

5 Charles III makes historic visit to Northern Ireland



10 Finding value in waste recycling in Nigeria



12 'Succession', 'Squid Game' big winners at Emmys



14 England potential excites skipper Stokes after S Africa series win



Kuwaiti PM hands letter from Amir to Saudi Crown Prince

Sheikh Ahmad hails deep-rooted relations between the two countries

Deputy Amir swears in Public Prosecutor



KUWAIT: HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received on Tuesday at Bayan Palace Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, State Minister for Nazaha and Minister of Justice Jamal Al-Jalawi and newly appointed Public Prosecutor Saad Al-Safraan, where he took the oath of office. — KUNA

JEDDAH: Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, also the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of Saudi Arabia, received HH the Prime Minister of Kuwait Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and his entourage at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah on Tuesday. During the meeting, HH the Prime Minister handed the Crown Prince a letter from HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz on bilateral ties.

HH the Prime Minister conveyed the greetings of HH the Amir and HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to the Saudi King and Crown Prince, expressing best wishes for the leaders and people of the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He expressed joy for his official visit to the kingdom, noting that it is a link in a chain of a historical, deep-rooted and exemplary relationship between both countries in all areas.

HH the Prime Minister praised the balanced policy of the kingdom under the wise leadership of the King and Crown Prince in protecting security and stability in the region. The meeting brought



JEDDAH: Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz receives HH the Prime Minister of Kuwait Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah on Sept 13, 2022. — KUNA

together, from the Saudi side, Minister of State Prince Turki bin Mohammad bin Fahad Al-Saud, Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud and Ambassador to Kuwait Prince Sultan bin Saad Al-Saud, and from the Kuwaiti side, Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Sheikh Ali Khaled Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Undersecretary of the Prime Minister's Diwan Sheikh Khaled Talal Al-Khaled Al-Sabah and Chief of Staff of the Prime

Minister's Office Hamad Bader Al-Amer.

This was the first overseas visit of HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad since he was named premier. Kuwait's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Sheikh Ali Khaled Al-Jaber Al-Sabah said in a statement to KUNA on the eve of the visit that this shows how important the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is to Kuwait, as a strategic extension with Gulf, Arab and Islamic depth. —KUNA

News in brief



DOHA: Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani greets Egypt's President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi on Sept 13, 2022. — AFP

Sisi arrives in Qatar

DOHA: Egypt's President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi arrived in Qatar on Tuesday for the first time since a four-year rift between the countries, officials said. Sisi was met at the airport by Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, for a visit that the official QNA news agency has said marked "a new era in relations". The Amir visited Cairo in June, when Qatari investments in Egypt were on the agenda, as well as cooperation in the energy and agriculture sectors. — AFP

Pilgrim 'for queen' arrested

RIYADH: Saudi authorities have arrested a man who claimed to have travelled to Makkah to perform an umrah pilgrimage on behalf of the late Queen Elizabeth II. Security forces at the Grand Mosque "arrested a resident of Yemeni nationality who appeared in a video clip carrying a banner inside the Grand Mosque, violating the regulations and instructions for umrah", said a statement carried by state media late Monday. Saudi Arabia forbids pilgrims from carrying banners or chanting slogans. — AFP

15 candidates disqualified from running in polls

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The election department of the interior ministry decided on Tuesday to disqualify 15 registered candidates from running in the Sept 29 polls because they had been convicted in court in criminal and political cases, some candidates announced. The decisions of the department were not published

50 Armenia troops killed in clashes with Azerbaijan

YEREVAN: Azerbaijan said Tuesday its military succeeded in preventing attacks by Armenian troops in the wake of the worst fighting between the arch-foes since their brief but brutal war in 2020. Armenia announced that nearly 50 of its soldiers

Webb telescope captures images of Orion Nebula

WASHINGTON: The wall of dense gas and dust resembles a massive winged creature, its glowing maw lit by a bright star as it soars through cosmic filaments. An international research team on Monday revealed the first images of the Orion Nebula captured with the James Webb Space Telescope, leaving astronomers "blown away." The stellar nursery is situated in the constellation Orion, 1,350 light-years away from Earth, in a similar setting in which our own solar system was birthed

but conveyed directly to the concerned candidates, some of whom said they will challenge the decision in court on Wednesday.

Candidates who announced they had been disqualified include former Islamist MPs Nayef Al-Dabbous and Abdullah Al-Barghash. They also include Hani Hussein, Musaed Al-Qarifa, Anwar Al-Fikr and Ayedh Al-Otaibi. Qarifa on Twitter criticized the ministry's decision to ban him from contesting the election, saying the action is an infringement on his constitutional rights, adding he will challenge it in court.

Otaibi also criticized the decision, saying he was barred for repeating a controversial speech by former leading opposition MP Musallam Al-Barrak around 10 years ago. He was convicted in court

had been killed in the fighting overnight, which Russia said it had halted by brokering a ceasefire between the historic rivals. "Provocations committed by Armenian forces on the border have been prevented and all necessary objectives were fulfilled," President Ilham Aliyev's office said in a statement after his meeting with the military leadership.

Armenia appealed to world leaders for help after the fighting broke out, accusing Azerbaijan of trying to advance on its territory. United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Tuesday called the leaders of both protagonists, with his spokesman saying Washington would "push for an immediate halt to

over this. Several candidates lashed out at the department's decision, claiming it is a misuse of authority and law. With this move, the number of candidates contesting the election dropped to 356, after 11 candidates withdrew from the race and the 15 were barred by the department. The withdrawal of candidacies continues until Sept 22.

Meanwhile, the election campaign continued to highlight major issues, especially what candidates claim is wide-scale corruption by senior officials. Candidate Metab Al-Rathaan, running in the fourth constituency, called for "reopening all corruption files without exception", adding that all those who are involved in graft cases involving public funds must be held to account.

Continued on Page 6

fighting and a peace settlement" between the neighbors. The fighting was the worst since the end of a 2020 war between the ex-Soviet republics over the contested Nagorno-Karabakh region that left more than 6,500 killed on both sides. It came with Yerevan's closest ally Moscow - which deployed thousands of peacekeepers in the region after the war - distracted by its six-month invasion of Ukraine.

Russia said it had brought the clashes to a halt, with the foreign ministry saying a ceasefire was agreed from 9:00 am Moscow time (0600 GMT). Armenia's defense ministry said later that clashes

Continued on Page 6

more than 4.5 billion years ago.

Astronomers are interested in the region to better understand what happened during the first million years of our planetary evolution. The images were obtained as part of the Early Release Science program and involved more than 100 scientists in 18 countries, with institutions including the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), Western University in Canada, and the University of Michigan.

"We are blown away by the breathtaking images of the Orion Nebula," Western University astrophysicist Els Peeters said in a statement. "These new observations allow us to better understand how massive stars transform the gas and dust cloud in which they are born," she added. Nebulas are obscured by large amounts of dust that made it

Continued on Page 6



This handout photo provided by NASA shows the inner region of the Orion Nebula as seen by the James Webb Space Telescope. — AFP

Local

Can Kuwaiti women hope for a better political representation?

By Mariam Al-Ayyoub

KUWAIT: Despite earning our political right to vote in 2006, the parliament is still represented and led by male figures, though many women candidates did make a difference later on within the political arena. We are still striving and yearning for Kuwaiti women to play a more active role in the society and in the political future of our country.

In Kuwait, women are legally granted, the right to participate and contribute to the public opinion in state affairs, therefore, Kuwaiti women's voice in the electoral process and in voting and running candidacy, plays a key role in building a better future for the country and to construct a balanced and equitable community. Speaking to Kuwait Times, Dr. Haneen Al-Ghabra, Associate Professor of Communication and Cultural Studies at Kuwait University, shared her insights about several issues and challenges faced by women in the political show-ground. Speaking about the major obstacles that women face as Members of the Parliament (MP), she said, "I think one of the major problems that is making it difficult for everyone in the country is the current electoral system. When we went from a four-voting system to one system in 2012, this hurt not only women in the society but Kuwait as a whole."

"There are a couple of reasons that worsened things for women in the country such as corruption, with the prevalent practice of vote buying - accusing even the four women MPs who formerly made it to parliament in 2009. Since then, the number of women in the parliament have decreased due to discrimination. We have not even reached the level where women are facing serious obstacles in the parliament, because we can't even get elected, to begin with," explained Al-Ghabra.

She pointed out that expectations to change the societal outlook were also equally important to move ahead in the society adding that "it all depended on



Haneen Al-Ghabra

Al-Ghabra says, "In order to plan for a better future for Kuwaiti women in the parliament; the society must embrace the idea of improved legitimacy of women in politics for the upcoming generation. Hence, it all depends on leadership and on how much we can change in terms of our current mentality around women still being treated as second-class citizens. Women should also speak up for the sake of change and for an optimistic future."

the leadership."

"Kuwait is at a crossroad right now, where we can move forward and develop the country by fighting corruptive practices - be it in education, in the electoral process, in economic development or in other sectors." Regarding the importance of women's involvement in the parliament, Al-Ghabra noted. "We need to have representatives from all sections of the society and this includes women. So, we aren't only speaking of having different ethnic groups, but it is to be noted that women are the only group who are systematically not included in the process. Also, women are more likely to work on policies that affect women."

Al-Ghabra added that reports and statistics have showed that there is less corruption in countries that have women in the government. She also added that women were better at solving problems, engaging in conflict resolution and initiating efforts at peace-building, but also more importantly are less likely to succumb to political

manipulation and corruption. "If we look at previous reports of women in the government, they are better communicators and prioritize education and health which are integral aspects of a society."

Al-Ghabra also said, "In order to plan for a better future for Kuwaiti women in the parliament; the society must embrace the idea of improved legitimacy of women in politics for the upcoming generation. Hence, it all depends on leadership and on how much we can change in terms of our current mentality around women still being treated as second-class citizens. Women should also speak up for the sake of change and for an optimistic future."

"It takes reflection and practice - it's like riding a bicycle - we need to train ourselves first to be able to catch ourselves being privileged and oppressing others without even realizing it. We also need men as allies on our side and we need women as well to unite together for the cause,"

she added.

Meanwhile, Dr Reem Al-Eidan, political activist and former parliamentary candidate, stated "Among the most prominent obstacles that women candidates are facing are the negative social restrictions and the lack of opportunities for Kuwaiti women to present her electoral program through gatherings and bureaus, as well as the difficulties in obtaining financial support - so there is no equal opportunity in the democratic field."

"The obstacles are deliberately being implemented, by not giving women the opportunity to express their views and opinions. A woman's voice would also highlight a better involvement in politics, where the percentage of female voters exceeds male voters, due to their strong desire to express their voice and obtain their rights in light of the rapid changes."

As an optimistic view of women's participation in the parliament in the future, she said that currently a comprehensive system serves both genders,

but the enactment of laws and legislation is through a patriarchal vision as is thought customary, adding, "A woman can be quite efficient in planning strategies. Kuwaiti women are able, without any doubt, to participate in amending legislation and laws in line, with globalization and with the vision of 2035." "We do not deny the endeavors of previous female candidates. They spearheaded the initiative and they were at the forefront of the parliamentary movement, but our ambition is to attain greater achievement and with all hope, the future female candidates would continue the legacy," she continued.

Speaking about the role of women in the parliament and a change in the allocation system, Al-Eidan said, "One of the primary demands for women has been the application of the quota. Kuwaiti women have experience with leadership skills, which qualifies them to occupy seats in the parliament. As a society, it is required to change our traditional outlook of Kuwaiti women and the opportunities she is given, to also include her voice in sectors such as education, health system, and civil rights."

"In Kuwait, as we get closer to date for the elections, it is a very complex and vital time for us to be responsible and choose accountable and energetic candidates, hopefully with women being in the center of the discussion and their voices and opinions listened to, as well."

Since the introduction of women's suffrage in 2006, the number of women elected to parliament has been very less. Only ten women have been made members of parliament and none were elected in the 2020 election, leading to an all-male parliament. Significant changes have been achieved and suffrage has made an impact on women's political roles in Kuwait, but governmental support is needed to facilitate the desired changes and overcome existent challenges.



Reem Al-Eidan

Dr Reem Al-Eidan, political activist and former parliamentary candidate, states "Among the most prominent obstacles that women candidates are facing are the negative social restrictions and the lack of opportunities for Kuwaiti women to present her electoral program through gatherings and bureaus, as well as the difficulties in obtaining financial support - so there is no equal opportunity in the democratic field."

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LONDON: Q8Aviation and KAFCO officials at the signing of the TSA. — KUNA

Q8Aviation signs TSA with KAFCO to service Kuwait Airport

LONDON: Kuwait Petroleum International, a subsidiary of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), has announced that its aviation fuel affiliate, Q8Aviation, has been awarded a contract to provide technical services to Kuwait Aviation Fuelling Company (KAFCO), Kuwait National Petroleum Company's jet fuel affiliate, at Kuwait International Airport. A statement released at the signing, highlighted the decision as an intention to enhance cooperation between the two subsidiary aviation companies within the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) group. The agreement provides KAFCO with Q8Aviation's broad range of technical services, including inspections of the refueling operation at Kuwait International Airport as well as the provision of using its technical documentation, training, and engineering consultancy services. It is also expected to demonstrate KPC's strategic focus on synergy-driven integration between its subsidiaries and showcase its successful efforts at optimization of internal resources. KPI's acting President and Chief Executive Officer, Waleed Al Ben Ali said,

"There is a wealth of expertise throughout the KPC Group and there is immense value in sharing knowledge and experience between us. I congratulate KAFCO and Q8Aviation on this important agreement and believe it will be of great benefit to both companies. We at KPI, look forward to further integration with our parent company, KPC, and its subsidiaries, so we can work together to develop our supply chain and grow our global business."

Naser Ben-Butain, General Manager, Q8Aviation, signed the contract with Meshal Al-Tanaib, General Manager, KAFCO in London. Speaking at the occasion, Ben-Butain said, "We are pleased to work in partnership with KAFCO. Through our close working relationship, I expect further opportunities to arise in the future for mutual co-operation, especially with Q8Aviation's well-known record of technical expertise in the global jet fuel markets."

Kuwait Petroleum International is the international downstream subsidiary of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation. Established in 1983, KPI operates over 4,700 service stations across Europe under its brands, Q8, Q8Easy and Tango, and provides over 70 airlines with jet fuel in major airport hubs. It also runs two state-of-the-art lubricant blending plants in Belgium and Italy under the brand Q8Oils and owns shares in three joint venture refineries in Italy, Vietnam and Oman. — KUNA

Syedna Dr Mufaddal Saifuddin arrives in Kuwait

KUWAIT: Sultan of the Bohra community, Syedna Dr Mufaddal Saifuddin will arrive in Kuwait on Wednesday. He will hold a commemoration session on the 40th day of Imam Hussain's martyrdom in Ardiya. Members of the Bohra community residing in Kuwait, expressed their deepest appreciation to His Highness the

Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Nawaf Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al-Nawaf Al-Sabah and the people of Kuwait for their warm reception and welcome of the Bohra Sultan.



Syedna Dr Mufaddal Saifuddin

Local

The uglier side of social media filters

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Filters on social media can be fun and sometimes can even make people feel admired and beautiful. But using filters that change the natural features of the face can make teens, men and women turn to plastic surgery to look more like the filtered version of themselves. In addition, it can lead to Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD), which is a mental health condition where a person spends a lot of time worrying about the flaws in their appearance. According to psychological and social consultant Hassan Al-Mosawi, social media can ruin people's mental health, affirming that the time spent on social media, overusing these filters, can do more harm than good, by altering expectations. Each app turns them into completely different versions of themselves, which will result in dissatisfaction with their features, specifically among women.



Hassan Al-Mosawi

obsessed with achieving this in the real world, which leaves them depressed, anxious and disappointed. Your self-esteem and satisfaction in life can be negatively affected, particularly after using image-altering filters that 'beautify' the face and body. Filters on social media can affect body image and self-esteem, especially among groups who are less aware of its devastating repercussions on psychological life," he pointed out. He said that humans are always in conflict with themselves, where men and women always tend to show their positive sides. On the other hand, few are satisfied with themselves and accept what they really look like. "There are insecurities in each one of us and filters fill that emptiness. Social media have created aesthetic standards for a person to be socially acceptable," he told Kuwait Times.

"Social media have played a major role in shaping the thinking of hundreds of users. Imperfection and blind imitation without thinking of the consequences play a major role in the spread and evolution of filters," he noted. Mosawi urged people to develop an image of themselves, as they are not as their followers want, as well as work on being sensible, which is to think in an intellectual, practical and realistic way, leaving the outward appearance aside. He noted that the development of thought helps to develop self-satisfaction and become more mature, otherwise people will have to live in an endless psychological crisis. "A person should search for a level appropriate to his abilities and not aim for abilities greater than what he can achieve. He must be convinced that humans are imperfect and the pursuit of perfection



and people's satisfaction is unrealistic. He must employ his abilities and strive to be a balanced person in his eyes," Mosawi noted.

According to a report in Wall Street Journal, the impact of these filters on users' mental health is real and not a secret. In an internal document, it stated that Facebook is aware of the harmful effects these

apps have on women. The document reported: "Thirty-two percent of teen girls said that when they were already feeling bad about their bodies, Instagram made them feel worse" and "Among teens who reported suicidal thoughts, 13 percent of British users and 6 percent of American users traced the issue to Instagram."

Kuwait participates in customs association meet

RIYADH: Acting Director General of Customs Department Suleiman Al-Fahad headed the delegation that participated in the 29th meeting of GCC Customs Association Authority in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on Sept 12. The meeting aims at completing the steps to establish the customs union, by reviewing the results of the committees work and the technical committees commissioned to execute requirements, which contributes to unifying laws and regulations in this sector. Meanwhile, GCC Council Secretary General, Dr. Nayef Al-Hajraf also met with the Director Generals of the Gulf Customs Departments.



RIYADH: Officials at the 29th meeting of the GCC Customs Association Authority.

by covering all school needs, by contracting 940 service workers. "Exceptional procedures have been taken by our department in cooperation with other departments to fix the inability of some cleaning companies to provide workers," Bo-Arki said during a press conference. They will be distributed to educational areas where there is a lack of workers, based on the school's needs. "The ministry has resorted to the option of employing service workers and completing their hiring procedures as soon as possible in preparation for the new 2022-23 academic year," she said, adding that the ministry will not be lenient against

companies that do not adhere to their contracts.

"The problem mostly exists in Capital and Mubarak Al-Kabeer governorates, where the ministry has provided workers, after companies were not able to do so, as well as in Hawally," Bo-Arki said. "As for the Ahmadi governorate, the department has started contacting related departments in order to fix the problem of violating companies, to start work from January 2023," she added. Bo-Arki expressed her appreciation for workers in the educational sector, wishing them best of luck during the new academic year.

940 service workers provided to schools

KUWAIT: Deputy manager of managerial affairs, Rajaa Bo-Arki, affirmed the Ministry of Education's insistence on stabilizing work at all educational sectors and ensure the continuation of providing services

In my view

Philosophy of potential context



By Yousuf Awadh Al-Azmi

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"There is only one form of political strategy in which I have any confidence, and that is to try to do the right thing and sometimes be able to succeed." - Calvin Coolidge

There are people who attempt as much as they can to reach a potential reality, possible outcome and potential future. The 'potential' as I see it, is the future that they had plans for, but the results are not proven yet. I remember in one of the Arab presidential elections, the candidate was being referred to as a possible candidate for the presidency, even before he declared his candidacy. There is no doubt that there is a legal motive behind this attitude, especially if we remember that this country is particularly famous for its people who mix vocabulary with law jargon, a mix that does not go beyond the vocal phenomenon, as this country is known for its many laws and legal personnel.

Potential context is closer to organized planning for the future. For example, you start planning to build a house. Then you visualize how the exterior of the building will look, and the details of the interior. Possibilities will be about the size of one room and whether it is suitable for its purpose, be it a main or private room. Options also include whether the idea is realistic, or will it be changed, besides many other possibilities. This is just for the house, so how do you think it will be for other things?

Strategists have several possible contexts for the expected or planned event, and the smart one among them considers the worst of possibilities. They focus on the possibility of surprises, and if one surprise takes place, the potential context will absorb and contain it. The potential context, or expecting the unexpected, is a philosophy or policy that should be always followed, either by individuals or entities. We are living in a world that is full of unexpected surprises, and we do not know what will surprise us.

Even if you think of global events around us, you will find that those who do not deal with the future with realistic planning will face the worst possibilities and be at a loss on how to deal with them and their destiny will be mysterious and difficult. There should be, in international relations, excellent planners for what is beyond today, to predict how future possibilities and expectations will be and act according to the worst circumstances, so that readiness standards can be comfortable for all. Leaving matters as they are is an indication of a dangerous strategic mistake that may damage the entire system.

Even in managing financial affairs at financial and business institutions of all types, there is the so-called risk management and it is similar to the idea of potential context, as it presents views that help executives to predict or monitor any financial problems, that may occur in the future and have the necessary solutions to deal with them through direct and quick implementation of alternative plans that guarantee risk management and attempt to benefit from unexpected trouble.

At this point, tell me about your level of risk management and I will tell you about your institutional level, and be sure there will be nothing left to chance in professionally well-respected establishments.



KUWAIT: The third permanent exhibition, at the Museum of Modern Art, showcased a new session, titled Arabic Calligraphy, featuring exclusive paintings styled in Arabic calligraphy. The paintings were made by Kuwaiti calligrapher Ali Al-Badah and plastic artist Fadhel Al-Rais. While Al-Badah's works focus on the Arabic calligraphy with its different forms, which includes some verses from the Holy Quran and quotes by famous poets, Al-Rais' collection combines fragrance and abstract plastic art with Arabic calligraphy forms. The exhibition will be open for public viewing for a month. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Drugs seized from passengers' luggage

KUWAIT: Kuwait Customs have seized eight kilograms of Hashish and a kilo and half of cocaine from the luggage of a passenger, who arrived from a European country.

The Head of Kuwait Airport Customs, Mutlaq Al-Enezi, said that, "The confiscated items were found inside jackets within a passenger's luggage and were seized immediately." Meanwhile, the head of Kuwait Customs, Sulaiman Al-Fahad, said that "the customs seized about 49 pieces of hashish weighing around a quarter kilogram, belonging to an Asian passenger, who tried to hide them inside his back-



pack." "We appreciate the hard work of our fellow supervisors and all workers of customs, at T5 airport and all customs' ports for their hard work, and encourage the cooperation between the different customs departments," he added.



News in brief

Weather to dip
starting Thursday

KUWAIT: Abdulaziz Al-Qurawwy, Forecast Supervisor at the Meteorological Department, said that the country will notice a clear decrease in temperature by Thursday. "With colder winds coming in from the northwestern region of the Arabian Peninsula, there would be a decrease of about three to four degrees centigrade. Speaking about temperatures in the upcoming week, he said that "the temperature will decrease gradually reaching about 42-degree high and 25-degree low centigrade."

Kuwait Ambassador offers
credentials to Qatari Amir

KUWAIT: Ambassador Khaled Al-Mutairi presented his credentials to the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, as Kuwait's envoy to the country. The ceremony was held at the Amiri Diwan in Doha and Al-Mutairi conveyed the greetings of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to Sheikh Tamim.

Engineering Federation requests PM
to review departmental violations

KUWAIT: Bader Al-Salman, Head of the Federation of Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consulting Houses has requested the Prime Minister, His Highness Sheikh Ahmad Al-Nawaf, to stop the violation of regulations regarding engineering and centralized tenders from some ministries, committees and government sectors. The request specifically mentioned the committee for fisheries and agriculture, regarding their tenders, to execute, develop and maintain aesthetic plantations in Sabah Al-Ahmed and Khairan residential areas and its neighboring roads. Al-Salman said, "We appreciate the new governance under the prime minister who is quite popular and we hope that in order to improve the role of civil societies and institutions, all tenders offered by real estate units, to develop and maintain aesthetic plantations will be stopped." "We find that the tenders are clearly violating the existent regulations which are in place to protect public funds and encourage the private sector to cooperate in the development of the country. These decisions, approved by the municipality minister are to be made in line with the existent regulations and without any violations. It is to be also noted that engineering offices and foreign consultant companies cannot continue engineering consultancies inside Kuwait, unless with the approval of a licensed local consultant or engineering office, according to the laws of the country. Therefore, by contracting with a foreign consultant, rules are being violated," he added. "These violations also go against the 2035 development plan which aims to encourage the local private sector - which will reduce government spending and offer new job opportunities by encouraging local workers to work in the private sector."

Government to reduce foreign
workers at cooperatives

KUWAIT: The Cabinet has asked government sectors to proceed with decreasing the number of extra workers in certain sectors in the local market, with the aim of fixing the population demography. The prioritized sectors are the cooperatives, which are considered among the largest and principal markets in Kuwait. According to sources, "Cooperatives employ a large number of expatriate workers and some of these workers are not needed and are a financial burden to the stores." Sources said that the Ministry of Social Affairs, have communicated to cooperatives, to allocate workers as per their requirements and in coordination with the stipulations put forth by the Civil Service Commission, where the number of workers in such stores should not exceed a certain limit, unless specific reasons are mentioned by the cooperative or is aimed at a specific project which is beneficial for the store. "The ministry has also stressed on the importance of the Kuwaitization policy and asked the management of the cooperative stores, to implement the nationalization policy as soon as possible and also list their requirements needed to carry out the policy - especially in government-controlled sectors such as gas outlets that are run by the Ministry of Commerce, where supervisors will be localized in less than a year." Sources also said that, "Cooperatives must prioritize bedoon candidates in the hiring process, if they fit the criteria, as they already live in the country and will benefit from such a decision. The civil service commission has also added that it will also review the actual employee requirements of the cooperatives and will not renew any contracts of those stores, where the number of workers exceed the cooperative requirements." Meanwhile, informed sources also said that this policy will be used across many sectors in the private sector, with regards to regulations that cooperative owners have to follow - such as paying the cost of insurance for their workers.

Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: Cats pose for a kerb-side picture in Mubarakiya Street. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Why letting your child be bored is a good idea

By Majd Othman

KUWAIT: Modern methods of parenting and education usually advise parents to fill their children's time usefully with activities to develop their skills and not waste their time with useless distractions. But recent report showed that filling in children's daily routines with activities is not necessarily a good idea, according to clinical psychologist Pascaline Bobinelle.

The report explains that leaving a child alone by himself for a long time without anything to alleviate boredom, is like leaving a blank canvas in front of a painter, to make a painting using his creativity. It shows that boredom is an art that children must learn to manage their free time alone and out of their own will.

The child must learn to take the initiative in terms of entertaining himself, not by someone else, as children will face feelings of boredom at school, then at work, and teaching them to deal with it from a young age, rather than raising the level of entertainment, prepares them for a more realistic future, without false expectations about work and life. Even if they are lucky to have a job they love, they may have to spend an entire day doing things they don't like.

In her book, 'Daddy, Mommy, give me some time to dream', EtiBuzyn, a psychologist and psychoanalyst, says that we are in a consumer society influenced by the idea of 'more and more' and this competition pushes us to provide our children with tools and technical knowledge, so that they can deal with exams, higher education and any professional challenges in the future.

She says that, "We are being asked - children and parents - to move from screen to screen, from laptops to smartphones, from TVs to tablets. As soon as we fasten our seatbelts on a long journey, we think of a movie or game, so that our children pass the hours quietly with their eyes fixed on the screen. We lose the ability to turn their attention to something else and to help them choose what they want to do."

The report showed that feeling bored has several benefits for a child's development. One of the primary benefits highlighted in the report is that children learn to be creative when they are bored. When the child is kept away from electronic devices, he is forced to be more creative in finding ways to have fun, which would develop a love of discovery, curiosity and research. Secondly, this increases his self-esteem and success in facing boredom, while trying different games and ideas. Third is the ability to dream - when a child misses something in reality, he will resort to creating it in his imagination. This is a necessary routine during which we let the minds of young children create, imagine and experiment and let their ideas be explored.

The report also revealed that the ability to arouse desires and motivation comes with some emptiness and boredom. These develop in the child's desires and motives and contribute in being aware of these feelings. Lastly, it helps in problem solving and relationship-building. The report showed that a child's ability to solve problems increases when he gets used to facing boredom alone and seeks to overcome it.

Regarding the way to help children when they



feel bored, the report showed that it would be difficult, at first, if the child has been accustomed to organizing all his time. Leaving time for him to do his own work would be difficult. Parents can help the child to think of simple alternatives, and let him walk outside to observe nature and discover details, or give him tools such as a ball, white pages and clay or even socks that he can turn into fun things. The child can also be allowed, for example, to move the furniture in the house and create an empty space to play and then help to return them as they were. The goal is to help them discover the creativity within themselves and let them learn to enjoy the small things in life.

DHAMAN appoints Farah Al-Shaikh as Corporate Director

KUWAIT: Health Assurance Hospitals Company (DHAMAN), announced the appointment of Farah Al-Shaikh as Corporate Director - Supply Chain Management, adding that her appointment comes within the company's strategy, which aims to strengthen its leadership to contribute to the growth, prosperity and development of company's business during the next phase and within the framework of completing the operation of the DHAMAN network in the coming months. Al-Shaikh's appointment also reflects the company's initiatives and insightful vision in strengthening its human resources with leadership competencies. In line with the company's strategy to attract successful leaders, Al-Shaikh, who has degrees in both business and finance, comes with 13 years of local and regional experience in the field of procurement and supply.

Farah Al-Shaikh said, "I am pleased to join DHAMAN, at this critical period, as we will focus in the next stage on completing preparations for the opening of DHAMAN hospitals. The Supply Chain Management will play an important and essential role in qualifying companies and contracting with them on services and equipment needed to operate hospitals. We are now in the process of finalizing contracts with a number of major companies to provide pharmaceutical medication, supply and distri-



Farah Al-Shaikh

but, medical consumables, radiology and support service contracts such as Housekeeping and nutrition services, housing and transportation for medical staff, in addition to the latest laboratory and medical equipment".

DHAMAN will work within the framework of an integrated system of health maintenance organization (HMO), which will be implemented for the first time in the Middle East, where - the system focuses on providing preventive healthcare and community health awareness programs, encourages preventive health initiatives through health assurance plans and develops a number of primary healthcare centers and hospitals. The company continues to develop its projects, which include three hospitals and 12 primary healthcare centers and is currently receiving patients in the centers of Hawally, Dhajeej, Farwaniya and Jahra, within its commercial operations, as an initial and preparatory stage for achieving the main objective and purpose of the company in coordination with the Ministry of Health (MolH) and concerned authorities. DHAMAN is scheduled to open Jahra and Ahmadi Hospital at the end of this year, where it will provide health assurance services to over 1.8 million beneficiaries of expatriates working in the private sector and their families, as stipulated by law, in addition to special services for those not covered by the law.

A moment of gratitude

By Dr Nirmeen Al-Houti

KUWAIT: I would like to thank His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan bin Mohammad Al-Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah for his support of the 29th Cairo International Festival and his appreciation of experimental theater through the Arab Theater Institute and across societies in the region. It brought me great pleasure to learn that I was selected as a member of the officiating committee of the main contest of the Cairo International Experimental Theater Festival, albeit one of great responsibility, which was not only viewed in many countries but was also judged by professors, Arab and western cultural dignitaries. Among the participants, I would like to thank all those who highlighted an idea or an issue and used them in the theater, entertaining us in the process. I would also like to thank all those who brought in innovative ideas on the stage and especially those who highlighted women's issues. I would also like to thank Egypt for playing host to this year's edition and finally, I would also like to appreciate the efforts put in by the winners as well as those who did not win the contest. After all winning is not about getting a prize but is also about highlighting a cause to the world and to see people appreciate you, in the process.



Greece still reels from 'Catastrophe' a century on

Brazil's Bolsonaro has 'every chance' of re-election: Analyst

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BELFAST, United Kingdom: Britain's King Charles III and Britain's Camilla, Queen Consort greet wellwishers as they arrive at Hillsborough Castle in Belfast on September 13, 2022, during his visit to Northern Ireland. —AFP

Charles III in historic visit to N Ireland

'This is very important for Charles to come here and be in Royal Hillsborough'

LONDON: Charles III on Tuesday made his maiden visit to Northern Ireland as king, as he tours all four nations of the United Kingdom before the state funeral of his mother Queen Elizabeth II. The 73-year-old head of state's jet touched down in Belfast from Edinburgh, where the late queen's coffin was brought after her death last week aged 96.

The casket will be flown on Tuesday evening to London, where huge crowds are expected to pay their respects as she lies in state from Wednesday evening until her funeral on Monday morning. As heir-to-the-throne, Charles made 39 visits to Northern Ireland, whose recent history has been scarred by sectarian violence over British rule and where a fragile peace has held since 1998.

His 40th visit comes as unionists loyal to the Crown feel their place in the wider UK is under threat as never before, with nationalists set to lead the devolved government in Belfast for the first time.

Meanwhile the possibility of a united Ireland is seen as growing. At Hillsborough Castle—the monarch's official residence in Northern Ireland—he and his wife, Queen Consort Camilla, greeted

crowds who had turned out early to catch a glimpse of the couple. Ceremonial gun salutes in his honour then rang out as the royal standard was raised above the castle southwest of Belfast.

'Behind him'

Flowers, cuddly toys and handwritten remembrance notes of the late queen had been left at the gates. "This is very important for Charles to come here and be in Royal Hillsborough," Rhonda Irvine, 47, a wedding and events administrator, told AFP, using the village's full title after it was given official royal status last year.

Describing Charles's late mother as an "inspiration for him", she predicted he would be a "very good" king. Ann Sudlow, 61, a retired nurse from nearby Dromore, had also made the early morning drive "to show the king that we're behind him as a

country and Northern Ireland is supporting him".

While large crowds welcomed Charles, visiting the deeply divided region could prove testing. Nationalist parties boycotted the proclamation of the new king but will meet him.

Belfast's feuding political leaders are split between fiercely loyal unionists and nationalists who want to reunify with Ireland, and the power-sharing assembly in Belfast is suspended.

Unionists are boycotting the devolved parliament at Stormont because of their opposition to post-Brexit trading rules that they say cuts Northern Ireland adrift from mainland Great Britain-England, Scotland and Wales.

Charles will attend an Anglican religious service in the city where the president, prime minister and foreign minister of Ireland are also expected.

Crowds

Britain is in 10 days of national mourning for Elizabeth II, who was a fixture of the nation's life and consciousness for seven decades.

Charles has seen his popularity recover since the death of his former wife Diana in a 1997 car crash and surge in recent days, according to a new survey Tuesday. But he has also been embroiled in several scandals in recent years.

With republican movements gaining ground from Australia to the Bahamas, the new king faces a challenge keeping the Commonwealth realms in the royal fold.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said her country New Zealand, where Charles is also head of state, will likely become a republic in her lifetime.

But she told a news conference in Wellington: "I don't see it as a short-term measure or anything that is on the agenda soon."

The queen's coffin will be moved from St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh on Tuesday afternoon, and flown to an airbase near London, accompanied by her only daughter, Princess Anne. —AFP



We're behind him as a country



NAIROBI, Kenya: Outgoing Kenya President Uhuru Kenyatta looks on as President William Ruto lifts a sword at the Moi International Sports Center Kasarani in Nairobi, Kenya, on September 13, 2022 during the inauguration ceremony. —AFP

Ruto sworn in as Kenya's president after disputed poll

NAIROBI, Kenya: William Ruto was sworn in as Kenya's fifth post-independence president at a pomp-filled ceremony on Tuesday, five weeks after his narrow victory in a bitterly-fought but largely peaceful election. Tens of thousands of people joined regional heads of state at a packed stadium in Nairobi to watch him take the oath of office, with many spectators clad in the bright yellow of Ruto's party, and waving Kenyan flags.

"This moment is a moment like no other," the 55-year-old said in his inauguration speech to raucous cheers. "Today, I want to thank God, because a village boy has become the president of Kenya."

A notoriously ambitious politician who has been deputy president since 2013, Ruto beat his rival Raila Odinga — who had the backing of now former president Uhuru Kenyatta — by less than two percentage points in the August 9 poll.

But the Supreme Court on September 5 unanimously upheld his victory, dismissing his opponents'

claims of fraud and mismanagement. The 55-year-old rags-to-riches businessman, who once sold chickens on the roadside, now faces a daunting task to steer a polarized country gripped by a cost-of-living crisis and punishing drought.

His rise to State House has been closely watched by the international community, which looks to Kenya as a reliable and stable democracy in a turbulent region. "Dawn of Ruto era," trumpeted the front-page headline in The Standard newspaper, while The Star said: "Time for Ruto."

Several people were injured earlier as crowds tried to force their way into the stadium. Television footage showed dozens of people falling on top of one other in a crush at one entrance gate. Police had urged Kenyans to watch proceedings from home after the 60,000-seat stadium was filled before sunrise.

Foreign allies and independent observers praised the conduct of the vote, which was largely peaceful and free of the violence that has marred past elections in the country of 50 million people. Kenyatta, who in a stunning turn of events reached a pact with his longtime rival Odinga in 2018 and banished his deputy Ruto to the sidelines, had promised a smooth transfer of power. He had pointedly failed to publicly congratulate his successor for several weeks, finally shaking Ruto's hand at a meeting at the presidential residence on Monday. —AFP

China-Russia bond tightens as Moscow sees Ukraine setbacks

BEIJING: Russia may be enduring big battlefield losses in Ukraine and punishing Western sanctions, but China is standing firm in its support of President Vladimir Putin and a "no limits" friendship. Chinese leader Xi Jinping is set to meet Putin during a regional summit in Uzbekistan this week, in a public show of unity that flies in the face of United States-led campaign to isolate Russia over its war in Ukraine.

While Beijing has not explicitly endorsed Moscow's invasion, it has steadily built economic and strategic ties with Russia over the six months of the war, and President Xi has assured his counterpart of his support of Russian "sovereignty and security".

Analysts say that as China-US relations plummet, Beijing believes it needs to nurture the bond with its giant northern neighbour. "Regardless of whether Russia wins (in Ukraine), China will pursue a close alignment with Russia, which is decided by the current state of US-China relations more than anything

else," Yun Sun, director of the China Program at the Washington-based Stimson Center, told AFP.

As the world's second-largest nuclear power, "Russia is not a geopolitical power that can be eliminated", Sun said. China sees Russia as an important partner in muscling international institutions away from Washington's sphere of dominance.

On Monday senior diplomat Yang Jiechi told Russian ambassador to China Andrey Denisov that Xi and Putin could work together to "promote the development of the international order in a more just and rational direction". And in terms of trade, China has ramped up its purchases of oil from Russia in recent months, with Russia becoming China's top oil provider for three months in a row from May to July, helping to offset Moscow's losses.

China-US relations have been fraught for years, with a trade war showing no signs of easing while Washington accuses Beijing of human rights abuses. In August, ties hit a dramatic new low when US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited self-ruled Taiwan, enraging Beijing which views the island as part of its territory. The Chinese government responded with massive military drills and missile launches around Taiwan, and cancelled cooperation with the US in multiple areas including key climate talks. Last week, Xi sent his government's top legislator Li Zhanshu to Russia, where he met Putin. —AFP



VLADIVOSTOK, Russia: Russian President Vladimir Putin (R) meets with Chinese National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee Chairman Li Zhanshu on the sidelines of the 2022 Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok. —AFP

International

Brazil's Bolsonaro has 'every chance' of re-election: Analyst

Bolsonaro trailed Lula by 21 points at the end of May

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil: Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro—who is trailing in pre-election polls but has seen the gap between him and left-wing rival Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva narrow—has “every chance” of being re-elected, according to a political analyst.

The poll disparity between the two frontrunners ahead of October's presidential election has shrunk by 10 points in the last four months. Bolsonaro trailed Lula by 21 points at the end of May, according to polling by the benchmark institute Datafolha, but that gap had narrowed to 11 points last Friday.

Leandro Gabiati, director of consulting firm Dominica, explained to AFP some of the dynamics currently playing out in Brazil's presidential campaign. Where has Bolsonaro's recent favorable momentum come from?

Bolsonaro has “made very few mistakes” lately,” Gabiati said. “Generally speaking, he has benefited from the exceptional social spending approved by Congress in July, and other measures to combat inflation,” he said.

“That has enabled him to improve the population's perception of their purchasing power, which had been Bolsonaro's main handicap.” And even though food is still expensive, fuel prices have come down, and Brazil's 20 million poorest families have seen their monthly allowance from the government increase from 400 reais to 600 (\$79 to \$118).

Despite two blunders on TV—he responded aggressively to two female reporters—Bolsonaro has been less combative recently, Gabiati said, making fewer attacks on government institutions such as the electoral system and the Supreme Court.

“That helped reassure the more moderate electorate,” Gabiati said. How have the September 7th Brazilian independence demonstrations—during which Bolsonaro waved from an open-top vehicle—affected the race?

In short, the effect has been “very positive,” Gabiati said. “The news channels showed him all day surrounded by many (supportive) demonstrators,” he explained,

“with a crowd as far as the eye can see.”

Bolsonaro's campaign also used the images to their advantage on social media, according to Gabiati, which he said ultimately outweighed criticism by opponents accusing the president of appropriating the national holiday for his own political gains. Does Jair Bolsonaro still have a chance of being re-elected? “Yes, definitely,” Gabiati said.

A month ago, it seemed possible Lula might win an outright majority in the first round of voting, he said. But now, that seems “practically impossible.”

“Lula has stagnated in the polls, he seems to have hit a ceiling,” Gabiati said. Even still, if the poll gap continues to narrow at the current rate, it won't be enough for Bolsonaro to catch up. But, Gabiati cautions, nothing is set in stone until Brazilians go to the polls—the first round of voting is October 2, with the second round October 30 — and they have plenty of time to change their minds between now and then. “Bolsonaro is in a new dynamic, with re-energized supporters,” he said. —AFP



SAO GONCALO, Brazil: Supporters of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro hold a demonstration against Brazilian former President (2003-2010) and presidential candidate for the leftist Workers Party (PT) Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, outside the premises where he is attending a meeting with Evangelical leaders, in Sao Gonçalo, Rio de Janeiro state, Brazil. —AFP

At least 17 dead in bloody 72 hours in Colombia

BOGOTO: At least 17 people were killed over the last three days in Colombia in a spate of violent incidents, authorities said, highlighting the huge task facing President Gustavo Petro.

In the northern city of Barranquilla, six people were shot dead by gunmen on Monday morning while drinking in a bar. Police said the powerful Gulf Clan drug trafficking gang carried out the attack on members of the rival Los Costenos group.

In the north-central Santander department, a teacher, his wife and two children were killed by a group of assailants on Sunday morning, local authorities there said. Five Venezuelan migrants, accused of being involved in the murders, were then lynched by vigilantes in an apparent act of revenge.

The local mayor had told a national radio sta-

tion that the murderers were “people from Venezuela” who wanted “to steal money” and used knives to kill their victims. Following the attack, an injured employee of the murdered family alerted neighbors, who “took justice into their own hands and killed” the five attackers, said the mayor.

Overnight from Sunday to Monday, a local indigenous guard in the northeastern Arauca department was killed in unspecified circumstances, according to the Indepaz NGO. On Saturday night, a union leader was shot dead by two armed motorcyclists in the northeastern port city of Barrancabermeja.

And on Friday night, another local leader, a young woman, was stabbed to death in her home in the northern Sucre department. Indepaz said those deaths took the number of murdered local and community leaders since the state signed a 2016 peace deal with Marxist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia guerrillas to 128.

Petro, Colombia's first left-wing president, vowed following his June election victory to bring about “total peace” in the conflict-ravaged country. Colombia has suffered six decades of conflict involving leftist guerrillas, drug traffick-



BARRANQUILLA, Colombia: Members of the Colombian scientific police inspect outside the bar where six people were murdered by armed men at Las Flores neighborhood in Barranquilla, on September 12, 2022. —AFP

ers, right-wing paramilitaries and state forces.

A former urban guerrilla himself, Petro has vowed to open talks with the country's last recognized rebel group, the National Liberation Army (ELN). He has also said he would seek dialogue with drug traffickers in a bid to end the cycle of violence. —AFP

UK police remind officers of right to protest

LONDON, United Kingdom: UK police have been reminded by their commanders of people's “right to protest”. London's force has said, after a video emerged of officers escorting an anti-monarchy protester away from parliament.

“The public absolutely have a right to protest,” Metropolitan Police deputy assistant commissioner Stuart Cundy said in a statement. “We have been making this clear to all officers involved in the extraordinary policing operation currently in place and we will continue to do so.”

Cundy added the “overwhelming majority of interactions” between officers and people had been “positive”, as crowds turn out in central London and other places to pay their respects after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. His statement late Monday followed viral footage of a female protester, holding aloft a “not my king” protest placard, being confronted by at least four officers outside the UK parliament in London.

She was seen being escorted away from the spot, and was reportedly made to stand at another location away from the gates of parliament. A witness told British media that she was not arrested and was allowed to continue her protest on Monday.

Earlier, the woman and another anti-royal demonstrator had been booed by crowds opposite parliament, as King Charles III made his

maiden address to lawmakers inside. The pair held aloft signs saying “End feudalism”, “Abolish the monarchy” and “Not my king”—as the new monarch addressed lawmakers.

“He's a king without consent, and that's not right,” she told reporters. Meanwhile it has been reported that another woman who held an “abolish monarchy” sign at a proclamation ceremony for King Charles III in Edinburgh on Sunday has been charged with a criminal offence.

Civil rights group Big Brother Watch hit out at the police handling of the protests. “If people are being arrested simply for holding protest placards then it is an affront to democracy and highly likely to be unlawful,” it said.

“Police officers have a duty to protect people's right to protest as much as they have a duty to facilitate people's right to express support, sorrow, or pay their respects.” —AFP

15 candidates disqualified from...

Continued from Page 1

Saad Al-Hajeri of the fifth constituency said corruption has become firmly established in the country, to the extent that reforming it has become extremely difficult but not impossible, adding that corruption should be uprooted in order to build a new country. Former MP Fayed Al-Mutairi, bidding for re-election from the fourth district, said he believes Kuwait is in a state of transformation from the corruption era to the reforms era, adding the ball is in the people's

court. He said he is certain the people will elect a majority of reformists to the next Assembly.

Candidate Alia Al-Khaled, running in the second constituency, said Kuwait's problems have increased and become more complicated, adding that “we are in a bottleneck and we should exit it”. Former MP Bader Al-Mulla, running in the second constituency, said he had investigated the €7.9 billion deal Kuwait signed to purchase Eurofighter aircraft when he was the head of the Assembly's budgets committee.

He claimed only €3.9 billion was allocated for the warplanes, while the remaining €4 billion was allocated for associated civil works in a bid to increase commissions, which amounted to over €590 million. Also, the criminal court yesterday resumed the trial of five former officials from the defense ministry on charges of harming public funds in the Eurofighters deal.

Webb telescope captures images...

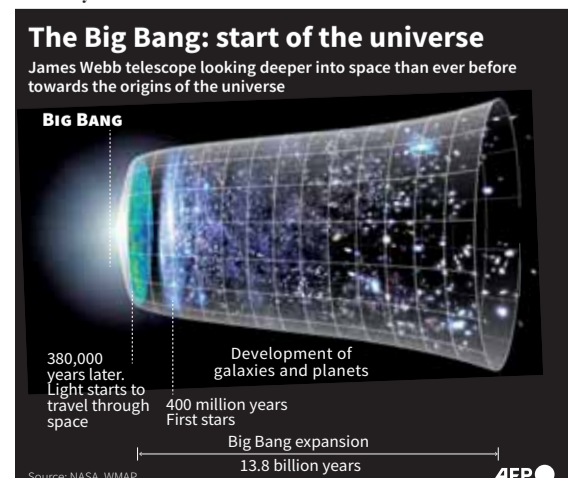
Continued from Page 1

impossible to observe with visible light telescopes, such as the Hubble Space Telescope, Webb's predecessor.

Webb however operates primarily in the infrared spectrum, penetrating the dust. This revealed numerous spectacular structures, down to the scale of 40 astronomical units, or the size of our solar system. These include dense filaments of matter, which could birth new generations of stars, as well as forming stellar systems that consist of a central proto-star surrounded by a disc of dust and gas, in which planets form.

“We hope to gain understanding about the entire cycle of star birth,” said Edwin Bergin, University of Michigan chair of astronomy and a member of the international research team. “In this image we are looking at this cycle where the first generation of

stars is essentially irradiating the material for the next generation. The incredible structures we observe will detail how the feedback cycle of stellar birth occurs in our galaxy and beyond.” Webb is the most powerful space telescope ever built, boasting a primary mirror measuring 6.5 m that is made up of 18 hexagonal, gold-coated segments, as well as a five-layer sunshield the size of a tennis court. —AFP



50 Armenia troops killed in clashes...

Continued from Page 1

had subsided but that the situation on the border “remains extremely tense”. After fighting broke out, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan called French President Emmanuel Macron, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Blinken to demand “an adequate reaction” to “Azerbaijan's aggressive acts”. Later, addressing lawmakers, he said at least 49 Armenian soldiers had been killed in the flare-up.

Azerbaijan said it had also suffered casualties but did not specify the number killed. The defense ministry in Yerevan said the clashes started early Tuesday, with Armenian territory coming under fire from artillery, mortars and drones in the direction of the cities of Goris, Sotk, and Jermuk. “The enemy is trying to advance” into Armenian territory, it said in a statement.

Azerbaijan, however, accused Armenia of “large-scale subversive acts” near the districts of Dashkesan, Kelbajar and Lachin and said its armed forces were taking “limited and targeted steps, neutralizing Armenian firing positions”. Baku's long-standing political and military sponsor Turkey blamed Armenia and urged it instead to “focus on peace negotiations”. Iran, which shares a border with both countries, urged “restraint” and a “peaceful resolution” to the fighting.

The European Union, France and the United States have expressed concerns over the escalation and called for an end to the fighting. Before the ceasefire was announced, Armenia's security council asked for military help from Moscow, which is obligated under a treaty to defend Armenia in the event of foreign invasion.

Armenian political analyst Tatul Hakobyan said the escalation in fighting was a consequence of the “deadlock” in Armenian-Azerbaijani peace talks.

Pro-Iran faction in Iraq sticks to its pick for PM

BAGHDAD: The main coalition of pro-Iran parties in Iraq said Monday it would keep its candidate for the post of prime minister, despite a backlash from its main Shiite rival. The country is at a political impasse, with the two main Shiite groups clashing since October 2021 elections over who will be the next premier and how to appoint him.

The group headed by firebrand cleric Moqtada Sadr wants parliament dissolved and early elections, but the Coordination Framework alliance of pro-Tehran factions wants a government to be put in place first.

On Monday, the Coordination Framework said it had reached an “understanding” with other political factions on how to proceed. In a press release published by the INA state news agency, the Coordination Framework reiterated “its total commitment to its candidate presented for the post of Prime Minister, Mohammed Shia al-Sudani”.

The group's nomination of Sudani as premier had previously angered Sadr, whose supporters stormed parliament in late July, demanding fresh elections. They then staged a weeks-long sit-in outside the legislature.

On Monday, the Coordination Framework claimed to have reached “understandings with the national forces”. It said it would “continue dialogue with all the parties ... to form a government endowed with full powers”.

The Coordination Framework also welcomed a declaration by Sunni-backed parliament speaker Mohammed al-Halbussi and the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (KDP). On Sunday these two factions had reiterated their support for “early elections”, but preceded by “the formation of a government”. —AFP

“Azerbaijan wants to force Armenia to recognize Karabakh as part of Azerbaijan,” he told AFP. “The war in Ukraine has changed the balance of forces in the region and Russia - which is a guarantor of peace in the region - is in a very bad shape. In this situation, Azerbaijan wants to get concessions from Armenia as soon as possible,” he added.

Last week, Armenia accused Azerbaijan of killing one of its soldiers in a border shootout. In August, Azerbaijan said it had lost a soldier and the Karabakh army said two of its troops had been killed and more than a dozen wounded. The neighbors fought two wars - in the 1990s and in 2020 - over the Nagorno-Karabakh region, Azerbaijan's Armenian-populated enclave. The six weeks of brutal fighting in the autumn of 2020 ended with a Russian-brokered ceasefire.

Under the deal, Armenia ceded swathes of territory it had controlled for decades and Moscow deployed about 2,000 Russian peacekeepers to oversee the fragile truce. During EU-mediated talks in Brussels in May and April, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Pashinyan agreed to “advance discussions” on a future peace treaty. Ethnic Armenian separatists in Nagorno-Karabakh broke away from Azerbaijan when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. The ensuing conflict claimed around 30,000 lives. —AFP



International

Portugal awaits verdict in homicide trial, 5 years after worst wildfire

Many of the victims died trapped in their cars while trying to escape the flames

LEIRIA, Portugal: Five years after Portugal's deadliest wildfire, which claimed 63 lives, the country was due on Tuesday to hear the verdict in the trial of 11 people accused of negligent homicide over the tragedy.

The fires broke out in the central Leiria region during a heatwave in June 2017 and burned for five days, destroying 240 square kilometres (90 square miles) of hillsides covered with pine and eucalyptus trees.

Many of the victims died trapped in their cars while trying to escape the flames, which were fanned by violent winds. A senior firefighter and several local officials are in the dock, alongside employees of a power company and a firm responsible for maintaining a road in the Pedrogao Grande district where around 40 of the victims died.

Another 44 people were injured. The defendants are accused of failing to prevent or combat the fire that swept through the rural area 200 kilometres (125 miles) north of Lisbon. Several of the victims' relatives were in the crowded courtroom in Leiria city for Tuesday's hearing. Prosecutors have demanded jail terms for five of the accused, which would mean sentences of at least five years.

'Calm the families'

"We hope the verdict will calm the families,"

Dina Duarte, head of the victims' association told AFP on Monday. She acknowledged that "no country could have been prepared" for a fire of such ferocity but said "the entire chain of command should be tried", not just those people on the ground.

Less than six months after the Pedrogao Grande disaster, a new series of deadly wildfires broke out in the centre and north of the country, killing another 45 people. Augusto Arnaut, who was commander of the Pedrogao Grande fire brigade at the time of the disaster in June, is accused of not taking action early enough to control the blaze before it raged out of control.

But the Portuguese Firefighters League issued a statement on Monday saying it believed Arnaut was innocent and had done all he could. And on Tuesday, around 100 uniformed firefighters formed a silent guard of honour for Arnaut outside the court.

Three executives from road maintenance company Ascendi could face prison too. Prosecutors said they had acted irresponsibly by not ensuring the clearing of vegetation from verges through which many victims sought to escape the flames.

An employee of the electricity distribution network could also face a stiff sentence because the fire was sparked by a discharge from a power cable

Three executives from Ascendi could face prison



PICHA, Portugal: File photo shows ambulances lead the way during the evacuation of Picha, as a wildfire approaches the village near Pedrogao Grande. The verdict in trial of suspects accused of responsibility for 2017 deadly fires in Pedrogao Grande takes place in Leiria on September 13, 2022. —AFP

above tinderbox scrub.

Several local officials from Pedrogao Grande, Castanheira de Pera and Figueiro dos Vinhos, the three worst-affected districts, are charged with failing to maintain the forests along the roads and under power lines. Prime Minister Antonio Costa accepted the state bore some responsibility in the fires of June and October 2017, which killed 117

people. The victims' relatives received compensation worth a total of 31 million euros.

The Socialist leader promised to overhaul Portugal's firefighting capacity, burying power lines and turning the largely volunteer fire brigades into professional forces. But forestry engineer Paulo Pimenta de Castro told AFP the situation now was "worse than in 2017". —AFP



NEA FILADELFEIA, Greece: Rena Zalma, 74, whose family once lived in Anatolia stands by portraits and personal belongings of Greek refugees from Izmir, at the Museum of Hellenism in Asia Minor in Nea Filadelfia, on September 7, 2022. —AFP

Greece still reels from 'Catastrophe' a century on

ATHENS: It was Greece's most disastrous military gamble that led to massacre and defeat, leaving an open wound in relations with Turkey that festers to this day. "A hundred years ago, the body of our nation lost a precious part," Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said this weekend as the country prepared to mark the Asia Minor Disaster—a trauma so raw many simply call it the "Catastrophe".

As the Ottoman Empire crumbled at the end of World War I, the Greek army took parts of Anatolia that the Byzantines had lost to the Turks 500 years before. But by 1922, Ataturk—the founder of modern Turkey—reversed the tide in a stunning counterattack. The Greek army's frantic retreat ended with the burning of the coastal metropolis of Izmir-Smyrna to the Greeks—and the massacre of its inhabitants. The prosperous Greek community that had lived there for centuries had to flee for their lives.

Greece and Turkey later signed the Treaty of Lausanne to set new borders and carry out the world's first mass population exchange. So great

was the upheaval that in 1928 a fifth of Greece's population were registered refugees, some 1.22 million people. Up to 400,000 Muslims from Greece were sent the other way.

Greece forever changed

The Anatolian refugees—who included the young tycoon-to-be Aristotle Onassis—changed Greece forever, argued historian Giannis Glavinias, bringing their business acumen, progressive ideas, rembetiko folk music and Anatolian cuisine with them.

"After 1922, Greece is no longer the same," said Glavinias, who has curated a commemorative exhibition at Technopolis, the city of Athens industrial museum. To keep memories alive, the Christian refugees from Asia Minor often gave their new settlements in Greece the names of their old hometowns, adding the prefix "nea" for "new", such as Nea Smyrni or Nea Filadelfia.

"The stories of our grandparents from Asia Minor, the memories of their lost paradise, were our lullabies," said Roula Chatzigeorgiou, head of the Museum of Hellenism in Asia Minor in Nea Filadelfia, now an Athens suburb.

"The wound remains open," said Roula, whose grandmother fled the killing and destruction with eight children in tow. So much so that the Greek parliament will also hold a special session dedicated to the tragedy on Wednesday, the official remembrance day for the Asia Minor Disaster. —AFP

Air strike on Ethiopia's Tigray: Rebels, hospital

NAIROBI: Ethiopia's northern region of Tigray was hit by an air strike on Tuesday, local officials said, two days after rebel authorities there said they were ready for a ceasefire. The reported drone strike on the regional capital Mekele left at least one person injured, said Kibrom Gebreselassie, a senior official at Ayder Referral Hospital, the biggest in Tigray.

"One injured patient has arrived at Ayder. Total casualties not yet known," he said on Twitter. The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which has been at war with Ethiopia's army and its allies for nearly two years, said a military drone "bombed" Mekele University in the early hours of Tuesday, causing injuries and property damage.

"This is happening after the Govt of Tigray established a negotiating team & expressed its readiness for peace talks," said TPLF spokesman Kindeya Gebrehiwot on Twitter. Dimsi Weyane, a TPLF-affiliated TV network broadcasting in Tigray, said its station was also hit, forcing it off air and "causing heavy human and material damage".

AFP was not able to independently verify the claims. Access to northern Ethiopia is severely restricted and Tigray has been under a communications blackout for over a year. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government has not commented on the reported strike. Government spokespeople did not reply to requests for comment.

Tigray has been hit by several air strikes since fighting resumed in late August between government forces and their allies and TPLF rebels in northern Ethiopia. The return to combat shattered a March truce that had paused the worst of the bloodshed, and dashed hopes of peacefully resolving a war that began nearly two years ago. The fresh offensives have also drawn in Eritrean troops and cut off aid deliveries into Tigray, where the UN says a lack of food, fuel and medicine is causing a humanitarian disaster.

Both sides have accused the other of firing first, and fighting has spread from around southern Tigray to other fronts farther north and west. On Sunday, the TPLF said it was ready for a ceasefire and would accept a peace process led by the African Union, removing an obstacle to negotiations with Abiy's government. The TPLF said a negotiating team including spokesman Getachew Reda and General Tsadkan Gebretensae, a former Ethiopian army chief now in Tigray's central military command, was "ready to be deployed without delay". —AFP

Cheetahs to arrive in India for PM Modi's birthday

NEW DELHI: Eight cheetahs will be sent to India where they will be personally welcomed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday, officials said Tuesday, in an ambitious project to reintroduce the speedy big cats to the country.

India in the past was home to Asiatic cheetahs but the species was declared extinct domestically by 1952. A prince is believed to have killed the last three specimens. However, New Delhi has since 2020 been working to reintroduce the animals after the Supreme Court announced that African cheetahs, a different subspecies, could be settled in a "carefully chosen location" on an experimental basis.

The five males and three females will arrive from Namibia on Saturday and will initially be kept in a quarantine enclosure at the Kuno National Park in the central state of Madhya Pradesh. India is also planning to ship in more cheetahs from South Africa at a later date.

"The prime minister himself will be releasing the animals into the quarantine enclosures," an environment ministry official told AFP. The cats will then be moved to larger spaces and once they acclimatise will be released into open forest in the park.

Local media reports said the cheetahs will touch down in the western city of Jaipur after a

10-hour journey and will then travel by helicopter to the Kuno park. Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav said the project was part of global efforts to conserve the animal. Modi's presence for the launch "will give enthusiasm and energy to all of us", he added.

Leopard conflict

The Kuno park was selected as a home because of its abundant prey and grasslands. But critics have warned that the cheetahs may struggle to adapt to the habitat and may clash with the significant number of leopards already present.

Adrian Tordiffe, a veterinary wildlife professor at the University of Pretoria who is involved in the project, said South Africa had pressed India to use additional parks to help separate the two species. "I don't think it's going to be a big problem for the adults... they are very familiar with coexisting with other predators," Tordiffe told AFP.

"But we might have a situation where we have a problem with cubs' survival." Cheetahs became extinct in India primarily because of habitat loss and hunting for their distinctive spotted pelts. An Indian prince, the Maharaja Ramanuj Pratap Singh Deo, is widely believed to have killed the last three recorded cheetahs in India in the late 1940s.

The incoming animals have been prepped for the journey with health check-ups, vaccinations and radio collaring, the Indian Express newspaper reported. Considered vulnerable under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, there are fewer than 7,000 cheetahs left around the world — primarily in the African savannas. —AFP



GARDEZ, Afghanistan: Girls walk to their school along a road in Gardez, Paktia province, on September 8, 2022. Five government secondary schools for girls have resumed classes in eastern Afghanistan after hundreds of students demanded they reopen, provincial officials said. — AFP

Taleban reject UN report, say no women fired from govt jobs

KABUL: Taliban authorities on Tuesday condemned UN accusations that they are violating the rights of women to work in Afghanistan, insisting thousands are employed in the country's public sector. But Sharafuddin Sharaf, chief of staff at the ministry of labour and social affairs, told AFP that many women were being paid despite not attending work, as offices were not set up for proper segregation of the sexes.

"Working together in one office is not possible in our Islamic system," he said, a day after a United Nations rights expert said there had been a "staggering regression" in women's rights since the Taliban's return to power in August.

He could offer no figure on the number of women working but insisted "not a single female employee has been fired" from the civil service.

However, there have been several protests by women over losing their jobs and demanding the right to work — some of which have been put down forcefully by the Taliban. Sharaf said some women

only went to work "once in a week to their relevant offices to sign their attendance, and their salaries are paid at their homes".

This takes place in offices where "gender-based segregation is yet to be done," he said, adding that women were at work in the health, education and interior ministries where they are needed.

Sharaf said it was up to the all-male leadership of the Taliban to decide when women "can come to the rest of the offices where they are not coming currently". His comments come after a UN rights expert said women's freedoms had significantly deteriorated since the Taliban returned.

"There's no country in the world where women and girls have so rapidly been deprived of their fundamental human rights purely because of gender," Richard Bennett, the special rapporteur on the rights situation in Afghanistan said in Geneva.

Government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said Bennett's report was biased.

"There is no threat to the lives of women in Afghanistan now, or nobody dishonours Afghan women," he said in a statement late on Monday, adding that they are still being enrolled in public and private universities.

Still, most secondary schools for girls have been ordered to shut across the country, meaning this generation of women university students could be the last. —AFP

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

Business

US annual inflation eased in August, but likely not enough

High prices continue to inflict pain on Americans

WASHINGTON: US annual inflation slowed in slightly in August, largely thanks to falling gasoline prices — but likely not enough to satisfy the Federal Reserve and President Joe Biden, as high prices continue inflicting pain on Americans. The consumer price index (CPI), a key measure of inflation, actually rose 0.1 percent in August compared to July, when prices were flat, the Labor Department said Tuesday, a disappointing result amid widespread expectations that inflation would fall in the month.

The annual inflation pace improved to 8.3 percent, higher than expected but slightly below the prior months and confirming a slowdown from the blistering 9.1 percent rate in June—the highest in 40 years. Prices have been soaring for months, exacerbated by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which has impacted energy and food prices, as well as ongoing supply chain snarls amid COVID lockdowns in China.

While Americans will welcome relief at the pump—there has been a steady drop in gasoline prices, which fell 10.6 percent last month—costs for food and housing continue to rise, straining family budgets. The food index increased 11.4 percent over the last year, the largest 12-month increase since the period ending May 1979, the report said.

Medical care also has been a key contributor, and auto prices have accelerated, rising 0.8 percent in the month, according to the report.

More worryingly, the report showed that—excluding volatile food and energy prices—“core” CPI rose 6.3 percent over the past 12 months, faster than the 5.9 percent pace seen in July and June.

Core CPI jumped 0.6 percent in August, double the pace in July, the data showed. Inflation has

become a hot political issue just weeks away from key midterm congressional elections, and Biden has made fighting high prices his top domestic priority, so any relief will be welcomed at the White House.

“Inflation is way too high, and it’s essential that we bring it down,” Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said Sunday, echoing a comment she and other administration officials have made repeatedly to show their sympathy with the plight faced by consumers and firms.

Recession risk

Jason Furman, a former White House economist said the data was “not pretty.” The “ugly” core data show “Broad-based relief not coming,” he said on Twitter. The Federal Reserve views inflation as the biggest risk to the world’s largest economy, and has moved aggressively to cool demand, increasing the benchmark lending rate four times this year—with a third consecutive three-quarter point hike widely expected next week.

The Fed actions increase the cost of borrowing for homebuyers and businesses, which tends to cool investment and spending. Fed Chair Jerome Powell has said the central bank will do whatever it takes to ensure high prices do not become entrenched, even at the risk of tipping the economy into a recession. “The clock is ticking,” Powell warned Friday, pledging to “keep at it until the job is done.”

Yellen acknowledged that there is “certainly a risk” of an economic downturn amid the rising lending costs, but she noted the US job market is “exceptionally strong” with nearly two vacancies for every worker looking for a job.

She cautioned that “we can’t have a strong labor



WASHINGTON: The US annual inflation pace improved to 8.3 percent, higher than expected but slightly below the prior months and confirming a slowdown from the blistering 9.1 percent rate in June — the highest in 40 years.

market without inflation under control.” The strong job market—the unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in August—provides some comfort to the Fed, giving policymakers room to maneuver, and potentially quell inflation without a steep increase in joblessness. But the worker shortage remains a concern since it could fuel a dangerous wage-spiral.

Rubeela Farooqi of High Frequency Economics said the latest data confirm “inflation readings remain unacceptably high for policymakers.” “Coupled with a labor market that is still strong, the data seal the deal for another aggressive, 75-basis point, rate hike next week,” she said in an analysis. —AFP

Wall Street equities sharply lower on disappointing data

NEW YORK: US stocks opened with steep declines Tuesday, battered by an ugly inflation report that all but confirmed continued aggressive Federal Reserve interest rate hikes. While the annual increase in the consumer price index (CPI) slowed slightly in August to 8.3 percent, inflation actually rose 0.1 percent over the month compared to July, the Labor Department said, a disappointing result amid widespread expectations that CPI would fall in the month.

More concerning, the report showed that excluding volatile food and energy prices, “core” CPI accelerated sharply in August, and rose 6.3 percent over the past 12 months, after the 5.9 percent pace seen in July and June. Investors had been clinging to hopes that slowing price increases would allow the Federal Reserve to eventually pull back on its tough anti-inflation fight. But despite falling gasoline prices, food, housing and medical care costs continue to rise.

Economists say the data end hopes the Fed next week might opt for a smaller interest rate increase, rather than a third consecutive three-quarter point hike. Briefing.com analyst Patrick J O’Hare said the “hotter than expected” inflation data “put a chill on some of the peak inflation/peak hawkishness/soft landing chatter.”

About 20 minutes into the trading session, the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 1.7 percent to 31,845.13. The broad-based S&P 500 fell 2.2 percent to 4,022.19, while the tech-rich Nasdaq

Composite Index sank 3.0 percent to 11,897.81.

“Nasty reaction to a nasty CPI report,” O’Hare said. Among individual companies, Twitter shares were down 1.1 percent ahead of a shareholder vote on a takeover by billionaire investor Elon Musk, who is trying to pull out of the deal.

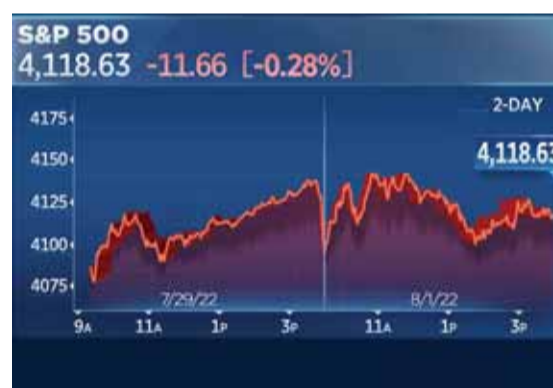
Twitter’s ex-security chief Peiter “Mudge” Zatkoff is also testifying Tuesday before a US Senate committee looking into whether security practices at the social network were dangerously lax.

The dollar, which had fallen against its major rivals in anticipation of a significant slowdown in US inflation would lessen pressure on the Fed to continue aggressively raising interest rates, shot higher. “Both headline and core US CPI were substantially hotter than expected in August, leading currency and fixed income markets to embark on a swift and dramatic reversal from recent price action, where traders and investors had largely positioned themselves for a softer inflation print,” said market analyst Jay Zhao-Murray at Monex.

He pointed to core inflation that excludes volatile energy and food prices, which is what Fed policymakers pay particular attention to. This rose by 0.6 percentage points month-on-month, compared to a 0.3-point gain in July.

While markets were already largely pricing in another 75-basis-point interest rate hike by the Fed at its next gathering, there had been hopes that having past the peak of inflation would allow the Fed to let up thereafter. However, the inflation figures were “hotter than expected in August and put a chill on some of the peak inflation/peak hawkishness/soft landing chatter,” said analyst Patrick O’Hare at Briefing.com.

Stocks, which had rebounded in recent days on hopes that a peak in inflation would allow a rapid end to hawkish rate hikes and thus avoid a recession and attain a “soft” landing of the economy,



abruptly turned lower.

Midday gains in Europe swiftly turned to losses and US futures shifted from green to red. Wall Street opened sharply lower, with the Dow slumping 1.6 percent at the open. The S&P 500 fell more than two percent while the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite shed more than three percent.

Fed boss Jerome Powell has indicated the rate increases would continue until inflation is tamed.

Zhao-Murray said that following the inflation data that market expectations regarding the Fed’s next rate hike had hardened. While previously there were some who were forecasting the possibility the Fed would drop to a half-percentage-point hike, now a 0.75-point hike is seen as the floor and some are forecasting a one-point increase. Inflation has soared around the globe this year owing to sky-high energy and food bills. This has been caused to a large extent by supply constraints after economies reopened from pandemic lockdowns and in the wake of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

The dollar has soared as the Federal Reserve moved earlier and more aggressively to raise interest rates than central banks to contain inflation. —AFP

GCC stocks rally as oil prices rise

KUWAIT: GCC stock markets recorded positive performances in some cases as energy prices increased. However, other markets were seeing volatile trading conditions. Oil prices continued to climb with supply concerns taking the lead. However, the market remains exposed to new price corrections with demand decreasing in China. The Dubai stock market recorded more gains while the start of Salik’s IPO subscription boosted sentiment. The market could see more increases as investors flock.

The Abu Dhabi stock market extended its gains thanks to improving sentiment locally and rebounding oil prices. The market could be heading toward its latest peak if conditions remain positive. The Qatari stock market remained on the positive side as natural gas prices continued to rebound. Demand for energy could increase with winter approaching while uncertainty around supplies remains.

The Saudi stock market was volatile while traders could move to secure their gains after some gains. However, the market could benefit from rising oil prices. The Egyptian stock market recorded some volatility as investors could start securing their positions. The market has seen an extended period of gains and could turn to price corrections.

Surge in transport and hotel demand before queen’s funeral

LONDON: London expects vast crowds for the lying in state and funeral of Queen Elizabeth II, resulting in few available hotel rooms, while transport bosses warn of strong demand. The late monarch’s coffin can be viewed by members of the public from Wednesday in Westminster Hall, while her funeral will take place in nearby Westminster Abbey on Monday.

Huge gatherings are expected also around Windsor Castle, west of the capital, where the queen will be buried. Monday will be a public holiday across the United Kingdom, a government decision approved by King Charles III following the death of his mother last week, aged 96.

“Our hotels in central London and Windsor are literally sold out, and demand is... strong for our hotels situated near to a train or tube station throughout Greater London,” according to budget hotel chain Travelodge. Visitors are coming “from all corners of the UK and across the globe” to pay respects to Britain’s longest-serving monarch, it added in a statement. Available rooms are set to remain scarce ahead of the funeral, said industry body UK Hospitality. “We’re hearing from hotel operators in London that they’ve experienced a surge in bookings since last Thursday’s announcement of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,” said UK Hospitality chief executive Kate Nicholls. —AFP

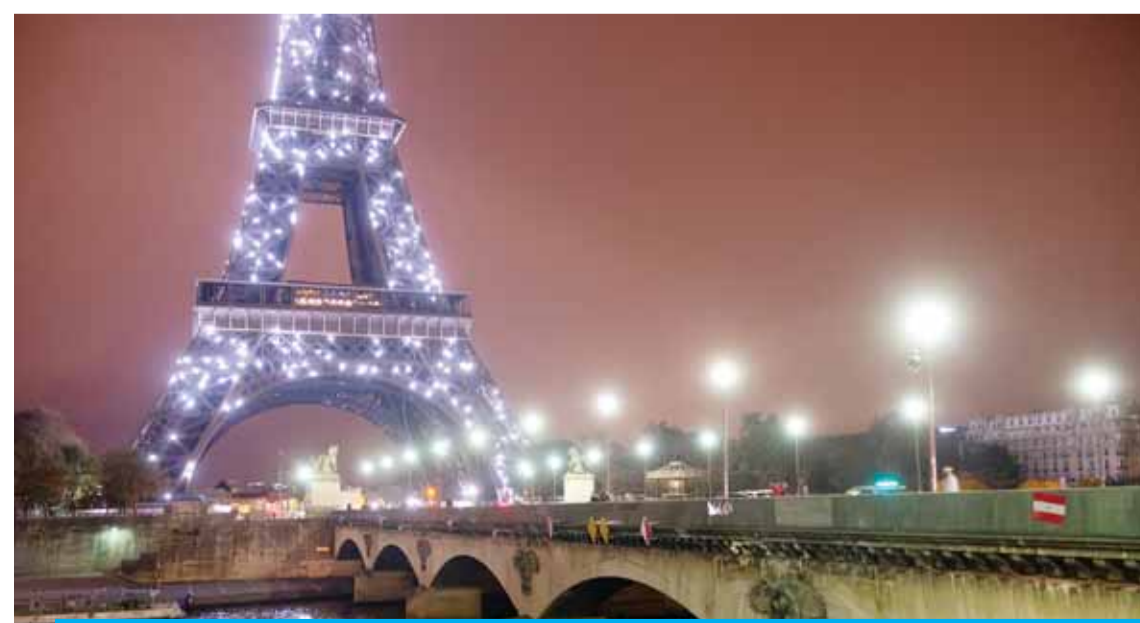
Paris to scale back monument lighting as energy bills bite

PARIS: Paris will start switching off the ornamental lights that grace city monuments hours earlier than usual, plunging the Eiffel Tower and other landmarks in the dark to cope with surging electricity costs, officials said Tuesday. Most monuments operated by the city will now go unlit from 10:00 pm. (2000 GMT), a potential disappointment for the tens of millions of tourists to the romantic City of Lights.

The Eiffel Tower, usually bathed in a warm glow until 1:00 am, and which comes ablaze with dazzling white lights every hour, will now go dark after the last visitor leaves, at 11:45 pm. But streets lights will remain on for security, as will the illuminations of the city’s ornate bridges over the Seine river. Mayor Anne Hidalgo said at a press conference.

The “energy sobriety” plan aims to cut energy use by 10 percent, said Hidalgo, which could help soften the blow of rising costs by some 10 million euros (\$10.2 million).

Hidalgo, a Socialist who played up her efforts to green Paris during a failed presidential run earlier



PARIS: This file photograph taken on November 10, 2018, shows an illuminated Pont d’Iena leading to The Eiffel Tower in Paris. — AFP

this year, said she would also push the government to do the same for national monuments in the city, such as the Pantheon or the Arc de Triomphe. In August, President Emmanuel Macron warned that

high energy prices caused by the war in Ukraine could signal “the end of abundance,” widely interpreted as preparing public opinion for a difficult winter ahead. —AFP

Business

World in 'wrong direction' as climate impacts worsen: UN

Planet-warming emissions are higher than before the pandemic

PARIS: Humanity is "going in the wrong direction" on climate change due to its addiction to fossil fuels, the UN said Tuesday in an assessment showing that planet-warming emissions are higher than before the pandemic. The UN's World Meteorological Organization and its Environment Programme warned catastrophes will become commonplace should the world economy fail to decarbonise in line with what science says is needed to prevent the worst impacts of global heating.

They pointed to Pakistan's monumental floods and China's crop-withering heatwave this year as examples of what to expect. "Floods, droughts, heatwaves, extreme storms and wildfires are going from bad to worse, breaking records with alarming frequency," said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

The UN warned last month that the drought gripping the Horn of Africa and threatening millions with acute food shortages was now likely to extend into a fifth year. "There is nothing natural about the new scale of these disasters. They are the price of humanity's fossil fuel addiction," said Guterres.

The UN's United in Science report underscores how, nearly three years since Covid-19 handed governments a unique opportunity to reassess how to power their economies, countries are ploughing ahead with pollution as normal.

It found that after an unprecedented 5.4 percent fall in emissions in 2020 due to lockdowns and travel restrictions, preliminary data from January-May this year shows global CO2 emissions are 1.2 percent higher than before COVID-19.

This is largely down to large year-on-year increases in the United States, India, and most European countries, the assessment found. "The science is unequivocal: we are going in the

wrong direction," said WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas.

"Greenhouse gas concentrations are continuing to rise, reaching new record highs. Fossil fuel emission rates are now above pre-pandemic levels. The past seven years were the warmest on record."

'Uncharted territory'

Last week the European Union's Copernicus climate monitor said that summer 2022 was the hottest in Europe and one of the hottest globally since records began in the 1970s. Tuesday's report said there was a 93 percent chance that the record for the hottest year globally—currently, 2016 — will be broken within five years.

It warned the continued use of fossil fuels meant the chance of the annual mean global temperature temporarily exceeding 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels in one of the next five years was roughly even (48 percent). Keeping longer term temperatures below 1.5C is the most ambitious goal of the 2015 Paris Agreement. Despite more than three decades of UN-lead negotiations, rich polluters show little sign of being willing to make the kind of swinging emissions cuts that would keep the 1.5C goal in play. The UN's Environment Programme, in an update to its annual "emissions gap" assessment following new pledges made at last November's COP26 summit in Glasgow, said Tuesday that even these promises were far from adequate.

In fact, it said the ambition even in countries' most recent pledges would need to be four times greater to limit warming to 2C, and seven times higher to make 1.5C. All told, current worldwide climate policies put Earth on course to warm 2.8C by 2100, UNEP said.

Guterres said that Tuesday's assessment



United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres (second left) walks through the UNESCO World Heritage archaeological site of Mohenjo Daro damaged by flood waters in Sindh province. —AFP

showed "climate impacts heading into uncharted territory of destruction". "Yet each year we double-down on this fossil fuel addiction, even as the symptoms get rapidly worse," he said in a video message.

Tasneem Essop, executive director of Climate Action Network, said that the forthcoming

COP27 climate conference in Egypt needed leaders to agree to new funding to help communities in at-risk nations rebuild after extreme events. "The terrifying picture painted by the United in Science report is already a lived reality for millions of people facing recurring climate disasters," she said. —AFP

Scholz wants power market reform in place 'this winter'

BERLIN: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Tuesday he wanted to hurry through reforms to the electricity market to ease the pressure on consumers and businesses ahead of the coming European winter. Russia has curtailed supplies of gas to Europe following the invasion of Ukraine, sending the price for the fuel soaring and dragging up the cost of electricity in its wake.

Non-gas electricity companies, such as nuclear, solar or renewable firms, had been able to "make extra profits because the price is determined by the electricity produced with gas", Scholz said in a speech in Berlin. Germany and the European Union have developed proposals to cream off windfall profits from non-gas producers to ease the pressure on consumers and companies buckling under the weight of soaring bills.

"We will now push this through with great speed so that we can relieve the burden," Scholz said.

"You can be sure that this will happen at the speed necessary to get it under control this winter," Scholz said. Germany has raced to fill its gas storage tanks ahead of the energy-intensive season and rushed to build gas terminals to import new supplies from elsewhere.

Europe's biggest economy has also restarted mothballed coal power plants, and earlier this month decided to keep two nuclear plants on stand-by through mid-April instead of completely ending the usage of atomic energy by the end of the year. The government has also unveiled a 65-billion-euro (\$66-billion) plan to ease the pressure of energy-price inflation, including cash for pensioners and students. But warnings are mounting Germany is heading for a recession, with influential think-tank



BERLIN: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Tuesday he wanted to hurry through reforms to the electricity market to ease the pressure on consumers and businesses ahead of the coming European winter.

the Ifo institute predicting Monday the economy will shrink by 0.3 percent next year.

Economy Minister Robert Habeck said a downturn could be prevented if energy prices were brought down, although it would be "hard" and "demanding". "We can of course work against it. And if we now seriously discuss economic aid, energy price brakes and the correct political measures, then of course we can avert it," he said.

The sharp increase in the cost of electricity was the "biggest challenge" for Germany's flagship auto industry, the VDA industry association said Tuesday. Around 95 percent of companies surveyed by the VDA said they were heavily or very heavily burdened by rising prices, making Germany "uncompetitive", in the opinion of the lobby group. —AFP

since 2019. Salaries, paid in local currency, have not kept up with the plunge, severely decreasing the purchasing power of ordinary citizens. Meanwhile, most goods and services are now priced in dollars or their market value equivalent. With the central bank's foreign dollar reserves diminishing, Lebanese banks have imposed informal capital controls that make it impossible for depositors to gain access to their savings at their full US dollar value.

The country's leaders have argued over details of a financial rescue plan and have yet to enact the reforms necessary for a bailout from the International Monetary Fund. Although fuel subsidies have been lifted - which should theoretically cut down the central bank's spending and preserve its remaining foreign reserves, the nationwide shortage of foreign currency, combined with its dependence on imports, remains a looming point of concern. — Agencies



BEIRUT: Lebanon lifted fuel subsidies following Lebanon's central bank Bank du Liban's decision to stop providing dollars for petrol imports.

Lebanon lifts remaining petrol subsidies

BEIRUT: Remaining fuel subsidies in Lebanon were also lifted on Monday following Lebanon's central bank Bank du Liban's decision to stop providing dollars for petrol imports.

The cost of 20 liters of petrol rose by 20,000 pounds (\$13.2) on Monday, as per prices released by the energy ministry, to 638,000 pounds for 95-octane and 653,000 pounds for 98-octane.

Since the onset of an economic crisis in 2019, Lebanon's central bank has gradually reduced subsidies on food, fuel and medicine as the country burned through its foreign currency reserves. What subsidies remain are paid through the central bank's Sayrafa platform, which sets a daily dollar rate that is lower than the parallel market rate in an attempt to stem the rapid depreciation of the Lebanese pound.

Before Monday, Lebanon's fuel importers were paying for 20 per cent of their petrol purchases at 28,200 pounds to the dollar. The remaining 80 per cent was purchased at the parallel market rate of 35,200. Fuel prices rose significantly on Monday, leading to some demonstrators briefly blocking a major Beirut thoroughfare to protest against the subsidy's removal as well as other economic grievances.

The value of the local currency has depreciated by more than 95 per cent against the dollar

German investor confidence falls

BERLIN: German investor confidence fell in September for a third straight month, a closely watched survey showed on Tuesday, fuelling fears of a looming recession in Europe's biggest economy.

The ZEW institute's economic expectations index dropped 6.6 points from the previous month to minus 61.9 points, as soaring inflation and a shut-down of Russian gas supplies ring alarm bells. For its survey, ZEW quizzes experts about the current economic situation and the outlook for the coming six months. A negative reading means that most experts are pessimistic.

"The outlook for the next six months has deteriorated further," said the group's president Achim Wambach.

"The prospect of energy shortages in winter has made expectations even more negative for large parts of the German industry." Investors' assessment of the current economic situation in Germany also fell by 12.9 points in September from the previous month, to minus 60.5 points, according to the survey.

LBBW bank analyst Jens-Oliver Niklasch said a recession in Germany was "almost a foregone conclusion." "The question is now how much the economy will shrink—and how high inflation will rise."

The bleak picture from ZEW came a day after think-tank the Ifo institute forecast that the German economy would shrink by 0.3 percent in 2023.

Germany, along with the rest of Europe, is facing an energy crisis after Russia's Gazprom shut down the key Nord Stream 1 gas pipeline in the wake of the Ukraine war.

German inflation hit 7.9 percent in August, and the government is rushing to find ways to ease the burden on consumers and businesses. —AFP



A port worker carrying a Unite the Union flag surfs in the shadow of the cargo ship Ever Alot in the Port of Felixstowe in Suffolk. — AFP

Major UK port set for fresh eight-day strike

LONDON: Workers at Britain's largest container port, Felixstowe, are to strike for a further eight days, union bosses announced Tuesday, as the country suffers a cost-of-living crisis. The walkout from September 27 until early October 5 comes after an initial eight-day stoppage over the summer as dockers and railway staff at the port in eastern England demand pay rises to keep up with decades-high inflation.

"The latest strike action is entirely of Felixstowe's own making," Bobby Morton of union Unite, said in a statement. "Rather than seeking to negotiate a deal to resolve the dispute, the company instead tried to impose a pay deal."

Morton said the new strikes "will inevitably lead to delays and disruption to the UK's supply chain". Unite said the port is responsible for almost half of the UK's container goods. The union said management at the Felixstowe Dock and Railway Company had "unilaterally ended pay talks after refusing to improve its pay offer and instead announced that it was imposing a pay deal of seven percent".

UK annual inflation stands above ten percent and

is set to surge further before next year as energy and food bills soar. Felixstowe port expressed disappointment at the new walkout, adding however there is "no prospect of agreement being reached with the union".

Britain has experienced a summer of strikes, spearheaded by tens of thousands of railway workers carrying out their biggest stoppage in 30 years, as pay offers fail to keep up with soaring inflation.

Rail staff and postal workers have however postponed walkouts planned for this week following the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Inflation has soared around the globe this year on supply constraints after economies reopened from pandemic lockdowns, and in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Meanwhile, UK unemployment remains close to 50-year lows after easing over the summer but sky-high inflation continues to squeeze wages, official data showed on Tuesday.

The unemployment rate fell to 3.6 percent in the three months to the end of July, the Office for National Statistics said in a statement. That was the lowest level since 1974, the ONS said. The latest level compared with 3.8 percent for the three months to the end of June, it added.

Despite many workers receiving pay increases to help cope with inflation that is sitting at a 40-year high above 10 percent, wages in real terms have slid 2.8 percent from a year earlier, the statistics office noted. Britain is suffering a cost-of-living crisis as energy and food bills soar in particular. —AFP

Business

US invites Mexico onboard ambitious semiconductor plan

Setting aside trade tensions, officials focus on benefits from microchips, technology

MEXICO CITY: The United States on Monday invited Mexico to join a multibillion dollar push to boost semiconductor manufacturing to compete with China, during a visit by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken for high-level economic talks. Officials set aside trade tensions over Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's energy policies and focused instead on the potential benefits from cooperation in microchips and other technology.

The Chips and Science Act, which US President Joe Biden signed into law last month, includes around \$52 billion to promote production of microchips. "Now in China and Taiwan the testing, packaging and assembly industry for semiconductors is a \$60 billion industry. In North America it's \$3 billion," said US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, who accompanied Blinken.

"So we're really very excited about the opportunities for job creation in Mexico and in the United States," she added.

"The opportunity for Mexico is not just in the manufacturing facilities but in testing, packaging and assembly," Raimondo told reporters. Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard welcomed the US offer to cooperate in semiconductors as "very generous." The two sides struck a conciliatory tone when asked about Lopez Obrador's energy reform efforts, which face opposition from the United States and Canada. Washington in July filed a formal complaint against Mexico under a North American free trade agreement, saying its energy policies discriminated against US firms.

"Dispute settlement under international agree-

ments is a normal part of trade relationships even among the closest of partners," Blinken said. "We're moving full speed ahead in the further integration of our economies and in building the most competitive region in the world. And we're doing that as you heard through the work on supply chains, on strengthening the work we're doing together in building a clean energy economy, the work on semiconductors, etc.," he added.

Signs of thaw

Earlier Lopez Obrador welcomed the tone of a recent letter from US President Joe Biden, saying Mexico appreciated its "respectful attitude" compared to the trade complaint, which he described as "not the most diplomatic."

Lopez Obrador's push to roll back the effects of liberalization that he says benefited private companies has alarmed foreign investors and environmentalists, who see the moves as favoring fossil fuels over renewable energy. Washington has requested consultations about the energy dispute under the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement, the first step in a process that could lead to retaliation over actions it says harm US firms and impedes development of clean energy. Lopez Obrador visited Washington in July for talks with Biden, who said that the two sides needed to rebuild relations. A month earlier, the Mexican leader snubbed Biden by refusing to participate in the Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles on the grounds that Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua had not been invited.

Blinken met with Lopez Obrador ahead of the



MEXICO CITY: (Left to right) US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, Mexican Economy Minister Tatiana Clouthier, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard talks after offering a press conference at the Economy Secretary headquarters in Mexico City, on September 12, 2022. —AFP

economic talks and discussed issues including cooperation to deal with irregular migration and the synthetic opioid fentanyl, the State Department said. "They also spoke about joint efforts to tackle

the climate crisis through investments in clean energy and emerging technologies like electric vehicles, solar technologies, and semiconductors," a statement said. —AFP

Ex-Google CEO says Ukraine proves value of IT in war

KYIV: Ukraine has been a very effective proving ground for the use of contemporary information technology in war, from satellite dishes to smartphone apps, Eric Schmidt, the former Google chief executive, said Monday. Schmidt, now a US government consultant on artificial intelligence, told reporters after a 36-hour visit to the country that the civilian tech sector has been crucial to Kyiv's defense.

The proof came the day after Russian troops invaded on February 24. After a long stall, Ukraine's legislature came together to agree on a crucial step to protect all the government's data from Russian hackers and strikes. "In one day, they had a meeting of the parliament and changed that law... they moved all their data from government servers in Kyiv to the cloud," Schmidt said.

"The war gave everybody a political excuse to do the right thing," he said.

The second crucial move came with US tech billionaire Elon Musk's donation of access to his Starlink satellite-based broadband system, effectively insulating both the public and Ukrainian military from a Russian assault on telecommunications. Musk and donors sent in some 20,000 ground terminals with small dish antennas that allowed everyday transmissions as well as helping fighters with targeting data. That stymied a key goal of the Russian attackers.

"Elon Musk is genuinely a hero here," said Schmidt. "This allowed the strategy of shutting down the internet by the opposition to fail."

Field intelligence from citizen apps

Two apps meanwhile got citizens directly involved, Schmidt said. A function called "E-Enemy" was added to the popular Diia app used for government services that permitted people to report things such as damage from shelling, or Russian troop sightings.

And an encrypted Swiss chat service called Threema allowed users to send such data to the military without exposing their identities. The military would get thousands of such reports every day, said Schmidt, and filter them with artificial intelligence programs.

"They would whittle them down to targets using computer intelligence and human intelligence and eventually go after them," he said. "So if you think about that, here's what they had: they had an internet that stayed up, they had their government data protected," and a way for citizens to give them intelligence information, he said.

Ukraine, long an incubator for programming as well as illegal hacking skills, has a deep IT workforce that has been able to launch cyberattacks against the Russia, breaking into their communications.

The country has also skillfully used biometric and facial recognition techniques to identify Russian troops involved in atrocities, such as the massacre in Bucha early in the war. In addition, Ukrainian programmers have been skilled in making drones useful in the war.

"I can just report that based on my small amount of data, the Ukrainian tech industry really did make a contribution to the front," said Schmidt. —AFP

In Nigeria, finding value in waste recycling

LAGOS: Mounds of waste scattered along roads and vast landfills are a Nigerian eyesore. In Africa's biggest economy and most populous country, collecting, sorting and recycling trash is despairingly rare.

But there is also good news. Some entrepreneurs are working hard to tackle the rubbish mountain, despite the many challenges. Romco Metals started recycling aluminum at its factory outside Lagos in 2015, drawn by global demand for the light, strong, flexible metal.

Buoyed by good results, it built a second facility outside Ghana's capital Accra and now plans to open at least three new plants across Africa and triple production by 2025.

Aluminum is the world's second most-used metal after steel and used widely in construction, medicine and car-making. "Electric vehicles require more durable lighter material such as aluminum, and that's where our materials end up," said the company's youthful founder, 32-year-old Raymond Onovwigu.

Job creation

A British-registered company, Romco melts down and recycles around 1,500 tonnes of discarded aluminum per month, out of a capacity of 3,000 tons. It says it has created 450 direct jobs — 5,000 in total, in this labor-intensive sector—and plans to double that number within a year.

Huawei MatePad Pro: Perfect for back to school season

KUWAIT: If we had to describe Huawei's latest flagship tablet in one word, we'd call it an all-rounder. A perfect all-rounder, that is. It is a tablet with a stunning display and great sound, a powerful productivity tablet, perfect for students. To sum it up: It is a tablet designed for everyone in the household. This tablet is the ideal choice for anyone looking to get a tablet for work, school, or their family, perfect for this back-to-school season that can gracefully handle both entertainment and productivity.

Discover new avenues

Tablets have always been the right choice for entertainment with their bigger-than-smartphone displays and better-than-laptop portability. But Huawei MatePad Pro is even more of an entertainment gadget because of its stunning and vibrant 11-inch OLED Huawei FullView Display and rich sound. The display has 4.2 mm ultra-narrow bezels giving you an immersive 92 percent screen-to-body ratio, which means fewer distractions and a more riveting movie-watching experience. The display is equally amazing for games, thanks to the 120Hz refresh rate. Huawei MatePad Pro doesn't falter in the sound department either. Being the first tablet to come equipped with Huawei Sound that uses an array of 6-speakers, it provides fantastic sound quality for a complete entertainment experience. It even has the German TÜV Rheinland Full Care Display 3.0 certification and uses a hardware solution to lower blue light to protect your eyes.

The tablet is also easy to hold and use with its thin and light body. At just 449g, this is, in fact, the lightest 11-inch tablet available on the market. And the thickness of 5.9mm puts it among the thinnest tablets on the market. It's also a beauty to behold

"Before... there was no work," community leader Bankole Gbenga known as Chief Abore told AFP during a recent visit to the Lagos facility. Chief Abore says more than a hundred young people from his community alone now work for Romco in some capacity.

"Some are doing carpentry, some are welders... some of the youth are doing security," said the 40-year-old. Among those who have most benefited from Romco's business are material suppliers like Mohammed Ashiru Madugu, who delivers several truckloads of metal scrap each week.

Madugu has a warehouse in north-western Katsina, where suppliers from across the state and even neighboring states bring him discarded metal.

He loads the goods onto trucks and sends them with escorts because of frequent ambushes by criminal gangs on the road—all the way to Lagos, more than a thousand kilometers (600 miles) away.

For one truck, he can get paid up to 26 million naira (about \$60,000 dollars) although the price fluctuates.

Vast problem

Only a tiny fraction of waste is recycled in Nigeria, a country of some 210 million consumers.

Plastic, metal and glass that in advanced economies are routinely picked up and processed are mostly tossed out. Each year, Nigeria disgorges 200,000 tons of plastic into the Atlantic, the UN Industrial Development Organization reported last year.

In Lagos alone, a city of more than 20 million people, less than 10 percent total recyclables are currently collected, Ibrahim Adejwon Odumboni, managing



LAGOS, Nigeria: Workers gather piles of scrap automobile aluminum and metals for recycling at Romco factory in Lagos. —AFP

director of the Lagos State Management Agency told AFP. By comparison, in the UK, more than 41 percent of waste picked up by local authorities was recycled last year, according to British statistics.

For Odumboni, recycling initiatives are to be commended but more should be done by the companies making aluminum beverage cans and other products. "We need the manufacturers to invest in the collection system. In many parts of the world, a portion of what producers sell is going into the recovery of products. We currently don't have that in Nigeria," he said. If companies selling aluminum products "are not held responsible (for collecting waste) then it doesn't make any sense—we're just going round and round in circle."

He blames poor legislation but says an

improved law on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is currently being discussed in the state house of assembly.

EPR is an environmental policy in place in many countries that gives producers incentives to take responsibility for their products after they are used. Another challenge for recyclers is carbon emissions from the energy they use to crush, shred or melt old materials.

Romco, for instance, uses compressed natural gas to turn the aluminum into ingots. "(It) is still a fossil fuel but the best, most efficient fossil fuel. It doesn't contain lead or sulfur," said Onovwigu.

The company says, however, that it wants to be independent of fossil fuels and is "exploring the potential of using solar, green hydrogen, and biofuels." —AFP



with a classy metallic sheen on the rear cover that adds to the premium feel of the tablet.

Nail your productivity goals

The increasing popularity of online meetings has made life simpler for a lot of people. But that also comes with its own set of challenges. In this case, the challenges are mostly due to technological limitations, i.e., bad video and audio quality. However, with a PC-like Videoconferencing on Huawei MatePad Pro, your online meetings are going to be much more productive.

The tablet's productivity features don't end with videoconferencing. In fact, if you pair it with the new detachable Smart Magnetic Keyboard and the Huawei M-Pencil (2nd generation), it will be perfect for light office tasks. You can use the tablet in three different modes: laptop form, detachable form, and studio form, and you can also use the Huawei M-Pencil (2nd generation) for note-taking and sketching. Besides, this is the first device to support Huawei Notes. Huawei MatePad Pro allows you to access Huawei's native apps, such as the Gallery, in landscape mode. The Multi-window has been upgraded to support one-tap interaction. Currently, you can run up to four concurrent tasks with Multi-window, including two split windows and two App Bubbles.



Bring down barriers with super device

Huawei MatePad Pro supports Tablet-PC Multi-screen Collaboration capabilities which contain three modes: Mirror Mode, Extend Mode and Collaborate Mode. The new Colour Capture feature allows you to select and apply colours across different apps in any use scenario, including Multi-window, App Multiplier, or small window. After Multi-screen Collaboration is established between a phone and tablet, you can click and select a colour on a phone window and apply it to the tablet, improving the efficiency of cross-device working and creation. Multi-screen Collaboration enables simple drag-and-drop file transfers between smartphones and tablets. Peripheral sharing lets users type on the smartphone using the tablet's keyboard and screen, play music saved on the smartphone with the tablet's speakers and more. This solution also makes it possible for users to pick up calls or respond to text messages directly from the tablet, facilitating a seamless multi-device experience.

Big battery in a compact body

Huawei MatePad Pro doesn't sacrifice battery life for the sake of thinness. In its compact body, it packs an 8300mAh ultra-large battery. It can power 11.5 hours of 1080p HD video playback and 8.5 hours of web page browsing.

Lifestyle | Features



This photo shows crickets being raised inside containers at a farm in Bangkok. —AFP photos



This photo shows a plate of "Cricket-burger" and crickets at a restaurant in Bangkok.

Thai pop-up wins fans with crunchless cricket burgers



A vendor selling fried crickets and other insects along a street in Bangkok.



A message written inside a "Cricket-burger" restaurant in Bangkok.



Pooripat Thiapairat, owner of 'Bounce Burger', posing with a plate of "Cricket-burger" at his restaurant in Bangkok.



This photo shows the hands of Pooripat Thiapairat, owner of Bounce Burger, as he prepares a "Cricket-burger" at his restaurant in Bangkok.

BANGKOK: There's no crunch or crackle, but crickets are on the menu at one Bangkok pop-up serving fusion bug burgers, demonstrating the latest way to incorporate the protein-rich meat into food—direct from Thailand's farms. Already catching headlines as a meat alternative, the edible insect market is expected to grow into a billion-dollar global industry in the coming years with many adopting creepy-crawlies into their diets as a result of climate damage.

Thailand's Bounce Burger is the newest cricket kid on the block with its cricket-beef burgers, sausages, cricket balls and even power bars and cookies. "Crickets don't have to be on street vendor's stalls that are served only with soy sauce," said Poopipat Thiapairat, co-owner of Bounce Burger Restaurant. "They can be burgers, bakery, soft cookies or even paprika seasoning used to flavor french fries—these are all possible."

Image makeover

Crickets are a source of protein, as well as containing a host of beneficial vitamins, and are among

the most commonly eaten insects by humans globally. Despite this, Poopipat admitted the spindly arthropods were in need of an image makeover as they were "not really consumer-friendly." "If we open a restaurant and serve cricket-based food that doesn't look like crickets then the consumers might be more open to trying," he said.

"The problem with crickets is that they get stuck in your throat," he said, explaining his firm removes the "hard" parts of the insect—like the wings and legs—leaving the fleshy body. "It's the same concept as beef or pork where we don't eat the bones." While Thais have long eaten bugs as a tasty snack, Pawan Thedthong—nibbling on a bug at a Bangkok fried stall—acknowledged others might be put off. "You can see foreigners walking past and they wouldn't dare try the insects," the 24-year-old said. "If they are processed into something more appealing then people could eat them more."

Less moo, more chirp

Among the biggest appeals of cricket farming is

that its environmental impact is far less than rearing cows or pigs. One 2017 study suggested chicken production in Thailand was responsible for 89 percent more carbon emissions than insect industries. While some parts of the world are only now discovering the benefits, Thailand already has thousands of insect farms.

Many of those farms cater to animal feed needs, but some are now focused on edible insects for humans—such as Bricket R&D Cricket Farm, established in 2019. On the outskirts of Bangkok, the farm supplies 160 kilograms (353 pounds) of crickets monthly direct to the Bounce kitchens.

The process is carefully controlled, with the insects chilled to sleep, washed, and then harvested for meal prep, explained managing director Thanaphum Muang-Ieam. While for the burgers the crickets are laid on top, for sweeter items the Bounce chefs use a powder taken from the insects and baked into the goods—from power-bars to biscuits. As for the customers? "The taste is good."



Thanaphum Muang-Ieam, owner of 'The Bricket cricket farm' using the torchlight from his smartphone to check crickets being raised inside containers at his farm in Bangkok.

The sauce blends over the smell of the crickets," 53-year-old customer Anut Sotthibandhu commented as he munched. "I don't feel like there are insects in my burger," he added with a grin. —AFP



In this photo Whang Lay Keng, curator at Singapore's National Orchid Garden, looks at the Dendrobium Sonia orchid at the National Orchid Garden in Singapore. —AFP

The 'majestic' Singapore orchid named in honor of Queen Elizabeth

Elizabeth is majestic, hardy and "very fashionable", said a top Singapore flower curator—referring not to the late monarch, but to an orchid named after the queen when she visited the former British colony. After Queen Elizabeth II's death last week, the city-state's Botanic Gardens loaned a towering sprig of Dendrobium Elizabeth to the British high commissioner's residence, to be displayed alongside pictures of the monarch. The orchid hybrid, with twisted Dresden-yellow petals and a uranium-green lip, was named in honor of the queen when she visited Singapore in 1972, said Whang Lay Keng, curator at Singapore's National Orchid Garden. "Dendrobium Elizabeth is a majestic, robust and resilient plant," she told AFP. "It's kind of like how Queen Elizabeth carried herself."

Flowering just twice a year, the Dendrobium Elizabeth was bred from orchids originating from Singapore and Papua New Guinea, and carries just about 40 blooms per plant. Orchard-mad Singapore boasts the delicate, colorful blooms as their national flower, and the city-state often christens new

hybrids after visiting dignitaries as part of its diplomatic charm offensive.

The tradition took root in 1957 during British colonial rule—which spanned more than 140 years—when an orchid variety was named after the wife of London's high commissioner to Singapore at the time, Queen Elizabeth first made a state visit to Singapore in 1972, followed by two more trips in 1989 and 2006. "During the 1970s, the color yellow-green was very popular, so naturally we wanted to select something that was fashionable and very interesting," Whang said, adding that "yellow is a color of royalty".

But the tropical lowland orchid also has very distinct Southeast Asian traits. It is a "sun-loving plant that thrives in a moist and humid climate, where sunlight and warmth are important for its growth", the orchid curator said.

Among the more than 200 orchid hybrids named after visiting leaders and celebrities—displayed in the VIP section of the city's sprawling Botanic Gardens—there is also the Dendrobium Memoria Princess Diana. The pastel-white bloom was so dubbed after the death of the princess of Wales. —AFP

Thai court orders rehab work on 'The Beach,' 22 years after filming

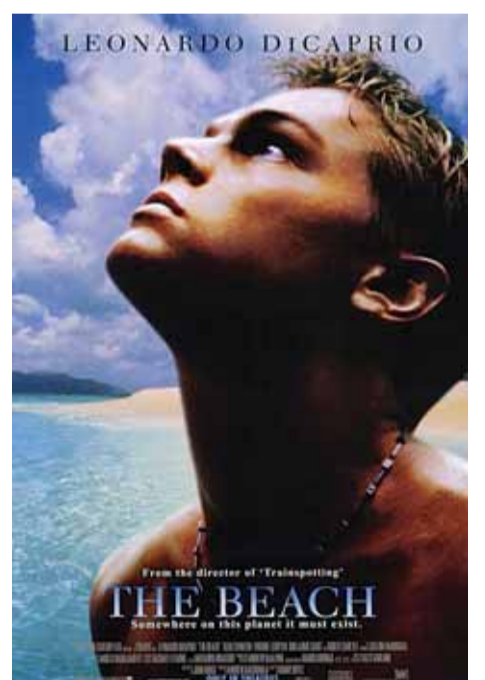
More than two decades after Hollywood film "The Beach" was shot at Thailand's glittering Maya Bay, the kingdom's Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered officials to press ahead with environmental rehabilitation work. The 2000 adventure drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, drew criticism for the impact of the shoot on the pristine sands of the bay, located on the island of Ko Phi Phi Ley in southern Thailand. Film-makers planted dozens of coconut trees to give a more "tropical" feel to the glimmering Maya Bay and were also accused of ripping up vegetation growing on sand dunes.

However, US production studio 20th Century Fox insisted it left the beach exactly how it had found it and had removed tonnes of rubbish. Local authorities filed a civil lawsuit in late 1999 against Thai government agencies, US filmmaker 20th Century Fox and a Thai film coordinator, seeking 100 million baht in compensation for environmental damage. On Tuesday, the

Supreme Court in Bangkok upheld a previous ruling by a Civil Court that the Royal Forest Department was liable for rehabilitating Maya Bay.

In a final ruling, the Supreme Court ordered the department to set up a committee to formulate a rehabilitation plan within 30 days. Environmental campaigners launched two unsuccessful legal challenges to stop filming of the movie based on Alex Garland's cult novel, over concerns about ecological damage. The film put Maya Bay on the map and it became a victim of mass tourism.

It was closed in October 2018 to allow it to recover from the impact of a daily influx of some 6,000 visitors. The entire Phi Phi archipelago was forced into a convalescence when the global pandemic hit and visitor numbers dwindled to virtually nil as Thailand imposed tough travel rules. Maya Bay reopened to tourists at the start of 2022 but visitor numbers are capped to try to limit the ecological damage. —AFP



Paddington tributes to queen prove too much to 'bear'

To bid farewell to Queen Elizabeth II, Sarah Fowles came to Buckingham Palace with not just flowers but a teddy bear too: Paddington in his red hat and his blue duffel coat. The beloved children's book character is omnipresent among the thousands of bouquets outside the palace, thanks largely to a video of the queen drinking tea with the bear for her Platinum Jubilee. So numerous have they become that the Royal Parks—which oversees Green Park where tributes from the palace are being taken—on Monday asked visitors not to bring any more soft toys, or marmalade sandwiches, Paddington's favorite snack.

"Paddington is a British institution," said Fowles, who said she hoped to leave her Paddington toy in front of the gates of Buckingham Palace despite the crowds there. "The video was brilliant. It showed the queen's sense of humor. She knew how to create a connection with people, here with children." The

video created for the queen's jubilee marking her 70 years on the throne in June showed Paddington seated opposite her at the palace and offering her a "Ma'amalade sandwich".

The late monarch, known for her dry sense of humor, politely smiled while the bear cub gulped down her tea from a teapot, before then taking her own marmalade sandwich from her handbag. She then tapped her teacup with a spoon in time with the drums that began to play Queen's "We Will Rock You" in front of Buckingham Palace. The video immediately went viral and has remained one of the most joyous moments of a jubilee that, even at the time, had a distinctly valedictory tone. "It was the last time she did anything public," said Julie Williams, 63, who travelled four hours by train from Manchester to pay tribute. "It was that kind of thing that created an affinity with people."

Paddington and the queen were both, in



their own ways, British institutions dating from the 1950s that have retained public affection down through the years. While the queen came to the throne in 1952, Paddington first appeared in the book "A Bear Called Paddington" by author Michael Bond six years later. After the queen's death aged 96, and a 70-year reign, they have found themselves reunited. —AFP

'Succession' and 'Squid Game' big winners at television's Emmys



Jesse Armstrong (center, holding trophy) and cast and crew of 'Succession' accept the Outstanding Drama Series award onstage during the 74th Primetime Emmys at Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles, California. —AFP photos



US actor Jason Sudeikis poses with the awards for Outstanding Comedy Series and Outstanding Lead Actor In A Comedy Series for "Ted Lasso".



US director and writer Mike White poses with the Emmy for Outstanding Limited or Anthology Series or Movie for "The White Lotus".



South Korean actor Lee Jung-jae poses with the award for Outstanding Lead Actor In A Drama Series for "Squid Game".



Cast and Crew of "Ted Lasso", winners of Outstanding Comedy Series, pose in the press room during the 74th Primetime Emmys.



Executive Producer David Bernad accepts the award for Outstanding Limited Or Anthology Series for "The White Lotus" along with cast and crew onstage.



(From left) US actor Steve Martin, US singer and actress Selena Gomez and US actor Martin Short present the award for Outstanding Variety Talk Series onstage.

Disfunctional family saga "Succession" on Monday took top honors for best drama at the Emmys, television's biggest night of the year, as "Squid Game" made history when Lee Jung-jae was named best actor, a first for a non-English-language performer. The South Korean social satire about misfits and criminals competing for cash in twisted versions of schoolyard games had also been in the running for the top prize, but the Netflix hit was bested by HBO's latest awards darling.

Accepting the best drama award, "Succession" creator Jesse Armstrong noted it had been a big week for successions—a reference to the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the ascension to the British throne of her son. "Evidently (there's) a little bit more voting involved in our winning than Prince Charles," he quipped. "Succession," a Shakespearean drama about a family betraying each other for control of a media empire, led the nominations ahead of Monday's gala with 25, winning four awards overall.

Other big winners on the night were fellow HBO stablemate "The White Lotus," which won a total of 10 Emmys including best limited series, and Apple TV+ comedy favorite "Ted Lasso," again a winner for best comedy and best actor Jason Sudeikis. "Lotus," a stylish satire on wealth and hypocrisy set in a luxury Hawaiian resort, scooped up two acting prizes as well as directing and writing honors, plus other technical awards.

The limited series award caps contenders at a single season, although "The White Lotus" is slightly bending the rules, having been recommissioned for a second go-around. It beat out competition in the limited series category from shows recounting four real-life scandals, including "Dopesick," a hard-hitting look at the US opioid crisis, and "The Dropout," which recalls the Theranos fraud.

Michael Keaton and Amanda Seyfried won acting awards for their respective turns on "Dopesick" and "The Dropout." But Netflix's "Squid Game" made a statement with its six Emmys—beyond Lee, the series won for best directing, best guest drama actress Lee Yoo-mi and three other technical categories. The wins cement its place in the so-called Korean Wave of popular entertainment, with superstar boy band BTS sweeping the charts and "Parasite" winning the top Oscar in recent years.

'Great deal of progress'

The high glamour gala was a return to business as usual in Hollywood as the long awards season started with a bang for the first time in the stricter Covid-19 era. Host Kenan Thompson opened the proceedings with a dance number set to a medley of hit TV show themes, including "Friends" and "Game of Thrones," before bringing on talk show legend Oprah Winfrey, who lauded "the most successful broadcast medium in the world: television."

There were few surprises throughout the night, with trophies spread around the usual suspects. Zendaya repeated her feat as best actress in a drama for her turn in "Euphoria," two years after she became the youngest ever winner in the category for the first season of HBO's hard-hitting look at teenage life. Hitmaker Lizzo, who made a serious fashion statement in a billowing red tulle dress, said her victory for



Cast and Crew of Succession, winners of Outstanding Drama Series, pose in the press room during the 74th Primetime Emmys at Microsoft Theater.



Zendaya, winner of Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series for "Euphoria."



Jean Smart, winner of Lead Actress in a Comedy Series for "Hacks."



Hwang Dong-hyuk, winner of Outstanding Directing For A Drama Series for "Squid Game."



US writer Quinta Brunson accepts the award for Outstanding Writing For A Comedy Series for "Abbott Elementary".



Jerrold Carmichael accepts Outstanding Writing for a Variety Special for "Jerrold Carmichael: Rothaniel" onstage.



US singer-songwriter Lizzo poses with the Emmy for Outstanding Competition Program for "Lizzo's Watch Out For the Big Grrrls".



Amanda Seyfried, winner of the Outstanding Lead Actress in a Limited or Anthology Series or Movie award for 'The Dropout.'



Jennifer Coolidge, winner of the Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Limited or Anthology Series or Movie award for 'The White Lotus.'



Brett Goldstein winner of the Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series award for 'Ted Lasso.'



US actor Michael Keaton accepts the award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Limited or Anthology Series or Movie for "Dopesick" onstage.



Australian actor Murray Bartlett poses with the Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Limited or Anthology Series or Movie for "The White Lotus."



Matthew Macfadyen, winner of the Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series award for 'Succession.'



US actress Julia Garner poses with the Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series for "Ozark."



British director M.J. Delaney accepts the award for Outstanding Directing For A Comedy Series for "Ted Lasso" onstage.



Actress Sheryl Lee Ralph poses with the Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series for "Abbott Elementary".



US producer and talk show host Oprah Winfrey (left) and John Legend (right) and Chrissy Teigen speaks onstage.

"Watch Out For The Big Grrrls" in the competition program category represented a win for diversity.

"When I was a little girl, all I wanted to see was me in the media," she said, the emotion clear on her face. "Someone fat like me. Black like me. Beautiful like me. "If I could go back and tell a little Lizzo something, I'd be like, "You're gonna see that person, but bitch, it's going to have to be you.""

Quinta Brunson took home her first Emmy for writing for ABC sitcom hit "Abbott Elementary" and co-star Sheryl Lee Ralph won for best supporting actress, celebrating with a verse of Dianne Reeves' "Endangered Species."

The show was a rare winner for traditional networks, along with perennial Emmys juggernaut "Saturday Night Live." Geena Davis' Institute on Gender in Media won the special Governors Award, and the veteran actress took up Lizzo's theme. "Television can often directly impact how people see themselves and judge their value in the world," she said.

"We've made a great deal of progress, but still there's more work to do." Monday's ceremony marked a return to normality, after the Covid-19 crisis forced producers to get creative with remote and socially distanced editions in 2020 and 2021. The show at a downtown Los Angeles theater was also the first major Hollywood awards ceremony since this year's extraordinary Oscars, when Will Smith stunned the world by slapping Chris Rock over a joke about his wife. —AFP



US actor Jason Sudeikis (center) accepts the award for Outstanding Comedy Series for "Ted Lasso" onstage.

List of winners:

- Outstanding Drama Series**
Succession
- Outstanding Comedy Series**
Ted Lasso
- Outstanding Limited Series**
The White Lotus
- Lead Actor in a Drama Series**
Lee Jung-jae (Squid Game)
- Writing for a Drama Series**
Jesse Armstrong (Succession, "All The Bells Say")
- Directing for a Comedy Series**
MJ Delaney (Ted Lasso, "No Weddings And A Funeral")
- Lead Actress in a Comedy Series**
Jean Smart (Hacks)
- Lead Actress in a Drama Series**
Zendaya (Euphoria)
- Directing for a Drama Series**
Hwang Dong-hyuk (Squid Game, "Red Light, Green Light")
- Writing for a Comedy Series**
Quinta Brunson (Abbott Elementary, "Pilot")
- Lead Actor in a Comedy Series**
Jason Sudeikis (Ted Lasso)
- Writing for a Variety Special**
Jerrold Carmichael (Rothaniel)
- Writing for a Limited Series or TV Movie**
Mike White (The White Lotus)
- Directing for a Limited Series or TV Movie**
Mike White (The White Lotus)
- Competition Program**
Lizzo's Watch Out for the Big Grrrls
- Lead Actress in a Limited Series or TV Movie**
Amanda Seyfried (The Dropout)
- Supporting Actress in a Limited Series or TV Movie**
Jennifer Coolidge (The White Lotus)
- Variety Talk Series**
Last Week Tonight With John Oliver
- Variety Sketch Series**
Saturday Night Live
- Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series**
Brett Goldstein (Ted Lasso)
- Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series**
Sheryl Lee Ralph (Abbott Elementary)
- Supporting Actress in a Drama Series**
Julia Garner (Ozark)
- Supporting Actor in a Drama Series**
Matthew Macfadyen (Succession)
- Supporting Actor in a Limited Series or TV Movie**
Murray Bartlett (The White Lotus)
- Lead actor in a limited series or TV movie**
Michael Keaton (Dopesick)
- Outstanding Documentary or Nonfiction Series**
The Beatles: Get Back
- Outstanding Documentary or Nonfiction Special**
George Carlin's American Dream
- Writing For a Variety Series**
Last Week Tonight with John Oliver
- Variety Special (live)**
Lamar and 50 Cent
- Variety Special (pre-recorded)**
Adele: One Night Only



John Oliver (center) and writers/producers, winners of the Outstanding Variety Talk Series award for 'Last Week Tonight with John Oliver'.



Team from 'The Beatles: Get Back: Part 3' pose with the award for Outstanding Sound Editing for a Nonfiction or Reality Program.

Sports

England 'potential' excites Stokes after SA series win

England should 'walk towards danger', in cricket terms

News in brief

Bologna name new coach

MILAN: Former Italian international Thiago Motta is the new coach of Bologna following the sacking of Sinisa Mihajlovic, the Serie A side confirmed on Monday. In a statement, Bologna said that Motta had "signed a deal with the club lasting until 30 June 2024". Bologna CEO Claudio Fenucci had said on Saturday that Motta - who won the Serie A, Champions League and Italian Cup treble as a player with Inter Milan in 2010 - would be Bologna's new coach. Brazilian-born Motta guided modest Spezia to 16th spot last season but left by mutual consent in June. Mihajlovic was dismissed on Tuesday after Bologna failed to win any of their first five matches in Serie A this season. The 53-year-old Serbian had been Bologna coach since January 2019 but was diagnosed with leukemia just before the 2019-20 season and has been in and out of hospital since to undergo treatment and avoid the risk of a relapse.

Diego Costa joins Wolves

LONDON: Wolves signed former Chelsea and Atletico Madrid striker Diego Costa on Monday on a season-long deal. The 33-year-old has been without a club since leaving Brazilian side Atletico Mineiro in January. Wolves were in need of attacking options after new signing Sasa Kalajdzic suffered a cruciate knee ligament injury on his debut against Southampton last weekend. Wolves chairman Jeff Shi said: "We are absolutely delighted to welcome Diego Costa to Wolves, and back to the Premier League. "A serial winner with a wealth of experience at the highest level, Diego will bring something unique to our dressing room and on the pitch, and we look forward to his impact at Molineux." Wolves have scored just three goals in their opening six games of the Premier League season and sit 14th in the table with six points. Costa scored 59 goals in 120 games for Chelsea in his previous spell in England, leading the Blues to two Premier League titles.

Nakagami extends contract

PARIS: Japanese MotoGP rider Takaaki Nakagami has extended his contract with Honda-PCR for a year until the end of 2023, the Japanese team announced on Tuesday. The 30-year-old has raced for the team firstly in Moto2 from 2012 and then moved up to the premier class in 2018 recording six top-five placings. "We are very pleased with this announcement," said Honda team manager Lucio Cecchinello. "Since 2020 Taka has proved to be a very fast rider able to fight for podium positions and this year he has consistently fought to finish as the top Honda rider. "I trust in his potential and thanks to his six years of experience he will definitely help the PCR Honda Team to improve our bike package and to close the gap with our competitors." Nakagami - who lies a lowly 16th in the championship with just 46 points - will be paired with Spaniard Alex Rins, whose present team Suzuki are pulling out of MotoGP at the end of the season.

Joshua accepts fight terms

LONDON: Anthony Joshua has accepted terms for a proposed world heavyweight title fight with Tyson Fury, his management team announced on Tuesday. Fury, the WBC champion, made the offer to his British rival last week, saying he would be willing to offer Joshua 40 percent of the purse in order to seal the contest. Joshua's management team, 258, said on Tuesday they had accepted Fury's offer on behalf of Joshua and his promoter, Matchroom, and were awaiting the champion's response. They wrote on social media in a message retweeted by Joshua: "258 and @MatchroomBoxing can confirm, on behalf of @anthonyjoshua, that we accepted all terms presented to us by Fury's team for a fight Dec 3rd last Friday. "Due to the Queen's passing (death of Queen Elizabeth II), it was agreed to halt all communication. We are awaiting a response." Fury made the offer for a "Battle of Britain" bout with Joshua after it emerged that rival champion Oleksandr Usyk had ruled out fighting again until early next year.

Kimpembe sidelined for weeks

PARIS: Paris Saint-Germain's French international defender Presnel Kimpembe will be out for around six weeks with a hamstring injury, leaving him little time to be fit for the World Cup, the club said on Tuesday. Kimpembe, 27, suffered the injury in PSG's 1-0 victory against Brest on Saturday. France begin the defense of their World Cup title against Australia in Qatar on November 22. "Presnel Kimpembe will not be available for about six weeks. A new assessment will be made in eight days," PSG said in a statement. The injury also rules the 28-times capped Kimpembe out of PSG's Champions League group stage matches. The French side face Maccabi Haifa in Israel on Wednesday after making a winning start against Juventus in their first game. Kimpembe is one of several key France stars sidelined through injury as the World Cup approaches. Midfielder Paul Pogba is recovering from knee surgery whilst both N'Golo Kante and Karim Benzema are also sidelined.— From AFP

LONDON: Ben Stokes said it was "scary" to think of what England might achieve after rounding off a successful first-season as captain with a dominant display against South Africa (SA). England needed just 25 minutes at the Oval to complete a nine-wicket win over the Proteas in barely more than two days' actual playing time that secured a 2-1 series victory.

It also meant England had won six out of seven Tests under a new leadership duo of Stokes and coach Brendon McCullum—a far cry from a record of one win in 17 matches that marked the end of Joe Root's reign as skipper. New Zealand, the World Test champions were beaten 3-0 before England defeated India in a one-off Test, held over from last year because of coronavirus concerns in the Indian camp, prior to seeing off the Proteas.

All of those triumphs were marked by a willingness to engage in dashing run-chases, while removing as much pressure from players as possible, albeit much of England's success, as South Africa captain Dean Elgar noted, was built on traditional fundamentals of the red-ball game. But they all took place on home soil and Stokes is determined England should "walk towards danger", in

cricket terms, during their next Test series, a three-match tour of Pakistan in December.

England have been without two injured fast bowlers in Jofra Archer and Mark Wood all season, but Stokes is excited by the prospect of both express quicks being available when his team try to regain the Ashes at home to arch-rivals Australia next year. "Who knows how far we can take this side over the next couple of years?," he said. "We've got two of our premium fast bowlers who have had big injuries this summer and have missed a lot of cricket. "You add Jofra and Woody into the mix being fully fit—it's scary to think where things could go, especially with the ball."

'Excited' by Pakistan challenge

But before then England face the very different challenge posed by going to Pakistan, where they have not played a series since 2005 due to security concerns. "It is something that we are going to have to try to continue to do in Pakistan, we can't live off the fact that we've won six out of seven games because we will be presented with a completely different challenge," he said.

"(We must) Walk towards that danger of what Pakistan is going to



Ben Stokes of England

throw at us. "It's a hot country, you are not going to get anywhere near as much assistance with the ball as you do in England. You will be facing a lot more spin. "That's a new challenge for us and something we are excited by. To show in different situations we can show off the positive mindset and always try to put the pressure back onto the opposition," he added.

Former New Zealand captain McCullum played down his part in

England's transformation. "It is definitely more Ben than me, he is the leader of the side," McCullum told the BBC. "He is a genuine, authentic person, who loves being able to give guys freedom to be the best versions of themselves on the cricket field. "That is why we've seen guys who probably came into this summer with some question marks over their head be able to go out there and perform and look just as good as any international cricketer going around." —AFP

Elgar rues S Africa's lack of runs after England series loss

LONDON: South Africa captain Dean Elgar was left lamenting his side's lack of runs after England sped to a series-clinching win in the third Test at the Oval. England needed just 25 minutes' playing time on Monday's scheduled fifth day to wrap up a dominant nine-wicket victory for a 2-1 campaign triumph.

But in a three-Test series where no match went beyond the third day's play, England's success in south London was achieved in just over two days of actual cricket, with Thursday's opener washed out before Friday was abandoned completely as a mark of respect following the death of Queen Elizabeth II. With the pitch having had more time than usual to 'sweat' under the covers, late-season English conditions, often a testing environment for batting, were made that much more difficult and it was no surprise when South Africa were dismissed for a meagre 118.

England fared little better in making 158, with both sides boasting a strong seam attack and a fallible top order. South Africa's second-innings 169 left England with just 130 to chase and the hosts knocked off the runs inside 23 overs. This match represented the fourth-shortest Test staged in England in terms of the number of balls - 909 - and the briefest in the country in 110 years.

But a South Africa batting line-up now without

Hashim Amla and Quinton de Kock, both retired from Tests, had already been struggling. The tourists managed just one individual fifty in three matches-opener Sarel Erwee's 73 during an innings and 12-run win in the first Test at Lord's. South Africa, still in contention for a World Test Championship final berth, are next in red-ball action during a three-match series away to Australia later this year.

But that will be the Proteas' last such campaign until 2026, with their intervening Test series in the recently published Future Tours Program a maximum of two matches each. Add in that the launch next year of a new domestic Twenty20 franchise competition—which Cricket South Africa chiefs hope will prove a money-spinner—will cut across a first-class program that has itself been cut from 10 matches to seven a side, and the difficulty in developing the Proteas' next generation of Test batsmen becomes all too apparent.

"I always bank on experience," said 35-year-old opener Elgar, a veteran of 79 Tests. "I know we don't have that at the Test level. "My next best thing is who do we have with experience in first-class cricket back home?" Elgar, who averaged a mere 21.40 in the England series compared to a career mark of 38.83, added: "It was up there with really tough conditions, even for myself and I've got a relatively decent amount of experience. I can only imagine how a guy with one or two Tests under his belt must feel."

'No cobwebs' for Jansen

One consolation for South Africa was the form of Marco Jansen, who continued an impressive start to his Test career by topping both the tourists' batting and bowling averages. Jansen scored 82 runs at



South Africa's Dean Elgar

27.33 and the towering 22-year-old left-arm quick took nine wickets at 13.11 apiece—and all this in two matches after Jansen was misguidedly dropped from the team that lost the second Test by an innings and 85 runs. "He is a massive talent," said Elgar of Jansen, who has now played seven Tests. "I do think he approaches the game with more of a positive mindset. He has got no baggage, no cobwebs in his closet...He has never really been hurt or failed at a young age."

Elgar often became irked when repeatedly asked about England's so-called 'Bazball' approach, a reference to the attacking intent with which they played under coach Brendon McCullum. England have now won six of their seven Tests under a new leadership duo of McCullum and captain Ben Stokes, but Elgar said: "I didn't see that 'B-word' at all coming through, I just felt they controlled it well. "Throughout the whole series I thought they played pretty accurate Test cricket." —AFP

Alaphilippe given all-clear for defense of cycling world title

PARIS: Julian Alaphilippe has been named in the French team to attempt to win a third successive road race world title weeks after dislocating his shoulder. The 30-year-old's participation had been in doubt when he exited the Vuelta after suffering the injury in a fall during the 11th stage on August 31. Although as reigning champion a place is reserved for Alaphilippe he has proved he is fit enough to merit a ticket on the plane to Australia by resuming training soon after the tumble.

He will hope a dreadful season ends on a high. A spectacular fall in the Strade Bianchi at the beginning of March was followed by him missing the Milan-San Remo due to bronchitis and he also sat out the Tour of Flanders. However, barely back on his bike he suffered multiple injuries when he collided with a tree in a crash during the Liege-Bastogne-Liege classic.

He was out of action for a lengthy spell as a result of that, firstly in hospital and then undergoing rehab. Although back in the saddle he was omitted from the

S African coach Boucher to quit after T20 WCup

JOHANNESBURG: South African head coach Mark Boucher will quit his job after the T20 World Cup in October and November, Cricket South Africa announced on Monday. Boucher, appointed in controversial circumstances in 2019, was due to be in charge until the end of the 2023

Cricket World Cup in India.

His shock decision means that South Africa have to appoint a new head coach before a challenging Test tour of Australia in December, which could be crucial to the country's chances of qualifying for the World Test Championship final at Lord's in June 2023. According to CSA's statement, Boucher has decided to resign "in order to pursue other opportunities in line with his future career and personal objectives."

"While Cricket SA greatly regrets that Mr Boucher is unable to see out the

term of his contract, it respects his decision and wishes him all the best in his future endeavours." Boucher survived criticism of his appointment in December 2019 by former captain Graeme Smith without a formal recruitment process, and charges of racism levelled by CSA after what were termed Social Justice and Nation Building hearings into alleged racism in South African cricket. The charges were later dropped and CSA issued a statement giving its full support to Boucher.

The former Test wicketkeeper was in charge while South Africa racked

up 11 Test wins and briefly headed the World Test Championship table. They are currently second after losing the third Test and the series against England earlier on Monday. Boucher will take the team on a white-ball tour of India later this month, followed by the T20 World Cup. CSA chief executive Pholetsi Moseki said Boucher "has helped navigate us through some rough waters following the departures of so many senior players through retirement and has helped lay some strong foundations for the next generation of Proteas." —AFP



BARGANA: (From left) Team Quick Step's French rider Julian Alaphilippe and Team Quick Step's Belgian rider Pieter Serry ride with the rest of the pack in Bargana, parish of Tolivia, during the 8th stage of the 2022 La Vuelta cycling tour of Spain. —AFP

Sports

Chelsea-Liverpool, United-Leeds postponed over police shortage

English Football League matches to resume after queen's death

LONDON: Liverpool's visit to Chelsea and Manchester United's clash with Leeds on Sunday have been postponed due to policing pressures ahead of the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II, the Premier League announced on Monday. Seven Premier League games will go ahead this weekend, with Brighton's match against Crystal Palace having previously been postponed due to a planned rail strike. Despite the strike since being cancelled, the match remains off. Arsenal's trip to Brentford on Sunday has also been moved forward two hours to a midday kick-off.

"Following extensive consultation with clubs, police, local Safety Advisory Groups and other relevant authorities, there was no other option but to postpone the three fixtures," the Premier League said in a statement. "The Premier League would like to thank the UK Football Policing Unit and other police forces across the country, as well as our broadcast partners, for their support during this process, and will continue to liaise with them ahead of the weekend."

"For the matches being played during the period of national mourning, tributes will be paid to The Queen at Premier League stadiums." All matches in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales were postponed last weekend as a mark of respect. Arsenal's Europa League clash with PSV Eindhoven on Thursday has also been called off due to the huge police operation required in London this week, with the Queen to lie in state between Wednesday and her funeral on September 19.

Matches to resume

Meanwhile, the English Football League has

announced its teams will return to action on Tuesday after fixtures were suspended following the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Matches in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland were postponed over the weekend as a mark of respect for the late monarch.

"A minute's silence will be held before matches, with black armbands to be worn by participants, flags to be flown at half-mast and the national anthem to be played in stadiums," the EFL, which runs the three divisions below the Premier League, said in a statement on Monday. "With a national policing plan now in operation, the league and clubs will continue to work with forces in respect of any challenges that may emerge regarding policing of specific fixtures."

The Premier League is set to resume on Friday, when Aston Villa host Southampton and Fulham travel to Nottingham Forest. But is not yet certain that all matches in the English top flight or EFL will go ahead as planned at the weekend due to the strain on police resources as a result of the queen's state funeral, which will take place next Monday. Sports governing bodies were meeting again with the government on Monday to discuss the scheduling of events.

The English Football Association announced that fixtures, including in the Women's Super League and FA Cup qualifying, will resume immediately. The Scottish FA said the intention was for the "professional game to resume as normal" and Welsh football chiefs said matches would start again on Tuesday. "We will work with football clubs to try and ensure that, where possible, football fixtures can take place safely when balanced against the



LONDON: Chelsea's Spanish assistant coach Bruno Saltor (center) leads a training session on the eve of the UEFA Champions League group E football match between England's Chelsea and Austria's Red Bull Salzburg at the team's training ground in London on September 13, 2022. —AFP

requirement to support national events and deliver day-to-day policing," said a statement from the National Police Chiefs' Council.

"This is a unique situation and we are working closely with everyone involved." Arsenal's Europa

League clash with PSV Eindhoven on Thursday has been postponed due to a lack of police resources in the capital. A huge police operation is required in London this week with the queen to lie in state between Wednesday and her funeral next Monday. —AFP

Haaland set to show Dortmund what they are missing

MANCHESTER: Borussia Dortmund know only too well of Erling Haaland's ability to destroy defences in the Champions League, but the German giants may die by the sword they previously lived by when they visit Manchester City on Wednesday. Haaland blossomed into one of the world's most feared strikers during two-and-a-half years in Germany, scoring 86 goals in 89 games for Dortmund. Eight games into his City career, the giant Norway striker with a devastating turn of speed has already scored 12 times for the English champions.

"His numbers in all his career, not just here but when he was in previous teams, is quite similar," said City boss Pep Guardiola after Haaland struck twice in a 4-0 win at Sevilla to kick off City's latest quest to break their Champions League duck. "He has an incredible sense of goal." Haaland's bargain 60 million euro (£51 million, \$63 million) buyout clause meant he had his choice of clubs after he had outgrown his surroundings in the Bundesliga.

Dortmund may provide the perfect breeding ground for Europe's top talents to develop in the early years of their career, but they cannot compete financially with the continent's wealthiest clubs, nor satisfy the ambitions of the world's best players in the long term. Haaland followed in the footsteps of Jadon Sancho, Christian Pulisic, Ousmane Dembele, Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Robert Lewandowski and Mario Goetze as stars of the future to fly the nest



MANCHESTER: (Left to right) Manchester City's English midfielder Jack Grealish, Manchester City's Norwegian striker Erling Haaland and Manchester City's English midfielder Phil Foden attend a training session on September 13, 2022 at the Manchester City training ground on the eve of the UEFA Champions League group G football match between England's Manchester City and Germany's Borussia Dortmund. —AFP

after briefly leaving their mark in western Germany.

However, losing Haaland may prove the biggest loss of all with the 22-year-old threatening to rewrite records set by Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi that many believed would remain intact for generations. Haaland's double against Sevilla took his tally in the Champions League to 25 goals in 20 games. At the same stage of their careers, Ronaldo, the competition's all-time top goalscorer with 140, was yet to score, while Messi struck eight times in his first 20

matches in Europe's elite club competition.

"I love the Champions League. I have to say this, it's a big dream for me," Haaland told Telemundo Deportes this week as he revealed the competition's anthem is the ringtone on his phone. "When I wake up every morning, I listen to this song. It's my favorite competition." Haaland's haul in the Champions League was also why City were so desperate to sign him as the successor to the club's all-time top goalscorer Sergio Aguero. —AFP

Bochum sack coach Reis after six straight losses

FRANKFURT: German club VfL Bochum have dismissed coach Thomas Reis after six straight losses that left them bottom of the Bundesliga table and yet to garner a point, the side said Monday. The 48-year-old has Bochum coursing through his veins as he played for them from 1995-2003. "It should be clear to everyone that this decision is not easy for us," said sports director Patrick Fabian. "Thomas Reis has a connection to the club and the city that goes beyond the successful past three years."

Assistant manager Markus Gellhaus was also dismissed. Coach of the under-19 side, Heiko Butscher, will take over as coach on an interim basis. Reis was appointed in September 2019, guiding them to promotion to the Bundesliga in the 2020/21 season. He is the second Bundesliga coach to be fired this season. Last week, Bundesliga club RB Leipzig fired manager Domenico Tedesco, after a 4-1 home thrashing by Ukraine's Shakhtar Donetsk in their opening Champions League group match. Former Borussia Dortmund manager Marco Rose was appointed in his place. —AFP

Wallabies 'can knock over' All Blacks: Rennie

MELBOURNE: Coach Dave Rennie is confident a new-look Australia can get one hand on the elusive Bledisloe Cup with victory over New Zealand in Melbourne on Thursday, but warned the Wallabies must be at their best. To bring home the silverware from New Zealand for the first time since 2002, the Wallabies will need to win at Docklands Stadium before repeating the feat at Eden Park in Auckland nine days later. It is a huge task for Rennie's inconsistent side, who were handed a brutal 24-8 wake-up call by South Africa in Sydney 10 days ago after beating the world champions a week earlier in Adelaide.

New Zealand have also lacked consistency this

season, but will go into the clash full of confidence after unleashing their most complete 80 minutes of 2022 in Hamilton to crush Argentina 53-3 after four defeats in their previous six Tests. It left the All Blacks top of a tight Rugby Championship race with two games to play, one point ahead of Australia, South Africa and Argentina.

The Springboks face the wounded Pumas in Buenos Aires on Saturday, buoyed by their battling win over the Wallabies, before a return leg in Durban. Rennie has made eight changes to his starting side, but believes they have what it takes to upset New Zealand. "I think everything that has happened prior to this counts for little, it's going to be about our ability to perform at our best and we need to be at our best to have a chance against the All Blacks," he said.

"We are confident we can knock over anyone, but we have to play at our best and force the All Blacks to be below their best." He pointed to Australia needing to dominate the collision area and was wary of the New Zealand lineout with veteran lock Brodie Retallick starting his first game since fracturing a

cheekbone against Ireland. "Obviously Brodie Retallick is back in the mix and Scott Barrett has been a big performer for them. It gives them a powerful lineup," he said.

To counter the All Blacks pack, Rennie gives Jed Holloway a first start at lock, partnering Matt Philip in the second row. Rob Leota returns at blindside flanker while Pete Samu earns his first start of the 2022 campaign at openside, with Rob Valetini at No 8. David Porecki is preferred at hooker to Fola Fainga'a. Rennie is also hoping Bernard Foley can help dictate the game, with the veteran fly-half picked for the first time since the 2019 World Cup after Noah Lesio was ruled out with concussion.

'Primed and ready'

Along with Retallick, who brings 96 caps of experience, All Blacks coach Ian Foster made one other change, with Hoskins Sotutu replacing dynamic No.8 Ardie Savea who remained at home for the birth of his third child. Retallick will link up with long-time second row partner Sam Whitelock

with Scott Barrett moving to outside flanker in place of Shannon Frizell, who suffered a rib injury against the Pumas.

"I think the consistency we've been demanding ... we really feel we're getting there," Foster told reporters. "This week, like the other ones, we've been training well, we're primed and ready to go. "It's a big game in the Rugby Championship, everyone is on the same starting line, so with two rounds to go it's a big weekend to make a bit of a statement."

New Zealand have won 16 of their last 20 Tests against Australia, including the last three, and Foster added that they were "incredibly driven" to hold on to the Bledisloe Cup. Fullback Jordie Barrett said the All Blacks would need to adapt to Australia playing at speed with quick ball from the breakdown, presenting a different challenge to that posed by Argentina. "There'll be trends that we are looking to test Australia with through their defence but if they present something completely different that we haven't planned for, we have got to be able to adapt on the run," he said. —AFP

Classifieds

Hospitals & Clinics

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
Qadsia	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401

CHANGE OF NAME

Chollangi Maryvijaya holder of Passport No. 22443181 do hereby change my name to Chollangi Indira as given name Chollangi Maryvijaya as surname for all purposes I will henceforth be. (C#0873) 12-09-2022

I. MOHAMED HAJA CHAHUL HAMID holder

of Passport No. V3760102 do hereby change my name to CHAHUL HAMID (as Given name) MOUHAMAD HADJA (as Surname) for all purposes. I will henceforth be known in the name CHAHUL HAMID MOUHAMAD HADJA and I also undertake to carry out this name change in all my documents. (C#0874) 12-09-2022

Abraham scores decisive goal as Roma overpower Empoli 2-1

Serie A strugglers Monza sack coach Stroppa



EMPOLI: AS Roma's British forward Tammy Abraham (left) heads the ball past Empoli's Italian defender Sebastiano Luperto (2nd left) and Empoli's Albanian defender Ardian Ismajli (3rd left) during the Italian Serie A football match between Empoli and AS Roma on September 12, 2022. — AFP

EMPOLI: Tammy Abraham struck the decisive goal in Roma's 2-1 win at Empoli on Monday which put them a point behind a trio of sides leading the way in Serie A. Roma are fifth but just behind Napoli, Atalanta and AC Milan after Abraham forced home Paulo Dybala's cross from close range in the 71st minute. The impressive Dybala had opened the scoring for the away side, who came into Monday's match off the back of two bad defeats at the hands of fourth-placed Udinese and Ludogorets, in the 17th minute with a beautifully guided shot after having already hit the post.

"We know it was going to be tough, coming into this we lost two games before so we needed this for our confidence. But we're happy to win," Abraham told Sky Sport Italia. "I need to keep learning and improving. I'm coming off the back of an injury so I'm still getting my fitness back a little bit but I'm happy to score and help

the team as much as possible." Jose Mourinho's side were looking at another poor result two minutes before the break when Filippo Bandinelli reacted brilliantly to bad Roma defending by guiding home a header from Petar Stojanovic's cross.

A draw would not have flattered Empoli who struck the woodwork through Martin Satriano and Jean-Daniel Akpa Akpro and created opportunities after Akpa Akpro was sent off in the final few minutes. But Abraham's second goal of the season was just enough to seal the three points, with Lorenzo Pellegrini also smacking a penalty off the bar with 10 minutes remaining. Roma host HJK in the Europa League on Thursday before travelling to in-form Atalanta in their final match before this month's international break.

Meanwhile, Monza have sacked coach Giovanni Stroppa, the Serie A club announced on Tuesday after a poor start to their first Serie A season left them bot-

tom of the table. In a statement, Monza said the club's former youth team coach Raffaele Palladino would take charge of the team. Stroppa took Monza up to Serie A for the first time in their history but just one point from their opening six games in the top flight wasn't enough for owner, former Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi.

Monza bought an almost entire new team after being promoted via the play-offs, signing players with extensive experience in the top division like Andrea Ranocchia, Stefano Sensi, Matteo Pessina and Alessio Cragno. Monza were still in the third tier when media tycoon Berlusconi bought the club in 2018 for a reported three million euros (\$3.4 million). Under his ownership AC Milan became one of the titans of European football, winning five European Cups and eight Serie A titles over more than three decades. — AFP

Italian Serie A Table

Italian Serie A table after Monday's match (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

Napoli	6	4	2	0	13	4	14
Atalanta	6	4	2	0	10	3	14
AC Milan	6	4	2	0	12	6	14
Udinese	6	4	1	1	12	6	13
Roma	6	4	1	1	8	6	13
Inter Milan	6	4	0	2	12	8	12
Lazio	6	3	2	1	9	5	11
Juventus	6	2	4	0	9	4	10
Torino	6	3	1	2	6	6	10
Salernitana	6	1	4	1	9	6	7
Fiorentina	6	1	3	2	5	6	6
Bologna	6	1	3	2	7	9	6
Sassuolo	6	1	3	2	4	8	6
Hellas Verona	6	1	2	3	6	11	5
Spezia	6	1	2	3	5	10	5
Empoli	6	0	4	2	5	7	4
Lecce	6	0	3	3	4	7	3
Cremonese	6	0	2	4	5	10	2
Sampdoria	6	0	2	4	3	11	2
Monza	6	0	1	5	3	14	1

Liverpool's 'horror show' leaves Klopp searching for answers

LIVERPOOL: Jurgen Klopp said he has spent days trawling over Liverpool's "horror show" of a 4-1 defeat to Napoli that leaves last season's Champions League finalists with little margin for error in Europe. A buoyant Ajax visit Anfield on Tuesday, fresh from their 4-0 mauling of Rangers on matchday one, looking to twist the knife into a Liverpool side that appears to be running on empty.

Klopp's men came within two matches of winning an unprecedented quadruple last season, only to lose out to Manchester City on the final day of the Premier League season and suffer defeat against Real Madrid in the Champions League final. Liverpool are feeling the hangover, after their relentless 63-game season, in the early weeks of the new campaign.

Their success in seven years under Klopp has been built on running the extra mile to gain the upper hand. In all seven of their games so far this season, the opposition has covered more distance. They have recorded just two wins in those seven games, one courtesy of a winner against Newcastle deep into stoppage time.

But even Klopp was shocked at the depths his side sank to in Naples last week as the Italians missed a penalty and a host of other glorious chances to make the scoreline even more embarrassing.

"I watched the game back plenty of times and it was a real horror show," Klopp said at his pre-match press conference for the visit of Ajax. "It was the worst game we played since I am here. We had a few bad ones, everyone remembers (a 7-2 defeat to) Aston Villa and others but there were always glimpses of us even in these games. In this particular game, nothing."

Nunez's slow start

In the immediate aftermath of the demolition at the Diego Maradona Stadium, Klopp said Liverpool needed to reinvent themselves. They are already finding it difficult to make the transition forced by the departure of forward Sadio Mane to Bayern Munich. A colossal presence during Klopp's time in charge, the Senegalese offered both the energy to press without the ball and quality to make the difference in the final third.

Darwin Nunez is yet to deliver on his 80 million euro (\$81 million, £69 million) transfer fee, not helped by a three-match suspension as punishment for a sending-off on his home debut. At the back, Virgil van Dijk and Trent Alexander-Arnold have suffered alarming dips in form. But it is in midfield where Liverpool have really toiled, with the decision not to reinforce



KIRKBY: Liverpool's German head coach Jurgen Klopp looks on during a training session at the AXA Training Centre in Kirkby, north of Liverpool in north-west England on September 12, 2022, on the eve of the UEFA Champions League group A stage football match against Ajax at Anfield. — AFP

that area in the transfer market, until a deadline day move for out-of-favor Juventus midfielder Arthur, heavily questioned.

Liverpool are reportedly saving their money for a move for Borussia Dortmund's England international Jude Bellingham. The German giants were understood

to be unwilling to let the teenager leave in the same window in which Erling Haaland departed for Manchester City. That is a transfer strategy that has worked for Liverpool before as they held off on signing a centre-back for half a season in 2017 in order to bring in Van Dijk. — AFP