

DT NEWS

DAILY TRIBUNE

News of Bahrain

Friday, February 24, 2017 Issue No. 7302

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Mexico rejects 'unilateral' US migration moves



P 19

Tweet of the Day



How unacceptably jaded have we become by our politicians that people are shocked when one of them actually does what he said he would do?

@DonaldJTrumpJr

Today's Weather

	Max	Min
	19°C	12°C

11th Hour

Israeli fraudster sentenced to 30 months

Washington

Former Israeli fugitive Jacob "Kobi" Alexander was finally sentenced to prison for securities fraud dating from the last century, ending a decade-long saga, the US Department of Justice announced yesterday.

Two jihadist leaders in US sanctions list

Washington

The United States said yesterday it has added two senior leaders of the Al-Nusra Front in Syria to its sanctions blacklist. Although the Treasury Department announcement identified the group as Al-Nusra Front, the jihadist force changed its name last year to Fateh al-Sham Front, after supposedly breaking its ties with Al-Qaeda.

UN likely to vote on Syria sanctions

United Nations

The UN Security Council is likely to vote next week on a draft resolution that would slap sanctions on Syria over the use of chemical weapons but Russia is almost certain to veto the measure, a senior diplomat said yesterday.

Britain, France and the United States are pushing for a ban on the sale of helicopters to Syria and sanctions on 11 Syrians and 10 entities linked to chemical attacks in the nearly six-year war.

Israel shuts Jerusalem school for Hamas links

Jerusalem

Israeli police said yesterday they had closed a private Palestinian school in annexed east Jerusalem, accusing its officials of belonging to the Islamist movement Hamas. The Al Nkhba School in the Sur Baher district had already been ordered to close by the Israeli education ministry, a decision ratified by a court.

Turkey backed rebels seize IS stronghold



Turkey-backed Syrian opposition fighters advance in the city of Al-Bab

Al-Bab

Turkish-backed Syrian rebels said yesterday they had fully captured the town of Al-Bab from the Islamic State group, marking a key defeat for the jihadists after weeks of heavy fighting.

As Ankara said its allies now had "near complete control" of the town, a fresh round of peace talks opened between the Syrian opposition and regime in Geneva.

Al-Bab, just 25 kilometres (15 miles) south of the Turkish border, was the last IS stronghold in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo.

"We are announcing Al-Bab completely liberated, and we are now clearing mines from the residential neighbourhoods," said Ahmad Othman, a rebel commander.

"After hours of fighting, we chased out the last remaining IS rank and file that were collapsing after the fierce shelling of their positions," he added.

Turkish Defence Minister Fikri Isik said rebels had "near complete control" of Al-Bab.

"When the search and combing operations are over, we will be able to say that Al-Bab has been completely cleared of Daesh (IS) elements," he said, quoted by state-run Anadolu news agency.

Isik reaffirmed that Turkey was now ready to join any operation by international coalition forces to take the Syrian city of Raqa, the extremist group's de facto capital.

Rebels dance in streets

Most rebel fighters appeared relieved, with some dancing in the streets and others munching on a late breakfast after hours of clashes.

But others were on edge, nervously discussing three

bombs that had detonated that morning in areas under their control.

Several corpses of alleged IS fighters lay crumpled under a destroyed building.

One rebel poached a weapon from a dead IS fighter.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said IS fighters were still present in parts of the town and that rebels were in control of less than half of it.

Rebels launched an offensive to capture Al-Bab last year with the support of Turkish ground troops, artillery and air strikes.

Al-Bab was IS's last remaining stronghold in Aleppo province, after a US-backed alliance of Kurdish and Arab fighters seized the town of Manbij in August.

The jihadist group still controls a scattering of villages and towns in the province.

Field commanders from two other rebel factions in the town also claimed the capture of Al-Bab, including Abu Jaafar, who said he expected clearing up operations would be wrapped up within hours.

"Dozens of IS fighters were killed and we evacuated more than 50 families from inside Al-Bab," he said.

Tall task ahead

Turkey sent troops into Syria in August last year in an operation it said targeted not only IS but also US-backed Kurdish fighters whom it regards as terrorists.

"Al-Bab is important, insofar as its taking from IS will deprive the group of a tax base and an area where it was able to congregate and plot attacks against Syrians and the West," said Aaron Stein, a senior fellow at the US-based Atlantic Council. The battle for Al-Bab has been the bloodiest of the campaign with at least 69 Turkish soldiers killed. (AFP)

P 02

Pakistan on edge as 8 killed in Lahore bomb blast



P 03

One-stop crossing on King Fahad Causeway



Pakistan on edge as 8 killed in Lahore bomb blast

Lahore
At least eight people were killed and 28 injured after a bomb ripped through Pakistan's Lahore yesterday, officials said, the tenth attack in just under a fortnight pointing to a resurgence in Islamist violence.

The blast, the second to hit the provincial capital this month, crumpled cars and sent panic rippling through the city after the wave of attacks across Pakistan killed more than 130 people.

"My God, my God, I saw so many bodies," in the posh Defence Housing Authority suburb of the city, replete with upscale boutiques and cafes.

"The building where the bomb went off was under construction in a market crowded with people, including children," said Imtiaz Ali, a barber in a Tony & Guy hair salon opposite the blast site.

"When I came out I first just saw smoke and dust... Bikes upturned. Cars destroyed. My own colleague's car windows blown out. My clients' cars blown out. I was close to

fainting."

Police and administration officials confirmed it was a bomb attack, as the provincial health minister Khawaja Salman Rafique and rescuers supplied the casualty toll.

"Four people died on the spot while another four died of their wounds in the hospital," Rafique said.

No group has yet claimed responsibility.

Just over an hour later rumours of a second blast in another affluent area nearby sent ambulances racing to the scene, though authorities later said the reports were false.

Panic also spread on social media as citizens exchanged messages purporting to be warnings from intelligence agencies, including one that falsely stated a general curfew had been ordered over Lahore with shoot-on-sight orders.

The rumours underscored growing nervousness across the country as a series of assaults shook Pakistanis



Pakistani officials move a damaged car from the site

emboldened by what had been a prolonged lull in violence.

The attacks included a previous bomb in Lahore on February 13 which killed 14 people, and a devastating suicide blast at a Sufi shrine in Sindh province that left 90 devotees dead.

The incidents, most of which were claimed by the Islamic State group or the

Pakistani Taliban, have dented optimism after the country appeared to be making strong gains in its decade-and-a-half long war on militancy.

'Baiting' militants

Islamabad launched a crackdown in the wake of the attacks, saying it has killed dozens of "terrorists" in recent days and carried out airstrikes on militant hideouts along the Afghan border.

Pakistan has accused Afghanistan of harbouring the militants who have carried out the most recent attacks. (AFP)

Eleven bloody days in Pakistan

February 21

Seven people are killed when multiple suicide bombers attack a court complex in northern Pakistan.

February 16

At least 90 devotees are killed and hundreds wounded when a devastating bomb detonates in the popular Sufi shrine of Lal Shabaz Qalandar in Sehwan in southern Pakistan.

- Gunmen on motorcycles kill four policemen and a civilian in the northwestern town of Dera Ismail Khan.
- An improvised explosive device claimed by JuA hits an army convoy in Balochistan, killing three soldiers.

February 15

- A suicide bomber rides a motorcycle into a van carrying judges in Peshawar, killing the van's driver.

- Two suicide bombers launch an assault on a government compound in the Mohmand tribal region in the northwest, killing five people and wounding seven.

February 13

- Fourteen are killed and 82 injured when a powerful bomb blast tears through Lahore.

- Two members of the bomb disposal squad are killed while defusing a device in Balochistan.

February 12

- A roadside bomb kills three paramilitary soldiers in a restive northwestern tribal area bordering Afghanistan.



Pakistani security officials cordon off the site of a bomb attack

One-stop crossing on King Fahad Causeway

DT News Network
Manama

As part of the directives of His Royal Highness, Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, and HRH Prince Mohammed bin Naif bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Saudi Crown Prince, First Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister during the recent negotiation session, the customs and passport representatives of both the countries have agreed to enforce the one-stop crossing on the private lane of the King Fahad Causeway from March 6 as part of a three-month experimental phase, to be gradually implemented on the public lane after the



The one-stop border crossing on King Fahad Causeway will come into force from March 6

end of evaluation stage. This was decided during the coordination meeting held yesterday at the General Organisation of King Fahad

Causeway between officials from both the countries. The one-stop crossing aims to smoothen the traffic of individuals and trucks through

the causeway. The meeting discussed the steps that will be taken to implement the decision and its administration, security and technical aspects.



Cop gets jail for assaulting Turk

DT News Network
Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced a police officer to two months behind bars for alleged sexual affair with a Filipino maid. The verdict issued against him, however, was suspended for a BD100 bail, pending the outcome of his appeal. The defendant is reported to have been aware of the relationship between the

Turkish man and the maid, but on the day of the incident, the police officer nabbed the former in his mother's house where the Filipino maid was working. He took him to the police station, where he assaulted him. He also called his sponsor and ordered him to deport the Turkish man. But the sponsor, instead, filed a case against him over the assault. A medical report confirmed that the defendant was beaten up.



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GPIC takes part *in* Garden Show



HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa at GPIC stand

DT News Network Manama

The Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) is taking part in the 12th edition of the Bahrain International Garden Show, being held at the Bahrain International Exhibition and Conference Centre.

The participation comes as part of GPIC's support of environmental programmes and creation of green areas, while encouraging investment in the agricultural sector to reduce the food gap and achieve food security.

The focus of the show this year is on unifying national efforts to support economic and social objectives and develop the agricultural sector in accordance with principles based on social justice, competitiveness and

protecting biodiversity.

Wife of His Majesty the King & Supreme Council for Women Chairwoman HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa visited GPIC stand during the opening ceremony and was received by company President Dr. Abdulrahman Jawahery along with management members, who conveyed to her the greetings of the Chairman and the Board of Directors.

Princess Sabeeka commended the company's efforts in taking care of the environment and supporting the agricultural sector while winning several local, regional and international awards.

"The company is proud of its cooperation with all the green initiatives launched

by Her Royal Highness, which comes within the framework of an ambitious vision and her desire to develop green spaces and create an awareness of the importance of the agricultural sector," Dr. Jawahery said.

"GPIC exhibits its products for the public and informs them of the methods of use of fertilizers, including urea produced by the company, which is exported to the world's largest markets. Samples of the product are also distributed along with awareness and educational pamphlets," he added.

The event, which runs until Sunday, is organised under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

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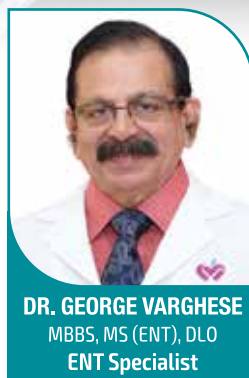
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Tenders awarded for various projects

DT News Network Manama

Undersecretary Eng. Ahmed Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat has revealed that tenders invited and awarded during January 2017 included various roads, sanitary and construction projects, covering different areas in the Kingdom.

Al Khayyat explained that the awarded tenders in the roads sector covered the BD415,020 consulting services for Mondelez International for project infrastructure works and the BD1,847,300 Muharraq Ring Road Project (extending from Hidd Interchange to Amwaj Interchange). The total cost for works in roads sector amounted to BD2,262,320

As for the sanitary sector, Al Khayyat stated that the tenders awarded included the BD254,950 sewerage line transfer project for Block 346 in the Financial Harbour Area



Ahmed Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and the BD160,000 CCTV survey to sewerage networks (2016-2018). The cost for the work amounted to BD414,950

In the construction sector, tenders awarded in January included the BD12,055 civil, mechanical and electrical works for the Handcrafts Manager's Office in Manama and the BD12,518 install and maintenance of the perfuming system for sterilizing bathrooms. The cost for the 6 tenders awarded in all three sectors amounted to BD2,701,843 The tenders for which bids were invited covered the roads, sanitary and construction sectors. In sanitary sector, the tenders

for which bids were invited included the BD3,067,494 operation and maintenance of the bi-treatment system HIBEX at the Tubli Sewage Treatment Plant and the BD259,000 backup consulting services for the Sanitary Engineering Planning & Projects Directorate (Phase 2). The total cost for the tenders for which bids were invited amounted to BD3,326,494

Bids were also invited for the BD17,000 repair works for storm water drainage system in Bahrain National Museum, the BD5,000 Time Contract (2017-2018-Re-tendering) for the civil, mechanical and electrical works, the BD119,750 operation, maintenance and repair works for the mechanical, electrical and plumbing and the civil maintenance of buildings at the Works Ministry premises in Manama and the BD641,300 maintenance at Gudaibiya Palace.

Driver jailed for traffic violations

DT News Network
Manama

A heavy truck driver set a new record in jumping red lights in one year, ignoring signals on 12 occasions. He was sentenced to three months by the

Lower Criminal Court along with BD500 fine.

The Asian man, aged 31, was serving a local transportation company, driving a big truck, according to court files. The defendant confirmed the accusations

against him by the police, and the court ordered to suspend his license for one year.

The verdict against him also included an order to expel him from the country after he completes his jail term.



Indian author to arrive in Bahrain today

DT News Network
Manama

Paul Zacharia, Malayalam short-story writer, novelist and essayist, will be attending a book release event at the KCA hall in Segaiya at 8pm today, according to organising committee chairman

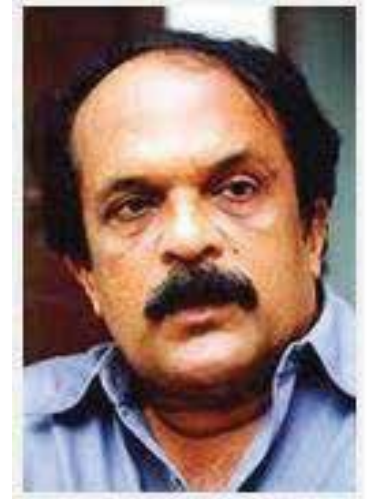
Sudheesh Raghavan. Paul Zacharia will release Meinkampf, a Malayalam novel based on expat life in the Gulf, by handing it over to Sudheesh Raghavan.

The book is written by Jayachandran, an Indian

writer living in the Kingdom. Anil Vencod will introduce the book to the gathering.

Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam President P.V Radhakrishna Pillai, Indian School Chairman Prince S Natarajan, SPAC Chairman P.Unnikrishnan, E.A Salim, K.Janardhanan and E.V Rajeevan will give the felicitation address.

Paul Zacharia, whose works have been translated into English and other languages is a recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award.



Paul Zacharia

Police deal with 546 violations



An officer warns a driver in Arad area

DT News Network
Manama,

General Director of Muharraq Governorate Police announced that the police services office at Hidd Police Station has dealt with 546 cases on Road 29 in Arad area.

The office stated that the violators were warned to stick to traffic rules. However, violators who continue to break the law will face traffic fines, the office warned.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2016

Retail Bank, Bahrain

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Standard Chartered

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 December 2016

Bahraini Dinars 000's	2016	2015
Assets		
Cash and balances at central banks	46,361	53,485
Due from other entities of the Head Office	43,121	75,564
Deposits and amounts due from banks	38,807	20,337
Investment securities	177,374	158,193
Derivative financial instruments	15,954	19,315
Loans and advances to customers	472,454	492,885
Property, equipment and software	4,187	4,420
Other assets	9,462	6,070
Total assets	807,720	830,269
Liabilities		
Due to other entities of the Head Office	34,719	31,285
Derivative financial instruments	19,891	24,542
Deposits and amounts due to banks	35,442	45,431
Customers accounts	641,537	656,631
Other liabilities	25,796	28,010
Total liabilities	757,385	785,899
Head Office funds		
Capital	10,743	10,743
Retained earnings	4,771	(441)
Other reserves	34,821	34,068
Total Head Office funds	50,335	44,370
Total liabilities and Head Office funds	807,720	830,269

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN HEAD OFFICE FUNDS

for the year ended 31 December 2016

Bahraini Dinars 000's

2016	2015
At 1 January 2016	At 1 January 2015
Comprehensive income for the year	Comprehensive income for the year
Profit for the year	Loss for the year
Other comprehensive income	Other comprehensive income
Fair value reserve:	Fair value reserve:
Net change in fair value of available-for-sale reserve	Net change in fair value of available-for-sale reserve
Total comprehensive income for the year	Total comprehensive income for the year
At 31 December 2016	At 31 December 2015
Amounts remitted to Head Office during the year	Amounts remitted to Head Office during the year
At 31 December 2015	At 31 December 2015

Dr. Boutros Klink
Chief Executive Officer, Bahrain

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

for the year ended 31 December 2016

Bahraini Dinars 000's	2016	2015
Interest income	30,007	29,494
Interest expense	(4,622)	(2,885)
Net interest income	25,385	26,609
Fee and commission income	8,842	10,678
Fee and commission expense	(960)	(943)
Net fee and commission income	7,882	9,735
Net trading income	4,597	(570)
Other operating income	197	375
Total operating income	38,061	36,149
Staff costs	11,691	12,311
Depreciation and amortisation	422	575
Premises and equipment costs	892	854
Other operating expenses	13,590	13,378
Total operating expenses	26,595	27,118
Operating profit before impairment losses	11,466	9,031
Impairment losses on loans and advances and other credit risk provisions	(6,254)	(9,472)
Profit / (loss) for the year	5,212	(441)

Capital	Retained earnings	Other reserves		Total
		General reserve	Available-for-sale reserve	
10,743	(441)	34,056	12	44,370
-	5,212	-	-	5,212
-	-	-	753	753
-	5,212	-	753	5,965
10,743	4,771	34,056	765	50,335
Capital	Retained earnings	General reserve	Available-for-sale reserve	Total
10,743	10,555	34,056	196	55,550
-	(441)	-	-	(441)
-	(441)	-	(184)	(184)
-	(10,555)	-	-	(10,555)
10,743	(441)	34,056	12	44,370

Shaikha Tareef
Chief Financial Officer, Bahrain

Audited by: KPMG
Public Accountants

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 31 December 2016

Bahraini Dinars 000's	2016	2015
Profit / (loss) for the year	5,212	(441)
Other comprehensive income		
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Net change in fair value of available-for-sale investments	753	(184)
Total other comprehensive income for the year	753	(184)
Total comprehensive income for the year	5,965	(625)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2016

Bahraini Dinars 000's	2016	2015
Operating activities		
Profit / (loss) for the year	5,212	(441)
Adjustments for non-cash items and other adjustments included in the profit / (loss):		
Depreciation and amortisation	422	575
Amortisation of discount on investment securities	(2,122)	(1,380)
Net impairment provisions for loans and advances and other credit risk provisions	6,195	9,289
Gain on sale of equipment	-	(5)
Dividend and other income received from equity investment	(180)	(65)
Net cash generated before changes in operating assets and liabilities	9,527	7,973
Balances with central banks (mandatory cash reserve)	(829)	2,288
Due from other entities of the Head Office	(85)	273
Deposits and amounts due from banks	1,165	1,492
Loans and advances to customers	14,236	3,642
Accrued interest receivable and other assets	(31)	9,679
Due to other entities of the Head Office	(11,676)	6,382
Deposits and amounts due to banks	(9,989)	(1,055)
Customers accounts	(15,094)	(5,238)
Accrued interest payable and other liabilities	(6,865)	753
Net cash (used in) / generated from operating activities	(19,641)	26,189
Investing activities		
Purchase of available-for-sale investment securities	(152,884)	(151,405)
Maturity of available-for-sale investment securities	136,578	166,560
Dividend and other income received from equity investment	180	65
Proceeds from sale of equipment	-	20
Purchase of property and equipment	(189)	(420)
Net cash (used in) / generated from investing activities	(16,315)	14,820
Financing activities		
Amounts remitted to Head Office	-	(10,555)
Net cash used in financing activities	-	(10,555)
(Decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(35,956)	30,454
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	106,285	75,831
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	70,329	106,285

sc.com/bh

Wide Angle



Joel Indrupati

Ham Radio: For Kings and Commoners

Somehow, I will always remember the clear booming voice of the late King Hussein of Jordan, which I first heard, on a ham radio receiver over 35 years ago.

This recollection of my school-time memory is caused by two seemingly unrelated events.

Firstly, the news I read on Wednesday 22 February, that UAE's Nayif-1 satellite has beamed, for the first time across the world from space, a special message from Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President of UAE and the Ruler of Dubai.

And that Nayif-1's main mission objective is "to send and receive messages on amateur radio frequencies".

Secondly, a documentary I watched on Tuesday 21 February, on Al Jazeera News Channel, titled "King Hussein of Jordan: Survival of a dynasty" which gave a glimpse into the life of a leader who reigned in the most turbulent times of Middle East.

And it is a well-known fact that the late king was a great "amateur radio broadcaster" known to the world of radio enthusiasts as JY1.

The nanosatellite Nayif-1 - one of the 104 satellites launched by India from its Satish Dhawan Space Centre, about a week ago - was developed by seven engineering students of the American University of Sharjah in collaboration with the space centre.

And now, according to a news report in UAE's "The National", "Amateur radio operators as far as Japan and Chile have received data from Nayif-1, originating from its ground station at the American University of Sharjah (AUS) and relayed via the satellite".

"Ham radio operators in Spain, Sweden, Haiti, the US, and even those out to sea, took to twitter to say they were receiving the satellite's message loud and clear".

Amazing! Three decades ago, these transmissions may not have been loud and clear. But they shocked and surprised me and my friends.

In the early 80s, I was among the high school students taken to an exhibition on electronics, in Hyderabad, India.

In a large enclosed area, a hundred people were eagerly waiting for a demonstration that could be called simply astounding, for those days and times!

Wireless two-way radio connection between India and Jordan was absolutely unthinkable then. But a ham radio operator, and his assistants were trying to show us the new power of telecommunications.

They turned the dials and pressed the buttons on electronic consoles with small meters and quivering pointers. The speakers were emanating sounds of scratchy, crackling of static which old radios make.

And we were told that King Hussein of Jordan would soon speak to this Hyderabad Ham Radio operator, who has been his friend for long.

The two had never physically seen each other. But, from the time they met 'online' when the frequency on which King Hussein was transmitting matched the frequency on which this man was transmitting, they were in regular contact.

Now, as a part of this electronics exhibition, they had both decided to give a wonderful demonstration to an awestruck audience which, luckily, included me.

I clearly remember the king saying "Good evening! Greetings from Jordan". And everyone gasped, and clapped, and went hush! And then the king mentioned the time in Jordan, and how the weather was, there, at that time. And a few other things I don't remember.

I was simply too young to understand the words, the technology, or its significance then.

But today, I am excited to find YouTube clips with late King Hussein's voice as he talks to some other radio operators -- including one in a space shuttle!

With WhatsApp and Skype and several other instant forms of communication around, it is good to see that the hobby of Ham Radio is still alive and thriving.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of this newspaper.)

Yemen rebel rocket fire kills policeman

Riyadh, **R**ocket fire by Yemeni rebels killed a policeman and wounded a civilian on the Saudi side of the border, said civil defence department.

They were the latest casualties inside the kingdom since Saudi Arabia began leading an Arab military coalition that intervened in its southern neighbour to support President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi in March 2015.

Video footage circulating on social media showed shattered glass and a trail of blood at the entrance to a court building in Dhahran South that its posters said was the aftermath of the rocket strike.

The building's front wall was pockmarked from shrapnel. A guard house appeared to have taken the brunt of the strike, and a policeman sat slumped and bloodied in his chair, apparently dead. -(AFP)



Representational image



Actors dressed during a performance on Saudi's Comic-Con

Saudi's first Comic-Con fest cited for 'violation'

Riyadh

Organisers of Saudi Arabia's first Comic-Con pop culture festival will be penalised over a "violation", the government's entertainment agency said yesterday.

The three-day festival of anime, pop art, video gaming and film-related events attracted thousands last weekend in the Red Sea city of Jeddah.

"The General Authority for Entertainment regrets the violation committed by the organisers of the Comic-Con event in one of the activities," a statement from the authority said.

It added that the authority's priority is "safeguarding values, morals and traditions" in any entertainment presented to the public.

It said an appropriate penalty would be issued.

Missing Pets



SOPHIE - Female Labrador Retriever, 1 yr, spayed, brown leather collar and necklace/string around her neck - no ID, Sar Avenue (Al Massarah compound), BD100 REWARD for safe return, 19/2/17. **39938001 or 39966703**



BLUE - Male Red Point Siamese, 1 yr, not wearing collar or ID, gate left open, may have been STOLEN, Saar (Almarkh 35 Ave/Cinema Saar), 19/1/17, BD50 REWARD, **35637527 or 35016599**



LOUIE - Male Siamese, 5 yrs, right canine tooth slightly chipped, neutered, not wearing collar or ID, garden cat - went over the high fences, may have been STOLEN, Barbar (near Jawad Dome), BD500 REWARD, 9/2/17. **36326666**



TINKER BELL - Female Shitzu mix, 3 yrs, spayed, black w white mark on chest/chin, wearing patterned collar, followed someone out, suspect STOLEN, behind St Christophers Junior School (by Twin Palms Riding School), 12/1/17. **39975151**



JUNIOR - Male Husky/Malamute mix, black/white, one blue/one brown eye, 1 yr, gate left open, not wearing collar or ID, Janabiya (next to El-Mercado Mall & Al-Ayam newspaper), 17/1/17, REWARD 300BD, **66656566/39696716/39666004/33446564**



CASPAR - Male Persian, 5 yrs, white, coat recently clipped, neutered, no collar, very friendly, Busaiten (behind petrol station), presumed STOLEN, 11/9/16, 100BD REWARD. WhatsApp **33215166** or phone **36847712**

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

	2016 BD 000	2015 BD 000
ASSETS		
Cash and balances with banks and Central Bank of Bahrain	56,399	54,142
Due from banks	88,420	77,966
Financing contracts with customers	630,391	535,395
Investments	145,665	166,412
Investment in sukuk	163,772	73,816
Investment in joint ventures and associates	129,302	130,340
Investment in real estate	301,563	301,758
Receivables, prepayments and other assets	63,458	81,075
Premises and equipments	8,682	29,400
	1,587,652	1,450,304
Assets classified as held for sale	20,272	-
TOTAL ASSETS	1,607,924	1,450,304
LIABILITIES, EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS AND OWNERS' EQUITY		
LIABILITIES		
Customers' current accounts	147,630	116,534
Due to banks	277,317	252,932
Due to non-banks	237,864	114,521
Other liabilities	41,919	48,453
Subordinated murabaha payable	91,242	91,753
	795,972	624,193
Liabilities classified as held for sale	2,117	-
	798,089	624,193
EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS	441,244	456,700
OWNERS' EQUITY		
Equity attributable to shareholders of the Parent		
Share capital	177,140	177,140
Share premium	71,403	71,403
Treasury shares	(21,923)	(21,923)
Statutory reserve	17,757	17,642
General reserve	28,237	28,237
Fair value through equity reserve	(3,574)	(1,876)
Property fair value reserve	30,923	31,501
Foreign currency translation reserve	(91)	232
Retained earnings	60,403	58,791
	360,275	361,147
Non-controlling shareholders	8,316	8,264
	368,591	369,411
TOTAL LIABILITIES, EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS AND OWNERS' EQUITY	1,607,924	1,450,304
OFF-BALANCE SHEET		
EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS	134,970	135,210
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS	154,797	45,905

Consolidated Statement of Income

	2016 BD 000	2015 BD 000
Income from retail and corporate banking activities	38,187	36,657
Net income (loss) from investment activities	4,004	(7,386)
Income from sukuk	4,957	3,344
Share of income from joint ventures and associates	4,281	74,669
Revenue from non-banking business entities	5,622	4,084
OPERATING INCOME	57,051	111,368
Direct cost of non-banking business entities	(4,577)	(6,923)
OPERATING INCOME AFTER DIRECT COSTS	52,474	104,445
Return on equity of investment account holders before Group's share as mudarib	(5,107)	(3,994)
Group's share as mudarib	1,004	237
Return on equity of investment account holders	(4,103)	(3,757)
Profit on due to banks, due to non-banks and subordinated murabaha payable	(11,391)	(9,741)
Profit paid by non-banking business entities	-	(345)
NET OPERATING INCOME	36,980	90,602
Staff costs	13,882	13,913
Depreciation	1,075	1,471
Provisions - net	7,127	33,928
Other expenses	9,085	9,558
Operating expenses of non-banking business entities	1,420	6,579
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	32,589	65,449
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR FROM OPERATIONS	4,391	25,153
ASSETS CLASSIFIED AS HELD FOR SALE		
Net loss for the year from assets classified as held for sale	(3,199)	(14,415)
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	1,192	10,738
Attributable to:		
Shareholders of the Parent	1,149	10,742
Non-controlling shareholders	43	(4)
	1,192	10,738

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

	2016 BD 000	2015 BD 000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	4,391	25,153
Net income for the year from operations	4,391	25,153
Net loss for the year from assets classified as held for sale	(3,199)	(14,415)
Net income for the year	1,192	10,738
Adjustments for:		
Share of income from joint ventures and associates	(4,281)	(74,669)
Net gain on sale of investments	(173)	-
Net gain on sale of investment in real estate	(609)	(588)
Net unrealised loss on investments	171	4,575
Net unrealised loss on investment in real estate	1,302	4,550
Dividend income	(71)	(1,050)
Foreign exchange gain	(772)	(407)
Rental income	(107)	(83)
Depreciation	4,451	7,142
Provisions - net	9,632	50,128
Operating income before changes in operating assets and liabilities	10,735	336
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Mandatory reserve with Central Bank of Bahrain	95	4,540
Due from banks	(11,817)	-
Financing contracts with customers	(95,169)	(1,387)
Receivables, prepayments and other assets	13,579	14,545
Customers' current accounts	31,096	11,292
Due to banks	24,385	109,268
Due to non-banks	123,343	(129,715)
Other liabilities	(11,735)	21,646
Net cash flows from operating activities	84,512	30,525
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Sale (purchase) of investments - net	25,618	(19,244)
(Purchase) sale of investment in sukuk - net	(90,358)	11,683
Distributions from investment in joint ventures and associates	-	3,541
Purchase of investment in real estate - net	(498)	(17,025)
Dividend income	71	1,050
Rental income	107	83
Purchase of premises and equipments - net	(3,007)	(2,158)
Net cash flows used in investing activities	(68,067)	(22,070)
FINANCING ACTIVITY		
Net movement in equity of investment account holders	(15,456)	(52,344)
Net cash flows used in financing activity	(15,456)	(52,344)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	989	(43,889)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	102,698	146,587
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 DECEMBER	103,687	102,698

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Owners' Equity

	Attributable to shareholders of the Parent										Non-controlling shareholders	Total owners' equity
	Share capital	Share premium	Treasury shares	Statutory reserve	General reserve	Fair value through equity reserve	Property fair value reserve	Foreign currency translation reserve	Retained earnings	Total		
	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000
Balance at 1 January 2016	177,140	71,403	(21,923)	17,642	28,237	(1,876)	31,501	232	58,791	361,147	8,264	369,411
Net income for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,149	1,149	43	1,192
Other comprehensive loss for the year	-	-	-	-	-	(1,698)	-	(323)	-	(2,021)	-	(2,021)
Total comprehensive (loss) income for the year	-	-	-	-	-	(1,698)	-	(323)	1,149	(872)	43	(829)
Net transfer from property fair value reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	(578)	-	578	-	-	-
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	-	-	115	-	-	-	-	(115)	-	-	-
Net movement in share of non-controlling shareholders	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9
Balance at 31 December 2016	177,140	71,403	(21,923)	17,757	28,237	(3,574)	30,923	(91)	60,403	360,275	8,316	368,591
Balance at 1 January 2015	177,140	71,403	(21,923)	16,568	28,237	(1,978)	32,759	29	47,865	350,100	10,791	360,891
Net income (loss) for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,742	10,742	(4)	10,738
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-	-	102	-	203	-	305	-	305
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year	-	-	-	-	-	102	-	203	10,742	11,047	(4)	11,043
Net transfer from property fair value reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,258)	-	1,258	-	-	-
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	-	-	1,074	-	-	-	-	(1,074)	-	-	-
Net movement in share of non-controlling shareholders	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,523)	(2,523)
Balance at 31 December 2015	177,140	71,403	(21,923)	17,642	28,237	(1,876)	31,501	232	58,791	361,147	8,264	369,411

These statements have been extracted from the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016, audited by EY who have expressed an unqualified opinion on 8 February 2017. These consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 8 February 2017. Kuwait Finance House (Bahrain) B.S.C. (c) is licensed by CBB as an Islamic retail bank.

Hamad Abdulmohsen AlMarzouq
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Abdulhaqem Yaqoub Alkhayyat
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer

Alba showcases agro initiatives



Alba team at the Bahrain International Garden Show 2017

DT News Network Manama

Aluminium Bahrain A.B.S.C. (Alba), the Bahrain-based international aluminium smelter, underlined its commitment towards Bahrain's green initiatives by supporting and participating in the Bahrain International Garden Show (BIGS), which will

conclude on February 26 at the Bahrain International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Wife of His Majesty the King & Supreme Council for Women Chairwoman HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa was welcomed by Alba's Chief Operations Officer Amin Sultan, Chief Marketing

Officer Khalid A. Latif and Administration Director Waleed Tamimi at Alba's Stand, which highlighted agricultural initiatives and projects introduced recently at Alba's HRH Princess Sabeeka Oasis.

"Bahrain International Garden Show has become one of the most outstanding garden shows in the world,

whilst having a huge impact on the people of Bahrain. We are proud of our association with this premier event over the years. Our support for BIGS is an expression of the Company's corporate social responsibility towards sustainable development in the Kingdom of Bahrain," Alba's Chief Executive Officer Tim Murray said.

Ex-IMF chief jailed for fraud

Madrid

Former IMF chief Rodrigo Rato was handed a jail sentence of four years and six months Thursday for misusing funds when he was the boss of two Spanish banks.

Spain's National Court, which deals with corruption and financial crime cases, said he had been found guilty of "embezzlement" when he headed up Caja Madrid and Bankia, at a time when both groups were having difficulties.

Rato, who is also a former Spanish economy minister, was on trial with 64 other former executives and board members at both banks accused of misusing 12 million euros (\$12.7 million) between 2003 and 2012 -- sometimes splashing out at the height of Spain's economic crisis.

They were accused of having paid for personal expenses with credit cards put at their disposal by both Caja Madrid and Bankia, without ever justifying them or declaring them to tax authorities.

According to the



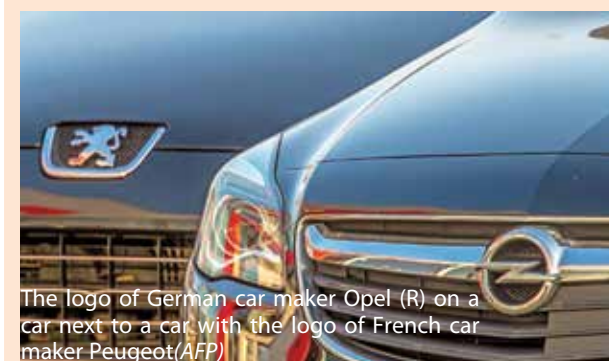
Rodrigo Rato

indictment, Rato maintained the "corrupt system" established by his predecessor Miguel Blesa when he took the reins of Caja Madrid in 2010.

He then replicated the system when he took charge of Bankia, a group born in 2011 out of the merger of Caja Madrid with six other savings banks, prosecutors said.

Blesa was sentenced to six years in jail. Rato had always denied any wrongdoing and said the credit cards were for discretionary spending as part of executives' pay deal. (AFP)

PSA eyes 'Euro champion' rank



The logo of German car maker Opel (R) on a car next to a car with the logo of French car maker Peugeot (AFP)

Paris

PSA said yesterday its takeover of Opel would create a "European champion" in the auto industry, as the French carmaker pursued its acquisition plans armed with soaring fresh profit numbers.

PSA, which owns the Peugeot and Citroen brands, said net profit for 2016 nearly doubled as the group pushes plans to buy General Motors' European brands Opel and Vauxhall.

Chief executive Carlos Tavares said the bid to acquire GM's European brands presented an

"opportunity to create a European automobile champion".

Net profit for the full year rose 79 percent to 2.15 billion euros (\$2.27 bn) with the auto giant pledging to pay shareholder dividends for the first time since 2011 to the tune of 0.48 euros per share.

If the planned takeover is successful, it would see PSA regaining its position as the second-biggest car manufacturer in Europe after Germany's Volkswagen group. That position is currently held by rival French automaker Renault.

Unauthorised U.S. immigrant populations

Most of the United States' 11.1 million unauthorised immigrants live in just 20 major metropolitan areas, according to new estimates

AREAS WITH LARGEST NUMBER OF UNAUTHORISED IMMIGRANTS



BY THE NUMBERS

1	New York-Newark-Jersey	1,150,000
2	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim	1,000,000
3	Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	575,000
4	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	475,000
5	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach	450,000
6	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin	425,000
7	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria	400,000
8	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell	250,000
9	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario	250,000
10	Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale	250,000
11	San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward	240,000
12	Boston-Cambridge-Newton	180,000
13	San Diego-Carlsbad	170,000
14	Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise	170,000
15	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington	160,000
16	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue	150,000
17	Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	130,000
18	San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara	120,000
19	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford	110,000
20	Austin-Round Rock	100,000

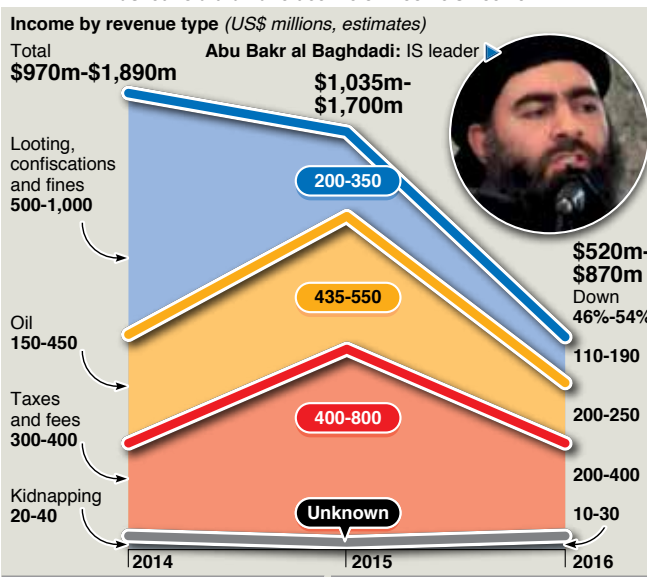


Picture: Associated Press

Source: Pew Research Center (based on 2014 American Community Survey) © GRAPHIC NEWS

Terror group's finances cut by half

A study of the finances of so-called Islamic State reveals that the group's loss of territory, coupled with an increasingly effective anti-IS coalition, has led to a dramatic decline of income since 2014



- Jun 2014: IS captures Mosul and Tikrit in Iraq. IS leader announces formation of caliphate stretching from Aleppo in Syria to Diyalah in Iraq
- Aug: U.S. President Obama launches air strikes against IS in Iraq
- Sep: U.S. launches air strikes against IS in Syria
- 2015: IS-linked attacks in Australia, France, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Tunisia and U.S. kill at least 227 people
- Sep 2015: Russia begins airstrikes in Syria
- Oct: U.S.-led coalition launches Operation Tidal Wave II against IS-controlled oil transport, refining and distribution facilities and infrastructure
- 2016: IS-linked attacks in Belgium, France, Germany and U.S. kill 185 people
- Oct: Iraqi and Kurdish forces backed by U.S.-led air support launch operation to liberate Mosul

Source: International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation Picture: Associated Press © GRAPHIC NEWS

Food & Travel Bahrain Awards announced

The Winners

Bahrain Chef of the Year	Michael Sang-Kyu Lee - Meisei
International Chef of the Year	Oliver Glowig – Ritz-Carlton
Breakthrough Chef of the Year	Cesar De Leon Torres – Ritz-Carlton
Restaurant of the Year	Rasoi by Vineet – The Gulf Hotel
Hotel of the Year	Four Seasons Bahrain Bay
Fine Dining Award	La Vinoteca Barcelona – Adliya

Hotels

Best 5 Star Hotel	Four Seasons Bahrain Bay
Best Resort Hotel	Ritz-Carlton Bahrain
Best City Hotel	InterContinental Regency Bahrain
Best Weekend Destination Hotel	Sofitel Bahrain
Best 4 Star Hotel	Swiss-Belhotel
Best Banqueting & Events	The Gulf Hotel
Best Spa	Thalassa Sea and Spa - Sofitel Bahrain
Service Award	Downtown Rotana – Manama

Restaurants

Best Indian	Rasoi by Vineet – The Gulf Hotel
Best Asian Fusion	Meisei - Adliya
Best Japanese	Mirai - Adliya
Best Chinese	David's Stir Fry Crazy
Best Thai	Royal Thai – The Gulf Hotel
Best Middle Eastern	Takht Jamsheed – The Gulf Hotel
Best International	Bahrain Bay Kitchen – Four Seasons
Best Steakhouse & Grill	Meat Co - Adliya
Best Brunch	Sofitel Bahrain
Best Ramadan Tent	Four Seasons Bahrain Bay
Best Mediterranean	Masso – The Palace Hotel
Best On the Town	Bushido - Seef
Best Casual Chic	Camelot - Adliya
Best Family	La Plage – Ritz-Carlton Bahrain
Best All Day Casual	The Orangery – The Palace Hotel
Best Afternoon Tea	The Ritz Gourmet Lounge – Ritz-Carlton
Best Gourmet Fast Food	Gold Label Burger - Saar

Specialist

Carème Award	InterContinental Regency Bahrain
Peoples Choice	Café Lilou - Adliya
Rising Star	My Café - Adliya
Newcomer	Nomad Eatery - Seef

DT News Network Manama

The Bahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority's Awards for the second edition of the Food and Travel Bahrain Awards was announced in a ceremony held under the patronage of Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani.

"Hosting these Awards is a testament of Bahrain's position as a destination of choice for the best hotels, restaurants and cafes in the region," Al Zayani commented.

"The discerning public have made their voices heard, with over 121,000 votes cast to choose an elite band of finalists. This ensures that the



Four Seasons GM Richard Raab receives award from Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani

Gulf Hotel GM Rahim Abu Omar receives the award

2017 Food & Travel Bahrain Awards genuinely reflect not only public opinion but expert judgment too," observed Shaikh Khaled bin Humood Al Khalifa, the Chief Executive Officer of the Bahrain Tourism Exhibitions Authority.

Salah Alhaiki, Publisher of Food and Travel Magazine said that the Food and Travel's expert panel of hotel and restaurant inspectors have been tirelessly working for the last 12 months reviewing the finalists for the awards.

The ceremony was attended by Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha, Moroccan Ambassador Rasheed Khattabi and President of Arab Tourism Organization Dr. Bandar bin Fahad Al Fuhaid.



مركز إدارة السيولة المالية ب.س.ك. (ج)
Liquidity Management Centre B.S.C. (c)

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31st DECEMBER 2016 (AUDITED)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION At 31st December 2016

	31 December 2016 US\$ '000	31 December 2015 US\$ '000
ASSETS		
Cash and bank balances	2,079	5,451
Due from banks and financial institutions	8,500	22,000
Mudaraba receivables	5,022	6,026
Financing receivables	7,362	8,434
Investment in sukuk	73,548	97,665
Investment in equities and funds	5,924	12,513
Investment in real estate	28,265	29,181
Equipment	145	135
Other assets	1,887	1,989
TOTAL ASSETS	132,732	183,394
LIABILITIES AND OWNERS' EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Due to short term sukuk investors and banks	76,046	108,292
Staff payables	3,923	3,670
Other liabilities	739	465
Total liabilities	80,708	112,427
Owners' Equity		
Share capital	59,039	56,228
Reserves	8,355	9,694
(Accumulated deficit) /retained earnings	(15,370)	5,045
Total owners' equity	52,024	70,967
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND OWNERS' EQUITY	132,732	183,394

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME For the year ended 31st December 2016

	2016 US\$ '000	2015 US\$ '000
INCOME		
Income from:		
Investment in sukuk	4,255	6,803
Investment in equities and funds	986	841
Due from banks and financial institutions	55	5
Financing receivables	278	412
Mudaraba receivables	69	187
Gain on investments at fair value through statement of income	-	187
Less: Return to short term sukuk investors and banks	(1,765)	(1,720)
	3,878	6,715
Investment banking fees	119	1,647
Ijarah income	1,500	1,553
Foreign exchange gain	4	16
Other income	305	148
OPERATING INCOME	5,806	10,079
EXPENSES		
Staff costs	2,851	3,056
Ijarah expense	-	125
Depreciation	726	651
General and administrative expenses	1,388	1,430
OPERATING EXPENSES	4,965	5,262
NET PROFIT FOR THE YEAR BEFORE UNREALISED FAIR VALUE CHANGE AND IMPAIRMENT PROVISION	841	4,817
Unrealised fair value loss on investment in funds	-	(347)
Impairment provision	(18,445)	(912)
NET (LOSS) PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	(17,604)	3,558

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN OWNERS' EQUITY For the year ended 31st December 2016

	Reserves					(Accumulated deficit) retained earnings US\$ '000	Total owners' equity US\$ '000
	Paid-up Share capital US\$ '000	Statutory reserve US\$ '000	General reserve US\$ '000	Investment fair value reserve US\$ '000	Total reserves US\$ '000		
Balance at 1 January 2016	56,228	3,669	2,226	3,799	9,694	5,045	70,967
Cumulative changes in fair value	-	-	-	(1,339)	(1,339)	-	(1,339)
Net loss for the year	-	-	-	-	-	(17,604)	(17,604)
Total loss recognised directly in equity	-	-	-	(1,339)	(1,339)	(17,604)	(18,943)
Transfer to paid-up capital	2,811	-	-	-	-	(2,811)	-
Balance at 31 December 2016	59,039	3,669	2,226	2,460	8,355	(15,370)	52,024
Balance at 1 January 2015	53,550	3,313	2,226	3,869	9,408	4,521	67,479
Cumulative changes in fair value	-	-	-	(70)	(70)	-	(70)
Net profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	3,558	3,558
Total income recognised directly in equity	-	-	-	(70)	(70)	3,558	3,488
Transfer to paid-up capital	2,678	-	-	-	-	(2,678)	-
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	356	-	-	356	(356)	-
Balance at 31 December 2015	56,228	3,669	2,226	3,799	9,694	5,045	70,967

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the year ended 31st December 2016

	2016 US\$ '000	2015 US\$ '000
Net cash (used in) from operating activities	(16,833)	28,169
Net cash used in investing activities	(39)	(4,454)
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(16,872)	23,715
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	27,451	3,736
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 DECEMBER	10,579	27,451

Mohammed Hassan
Chairman

Khalid Al Dossari
Director

Ahmed Abbas
Chief Executive Officer

► These Consolidated Financial Statements were extracted from the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements on which Ernst & Young issued an unqualified opinion dated 9 February 2017, which are available on LMC website.

► These Consolidated Financial Statements have been authorized for issuance in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors dated 9 February 2017.

► Liquidity Management Centre B.S.C. (c) is Licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a Wholesale Islamic Bank.

Liquidity Management Centre B.S.C. (c)

CR 49092 P.O. Box 11567, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel: +973 1756 8568. Fax: +973 1756 8569
Email: info@lmc Bahrain.com

* Note: The full consolidated statement of cash flows is available in LMC's website.

Did You Know?



Ferdinand Porsche, the eponymous founder of Porsche, made the world's first hybrid electric vehicle...in 1899. The Lohner-Porsche "Semper Vivus" was essentially an electric car with an internal combustion motor used as a generator. It was also the first car with brakes on all four wheels.



CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2969	0.2945
BANGLADESH	0.00506	0.00475
CANADA	0.2926	0.2895
DENMARK	0.0566	
EGYPT	0.0361	0.0219
EURO	0.4041	0.4020
HONGKONG	0.04983	0.04943
INDIA	0.00582	0.00576
INDONESIA	0.00002997	0.00002891
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010959	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000294	
JAPAN	0.003490	0.003420
JORDAN	0.5346	0.5351
KOREA	0.00038166	
KUWAIT	1.2580	1.242
MALAYSIA	0.087200	0.0870
NEW ZEALAND	0.2758	0.2744
NORWAY	0.0472	
NEPAL	0.00387	0.00353
OMAN	0.97962	0.97962
PAKISTAN	0.00365	0.00360
PHILIPPINES	0.00777	0.00752
QATAR	0.10381	0.10376
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10061	0.26810
SINGAPORE	0.2711	0.2690
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03100	0.03090
SRI LANKA	0.00277	0.00249
SWEDISH	0.0451	
SWITZERLAND	0.3807	0.3782
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0123
TAIWAN	0.012600	
THAILAND	0.010990	0.010970
TURKEY	0.1108	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.4778	0.4749
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102800	0.102810
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37800	0.37805
YUAN	0.058500	0.0585

Rates are for indication purpose only. For firm rates or for currencies not listed above please call Bahrain Financing Company. Telephone: 17228888, Website: www.bfc.com.bh

GULF INTERBANK RATES

COUNTRY	1 US DLR	1 UK STG	1 SFR	100 YEN
BAHRAIN	0.3770	0.4693	0.3722	0.3338
KUWAIT	0.2855	32.2444	0.2818	0.2528
OMAN	0.3849	0.3899	0.3800	0.3408
QATAR	3.6420	3.6893	3.5953	3.2247
UAE	3.6730	3.7207	3.6259	3.2522
SAUDI	3.7500	3.7988	3.7019	3.3203

Transaction tax plan hits Egyptian stocks

Dubai

Cairo's main stock index retreated yesterday after it was reported that the finance ministry would recommend a tax on stock exchange transactions.

In Gulf markets, banks were a drag on most bourses as minutes from a U.S. Federal Reserve meeting showed little support for a March rate rise.

Gulf currencies are pegged to the U.S. dollar, so policy rates in the region would follow any move by the Fed, which would boost banks' margins.

Cairo's main index dropped 1.3 percent as just over three quarters of the 30 most liquid shares retreated. Selling pressure intensified in the final 90 minutes of trade after reports that the finance

ministry would recommend introducing a 0.2 pc stamp duty on stock transactions for both sellers and buyers.

Saudi Arabia's index edged 0.3 pc lower after an hour of trade with half of the listed banks declining. Alawwal Bank lost 1.3 pc and National Commercial Bank fell 0.7 pc.

In Abu Dhabi, banks - which make up almost half of the total market value - underperformed the main index, which rose 0.3 pc. Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank fell 0.8 pc. Telecom operator Etisalat, the biggest stock by market value, rose 1.4 pc.

Dubai's main index, which outperformed its peers on Wednesday, fell 0.3 pc on profit taking. Builder Arabtec lost 1.1 pc on profit taking after surging 15 pc

Closing Bell

SAUDI ARABIA fell 0.2 pc to 7,046 points.

DUBAI fell 0.3 pc to 3,640 points.

ABU DHABI added 0.3 pc to 4,653 points.

EGYPT dropped 1.3 pc to 12,241 points.

KUWAIT rose 0.3 pc to 6,810 points.

QATAR edged down 0.3 pc to 10,925 points

OMAN fell 0.3 pc to 5,850 points.

BAHRAIN climbed 0.5 pc to 1,349 points.

on Wednesday after the company, which reported a fourth-quarter loss last week, won regulatory approval for its recapitalisation plan.

Qatar's main index dipped

0.3 pc as telecoms operator Ooredoo dropped 3.8 pc after reporting nearly flat fourth-quarter net profit attributable to shareholders of 361 million riyals (\$99 m). (Reuters)



Select GCC media members from Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were taken to the Greek capital Athens for a 4-day visit by Gulf Air in partnership with Aktina Travel Group, a leading travel organisation in Greece

UAE signs over \$5 bn in deals at arms fair

Abu Dhabi

The United Arab Emirates announced yesterday it signed contracts worth a total of more than \$5 billion to purchase weaponry during its international arms fair in Abu Dhabi this week.

The UAE, a longtime client of Western defence industries, signed an order with Raytheon of the United States worth more than \$740 million but also with Russian arms exporter Rosoboronexport for anti-tank missiles valued at \$710 m.

The final day on Wednesday resulted in contracts worth \$930 m, raising the total for the four days to \$5.2 bn.

Work hard for what you want because it won't come to you without a fight. You have to be strong and courageous and know that you can do anything you put your mind to. If somebody puts you down or criticizes you, just keep on believing in yourself and turn it into something positive.
— Leah LaBelle



CAMPUS

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Friday, February 24, 2017

11

AMA International University pens MOU with NVTC

AMA International University Bahrain (AMAIUB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Naser Training Vocational Center (NVTC) on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at the NVTC at Gao, Bahrain.

Dr. Geraldo C. Talisic, AMAIUB VP Academic Affairs and Mr. Nabih Aziz, Academic Vice Principal of NVTC led the signing of the MOU. This was witnessed by AMAIUB Head of Administration Ms. Buena Gracia A. Canzana, Dr. Amin ElMeligi, AMAIUB Dean of Student Affairs, Mr. Mohamed Sameer of NVTC, and Ms. Aysa Buqais who is the Industry Partnership Consultant of NVTC.

AMAIUB and NVTC intend to embark on a mutually beneficial and collaborative arrangement which seeks to contribute to the success of the other in activities such as supporting research



projects of students, sharing facilities in the related work areas, giving opportunities for students' internship and training, conducting joint seminars and trainings, and participating in the programme delivery.

The said MOU also looks into possible research collaborations between the University and the Center through research capability building trainings and workshops. These are expected to create research projects that will contribute in

solving industrial problems and improving educational processes.

The MOU intends to strengthen AMAIUB's community engagement endeavors through cooperation with other universities and educational centers.

Moreover, AMAIUB has also a number of MOUs with industrial companies and professional organizations that contribute to its quest to sustain excellence in teaching and learning, research, and community engagement.



Faisal 1st place winner



Mathcounts Competition Victory

Europe South District 2017 MathCounts Chapter Competition has earned Bahrain School a Third Place Win for their MathCounts Team and a First Place Win for one Sixth Grader, Faisal AlSewaidi!

For the first time in the Europe South District of DoDEA schools, eight middle schools had MathCounts clubs meeting on a weekly basis. Bahrain School participated in this competition with the youngest team in the entire district. There were a total of five sixth grade students and

one seventh grade student on the team. Bahrain School's team consisted of Faisal AlSewaidi, Soraya Hani (7th grade), Ethan Okun, Latif Lewis, Corii Massey and Patrick Tran.

The Chapter Area test was given on Tuesday, February 7th, and lasted approximately 3 hours and involved three different categories of tests. As a result of their mathletic abilities, the students placed third of all eight middle schools with competing teams. Second

place was Naples Middle School in Italy while first place went to Ankara School in Turkey.

Congratulations were sent to all the schools that competed this year with a special recognition of one sixth grade Bahrain School student, Faisal AlSewaidi. He was tied for the top score with a student at Naples Middle School. Faisal will travel to Weisbaden, Germany in March to compete in a Europe Wide Regional Event.

Bahrain School Educators Rising

The Bahrain School chapter of Educators Rising recently attended the annual conference in Garmisch, Germany. This event is for students in DoDDS-Europe who are interested in learning more about the education profession. The members entered six competitions and placed in the top three for each one. The school won first place for their TED Talk, lesson plan and scrapbook entries! Grace Smith and Hannah Pedersen read the winning storybook, Anna's Trip Around the World, to the conference attendees.



Above author Helena Blaisdell-Black (right) and illustrator Hannah Pedersen (left) with their winning literary piece.



Bahrain School Girls Win

The Bahrain School Ladies Basketball Team won the Middle East Unity Cup for the first time after placing third in 2016. The tournament was held at the Muharraq Club on January 27-28. The Lady Falcons competed against five other teams from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Dubai and finished 5-0 to play for first place. Captain Michelle Edens led the team to victory in a close championship game which was won on the free throw line. Coach Brant Tryon and the Lady Falcons are pictured after the awards ceremony: Helena Blaisdell-Black, Michelle Edens, Mayu Gayton, Zoie Howes, Olyvia



Johnson, Christina Lopez, Valentine Lucas, Airii Massey, Whitney Ryan, Sarah Sakhri, Grace Smith, Yamina Tesch, and Olivia Williams.



National Guard President Lt-General Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received Supreme Council for Youth & Sport Chairman, Bahrain Olympic Committee President & Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) Chairman HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa in the presence of National Guard Director of Staff, Major-General Shaikh Abdulaziz bin Saud Al Khalifa. The two sides reviewed the cooperation ties between the National Guard and the Royal Guard and discussed various topics of shared concern



BDF Commander-in-Chief, Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed bin Khalifa bin Al Khalifa paid inspection visits to a number of BDF units, and got briefed on the progress of the units. He asserted that the BDF servicemen are the symbol of national unity and national belonging, thanks to their dedication in serving the nation



The Ministry of Education participated in the Bahrain International Garden Show 2017, which witnessed a large turnout of visitors yesterday



Assistant Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Faisal bin Jabr Al Dossari met with a number of officials from the Ministry of Labour and Social Development in his office at the Ministry's General Court, to discuss the Kingdom's Report on Children's Rights. The Assistant Minister pointed that the efforts of the Kingdom in protection of child rights have seen success with the issuance of Child Rights Law 37 of 2012



On the sidelines of reinforcing cooperation with prestigious institutes to support education and training programme in the Kingdom, Chief of Public Security Maj-Gen Tariq Al Hassan, General Secretary of the National Oil and Gas Authority, Dr. Ahmed Ali Al Sharyan, President of National Institute for Human Rights, Dr Abdulaziz Abul, General Director of the Institute of Public Administration, Dr. Raed Mohammed bin Shams and General Director of Bahrain Training Institute, Dr. Fawzi Al-Jowder signed four memoranda of understanding (MoU) with the National Oil and Gas Authority, National Institute of Human Rights, Institute of Public Administration and Bahrain Training Institute



Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Khalid Al Mubarak received at his office in Bait Al Tijjar the Bahraini ambassador to Japan Dr. Ebrahim Hasan. The meeting centered on exploiting business opportunities, exchanging experiences, and invigorating trade and investments



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Oil Minister, Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa attended the Bahrain British Business Forum (BBBF) networking meeting yesterday and reviewed the present structure of oil and gas sector in Bahrain and provided valuable insight to the strategy adopted by the NOGA to fuel the kingdom's future. BBBF Chairman Khalid Al Zayani and Simon Martin CMG, the British Ambassador to Bahrain were also present



Under the patronage of Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani, the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) recently celebrated Arab Tourism Day themed "Tourism & Development of Local Communities." The celebration was attended by representatives from the hospitality industry, touristic restaurants, Gulf Air, and other industry representatives



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Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Shaikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah yesterday received the Kingdom's Deputy Interior Minister Lieutenant-General Adel bin Khalifa Al-Fadhel and discussed security cooperation. The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Interior Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Domestic Intelligence Major-General Essam Al-Nahham and Bahrain's Interior Ministry legal affairs director



The Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) hosted the graduation ceremony of a specialised military session yesterday held at one of its units, in the presence of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, Major-General Ghanim Ibrahim Al-Fadhala. The Assistant Chief of Staff presented the graduates with certificates and lauded the graduates' outstanding level and performance throughout the session



Inspector-General, Major-General Abdulla Hassan Al-Noaimi, met the Commander of U.S. Marine Corps Forces Central Command, Lieutenant General William D Beydler and discussed issues of common interest. Assistant Chief of Staff for Supply and Catering Rear Admiral Yusef Ahmed Malallah and Military Cooperation Director Rear Admiral Mohammed Hashim Al-Sada were also present



The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority launched a specialised workshop on handicraft training that focused on ceramic glazing. The workshop took place in Al Jassrah Training Centre for Handicrafts, and was hosted by Sadoq Abd AlAli, an established artist with long-standing expertise in ceramic glazing. The attendees were trained on how to use glass colors and draw shapes and styling on ceramic pottery



National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR)'s Acting Secretary-General Yasser Shaheen received a United States congressional delegation on a visit to the country to learn about the Kingdom's achievements in various fields. The US delegation commended the NIHR's efforts in protecting human rights and Bahrain's remarkable human rights experience

CELEBS

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 For anyone who feels scared or hopeless, know that we will never stop fighting for your rights.



Carey blames 'everybody' for 'chaotic' performance

New York
 Singer Mariah Carey says she blames everybody, including herself, for her notorious New Year's Eve performance when she walked off the stage in Times Square due to a technical default during her act.

"It was a mess, and I blame everybody. And I blame myself for not leaving after rehearsal," the Grammy winner said in an interview with *Rolling Stone* magazine, reports *eonline.com*.
 "I used to get upset by things. This was out of my control, and had everything not been such a total chaotic mess, then I would have been able to make something happen. Even the dancers should have stopped dancing and helped me off the stage. I'm sorry."

After that performance in New York, she is trying her best to move past it, even if some people will never understand the situation.

"I don't even want to bring this up too much, but whatever, we're obviously talking about it, the New Year's Eve situation - that couldn't be helped," she said. (IANS)

Privilege working with Alan Menken: Emma Watson



Actress Emma Watson has said it was an honour for her to work with Oscar-winning music composer Alan Menken in her film 'Beauty and The Beast'.

The 26-year-old actress took to Twitter to post her picture along with the celebrated musician with the Eiffel Tower in the backdrop.

"What a privilege to have worked with the genius that is Alan Menken @beourguest #aladdin #pocahontas #thelittlemermaid," Emma wrote. (TOI)



Jolie considering acting in 'Maleficent 2'

Los Angeles
 Actress-director Angelina Jolie is reportedly thinking of reprising her role as the vengeful fairy in Disney's "Maleficent 2".

Jolie, who was able to command \$20 million in addition to profit participation for 2014's "Maleficent", will reportedly return to high-profile fare in the wake of her publicised split from actor-producer Brad Pitt, first announced in September 2016.

According to sources close to Jolie, she is mulling a number of acting offers, including reprising her role in "Maleficent 2" and is in active development on two large-scale Universal projects: An adaptation of Simon Sebag Montefiore's "Catherine the Great and Potemkin: The Imperial Love Affair" and World War II espionage drama "The Spy Who Loved" (based on Clare Mulley's 2013 book), reports *hollywoodreporter.com*.

She is also reportedly prepping what may be her next directorial: An adaptation of Alessandro Baricco's 2004 novel "Without Blood". She has also signed on as a producer on Disney children's film "The One and Only Ivan". (IANS)

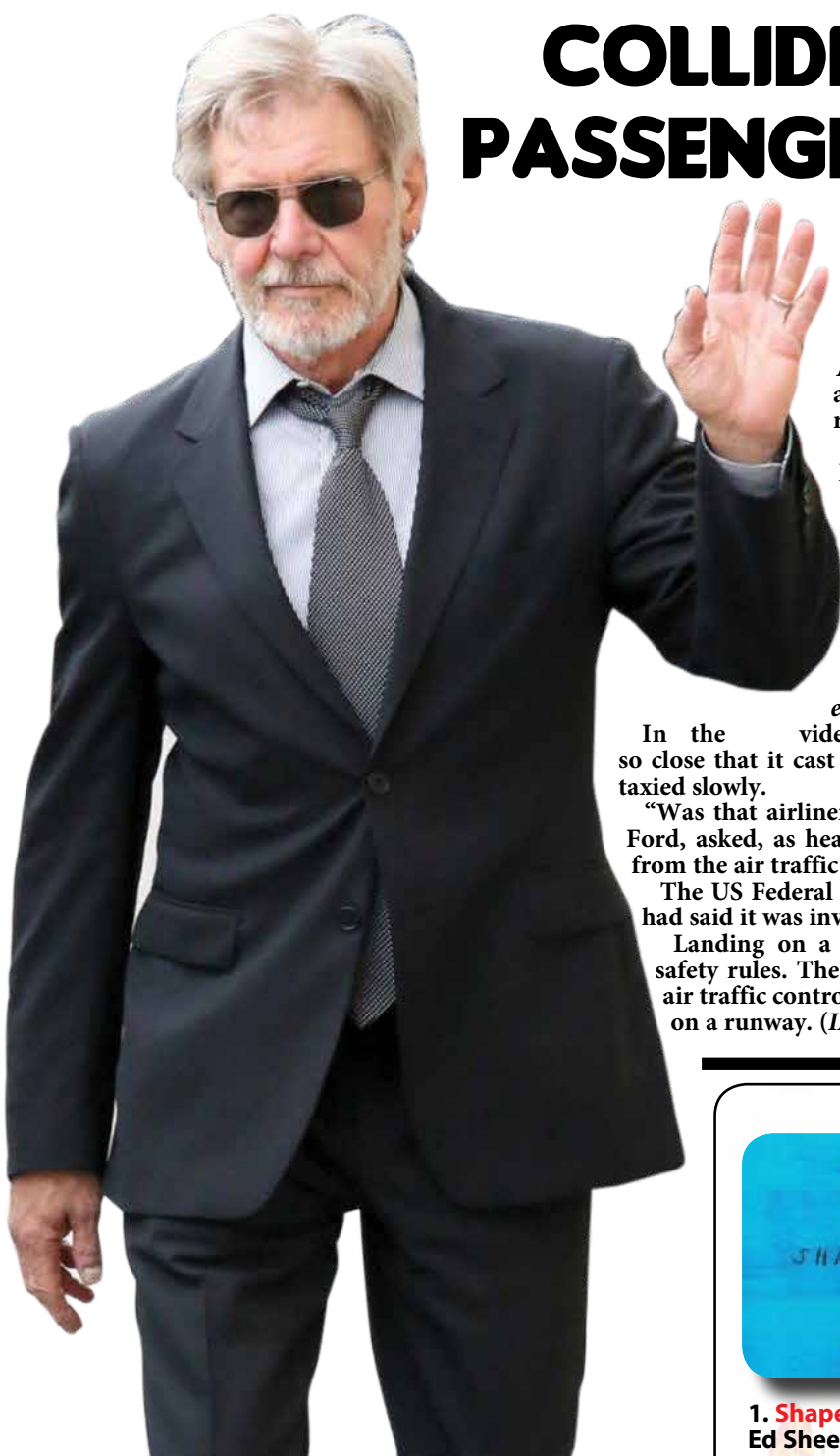


STARRY
 Birthday
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February 24, 1966

He became known to audiences as Caledon Hockley in *Titanic* in 1997, and also played the titular role in *The Phantom*.

FORD COMES CLOSE TO COLLIDING WITH PASSENGER PLANE



Los Angeles
A new video showing Hollywood actor Harrison Ford's airplane flying over and nearly colliding with an American Airlines jetliner at an airport in California has been released.

On February 13, the "Blade Runner" actor had mistakenly flown his single-engine yellow, Aviat Husky plane low over an American Airlines Boeing 737 jet carrying 116 people at John Wayne Airport in Orange County, California, and landed on the taxiway rather than on the runway, reports *eonline.com*.

In the video, it is seen that his aircraft was so close that it cast a shadow over the jetliner as it taxied slowly.

"Was that airliner meant to be underneath me?" Ford, asked, as heard in previously released audio from the air traffic control tower.

The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had said it was investigating the incident.

Landing on a taxiway is a violation of FAA safety rules. The FAA had told *eonline.com* that air traffic controllers gave Ford clearance to land on a runway. (IANS)

Depp blames years of tax problems on ex-managers

Hollywood star Johnny Depp has accused his former managers of costing him more than USD 6 million in tax penalties and fines as part of their ongoing legal battle.

The 'Pirates of the Caribbean' star sued bosses at The Management Group (TMG) for fraud last month, alleging they mishandled his finances by collecting USD 28 million in fees he never agreed to, repeatedly failing to file his taxes in a timely manner, and loaning roughly USD 10 million of his money without being authorised to do so. TMG heads Joel and Robert Mandel fired back with their own complaint, blaming the 53-year-old actor's tendency to live beyond his means for his money issues.

Depp's lawyer has now filed new papers in the dispute in a bid to have the countersuit dismissed. (TOI)

Now you know it



When Daniel Radcliffe found out he'd got the part of Harry Potter at the age of 11, his parents allowed him to stay up an extra half hour and watch *Fawlty Towers* to celebrate!

TOP 10 Songs this Week



1. **Shape Of You**
Ed Sheeran



2. **Bad And Boujee**
Migos Featuring Lil Uzi Vert



3. **I Don't Wanna Live Forever**
Zayn / Taylor Swift



4. **Million Reasons**
Lady Gaga



5. **Bad Things**
Machine Gun Kelly x Camila Cabello



6. **Bounce Back**
Big Sean



7. **Closer**
The Chainsmokers
Featuring Halsey



8. **Scars To Your Beautiful**
Alessia Cara



9. **Don't Wanna Know**
Maroon 5 Featuring Kendrick Lamar



10. **Paris**
The Chainsmokers
(billboard)

OUT & ABOUT

HOW TO REACH US

"Out & About", a ready reckoner for the events taking place on the island, is published from Friday to Tuesday. To be included, please use one of the following: outandabout@dt.bh, or call 38444680.

MARK YOUR Calendar

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH AT BAHRAIN BAY KITCHEN

Date: March 17, 12:30pm to 3:30pm

Venue: Four Seasons Hotel

Personalized giveaway will be prepared for all mothers during Mother's Day Brunch at Bahrain Bay Kitchen. Reservations: +973 17115500

FRIDAY BRUNCH

Date: Every Friday from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Venue: Four Seasons Hotel

Friday Brunch: The known lavish culinary offerings, including five unique food stations serving Arabic, Western, Indian, Japanese and Chinese delicacies. Reservations: +973 17115500

SATURDAY BRUNCH

Date: Every Saturday from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Venue: Four Seasons Hotel

Saturday Brunch: Offering wide selection of Arabic favorites such as lamb Ouzi, cold mezzes and much more. It's just the perfect offer for you and your family. Reservations: +973 17115500.

re/IMAGINE YOUR SATURDAYS

Date: Every Saturday from 12:30 pm until 3:30 pm

Venue: Four Seasons Hotel

Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay invites you to discover the perfect Saturday Brunch at re/Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck. Soak in the immersive views from the 50th floor and feast on mouthwatering Asian selections like Korean Fried Chicken Bao Buns, Wok Fried Shrimp Dumplings and Brisket Wontons for BD 19+-. Reservations: +973 17115046

MEI YUE NIGHTS AT RE/ ASIAN CUISINE

Date: Every first Tuesday of the month, 7pm

Venue: Four Seasons Hotel

Experience the authentic world of the Asian street food culture spiced with world renowned restaurateur Wolfgang Puck's modern take on traditional Asian cuisine every first Tuesday of the month. Reservations: +973 17115046

SPRING OF CULTURE

Date: February 23 onwards

Venue: Different Venues

Bahrain's 12th Spring of Culture has kicked off with an energetic musical performance by the German group Groove Onkels. The band will be performing throughout the weekend with four street performance acts this season. Groove Onkels' show will be followed by an open invitation "Bucket Drumming" workshop, led by the band itself, in which young and old participants can learn from the masters how to create rhythmic beats from random objects. On Friday 24th, the Groove Onkels' will perform in the Khalifa Al Kubra Garden in Riffa at 4pm, followed by a performance at 6pm in the Prince Khalifa bin Salman Park in Hidd. The band will finish the night with another performance at Block 338 in Adliya, starting at 8pm. On Saturday 26th the band will perform another three shows at Seef Mall in Seef District, at 11am, 4pm and 7:30pm. The performances are themed around recycling and environmental awareness, using only jumps, kicks, slaps and throws to create great beats with household objects. Entrance to all of these family friendly performances is free of charge.

BRAZILIAN CARNIVAL

Date: 24 Feb 12 am - 25 Feb 12 am

Venue: Café Amsterdam-Manama

We are back after a long break with an event for all! The Brazilian Carnival is coming to Café Amsterdam on the 24th of February! We have not one but two events on the night! Enjoy an evening of spectacular entertainment with Brazilian dancers, a magician, 3 DJs with a DJ Gabriel Deb, all the way from Brazil with percussions and more surprises on the night! Live music in our Carnival garden with live food stations!

FRIDAY BRUNCH

Date: 24 Feb 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Venue: Bushido (restaurant & lounge) - Manama

A brunch with a twist, discover the brand new reworked Brunch at Bushido... Brunches are very popular but, as usual, Bushido brunch is more than "just a brunch". From the guests' arrival, they will smell the flavors of live cooking stations, from sushis to Teppanyaki, it will be a pleasure for eyes and mouth. With a selection of its best-selling items and some new creations, Bushido Friday Brunch will offer a mix of Japanese and Continental dish selection, with "a la carte order" and "live cooking stations".

HIGHLIGHT

BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL GARDEN SHOW

Date: February 22, and will be open to the public from the 23rd to the 26th of February 2017

Venue: Bahrain International Convention & Exhibition Centre

This year's Bahrain International Garden Show will feature the latest agricultural innovations in utilizing limited resources to create small gardens or green spaces in order to achieve agricultural development and sustainability. To achieve this goal, the theme of the show is "Compact Gardens", with the University of Bahrain designing a special display, demonstrating unique ideas in utilizing limited spaces to easily create compact gardens. A section in the exhibition has been allocated to showcase pictures of local homes and buildings with creative ways to introduce different plants and flowers that are suited to limited spaces and our climate. Another section has been allocated



to showcase practical ideas and solutions for designing small spaces in residential areas such as balconies, roofs, and exteriors, focusing on the positive impacts of limiting pollution, beautifying residences, and providing fresh produce for the owners' needs, said National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD) Secretary-General Shaikha Maram bint Isa AlKhalifa.

SHAKEDOWN CLUB AT UP'N'DOWN

Date: 24 Feb 8 pm - 11:50 pm

Venue: Upstairs Downstairs Restaurant- Adliya

Come along and Shake it Up with the dedicated swing dancing group "ShakeDown Club". ShakeDown will be joining us to perform at Up'n'Down on Friday the 24th February, they will be offering pre dance classes from 7pm to 8pm and then getting in the Swing from 8pm till late at Bahrain's original "Home of Jazz" Upstairs Downstairs Restaurant, where jazz has been performed and enjoyed for the last 40 years. Our resident duo Fox & Alchemy will be providing the vocals and ruthenium for your entertainment, so lets Shake it Up and dress Up if you please!

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE CHOCOHOLIC FRIDAY BRUNCH

Date: 24 Feb 1 pm - 4 pm

Venue: Sheraton Bahrain Hotel-Manama

Live cooking station, seafood items, cold cuts, International main course plus extravagant selection of desserts and crepe station with loads of chocolates every Friday from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

TRUFFLE DINNER AT CUT BY WOLFGANG PUCK

Date: 24 Feb 7 pm - 11 pm

Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay- Manama

The black truffle is undeniably the culinary world's most appreciated jewel. Wolfgang Puck Executive Chef Brian Becher is eager to welcome the black truffle back to his kitchen to create a one-of-a-kind dinner menu on February 24, from 7:00 pm at celebrity

chef Wolfgang Puck's American steak restaurant CUT.

GROUNDING & PROTECTION WORKSHOP

Date: 25 Feb 10:15 am - 1 pm

Venue: Serenity Meditation, Yoga and Reiki Centre- Janabiya

We have all come into contact with people who drain our energy. They can leave us feeling tired, with a headache and sometimes feeling sick. How do we peacefully combat this? Find out about the importance of grounding and protecting your energy field. In this workshop, we experience different ways to disconnect from those who drain us. We look at our energy as a precious entity, and learn to protect ourselves from energy drainage.

IZAKAYA SUNDAY

Date: 26 Feb 7 pm - 11:30 pm

Venue: Bushido (restaurant & lounge) - Manama

Izakaya is a type of informal Japanese food gathering.

Food items are served in small portions, similar to Spanish Tapas.

Izakaya dining includes a wide variety of Bushido's signature dishes.

Food is normally ordered slowly over several courses rather than all at once.

Guests can re-order dishes as much as they like. Dishes on the menu include Bushido's famous volcano roll, the scrumptious rock shrimp tempura and the mouth-watering beef tenderloin with teriyaki sauce.

CURRY NIGHT | CHOICES

Date: 27 Feb 7 pm - 11:30 pm

Venue: ART Rotana- Muharraq

Join us for a night of the best Desi Cuisine! Spice up your Monday nights with aromatic curries from across the Desi region including all your favorites and authentic drinks made to order.

HIGHLIGHT

MAKE YOUR MOMMA PROUD LIVE

Date: 3rd March 2017, 6:30pm

Venue: The Indian School Ground, Isa Town

One of the biggest and well-known music bands in the Philippines is coming to Bahrain exclusively for Modern Exchange customers. Make Your Momma Proud known popularly as M.Y.M.P will be performing live on March 3 at the Indian High School Ground, Isa Town.

M.Y.M.P., an acoustic band from the Philippines consists of five members. It is a tribute to lead singer Chin Alcantara's mom. She saw him start with the guitar but never got to see him play professionally. They have rose to stardom through the release of their soulful albums many of which has been certified as Platinum. It is MYMPs first performance in the Kingdom and promises to be a mesmerizing experience for the Filipino community. The process of getting a pass for this exciting program is quite simple. Do a transaction of any amount to the Philippines from Modern Exchange before 03rd of March and get a free pass for the event.



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Notice

With regard to the cancellation of license of AllianceBernstein Limited

With reference to the Resolution of the Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain No. (7) of 2017 pertaining to the cancellation of license of AllianceBernstein Limited issued on 16th Jumada I 1438H, corresponding to 13th February 2017, the Central Bank of Bahrain hereby provides notice that the Representative Office license of "AllianceBernstein Limited" issued on 26th September 1994, registered under commercial registration no. 32728 has been cancelled, with effect from the date of the publication of the above resolution in the Official Gazette.



Notice

With regard to the cancellation of license of BNP Paribas 3U

With reference to the Resolution of the Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain No. (8) of 2017 pertaining to the cancellation of license of BNP Paribas 3U issued on 16th Jumada I 1438H, corresponding to 13th February 2017, the Central Bank of Bahrain hereby provides notice that the Wholesale Bank license of "BNP Paribas 3U" issued on 24th January 2008, registered under commercial registration no. 69414 has been cancelled, with effect from the date of the publication of the above resolution in the Official Gazette.

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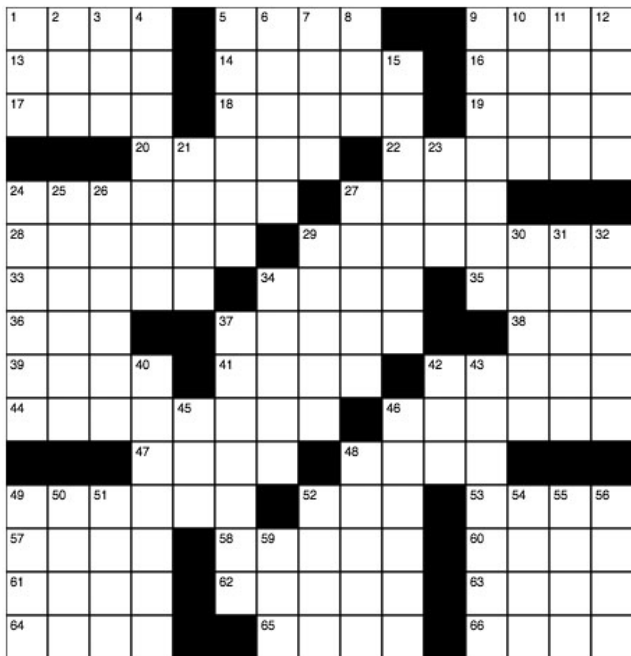
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CROSSWORD



Across

1- Drinks (as a cat); 5- Bingo call; 9- A ___ formality; 13- Quickly, briefly; 14- Philbin of TV; 16- Garden spot; 17- "Cast Away" setting; 18- Bucky Beaver's toothpaste; 19- Ground; 20- Assisted; 22- Moon of Mars; 24- Parcel; 27- Puts two and two together; 28- Claim; 29- Salad sauce; 33- Hubert's successor; 34- Golf club which can be numbered 1 to 9; 35- Shivering fit; 36- Metal, often used as a container; 37- Gather; 38- K-O connection; 39- Put a lid ___!; 41- Matador's flourish medium?; 42- Mythical weeper; 44- Revitalize; 46- Maximally; 47- Would ___ to you?; 48- K through 12; 49- Cylindrical wooden container; 52- Building add-on; 53- Nicholas II was the last Russian one; 57- Slaughter in Cooperstown; 58- Green ___ is the place to be; 60- Jessica of "Dark Angel"; 61- For fear that; 62- Gullible; 63- Headed for overtime; 64- Apart; 65- Insect-repelling chemical; 66- 911 respondents;

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



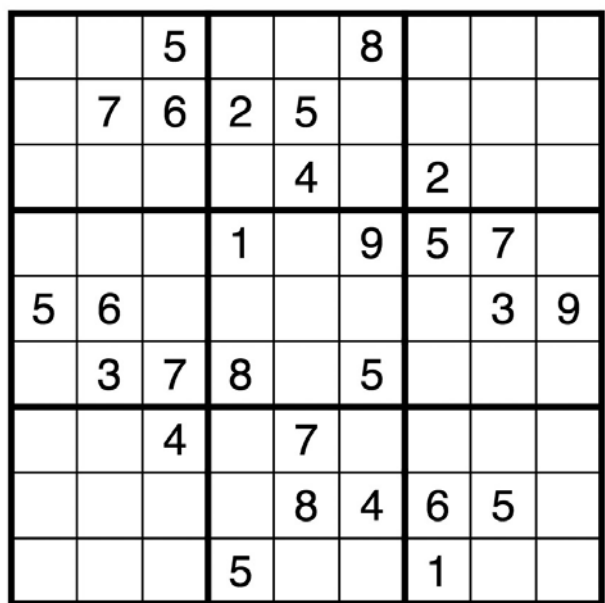
Down

1- Chou En-___; 2- Balaam's mount; 3- Good buddy; 4- Orator; 5- Structure spanning a river; 6- Conical dwelling; 7- Old oath; 8- Diarist Anaïs; 9- Singer Etheridge; 10- Mild cheese; 11- Nevada city; 12- Wraps up; 15- Makes sorrowful; 21- Othello villain; 23- Begley and Wynn; 24- Priest; 25- Skiing style; 26- Medical treatment place; 27- "___ by any other name..."; 29- Hang with cloth; 30- Inuit dwelling; 31- Deadens; 32- "The Maids" playwright; 34- Icon; 37- Synthetic fiber; 40- Parched; 42- To the ___ degree; 43- Mimic; 45- Pub choice; 46- Good to go; 48- Parisian pupil; 49- Actor Lugosi; 50- Again; 51- Civil rights leader Parks; 52- Canal of song; 54- Meager; 55- Help in a heist; 56- X-ray units; 59- Structural engineer's software;

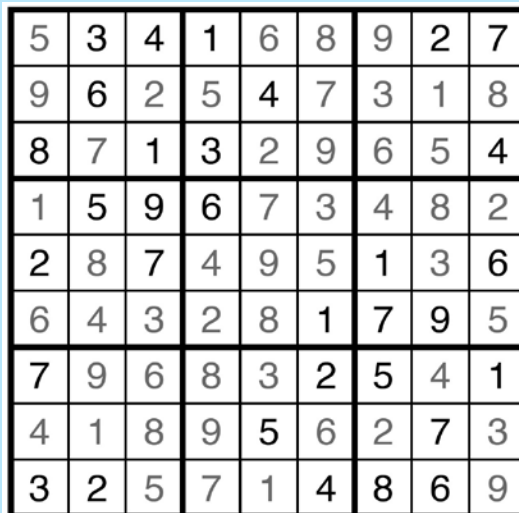
BEETLE BAILEY



SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



How to play:

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Your star today

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



Enthusiasm for your career could have you putting in a lot of extra effort - and perhaps a lot of extra hours - getting something going for yourself. Your mind is working especially quickly - perhaps too quickly, as you may be experiencing a mental overload. Stop a moment, catch your breath, and write down the most workable of your ideas.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



Events over the past few days, perhaps information coming from far away, could have your mind buzzing with new and revolutionary ideas that you've never considered before. This might involve new business opportunities, new spiritual concepts, or possible lifestyle changes that you find particularly appealing.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



New information might have you considering new investment possibilities. Take care, however. All is not quite as rosy as it seems! Wait a while, then, if you still feel so inclined, take a close look at the facts involved. Some interesting dreams could inspire you to read about specific subjects, perhaps the sciences or the occult.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



Social events could take up a lot of your time today. You might find them a bit boring and tiresome, however, and are likely to spend more time enjoying the refreshments than conversing with others. You might find a few people whom you enjoy, however. If so, stick with them! Useful information could come your way - perhaps too much.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



Overindulgence over the past couple of days could well have you feeling a bit stressed out, perhaps a little headachy. This is definitely the day to take it easy, and avoid working too hard if you can. A little rest, perhaps with a good book, could not only release stress, but also open you up to different interests.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



A desire to create something beautiful and yet practical might find you making a huge investment of time and resources into a creative project. You're always one to push yourself too hard, but don't do that today. You're likely to sabotage the very results you're trying to create. Your mind could be spinning too quickly, and you might not be able to focus.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



Today you might be hosting a social event in your home, and inviting a lot of guests. This can be a lot of fun, but it can also be very draining. Too many people might demand your attention, and you, with your desire to be a good hostess, will try to keep them all happy. Enlist the aid of a friend or family member to act as co-host. This way you won't have to work too hard.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



Too many phone calls could plague you today, to the point where you almost want to unplug the phone. Neighbours or relatives might seek practical advice from you, though you might not be in the space to give it. You're probably feeling more solitary than usual, and it's best to indulge that feeling to clear your head. You can give advice tomorrow!

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



A desire to redecorate, remodel, or otherwise beautify your home might tempt you to spend a little too much today. This is fine, as long as you make sure you overspend on what you really want or need. Don't get so carried away that you might have to take truly unaffordable stuff back to the store! You might invite some people over tonight, but again, be careful you don't invite too many.

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



You might want to put a talent you have into creative overdrive today. You could come up with a sudden idea for a new project, and throw yourself into it totally. This is OK, as long as you don't push yourself too hard and overdo it. Sometimes exhaustion feeds creativity, but more often it clouds judgment and causes mistakes. You don't have to do it all today. Take time out and get some rest.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



A surprising phone call could come from someone you haven't heard from for a long time. This conversation could set you off on an information treasure hunt. An excess of books, magazines, TV documentaries, and other information sources on metaphysical, spiritual, or artistic matters could have your mind buzzing.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



Friends or groups you're involved with could well make a lot of demands on your time and energy today. Because you believe in what they stand for, you're very likely to commit to more than you can logically handle, neither physically nor emotionally. This is OK, but be sure to get help. Whatever tasks could your way today, don't try to do it all yourself.



Luis Videgaray

Mexico rejects 'unilateral' US migration moves

Mexico City

Mexico vowed not to let the United States impose migration reforms on it as its leaders are prepared to host US officials who are cracking down on illegal immigrants.

Foreign Minister Luis Videgaray sharpened the tone over president Donald Trump's hard line on trade and immigration.

Trump has outraged Mexico by vowing to build a wall along the border to keep out migrants from Latin America, whom he branded rapists and criminals during his presidential campaign.

His government has issued new orders to begin arresting and deporting illegal immigrants, many of them Mexicans.

"The Mexican government and people do not have to accept measures that one government wants to impose unilaterally on another," Videgaray said late Wednesday.

"We are not going to accept that because we do not have to do it and it is not in Mexico's interests."

He said Mexico would use "all legally possible means" to defend Mexicans living abroad, including potentially appealing to the United Nations.

President Mexican Enrique Pena Nieto and Videgaray are scheduled to meet with US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Homeland Security chief John Kelly.

US officials said the talks will focus on how to curb cross-border migration and

drug-trafficking and to affirm their bilateral ties.

Trump's stance has strained previously good US-Mexican relations, said Maureen Meyer, an expert at the Washington Office on Latin America, a US human rights advocacy organization.

"Secretary Tillerson has an opportunity to set relations on a more sound footing based on mutual respect," she said in a statement.

Pena Nieto had canceled a planned meeting with Trump in Washington last month over the US leader's vow to make Mexico pay for the wall.

But White House spokesman Sean Spicer insisted Wednesday that Washington has "a very healthy and robust relationship with the Mexican government." -(AFP)

Dutch 'abortion ship' due in Guatemala

The Hague

ADutch "abortion ship" was due to arrive in a Guatemalan port to provide free help to women to end unwanted pregnancies, aiming to circumvent the country's strict laws.

Abortion is only allowed in Guatemala in cases where the mother's life is in danger, the non-profit organisation Women on Waves said, adding there are some 65,000 illegal and unsafe abortions in the Central American country every year.

The ship will visit the harbour of the Puerto San Jose, about 100 kilometres (60 miles) south of Guatemala City and will stay



Dutch "abortion ship", which sailed to Guatemalan port for five days, the organisation said in a statement.

"The ship can provide women with free legal medical abortions till 10 weeks of pregnancy after sailing to

international waters, 12 miles outside Guatemala," it added.

Counselling, treatment and after care would also be available for women seeking their services. -(AFP)

#PollToday



Do you think the government decision to increase tax on big companies can boost economy?

Yes No Can't Say



France is committed to a two-state solution for the Middle East conflict and it is the only guarantee for Israel to remain a "pluralist and democratic society"

Francois Hollande
France President

Rest in sight

Japan's crown prince hints at readiness to take throne



Crown Prince Naruhito has suggested he is ready to take on the duties of emperor as the country prepares for its expected imperial abdication.

Record damages awarded over US army base noise

A Japanese court yesterday awarded record compensation for residents near a US military base over aircraft noise, but rejected their demand to suspend flights.

BBC journalist faces 5 years jail for Thailand reporting

A British journalist with the BBC faces up to five years in a Thai jail after a lawyer brought a criminal defamation case against him over an investigation into fraud on a popular tourist island.

New Somali PM named

Hassan Ali Kheyre, a former aid worker and oil executive, was named prime minister of Somalia yesterday by the country's new President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed.

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Indian politician spends state cash on lavish gifts

New Delhi

The head of India's newest state is facing condemnation after spending \$750,000 in public money on gold temple offerings to thank the gods for realising his long-held ambition.

Chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao campaigned for decades for the creation of Telangana state in the south of India and had promised to donate gold to a local temple if he succeeded.

He recently flew to a popular Hindu temple in a chartered plane and presented a lotus-shaped necklace weighing nearly 15 kilos (33 pounds) and a five-



K Chandrasekhar Rao kilo collar as priests chanted vedic hymns.

An official in the Rao's office confirmed the donation and said it was "from the government of Telangana and its people".

Social media users laid into Rao, who has been criticised in the past over his lavish use of public funds.

SpaceX cargo ship finally reaches space station

Miami

An unmanned cargo ship packed with food and supplies for astronauts arrived safely yesterday at the International Space Station, a day after SpaceX aborted the process due to a GPS problem.

This time, the Dragon cargo ship made a "perfect approach to the capture point," a NASA commentator said.

The space station's 57-foot robotic arm, operated from inside the orbiting research lab by astronauts Thomas Pesquet of France and Shane Kimbrough of the United States, reached out and grabbed the Dragon.

"We had a great capture,"



Launch of SpaceX from the Kennedy Space Center

Kimbrough said.

The gumdrop-shaped Dragon vessel is packed with more than 5,000 pounds of food, gear and science experiments for the six astronauts living at the orbiting space station.

S. Korea blasts news of murder via loudspeaker

Seoul

South Korea is using giant loudspeakers to blast news of the dramatic assassination of North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un's half-brother, Kim Jong-Nam, across the border with its reclusive northern neighbour, it was reported yesterday.

The South Korea this week employed its banks of high-decibel loudspeakers to ensure details of the death of Jong-Nam, once believed to be the likely heir, reverberated through wide swathes of the border area, Seoul's MBC TV station said.

"Kim Jong-Nam died after being attacked by two



Kim Jong-Nam unidentified women at the Kuala Lumpur Airport in Malaysia," blared the message from the speakers.

"Malaysian authorities said four suspects are North Korean nationals including one who has been arrested," it said.

Iraq forces enter IS-held Mosul airport

Smoke billows (in background) as Iraqi forces attack Mosul airport



Mosul Airport

Iraqi forces yesterday thrust into Mosul airport on the southern edge of the jihadist stronghold for the first time since the Islamic State group overran the region in 2014.

Backed by jets, helicopter gunships and drones, forces blitzed their way across open areas south of Mosul and entered the airport compound, apparently meeting limited resistance but strafing the area for suspected snipers.

"Right now thank God we're inside Mosul airport and in front of its terminal. Our troops are liberating it," said Hisham Abdul Kadhem, a commander in the interior ministry's Rapid Response units.

Little was left standing inside the perimeter and what used to be the runway was littered with dirt and rubble.

Most buildings were completely levelled but Iraqi forces celebrated the latest

landmark in the four-month-old offensive to retake Mosul.

While Iraqi forces were not yet deployed in the northern part of the sprawling airport compound and sappers cautiously scanned the site for explosive devices, IS jihadists appeared to offer limited resistance.

As Iraqi forces approached the airport moments earlier, attack helicopters fired rockets at an old sugar factory that stands next to the perimeter

wall, sending a cloud of ash floating across the area.

As they moved past the factory, an explosive device detonated next to the convoy's lead vehicle. It sent soldiers running back away from the blast but nobody was injured.

The push on the airport was launched at dawn and Iraqi forces stormed it within hours from the southwest.

The regional command said elite forces from the Counter-Terrorism Service

were simultaneously attacking the neighbouring Ghazlani military base, where some of them were stationed before IS seized Mosul in June 2014.

Control of the base and airport would set government forces up to enter Mosul neighbourhoods on the west bank of the Tigris, a month after declaring full control of the east bank.

The US-led coalition has played a key role in supporting Iraqi forces with air strikes

and advisers on the ground, and yesterday US forces were seen on the front lines.

The American troops are not supposed to be doing the actual fighting but in recent weeks have got so close to the front that they have come under attack, coalition spokesman Colonel John Dorrian said.

The latest push to retake Mosul, the last stronghold of the jihadists in Iraq, was launched on Sunday. -(AFP)

Hundreds protest Netanyahu in Australia

Sydney

Several hundred pro-Palestinian protesters demonstrated in Sydney yesterday against the first visit to Australia by an Israeli prime minister, branding Benjamin Netanyahu a "war criminal".

A police helicopter hovered over the city as speakers slammed Canberra's strong support of Netanyahu and his government.

"We are here to oppose Australia's support for Israel, for a racist apartheid nation,"

said pro-Palestinian author and Australian lawyer Randa Abdel-Fattah.

"It's disgusting to see that some of our Australian leaders have rolled out the red carpet and welcomed a war criminal into Australia," she said.

Ahead of Netanyahu's arrival, some 60 business leaders, academics and members of the clergy signed a letter saying Australia should not welcome Netanyahu, claiming his policies "provoke, and oppress" the Palestinians.



Protesters demonstrate against the visit to Australia by Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu



Top Philippine drug war critic dodges arrest

Manila

An arrest warrant was issued yesterday for the highest-profile opponent of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's deadly war on drugs.

The planned arrest of Senator Leila de Lima outraged her supporters and human rights activists, who said the

government had manufactured drug trafficking charges to silence her criticism of Duterte.

The 57-year-old lawyer, who has spent nearly a decade trying to link Duterte to death squads that have allegedly killed thousands of people, could be jailed for life if she is found guilty of drug trafficking.

Fukushima operator eyes plan to clean up plant



A TEPCO employee walks past storage tanks at the company's nuclear power plant in Fukushima

Japan

The operator of Japan's stricken Fukushima nuclear plant said yesterday it will craft a plan this summer to extract highly radioactive fuel from the damaged reactors, a key step in decommissioning work expected to take decades.

Operator Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO) and the Japanese government have struggled to clean up the world's worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl in 1986.

On March 11, 2011, a magnitude 9.0 undersea earthquake off Japan's northeastern coast sparked a massive tsunami that swamped cooling systems and triggered three reactor meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi plant.

Radiation spread over a wide area and forced tens of thousands of people to evacuate.

Shunji Uchida, top on-site engineer, said important data has been obtained from recent camera probes which

detected radiation levels inside the No. 2 reactor at record highs.

"We will also continue further research on units No. 1 and 3," Uchida said. "Based on that data we will decide on a basic policy this summer for how to remove the fuel".

Extracting the fuel believed to have broken through pressure vessels to collect at the very bottom of the reactors -- is a major step towards decommissioning the plant, a process which could take 40 years.

In the accident's immediate aftermath, heavy protective gear had to be worn within 20 kilometres (12.4 miles) of the plant, he said.

"Such heavy gear is only necessary now for those working at the reactor and not turbine buildings and no longer away from them."

When finished, TEPCO hopes it will block underground water from nearby mountains from flowing into the complex and potentially contaminating the Pacific Ocean.

Cavendish sprints to first stage win

Abu Dhabi

Britain's **Mark Cavendish** won a sprint finish for the first stage of the Tour of Abu Dhabi yesterday as race favourite Marcel Kittel of Germany crashed.

The 31-year-old Dimension Data rider pulled on the leader's red jersey after crossing ahead of Germany's

Andre Greipel (Lotto Soudal) and Italian Niccolo Bonifazio (Bahrain-Merida).

Germany's Kittel fell on the final kilometre stretch just before the sprint with the Quick-Step Floors rider finishing three minutes behind the winner.

The 189km stage between Abu Dhabi and Madinat Zayed crossed the desert, with Friday's second stage over 153km at Al Maryah Island. (AFP)

Scoreboard

First stage:

1. Marc Cavendish (GBR/DDD) 4hr 36min 56sec
2. Andre Greipel (GER/LTS) same time
3. Niccolo Bonifazio (ITA/TBM) s.t.
4. Simone Consonni (ITA/UAD) s.t.
5. Elia Viviani (ITA/SKY) s.t.

Overall standings:

1. Marc Cavendish (GBR/DDD)
2. Andre Greipel (GER/LTS) at 4sec
3. Manuel Mori (ITA/UAD) 4
4. Niccolo Bonifazio (ITA/TBM) 6
5. Mirco Maestri (ITA/BRD) 8



Mark Cavendish



Mark Cavendish (front) from Dimension Data cycling team celebrates as he crosses the finish line



Brave confirms venue, announces ticket sale

DT News Network

Manama

Brave 3: Battle in Brazil, the first ever international instalment of Middle East's number one promotion Brave Combat Federation, is going full throttle as the promotion announced the ticket sale for the card in Curitiba, along with the venue that will host the fight night.

The Max Rosenmann Arena, in São José dos Pinhais, Curitiba Metropolitan Area is the venue and the location less than 15 km away from downtown Curitiba and a facility used to host combat events, being the home of Brazil's Immortal FC.

Brave have opted for ticket sales with a fan-oriented strategy and focused in offering an international-level structure and fight card with tickets at affordable prices. The decision, according to Brave's CEO Mohammed Shahid, was taken considering Brazil's economic situation and the size of the country, which can lead to long trips by the fans.

"Tickets are now available on *BraveFights.com*. We have a stacked fight card. I am sure it's going to be a historic night," Shahid said.

Brave 3: Battle in Brazil will be headlined by the long-awaited clash between featherweight rivals Lucas "Mineiro" Martins and Paulo "Bananada" Goncalves. In the co-main event of the evening, welterweights Thiago "Monstro" Vieira will face the newcomer Carlston "Moçambique" Harris.

Other fights are Lucas Martins vs Paulo Goncalves (featherweight), Luan Santiago vs Ivan Castillo (featherweight), Ivan Lopez vs Marcel Adur (bantamweight), Julio Cesar Neves vs Nate Landwehr (featherweight).

This will be Brave Combat Federation's first international instalment after back to back events in the Kingdom. In 2016, the promotion was born under the patronage of HH Shaikh Khalid Bin Hamad Al Khalifa (KHK MMA) and 2017 will witness a regional invasion and international presence in many more countries.

Joburg Open: Peterson fires 62 in rain to lead

Johannesburg

American **Paul Peterson** defied torrential rain to fire a first-round 62 in the Joburg Open yesterday before the weather forced play to be suspended for the day.

The 28-year-old held a three-stroke clubhouse lead over Anton Rai and Paul Waring of England, Romain Langasque of France and Jbe Kruger of South Africa.

Seeking a second European Tour success after winning the Czech Masters last year, Peterson birdied nine holes and did not drop a shot.

"Birdieing half the holes is never bad so I felt really good out there," said the golfer from Tucson in Arizona.



Paul Peterson

"I got into a nice rhythm today, found the fairways with most of my drives and putted well," he added.

Only one of three major winners in the 210-man field managed to finish with former US PGA champion Y.E. Yang of South Korea carding a 71.

Former British Open winner Darren Clarke of Northern Ireland and ex-Masters title-holder Trevor Immelman of South Africa were both two over after 14 holes.

Defending Joburg Open champion Haydn Porteous of South Africa was four under after 14 holes.

The par-72 east and par-71 west courses at Royal Johannesburg and Kensington Golf Club are being used for the tournament.

Competitors play one round on each course and the final two rounds on the more challenging east layout. (AFP)

Scoreboard

- 62 - Paul Peterson (USA)
- 65 - Jbe Kruger (RSA), Romain Langasque (FRA), Aaron Rai (ENG), Paul Waring (ENG)
- 66 - Pep Angles (ESP), Dean Burmester (RSA), Teaghan Gauche (RSA), Francesco Laporta (ITA), Sebastian Soderberg (SWE)
- 67 - Dylan Frittelli (RSA), Chris Hanson (ENG), Damien Perrier (FRA), Jaco Prinsloo (RSA), Jordan Smith (ENG), Joel Stalter (FRA)
- 68 - Oliver Bekker (RSA), Alexander Bjork (SWE), Laurie Canter (ENG), Andrew Georgiou (RSA), Rikard Karlberg (SWE), Paul Maddy (ENG), Anthony Michael (RSA), Titch Moore (RSA), James Morrison (ENG), JC Ritchie (RSA), Marc Warren (SCO)
- Selected
- 71 - Y.E. Yang (KOR)

Fantastic evening tonight with Frank Bruno

Manama

A fantastic evening is in store tonight with a boxing legend and sporting personality Frank Bruno in town as he talks about his long and illustrious career in boxing with over 40 fights including his two meetings with Iron Mike Tyson and winning the WBC Heavy Weight World Champion belt. The event which will start at 7.30pm at The Radisson Diplomat Hotel, includes Bruno's speech, comedian compere Jerry Earl, an audience Q&A with Bruno, a gourmet dinner, sports memorabilia and pictures with the man himself.

Tickets are BD30 and further information is available on tel 00973 3388 6952, online www.ssmena.com. Enquiries can be made at bahrain@ssmena.com.

Renshaw, Starc revive Australia

Pune
Australia's Matt Renshaw admitted he feared he had let his teammates down by leaving the fray with an upset stomach before returning to hit a gritty half-century in the first Test against India yesterday.

In the opening day of a four-match series between the world's top two sides, Renshaw's innings and some late Mitchell Starc fireworks pulled Australia back from the brink as they reached 256 for nine at stumps.

Starc has so far made 57 off 58 balls and Josh Hazlewood was with him at the crease on one at Pune's Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium.

Indian seamer Umesh Yadav claimed four wickets while the spinners Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja took two each.

The left-handed Renshaw was the anchor of the innings, top-scoring with 68, although it was Starc who provided the entertainment and caused a rethink in assessments of who had the better of the day.

All had seemed calm with Renshaw for most of the morning session but when David Warner fell with the scores on 82, the English-born batsman caused a stir by following his opening partner back to the pavilion.

As news filtered out that he had an upset stomach, the 20-year-old Renshaw became the talk of social media with even the famously tough former Australian captain Allan Border weighing in.

"Hope he's lying down half-dead, because as a captain I wouldn't be happy," Border wrote on Twitter as Renshaw lay on his sick-bed.

But after Australian skipper Steve Smith fell for 27 just before the tea break, Renshaw then strode back to the crease to register his second Test fifty in his fifth game.

Renshaw said he had been feeling unwell for most of the morning and had tried to tough it out before deciding he had to leg it off the pitch.

"It was tough. I wasn't too sure on the ruling. I didn't know you could retire ill so I thought I just had to get out there and make sure I batted till lunch," he told reporters.

because as an opener you just go straight out there and bat."

Renshaw admitted his captain Smith "wasn't too thrilled" about his retirement just before the break.

"But he understands that when you need to go to the toilet, you need to go to the toilet," he said.

"It was probably a couple of hours before I came back but I felt bad knowing that I could be letting the team down -- that's why I went back out there.

"I wanted to do my bit for the team and try and make sure we had a pretty good day." (AFP)



Australia's Mitchell Starc plays a shot

Australia 1st innings

D. Warner b U. Yadav	38
M. Renshaw c Vijay b Ashwin	68
S. Smith c Kohli b Ashwin	27
S. Marsh c Kohli b J. Yadav	16
P. Handscomb lbw b Jadeja	22
M. Marsh lbw b Jadeja	4
M. Wade lbw b U. Yadav	8
M. Starc not out	57
S. O'Keefe c Saha b U. Yadav	0
N. Lyon lbw b U. Yadav	0
J. Hazlewood not out	1
Extras (lb 6, nb 9)	15

Total (9 wickets; 94 overs) 256

Fall of wickets: 1-82 (Warner), 1-82 (Renshaw retired not out), 2-119 (S. Marsh), 3-149 (Handscomb), 4-149 (Smith), 5-166 (M. Marsh), 6-190 (Wade), 7-196 (Renshaw), 8-205 (O'Keefe), 9-205 (Lyon)

"It wasn't an ideal situation and coming back it was probably a bit strange for me, waiting to bat

Pacquiao, Amir Khan eye fight in UAE

Manila

Philippine boxing hero Manny Pacquiao yesterday said he was "in negotiations" to face British fighter Amir Khan, after weeks of conflicting reports over his next bout.

"My team and I are in negotiations with Amir Khan for our next fight. Further announcements coming soon," Pacquiao, 38, said on his official Twitter feed.

Pacquiao's Tweet follows various accounts from different sources over who he will be facing next and where the fight might be held.

Pacquiao's promoter, Top Rank's Bob Arum, told ESPN sports network that he was sceptical about a Khan



Manny Pacquiao

fight.

"Manny seems to believe they will come up with the money. I have some reservations whether it will happen or not," American Arum was quoted as saying on the ESPN website.

Arum had been seeking a deal with Duco Events, a New Zealand promotional company he has close ties

to, for Pacquiao to defend the 147-pound belt against Australia's Jeff Horn in Brisbane, Australia.

"The Australian deal is not going to happen now, because Manny is trying to get a fight done in the United Arab Emirates, and the people there favour him fighting Amir Khan," Arum reportedly said. (AFP)

Wayne Rooney to stay at Manchester United

London

Wayne Rooney said yesterday he was staying with Manchester United following persistent speculation he could make a lucrative move to the Chinese Super League.

British media reports said Rooney's agent, Paul Stretford, had been in China speaking to interested clubs but the United and England captain insisted he was remaining at Old Trafford.

"Despite the interest which has been shown from other clubs, for which I'm grateful, I want to end recent speculation and say that I am staying at Manchester United," the 31-year-old Rooney said in a statement released to Britain's Press Association.

"I hope I will play a full part in helping the team in its fight for success on four fronts.

"It's an exciting time at

the club and I want to remain a part of it," added Rooney, whose current United contract runs until mid-2018, with the club holding the option to extend it by a further year.

Speculation over the experienced forward's future has intensified in recent weeks with Rooney often sidelined by United manager Jose Mourinho.

Chinese clubs said to be interested in Rooney, United's all-time leading scorer, included Guangzhou Evergrande, Beijing Guoan, Jiangsu Suning and Tianjin Quanjian.

British media had reported that he could earn up to \$1 million a week, making him the world's best paid player, but Rooney's statement has at least ended the debate over his future ahead of the closure of

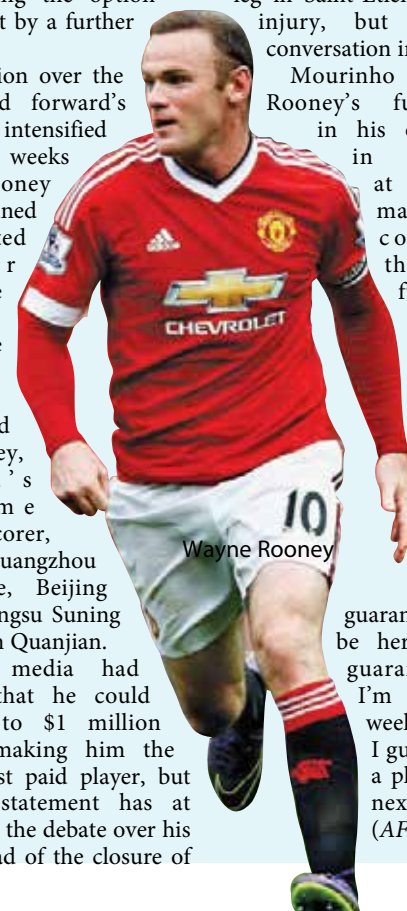
the CSL transfer window next Tuesday.

Rooney missed Wednesday's Europa League last-32 second leg in Saint-Etienne through injury, but dominated conversation in France.

Mourinho said that Rooney's future was in his own hands in comments at his pre-match press conference that only fuelled the speculation.

"You'll have to ask him," Mourinho said. "You have to ask him. Of course I can't guarantee (he will be here). I can't guarantee that I'm here next week, how can I guarantee that a player is here next season?"

(AFP)



Wayne Rooney

F1 must embrace social media: Hamilton



Lewis Hamilton (L) and Finland's Valtteri Bottas pose with the new Mercedes W08 EQ Power+ Formula One car

Silverstone

Three-time world champion Lewis Hamilton yesterday urged Formula One's new rulers Liberty Media to bring the sport up to date by opening it up to social media.

The Mercedes driver is a committed user of social media and came under fire last October after messing around on photo app Snapchat during a drivers' press conference prior to the Japanese Grand Prix.

He believes sports like football, the NBA and the NFL harness social media "a lot better" and says allowing drivers to use it more freely would help attract new fans to the sport.

"You're not allowed to do social media, at all," said Hamilton during the Mercedes season launch event.

"I mean, you can take a picture and post it, but that's it. Everyone

has a phone, everyone's on their phone a large portion of the day.

"Everyone wants live, exclusive footage. Something as small as me being in my room, saying, 'Hey guys, I'm getting ready for my session, this is my suit, blah blah blah.'

"Those are things people want to see and I think excluding that is a negative for the sport, so allowing that to happen is going to be great."

This year marks Hamilton's 10th anniversary as an F1 driver and he will embark upon the season with a new team-mate after Valtteri Bottas came in to replace Nico Rosberg.

Rosberg pipped Hamilton to last year's Drivers' Championship before abruptly retiring and with the British driver now 32, he admitted the day he walks away from the sport himself could arrive "soon".

"I don't think about (retiring) a huge amount, but of course I do think about it," Hamilton said.

"At the end of each season and particularly at the beginning of each season, when you're going through the tough training, how fit you are.

"I got in the car today and I was like, 'Ah, I can still drive!' So that's a good thing.

"I really don't know when is going to be the time. It could be soon, it could be far away. That's the exciting thing about life."

Hamilton was speaking after taking his new W08 car for a spin on a damp, blustery day at Silverstone, 80 miles (129 kilometres) northwest of London.

The new car has a black, silver and teal chassis and is lower, wider and heavier than last year's W07, reflecting new

design regulations intended to make F1 cars faster and more demanding to drive.

Hamilton described the new car as "the most detailed piece of machinery I have seen in F1" and said it was a "more powerful beast" than last year's car.

Former Williams driver Bottas said: "I've never driven a car with that much downforce."

Hamilton and Rosberg had a notoriously fractious relationship, but Bottas, 27, believes he and his new team-mate can forge a productive partnership.

"We haven't raced yet together and so far it's been good," said the Finn.

"I see no reason why we couldn't work professionally as a good pair, race hard but fair on the track and work as a team.

"We'll find out, but I have a good feeling about it." (AFP)

Football Scores

Europa League:

Osmanlispor	0	Olympiakos	3
Ajax Amsterdam	1	Legia Warsaw	0
APOEL	2	Athletic Bilbao	0
Zenit Saint Petersburg	3	Anderlecht	1
Roma	0	Villarreal	1
Besiktas	2	Hapoel Beer-Sheva	1
Fiorentina	2	Borussia Moenchengladbach	3
Sparta Prague	0	Rostov	1
Tottenham Hotspur	1	Gent	1
Shakhtar Donetsk	0	Celta Vigo	0
Copenhagen	0	Ludogorets	0
Genk	0	Astra Giurgiu	0
Lyon	4	AZ Alkmaar	1

Scores at the time of closing

Medvedev battles into Marseille QFs



Daniil Medvedev

Marseille

NextGenATP star Daniil Medvedev reached his third ATP World Tour quarter-final of the season yesterday as he defeated Jan-Lennard Struff 6-3, 3-6, 7-6(3) at the Open 13 Marseille.

The 21-year-old Russian also battled through his first-round match against eighth seed Benoit Paire in a third-set tie-break and now has an 8-4 mark on the season. He edged Struff in one hour and 43 minutes, saving a break point in the ninth game of the deciding set before going on to claim the tie-break.

"It was a very tough match," said Medvedev. "My opponent played really good tennis and served amazing. I'm proud that I took the only break chance that I had to win the set and that I could get through a few tough moments on my serve. In the tie-break, I was just more consistent than him. It was another tough win for me and I'm really happy to be in the quarter-finals."

Medvedev has made a strong start in his bid to qualify for the inaugural Next Gen ATP Finals.

After reaching his first ATP World Tour final at the Aircel Chennai Open, as well as a last eight showing at the Open Sud de France in Montpellier (l. to Tsonga), he is currently second in the Emirates ATP Race To Milan, with Alexander Zverev at No. 1.

For a place in the semi-finals, Medvedev will face fourth seed Lucas Pouille.

Qualifier Norbert Gombos set a quarter-final clash with defending champion Nick Kyrgios after edging Nicolas Mahut 7-5, 3-6, 7-6(5) in two hours and 36 minutes. The Slovakian, ranked No. 128 in the Emirates ATP Rankings, is through to his first ATP World Tour quarter-final. He squandered a match point when serving for the match at 5-4 in the third set, but regrouped to capitalise on his third match point chance in the tie-break. (atpworldtour.com)

Results

2nd rd

Daniil Medvedev (RUS) bt Jan-Lennard Struff (GER) 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7/3)
Norbert Gombos (SVK) bt Nicolas Mahut (FRA) 7-5, 3-6, 7-6 (7/5)

Emery's PSG face Marseille fight

Paris

Paris Saint-Germain must win their Ligue 1 grudge match at resurgent Marseille with the club's Qatari owners demanding nothing less than the successful defence of their title.

Such are the demands at PSG that should they lose to their bitter southern rivals on Sunday and drop six points behind leaders Monaco it would be considered a crisis.

The four-time reigning champions also face pressure from Nice who host Montpellier in Friday's early match and could overtake PSG and pull level with leaders Monaco before their trips to Marseille and Guingamp respectively.

PSG and Nice both have 56



PSG players warm up

points from 26 games -- three points behind leaders Monaco.

A pale PSG drew 0-0 at home with lowly Toulouse last Sunday and bouncing back at Marseille,

where new signings Patrice Evra and Dimitri Payet have now settled, will be a real test of their pedigree.

Away fans are barred for

security reasons and a 65,000 famously raucous sell out crowd will be paying for their first league win over PSG since November 2009.

Key PSG defender Serge Aurier said Sunday's slip was down to tiredness after thumping Barcelona 4-0 in the Champions League the Tuesday before.

"It's not easy to repeat that immediately afterwards. We will stay positive. Now we will start preparing for Sunday's match and keep picking up points," the Ivorian promised.

His defensive partner Marquinhos was equally assured for the Marseille match.

"Starting with Sunday's game, we will come back stronger," the Brazilian said. (AFP)



KERBER CRUISES *into* DUBAI SEMIS



Angelique Kerber (file pic)

Dubai

Angelique Kerber hammered out a 6-3, 6-2 defeat of Ana Konjuh yesterday to stay in contention for a return to the top WTA ranking at the Dubai Tennis Championships.

Germany's double Grand Slam winner from 2016 can take back the top spot from Serena Williams through a title at the Aviation club on Saturday.

The 29-year-old will first have to get by Elina Svitolina, on course for her own breakthrough into a first-time top 10 ranking if she can win the event.

The Ukrainian reached the final four with a 6-0, 6-4 defeat of Lauren Davis. Kerber has used Dubai as a building block to repair her modest early season form.

"I'm really happy about the match today again. Ana is a tough opponent, she's going for it. You have to play until the last point. It was nice to get through in two sets.

"I was just focusing on myself and trying to take the rhythm from the last days.

"The match with Svitolina will be another tough one. I have to be aggressive and just like the last days here. I'll just try to enjoy the next match and of course I will try to go out there and to win another match here."

Svitolina, seeded seventh and winner of a fifth career title this month in Taipei, was pleased to advance.

"I'm really happy the way I started and the way I finished the match, I was being very aggressive and it worked really good," said Svitolina.

"I was calm and positive today. I'm really happy with the performance.

"I was expecting she would do something different after losing 0-6 - it's always tough. I was expecting her to come back to the game.

"I was trying to stick to my plan and stay really positive. I knew that there would be some up-and-downs, but I tried to do more, more effort from my side so I didn't lose my focus too much."

Tenth seed Caroline Wozniacki produced an identical scoreline to Kerber as she put out teenaged Californian Catherine Bellis 6-3, 6-2 to end the 17-year-old's run of form which had produced a third-round upset of fourth seed Agnieszka Radwanska.

Latvian Anastasija Sevastova ended the week's last Chinese hope, defeating Wang Qiang 6-4, 7-5 as the Asian lost her first sets of the week.

(AFP)

Results

Quarter-finals

Elina Svitolina (UKR x7) bt Lauren Davis (USA) 6-0, 6-4
Anastasija Sevastova (LAT) bt Wang Qiang (CHN) 6-4, 7-5
Caroline Wozniacki (DEN x10) bt Catherine Bellis (USA) 6-3, 6-2
Angelique Kerber (GER x1) bt Ana Konjuh (CRO) 6-3, 6-2



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