

Fraud in GCC 6pc above global average

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Manama

Bahraini companies and residents need to tighten their security against fraud as a study has revealed that fraud increased in the GCC more than any other region.

Incidence of fraud in the GCC region is six per cent above the global average according to 2016-17 Kroll Annual Global Fraud and Risk Report. Eighty-eight per cent executives in the GCC surveyed for the report said they have experienced at least one fraud incident in the past year. 90 per cent reported at least one cyber incident while 82 per cent reported security incidents.

According to the report, current and former employees were most likely the perpetrators. "Despite widespread concerns about external attacks, the findings reveal that the most common perpetrators of fraud, cyber and security incidents over the past 12 months were current



Tommy Helsby and former employees," the report revealed.

Internal financial fraud was named as the most common type of fraud experienced by respondents in the Middle East. This was followed by the theft of both physical and information assets, the incidence of which were approximately in line with the global averages of 29 per cent and 24 per cent, respectively. Senior or middle management were named as the most common perpetrators of fraud in the region, cited by 36 per cent of respondents in the Middle East, followed by

junior employees, cited by 34 per cent. Third party entities were also considered to have significant roles in most fraud incidents, with joint venture partners, vendors, suppliers, and agents named by around a quarter of participants.

The number of fraud incidents have increased on a global level as well, the report said.

"Fraud, cyber, and security incidents are now the "new normal" for companies across the world, according to the executives surveyed. The proportion of executives that reported their companies fell victim to fraud in the past year rose significantly to 82 per cent, from 75 per cent in 2015 and 70 per cent in 2013, highlighting the escalating threat to corporate reputation and regulatory compliance," the report said.

"One thing that has become even more pronounced is the importance of anticipating and addressing the insider threats. The results of our survey underscore and highlight this conclusion. Whether

it's fraud, cyber threats, or security risk, whether it's Asia, Europe, or the Americas or whether it's services, finance, retail, or manufacturing, the figures show companies are most at risk from an employee, a former employee, or a temporary employee/contractor" said Tommy Helsby Co-Chairman, Investigations and Disputes, Kroll

"There is good and bad news in this conclusion. The good news is that companies have a better chance of managing their risk exposure to insiders than an anonymous outsider, once the threat is recognized and understood. They also have a better chance of successfully investigating the problem and securing recoveries, having greater access to and control of the evidence trail inside the company. The bad news is that the impact on reputation, both inside and outside the company, may be greater if an insider threat or incident is not handled carefully — indeed, our survey shows that one of the most serious consequences of fraud and risk issues is the impact on employee morale. In a regulated business, the relevant regulators will also almost certainly take an interest: Poor controls in one area may be viewed as a trigger for closer scrutiny, even when the problem has no relevance to safety or customer data or funds" he said.

Representative picture



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Woman gets one month jail term for drunk driving

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

A Gulf national was sentenced yesterday to one month of imprisonment and deportation for three years for driving under the influence of alcohol.

According to court files, the woman, who also holds the Finnish nationality, had stopped her vehicle in the middle of the road in Juffair area and "fought" with other drivers who requested her to move her car.

"A traffic police patrol moved to the scene and found out that the woman is under the influence of alcohol. Research revealed that she had similar felonies in the past and had attacked a public employee," it was unfolded in the trial of the woman yesterday.

The Seventh Lower Criminal (Traffic) Court sentenced the woman to one year of imprisonment and to be deported for three year.

Newborn child with heart defect seeks financial aid



The newborn baby at Salmaniya Medical Complex ICU
Harpreet Kaur/DTNN
reporter@dt.bh

Manama

Parents of a newborn baby, born with a rare heart defect, are seeking financial help to treat the rare ailment. The baby was born with a congenital heart disease called hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS), a complex and rare heart defect where the left side of the heart is critically underdeveloped. The kid is now admitted to Salmaniya Medical Complex at the paediatrics intensive care unit and has to undergo three surgeries which can't be done

in Bahrain. The family has to either travel to India or Saudi Arabia so that they could save their child. The family can't afford the surgeries. So they are trying really hard to collect funds to save their baby boy.

"The three surgeries would cost around \$10,000 but with my income, we can't afford the surgeries to save our child's life," Ahmed Mohammed Ali, father of the baby boy told DT News. A friend, Eman Saleh is organising a fund raising event today at the Bahrain City Center. If anyone willing to help, contact Ahmed Mohammed Ali Helal at +973 35138040.

27,000 expatriates obtained driving licences in five years

DT News Network
news@dt.bh
Manama

More than 27,000 expatriates passed the driving test and obtained driving licences in the past five years, Interior Minister Lieutenant General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa has said.

There are 307,000 non-Bahrainis who possess driving licences, out of which 27,179 received in the period between 2011 and 2016.

Replying to the queries of MP Jalal Kadhim recently on the status and numbers of drivers in Bahrain, Lieutenant General Shaikh Rashid said that there are 383,000 citizens holding driving licences and



Jalal Kadhim

5,000 Gulf nationals in the Kingdom. The data revealed by the minister also showed that 256,516 expatriates hold licences for driving private cars, while 12, 863 have motorcycles' licences, 21,124 have private transportation

licenses and 679 have public transportation licences. The numbers of expatriate drivers rose from 17, 750 in 2010 to 31, 988 in 2015 and 45, 680 drivers last year.

Motorcycles' licences for expatriates also rose from only 987 in 2010 to over 22,000 in 2016. The minister pointed out in his response to the standards and conditions imposed on foreigners when they obtain driving licences according to the type of license. Among the conditions stipulated is that applicants should be at least 18 years of age to obtain a private or motorcycle licences, and not less than 25 years to obtain a private transport licences.

Regarding the renewal of the driver's licence for non-



Bahrainis, the minister added that the licence is valid for five years from the date of

issuance and can be renewed more than once, except for public transportation licences.

The minister's replies will be reviewed before the House of Representatives soon.

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RAMADAN KAREEM

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ISB EXCELS IN CBSE CLASS 12 RESULTS

Students of the Indian School Bahrain (ISB) performed very well in the Grade XII CBSE exams held in March 2017.

Neha Chinnu Idiculla with 486 marks out of 500 (97.2%) stands as the school topper and the island topper. **Kripa Anne Tharakan** with 485 marks (97%) earned second spot and **Amrutha Murali** with 483(96.6%) earned third position in the school. This is the best result in the past 7 years produced by the school in terms of highest marks scored.

The school has achieved a pass percentage of 97.8 as against the total number of 673 students appeared for the examination this year.

ISB Hon. Chairman Prince S Natarajan and Hon. Secretary Dr Shemily P John and the Members of the Executive Committee and Principal VR Palaniswamy congratulated the students, the teachers and the parents for architecting excellent results. The Executive Committee said that the credit goes to the academic environment, academic planning, the academic team and the teachers in spite of all limitations. The school has also achieved high subject averages in all the subjects.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CLASS XII RESULTS

Island topper is from the Indian School with 97.2% marks, which is the best in the last 7 years

- 2 students scored 100 out of 100 in Economics
- 2 students scored 100 out of 100 in Maths
- 2 students scored 100 out of 100 in Bio-technology
- 1 student scored 100 out of 100 in Marketing
- 1 student scored 100 out of 100 in Engineering Graphics
- 1 student scored 99 in Biology
- 1 student scored 99 in Chemistry
- 1 student scored 99 in Psychology
- 3 students scored 99 in Business Studies
- 6 students got 99 in Engg. Graphics

SCHOOL TOPPERS



NEHA CHINNU IDICULLA



KRIPA ANNE THARAKAN



AMRUTHA MURALI

COMMERCE TOPPERS



NEHA CHINNU IDICULLA



ANIRUDH NARAYANAN SURESH



PARICHEY SHARMA

HUMANITIES TOPPERS



RUCHITA DEVENDRA MUKHIA



SAFA ABDULLA



GAYATHRI MOHANAN

SCIENCE TOPPERS



KRIPA ANNE THARAKAN



AMRUTHA MURALI



TARUN THALIATH

SUBJECT TOPPERS



AAYAT RAJJAK SHEIKH-
PHYSIC,BIOLOGY



AMRUTHA MURALI-
MATHEMATICS



ANDREA STEPHANIE
RAJ-ENGLISH



ANGEL
CHERUVATHOOR



ANIRUDH
NARAYANAN SURESH-



ASHLEY ANNA TOM-
BIO-TECHNOLOGY



BHADRA N MENON-
ENGLISH



D M LAKSHIMA
MADUSHANI-



KEITH ANTHONY
CARVALHO-BUSINESS



KRIPA ANNE
THARAKAN-



LIYA SAIRA JACOB-
INFORMATICS



MELISSA JANE
CUTINHO-MARKETING



NAVEEN MATHEWS
RENGI-ENGLISH



SHAGUFTA TAFAIL-
HOME SCIENCE



PRANAV PRAMOD-
CHEMISTRY



RUCHITA DEVENDRA
MUKHIA-SOCIOLOGY



SABEEL FAZLUDDIN
PARKAR-ENGINEERING



SAFA ABDULLA-
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SURESH



ASHLEY ANNA TOM



FRAJON BRITO
BRAGANZA



KEERTHIKA PRABHALA



KEITH ANTHONY
CARVALHO



KRIPA ANNE THARAKAN



NEHA CHINNU
IDICULLA



PARICHEY SHARMA



S ADITYA



TARUN THALIATH

Ibn Al Hytham Islamic school



Radiya _ (First rank, Physics topper)



Fathima (Second rank, chemistry topper)



Aysha Nasna (Second rank, Economics topper)



Fathima Nimrathul Shuhada (Accountancy topper)



Malyeka (Maths and Comp.Sc topper)



Sumaya Ebrahim (First rank, Economics, B.st, IP topper)

Seventy-nine students from the seventh batch of Ibn Al Hytham Islamic School appeared for this year's All India Senior Secondary School Examination (Class XII) 2017, conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi, India. 32 students passed in the Science Stream, while 42 in the Commerce Stream. Radhiya Nanmanath Puthiya P. secured first position with 82.80pc and Fathima Maliyakal second position with 80.40pc in the Science Stream. Sumaiya Ibrahim Afandi finished on top with 89.40pc and Ayisha Nasna on second position with 86.00pc in the Commerce Stream.

Subject toppers:

English - Hanna Fathima Mubarack (95pc); **Mathematics**: Malyeka Anees(79pc); **Physics**: Radhiya Nanmanath Puthiya P. (94pc); **Chemistry**: Fathima Maliyakal (84pc); **Biology**: Aliya Abdul Radheed (82pc); **Computer Science**: Malyeka Anees (94pc); **Economics**: Ayisha Nasna (86pc), Sumaiya Ibrahim (86pc); **Business Studies**: Sumaiya Ibrahim (93pc); **Accountancy**: Fathima Nimratul Shuhada (85pc); **Informatics Practices**: Sumaiya Ibrahim (98pc).

AL NOOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Hani Ashraf, Commerce



Reshma Mikki, Science

The seventh batch of 19 CBSE students of Al Noor International School, who sat for the All India Senior School Certificate Examination (AISSCE) in March 2017, has achieved excellent results. Reshma Mikky Shaji scored 90.4pc to become the school topper in Science stream and Hani Ashraf Bououdina who scored 87.6pc is the top scorer in Commerce stream.



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(All amounts in BHD 000's)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at March 31, 2017 (Audited)

	Mar 31, 2017	Mar 31, 2016
Assets		
Cash and bank balances	8,056	17,574
Placements with banks and other financial institutions	77,285	197,925
Due from other group entities	433,099	323,762
Loans and advances	1,418,453	2,202,785
Available-for-sale securities	155,505	182,142
Interest receivable	11,175	24,241
Other assets	6,540	12,433
TOTAL ASSETS	2,110,113	2,960,862
Head Office funds		
Head Office account	5,454	5,454
Unremitted profits	60,905	170,522
Reserves	46	283
Total Head Office funds	66,405	176,259
Liabilities		
Bonds	82,882	216,653
Deposits from customers	30,096	102,770
Deposits from banks and other financial institutions	89,325	408,116
Loans from banks	269,223	245,898
Due to other group entities	1,548,552	1,771,304
Interest payable	10,580	18,053
Other liabilities	13,050	21,809
Total liabilities	2,043,708	2,784,603
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND HEAD OFFICE FUNDS	2,110,113	2,960,862

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended March 31, 2017 (Audited)

	Mar 31, 2017	Mar 31, 2016
Net cash from operating activities	20,372	312,412
Net cash from / (used in) investing activities	26,130	(4,952)
Net cash used in financing activities	(165,880)	(189,585)
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	(119,378)	117,875
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	247,388	129,513
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	128,010	247,388

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended March 31, 2017 (Audited)

	Mar 31, 2017	Mar 31, 2016
Interest income	101,295	121,597
Interest expense	(74,575)	(71,860)
Net interest income	26,720	49,737
Fees and commission income	9,671	14,350
Net trading income	1,347	1,771
Dividend income	551	2,384
Other loss	(267)	(443)
Total income	38,022	67,799
Impairment allowance on loans and advances (net)	(107,612)	(61,115)
Salaries and other staff cost	(1,211)	(1,170)
General and administrative expenses	(1,116)	(1,162)
Total expenses	(109,939)	(63,447)
(LOSS) / PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	(71,917)	4,352
Other comprehensive income		
Items that will never be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Net change in defined benefit obligation	(13)	19
Items that are or may be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Net change in fair value of available-for-sale securities	(224)	(267)
Other comprehensive income for the year	(237)	(248)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	(72,154)	4,104

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN HEAD OFFICE FUNDS

For the year ended March 31, 2017 (Audited)

	Head Office account	Unremitted profits	Available for sale securities fair value reserve	Defined benefit obligation reserve	Total Head Office funds
2017					
At April 1, 2016	5,454	170,522	221	62	176,259
Loss for the year	-	(71,917)	-	-	(71,917)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	(224)	(13)	(237)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	(71,917)	(224)	(13)	(72,154)
Remittance to Head Office during the year	-	(37,700)	-	-	(37,700)
Total transactions with Head Office	-	(37,700)	-	-	(37,700)
At March 31, 2017	5,454	60,905	(3)	49	66,405
2016					
At April 1, 2015	5,454	279,270	488	43	285,255
Profit for the year	-	4,352	-	-	4,352
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	(267)	19	(248)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	4,352	(267)	19	4,104
Remittance to Head Office during the year	-	(113,100)	-	-	(113,100)
Total transactions with Head Office	-	(113,100)	-	-	(113,100)
At March 31, 2016	5,454	170,522	221	62	176,259

The above statements have been extracted from the financial statements of ICICI Bank Limited - Bahrain Branch, which were approved by the management and on which an unmodified audit opinion was issued by the auditors KPMG Fakhro, Bahrain on May 25, 2017.

Branch address: ICICI Bank Limited, PO Box No 1494, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel : (+973) 17576161.

Deposits held with ICICI Bank Limited - Bahrain Branch in the Kingdom are covered by the Regulation Protecting Deposits and Unrestricted Investment Accounts issued by the Central Bank of Bahrain in accordance with Resolution No.(34) of 2010.

NMS – DPS students score above 90pc

School Toppers (First four):



Karthik Sai Krishnan (96pc - Science)



Simran Sanjay Kapoor (95.6pc- Science)



Rosalind Agasti (95.2pc - Science)



Shreyas Shankar Kottukkal (95pc- Science)

The New Millennium School-DPS Bahrain has announced the results of its All India Senior School Certificate Examination (AISSCE), conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), New Delhi, India in March 2017. Of the 60 students who appeared in the Science stream, 22 students secured above 90 per cent marks and 16 students excelled with “a grade” in all subjects. In the Commerce stream Garvita Mehta topped the school with 92.6pc. With a total of 81 students the school got 100pc success rate. 76 students passed with First Division (ie. 60pc and above) and 57 students excelled with distinction (ie.75pc and above). This was the ninth batch of Grade XII students.

Commerce stream toppers:



Garvita Mehta (92.6pc)



Seema Suresh Shetty (87.8pc)



Moksh Pachisia (86pc)



Aditya Ranjit Kotwal



Anjo Bob Anil



Emi Elsa Ivan



Akash Srivastav



Aryan Sakaria



Fathima Nissar Muhammed

Irene Mariam Jacob



Mithran Jeyashankar



Hrushikesh Jeevan Shanware



Misbah Khan

Swaraj Renghe

'Grade A' in all five subjects:

Karthik Sai Krishnan, Garvita Mehta, Simran Sanjay Kapoor, Rosalind Agasti, Shreyas Shankar Kottukkal, Akash Srivastav, Aryan Sakaria, Emi Elsa Ivan, Hrushikesh Jeevan Shanware, Irene Mariam Jacob, Misbah Khan, Swaraj Renghe, Aditya Ranjit Kotwal, Fathima Nissar Muhammed, Anjo Bob Anil, Mithran Jeyashankar

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Accolades for new Indian school



The New Indian School students passed out with flying colours in the Class XII board examination by recording 98 per cent pass percentage. Out of 146 students who appeared for the examination, 101 students scored first class including 44 students with distinction. 110 students received A1 grade in different subjects. Jayson Mathew Thomas topped the Science Stream with 95pc, Sowmica M L claimed the second spot with 94.6pc, while Anjana Punnakal bagged the third position with 94.4pc. In the Commerce Stream, Ansh Vinay Bhatia procuring 90.8pc secured the first position, Jasmine Maria Jacob took the second position with 89.8pc and Mathias Verina Carol secured the third position with 88.4pc.

The subject toppers are:

English (95pc): Jeen Elza Saji, Romy Raju Mathew, Karishma Sekhar, Abhirami Narayanan, Gwyneth Afrodita V Pereira, Risha Mehr, Harrel Thachil Tomy, Olive Rachel Mammen, Apoorva Rajesh, Jenita Susan Philip, Jayson Mathew Thomas, Bee Fateema T Shiras, Noel Tharakan Renjith, Ambreen Aseef, Ruchi Raj, Sharadha Sivakumar, Yash Verma, Umerah Irfan Kazi, Aniketh Santhosh, Hannah Alsu Koshy, Maria Shaheen, Abhi Gail Johnson, Mathias Verina Carol, Anges Aniyar Varghese and Astral Milgrace Cutinha
Physics (95pc): Harrel Thachil Tomy, Anjana Punnakal V, Olive Rachel Mammen, Jenita Susan Philip, Sowmica M L, Jayson Mathew Thomas, Madhavi Shaji

and Sredha Vinod
Chemistry (95pc): Harrel Thachil Tomy, Anjana Punnakal V, Olive Rachel Mammen, Jenita Susan Philip, Sowmica M L, Jayson Mathew Thomas, Madhavi Shaji, Sredha Vinod and Abhirami Narayanan
Biology (93pc): Olive Rachel Mammen; **Mathematics (96pc):** Jayson Mathew Thomas; **Computer Science (95pc):** Romy Raju Mathew, Anjana Punnakal V, Sowmica M L, Sredha Vinod; **Economics (90pc):** Ashitha Shyamkumar Nair; **Business Studies (95pc):** Mohammed Bahrudeen Akbar, Jasmine Maria Jacob V; **Accountancy (90pc):** Abhi Gail Johnson, Mathias Verina Carol; **Informatics Practices (97pc):** Febin John Sam and **Marketing (98pc):** Ansh Vinay Bhatia, Mathias Verina Carol

Tamkeen, BisB launch BD20m pf

Manama

Tamkeen's labour fund and Bahrain Islamic Bank inaugurated a BD20 million portfolio under the programme Tamweel+, to support medium and large enterprises.

The programme provides Sharia-compliant financing, with Tamkeen supporting 70 per cent of the annual profit rate capped at 8pc on reducing balance. The financing amount ranges from BD 1m to BD 2.5m.

The programme also has several advantages, such as a long term repayment period, in addition to granting enterprises the freedom to use the financed amount for investment and development or local and international expansion, including export and diversification of products and activities related to business.

With the signing of this agreement, the portfolio of Tamweel+, a programme launched by Tamkeen earlier this year, reaches BD 80m.

Dr. Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi, CEO of Tamkeen said, "Tamkeen works hand in hand with its partners to achieve its objectives of meeting the needs of enterprises at their various stages of growth, in order to make the private sector a primary engine of national economy."

Hassan Jarrar, CEO of BisB, said: "Our collaboration with Tamkeen through Tamweel+



Dr. Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi programme is part of our persistent efforts to support medium and large enterprises that represent a significant proportion of the institutions operating in the Kingdom of Bahrain."

Tamkeen offers Tamweel+ in cooperation with a group of banks, in order to support medium and large enterprises in expanding their business and overcoming challenges by facilitating access to Sharia-compliant financing with competitive profit.

The programme was based on a study conducted by Tamkeen regarding the needs of private sector institutions in the Kingdom, which revealed a gap in financing projects that exceed BD 1m.

Tamkeen is working to attract more banks to participate in the programme, providing affordable financing solutions to enterprises in order to support the private sector and boost the economy.

Complaint lodged against company for not paying salaries



Unpaid workers in a recent protest demanding for their salaries
DT News Network
Manama

A local human rights group has lodged a complaint against a private construction company which has failed to pay salaries to its workers for several months.

The employees of G.P Zachariades Overseas Limited have been allegedly in trouble for the past few months, due to a financial crisis.

Bahrain Human Rights Watch Society (BHRWS) confirmed in a statement issued on Saturday that the matter has

been taken to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), "BHRWS submitted an urgent complaint to ILO against the Cypriot company for not paying its employees for almost four months."

BHRWS explained that "the employees are enduring tough conditions, as they're unable to support themselves or their families, especially during the Holy Month of Ramadan, when life expenses increase".

The society, without mentioning the number of the

affected workers, confirmed that they are from Asian countries.

"Migrant Workers Protection Society has been supporting the workers and providing them with meals for the past period. Unfortunately, the society stopped as they lack financial support to help the labourers," the society added while demanding Labour and Social Development Ministry to interfere and seize all of the company's assets and belongings until the workers' rights are settled.

G.P Zachariades Overseas Limited has been operating in Bahrain for the past three decades. *DT News* had reported in January that an Indian labourer of the company died of heart attack while protesting along with hundreds of his unpaid colleagues who were demanding their salaries.

A representative from the company told *DT News* back then that the company is arranging the payments and travelling fees of the workers. Yet, the issue seems to remain.



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Batelco and Gulf Air sign new deal for communication



Batelco Bahrain CEO Muna Al Hashemi and Gulf Air CEO Maher Salman Al Musallam sign the new agreement in the presence of Gulf Air Director of Information Technology, Dr. Jassim Haji, (left) and Batelco General Manager Enterprise & Government Division Sutha Siva

Manama

Batelco, and Gulf Air have signed an agreement to ensure the delivery of the latest communications solutions for Gulf Air's evolving operation.

The agreement also extends the business relationship of the firms who are marking 40 years of partnership.

Under the agreement, Batelco will provide Gulf Air with the latest

communications solutions based on Dedicated Internet Access, Local MPLS and Global MPLS networks.

The new agreement was signed by Batelco Bahrain CEO Muna Al Hashemi and Gulf Air CEO Maher Salman Al Musallam during a meeting held recently at Gulf Air's Muharraq headquarters.

Speaking on the occasion Al Hashemi said, "Batelco is

proud to have worked with Gulf Air for 40 years and looks forward to building on the relationship for years to come."

During the meeting Al Musallam said, "The new agreement allows Gulf Air to continue utilizing the latest technologies as part of our ongoing efforts to enhance our operations and elevate our customers' service experience."

Gulf Air is committed to elevating the customer service experience on-board and continuous technological development is a key factor in this. In 2014 Gulf Air rolled out its new generation iPad Electronic Flight Bags to all the airline's pilots in order to facilitate the airline's flight-critical communications while increasing operational efficiency and eliminating paper-based flight materials.

New Russian jet takes to air



MC-21's flight test

Moscow

Russia yesterday held a successful test flight of its new MC-21 medium-haul passenger jet that it hopes will revive its troubled civil aviation industry and challenge giants Airbus and Boeing.

The plane, whose prototype was unveiled last June, flew for 30 minutes at a height of 1,000 metres and a speed of 300 kilometres (186 miles) per hour, said its makers, the Irkut Corporation aircraft manufacturer.

The plane took off from the Siberian city of Irkutsk where the Irkut company is based, said Deputy Prime Minister

Dmitry Rogozin, writing on Twitter.

Rogozin, who oversees aviation and space, wrote as he watched at the scene: "We're flying!"

President Vladimir Putin's press secretary Dmitry Peskov told RIA Novosti state news agency that Rogozin "by phone reported to Putin that our medium-haul plane took wing, carrying out its first test flight."

The president of Irkut, Oleg Demchenko, said in a statement that "today is a historic day for our staff and for all the big team that worked on creating the MC-21."

Ramadan treat at Ramee Grand

Manama

Ramee Grand Hotel and Spa has announced launching a campaign to promote Ramadan treat with Arabesque inspired Ramadan Tent at Al Bahrain Ballroom.

"Chef Anurag and his team will be displaying an array of mouthwatering Arabic and International menu selection to savour. The Table will be set with the best quality dates and nuts, Fresh Arabic juices and Laban to help you break your fast," Ramee said in a statement.

The Iftar buffet will include an assortment of live stations and delicacies from around the

world along with Traditional Arabic dishes, Choice of Arabic mezzeh, international salad, and selection of poached sea food.

The buffet selection also include regular fare of soups, breads, international and local cheeses; freshly prepared shawarma, Pasta and manakish are to name a few.

The sweet section will be featuring International and Arabic desserts with a chocolate fountain which will be set along with its varied accompaniments and freshly cut and whole fruits. For reservations call: 00973 17111 999

Ahlia University wins Bahrain Bourse TradeQuest

Manama

Ahlia University emerged as the winner of the TradeQuest challenge organised by the Bahrain Bourse in which five teams from universities all over the Bahrain participated.

BIBF and the University of Bahrain grabbed the second and third spot, respectively.

Announcing the awards at a ceremony held on Wednesday, Bahrain Bourse Chairman, Abdul Kareem Bucheery, also revealed that an Arabic version of the TradeQuest programme will be introduced next year to mark the programme's 20th anniversary.

The first place winner received a cash prize of BD3,500 and a trophy, while the second and third place winners received BD2,100



Ahlia University team with their prize and BD1,400, respectively. Awards were presented by Bucheery in the presence of students and their families, senior representatives from sponsoring organisations and other invited guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Shaikh Khalifa said, "We believe that the youth are the engine of growth and development. This is practically implemented at the Bourse where 55 per cent of the employees are below

the age of 35. That is why a programme like TradeQuest is very important to students who will hopefully become successful employees in a few years". TradeQuest is a simulated business-education

partnership programme that focuses on investment trading in world financial markets. The programme is geared to provide students close-to-life experience in the stock markets.

This year five teams participated in the programme, which includes that from Ahlia University, BIBF, University of Bahrain, Applied Science University and Royal University for Women.

Airbus building first helicopter plant in China

Qingdao
Airbus has begun building its first helicopter assembly plant in China, and the European planemaker plans to produce 18 machines a year there in hopes the country will soon open up its low-altitude airspace.

China currently has a shortage of civilian helicopters for emergency medical purposes and other uses due to the military's tight control over the nation's airspace.



Alitalia strike grounds 200 flights

Rome
A strike at Italian carrier Alitalia, placed in administration earlier this month, grounded 200 flights, the airline said, adding it managed to reassign some 80 per cent of passengers affected.

Alitalia was placed in administration on May 2 after staff rejected a two billion euro rescue plan involving pay cuts and 1,700 job losses.



“Europe must take its fate into its own hands faced with a western alliance divided by Brexit and Donald Trump’s presidency. The times in which we could completely depend on others are on the way out. I’ve experienced that in the last few days,”

Angela Merkel

German Chancellor



Small business tips for first-time Entrepreneurs

If this is your first business project, there is no harm in looking for ways in which you can get the necessary capital and push yourself a step closer towards success. Success can be achieved with limited funds but if you need funds for something big, here are some suggestions that will help you generate the necessary funds and get a loan for your business at the earliest.



Develop a strong business plan

It is not easy to develop a business plan that can attract the attention of investors instantly. Investors look for cash flows, Collateral and even viability of the business. So, develop a strong business plan to keep the investors interested.

Talk about the competitive edge

It is important to talk about the competitive edge you enjoy over most of your competitors. Ensure that you're not only talking about small businesses. Your target should be to compete with the big businesses and establish yourself even with limited resources.

Invest a considerable part of your savings in the business

It is important to show the investors that you care about your business idea and you're making a personal investment in your business too.

Forecasting should be realistic

Have a forecast that is realistic and something your investors can believe in. At the same time, if you're business model does not generate profits soon; it will be difficult for you to keep them interested.

Looking in the right direction

While looking for business loans, meeting people is important, but you can connect with them online too. There are many websites that help to get loans for small start-ups.

Be ready for rejection

Don't expect that you'll click in the first meeting and everything will go as planned. In most of the cases, things do not click in the beginning. Make sure that you constantly look for ways in which you can improve your proposal and be ready for rejection. (businesszone)

3.7pc growth in non-oil sector: EDB

Jarmo Kotilaine

Manama
Fueled by an impressive 3.7 per cent growth in the non-oil sector, Bahrain recorded an overall economic growth of 3pc in 2016, a key report revealed yesterday.

This according to the latest figures published in the Economic Development Board's Bahrain Economic Quarterly also marks an acceleration over the 2.9pc pace recorded in 2015.

The report also expects the non-oil growth in the Kingdom to remain above 3pc in 2017, despite ongoing nationwide fiscal consolidation.

“2016 was an encouraging year for Bahrain’s economy. We continue to see resilience in the non-oil sector and this resilience helps to underpin the economic

stability for businesses and investors in the Kingdom,” said Dr. Jarmo Kotilaine, Chief Economic Advisor to the EDB.

Growth in the non-oil sector (up from 3.6pc in 2015), according to the EDB report, was driven by strong performances in the finance (one of the largest non-oil sectors, which grew 5.2pc during the year), construction (which grew 5.7pc) and social and personal services (which grew 9.1pc).

Infrastructure development also played a major role in the sector's growth, the report said thanks to the GCC development fund which doubled the volume of active projects from US\$1.6 billion in the first quarter of 2016 to US\$3.2bn in February 2017.

Besides, Bahrain has a

priority programme of \$32bn of infrastructure projects which are expected to continue to act as counter-cyclical growth drivers. These projects include the US\$2.5bn ALBA Pot Line 6, an associated US\$800m power station deal, the US\$1.1bn airport expansion project and a new US\$355m Banagas gas plant.

“This is important because the economic transformation taking place in the region is creating exciting opportunities for businesses in the Gulf the coming years,” said Dr. Jarmo Kotilaine, adding: “it is vital not just to maintain economic stability but also to continue to pursue the structural, legal and regulatory reforms that will make it easier for companies to access those opportunities.”



Joyalukkas opened its new showroom at Damascus Street, Al Qusais, Dubai recently. Joyalukkas Jewellery UAE Director Jassim Mohammed Ibrahim Alhasawi Altamimi and Vice President Government and VVIP Dubai Region, Etisalat Mustafa Mohd Alsharee inaugurated the showroom. Joyalukkas Executive Director John Paul Alukkas, Director Soniya Alukkas, Mary Antony, Antony Jos and other dignitaries attended

Did You Know?



Only 20 runways in the world are now fully capable of handling A380 aircraft. Others are not long or wide enough or not technically equipped for A380.



CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2884	0.2860
BANGLADESH	0.00491	0.00469
CANADA	0.2868	0.2837
DENMARK	0.0599	
EGYPT	0.0234	0.0217
EURO	0.4295	0.4273
HONGKONG	0.04980	0.04940
INDIA	0.00585	0.00592
INDONESIA	0.00003016	0.00002902
IRAN TUMAN	0.000323	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000304	
JAPAN	0.00355	0.003480
JORDAN	0.5350	0.5351
KOREA	0.00038790	
KUWAIT	1.249	1.249
MALAYSIA	0.0903	0.0903
NEW ZEALAND	0.2713	0.2713
NORWAY	0.0471	
NEPAL	0.00391	0.00366
OMAN	0.97962	0.98262
PAKISTAN	0.00371	0.00359
PHILIPPINES	0.00779	0.00759
QATAR	0.10381	0.10376
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10058	0.10066
SINGAPORE	0.2772	0.2752
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03070	0.03060
SRI LANKA	0.00273	0.00247
SWEDISH	0.0466	
SWITZERLAND	0.3951	0.3926
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0017
TAIWAN	0.012700	
THAILAND	0.011270	0.011270
TURKEY	0.1117	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.4920	0.4891
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102810	0.102810
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37780	0.37800
YUAN	0.056800	0.056800

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	#REF!	0.3875	0.3382
KUWAIT	0.2855	31.8218	0.2935	0.2561
OMAN	0.3849	0.3744	0.3957	0.3453
QATAR	3.6420	3.5429	3.7438	3.2675
UAE	3.6730	3.5731	3.7757	3.2954
SAUDI	3.7500	3.6480	3.8549	3.3644

Gulf falls on global oil output deal

Representational image

Dubai

Most Gulf stock markets fell in disappointment yesterday after global oil producers agreed to extend cuts in output by nine months in an effort to prop up prices, while real estate developers boosted Egypt's index.

Last Thursday's oil output deal may put a floor under oil prices at around \$50 a barrel for Brent crude, which could allow Gulf governments including Riyadh to spend a little more on economic growth this year.

"While the cuts will continue to trim headline GDP growth in the Gulf this year, the boost to oil export receipts should allow austerity to be eased further, supporting stronger growth in non-oil sectors," London-based Capital Economics said in a report.

But many in the markets had been hoping for stronger

action by producers to push up oil prices, such as an agreement to deepen the production cuts or extend them further until mid-2018. Brent dropped by more than 4 per cent to as low as \$51.03 late on Thursday, though it then came back to \$52.15.

Saudi Arabia's stock index, the most sensitive to oil prices, dropped 1.3 pc to 6,783 points, falling below technical support at 6,826-27 points, its lows in late March and May.

Daily trading volume was the lowest since September 2015, partly because of the start of the holy month of Ramadan, which traditionally thins market activity.

The market's decline was broad-based, with 161 stocks falling and just five rising. Petrochemical producer Nama Chemicals plunged its 10 pc daily limit.

In Dubai, the index slipped

Closing Bell

SAUDI ARABIA sank 1.3 pc to 6,783 points.

DUBAI dropped 1.0 pc to 3,294 points.

ABU DHABI fell 0.5 pc to 4,496 points.

QATAR rose 0.6 pc to 10,123 points.

EGYPT gained 0.9 pc to 13,205 points.

KUWAIT slipped 0.6 pc to 6,650 points.

BAHRAIN rose 0.2 pc to 1,317 points.

OMAN fell 0.3 pc to 5,387 points.

1.0 pc in thin trade to 3,294 points, its lowest level since last November. Amusement park operator DXB Entertainments, in a strong downtrend for the past month because of disappointing attendance at its parks, was the most heavily traded stock and fell a further

2.0 pc.

Qatar's index fell in early trade but closed 0.6 pc higher as Ezdan Holding recovered 0.7 pc. The stock had plunged 10 pc on Thursday after the property firm's shareholders gave preliminary approval to take it private. (Reuters)

ACMB holds inaugural meeting

Manama

The ASEAN Committee in Manama Bahrain (ACMB) held its inaugural meeting on Thursday at the residence of the Philippine Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Alfonso A. Ver, in Bu Ashira, Manama.

The ACMB was established after the ASEAN Foreign Ministers approved last month the request for the constitution of the committee by the Heads of Mission of the ASEAN Member-states accredited to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

At present, five ASEAN Member-states have diplomatic missions in Bahrain, consisting of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand. Singapore has a non-resident Ambassador accredited to the Kingdom of Bahrain but is based in Saudi Arabia. The meeting discussed the



Members of ACMB during inaugural meeting

ACMB's plans for the formal launching of the Committee, as well as the proposed activities for the year, which include the commemoration of ASEAN's 50th anniversary, ASEAN Family Day and the ASEAN Sportsfest.

The Philippines was selected as the ACMB Chairman for this year, in consonance with its Chairmanship of ASEAN, while Thailand was selected as the Vice Chairman.

The ACMB Heads of Mission are Philippines Ambassador

Alfonso A. Ver, Thailand Ambassador Chayapan Bamrungphong, Malaysian Ambassador Agus Salim Bin Yusof, Indonesian Ambassador NurSyahrir Rahardjo and Chargé d' Affaires of Brunei Nor Huda Ahmad

"Some of the brightest minds in the country can be found on the last benches of the classroom."
-Dr. APJ Abdul kalam



NHS inducts new members

Bahrain School (BS) held a ceremony to induct 27 new members into the Dilmun Chapter of the National Honour Society. Welcoming the new members, the current NHS president spoke on the importance of character development and held a traditional candle lighting ceremony. The event ended with a small reception in honour of the new inductees and their families. Parents, students and teachers of Bahrain School were present.



The new members during a photocall



Polytechnic application: Deadline ends on June 1

Manama

June 1 will be the last day to file an application to the Polytechnic for the academic year 2017-18, announced Bahrain Polytechnic's Registry Director, Ahmed Malalla yesterday.

"No further applications will be accepted after 1pm on this date," the director said in a statement.

Exam postponed

He also said that the Polytechnic has postponed its

entrance exams until 4th June after taking into consideration the timing of the high school student's final exams which occurs at the same time as the entrance exams. The exams will take place every morning during Ramadhan.

1700 applicants

The Director further noted that the Polytechnic has received more than 1700 applications since the admission period started on 16th April until 29th May. He added that the

number is expected to increase during the coming period until 1st June, especially after the high school students have completed their exams.

Online application

The applicant would need to fill the online application form through the Polytechnic's website (<http://www.polytechnic.bh>), print the signature page, pay the application fee (BD 20 non-refundable) by debit or credit card at the Student

Information Centre (Building 8), and submit the required documents: an original and copy of passport and smart card, one passport size photo, high school transcript, evidence of good conduct (not more than one year old), medical examination certificate from governmental health centre.

Bahrain Polytechnic processes its financial transactions through debit and credit cards only, and does not accept cash payments.

Poem

PROMISES TO KEEP



Rama Nair T. K

Moving mellowed through intriguing yet meandering paths of life, most marvellous moments marked the rearing stages of life. Little does one realise the blessings endowed till late in life. Many vivid memories replicated in varied wondrous ways in life.

What you were is what your children will become. Loving, giving, caring, sharing in bearing must become. Several obligatory moments of reprimand while rearing become. All in the hope that beautiful humans the children should become.

As life's stages do pass, the poignant pain of parting comes. Fewer meetings especially after the never-ending bliss come. Be it for better prospects or to start a new family an inevitable change comes. In true gratitude of blessed bonding and family ties to value comes.

The tiny hands that touched the heart in sweet surrender, is the strong hands that support the stooping shoulders while in surrender. The mesmerising angelic countenance that melted the heart in sweet surrender, is the guardian angel of the ageing and withering soul that is in surrender.

No matter where we are or what we do the umbilical connection remains. For what is authentic and steadfast will always remain. In the midst of all the natural changes the sublime connections remain. Values instilled, commitments resolute with many promises to keep remain.

Go forth and prosper my child for the world is yours for keeps. While we all have promises to keep, promises to keep.



A Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) delegation, headed by GPIC President Dr. Abdulrahman Jawahery, took part in a symposium on Human Resources Management in the energy industry. The event was held under the patronage of Oil Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa and organised by the General Secretariat of the International Energy Forum in cooperation with the Russian Ministry of Energy and Bahrain's National Oil and Gas Authority



President of the Civil Service Bureau (CSB), Ahmed Al-Sayid, in a meeting with Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization and others in the field of auditing, quality of performance and the significance of quality system (ISO) in development and powers in all institutions consequently and quality of services provided by institutions



The business delegation of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) headed by chairperson of the Bahraini side of the Bahrain-Bosnia Joint Business Council Ahmed Al Saloom met the Muslim Bosniak leader Bakir Iztetbegovic on the sideline of their participation in the 8th Sarajevo Business Forum 2017 held in the capital city of Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the meeting, the Bosnian leader commended the Bahraini business delegation on its participation in the business event



Wife of His Majesty the King & Supreme Council for Women Chairwoman HRH Princess Sabha Bint Hamad Al Khalifa and SCW Deputy President Dr. Shaikha Mariam bint Hassan Al Khalifa to patronise the ninth Royal Award ceremony at the Gulf Hotel Convention Centre. RUW honored 139 bachelor degree graduates



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received at Al Sakhir Palace, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier – the Council of Representatives Speaker, Shura Council Chairman, ministers, Supreme Judicial Council Acting President, National Audit Office Chief, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman, governors and municipal councils chairmen. HM the King also received heads of diplomatic missions, who congratulated him on the advent of the month of fasting. HM the King appreciated the dedicated efforts of ambassadors to expand cooperation between Bahrain and their respective countries



Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman Al Khalifa yesterday received senior state officials, as well as trade, economic, intellectual and press personalities at the Gudaibiya Palace. Discussions focused on the importance of expanding Bahrain's external investments by developing private sector partnerships. HRH the Premier affirmed the kingdom's full support to all effort aimed at speeding up the pace of development



Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa received International Peace Institute (IPI)'s Director, Terje Roed-Larsen and IPI Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, Najib Freiji yesterday. The IPI's programmes aim at promoting the culture of peace as the basis of security and stability



Bin Zayed Al Zayed received a delegation discussed ways to develop cooperation and training. The CSB President pointed determining administrative responsibilities contribute to improving job performance



Alba & Asry Chairman Shaikh Dajj bin Salman Al Khalifa visited Alba Reduction Line 5 and Line 6 Expansion Project on Wednesday. Alba's Chief Executive Officer Tim Murray, Chief Financial Officer Ali Al Baqali, Chief Marketing Officer Khalid Latif and other top representatives, accompanied the Chairman during his visit



Sheikha bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa delegated to the Royal University for Women (RUW) graduates



Kuwait Finance House – Bahrain has honoured three employees under its "Fursan Baytik" Employee Recognition Programme for their outstanding achievements during the first quarter of 2017. At the award ceremony held at the Bank's headquarters, Abdulhakeem AlKhayyat, the Managing Director and CEO together with Executive Managers and Departments Heads presented the employees with their accolades of appreciation. The employees were awarded for the following categories: Waqqas Uddin for 'Smart Performance', Maryam Al Qooty for 'Customer Services and Khawla Naeem for 'Teamwork' Award

CELEBS

Khloé @khloekardashian
 Bunny- my mommy has called me bunny since I was born. My room was flooded with bunny decor as well



Zayn 'regrets' working with Swift

Los Angeles
Former Direction star Zayn Malik reportedly regrets doing a duet with singer Taylor Swift on "I don't wanna live forever".



According to a source, Malik was forced into working with Swift on the "Fifty Shades Darker" soundtrack, which released earlier this year and became an instant hit, reports *radaronline.com*.
 "Zayn loved the song and wanted it for himself. He was desperate to record it as a solo track and thought it would be a real career boost," the source said.
 "It has all of the high notes he can reach and was perfect, but movie bosses said it has to be a collaboration and wanted him to work with Taylor," the source added.
 The source went on to add that Zayn "relented" because Swift is one of the biggest pop stars and happens to be a best friend of his girlfriend Gigi Hadid. (IANS)

Los Angeles
Actor Benedict Cumberbatch, best known for his title role in "Sherlock", is really scary as the tiger Shere Khan in "Jungle Book: Origins", says the upcoming film's director Andy Serkis. Besides directing the film, Serkis will also voice the character of bear Baloo in the adaptation of author Rudyard Kipling's "The Jungle Book".
 "It's amazing, Benedict's phenomenal. He's really scary. It's a grounded, full-of-rage, brilliant performance. What's brilliant about his performance is he's not just a black-and-white villain," Serkis told *mirror.co.uk*.
 "Bizarrely, you actually feel his point of view. It's quite a nuanced performance. You'll see him in a new light," he added. (IANS)



Cumberbatch is 'really scary' as Shere Khan



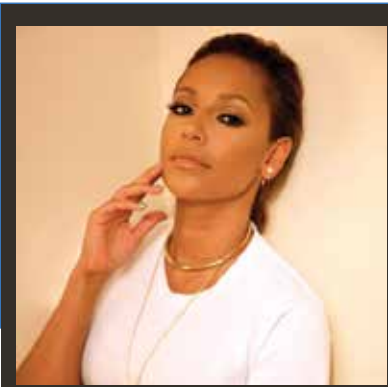
Celeb Facts

Irish singer and songwriter Niall Horan is a big fan of Justin Bieber, he screamed when Justin followed him on Twitter. (thefactsite)



London
Actors Emilia Clarke, Peter Dinklage and Kit Harington have said that they will get more screen time in the forthcoming seventh season of "Game of Thrones".
 They will get more screen time as the show has killed off a lot of characters, reports *ew.com*.
 "When I first read this season I thought: 'Damn, I got to learn some lines! We're actually filming longer now. I don't know how that's happening,'" Clarke said.
 While Dinklage said: "I've worked more days this season than I have in quite some time." "Everyone gets a bigger slice of the pie," Harington also added. (IANS)

'GoT' actors will get more screen time in season 7



STARRY
Birthday
Mel B

May 22, 1990

English pop singer who performed with the Spice Girls under the stage name Scary Spice. She pursued a solo career before the Spice Girls Reunion.

Lohan found peace away from Hollywood

London

Actress Lindsay Lohan misses Hollywood but says moving away has helped her find peace.

The 30-year-old, who has been in trouble with the law during her time in Hollywood, has lived for the last few years and has been working with Syrian refugees. Lohan says her priorities have changed, reports *eonline.com*.

“Yeah, I miss Hollywood. But I think there’s a lot of noise that we deal with, so I found a kind of peace in life working with children and helping other people that really interest me,” Lohan said. (IANS)

Gomez dances, lip syncs to The Weeknd’s songs

Toronto

Singer Selena Gomez supported her boyfriend and singer The Weeknd during his show as part of his “Starboy: Legend of the Fall Tour”. Gomez lip synced and danced while he was performing live.

In a video shared on social media by a fan, Gomez can be seen dancing around and even singing along to The Weeknd’s songs, reports *aceshowbiz.com*.

She enjoyed the show as she continued to dance throughout the concert on Friday night.

During the show, The Weeknd brought Drake to perform “Gyalchaster” with him at the concert held at Air Canada Centre.

The Weeknd also performed another show on Saturday before moving to Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec City.

Gomez, meanwhile, confirmed on a radio show that she is dating someone. (IANS)



‘Depp lives on an entirely other planet’

Los Angeles

Actor Armie Hammer says his colleague Johnny Depp has an extravagant lifestyle, adding that he lives on “an entirely other planet”.

Hammer, who starred alongside Depp in 2013’s “The Lone Ranger”, talked about Depp’s lifestyle during an appearance on “Watch What Happens Live” on Thursday, reports *dailymail.co.uk*.

When an audience member asked him about his co-star’s outlandish spending, Hammer said: “So here’s the deal: Yes, the guy lives an extravagant lifestyle. There’s no way around it. (IANS)



Fashion tip of the week



(harpersbazaar.com)

Styling Takeaway: A colourful silk kimono makes the perfect topper to any look this season—especially high-waisted denim and mules.

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 send the matter to the following email ID : news@dt.bh

MARK YOUR Calendar

IFTAR & GHABGA

Date: During Ramadan
Venue: AL QASR TENT

Al Areen Palace & Spa will create a memorable event during the Holy Month of Ramadan this year, with a 1001 Arabian Nights theme at Al Qasr tent. The festivities will have an Arabic atrium setting, offering a medley of spaces for families, friends, corporate guests and VIPs. Discover our exquisite Iftar and Ghabga buffet of Arabic and International cuisine with live cooking stations for everyone's delight as you gather around for this joyous celebration. It will also include various live counters and BBQ stations.

Iftar Buffet:

Weekdays BD 15++
Weekends BD 17++ (Thursday and Friday)

Daily - from Sundown to 9:00PM

Ghabga Buffet:

Weekdays BD 13.5++
Weekends BD 15++ (Thursday and Friday)

Daily - from 9:30PM to 2:00AM

Price per person inclusive of lavish buffet, Arabic sweets and Ramadan juices.
Live entertainment.

Eid Al Fitr Brunch:

BD 15++
Enjoy a family-friendly Eid Brunch including Arabic and International dishes plus live cooking stations at Al Qasr Tent in Al Areen Palace & Spa from 12.30PM - 4.00PM. There will be live entertainment from our band, face painting, henna, mascot, kids' corner, and many more. Diners will have access to the swimming pool during the period of brunch and a ticket to The Lost Paradise of Dilmun Water Park. You can also stand a chance to win from our Grand Raffle Draw. Served on the second day of Eid.

Price per person inclusive of lavish buffet, Arabic sweets and Ramadan juices.
Live entertainment.

THE PEARLING PATH EXHIBITION

Date: Till 4 August 2017, 8:00am - 8:00pm
Venue: Bahrain National Museum

Four years after the inscription of the "Pearling, Testimony of an Island Economy" site on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the exhibition will showcase the built vision for the site through architectural models, images, studies and mock-ups of the different components of the project. From the conservation aspects to the new architectural interventions, the exhibition will give an indepth overview of this unique project that aims to spearhead the rehabilitation of the Old City of Muharraq. Free admission.

MUSIC AND DANCE TREAT

Date: May 27 & June 2
Venue: Bahrain Society of Engineers Hall



The Indian Fine Arts Society is organizing two back to back events the next two weekends promoting local talents in Bahrain in the field of music and dance. The event kick starts with a Carnatic music vocal debut stage performance called Miss Subiksha Prakash. This will be held on Saturday, May 27 at the Bahrain Society of Engineers Hall Juffair from 7pm onwards. Aged 18, Miss Subiksha Prakash is currently studying in NIT-Surathkal and has successfully completed her first year in B.Tech ECE. She is a disciple of Indu Suresh, a well known Carnatic vocalist in Bahrain and has been pursuing music from her since the age of 6.

On Friday, 2nd June 2017, the Indian Fine Arts Society is organizing a unique dance program titled 'Nrithya Milaap' promoting local talent of Bahrain. This event will see a convergence of various Indian dance forms to be presented by local artists residing in the Kingdom. The evening will see Khalil Al Ashar, a Bahraini talent, Mrs. Yamini Menon and Miss Ayushi Vema, dance teacher of Indian Institute of performing arts presenting the different Kathak forms. It will also see a Mohiniattam performance by Mrs Saumya Nair, Manipuri dance by Mrs Subhadra Ganguli, Kuchipudi by Mrs Swathi Yelluri and Bharatanatyam by Geetanjali Ajith and Sruthi Sudhakaran. The program will be held at the Abdulrahman Kanoo International School in Salmabad and will begin at 7pm.

Entry is free for both the above events. For more information, people can call on 39685173 or 39422100

CONCERTS AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CATHEDRAL

Date: June 1
Venue: St. Christopher's Cathedral

Concerts at St. Christopher's Cathedral will be welcoming back the St. Christopher's Community Big Band on Thursday, June 1st at 6pm.

The band is comprised of about 18 members, mostly professional musicians working in Bahrain. They enjoy performing a wide repertoire of jazz and popular music under the direction of Paul Bagshaw. Their concert will include Skyfall by Adele, Valerie by Amy Winehouse, Caravan by Duke Ellington, and medleys of songs by Bees Gees and Stevie Wonder.

Previous performances include appearances at the British Embassy, the Rugby Club, Crowne Plaza, and St. Christopher's Cathedral last year as part of Bahrain UK 2016.

Tickets are BD5 for adults, accompanied children free. They may be purchased through the Cathedral Office (Tel: 17253866 / cathedral@batelco.com.bh) or at the door on the night of the performance.

CELEBRATE EID AL FITR AT DOWNTOWN ROTANA

Date: 24th June to 27th June 2017
Venue: Downtown Rotana

Gather with your beloved ones at Downtown Rotana and celebrate Eid Al Fitr at the grand Al Maha Tent! Share 3 days of Eid Al Fitr bliss with a vibrant and friendly ambiance together with a wide selection of dishes in a lavish buffet for only BD 13*.

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IFTAR BUFET@MAYAN

Date: 27th May 2017 to 24th June 2017
Venue: Pars International Hotel

Pars International Hotel invites you to spend the Holy Month of Ramadan. An ideal place to celebrate with your friends and family together. This Ramadan, indulge yourself with our tempting choices of some of the finest delicacies of Lebanese cuisine. Succulent and tasty cuts of lamb, chicken, fish, chickpeas, lentils and olive oil. Our starters are hommus, moutable (a dip made from aubergine, tahini and lemon) or sambousek (triangular pastries filled with meat or cheese), Lentil and vegetable soup, and these are always served with olives and fresh Arabic bread.

Main courses are shawarma (lamb or chicken sliced from a spit) or shish kebab (meat marinated in spices and grilled on a skewer). Kabsa, a typical Qatari dish featuring grilled meat or fish with a mound of spiced rice. Fresh

caught fish such as red snapper and hammour.

Desserts are usually served and these includes the famous local confection, Umm Ali, a combination of milk and pastry with nuts, sultanas and coconut. Savour our selection of fruit juices, Arabic coffee (flavoured with cardamom) or tea (with cardamom or mint) as you enjoy your meal at Pars International Hotel.

QERQAOUN CELEBRATION

Date: 2 June 2017, 9:00pm
Venue: Bahrain Fort Museum

Bahrain Fort Museum celebrates Qerqaoun night with Fatima Story who will tell the story of (the moon of Ramadan) along with lantern making workshop. The special night will also be celebrated with games, presents and candies.

Free Admission. Registration is required. Minimum age 6-10 years.

BUSHRA @ BUSHIDO

Date: 28th May 2017 to 10th June 2017
Venue: Bushido

Bushra returns to Bushido Restaurant & Lounge for the sixth consecutive year this Ramadan. With a focus on delivering an unparalleled experience to all guests, Bushra withholds a strong reputation, having previously earned Caterer Magazine's esteemed ranking in the 'Top 10 Iftars in the Middle East'.

Ramadan 2017 will once again transform Bushido's opulent Japanese-pagoda into a contemporary Arabian experience. Literally translating to "Good News", it is no coincidence that Bushra represents exactly that: a pleasurable and unforgettable experience.

RAMADAN & EID FESTIVAL

Date: June 5 to 29, 11 AM - 3 PM & 7:30 PM - 1:30 AM
Venue: Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre

The festival aims to increase the Kingdom's visitors from its neighboring GCC countries, as by providing an additional tourist attraction in the country during the holy month. Bahrain's pavilion will be positioned at the front of the exhibition and Bahraini merchants will be prioritized and will receive a 20% discount on their participation. Local merchants will have the opportunity to view the latest international products and can engage in trade talks and deals with suppliers from around the world. It will also provide buyers with product diversification as well as competitive prices, which will indirectly benefit the national economy.

MIDDLE EAST PROCESS ENGINEERING CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION (MEPEC)

Date: 10th October - 12th October 2017
Venue: Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre time:

This event provides a platform in all aspects of process engineering issues related to the process engineering for the oil, gas and petrochemical industry.

BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE (BIDEC) 2017

Date: Monday, 16th October 2017 - Wednesday, 18th October 2017
Venue: Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre

BIDEC is a Tri-service defense procurement exhibition, which will attract a local, regional and international audience of key decision-makers from government, Army, Navy, Air Force.

ISB MEGA FAIR & FOOD FESTIVAL 2017

Date: October 12&13
Venue: The Indian School Bahrain

The Indian School Bahrain (ISB) is gearing up for Mega Fair and Food Festival which will be held on October 12 and 13 in the Isa Town campus. The ISB Fair is organized to generate funds to sponsor needy students and for staff welfare. ISB Chairman Prince S Natarajan thanked the community and media for the overwhelming support to the previous fair, which was one of the best in terms of revenue generation and receivables. Last year around 800 students received benefit in the form of fee concession, he said. The School Fair is a carnival that witnesses a display of colours which include a variety of cultural programmes, orchestra and musical bonanza. It also contains a food festival which is a tasty hit among the crowd that comes in the campus during the carnival. Almost 100 stalls from leading business houses showcase their products and services this year. ISB Secretary Dr. Shemily P John said that the Fair is a way to reach out to the needy children whose educational future otherwise will be hampered because of non-availability of funds. Being a community school it is the responsibility of the school to support such needy children. Proceeds of the Fair will also go towards staff welfare and creation of a staff contingency reserve. The school has one of the lowest fee structures and it caters to the educational needs of all sections of the society. Majority of the students belong to the economically lower and middle class families. ISB Fair General Convenor Mohammed Hussain Malim requested the support of the media and the community to make this venture successful. The entire programme will be announced in due course of time. It is a great opportunity to every business and service provider to reach out to a large section of the Bahrain population during the carnival days.

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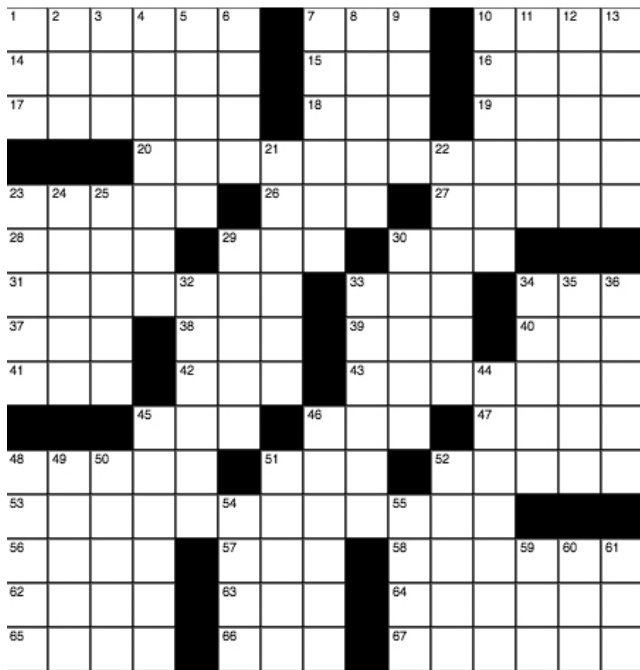
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14	S	E	I	N	E	R	15	T	H	E	18	C	R	O	W
17	S	I	E	N	N	A	18	E	E	R	19	A	N	N	A
20	U	N	C	O	N	F	21	O	R	M	22	I	T	Y	
23	I	N	D	I	A	24	R	O	T	25	E	P	E	E	S
28	N	E	A	T	29	A	A	S	30	A	M	I			
31	B	A	R	Y	T	O	N	32	L	Y	E	S	I	P	
37	A	T	T	38	E	R	G	39	O	E	D	40	C	R	I
41	D	O	S	42	R	T	E	43	T	R	Y	S	A	I	L
45	S	E	A	46	A	S	S	47	O	R	N	E			
48	D	O	S	E	S	49	E	M	O	50	P	L	E	A	D
53	U	N	C	L	A	S	S	54	I	F	55	I	E	D	
56	E	C	O	L	57	L	S	D	58	T	R	O	O	P	S
62	L	U	N	E	63	A	E	S	64	S	O	U	R	C	E
65	S	E	E	R	66	M	S	T	67	A	T	T	E	S	T

Across

1- Leopardlike cat;; 7- Gave grub;; 10- Lopsided victory;; 14- "West Side Story" Oscar winner;; 15- ___ Lingus;; 16- Inventor Rubik;; 17- Pollen producer;; 18- Altdorf's canton;; 19- Actor Estrada;; 20- Rule of a prince;; 23- Foundation;; 26- Shoebox marking;; 27- "Exodus" actor Sal;; 28- Affirm;; 29- Choose;; 30- Ages;; 31- Variety of rummy;; 33- ___ de cologne;; 34- Fallen space station;; 37- Hobby shop buy;; 38- "You've got mail" co.;; 39- AOL alternative;; 40- Fury;; 41- Hearst kidnap grp.;; 42- Circle of flowers;; 43- Monetary unit of Mozambique;; 45- ___ Kapital;; 46- Affirmative reply;; 47- Child's plea;; 48- Introduction;; 51- Ran into;; 52- Moral principle;; 53- Cultivation of forests;; 56- Et ___;; 57- City in GA;; 58- With extremeness;; 62- Tolstoy and Gorcey;; 63- Classical beginning;; 64- Newspaper executive;; 65- Gds.;; 66- Compass reading;; 67- Break;

Down

1- Mantric syllables;; 2- Camp bed;; 3- Division of geologic time;; 4- Monetary unit of Honduras;; 5- Lulus;; 6- Singer Braxton;; 7- Tap;; 8- Causing goose bumps;; 9- Faucet fault;; 10- Land, as a fish;; 11- Senator Hatch;; 12- Bring together;; 13- Capital of Japan;; 21- Kathmandu native;; 22- Quantity;; 23- Supports;; 24- Be of use;; 25- Actress Berger;; 29- Siouan speakers;; 30- Moves with care;; 32- Italian sausage;; 33- Clown Kelly;; 34- Book after Jonah;; 35- Teheran native;; 36- Museum artifact;; 44- Jaundiced;; 45- Contrive;; 46- Egg yolk;; 48- Sacred song;; 49- Irritated;; 50- Mixed bags;; 51- Tones down;; 52- Wear down;; 54- Tins;; 55- Consumer;; 59- Parisian season;; 60- ___ Angeles;; 61- Decade divs.;;

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

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

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)



You may feel tense, perhaps because someone close to you disregards the way you feel. You feel as if this person is more concerned with his or her own issues and not concerned about you. Meanwhile, your sensitive, caring heart is well aware of everyone else. You support others and are thoughtful. It's time to rearrange your priorities.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



Take extra time to tend to your appearance and show off a bit today. Keep your shoulders back and head high. Be the proud person you are. You should feel validated. Your job today is to simply uplift people with your presence. This is no sweat for you. Happiness is right up your alley, so have fun.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



You may be called upon to host a gathering in your own home. At first this could throw you into a panic because you don't think your house is clean enough. Don't worry. It's probably impeccable. You're the only one who will notice any dust, so don't sweat it.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



You feel confident. People can't help but notice as you radiate a loving, peaceful calm. Eyes will turn your way, and complete strangers may come up to you and tell you how attractive you are. Be confident yet humble and you will inspire people just by your peaceful, glowing presence. Take advantage of this wonderful day by enjoying yourself for the beautiful person you are.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



You may be running into obstacles associated with your goals. You may feel you aren't getting the support and cooperation you deserve. Today you may sense that people are emotionally distant, with shallow views on certain issues. People you expected to be on your side may turn against you, making you feel betrayed. Try not to take things personally.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



This is a great day for you. Unexpected reunions are possible, thanks to the lighthearted aura you radiate. You don't need to work very hard to bring everything your way. Your sunny personality attracts the fun and good fortune that you most certainly deserve. People are extremely lucky to be in your glowing presence on a day like this.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



You may wonder why all the attention isn't focused on you. Perhaps you feel cheated and irritable. The more annoyed you get, the more you will drive others away instead of draw them to you. Rather than get upset or angry because attention isn't coming your way, join with the prevailing happy-go-lucky mood.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



This is a climactic time for you. You may feel like many difficult issues are coming to a head. You may lash out and snap at people who don't deserve it. Your actions may make the issue even more difficult to deal with. The key today is to bring more balance into your life. By controlling and stabilizing your feelings, you can deal with the difficult issues that arise.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



Get into the spotlight where you belong instead of letting someone else take credit for something you did. Don't be shy about strutting your stuff. You may usually turn away from people who act this way because they seem shallow and self-centered. Realize that you're more sensitive. Be proud of who you are.

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



Today can be a wonderfully productive day for you, if you learn how to compromise. If you insist on doing things your way only, you will run into difficult emotional conflicts. Realize that this can easily be avoided by joining hands with your partner and working together toward a common goal. There's a great deal of energy here, so don't waste it on something insignificant.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



You will most likely be hungry for attention today. You will look at others who are on centre stage and adjust your appearance or attitude in order to be more like them. Be careful of getting obsessed with attention. The key is to be yourself and happy, regardless of who's watching. A flower unseen blooms just as beautifully and smells just as sweet.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



This is a great day to strut your stuff. You're on top of the world, so enjoy it, your family, and the people around you. You're at the forefront of the action and you don't miss a beat, regardless of the conversation buzzing around you. You're able to whip out facts and dates at the drop of a hat. Don't let anyone bring you down or talk you out of your good mood.

Duterte VOWS to ignore Court on martial law

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte

Jolo
Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has said he will ignore the Supreme Court and congress as he enforces martial law across the southern third of the country, even though the constitution gives them oversight.

"Until the police and the armed forces say the Philippines is safe, this martial law will continue. I will not listen to others. The Supreme Court, congress, they are not here," Duterte told soldiers on Saturday.

"Are they the ones dying and losing blood, bleeding, haemorrhaging because there is no help, no reinforcement? It's not them."

The 1987 constitution imposes limits on martial law to prevent a repeat of the abuses under dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who

was deposed by a famous "People Power" revolution the previous year.

The charter requires the president to submit a report to congress on why martial law has been declared.

Congress can then revoke a president's declaration of martial law, which is limited to 60 days. If a president decides to extend martial law, congress can again review and revoke.

"They say after 60 days I should go to congress: I don't know," he said.

"The Supreme Court will say they will examine into the factual (basis). Why, I don't know. They are not soldiers. They do not know what is happening on the ground," Duterte said Saturday on Jolo, a southern island that is under martial law.

A day after declaring martial law, Duterte

described the nine years of military rule under Marcos as "very good" and said his would be similar.

"During martial law, your commanders, you, you can arrest any person, search any house. There is no more warrant needed," he told troops. His comments contradicted a government statement released to explain martial law.

"Warrants of arrest or search warrants should be issued," the statement from the government's information agency said.

"No person may be arrested and detained without orders coming from these civil courts."

Duterte has overwhelming support in congress, however the Supreme Court chief justice, Maria Lourdes Sereno, expressed concerns about the declaration. (AFP)

Kim Jong oversees 'new' weapon system test: KCNA

Seoul
North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un has overseen a test of a new anti-aircraft weapon system, state media said yesterday, amid mounting tensions in the region following a series of missile tests by Pyongyang.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said Kim "watched the test of a new-type anti-aircraft guided weapon system", which was aimed at "detecting and striking different targets flying from any direction".

Pyongyang first tested the new weapon system in April, but Kim said the latest test verified that all glitches had been "perfectly overcome",



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un inspects a missile test site KCNA said.

The efficiency of the weapon system "to detect and track targets has remarkably improved and its hitting accuracy has also increased", the young leader was quoted as saying.

Expressing his satisfaction, Kim said: "(It) should be mass-produced to deploy in all over the country like forests so as to completely spoil the enemy's wild dream to command the air, boasting of air supremacy and weapon almighty."

#PollToday



Duterte in Philippines and Trump in America, both share the same speaking style. It's rough, unorthodox and un-presidential. Do you think they represent a new breed of leaders, who would change the world into a better place?

Yes No Cant Say



Whenever you see the words 'sources say' in the fake news media, and they don't mention names it is very possible that those sources don't exist but are made up by fake news writers. #FakeNews is the enemy!," **Donald Trump**, US President

Rest in sight

Bangladesh reinstalls controversial statue



Bangladesh yesterday reinstalled a controversial statue deemed un-Islamic by religious hardliners on the grounds of the Supreme Court, just days after its removal had sparked anger.

Co-pilot in plane crash near Everest dies

The co-pilot of a cargo plane that crashed at a small airport near Mount Everest, killing the pilot, has died from his injuries, Nepali officials said.

China says intercept of US plane 'safe'

China yesterday denied the Pentagon's charge that an encounter between Chinese fighters and a US surveillance plane over the South China Sea was "unsafe and unprofessional".

US weighs banning laptops on flights

US Homeland Security John Kelly said yesterday that he was considering banning laptop computers on international flights into and out of the country.

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Bodies of Indian climbers died on Everest recovered

Kathmandu

Rescuers have retrieved the body of an Indian climber who died on Mount Everest and airlifted it to Kathmandu yesterday, along with those of two others who perished last year.

Ravi Kumar, 27, died this month after summiting the world's highest mountain and becoming separated from his guide soon afterwards.

His body was spotted last Monday about 200 metres from the main route which climbers follow to the summit. Rescuers said its recovery was a risky operation.

"A team of at least eight

rescue workers retrieved his body and brought it down to Camp 2 on Saturday," Tashi Sherpa of Seven Summit Treks, the company overseeing the operation, told AFP.

"The body has been airlifted to Kathmandu."

His brother Manoj Kumar was waiting to receive the body as the helicopter landed at a hospital in Kathmandu.

"It was his dream to take our country's flag to the top of Mount Everest," Kumar said. "We are deeply sad, but also proud of him."

Indian state to challenge Modi's cow slaughter ban



Representative picture

New Delhi

A southern Indian state announced yesterday it would go to the supreme court to challenge a federal ban on the sale of cows for slaughter, stepping up a showdown with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Cows are considered sacred by Hindus and the Hindu nationalist leader has pushed for greater protection of the animals since taking power in 2014.

On Friday the federal environment ministry issued a nationwide order banning the sale and purchase of cattle from markets for slaughter.

"We are finalising our legal response and will file a

plea in the Supreme Court next week," Kerala state's Agriculture Minister V.S. Sunil Kumar said.

The slaughter of cows, and the possession or consumption of beef, is already banned in most Indian states, with some imposing up to life imprisonment for infringements. Cases of slaughtering cows have triggered communal violence.

But Kerala and a handful of other states -- despite having Hindu majorities -- allow the slaughter and the consumption of beef.

The federal order covers trade in bulls, bullocks, cows, buffaloes, calves and camels.

Mother of Uber founder killed in boating accident

San Francisco

The mother of Travis Kalanick, founder of the on-demand ride service Uber, was killed in a boating accident and his father was seriously hurt, authorities and a company official said Saturday.

An initial investigation showed that Bonnie Kalanick, 71, died Friday after the boat she was in struck a rock in Pine

Flat Lake near the central California city of Fresno, the Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner's Office said in a statement.

"Last night Travis and his family suffered an unspeakable tragedy. His mother passed away in a devastating boating accident near Fresno and his father is in serious condition," an Uber representative said in a statement.

2,000 TRAPPED

fighting rages in Philippine city



Philippine marines aboard their vehicles maneuver through a street on their way to an assault on the hide out of Muslim militants

Members of the police special forces maneuver as they assault Muslim militants' hide out near the city hall in Marawi

Marawi

Two thousand fearful civilians were trapped yesterday inside a southern Philippine city where troops are battling Islamist militants, authorities said, as the death toll from almost a week of fighting neared 100.

The military intensified a bombing campaign on parts of Marawi on Mindanao island, one of the biggest Muslim cities in the mainly Catholic nation, as it accused the gunmen of atrocities including murdering women and a child.

The initial fighting prompted President Rodrigo Duterte to declare martial law on Tuesday across the southern third of the

Philippines to quell what he said was a fast-growing threat from terrorists linked to the Islamic State (IS) group.

Most of the city's 200,000 residents have fled because of the fighting, but 2,000 remain trapped in areas controlled by the militants, according to Zia Alonto Adiong, spokesman for the provincial crisis management committee.

"They have been sending us text messages, calling our hotline, requesting us to send rescue teams but we cannot simply go to areas which are inaccessible to us," Adiong said.

"They want to leave. They are afraid for their safety. Some

are running out of food to eat. They fear they will be hit by bullets, by airstrikes," he said.

The military announced on Saturday, the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, that it would step up the bombing.

"In as much as we would like to avoid collateral damage, these rebels are forcing the hand of government by hiding and holding out inside private homes, government buildings and other facilities," said military spokesman Brigadier-General Restituto Padilla.

"Their refusal to surrender is holding the city captive. Hence, it is now increasingly becoming necessary to use

more surgical airstrikes to clear the city and to bring this rebellion to a quicker end."

The militants have killed at least 19 civilians, including three women and a child who were found dead near a university, regional military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Jo-ar Herrera said.

"These are civilians, women. These terrorists are anti-people," Herrera said.

An AFP photographer saw eight bodies dumped off a bridge on the outskirts of Marawi on Sunday, with local residents identifying them as employees of a rice mill and a medical college.

It was unclear whether

those eight were included in the military's count of civilian deaths.

Fifteen soldiers, two policemen and 61 militants have died in the fighting, according to authorities. This brings the combined official death toll to at least 97.

IS flags

The violence began when dozens of gunmen went on a rampage throughout Marawi in response to an attempt by security forces to arrest Isnilon Hapilon, a veteran Filipino militant regarded as the local leader of IS.

The United States regards Hapilon as one of the world's

most dangerous terrorists and has offered a bounty of \$5 million for his capture.

The gunmen on Tuesday planted black IS flags, took a priest and up to 14 other people hostage from a church, and set fire to buildings. Authorities said Saturday the fate of those hostages remained unknown.

Duterte and military chiefs have said most of the militants belong to the local Maute group, which has declared allegiance to IS and which the government estimates has about 260 armed followers.

Duterte has said local criminals are also backing the Maute in Marawi. (AFP)

Sri Lanka steps up relief as toll exceeds 150

Colombo

Emergency teams rushed food and water yesterday to half a million Sri Lankans displaced by the island's worst flooding for more than a decade, as the death toll climbed to 151.

Government spokesman Rajitha Senaratne said relief operations had intensified following a break in the monsoon rains, with medical teams reinforcing hospitals in affected districts.

The official death toll had climbed to 151 with 111 people still listed as missing, Senaratne said. Another 95 were in hospital.

"Aid is now getting into the remotest areas which remained inaccessible in the

past two days," Senaratne told reporters, adding there were help lines people could call if they needed assistance.

Most victims were killed by landslides, not the flood waters, as their homes on hillsides were buried under torrents of mud and rock.

Nearly 2,000 houses were damaged or destroyed. Almost half a million people had been forced from their homes and were sheltering in government buildings or with friends and relatives.

The floods and landslides in the south and west of the island were the worst for 14 years.

Water levels in Ratnapura, Sri Lanka's gem district east of Colombo, had subsided



Sri Lankan residents making their way through floodwaters in Kaduwela

but many villages in Kalutara south of the capital were still under water, officials said.

Residents in the south of the island also face the threat of crocodile attacks after a

river known for its dangerous wildlife burst its banks overnight.

The charity Save the Children said about a tenth of those displaced were aged below five.

It raised fears of stagnant floodwater becoming breeding grounds for dengue-spreading mosquitos and noted that young children were more vulnerable. Medical teams were sent to the worst-hit areas to help prevent an outbreak of waterborne diseases.

"We have the expertise to deal with this situation," Senaratne said, adding cholera and diarrhoea had been successfully prevented in past floods. The government withdrew an evacuation order for thousands of residents in the southern district of Matara as water levels subsided.

Grooming champions



DT News Network
Manama

HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Youth and Sports, President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC), witnessed the launch of the final

stage of the Giro D'Italia in its 100th edition, one of the strongest cycling races with wide participation of elite teams.

He was present at the starting line of the race attended by the Bahrain Merida Cycling Team, giving the cyclists great incentive to achieve positive results that contribute to the attainment of goals for which the team was founded.

The Giro D'Italia is one of the strongest international races due to the difficulty of the route of the race as well as the great challenges posed by the terrain, which is always a point of difficulty in such races.

The Tour of Italy began from the island of Sardinia reaching the final stage in the Italian city of Milan, with 21 stages during which cyclists cross 3615 km amid strong competition between the participating teams for victory.

Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa affirmed the keenness of Bahrain to be present in various sporting events to promote the Kingdom, under the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, to highlight Bahrain's bright

cultural image, especially in sports. He pointed out that Bahrain has been keen to be present through teams that carry the Kingdom's name in various sporting events, whose champions have scored many outstanding achievements.

He also indicated that the participation of the team will have a positive impact on the Kingdom to become a home of cycling in the Middle East, which is a major step in the promotion of the Kingdom in line with the 2030 vision.



Shaikh Nasser congratulated on new BOC term

Manama
Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) board member and chairwoman of the Women's Sport Committee Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa extended congratulations to His Majesty the King's Representative for Charity Work and Youth Affairs, Supreme Council for Youth and Sports Chairman,

Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa on being re-elected unopposed as BOC President for a new term until 2020.

Shaikha Hayat said Shaikh Nasser's election is proof of the confidence of sports associations in his efforts and contributions to developing sports in Bahrain and gaining distinguished positions at regional, continental and global sports arenas.

'Nabil' new mascot of Futsal league

DT News Network

Manama

"Nabil" will be the new mascot of the Fifth Khalid Bin Hamad Futsal League for Youth Centres, People with Disabilities and Girls held from July 24 to August 23, under the slogan #meeting_of_generations.

The character painted by Bahraini artist Turki Rashid is based on the best player in the category of people with disabilities from the fourth edition of Khalid Bin Hamad Futsal League for Youth Centres, People with Disabilities 2016, as Nabil Al Dossari was chosen as the best player. The league will be held this year in the BDSF Hall.

This year's edition will see the participation of 36 youth centres out of the 36 official centres representing different cities and villages of Bahrain, adding more success to the league after last year's participation with 32 youth centres.

Organisers have set June 20, as the final day to receive the list of players from the participating teams, as



Committee will provide uniforms for all participating teams, as well as alternative colour uniforms in case of similarity in colours.

The event is being held under the patronage of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Athletics Association and Honorary President of the Bahrain Disabled Sports Federation (BDSF).

The league comes as part of the initiatives of Shaikh Khalid in supporting the youth in sports and humanitarian field, organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in cooperation with Media Office of Shaikh Khalid.

Ramadan Tennis begins tonight

Manama

The opening round of matches are scheduled tonight from 9.30pm at the Bahrain Tennis Club Ramadan Tournament 2017 for The Late Majid Al Zayani Cup Super Doubles at its premises in Juffair.

A total of five doubles pairs have been split into two groups of five playing round-robin until June 8, with the top two in each qualifying for the semi-finals on June 11 with the final set for June 13.

Tonight schedule:

Group 1:

- 1) Ali Al Asfoor/Roy Boutagy vs Kadri Rizk/Ahmed Rizk.
- 2) Ahmed Janahi/Salman Hassan vs Emad Ali/Yousef Fakhro.

Group 2:

- 1) Mahmood Janahi/Abdul Rahman Janahi vs Karim Hajar/Khalid Janahi.
- 2) Nalan Chokappa/Sundara Ram vs Ashraf Atabani/Ahmed Jaffar.

Vettel delivers Ferrari 1-2 at Monaco

Ferrari's German driver Sebastian Vettel competes

Monaco

Sebastian Vettel secured a memorable one-two for Ferrari in yesterday's 75th Monaco Grand Prix to extend his world championship lead to a luxurious 25 points over Lewis Hamilton.

Taking full advantage of generous, if grim-faced, support from his team-mate Kimi Raikkonen, who led from pole position until the pit-stops, the four-time champion came home 3.1 seconds clear of the Finn in glorious Mediterranean sunshine.

Vettel's success was Ferrari's first in the principality in 16 years since seven-time champion Michael Schumacher triumphed in 2001. It was the 82nd 1-2 in the team's history and celebrated noisily by the tifosi who had thronged into the circuit overnight.

It was also the 29-year-old German's second Monaco triumph, his third win this year and the 45th of his career, lifting him 25 points clear of Mercedes' Hamilton in the title race.

Vettel now has 129 points after six rounds of this year's 20-race championship ahead of Hamilton on 104.

"Yes, yes, yes," screeched Vettel after winning before launching into thanks for his team. "The two laps with old tyres, I gave it everything I had," he said.

Raikkonen was stoney-faced and more taciturn than usual when retired 2016 champion Nico Rosberg interviewed him by the podium.

"Hard to say, really," he responded when asked about his feelings. "It's second place and it doesn't feel good. This is how it is sometimes."

Australian Daniel Ricciardo,

who was unlucky not to win last year, finished third for Red Bull, despite hitting the barrier at Ste Devote, ahead of Valtteri Bottas of Mercedes and Dutch teenager Max Verstappen in the second Red Bull.

Safety car

"I didn't enjoy that!" said Ricciardo. "I wasn't sure if I damaged anything. These tyres are like driving on ice when you get a Safety Car..."

Carlos Sainz was a well-judged sixth for Toro Rosso ahead of Hamilton, who had started 13th, and Frenchman Romain Grosjean of Haas.

Briton Jenson Button, back for one race to replace two-time champion Fernando Alonso, racing at the Indianapolis 500 later Sunday, retired his McLaren after a collision with Pascal Wehrlein's Sauber.

The crash left Wehrlein's car on its side at Portier, but he was unhurt in the crash, which required a Safety Car intervention for six laps in the closing stages.

Vettel was quick to ask if his compatriot was ok before the action resumed.

He added: "It's unbelievable. This was such an intense race. I hoped to have a better launch, but Kimi had a really good start so I had to be patient."

"It is very special to win here and we will have a fun night and then enough time to prepare for Canada..."

"I had a couple of really good laps when I could take control of the pace and I was able to use the Safety Car."

Vettel's joy appeared not to

be shared by Raikkonen who remained evasive in interviews after the race and, under specific questions, conceded that it was not his idea to be the first to pit when he was leading.

"I was called in... That was about it," he said.

Shrugging his shoulders, he later added: "It is a great result for the team and that is the main thing..."

Minute's silence

On a perfect afternoon on the Cote d'Azur, the track temperature was 50 degrees and the air 26 as the drivers stood for a minute's silence in memory of the victims of the Manchester terrorist attack.

The conditions were ideal for sunbathing, but not for race incidents.

When Vettel pitted after 39 laps, he rejoined in the lead ahead of Raikkonen with Ricciardo third, thanks to fast pre-stop laps, and Bottas fourth.

For Ferrari, it seemed a perfectly executed plan to enable Vettel to win, and boost his drivers' championship bid, had unfolded.

Hamilton finally came in after 45 laps from sixth, rejoining seventh, but Vettel was out of sight, nine seconds down the road and clear of Raikkonen, with Ricciardo a further five seconds adrift in third.

By lap 50, it was 10.2 seconds



Ferrari's German driver Sebastian Vettel holds his trophy

Batelco Gunners trash Al Ahlam

DT News Network
Manama

Batelco Gunners United thrashed Al Ahlam 5-0 in the third round of Group Two of the Nasser 10 Football Tournament, held at Khalifa Sports City Football Stadium in Isa Town.

Scoring for the winners were Ali Nasser (13th minute), Hassan Redha (18th), Diego (23rd and 43rd) and Omar Al Maliki (53rd minute). Team captain Shaikh Khalid bin Salman Al Khalifa won the player of the match award for his contributions during the game.

Meanwhile, HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC), directed for the support of T.V programme "Al Bank" with prizes from the Third Nasser bin Hamad Sports Games "Nasser 10". The programme is being aired on Bahrain TV channel during the holy month of Ramadan. Shaikh Nasser's initiative



Suqoor Al Bahrain eye another victory



From the qualifiers of the Checkers championship

comes as part of his vision to expand it into a comprehensive national project and not just focussing on the sports field,

but also on other areas as well.

He underlined that the support for Al Bank programme which President



Basketball Championship

of the High Organising Committee of Nasser 10 Tawfiq Al Salehi said took suitable measures following directives of Shaikh Nasser, stating that a link was already established with the programme officials to grant them the prizes.

The last round of the Group One stage of the Football Tournament features Suqoor Al Bahrain against Victorious and Majestic Cars at 1pm tonight.

The first two teams qualifying for the last eight round will be determined after

achieving six points, Suqoor Al Bahrain are on the verge of sealing their qualification, but the second ticket will go to either Jurnas or defending champions Victorious. Both have four points from two matches.

Tonight the final match of the Checkers Championship will be held at 10 pm tonight at the Muharraq Traditional Center. The Championship is part of Nasser 10 and will be held in cooperation with the Bahrain Mind Sports Association. This competition is the first mind sport within the series

of games accompanying the tournament. The competition qualifiers, which were held at the headquarters of the Bahrain Mind Sports Association, began yesterday (Sunday). It was held using the knockout system after the participants were divided into four groups, each including three players.

Also the final match of the Nasser 10's Basketball Championship will take place on Friday between the American Team and Filipino Team C. The match will be contested at the Bahrain Basketball Association Hall.

Emotional Kvitova wins 'twice'

Petra Kvitova said yesterday's first-round victory at the French Open felt like winning twice as the Czech star made an



Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova returns the ball to US Julia Boserup during their qualification round match

emotional return from a harrowing knife attack at her home in December.

The two-time Wimbledon champion swept aside American Julia Boserup 6-3, 6-2 in her first match since suffering career-threatening injuries to her left playing hand when she tackled an intruder at her home in the eastern Czech town of Prostějov.

"I came here as a winner already," said Kvitova, who returned to action at Roland Garros after almost six months out.

"When we were thinking about playing here I told my coaches I wanted to come and win my first match. That was a dream. The motivation I had today was amazing -- and I really just didn't

want to lose.

"This match was special to me. I won for the second time, if I can say that."

Kvitova was left fighting to save her career after the attack, admitting earlier in the week that her hand was "still not 100%".

However, the 15th seed won the opening point of the match with a sweeping cross-court forehand to set the tone for a convincing victory in just 74 minutes over world number 86 Boserup.

"The first point was amazing. I surprised myself with the forehand winner straightaway. It felt weird but great, as well.

"It wasn't really about the game. I mean, I had big motivation, and I know that I was going to do everything I can even if I should just run from side to side to win it.

'Courage' and 'belief'

The 27-year-old received a warm welcome on Philippe Chatrier court. She initially kept her emotions in check before finally shedding a few tears after sealing her place in round two.

"My team was there. My family was there. Everyone who helped me through the difficult time. So it was a real pleasure to play in front of them and play how I played," said Kvitova, whose team wore black t-shirts emblazoned with the words "courage" and "belief".

"I think I played well after six months off. I'm happy with the game, of course, but I mean, it wasn't really about the game today.

"Yesterday I was thinking how everything will be, and I couldn't really imagine how that's going to be. I maybe thought that I would cry when I step on the court, but I didn't today.

Football

Scores as of closing
Italy's Serie A:



Cagliari	2	AC Milan	1
Roma	3	Genoa	2
Sampdoria	2	Napoli	4
Crotone	3	Lazio	1
Fiorentina	2	Pescara	2
Inter Milan	5	Udinese	2
Palermo	2	Empoli	1
Torino	5	Sassuolo	3

English League Two play-off final:

Blackpool	2	Exeter City	1
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Scottish Premiership play-off final second leg:

Hamilton Academical	1	Dundee United	0
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Netherlands' Tom Dumoulin of team Sunweb celebrates on the podium after winning the 100th Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy, cycling race after the last stage, an individual time-trial between Monza and Milan, on May 28, 2017. Italy's rider of team Bahrain - Merida Vincenzo Nibali (R) took the third place and Colombia's Nairo Quintana of team Movistar took the second place.



Dumoulin wins 100th Giro d'Italia

Milan

Tom Dumoulin won the 100th edition of the Giro d'Italia in sensational style yesterday to make history as the first Dutch winner of the three-week Italian race.

Sunweb team leader Dumoulin went into the final stage, a 29.3 km time trial from Monza race track to Milan's landmark Duomo cathedral, 53secs behind overnight leader Nairo Quintana of Colombia.

But the 26-year-old Dutchman, who led the race for nine stage before losing the pink jersey to Quintana on stage 19, secured his maiden grand tour victory after a second-place finish behind stage winner, compatriot and close friend Jos van Emden.

Quintana, the 2014

champion who rides for the Movistar team, finished second overall at 31secs behind with Italy's two-time champion Vincenzo Nibali (Bahrain) finishing third at 40.

It means Quintana, a former two-time runner-up at the Tour de France, has failed in his bid -- stated before the race start in Alghero, Sardinia -- to challenge for a rare Giro-Tour de France double.

Frenchman Thibaut Pinot, who remained in contention for overall victory with a gutsy stage win on Saturday, disappointed in the race against the clock to finish fourth overall at 1min 17sec.

Dumoulin, who finished 17secs behind Van Emden, had to watch nervously as Quintana, wearing the pink

jersey and the last to start, completed the final kilometres of his effort into Milan.

But when the calculations showed the Colombian was set to fall short, he jumped for joy.

"It's crazy, I don't know what to say," said Dumoulin, who was initially given a taste for the pink jersey when he wore it for the first time in Apeldoorn last year after victory in the opening stage time trial.

"It's a dream! When I crossed the line people were telling me I'd won, but as I sat here, I was freaking out.

"It's incredible. I couldn't have imagined this, ever. I was strong, I was lucky and everything fell into the place on this Giro.

"Nairo did an amazing race

today." After the compliment to Quintana, the Colombian's Movistar team replied in kind on Twitter, saying: "Best man on the course won. On to the next adventure. #VamosNairo."

Thanks to a Dutch one-two on the stage finish, Van Emden gave the Netherlands a double reason for celebration when he claimed his maiden grand tour stage win with a sensational ride into the Lombardy capital.

"I'm so happy, so emotional," said Van Emden, who described Dumoulin as a "close friend".

"I was too many times second and this is a great day for Dutch cycling.

"Tom wins, I win, finally. There are two really happy people inside this tent."

Results from the 21st and final stage of the 100th Giro d'Italia, a time trial held over 29.3km between Monza and Milan:

Stage	34min 54sec,
1. Jos Van Emden (NED/TLJ) 33min 08secs,	2. Nairo Quintana (COL/MOV) at 31sec,
2. Tom Dumoulin (NED/SUN) at 15secs,	3. Vincenzo Nibali (ITA/BAH) 40,
3. Manuel Quinziano (ITA/BMC) 27,	4. Thibaut Pinot (FRA/FDJ) 1min 17sec,
4. Vasil Kiryienka (BLR/SKY) 31,	5. Ilnur Zakarin (RUS/KAT) 56,
5. Joey Rosskopf (USA/BMC) 35,	6. Domenico Pozzovivo (ITA/ALM) 3:11,
6. Jan Barta (CZE/BOR) 39,	7. Bauke Mollema (NED/TRE) 3:41,
7. Georg Preidler (AUT/SUN) 51,	8. Bob Jungels (LUX/QST) 7:04,
8. Bob Jungels (LUX/QST) 54,	9. Adam Yates (GBR/ORI) 8:10,
9. Jan Tratnik (SLO/CCC) 57,	10. Davide Formolo (ITA/CAN) 15:17
10. Andrey Amador (CRC/MOV) 1min 02sec	

General Classification

1. Tom Dumoulin (NED/SUN) 90hr

