPEFRUIT | PEACH       |
| BANANA      | GRAPES     | PEAR        |
| BLACKBERRY  | KIWIFRUIT  | PERSIMMON   |
| BLUEBERRY   | KUMQUAT    | PINEAPPLE   |
| CANTALOUPE  | LEMON      | PLUM        |
| CHERRIES    | LIME       | POMEGRANATE |
| CHOKECHERRY | LYCHEE     | RASPBERRY   |
| COCONUT     | MANGO      | RHUBARB     |
| CRABAPPLE   | MULBERRY   | STRAWBERRY  |
| CRANBERRY   | NECTARINE  | WATERMELON  |

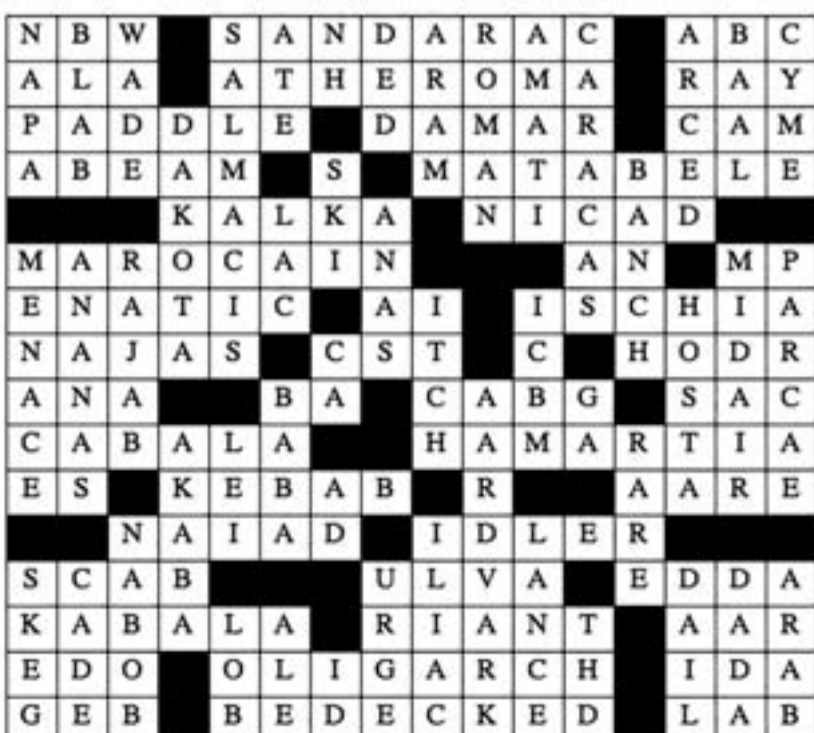
Friendship



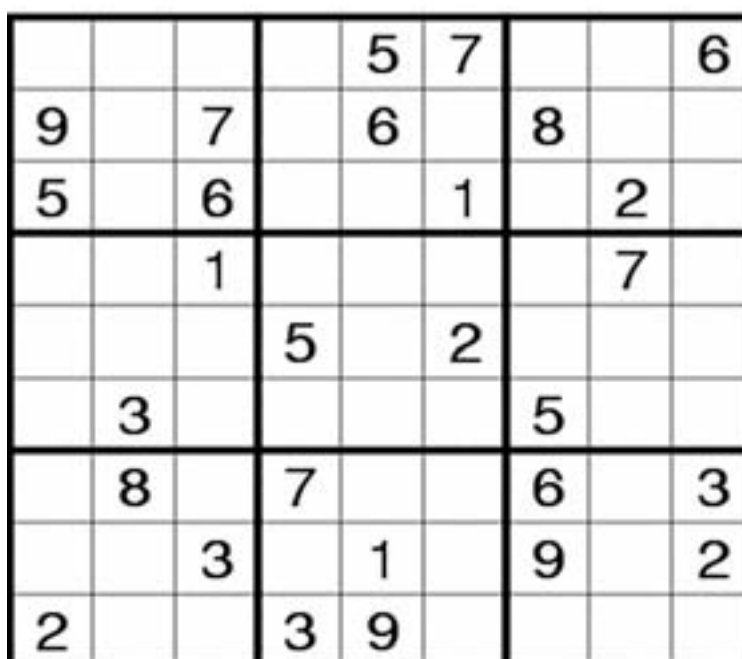
- |              |              |            |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| ACQUAINTANCE | COMPANION    | HONESTY    |
| AFFECTION    | COMRADE      | KINSHIP    |
| AFFINITY     | CONFIDE      | LEND       |
| ALLY         | EMPATHY      | LOYALTY    |
| AMIGO        | FAVOR        | PAL        |
| AMITY        | FONDNESS     | ROOMMATE   |
| BOYFRIEND    | FRIENDLINESS | SHARE      |
| BUDDY        | FUN          | SUPPORTIVE |
| CHUM         | GIRLFRIEND   | SYMPATHY   |
| CLOSENESS    | GOOD TIMES   | TRUST      |

The hidden message is: CAMARADERIE

Yesterday's Solution



Daily Sudoku



Yesterday's Solution



# Lifestyle

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019



Models present creation by Thom Browne during the Women's Spring-Summer 2020 Ready-to-Wear collection fashion show at the Ecole nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris. — AFP ( See pages 20 & 21)

## Renia Spiegel, 'Poland's Anne Frank', gets her due

Barely a year after celebrating her first kiss, wartime Jewish teenager Renia Spiegel took to her diary in June 1942 to pray for her life. The Nazi Germans had just killed all the Jews in one district of her southern Polish town of Przemysl, requiring many to dig their own graves. "Wherever I look, there is bloodshed. Such terrible pogroms. There is killing, murdering," Spiegel wrote on June 7. "God Almighty, for the umpteenth time I humble myself in front of You, help us, save us! Lord God, let us live, I beg You, I want to live!"

A month and a half later, the 18-year-old's boyfriend Zygmunt Schwarzer, who although Jewish too had a work permit saving him from immediate deportation, hid her and his parents in an attic outside the Jewish ghetto. But an informant gave them away. Schwarzer reported her death in a chilling coda to the journal: "Three shots! Three lives lost! It happened last night at 10:30 pm... My dearest Renusia, the last chapter of your diary is complete."

The diary survived and now, after nearly 80 years including decades in a bank vault, it will be published around the world. "Renia's Diary" came out in English this month and will be republished in Polish next year. Some 15 translations are in the works. Spiegel is being called "Poland's Anne Frank", after the young diarist who wrote while hiding in an Amsterdam attic and was also killed in the Holocaust.

### Nearly 700 pages

Spiegel began her diary in 1939 when she was 14 and living with her grandparents while her mother was in Warsaw promoting her younger sister, a child star known as Poland's Shirley Temple. Spiegel filled around 660 pages of notebooks sewn together with longing for her mother, daydreaming about green-eyed Schwarzer and dozens of poems, plus sobering passages about the Soviet and Nazi occupations of Przemysl. She ends almost every diary entry calling on her mother and God for help, like a mantra.

Her sister survived thanks to her best friend's

father, who took her from Przemysl—where she had become trapped due to the occupations while visiting Renia and her grandparents—by train to Warsaw. "My life was saved because of a good Christian. Under penalty of death, he took me as his own child to my Mom," Elizabeth Bellak, now 88 and living in New York, told AFP. She was later baptized, and when a German officer fell in love with her mother, they were sent to a safe place in Austria, emigrating to the United States after the war.

Schwarzer also survived, despite being sent to the Nazi German death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau—where, he has recounted, he was inexplicably picked out by the infamous doctor Josef Mengele to be allowed to live—and a bout of typhus.



An archival photograph handed by relatives shows Renia Spiegel smiling in her southern Polish town of Przemysl at the age of 18 in 1942. — AFP photos

### Too heart-wrenching

In the 1950s, he tracked down Spiegel's mother in New York and returned the diary. "She was shocked. But she could never read it... You know, for a mother to lose her child," Bellak said, adding that she herself had only read parts because it was "too heart-wrenching." After her mother's death, Bellak put the thick tome in a safe-deposit box where it languished for decades, only seeing the light of day when Bellak's daughter dug it out.

"My name is Alexandra Renata (Bellak). So I was named after this mysterious person I never got to meet... I was just curious about my past," the 49-year-old real-estate broker told AFP. They approached New York-based Polish filmmaker Tomasz Magierski with the diary, and he agreed to dip into it out of politeness. "But I couldn't stop reading it! I read this thing over probably four or five nights... I got used to her handwriting and to be honest I fell in love with her. I fell in love with Renia," he told AFP.

"The sad thing about this diary is... you know how it ends. But you read this thing and you hope it will somehow have a different outcome." He was struck by the poems. In one about a German soldier, Spiegel displays empathy for the enemy: "I curse the thousands and millions / And for the one wounded, I cry." Magierski made a documentary film about the sisters, entitled "Broken Dreams," and with the Bellaks got the diary published in Poland a few years ago through their Renia Spiegel Foundation.

### All these -isms

This month, the two Bellaks and Magierski attended the film's Warsaw premiere. Audience member Krystyna Shmeruk said that she "enjoyed reading the diary entries about her first love... She writes as if the war and its horrors weren't happening. She wants to live." Shmeruk also grew up in Przemysl and often passes the attic where Spiegel spent her final days. "Every time I walk by there, I think of Renia... Had she lived she could have been a great writer or poet," the 63-year-old told AFP.

Over the film's closing credits, a young actress sings one of Spiegel's poems: "When your worry goes to sleep / don't wake it up. / Be happy, laugh and smile. / It only lasts a short while." Watching from her seat, Elizabeth swayed a little to the music and smiled, but then began to cry. Alexandra put her arm around her mother and held tight. "Nationalism, populism, anti-Semitism.



All these -isms are coming back again. And we don't want the repeat of millions of people dying," Elizabeth told AFP. "Do you know some people never believed it happened? "I was in it. I can say it did happen."—AFP

Elizabeth Bellak, center, 88, poses with her daughter Alexandra Renata, left, and filmmaker Tomasz Magierski during a screening of the documentary film 'Broken Dreams' on Elizabeth's sister Renia Spiegel in Warsaw.



## POWDER THAT WIG: PARIS FASHION GOES ALL 18TH CENTURY



**D**ries Van Noten and Christian Lacroix channeled "Barry Lyndon", Andreas Kronthaler and Vivienne Westwood Mozart, and on Sunday US designer Thom Browne went potty for Madame de Pompadour. With designers' falling out of love with streetwear, Paris fashion week has gone nuts for the 18th century. Even streetwear's main man, the American Virgil Abloh, rolled his clock back this week putting Gigi Hadid in a trailing pink puffball gown and another model in a zipped raincoat worn like a cape.

He was not alone. Crinolines and feather-light side hoops turned up in Jonathan Anderson's Loewe show almost as if they were leisurewear. "If I had a perfumed handkerchief, I would be waving it right now," quipped one adoring critic at the end of the Thom Browne show, as a posse of Pompadours in veiled skyscraper Versailles wigs promenaded around a white Manneken Pis fountain.

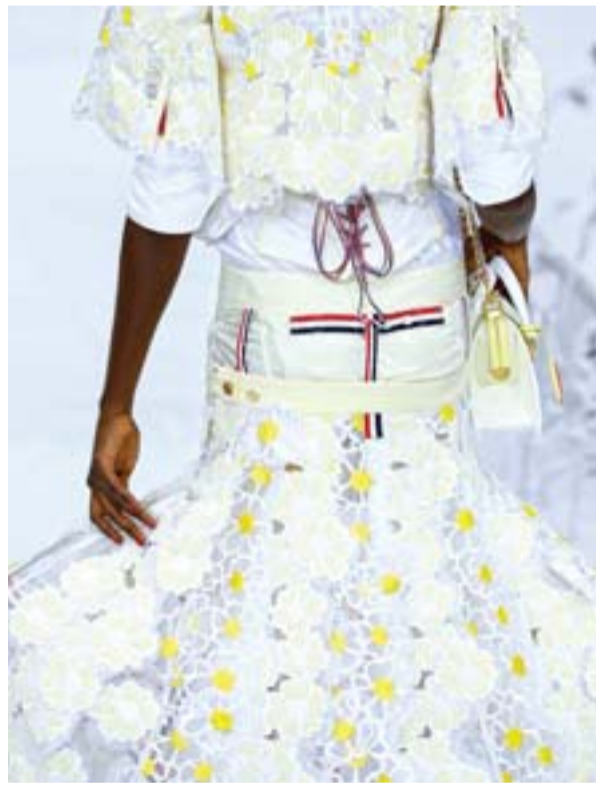
As seersucker birds fluttered overhead and fabric flowers sprouted from the arch formal garden the New Yorker created, millinery guru Stephen Jones said fashion was crying out for a bit of pomp and circumstance.

sportswear dominating the catwalks for several seasons, said the British hatter, who created the show's towering headgear. "But I think people want fantasy now." Britain's queen of punk Vivienne Westwood has always had a soft spot for 18th-century decadence. And her Austrian-born designer husband Andreas Kronthaler found a surprisingly elegant and modern "Rock Me Amadeus" note in their Mozart-inspired show Saturday.

Given that the period's nightshirts, breeches and knickerbockers can be easily adapted for men or women, Kronthaler told AFP that the era's gender-fluidity was very "now". Guys "can be just as beautiful as women in a dress", he insisted, even a hooped one. "It is just about adapting." "Of course, not every dress is going to suit a man," he added backstage, as he swigged champagne with actress Pamela Anderson and several stars of "RuPaul's Drag Race".

Kronthaler went big on 18th-century suede ankle boots—putting a pair on Gigi's sister Bella Hadid—as well as bowed sandals, as did Browne with mules in the same seersucker pastel nursery hues of his collection.

**People want fantasy now'**  
"There has been the whole idea of practicality" with



Models present creation by Thom Browne during the Women's Spring-Summer 2020 Ready-to-Wear collection fashion show at the Ecole nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris. — AFP photos



US designer Thom Browne acknowledges the audience after the Thom Browne Women's Spring-Summer 2020 Ready-to-Wear collection fashion show at the Ecole nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris.

**Really out there**  
With "Game of Thrones" actress Maisie Williams (who played Arya Stark) in Browne's front row, Jones said another reason why designers keep coming back to the age of Enlightenment was because "the 18th century was really out there". "What we wear nowadays is really calm and restrained compared to what people wore 200 and 300 years ago," he told AFP.

Van Noten, who took Stanley Kubrick's classic 1975 film about an 18th-century Irish rake as the inspiration for his show with veteran creator Christian Lacroix, agreed. The Belgian, known as the "King of Prints", said he had to tone down the original acid colors of historic patterns that caught his eye. "They were anything but shy," he added. All that corsetry and bodices begging to be ripped have a kinky sexiness that also strikes a chord with designers.

Fashion's enfant terrible of the moment, Demna Gvasalia, known for his post-Soviet Munster models and his cynical take on branding and consumerism, may have made his name with \$800 hoodies. But the biggest shock the Georgian cooked up in his show on Sunday was following up a fetish dress with a line of crew-necked velvet crinoline ballgowns that brought to mind Miss Scarlett from the board game Cluedo.

With a major exhibition about the 18th century's biggest fashion icon, Marie Antoinette—the queen who lost her head in the French Revolution—opening in Paris next month, the trend is likely to continue. It features some of John Galliano's famously decadent designs for Dior during his 1990s pomp, as well as the hugely popular Japanese manga, "The Rose of Versailles".

Japanese master Yohji Yamamoto sent out a big

black hat Marie Antoinette might have worn to the guillotine as a final flourish if she had been allowed in his Paris show, though his crinolines were more Belle Epoque than Pompidour. "Fashion is sometimes very mysterious?" Jones said. "All these people who think the same things at the same time, but I do think that it is not for nothing."—AFP





## Dakota Johnson launches podcast for victims of sexual assault

**T**he 29-year-old actress gave out her phone number at the Global Citizen Festival last year as she encouraged women and girls to call her to share their experiences with her, and now she has launched 'The Left Ear' as a platform for the stories to be heard. Talking to Instagram, she said: "One year ago I asked women and girls around the world to call me and leave a voicemail telling their stories of sexual violence, harassment, and gender based inequalities. I didn't want to speak on their behalf, I wanted to listen to them. "This is 'The Left Ear'. A podcast where you will find the voicemails I listened to. To protect anonymity the voices have been slightly pitched, and any identifiers have been removed. "Other than that, they have not been edited. These are real stories from real people around the world." The 'Fifty Shades' star urged listeners to "take care" if they

chose to listen to the podcast, as she admitted the stories shared can be "very intense". She added: "Listening to these stories can feel very intense. So please take care of yourself if choose to listen. And I hope you do choose to listen, because listening is the most important thing you can do for someone." Dakota revealed the name of the podcast comes from the idea that people can "save someone" by "listening with your heart". She continued: "In this podcast, I want to create a space where the listener is listening just as honestly and bravely as the speakers who had the courage to call. "Your left ear is the ear closest to your heart. And by listening with your heart, you can save someone even just a little bit." The first episode of 'The Left Ear' is now live, with a new podcast to follow every Monday from October 7.

## Prince Harry is to edit National Geographic's Instagram account



**T**he 35-year-old prince took charge of the publication's social media account yesterday to launch a campaign called Looking Up, on which he will work with the magazine's photographers to highlight indigenous trees and how vital they are for life on earth. Harry asked Instagram users to share their own pictures of trees from around the world and also share an image taken in Liwonde National Park, Malawi, where he is unveiling two initiatives to help preserve trees in the area as part of his current official visit to Africa with wife Duchess Meghan and their four-month-old son Archie. Harry's passion for trees and forests is "inspired by the work he does on behalf of his grandmother, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II." The Prince has launched 15 of the Queens Commonwealth Canopy (QCC) projects across the world since it began in 2015, when Commonwealth countries were invited to submit areas of greenery or plant trees to preserve in the monarch's name, with almost 50 countries taking part. During Harry's tour, there will be two

other national parks committing to the project, as well as tree planting with schoolchildren in Botswana. News of Harry's Instagram campaign came after he urged people to boost their efforts to safeguard the planet and warned humans need to learn from past mistakes and overcome "greed, apathy and selfishness" to protect the world. He wrote in the Daily Telegraph newspaper: "This may well sound hippy to some. But we cannot afford to have a "them or us" mentality. "Humans and animals and their habitats fundamentally need to co-exist or within the next 10 years our problems across the globe will become even more unmanageable. "Nature teaches us the importance of a circular system, one where nothing goes to waste and everything has a role to play. "If we interfere with it, rather than work with it, the system will break down. "Conservation used to be a specialist area, driven by science. "But now it is fundamental to our survival and we must overcome greed, apathy and selfishness if we are to make real progress."



## Zendaya finds putting make-up on therapeutic

**T**he 'Greatest Showman' actress regards using cosmetics as a "hobby" because it gives her the same sense of relaxation that others find from activities such as painting. She said: "For me, [applying] makeup is a hobby. It eases my mind the same way someone would enjoy painting. It's therapeutic: it calms me down." Zendaya enjoys doing her own make-up for red carpets and mascara is her "all-time favorite" product for events. She told Allure magazine: "I have my all-time favorite slash go-to: Lancôme's Hypnose mascara. Mascara is a very special thing. Everyone has their favorite and that one just works for me." The 'Euphoria' actress remembers experimenting with make-up from a young age. She said: "My mom had really old make-up that I'd play with. I'd try avant-garde stuff - crazy circles all over. We had a great time, but it was this cruddy '80s make-up that had definitely expired." The 23-year-old star has picked up a lot of tips over the years but learned the importance of not using too much heat on her hair the hard way. She explained: "When I hit 15, [my hair] had been so fried [on sets] that it was falling out in the sink. Heat is the enemy. "I find other ways to achieve the styles I want - pin-curling overnight, a roller set under a dryer with low, cool air. It takes more time, but it's worth it." Zendaya is proud to be the new face of Lancôme. She said: "Lancôme has always been one of those staple brands. I think we all [think about] Lancôme and then you see the rose in your head, and [their products] have a very signature style - it's beautiful. [And now that I'm] going into adulthood and becoming a woman, Lancôme felt like the perfect place where I could take that next step and elevate. It's very exciting and it's crazy."

## Kate Wright didn't have a dress until a week before her wedding

**T**he former 'Only Way is Essex' star married partner Rio Ferdinand in Turkey on Friday (27.09.19) but the 28-year-old beauty had a "total nightmare" leading up to the big day because the bespoke gown she'd planned "went wrong". She said: "I had been having a dress made since January but it all went wrong and it just wasn't made right. A week before we flew to Turkey, I still didn't have a dress. it was a total nightmare and I was stressed! "I had to have an entire new dress made by The Wedding Club and fitted within a week." Luckily, Kate was thrilled with the replacement, an ivory fishtail Bera gown. She added in an interview with Britain's OK! magazine: "In the end I adored my dress and preferred it to the original. Some things are meant to be." The first person to see Kate in her dress was her maid of honor, Rio's seven-year-old daughter Tia. Kate said: "One of my biggest highlights, apart from seeing Rio waiting for me, was when Tia and I had a moment together. "Tia has said for so long that she wanted to be the first one to see me in my dress and she was. "She was so happy - she was nearly crying. "Then she introduced me to my mum and my bridesmaids in the dress and she loved it. "It meant everything to her and it was so special for us to share that moment before the madness of the day." — Bang Showbiz



## Elle Fanning felt pressure from others to compete with her sister

**T**he 'Maleficent: Mistress of Evil' actress - whose older sister Dakota made her name with early roles in the likes of 'The Cat In The Hat', 'War of the Worlds' and 'Charlotte's Web' - revealed having both siblings in the public eye meant they would be pitted against each other. She told 'Entertainment Tonight': "From a young age, my sister is in the business, and always interviews would always be about asking me, 'Oh, well, you guys must be really jealous of each other'. "Interviewers would want to pit women against each other, so there's this stigma of, 'If you guys work together there's jealousy on set,' and it's just so not true." Elle, 21, recently revealed she and her 25-year-old sister used to act out scenes together in their house from a young age. She said: "Well, I saw my sister doing it and I was a huge ham growing up. We would constantly put on these scenes around the house. It wasn't for anyone, only for ourselves. We would do lines, characters, it was very funny. It just felt right at home for us ... "We weren't supposed to do this at all. My mom played tennis, my dad played baseball, my mom's dad was a quarterback in the NFL. We were supposed to play tennis or something."



## Sikki Reed's jewelry line made from recycled technology components

**T**he 'Twilight' actress works with computer company Dell to obtain the metals used in her BaYou With Love - which is made from entirely recycled or sustainable materials - collection and has praised the firm's "incredible" work to be eco-conscious. She told The Hollywood Reporter: "I use gold that's been found in recycled technology primarily in recovered motherboards and my partner for that is Dell. So we use gold that's been extracted from the motherboards in their recycle technology. "Michael Dell is actually incredible. I mean he really prioritizes sustainability within their supply chain and has for many, many years, actually decades." Among those supportive of Nikki's line are actress Bryce Dallas Howard, who praised her friend's "innovation" to create something sustainable beyond her own "wildest dreams". Speaking at the 2nd Annual Environmental Media Association Honors Benefit Gala - where many of the guests were wearing BaYou With Love - said: "I'm wearing all of her jewelry right now and it's absolutely incredible because the idea of saving the world people think that's going to require solely lifestyle changes and it's not just that. It requires innovation. "What Nikki has done is she has created a jewelry company that is entirely sustainable to a degree that my wildest dreams couldn't even imagine...These diamonds are grown and they're molecularly identical to diamonds that would be mined. They're grown using solar power." Another guest at the gala, 'Entourage' star Emmanuelle Chriqui, thinks the concept of sustainable fashion is growing around the world.

# Classifieds

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

**Kuwait Times**  
 Now you can browse  
[www.kuwaittimes.net](http://www.kuwaittimes.net)  
 e-mail: info@kuwaittimes.net

**STATE OF KUWAIT**  
 DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
 METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



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



## Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

**BY DAY:** Hot and Relatively humid over coastal areas with light to moderate south westerly wind changing to light south easterly wind later on, with speed of 08 - 28 km/h.

**BY NIGHT:** Fair and Relatively humid over coastal areas with light to moderate south easterly wind changing to north westerly wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h.

WEATHER WARNING			No Current Warnings		
STATION	MAX. EXP.	MIN. REC.	SFC. CHART 30/09/2019 0000 UTC		
KUWAIT CITY	44 °C	33 °C			
KUWAIT AIRPORT	44 °C	25 °C			
ABDALY	47 °C	26 °C			
BUBYAN	- °C	- °C			
JAHRA	46 °C	29 °C			
FAILAKA ISLAND	- °C	- °C			
SALMIYAH	39 °C	33 °C			
AHMADI	39 °C	33 °C			
NUWAISIB	46 °C	26 °C			
WAFRA	47 °C	24 °C			
SALMY	44 °C	28 °C			

4 DAYS FORECAST						
DAY	DATE	WEATHER	MAX. Temp.	MIN. Temp.	Wind Direction	Wind Speed
Tuesday	10/01	Hot and Relatively humid over coastal areas and some high clouds will appear	45 °C	25 °C	SW-SE	08 - 32 km/h
Wednesday	10/02	Hot and Relatively humid over coastal areas and some high clouds will appear	45 °C	24 °C	SW-SE	08 - 30 km/h
Thursday	10/03	Hot and Relatively humid specially over coastal areas	43 °C	23 °C	VRB-SE	08 - 28 km/h
Friday	10/04	Hot	45 °C	25 °C	NW-N	08 - 30 km/h

PRAYER TIMES	
Fajr	04:21
Sunrise	05:40
Zuhr	11:38
Asr	15:02
Sunset	17:36
Isha	18:52

RECORDED YESTERDAY AT KUWAIT AIRPORT	
MAX. Temp.	46 °C
MIN. Temp.	25 °C
MAX. RH	33 %
MIN. RH	06 %
MAX. Wind	S 25 km/h
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR.	0 mm

### Hospitals

Sabah Hospital	24812000
Amiri Hospital	22450005
Maternity Hospital	24843100
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700
Chest Hospital	24849400
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010
Adan Hospital	23940620
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9

### Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khaldiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadsiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401

### REQUIRED Tea Boy

**Requirements:**

- Presentable
- Etiquette Dealing with others
- Speaks Arabic / English
- Experienced in kitchen work
- Indian Nationality

Interested Candidates Please call: 22400360

### CHANGE OF NAME

I have changed my old name LALITH REDDY (Indian Passport No. M4640321, issued in Kuwait) to new name SIDDA LALITH REDDY with SIDDA as surname and LALITH REDDY as given name for all purpose. (C 5597) 29-9-2019

MOHAMED holder of Indian Passport No. N8635952 having permanent address Abrar Manzil, Mogral Puthur, Kasaragod, Kerala, India, Pin Code 671128, presently residing in Kuwait hereby declare that henceforth my name will be read as given name: SHAHUL HAMEED and surname: PUTHUR MOHAMED. (C 5681) 27-9-2019

### LOST

I, Khaled Mansour Shaar, had lost my Passport (N012165597), nationality - Syrian, date of birth 10/01/1994, expires on 13/01/2020. If anyone found please call: 5252158 (C 5679) 26-9-2019

### Automated enquiry about the Civild card is 1889988

### EMERGENCY 112

For labor-related inquiries and complaints: Call **MSALHOTLINE 128**

## Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page ([www.kuwait-airport.com.kw](http://www.kuwait-airport.com.kw))

## DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Tuesday 1/10/2019					Departure Flights on Tuesday 1/10/2019				
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time		Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	
FEG	241	Alexandria	00:05	MSR 610	Cairo	12:45	MEA 405	Beirut	11:55
IGO	1757	Kochi	00:10	UAE 871	Dubai	12:45	JZR 213	Jeddah	12:05
THY	772	Istanbul	00:20	SYR 341	Damascus	13:00	QTR 1075	Doha	12:10
JZR	254	Amman	00:20	AXB 393	Kozhikode	13:10	JZR 611	Tbilisi	12:20
KAC	102	London	00:50	JZR 222	Riyadh	13:30	JZR 123	Dubai	13:10
DLH	625	Dammam	00:50	JZR 212	Jeddah	13:45	JZR 115	Doha	13:25
JZR	734	Cairo	01:00	KAC 672	Dubai	14:00	KAC 541	Cairo	13:30
JZR	722	Alexandria	01:00	UAE 877	Dubai	14:00	SAW 702	Damascus	13:30
RJA	642	Amman	01:20	GFA 221	Bahrain	14:15	MSR 611	Cairo	13:45
UAE	853	Dubai	01:40	FDB 059	Dubai	14:20	THY 767	Istanbul	14:00
KLM	446	Bahrain	01:45	KAC 1078	Doha	14:25	SYR 342	Damascus	14:00
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	KAC 286	Dhaka	14:35	AXB 394	Kozhikode	14:10
KKK	1268	Istanbul	01:55	KAC 304	Mumbai	14:45	UAE 872	Dubai	14:15
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	02:15	SVA 500	Jeddah	14:45	KAC 673	Dubai	15:00
KAC	156	Istanbul	02:25	KAC 562	Amman	14:50	GFA 222	Bahrain	15:00
QTR	1086	Doha	02:40	KAC 618	Doha	14:50	JZR 103	Bahrain	15:05
PGT	860	Istanbul	02:50	KAC 788	Jeddah	14:55	FDB 060	Dubai	15:05
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	KAC 692	Muscat	15:00	UAE 878	Dubai	15:30
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	JZR 602	Baku	15:00	QTR 1079	Doha	15:30
JZR	406	Kochi	03:05	KAC 118	New York	15:00	SVA 501	Jeddah	15:45
NIA	1601	Luxor	03:10	KAC 516	Tehran	15:00	KNE 530	Jeddah	15:55
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	KNE 529	Jeddah	15:05	KAC 563	Amman	16:00
KAC	418	Manila	03:20	ETD 303	Abu Dhabi	15:15	KAC 775	Riyadh	16:05
QTR	1076	Doha	03:30	OMA 645	Muscat	15:20	KAC 743	Dammam	16:05
OHY	352	Istanbul	04:00	ABY 127	Sharjah	15:35	KAC 615	Bahrain	16:10
LMU	5510	Cairo	04:00	UAE 857	Dubai	15:45	ABY 128	Sharjah	16:15
KAC	382	Delhi	04:05	KAC 546	Cairo	15:50	OMA 646	Muscat	16:20
IGO	1751	Chennai	04:10	FEG 341	Sohag	16:00	KAC 785	Jeddah	16:20
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	04:15	MSR 575	Sharm el-Sheikh	16:10	ETD 304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
KAC	784	Jeddah	04:25	FDB 051	Dubai	16:10	KAC 619	Doha	16:25
THY	1414	Trabzon	05:05	JZR 732	Cairo	16:10	FEG 442	Asyut	16:55
FDB	069	Dubai	05:05	KAC 502	Beirut	16:15	MSR 576	Sharm el-Sheikh	16:55
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:05	QTR 1072	Doha	16:15	FDB 052	Dubai	17:10
IGO	1759	Delhi	05:10	FEG 241	Alexandria	16:45	QTR 1073	Doha	17:25
THY	770	Istanbul	05:20	JZR 116	Doha	17:05	KAC 283	Dhaka	17:40
JZR	402	Mumbai	05:25	SVA 510	Riyadh	17:10	UAE 858	Dubai	17:40
UAE	873	Dubai	05:40	GFA 215	Bahrain	17:30	FEG 242	Alexandria	17:45
KAC	552	Cairo	05:50	JZR 214	Jeddah	17:35	KAC 343	Chennai	17:50
JZR	112	Doha	05:50	JZR 124	Dubai	17:40	KAC 155	Istanbul	17:50
KAC	362	Colombo	06:05	KAC 158	Istanbul	17:45	KAC 381	Delhi	17:55
JZR	702	Asyut	06:10	JZR 104	Bahrain	17:45	SVB 511	Riyadh	18:10
BAW	157	London	06:10	QTR 1080	Doha	18:10	JZR 721	Alexandria	18:15
KAC	284	Dhaka	06:15	JZR 612	Tbilisi	18:15	JZR 127	Dubai	18:20
JZR	714	Sohag	06:20	JZR 302	Istanbul	18:20	GFA 216	Bahrain	18:20
THY	6376	Istanbul	06:30	MSR 620	Cairo	18:30	JZR 403	Hyderabad	18:25
KAC	678	Dubai	06:40	FDB 063	Dubai	19:05	JZR 733	Cairo	18:35
KAC	106	London	06:40	RJA 640	Amman	19:05	JZR 501	Lahore	18:35
KAC	204	Lahore	06:45	ABY 123	Sharjah	19:20	JZR 253	Amman	19:10
RBG	559	Alexandria	06:50	KAC 744	Dammam	19:25	QTR 1081	Doha	19:20
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:05	NIA 0161	Cairo	19:30	MSR 621	Cairo	19:30
JZR	408	Ahmedabad	07:05	KAC 616	Bahrain	19:40	FDB 064	Dubai	19:45
IGO	1766	Mumbai	07:10	RBG 555	Alexandria	19:40	KAC 331	Trivandrum	19:55
KAC	358	Kochi	07:25	KAC 776	Riyadh	19:45	ABY 124	Sharjah	20:00
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	KAC 674	Dubai	19:45	RBG 1154	Asyut	20:00
JZR	724	Alexandria	07:50	FDB 057	Dubai	19:50	RJA 641	Amman	20:05
KAC	354	Bengaluru	08:00	KAC 166	Rome	20:00	KAC 357	Kochi	20:05
QTR	1084	Doha	08:00	OMA 647	Muscat	20:05	RBG 556	Alexandria	20:20
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:05	NIA 1403	Sohag	20:10	JZR 401	Mumbai	20:30
KAC	384	Delhi	08:10	DLH 624	Frankfurt	20:10	NIA 0162	Cairo	20:30
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	MEA 402	Beirut	20:15	FDB 058	Dubai	20:30
JZR	708	Luxor	08:45	KAC 620	Doha	20:30	KAC 353	Bengaluru	20:50
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	08:50	RBG 213	Sohag	20:30	DLH 624	Dammam	20:55
OMA	641	Muscat	09:00	KAC 542	Cairo	20:35	OMA 648	Muscat	21:05
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	QTR 1088	Doha	20:40	NIA 1603	Luxor	21:10
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	ICV 6752	Luxembourg	20:55	RBG 214	Sohag	21:10
IRA	675	Lar	09:20	KAC 172	Frankfurt	21:00	MEA 403	Beirut	21:15
GOW	061	CNN	09:30	KLM 445	Amsterdam	21:00	KAC 301	Mumbai	21:25
IGO	1753	Ahmedabad	09:40	ETD 307	Abu Dhabi	21:10	QTR 1089	Doha	21:50
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	UAE 859	Dubai	21:15	DHX 171	Bahrain	21:50
SVA	512	Riyadh	10:00	ALK 229	Colombo	21:15	KAC 205	Islamabad	21:55
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	KAC 168	Paris	21:20	KLM 445	Bahrain	22:10
KAC	624	Doha	10:55	RBG 1151	Sohag	21:20	ETD 308	Abu Dhabi	22:15
MEA	404	Beirut	10:55	THY 764	Istanbul	21:30	JZR 1737	Cairo	22:20
QTR	1074	Doha	11:00	GFA 219	Bahrain	21:50	ALK 230	Colombo	22:20
JZR	1736	Cairo	11:05	KAC 564	Amman	21:55	THY 1403	AYT	22:25
JZR	114	Doha	11:10	QTR 1082	Jeddah	22:05	KAC 383	Delhi	22:35
JZR	122	Dubai	11:45	KAC 786	Doha	22:20	UAE 860	Dubai	22:35
JZR	746	Sharm el-Sheikh	12:25	KAC 1082	Jeddah	22:20	GFA 220	Bahrain	22:50
KAC	614	Bahrain	12:30	AIC 987	Chennai/Hyderabad	22:25	KAC 783	Jeddah	22:55
SAW	701	Damascus	12:30	JZR 128	Dubai	22:50	KAC 795	Madinah	22:55
THY									



Berlin's landmark the Brandenburg Gate is reflected in a puddle yesterday. — AFP

## British PM on defensive again over groping claim

**MANCHESTER:** Britain's Boris Johnson is known for his colorful love life but the accusation he grabbed a young woman's thigh when he was a magazine editor risks a scandal as he seeks to unite his party over Brexit. The prime minister, who is attending his Conservative party's conference in Manchester, north-west England, is accused of giving a female journalist's leg "a squeeze" while at a private lunch 20 years ago.

Johnson never comments on his personal life but his spokesman issued a clear denial - an acknowledgement that the claim is more serious than gossip about his affairs. It follows accusations that Johnson gave special access to a US businesswoman with whom he is alleged to have had a relationship when he was mayor of London. He denies any impropriety, but it is yet another headache after his defeats in parliament and the courts over his pledge to leave the EU on Oct 31, come what may.

In an article published in The Sunday Times, journalist Charlotte Edwards described a boozy lunch in the

offices of The Spectator magazine around two decades ago, when Johnson was editor. She was sitting next to him and wrote that "under the table I feel Johnson's hand on my thigh. He gives it a squeeze". "His hand is high up my leg and he has enough inner flesh beneath his fingers to make me sit suddenly upright."

She said a woman she spoke with after the dinner, who was sitting on Johnson's other side, said the same thing happened to her. Johnson was married at the time to his second wife. They are now divorced and he currently lives with his girlfriend Carrie Symonds. Downing Street said Edwards' claim was "untrue", and the prime minister himself denied it in a television interview, while refusing to comment further.

But health minister Matt Hancock said he knew Edwards well, and "I entirely trust what she has to say". Former Conservative minister Justine Greening, who is now an independent MP, said the claim was "deeply concerning". It went "to the heart of this question about character and integrity of people in public life and what standards the electorate have a right to expect," she told BBC radio.

The allegation comes two years after defense minister Michael Fallon quit following revelations he tried to kiss a journalist. Opposition Labour lawmaker Dawn Butler added: "What is it about powerful men feeling entitled to harass women? Boris Johnson has serious questions to answer." — AFP

## Iran now 'capable' to destroy Israel...

Continued from Page 1

between Tehran and its other main regional rival, Riyadh. The United States, which withdrew from a landmark nuclear deal between Iran and world powers in 2018, has imposed a campaign of "maximum pressure" - with vocal support from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The comments by the commander of Iran's ideological army were given prominent coverage by the Tasnim and Fars news agencies, close to ultra-conservative political factions. The official IRNA agency also carried his remarks, but placed more emphasis on his assertion that Iran was growing stronger and would finally beat its foes despite "hostility" towards it. In contrast, foreign ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi in a tweet wished "Happy (Jewish) New Year to our Jewish compatriots and to all true followers of great prophet Moses (PBUH)". Mousavi's greeting was written in Persian, English and Hebrew.

Iran only has a few thousand Jews left compared to between 80,000 and 100,000 before its 1979 revolution. The country has been consistently hostile towards Israel since its revolution, and Tehran openly supports anti-Israeli armed groups including Palestinian Hamas and Lebanon's Hezbollah. Israel considers Iran its arch-foe and has carried out hundreds of strikes in neighboring Syria against what it says are military targets of Iran and its Lebanese military ally Hezbollah. It has vowed to keep Iran from entrenching itself militarily in the war-torn neighboring Arab state.

In June 2018, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei reaffirmed Tehran's long-held position that Israel is "a malignant cancerous tumour that must be removed and eradicated". But he has also said that Tehran has never called for the Jews to be "thrown into the sea", unlike Arab leaders such as the late president Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt. Iranian generals routinely express the desire to destroy Israel or claim to be able to wipe out Tel Aviv. However, official discourse in recent years has generally taken care to clarify that the Jewish state will cease to exist because of its own "arrogance", not because of an attack by Iran.

Meanwhile, Iraq's premier has said for the first time

that his government had "indications" Israel was behind some attacks on paramilitary bases this summer, but stopped short of making an explicit accusation. The Hashed Al-Shaabi force has blamed the series of explosions at its bases and arms depots on Israel and the US, but the central government had so far said it was still investigating.

In a first, Prime Minister Adel Abdel Mahdi told Al-Jazeera television in an interview aired yesterday that those investigations were nearing a conclusion. "Some of the investigations carried out by Iraqi authorities provided important indications that Israel was behind some of these attacks," he said, in excerpts of the interview seen by AFP. Abdel Mahdi said he had even "heard from the Americans" that Israel was involved but that his government still lacked "tangible evidence".

The blasts at five Hashed bases have been a threat to Baghdad's precarious balancing act between its two main allies, Washington and Tehran. Top Hashed officials said the US was broadly "responsible" but specifically blamed Israeli drones for an August 25 strike that killed a Hashed fighter near Iraq's western border with Syria. The Pentagon has denied responsibility and said it is cooperating with Iraq's investigations, while Israel has neither confirmed nor denied involvement.

The Iraqi government had thus far said it was studying evidence of foreign involvement, and even last week Abdel Mahdi told reporters there was no conclusive proof. But MP Ahmad al-Assadi said Friday that he and fellow parliamentarians were briefed on Israeli involvement by Faleh Al-Fayyadh, the premier's national security advisor and head of the Hashed. "He told us that the investigative committees proved that at least three of the incidents were external attacks, including two by Israel," he told AFP.

Assadi, who is also a leading Hashed official, said he did not know why the government had not made those results public. The Hashed was established in 2014 from mostly-Shiite armed groups and volunteers to fight the Islamic State group, and is now formally part of Iraq's armed forces. The US and Israel fear some units are an extension of their arch-foe Iran and have been equipped with precision-guided missiles. Israel has admitted to carrying out hundreds of strikes on pro-Iran paramilitary units in neighboring Syria, which added fuel to suspicions it was behind those in Iraq. Last month, Iraq's foreign ministry threatened to submit a complaint to the United Nations once the investigations were complete. — Agencies

blamed the murder on rogue operatives. The public prosecutor said then-deputy intelligence chief Ahmed Al-Asiri ordered the repatriation of Khashoggi, a royal insider who became an outspoken critic, but the lead negotiator ordered him killed after discussions for his return failed.

Asked how the killing could have happened without him knowing about it, MBS said: "Some think that I should know what 3 million people working for the Saudi government do daily? It's impossible that the 3 million would send their daily reports to the leader or the second highest person in the Saudi government."

Eleven Saudi suspects have been put on trial in secretive proceedings. Asiri and Saud Al-Qahtani, a senior adviser, were fired over involvement in the operation. Asiri is standing trial, but Qahtani is not. Asked how those two members of his inner circle could have been involved without him knowing, MBS said: "Today the investigations are being carried out. And once charges are proven against someone, regardless of their rank, it will be taken to court, no exception made."

Asked about prominent women activists who have been detained on charges related to human rights work and tarred by local media as traitors, including Loujain Al-Hathloul, MBS said: laws "must be respected, until they are reformed." He said it was up to the public prosecutor to release Hathloul but that he would personally follow up on accusations she had been tortured in prison.

Asked about criticism of Riyadh in the US Congress over the Khashoggi killing, the activists' arrests and the Saudi-led military campaign in Yemen, which has taken a huge civilian toll, MBS said: "The (US-Saudi) relationship is much larger than that." Trump has resisted congressional efforts to block US arms sales to Saudi Arabia. MBS also repeated a Saudi call for Iran to halt its support for Houthli forces in Yemen and said he was open to "all initiatives for a political solution" to end the war there. — Reuters

## Late monsoon fury kills 113 in...

Continued from Page 1

"The rains have stopped but there is waterlogging in many areas," Bihar's Additional Secretary in the Disaster Relief Department Amod Kumar Sharan said.

"Patna alone has recorded some 226 millimetres (8.9 inches) of rainfall since Friday," Bihar disaster response official M Ramachandru told AFP. Photos showed patients lying on hospital beds in dirty rainwater at the

## Indian workers in Kuwait, Gulf...

Continued from Page 1

Josephine Valaramathi of the National Domestic Workers Movement said the charity was now dealing with at least two cases a month of agents demanding money from families of women working in the Gulf in exchange for their return home. The agents usually keep the women's passports, effectively holding them hostage in a foreign land, she said. "This demand is pushing families into deep debts and till they arrange for the money, the worker is abused and ill-treated in the agent's custody."

It is a story Sadiq Basha, a taxi driver from the southern state of Tamil Nadu, is familiar with. He spent weeks trying to get his wife back from Kuwait, where she had gone to work as a maid, after the agent she went through demanded a ransom for her release. Frustrated by the lack of government help, he went to the Supreme Court together with relatives of two other victims, seeking to force the government to step in and secure his wife's freedom.

"She kept calling and crying," Basha said. "She begged me to save her each time, saying she could not bear the abuse, she was not being given enough food and her health was failing. I felt so helpless." Eventually Basha managed to raise the cash to save his wife - but only after racking up debts with moneylenders that he does not know how he will repay. "I just wanted it all to end and when I got the money, I just paid up," Basha told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in a series of phone interviews. "Going to court was the last resort not just for me but for everyone who was in a similar situation."

Rahul Dutt, director at the overseas employment and protectorate of emigrants office in India's foreign ministry, said authorities had been able to quickly resolve cases where people had migrated legally for work. "But when people go through illegal agents, the problems

state-run Nalanda Medical College and Hospital in Patna. It has also been raining heavily in southern India and in the western state of Gujarat.

With the Indian Meteorological Department yesterday predicting excess rainfall across 15 states, this year's monsoon will end as the wettest since 1917, the mass-circulation Times of India said. "There are no signs of withdrawal for at least four-five days," senior IMD officer Mrutyunjay Mohapatra told the daily. The monsoon, which is vital for farmers across the South Asian region, killed some 650 people in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan in July this year. In its bulletin yesterday, IMD added the intensity of rainfall over Bihar was very likely to reduce. Showers in Uttar Pradesh are also expected to abate this week. — Agencies

get multiplied many times," added Dutt. He declined to comment on the Supreme Court petition as it was an ongoing case, but said it was difficult to trace people who went through illegal channels to Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. "It is like looking for a needle in a haystack to find them and bring them back," he said.

India's foreign ministry received more than 9,500 complaints between January and June this year from migrant workers in the Gulf. Most concerned unpaid salaries, no days off or medical cover and a refusal to provide exit or re-entry visas so they could visit their homes in India. Arrokiajar Heller, researcher at the Centre for Development Studies, said workers often tried to contact Indian embassies, but the government "has not made it easy for them to access justice".

Ravunther, whose show "Pravasalokam" ("Migrants' World") airs in the southern state of Kerala where many Indian migrants working in the Gulf are from, said the ransom cases started when India's foreign ministry brought in its e-migrate system. This is a platform for registered agents, employers and workers with orientation programs and an in-built grievance mechanism and was aimed at increasing transparency.

But take-up has been low, in part because the system requires employers in the Gulf to pay a security deposit to the local Indian embassy. "The steep cost meant many went back to illegal agents so they could get maids for cheap," said Ravunther. "And in these situations, agents exploit the women, forcing them to work, while pressurizing the family to pay for her release."

The show airs seven times a week across three local channels and receives up to 20 calls a week to a hotline number, with any urgent cases referred to the government. Family members are invited to a studio to discuss their relatives' plight, while harrowing footage from the Gulf shows women pleading tearfully for help to come home. "Everyone knows that these people are just trapped, taken and treated like slaves," said Nagamuthu Swaminathan, the lawyer acting for the petitioners in the Supreme Court case. "Yet families don't know how to resolve the problem, how to seek justice." — Reuters

## MBS prefers political solution...

Continued from Page 1

"Oil supplies will be disrupted and oil prices will jump to unimaginably high numbers that we haven't seen in our lifetimes."

In an interview conducted last Tuesday in Saudi Arabia, he said he agreed with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo that the attacks, which knocked out more than 5 percent of global oil supply, were an act of war by Iran. But he said he preferred a peaceful resolution because regional war would collapse the global economy. The United States, European powers and Saudi Arabia have blamed the attacks on Iran, which denies involvement. Instead, Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthli group claimed responsibility.

MBS also said President Donald Trump should meet Iranian President Hassan Rouhani to craft a new deal on Tehran's nuclear program and regional activities. Efforts to bring the two together last week at the United Nations failed. Tensions between Washington and Tehran escalated after the US withdrew last year from a 2015 nuclear deal and reinstated sanctions against Tehran.

Days before the anniversary of Khashoggi's murder, MBS said: "Absolutely not," when asked if he had ordered it. But he said he took full responsibility "since it was committed by individuals working for the Saudi government". "This was a mistake. And I must take all actions to avoid such a thing in the future." The CIA and some Western governments believe MBS ordered the killing, but Saudi officials have repeatedly said he had no role. Asked about the CIA assessment, MBS asked for "such information" to be revealed.

After initial denials, the official Saudi narrative



Sports

# Flaherty fuels Cardinals to NL Central title, shuts down Cubs

## Wild pitch in 13th leads Rockies past Brewers

**ST LOUIS:** Jack Flaherty pitched seven strong innings as the host St. Louis Cardinals captured the National League Central title with a 9-0 victory over the Chicago Cubs on Sunday. The Cardinals (91-71) will play the Atlanta Braves in the NL Division Series on Thursday. The second-place Milwaukee Brewers will face the Washington Nationals in the wild-card game Tuesday. The third-place Chicago Cubs (84-78) ended a disappointing season with a farewell loss for manager Joe Maddon, whose contract was not renewed after his five-year run. The Cubs announced his departure before the game. Maddon led the team to postseason play in his first four seasons and won one World Series title, the franchise's first since 1908.

### NATIONALS 8, INDIANS 2

Kurt Suzuki hit a two-run homer in the third inning and Washington added four more runs in the sixth against visiting Cleveland for its season-high eighth straight win. Suzuki gave the Nationals a 3-1 lead when he hit his 17th home run of the season, a two-out, two-run blast. John Ross (4-4) gave up one run in six innings to get the win for the Nationals, who will host the Milwaukee Brewers on Tuesday in the National League wild-card game. Gerardo Parra hit a two-run double in the sixth inning to make it 7-1, and he singled home the Nationals' final run in the eighth.

### ROCKIES 4, BREWERS 3 (13 INNINGS)

Sam Hilliard scored on a wild pitch in the bottom of the 13th inning, and Colorado beat Milwaukee in Denver to sweep the three-game series. Dom Nunez homered, and Pat Valaika had two hits for the Rockies (71-91), who avoided finishing in last place a year after challenging the Los Angeles Dodgers for the National League West title. Bryan Shaw (3-2) pitched the top of the 13th to get the win. Jake Faria (0-1) took the loss for the Brewers.

### RANGERS 6, YANKEES 1

Lance Lynn allowed one run on two hits over 7 1/3

innings to pick up his 16th win of the season as Texas played its final game at Globe Life Park in Arlington, Texas. Shin-Soo Choo doubled, walked three times and scored two runs. Ronald Guzman had two RBIs, and Elvis Andrus and Jose Trevino each had two hits for Texas, which will move across the street and play in Globe Life Field next season. Masahiro Tanaka (11-9) took the loss and allowed two runs (one earned) on five hits over three innings in his first relief appearance in 164 major league games.

### DODGERS 9, GIANTS 0

The Dodgers finished off a three-game sweep of the Giants, spoiling manager Bruce Bochy's going-away party. Bochy retired after 25 seasons as a manager, including 13 with San Francisco, which won three World Series championships during his tenure. For the Dodgers, the win was the 106th on the season, setting a franchise record. Will Smith smacked a two-run home run and eight pitchers, including Clayton Kershaw in relief, combined on a three-hit shutout. Reliever Dustin May (2-3) got the win, while Derek Rodriguez (6-11) took the loss. Rodriguez didn't make it out of the second, charged with five runs on five hits in 1 2/3 innings. He walked two and struck out two.

### RED SOX 5, ORIOLES 4

Mookie Betts sprinted home from first base on a Rafael Devers single in the bottom of the ninth inning to allow host Boston to avoid a three-game sweep by Baltimore in each team's season finale. Betts' mad dash after the ball deflected off shortstop Richie Martin and into right field. Orioles right fielder Stevie Wilkerson appeared to not notice Betts trying to score. An inning prior, Wilkerson had robbed Jackie Bradley Jr. of what would have been a go-ahead two-run home run with an incredible leaping grab in right that saw Wilkerson roll over the top of the bullpen wall after making the catch. Despite the win, Boston was unable to hold onto a 4-3 lead taken in the seventh inning that would have made a 20-game winner out of Eduardo Rodriguez. Matt Barnes served up a game-tying single to Jonathan Villar in the eighth inning.



**ST LOUIS:** Members of the St. Louis Cardinals celebrate winning the National League Central Division after beating the Chicago Cubs at Busch Stadium in St. Louis, Missouri. — AFP

### BLUE JAYS 8, RAYS 3

Teoscar Hernandez hit a three-run homer, Breyvic Valera added a solo shot, Justin Smoak drove in three runs with two doubles and Toronto downed visiting Tampa Bay. The Rays (96-66) lost their final two games of the regular season after clinching a wild-card spot Friday. Tampa Bay visits the Oakland Athletics on Wednesday to play the American League wild-card game. The Blue Jays (67-95) finished the season by going 12-6. Right-hander Clay Buchholz (2-5) earned the win, allowing one run, four hits and one walk while striking out six in five innings.

### ASTROS 8, ANGELS 5

George Springer homered, doubled and singled twice to lead Houston past Los Angeles Angels in the regular-season finale for both teams in Anaheim, Calif. Starting pitcher Gerrit Cole won his 20th game, and Aledmys Diaz and Yuli Gurriel also homered for Houston, which finished the regular season 107-55 for the best record in the majors and secured home-field

advantage throughout the postseason. The 107 victories are the most in franchise history and mark the club's third consecutive 100-win season. From the franchise's inception in 1962 through 2016, the team had only one 100-win season (102 in 1998).

### METS 7, BRAVES 6 (11 INNINGS)

Dominic Smith, making his first plate appearance in more than two months, hit a three-run walk-off home run in the 11th inning as New York completed a season-ending, three-game sweep of division champion Atlanta. The Mets finished 86-76, a nine-game improvement over last season. The Braves, who won their second straight National League East crown, will face the NL Central champion St. Louis Cardinals in the NL Division Series beginning Thursday. Luis Guillorme singled leading off the 11th, and Wilson Ramos singled with one out before Smith, who hadn't batted since July 26 due to a left foot injury, stepped up with two outs against Grant Dayton (0-1) and homered beyond the right field fence. — Reuters

## World Cup host Qatar sees climate controlled stadiums as the future

**DOHA:** On a late September evening in Qatar a persistent 35 degree Celsius heat hung outside the 2022 World Cup host's newly-built Al Janoub stadium, but down on the pitch the temperature was a cool 21 degrees.

Qatar, a tiny Gulf state known for its scorching desert climate, says it has designed an energy-efficient cooling system that can make its open-air stadiums usable even in summer temperatures that soar well into the 40s.

Soccer's next global showpiece tournament was moved to November and December to avoid Doha's intense summer heat, but Qatar decided to stick with the chilled stadiums in order to have future venues that would be usable year-round.

Al Janoub, a 40,000-seat venue made to resemble the sail of a dhow, or traditional wooden sailboat, was opened last May and is the first to showcase the new cooling system. "You're living inside a micro, climate-controlled bubble," said Saad Abdul-Ghani, a Qatar University mechanical engineering professor who led the design, as he waved a bright orange thermometer to demonstrate the roughly 14-degree drop.

The stadium was the first of seven in Qatar to be completed ahead of the tournament. The other six are slated to

be ready by the end of 2020 and an eighth, Khalifa International Stadium, was renovated and opened in 2017.

Along the pitch dozens of soccer ball-sized nozzles blow out chilled air, while tiny angular ducts beneath the seats keep the stands at 24-26 degrees. Sensors around the stadium keep track of different zones and adjust the flow from a control room.

When asked the price tag of the cooling system, Abdul-Ghani said: "a good amount of money", without providing a figure. Doha has put the tournament at the centre of a national development plan aimed at diversifying its energy economy and projecting itself on to the world stage through sport.

Qatar World Cup organising committee officials have said the country is spending \$6.5-7 billion on all stadiums and training facilities combined.

Thani Khalifa Al Zarraa, the project manager for Al Janoub Stadium, said the cooling system increased the cost of construction by two to three times, to around \$6,000-7,000 per seat, suggesting a stadium cost of about \$240-280 million.

### CLIMATE SOLUTION

Despite the chilled stadiums, Qatar has said its World Cup will have the



**DOHA:** This picture taken on September 25, 2019 shows a view of air-condition vents to be used to blow cold air at Qatar's new Al-Janoub Stadium in the capital Doha. — AFP

smallest carbon footprint of any before it. Nasser Al Khater, CEO of FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, said Doha's compact tournament will eliminate the need for domestic flights and a new metro system will further cut emissions.

Abdul-Ghani said the system, which has been left unpatented for others to adopt, requires about a fifth of the energy typical to cool spaces of the same size, such as airport terminals or closed baseball fields, because it continuously recycles air into small zones.

"The Americans, Mexicans and Canadians will surely look at this because of thermal stress on players," Abdul-Ghani said, referring to the host nations of the 2026 World Cup. The 2026 tournament will be expanded to 48 teams as opposed to 32 and matches will be played across the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Candidate cities include Miami, Atlanta, Orlando, Dallas, Houston and others which are notoriously hot and humid in the summer. — Reuters

## Binotto faces Ferrari headache after Russia implosion

**SOCHI:** Ferrari team chief Mattia Binotto had every reason to read the riot act yesterday after the Italian team handed an unexpected triumph to Lewis Hamilton and Mercedes in Sunday's Russian Grand Prix. As he reviewed events at the Sochi Autodrom and scanned Italy's reaction to Ferrari's largely self-inflicted defeat, Binotto may also have felt a chronic driver headache coming on.

Ferrari have developed the fastest car but it is Mercedes and Hamilton who are heading for the titles again. The classic partnership of old master, in the form of four-time champion Sebastian Vettel, and young pretender, Charles Leclerc, has been heating up all season as Leclerc outperforms his venerable teammate.

On Sunday, it boiled over from a sporting duel into a more fierce and personal rivalry. The dispute, or misunderstanding depending on your viewpoint, cost Ferrari a victory and a probable one-two and handed both prizes to their rivals as Hamilton came home ahead of Valtteri Bottas.

Vettel, who benefitted from a slipstream provided by Leclerc on the opening lap to take the lead, defied team orders by ignoring instructions to let the younger man go by — arguing that he would be threatened by Hamilton if he did and adding that he had taken the initiative with his own speed.

Many critics on social media accused him of deceit. "I stuck to the agreement," said Vettel, revitalised in Sochi after his first win in 13 months a week earlier in Singapore. "I spoke with Charles before the race and it was all quite clear."

Leclerc, who criticised Ferrari for giving Vettel an 'under-cut' pit-stop in Singapore that enabled him to take control and victory, was circumspect in his criticism. "There was no reason to take risks because we planned to swap back and that's why I didn't fight him," he explained, adding that he needed to discuss the incident in more detail with the team.

Leclerc had started from his fourth consecutive pole position and Ferrari knew he deserved better — thus calling him in four laps earlier than the leader to have a tyre advantage. It worked, but when Vettel suffered an engine failure, a Virtual Safety Car (VSC) intervention handed a free pit-stop and victory to Hamilton, leaving Leclerc to rescue a podium finish for Ferrari on a day when their reliability, strategy and team management failed.

Seasoned Italian reporters suggested it revealed 'open war' between the drivers with Corriere dello Sport referring to the 'growing arrogance' of Leclerc and 'old' Vettel's proud perfectionism. Tuttosport described the mood as 'poisonous' and called on Binotto to 'finally set a clear strategy.'

Genial and softly-spoken, Binotto on Sunday evaded any confrontation on the division between his drivers. "It went as we agreed and we thought it was right to ask Seb to swap," he explained. "We did it, in the end, at the pit stop." — AFP

## Kuwait shooters continue to win more medals

By Abdellatif Sharaa

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Shooters continued their winning ways despite fierce competition by Asian shooters as Kuwait shooter Jarrah Mohammad Al-Shuwaier won the bronze medal of the double trap, while the team of Jarrah Al-Shuwaier, Nasser Al-Miqled and Saad Lafi won the bronze medal also at the conclusion of the ninth Asian Clay Target Tournament that was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Kuwait already won 6 medals (2 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze).

Secretary General of Arab and Kuwait Shooting Federations Obaid Munahi Al-Osaimi lauded the achievements of shooters, who carry hopes to make world achievements in the name of Kuwait.

He said this championship is one of the important events on the way of preparing shooters for the 14th Asian Championship to be held in Qatar in November where qualification for Tokyo 2020 will be determined.

Al-Osaimi dedicated these achievements to HHH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-



Jaber Al-Sabah, HHH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, government and people of Kuwait.

Al-Osaimi also commended the support of honorary president of KSSC Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Hmoud Al-Sabah, and Public Authority for Sports and its Director General Dr. Humoud Fulaitch Al-Shimmari for their continued support of Kuwait shooting.

## Qatar to test new stadium during Club World Cup

**DOHA:** Qatar will inaugurate the third of its eight World Cup stadiums when the Education City ground hosts the Club World Cup semi-final tie on December 18, FIFA said yesterday. The 40,000-seat venue seven kilometres outside central Doha will also host the third-place play-off and the final of the tournament which gets underway on Dec 11. The inaugural game will see Liverpool, as European champions, face either CONCACAF Champions League winners Monterrey, Al Sadd of Qatar or minnows Hienghene Sport of New Caledonia who are Oceania champions.

The 2022 hosts have so far inaugurated the newly-built Al-Janoub stadium in May, as well as the Khalifa International stadium which opened in 1976 and was relaunched in 2017 after a full refurbishment. "With all three venues located a maximum of 12 km from central Doha, the FIFA World Cup 2019 will provide a glimpse of Qatar's compact nature ahead of the FIFA World Cup 2022," FIFA said in a statement.

"Taking place around the same time of the year and with matches kicking off from 17:00 local time (1400 GMT), this year's tournament will also give teams and fans alike the chance to experience Qatar's mild winter." Average temperatures are expected to range between 15 and 24 Celsius, it added.

Hassan Al-Thawadi, the secretary general of Qatar's Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, said following Al-Janoub's opening in May that two further new stadiums would be ready "by the end of this year (or) first quarter" 2020. The exact date would depend on the timing of events to launch the two venues, he added. "By 2021 all our stadiums will be ready," he said. — AFP

## Sports

# Scotland keep Rugby World Cup hopes alive with bonus-point Samoa win

## Scotland next face outsiders Russia in Shizuoka on October 9

**KOBE:** Scotland revived their Rugby World Cup campaign with a decisive 34-0 win over Samoa in Kobe yesterday that saw the Pacific islanders finish a man down. The bonus point won for Gregor Townsend's men could prove vital in a tight Pool A that also involves Ireland and hosts Japan.

Victory was all but assured after a burst of 17 points in eight minutes late in the first half left Scotland 20-0 ahead at the interval. Scotland wing Sean Maitland and Greig Laidlaw scored tries, both converted by the fly-half who also kicked an early penalty, before fullback Stuart Hogg landed the Scots' first Test-match drop goal for more than five years with an audacious effort from just inside the halfway line.

Scotland secured the four-try bonus point with two penalty tries, Ed Fidow shown a pair of yellow cards that meant the Samoa wing saw red six minutes from time. "We're all delighted to get that bonus point. It means we're still in this World Cup," said Scotland coach Townsend.

"We've two games to go and if we play like we did tonight and improve a couple of aspects, we're very much in this World Cup." The Scots were in desperate need of a victory to have any hope of reaching the quarter-finals after starting this World Cup with a woeful 27-3 loss to Ireland — who were in turn the victims of a shock 19-12 defeat by hosts Japan that threw Pool A wide open.

The Ireland reverse led Townsend to make wholesale changes, including fielding an entirely new back-row against Samoa. The Pacific islanders were without centre Rey Lee-Lo and hooker Motu Matu'u after the pair received three-game bans for shoulder-led hits in a bruising 34-9 win over Russia.

It looked as if Laidlaw's ninth-minute penalty would be the lone score of a first half where both sides strug-

gled to hold on to the ball in humid conditions under the closed roof of the Kobe Misaki Stadium.

In the error-strewn early exchanges, the biggest cheers went to a spectator playing the bagpipes, a traditional Scottish instrument.

### DARTING BREAK

But the character of the match changed on the half-hour mark when Scotland became the 20th — and last — team at this World Cup to score a try. Fly-half Finn Russell's superbly-judged cross-kick was caught by Maitland, who held off opposing wing Belgium Tuatagaloa for a try in the left corner.

Scotland had their second try just four minutes later. Russell made a darting break before finding the recalled Jamie Ritchie. The openside flanker's clever inside pass released Laidlaw, who fended off a poor challenge from Samoa fullback Tim Nanai-Williams before crossing by the posts for a try he converted.

Then, with nothing else on, Hogg dropped a goal from wide out on the left from just inside halfway, a distance of some 50 metres with the angle, to make it 20-0. It was Scotland's first drop goal in an international since Duncan Weir's match-winner against Italy in March 2014.

Scotland, who have now won all four of their World Cup matches against Samoa, went further ahead before the hour. Following a catch and drive off a close-range line-out, French referee Pascal Gauzere, after consulting the television match official, awarded a penalty try and sent Fidow to the sin-bin — Samoa's third yellow card in two matches — for collapsing the maul.

Samoa reserve scrum-half Pele Cowley then came off the bench to play against his cousin Maitland for the first time in a Test but could not inspire his lacklustre



**KOBE:** Scotland's fly-half Finn Russell (R) passes the ball during the Japan 2019 Rugby World Cup Pool A match between Scotland and Samoa at the Kobe Misaki Stadium in Kobe yesterday. —AFP

side. Instead Scotland had their second penalty try when Fidow went in knees first as Maitland tried to slide in at the left corner only to lose possession under the illegal challenge. Gauzere showed Fidow a second yellow card and then a red. Scotland next face out-

siders Russia in Shizuoka on October 9, with Samoa playing Ireland in Fukuoka three days later. Samoa coach Steve Jackson insisted his team were not out of the competition yet, with a tough game against Japan in only four days. —AFP

## Patriots, Chiefs stay unbeaten with NFL road victories

**NEW YORK:** Reigning Super Bowl champion New England and the Kansas City Chiefs managed narrow road triumphs in battles between NFL unbeaten on Sunday to remain perfect through four games this season.

Tom Brady threw for only 150 yards but New England intercepted four passes, two by J.C. Jackson, and Matthew Slater returned a blocked punt 11 yards for a touchdown in a 16-10 Patriots victory at Buffalo.

"To go on the road and beat a team that's 3-0 is pretty good," Brady said. "We can certainly play better than we did. We've got to get in the red area (at or inside the opponent's 20-yard line). We missed some opportunities there. We'll go out and try and do a better job next week."

Patrick Mahomes drove the Chiefs 79 yards in 13 plays and Darrel Williams made his second 1-yard touchdown run of the fourth quarter with 20 seconds remaining to give Kansas City a 34-30 triumph at Detroit.

Mahomes completed 24-of-42 passes for 315 yards but went without a touchdown pass for only the fourth time in his career while Detroit's Matthew Stafford completed 21-of-34 passes for 291 yards and three touchdowns in a losing cause. "They found a way to take away some of the stuff we like to do," Mahomes said. "They hadn't lost a game for a reason." The Chiefs and Patriots became the first NFL teams to reach 4-0 while the Bills fell to 3-1 and Detroit slid to 2-1-1.

Bills coach Sean McDermott was upset over the brutal helmet-to-helmet hit delivered by New England's Jonathan Jones on Buffalo quarterback Josh Allen that knocked the signal caller out of the game in the fourth quarter and into the NFL's concussion protocol.



**DETROIT:** Byron Pringle #13 of the Kansas City Chiefs is tackled by Will Harris #25 of the Detroit Lions in the fourth quarter at Ford Field in Detroit, Michigan. —AFP

"There's no room in football for a play like the hit on Josh Allen," McDermott said.

A penalty against Jones was offset by another on the Bills, but Buffalo defender Micah Hyde said his unit would have gotten a harsher fate had one of them delivered such a hit to 42-year-old Brady, winner of a record six Super Bowl crowns.

"One of us did that to 12, we wouldn't have been in the game anymore," Hyde said. Buffalo running back Frank Gore, in his 15th NFL season, became the fourth player in league history to rush for 15,000 career yards, cracking the barrier on a 41-yard run.

Only record-holder Emmitt Smith (18,355 yards), Walter Payton (16,726) and Barry Sanders (15,269) have carried for more yards and Gore is on track to pass Sanders later this year. Gore, who ran 17 times for 109 yards in the loss to stand on 15,021 yards, has played for San Francisco, Miami and Indianapolis as well as the Bills.

Arizona receiver Larry Fitzgerald moved past Tony Gonzalez for second on the NFL's all-time receptions list with his 1,326th career

catch in a 27-10 home loss to Seattle. Fitzgerald, 36, trails only Jerry Rice's all-time record of 1,549 catches.

The Seahawks, who had a 27-yard interception return touchdown from Jadeveon Clowney, improved to 3-1, as did the Chicago Bears, who had three Eddie Pineiro field goals in a 16-6 home win over Minnesota.

Also falling from the unbeaten ranks were the Los Angeles Rams, who lost to visiting Tampa Bay 55-40, and the Dallas Cowboys, who lost 12-10 at New Orleans. Jameis Winston completed 28-of-41 passes for 385 yards and four touchdowns for the Buccaneers in the victory while the Rams' Jared Goff hit 45-of-68 throws for 517 yards and two touchdowns with three costly interceptions in the loss.

At New Orleans, Wil Lutz kicked four field goals, the last of them from 26 yards to put the hosts ahead for good, and the Saints won without scoring a touchdown for the first time in 21 years, dropping the Cowboys to 3-1. Lutz also kicked field goals of 19, 40 and 42 yards in the second quarter. —AFP

Barrett are the starting locks and Sam Whitelock provides impact off the bench.

Captain Kieran Read, who along with Whitelock and Williams played against Canada when the All Blacks won 79-15 at the 2011 World Cup, forms a loose trio with Matt Todd and Shannon Frizell. In the Canadian side, with six changes to the starting line up which lost their opening game to Italy, only wing DTH Van der Merwe and outside centre Conor Trainor remain from the 2011 fixture.

Long-serving van der Merwe, in his 60th Test, will equal the Canadian record of 14 World Cup appearances. Hooker and self-confessed All Blacks fan Andrew Quattrin, who said on the weekend he was excited by the prospect that "Kieran Read could be smashing me," has been named on the bench.

### New Zealand (15-1)

Beauden Barrett; Jordie Barrett, Jack Goodhue, Sonny Bill Williams, Rieko Ioane; Richie Mo'unga, TJ Perenara; Kieran Read (capt), Matt Todd, Shannon Frizell; Scott Barrett, Patrick Tuipulotu; Angus Ta'avao, Liam Coltman, Atu Moli Replacements: Codie Taylor, Ofa Tu'ungafasi, Nepo Lualaba, Sam Whitelock, Ardie Savea, Brad Weber, Ryan Crotty, Ben Smith. —AFP

## France ring the changes for USA clash

**TOKYO:** Louis Picamoles will captain France for the first time tomorrow, leading out a much-changed French XV to play the United States in the Rugby World Cup's "group of death".

Coach Jacques Brunel has rotated his squad, making 12 changes to the team that pipped Argentina 23-21 as Les Bleus prepare for a potentially group-deciding "Le Crunch" against old enemies England on October 12 in Yokohama.

Only flanker Arthur Iturria, inside-centre Gael Fickou and winger Yoann Huget survive from the XV that beat the Pumas in the opening game, a win that put France in the Pool C box seat.

Ramping number 8 Picamoles will earn his 81st cap but has never captained the national side. He replaces Guilhem Guirado as leader of the team, the hooker dropping to the bench.

France have enjoyed a 10-day rest since their nail-biting win over Argentina but now play Tonga and England in quick succession as they seek to top Pool C, the winner of which will likely play Australia in the quarter-finals.

## Kerevi eyes NRL switch after WCup loss to Wales

**TOKYO:** Hard-hitting Wallabies centre Samu Kerevi has threatened to switch to rugby league after being penalised for a stray elbow in Australia's 29-25 Rugby World Cup defeat by Wales. Wales were awarded a penalty after Kerevi caught fly-half Rhys Patchell with a forearm under the chin as he drove forward during the first half of Sunday's blockbuster Group D clash in Tokyo.

The decision proved pivotal as it halted Australia's momentum and led to Wales reeling off 10 unanswered points — it also left Wallabies coach Michael Cheika seething and prompted Kerevi to float the idea of switching codes.

"I've been playing like that for my whole career," he said, tongue planted firmly in cheek. "That's the first time I've heard that I can't lead with my arms and bump. I love my rugby league — the way rugby is going, I might as well join the NRL next, seeing how they police it."

Kerevi, who has signed a three-year deal to play with Suntory in Japan's Top League from next season, likened the World Cup to basketball, told reporters: "I guess I just have to change my technique and the way I run."

He added: "It's hard when you slow it down to one-tenth of a second. It looks like I'm going for his neck, but there's no malice in it. "With the force I'm com-

ing at, and if he's going backwards and I can't move forward, I might as well just stop."

Cheika was furious about the French referee Romain Poite's call and accused rugby's administrators of "spooking" match officials with their crackdown on high tackles. "I just don't know the rules anymore honestly," he growled. "As a rugby player, a former player, I'm embarrassed."

Camille Lopez, whose drop goal proved the difference between France and Argentina on the opening weekend, will start at fly-half, forming a half-back partnership with Maxime Machenaud.

Brunel said he had picked a team to play a United States team that were "athletic but less powerful than Tonga".

Selecting Picamoles as captain was the logical choice, added Brunel.

"He is the one with the most experience in this reshuffled team. And it's a position and a role that he knows well."

Meanwhile, USA coach Gary Gold made five changes to the side that lost 45-7 to England, many of them enforced by injury or suspension.

John Quill, who is suspended after suffering the ignominy of receiving the tournament's first red card, has been replaced by Hanco Gernishuy. Bryce Campbell and Mike Teo have been named to replace the injured pair of Paul Lasike and Will Hooley. And Eric Fry has been picked in place of David Ainu'u, who left the World Cup after sustaining a bad ankle injury.

"From the pack to a really dangerous backline, they have threats across the field," said captain Blaine Scully, contemplating the difficulties Les Bleus will pose. "If we stick to our process and stick to our structures and our game plan, we feel like we can compete with anybody in the world and that's what we're here to do." —AFP

## All three Barretts to start for All Blacks against Canada

**OITA:** The three Barrett brothers — Beauden, Scott and Jordie — will become the first sibling trio to start a World Cup Test for the All Blacks when they line up against Canada in Oita tomorrow. Coach Steve Hansen has made sweeping changes to his side following their first win against South Africa, including starts for Sonny Bill Williams and Rieko Ioane.

The inclusion of all three Barretts, who last year became the first three brothers in a run-on side for the All Blacks, is only the second time three siblings have started a World Cup match together. In 1995, Fe'ao Unipola, the father of England players Mako and Billy, took the field for Tonga against Scotland with his brothers Elisi and Manu.

The Pisi brothers Tusi, Ken and George, all played for Samoa against South Africa in the 2015 World Cup but only Ken was in the starting line up. Hansen has opted to keep his twin playmakers Beauden Barrett and Richie Mo'unga together as they continue to gel their roles at 15 and 10 but opted for a new midfield pairing of Sonny Bill Williams and Jack Goodhue. Ioane, who boasts an impressive record of 23 tries from 26 tests, hasn't been seen since the All Blacks' heavy loss to Australia in Perth almost two months ago with the selectors saying he had hit "a flat patch".

Goodhue has also been out since Perth, although he was sidelined by a hamstring strain. "Our aim is to win the next two pool matches against Canada and Namibia, as well as continuing to grow our game and manage the workload across the group," Hansen said.

"With two games four days apart, it's obvious that we need to use our whole squad." Whilst there's a huge amount of energy and excitement amongst the whole team about what lies ahead, this week there has been a real focus on ourselves and our own standards."

The starting front row includes props Atu Moli and Angus Ta'avao with hooker Liam Coltman, while Patrick Tuipulotu and Scott

for frequent checks. —AFP

Sports

# Defence is king as Madrid go back to basics ahead of Brugge test

‘We have been compact and again we have not conceded’

**MADRID:** Real Madrid's revolution was supposed to be built around their attack but resilience has been the base for the recovery ahead of their Champions League group game at home to Club Brugge today.

At the end of last season, as Zinedine Zidane's dreary run-in came to a close and paved the way for what many expected to be a spectacular summer, polls were published by Madrid's newspapers asking fans which of the world's deadliest strikers they hoped would arrive at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Harry Kane, Mohamed Salah, Sergio Aguero, Mauro Icardi and Robert Lewandowski were some of the names offered up and, in the end, Luka Jovic arrived, the Serbian who has struggled for starts so far and is yet to score a goal.

Eden Hazard is tasked too with helping fill the void left by Cristiano Ronaldo, even if the Belgian's own opening in Madrid has also been underwhelming, stalled by injury and now seemingly a period of adjustment. "We would like him to score because it will release him," said Zidane on Saturday. "But there is no problem with him."

Yet the stalemate against Atletico Madrid, in which neither side ever looked likely to find a winner, was a stark indication of how Real Madrid have relied on their defence to ease the pressure on their coach.

"We have been compact and again we have not conceded," said Zidane after the derby draw. "We have missed a little offensively but we are in it and we can improve." This is the first time Madrid have kept three consecutive clean sheets in the league under Zidane and in the games against Sevilla, Osasuna and Atletico, they have had to cope with just a single shot on target.

"Defending is very important, it is the fundamentals," Zidane said. The turnaround has been remarkable from

Paris Saint-Germain, whose 3-0 win in the Champions League 10 days ago was Zidane's worst ever defeat as coach, as well as Levante and Villarreal, who had just scored twice against Madrid in the league.

When they were floundering last season, the focus was on their lack of goals but Madrid's defending was arguably just as problematic, with Sergio Ramos, Raphael Varane and Marcelo all woefully out of sorts.

After missing the loss to PSG, Ramos' return has coincided with the trio of clean sheets and his performances have been tighter too, more disciplined and less prone to extravagance.

But perhaps the biggest gains have been made ahead of him, in central midfield where Zidane's options are light but boosted by two excellent displays from Fede Valverde, who was given a chance in the rotated line-up against Osasuna and impressed enough in defensive midfield to keep his place.

"I want to highlight Valverde as well," Zidane said after Osasuna. "He played a brutal match."

Ahead of Valverde, there has been more diligence from the front three, with Zidane singling out Gareth Bale for praise a handful of times since his move away failed to materialise in the summer transfer window.

Zidane's scepticism around Bale in the past has centred on a belief the Welshman cannot be trusted to defend but against Sevilla it was Bale who was at his own back post in injury time, hacking a cross clear from danger. "Gareth is doing very well," Zidane said. "Above all he is also helping a lot in the defensive areas and it shows. The team is more comfortable when we all defend." Perhaps as well, there is a sense of a team finding its reality after a fantasy summer, a coming to terms with the need to build this new era not on glamour signings but going back to basics.



**MADRID:** Real Madrid's Welsh forward Gareth Bale (L) and Real Madrid's Serbian forward Luka Jovic attend a training session at the Valdebebas training complex in the outskirts of Madrid, yesterday, on the eve of the UEFA Champions league Group A football match against Club Brugge. — AFP

They restart this week in the Champions League too, where PSG's victory makes the French side favourites to go through top of Group A but a win over Brugge would at least get Madrid on the board.

The rematch at home to PSG comes in November and before then, the season's first Clasico against Barcelona arrives at the end of the month. Zidane will hope his defence can hold firm. —AFP

## Guardiola backs Fernandinho as City defensive crisis bites

**MANCHESTER:** Pep Guardiola played down concerns over 34-year-old Fernandinho's ability to cope with a high workload as he juggles his stretched defensive resources for today's Champions League match against Dinamo Zagreb.

City are missing John Stones and Aymeric Laporte and the manager was forced to field the makeshift pairing of Nicolas Otamendi and midfielder Fernandinho in central defence against Everton on Saturday.

The Premier League champions had some shaky moments defensively at Goodison Park but emerged 3-1 winners to keep the gap to Liverpool at five points. "If he is fit he can play (twice a week)," Guardiola said on Monday about Fernandinho. "It depends on him in terms of physical regeneration."

"When Stones is back we will have an alternative," he added. "Last season he started to struggle towards the end of the season. The previous season, he played every three days."

Midfielder Rodri said the spate of defensive injuries was not an "excuse" for City, who won their Champions League opener 3-0 away to Shakhtar Donetsk.

"We have enough players to fit this problem," he said. "We have players who can play in many positions like Fernandinho and (Oleksandr) Zinchenko. It's a tough time for the team but it will make us stronger."

Guardiola also had warm words for Riyad Mahrez, who impressed in the 3-1 win against Everton and has been directly involved in 17 goals in his past 17 starts for City in all competitions.

"He's been so decisive, clinical. Defensively his commitment is higher this season and offensively every time he has the ball you have a feeling he is going to create something," said the City boss.

"Hopefully he can maintain that level for a long time." Guardiola also believes his side need to make their supporters, who have had a love-hate relationship with UEFA competitions, excited by the Champions League, which they have never won. "We have to seduce them. The only way to seduce them is winning games and playing good," he said. "The Premier League here in England is the most exciting. We make a poll and fans prefer that. But this competition is also good." — AFP



**LONDON:** Tottenham Hotspur's French goalkeeper Hugo Lloris (L) and Tottenham Hotspur's South Korean striker Son Heung-Min (2L) attend a team training session at Tottenham Hotspur's Enfield Training Centre, in north London yesterday, ahead of their UEFA Champions League Group B football match against Bayern Munich. — AFP

## Alli faces uncertain future as Spurs splutter

**LONDON:** Hampered by injuries and poor form, Tottenham midfielder Dele Alli faces an uncertain future while his club are battling to recover from their own troubling period. In a clear indication of the malaise gripping Alli, the England international is far from certain to feature when Tottenham host Bayern Munich in a crucial Champions League clash today.

That would have been unthinkable just two years ago when Alli was regarded as one of Europe's rising stars. Since then, the 23-year-old has been stuck in a steady decline that raises questions about his long-term future in north London.

After appearing in four of Tottenham's five pre-season games, Alli was absent for the final friendly against Inter Milan due to the latest in a long line of hamstring issues. Having missed games against Aston Villa, Manchester City and Newcastle, Alli was introduced on the hour for the 2-2 draw at Arsenal on September 1.

But that remains Alli's lone Premier League action this term, with his two other appearances coming in two of Tottenham's most underwhelming displays of the current campaign. He was hauled off after 73 minutes of 2-2 Champions League draw at Olympiakos, with Tottenham reeling having blown a two-goal lead.

Alli's current lowly place in Pochettino's pecking order was clear for all to see when he was forced to start in under-strength Tottenham side for their League Cup third round tie at minnows Colchester last week. That Alli delivered a limp performance in Tottenham's shock penalty shoot-out defeat suggested Pochettino had been correct

to use his playmaker so little.

Alli's anonymous display in the depths of Essex was a cry from arguably the finest night of his career when his brace inspired Tottenham's 3-1 Champions League group stage victory over Real Madrid in November 2017.

Alli was hailed as Tottenham's next generational talent after a swaggering show capped by an impudent nutmeg of Real defender Sergio Ramos. Yet since his star role in handing Madrid their first group stage loss for five years, Alli has been stuck in a rut.

Cutting an increasingly peripheral figure in Tottenham's midfield, Alli's form was a concern for Mauricio Pochettino for much of last season.

Although Alli's assist led to Tottenham's dramatic semi-final second leg winner for Lucas Moura at Ajax, that was a rare highlight. Alli was a passenger when Tottenham's first Champions League final ended in an oddly lethargic 2-0 loss to Liverpool in Madrid.

He has fared no better for England, with Gareth Southgate leaving him out of the team for their recent Euro 2020 qualifiers due to his fitness problems. Alli's woes are especially frustrating because evidence of his importance can be seen from UEFA's technical report into last season's Champions League.

He came fourth out of the players in the competition who made the most sprints per match on average with a total of 53.75. Alli's runs into the area, often ending with a cool finish, have proved key over the years since his move from Milton Keynes Dons in 2015 — but those moments have been few and far between of late. —AFP

## Enyimba lose to dash hopes of CAF Champions League glory for Nigeria

**JOHANNESBURG:** Enyimba were eliminated from the CAF Champions League Sunday, leaving Nigeria without a club in the upcoming group phase of the elite African club competition. A goal just after half-time from Mohamed Musa gave Al Hilal of Sudan a 1-0 victory over Enyimba in Omdurman and the east Africans won by the same score overall after a goalless first leg.

It was a shock outcome to the last-32 tie as five-goal Enyimba had impressive in the preliminary round while Hilal needed the away goal rule to scrape past modest opponents. Kano Pillars, the other Nigerian contenders for the Champions League this season, were defeated by Asante Kotoko of Ghana in the previous round.

The only consolation for two-time African champions Enyimba is that they will get another shot at winning a CAF competition this season by competing in the second-tier Confederation Cup. All 16 first round losers drop to the Confederation Cup and will play last-32 winners in that competition in two-leg play-offs during October with group places at stake.

However, the CAF Champions League is a far more lucrative and prestigious competition and Nigerian football supporters will be bitterly disappointed by the failure of Enyimba. Kotoko will also be competing in the Confederation Cup after they crashed 3-0 away to Etoile Sahel of Tunisia in Monastir after building a two-goal first leg advantage.

Algerian Karim Aribi took his goal tally to a chart-topping seven in the Champions League this season by scoring twice in the second half after Mortadha Ben Ouanes put the Tunisians ahead.

Etoile had Saddam Ben Aziza red-carded on 79 minutes with the tie deadlocked at 2-2 on aggregate and Aribi scored the crucial goal five minutes later. Tunisia will have two contenders in the group phase as trophy-holders Esperance survived a scare Friday to defeat minnows Elect-Sport of Chad 2-1 near Tunis and qualify 3-2 overall. —AFP

## Ramsey gamble paying off at Juventus

**MILAN:** Welsh international Aaron Ramsey scored on his first start for Juventus as the former Arsenal man's Turin gamble looks to be paying off as he flourishes in the Italian league.

Ramsey moved to the Serie A champions this season on a lucrative free transfer reported to be worth 503,000 euros per week (\$515,000). The 28-year-old has impressed in his first three league games for the eight-time reigning Serie A champions having recovered from a hamstring injury picked up with Arsenal. He found the net on his debut against Verona on September 21, and impressed in the following two league wins over Brescia and SPAL. "Three wins out of three in Serie A this week. Onto the Champions League Tuesday," Ramsey wrote on social media.

Juventus will host Bayer Leverkusen in their Group D clash in Turin, having being held 2-2 at Atletico Madrid in their opener. Ramsey had come on as a late substitute against Atletico with the Italians conceding a goal just two minutes later. "I've waited a long time for this moment, I'm really happy, both for the victory and for the goal," said Ramsey of scoring. "It was important after the Madrid game."

Juventus are second in Serie A — two points behind Inter Milan — with their only slip-up a goal-less draw with Fiorentina. After a bout of pneumonia, new coach Maurizio Sarri has been implementing his changes from predecessor Massimiliano Allegri. And Sarri has been giving more space to the Welshman, who the former Chelsea boss has been easing into the team. Ramsey has played an average of just over an hour in each of his league games so far.

"We're trying to preserve him from the point of view of playing time," explained Sarri. "There's a big difference between playing 60 and 90 minutes." How Ramsey could fit into Sarri's already talent-packed side needed to be worked out.

The star-studded midfield boasts World Cup winner Blaise Matuidi, experienced internationals Sami Khedira, Miralem Pjanic, Emre Can and Rodrigo Bentacur, as well as Adrien Rabiot who arrived from Paris Saint-Germain during the summer. But winger Douglas Costa's injury has allowed Sarri to make more use of Ramsey with the Welsh playmaker's driving runs forward impressing. Ramsey's creative position behind strikers Ronaldo and Gonzalo Higuain or Paulo Dybala now seems to be confirmed, until at least Costa's return from injury.

Ramsey won three FA Cups in his 11 years at Arsenal and played a key role in Wales reaching the semi-finals of Euro 2016. Despite the uncertainties, the former Cardiff City academy member jumped at the move to Italy. "When I knew that Juventus were interested, I couldn't refuse," said Ramsey. "It's a great club, one of the biggest in the world, and to have the opportunity to come here and play for them is a dream." The player from Caerphilly in South Wales has also become a fan favourite since speaking a few words of Italian at his unveiling.

He will now be aiming to follow in the footsteps of compatriot and Juventus icon John Charles, who died in 2004 at the age of 72. The former Leeds United and Wales hero is a bona fide legend in Turin thanks to a hugely successful five-year spell in the late 1950s and early 60s. Charles scored more than 100 goals for Juve as they bagged three league Scudettos and two Coppa Italia titles, and became part of the 'Magic Trio' alongside Omar Sivori and Giampiero Boniperti. —AFP

Live		Matches on TV	
		(Local Timings)	
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE			
Real Madrid CF v Club Brugge KV	19:55		
beIN SPORTS HD 1			
Atalanta v Shakhtar Donetsk	19:55		
beIN SPORTS			
Crvena Zvezda v Olympos CFP	22:00		
beIN SPORTS			
Juventus FC v Bayer 04 Leverkusen	22:00		
beIN SPORTS HD 4			
Manchester City v GNK Dinamo Zagreb	22:00		
beIN SPORTS HD 2			
Tottenham Hotspur v Bayern Munich	22:00		
beIN SPORTS HD 5			
Lokomotiv Moscow v Atletico de Madrid	22:00		
beIN SPORTS HD 3			
Galatasaray SK v Paris Saint-Germain	22:00		
beIN SPORTS HD			

**25** Flaherty fuels Cardinals to NL Central title, shuts down Cubs



**26** Scotland keep Rugby World Cup hopes alive with bonus-point Samoa win



**27** Defence is king as Madrid go back to basics ahead of Brugge test



## Fraser-Pryce, Felix seal golds at Worlds

China's Liu shrug off steamy heat, humidity to lead Chinese sweep of medals



DOHA: Jamaica's Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce finishes first ahead of Britain's Dina Asher-Smith, Ivory Coast's Marie-Josée Ta Lou and Jamaica's Elaine Thompson in the Women's 100m final at the 2019 IAAF World Athletics Championships at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha. — AFP

DOHA: Jamaican sprint queen Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce surged to an unprecedented fourth 100m crown and US legend Allyson Felix broke Usain Bolt's gold medal record tally as the returning new mothers lit up the World Championships here Sunday.

Fraser-Pryce and Felix, both racing in their first major championships since taking time off from the sport to have children, lit up a pulsating day three of competition even if the action was played out inside a near-empty Khalifa Stadium.

The 32-year-old Fraser-Pryce, who skipped the 2017 championships to give birth to her first child, delivered a barnstorming run to take the 100m in 10.71sec. Britain's Dina Asher-Smith took silver with a time of 10.83sec while Ivory Coast's Marie-Josée Ta Lou claimed bronze in 10.90sec.

"To be standing here as world champion again after having my baby, I am elated," said Fraser-Pryce. "The females keep showing up. We love to put on a performance and for me I am just really happy to come away with the win."

Fraser-Pryce was in control from the gun, rocketing out of the blocks and taking the lead in the opening 20 metres. From that point there was only going to be one winner, and the veteran Jamaican swept over the line majestically to add to the world titles won in 2009, 2013 and 2015 before setting off on a victory lap carrying her two-year-old son Zion.

The two-time Olympic champion's dominant display was the highlight of a day three which also saw US track queen Felix win a record 12th World Championship gold medal. Felix only returned to the sport in July after a 13-month layoff which saw her give birth to her daughter Camryn by emergency C-section last November.

The 33-year-old, who failed to qualify for the individual 400m event in Doha, took gold in the 4x400m mixed relay as the United States motored to victory in a world record time of 3min 09.34sec. Felix's 12th gold medal broke Jamaican legend Bolt's record tally of 11 World Championship gold medals.

Overall, Felix now has an incredible 26 medals, a

dazzling haul that also includes six Olympic golds. Felix, competing in her ninth straight world championships, has accumulated more World Championship and Olympic honours than any other track and field athlete in history.

"So special, to have my daughter here watching means the world to me," Felix said afterwards. "It's been a crazy year for me." Felix later paid tribute to the support of Fraser-Pryce as she worked her way back to fitness this season.

"We've talked a lot this year and been there for each other," Felix said. "She's been an amazing support. I'm just thrilled to see her back on top and better than ever, and I hope that is an inspiration to others. I know that she's an inspiration to me."

There was another victory for a returning mother in the final event of the day, the women's 20km race walk, where China's 2016 Olympic champion Liu Hong won gold. Liu, 32, who took a maternity break from 2017-2018, shrugged off steamy heat and humidity to lead a Chinese sweep of the medals in 1hr 32min 53sec and

secure her third world title. Qieyang Shenjie took silver in 1:33:10 while compatriot Yang Liuqing won bronze in 1:33:17.

Elsewhere Sunday, triple jump king Christian Taylor completed a superb hat-trick of World Championship titles after surviving near elimination in a nerve-jangling final. The two-time Olympic champion and now four-time world champion clinched gold with a leap of 17.92m. That was good enough to fend off the challenge of compatriot Will Claye, who took silver with a best jump of 17.74m. Burkina Faso's Hugues Fabrice Zango claimed bronze with a jump of 17.66m.

Taylor, the world champion in 2011, 2015 and 2017, had flirted with elimination at the start of the final after fouling his first two jumps. In the women's pole vault, Anzhelika Sidorova — competing under the Authorised Neutral Athlete banner due to the IAAF ban on Russia over the doping scandal — won with a vault of 4.95 metres. America's Sandi Morris took silver with 4.90m while Greece's Olympic champion Katerina Stefanidi took bronze. — AFP

## Bianca Andreescu 'on a roll' after 14th win on the spin

BEIJING: Bianca Andreescu said that she has "forgotten how it feels to lose" after the US Open champion reeled off her 14th victory in a row yesterday in Beijing. The 19-year-old Canadian beat Aliaksandra Sasnovich of Belarus 6-2, 2-6, 6-1 in the China Open first round despite a second-set wobble.

But Simona Halep became the first major casualty in the Chinese capital, beaten by Russia's Ekaterina

Alexandrova with the Romanian struggling once more with a back injury. Andreescu's run of victories has brought her the US Open and her home Canadian Open in recent weeks, propelling her into the limelight.

"I wanted to just keep the momentum going," said the teenager, after her first match since stunning Serena Williams in the final at Flushing Meadows in early September. "I'm on a roll right now, hopefully I can just keep it up because I think it gives me a lot of confidence," added the world number six, who qualified for the season-ending WTA Finals.

"I don't want to sound cocky or anything, but I kind of forgot how it feels to lose, which I think is a good thing," Andreescu looked all set to carry on her blistering form against Sasnovich and emphatically captured the first set.

But she struggled with her serve in the second, totting up six double faults and was in danger of losing her cool in the Beijing heat and haze. Normal order was restored in the deciding set, Andreescu breaking Sasnovich's first service game and then holding her own to take a 3-0 lead and an advantage she refused to surrender.

In round two the Canadian plays Elise Mertens, the world number 23 from Belgium. Andreescu said that her stunning victory at the US Open had yet to fully sink in, even three weeks on. "But I think I've learnt a lot from the past couple of weeks, during the tournament, even after the tournament with all the media, all that," she said. "I think I'm managing it really well. I think that's why I feel good coming into this tournament." Reigning Wimbledon champion Halep lost 6-2, 6-3 in 64 minutes to bring her China Open to an early

end. Halep, fifth in the world, was far from her best as she went down meekly to Russia's 38th-ranked Alexandrova in the second round.

The 28-year-old Halep was forced out of last week's Wuhan Open because of her troublesome back, which she says has plagued her for more than a decade.

"I didn't recover well after my first match so it was very tough for me to play and she played really well," Halep said. "The injury from Wuhan is getting worse so I have to go home and take an MRI (scan), take a break and do some treatment." China Open title-holder Caroline Wozniacki swatted aside Lauren Davis of the United States, 6-1, 6-3, to give her the perfect start. In the men's draw, second seed Alexander Zverev of Germany was a comfortable 6-3, 6-2 winner over the American Frances Tiafoe. — AFP