

French will decide EU future in May 7 vote

Brussels

French President Francois Hollande said that voters in France must decide their future in Europe in the May 7 presidential vote pitting europhile candidate Emmanuel Macron against the anti-EU Marine Le Pen. Speaking at his last EU summit, Hollande said the French people had every reason to stay in the European Union, tacitly backing Macron, his former economy minister.



EU 27 must stay united in Brexit talks: Tusk

Brussels

EU President Donald Tusk yesterday urged the bloc to keep a united front at a special Brexit summit in Brussels, saying it will also help Britain if they can reach a deal. "We need to remain united as the EU 27. It is only then that we will be able to conclude the negotiations, which means that our unity is also in the UK's interest," Tusk told reporters.



There will inevitably be a price and a cost for Britain, it's the choice they made. We must not be punitive, but at the same time it's clear that Europe knows how to defend its interests, and that Britain will have a less good position outside the EU than in the EU,"

Francois Hollande, French President



TIPS to start an online business

In today's world, most of the activities take place online, and it is a Win-Win situation for everyone. Many big businesses have spent millions of dollars on attracting their audience through online services. If you wish to start an online business, use the following tips to achieve success and change your destiny for good.

Setting up your business

No matter what you're trying to sell, there will be hundreds of other online retailers who have started their business with a similar idea. The advantage most of them have is that they are already established. You'll be competing with them, and so your strategy should be good enough to survive in the competitive online world. While setting up your business, you'll have to focus on other important aspects of registering your business, registering a domain name, and getting a web hosting service.

Creating your online store

If the first look of your website is not effective, people might not spend quality time on your website, and this can result in a loss. This is not all. Apart from maintaining the stylishness, you need to be sure that it is functional and interesting. If you're planning to sell things online, investing in the right E-commerce software is even important. At the same time, setting up a merchant account should be on your mind.



Content matters

You're selling your products and services online, and so you need engaging content for their description. In fact, you need quality content throughout your website and even on social networking sites. Social networking sites are important, and you'll get quality leads from there. So, make sure that the content posted on your website and social networking sites are worth reading.



Finances

As compared to a retail shop, your expenses might be less, but it is still important to look for savings in every possible way. No business owner wants to fall into the trap of loans and start looking for debt settlement to avoid bankruptcy. We hope you have this point in mind. Accordingly look for savings and move ahead with your plans.

Be ready for losses

Being confident that you'll make a profit is a good thing, but over confidence can ruin everything. So, to be on the safe side, be ready for losses and look for strategies that can help in countering the negative situation. Many people make the mistake of not having a plan B, and that could mean disastrous. So, being ready for losses will help you come up with an alternative plan to keep you going and convert the negative situation into a positive one. (TGDaily).



US to review trade pacts

Donald Trump

Washington

President Donald Trump will sign a decree ordering a review of "violations and abuses" of international trade pacts signed by the United States, including the 164-member World Trade Organization, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross announced Friday.

The news came amid of a week of tough talk from the Trump administration on trade matters, with import duties imposed on Canadian lumber and renewed threats to "terminate" US participation in the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"This is an executive order addressing specifically violations and abuses under existing trade agreements," Ross told reporters. "That's what differentiates it from some of the earlier ones we've had. This is focused more narrowly on the agreements themselves."

The decision follows last month's executive order directing the Commerce Department to identify "cheaters," either countries or specific firms, that contribute to the \$500 billion annual US trade deficit.

"As far as I can tell, there has never been a systematic evaluation of what has been the impact of the WTO agreement on the country as an integrated whole," Ross said.

He acknowledged that the United States is currently running a trade surplus for the export of services.

But accounting for goods alone, the United States still has a global trade deficit of some \$700 billion, 47 percent of which comes from trade with China, he said.

The study will review agreements to ensure they increase US growth and strengthen the country's manufacturing base before recommending remedial actions in 180 days, according to the White House.

The US has 20 free trade agreement partners and 42 bilateral investment treaties, the White House said.

Trump will sign the order on the 100th day of his presidency, a symbolic occasion he will also mark with a Pennsylvania tool factory tour and one of his signature campaign-style rallies.

Earlier in the week the US president hedged his agreement to renegotiate -- rather than exit -- NAFTA, with a warning to Canada and Mexico that the US will jettison the trade accord if there is no "fair deal."



Al Salam Bank-Bahrain has announced "Danat Al Salam" draw winners for the month of April with a combined prize pool of US\$67,500. The cash prizes were handed over by Taha Fareed, Relationship Manager - Retail Banking department to Entesar Mahdi Khalil, who won the second Gmash Grand prize of US\$30,000. Additionally, Ameena Abdulla Mohamed won the Fusoos Grand prize of US\$10,000, Yahya Ali Mujadami and Ahmed Ali Alaiwi won the Fusoos monthly cash prize of US\$5,000 each while 35 winners won cash prize of US\$500 each. Congratulating all the winners, Mohammed Buhijji, Acting Head of Retail Banking, said, "We are delighted to be able to add value to the lives of our customers with "Danat Al Salam" saving scheme."