

1 **Stroll fastest as Hulk returns**

Stroll fastest for Racing Point at Silverstone as Albon crash brings out the red flags | P 08

India extends suspension of international flights till Aug 31

# THE DAILY tribune



Ellen DeGeneres addresses 'toxic' workplace allegations

Islamic finance as vehicle to economic recovery



Public Awareness Campaign to Combat Coronavirus (COVID-19)

## Avoid Eid gatherings..

### and follow all precautionary measures

## BE Determined

**King Hamad, Saudi King hold talks**



Saudi King King Hamad

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud yesterday exchanged greetings over the phone on the occasion of Eid Al Adha.

HM, the King wished King Salman, who left the hospital after undergoing successful surgery, abundant health, happiness, wellness and long life.

His Majesty also wished the two brotherly countries, people, as well as the Arab and Islamic nations, further progress and prosperity.

King Salman thanked HM King's genuine fraternal feelings as the embodiment of deep-rooted solid brotherly ties and prayed to Allah the Almighty to bless HM King Hamad and Bahrain with further progress and prosperity.

**General killed for exposing Qatari funding of ISIS: report**



Picture courtesy of AlAyam

**The bombshell revelations were published Nordic Monitor**

TDT | Manama

A Turkish general who discovered Qatari involvement in militant groups in Syria, as well as Turkey's role in oil-smuggling operation from Syria with ISIS, has been executed, says Nordic Monitor.

The bombshell revelations were published by Nordic Research and Monitoring Network citing court testimony of Col. Firat Alakus of Turkish Special Forces Command, Özel Kuvvetler Komutanlığı, or ÖKK, on March 20, 2019.

In the transcript of the testimony published by the Swedish-based network, Alakus reveals that Lt. Gen. Zekai Aksakallı, in charge of the ÖKK at the time, ordered the assassination of Brig. Gen. Semih Terzi because Terzi discovered that Aksakallı was working

secretly with Turkey's National Intelligence Organisation (MIT) in running illegal and clandestine operations in Syria for personal gain while dragging Turkey deeper into the Syrian civil war.

"[Terzi] knew how much of the funding delivered [to Turkey] by Qatar for the purpose of purchasing weapons and ammunition for the opposition was actually used for that and how much of it was actually used by public officials, how much was embezzled," Col. Alaku was quoted as saying in the confession by Nordic Monitor.

The report citing Alakus also tells that Qatari case was only one example of how funds were misdirected and that there were other countries whose funds were also misappropriated.

Terzi, the report says, knew all the dirty dealings of Turkish intelligence and Alaku, who was in a position to know about secret dealings as head of the ÖKK intelligence unit

(Continued on page 2)

# Satan stoned



Pilgrims throw stones at a large pillar symbolising the devil.- AFP

**Last major rite of Hajj completed**

TDT | Agencies

Pilgrims yesterday "stoned the devil" with sanitised pebbles marking the last major ritual of the Hajj, which was attended by up to 10,000.

Instead of gathering the pebbles themselves as in past years, they were handed them bagged and sterilised by Hajj authorities, to protect against the novel coronavirus.

Masked pilgrims, clad in white and spaced apart on marked spots to observe social distancing, threw seven stones each at a wall symbolising Satan. After the stoning ritual, pilgrims returned to the Grand Mosque in Mecca to perform a final "tawaf" or circling of the Kaaba.

Holding the ritual in the shadow of the pandemic required "double efforts" by Saudi authorities, King Salman said, a day after being discharged from hospital following surgery to remove his gall bladder.

"The Hajj this year was restricted to a very limited number of people from multiple nationalities, ensuring the ritual was completed despite the difficult circumstances," said the

kingdom's 84-year-old ruler. His speech, read out on state television by the acting media minister, came on the occasion of Eid al-Adha, the festival of sacrifice which began yesterday. This year, the Saudi is covering the expenses of all pilgrims, providing them with meals, hotel accommodation and health care, worshippers said. (Continued on page 2)

**The Hajj this year was restricted to a very limited number of people from multiple nationalities, ensuring the ritual was completed despite the difficult circumstances**

SAUDI KING SALMAN



Restrictions imposed by the Saudi authorities to avoid a coronavirus outbreak saw a trickle of pilgrims scale Mount Arafat for the high point of the Hajj compared with the sea of faithful last year. - AFP

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL CASES

40,982

ACTIVE CASES

2,995

DEATHS

147

DISCHARGED

37,840

NEW CASES

227

CRITICAL

41

210 fils (includes VAT)



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For a safe Eid

## Stay at home, make virtual visits, to beat pandemic: Imam

TDT | Manama

Al-Fateh Grand Mosque Imam yesterday called on all to stay at home and make use of virtual means to communicate with friends and relatives amid the deadly outbreak.

"Stay at home, except for limited purposes, during the current exceptional circumstances created by the novel

coronavirus (COVID-19)," said Shaikh Adnan bin Abdulla Al-Qattan during Eid Al-Adha and Friday sermons.

"It's the best means to protect the health and safety of everyone," he said affirming that Islamic Sharia and the Sunnah of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) urge adopting means to reach an end.

He also called for supplicating to Allah the Almighty to lift the pandemic.



Grand Mosque Imam, Shaikh Adnan

Everybody should "commit to the health guidelines issued by the relevant authorities," the Imam said.

True believers place their trust in Allah the Almighty, he said noting that epidemics will disappear and joy and happiness will return.

The Imam also urged to pay no heed to rumours and inaccurate news on social media or spread them by reposting.

## HM King, Saudi Crown Prince exchange Eid greetings

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday exchanged Eid greetings with Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud during a telephonic conversation.

The leaders exchanged Eid Al Adha wishes and wished both countries and peoples as well as the Arab and Islamic nations further growth and prosperity. They also reviewed distinguished historical relations between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

Separately His Majesty the King greeted Iraqi Prime Minister, Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, and His Majesty Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar of Johor in Malaysia over the phone over Eid Al Adha.

His Majesty King Hamad sent cables of congratulations to President of Burkina Faso Roch Marc Christian Kaboré and President of Benin Patrice Guillaume Talon on their countries Independence Day and President of the Swiss Confederation Simonetta Sommaruga on Swiss national day.

# 37,840 recoveries

TDT | Manama

Kingdom yesterday announced a new coronavirus (COVID-19) death, raising the total number of deaths from the pandemic to 147. Health Ministry announced the latest death on its twitter handle and offered condolences to the family of the deceased.

There are currently 71 patients in the Kingdom who are receiving treatment at various facilities, of which 41 are admitted to critical care.

Some 2,995 active cases are there in the Kingdom, Health Ministry said, out of which 2,954 patients are in a stable health condition.

The ministry also said it carried out 4,326 COVID-19 tests in the Kingdom yesterday to identify 227 new patients.

Some 92 of the newly detected cases were expatriate workers. There were also 130 cases, who were contacts of active cases. Five travel-related cases were also detected.

New 483 recoveries were also detected bringing the total number of people cured of their infection in the Kingdom to 37,840.

Bahrain, as of yesterday, conducted some 830,998 tests.

According to the Health Ministry's contact tracing pages, during the period from 23 July to 29 July, Bahrain detected



some 2,675 confirmed cases, of which 1283 were Bahrainis and 1,391 were expatriate citizens.

The average number of cases per day has declined during the week to 382 from 439 cases detected per day during the week before.

Most of the cases were detected were contacts of active cases - 1004 of the total cases.

Altogether, last week, six people, the ministry said, were instrumental in passing on the infection to 56 others.

A 60-year-old male citizen, who tested positive after developing symptoms, found was in touch with 10 other across seven households. Seven of the cases, including the index patient's wife, children and grandchildren, were direct contacts.

In another incident, a 60-year-old Bahraini man, also tested positive after developing symptoms, passed on the disease to 10 others across seven households. Seven of the cases,

including the index patient's wife, children and grandchildren, were in direct contact.

BeAware App alert led to finding a 29-year-old male expatriate who came near with a positive case. Contact tracing led to finding a total of 10 additional cases, all of whom came into contact with the index case at work.

The ministry, during the same week, also reported four other incidents, in which each of the positive cases ended up infecting more than 10 others.

Cases included that of a 47-year-old male expatriate, who gave the infection to 13 others, a 62-year-old female citizen, who was responsible for infecting 11 others, a 43-year-old male expatriate who passed on the virus to nine others and a 33-year-old male expatriate, who was in contact with 12 other expatriates.

The 33-year-old expatriate man came in contact with 11 of his colleagues in the same company, impacting seven different families in two different buildings.

In all, the cases affected more than 16 households in the Kingdom. Six months after the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared a global emergency, the novel coronavirus has infected more than 17 million people and wreaked global economic mayhem. Global daily cases are now approaching the 300,000 marks, with the curve showing no sign of flattening -- it took just 100 hours for one million new cases to be recorded.

## Making Eid safe

Muharraq police distribute face masks, gifts



In pictures, during the campaign

TDT | Manama

Muharraq police directorate yesterday distributed face masks and pamphlets on coronavirus preventive measures as part of an awareness campaign held to help reduce the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak in the Kingdom.

The campaign, which emphasised the importance of adhering to precautionary measures strictly, also distributed gifts to children and a national magazine published by the General Directorate of Information Security & Radio Communication.

The event was part of social responsibility programmes and events being rolled out by the Muharraq Governorate Police Directorate.

Brigadier Saleh Rashid Fahad Al Dossari, the Director-General of Muharraq Governorate's Police Directorate, stressed the interest of the directorate in communicating with people and sharing the joy of Eid Al-Adha with them.



Al Dossari said the directorate would use this blessed occasion in spreading the culture of safety and developing a sense of responsibility in the community in battling the deadly pandemic.

## Terzi coordinated actions with MIT

(Continued from page 1)

Nordic Monitors says part of Terzi's job was to coordinate actions with MIT, led by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's confidant Hakan Fidan. He worked closely with the Pentagon on a train and equip programme for Syrian opposition fighters. After noticing that MIT had been trying to pass off radical militants as mod-

erates, he raised an objection and protested the deception, making himself a target of MIT and his boss Aksakalli.

"[Terzi's murder] had to do with a trap devised by Zekai Aksakalli, who did not want such facts to come out into the open," Alakus testified.

"Semih Terzi knew very well how the oil taken from ISIS [in Syria] was rerouted [to Turkey]

through Iraq's [Kurdistan] Regional Government with the help of a prominent local politician [in Kurdistan] and with the cooperation of [Turkish] public officials and using the capabilities of a [Turkish] government agency and how much commission was taken," Alakus explained. "This is why he was the target, Your Honor," Alakus added.

## Hajj: 'Dream come true'

(Continues from Page 1)

Last year, King Salman made the trip to Mina and was seen on state-run television observing worshippers from the window of a high-rise.

But it was unclear whether he would visit this year after his 10-day stay in hospital.

On Thursday, pilgrims scaled Mount Arafat for Quran recitals and prayers to atone for their sins in what is seen as the high point of the event.

"I am so happy to be chosen among millions for the Hajj this year," Saudi pilgrim Wedyan Alwah said before setting off on the climb.

"My lifetime dream has come true."

They made their way down Mount Arafat to Muzdalifah, another holy site, where they spent the night before the stoning ritual.

Late on Thursday, a health ministry spokesman said that there were no Covid-19 infections, nor any other major diseases among pilgrims so far.



The Hajj typically costs thousands of dollars for pilgrims but this year, the Saudi government is covering all expenses, including health care

### Health precautions

The pilgrims, who have all been tested for the virus and are subject to regular temperature checks, are also required to be quarantined after the Hajj, authorities said.

Six hospitals, 51 field clinics and 200 ambulances catered

to the faithful, health ministry spokesman Mohammad al Abd Al Aly said.

Some 8,000 health care professionals were also deployed, he added.

The Hajj began on Wednesday when pilgrims were brought inside the mosque in small batches.

## Enjoy Indulgent Dishes at the comfort of your home

**Paneer Tikka**

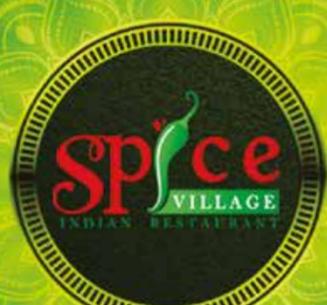


BD 2.500

**Mix Grill Non Veg**



BD 5.500



**FREE DELIVERY 17361199**

**Chicken Tikka Masala**



BD 2.700

**Chowmein Mix/Prawns**



BD 2.400

\*Also available Birthday Party, Takeaway & Catering

4TH FLOOR, JUFFAIR MALL, BESIDE MUKTA A2 CINEMA, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

# Man dies in fatal three-car crash



Police, who reached the scene immediately, rushed the victims to a hospital.

TDT | Manama

A 34-year-old man was killed yesterday in a fatal and horrific crash involving three vehicles on Sheikh Jaber Al-Subah road towards Riffa near Sitra.

Police, who reached the scene immediately, rushed the victims to a hospital.

Initial reports said passengers in two of the vehicles involved in the crash managed to come out of the accident unhurt.

Interior Ministry in a twitter statement confirmed the accident.

The ministry statement said the accident occurred when the car driven by an Arab national lost control, veered out

of the lane to the other side and crashed into two oncoming vehicles.

The crash is still under investigation.

The ministry withheld the name and other details of the dead person.

The intensity of the crash was such that one of the cars involved in the accident got

crushed completely, reducing it to a pile of metals.

Mangled car parts and debris could be seen scattered all over the place.

One of the first responders at the scene told Tribune that the crash happened on the road between the University in Sitra and Bapco Crude refinery there.

**The intensity of the crash was such that one of the cars involved in the accident got crushed completely, reducing it to a pile of metals**

He told Tribune that one of the cars flipped several times after hitting the other two vehicles, and smashed into the guiding rail installed several meters away, before coming to a complete halt.

He told Tribune that one of the victims was pronounced dead at the accident spot itself.

## Three arrested for peddling drugs

TDT | Manama

Police arrested three men aged between 28 and 32 years yesterday on the charge of peddling drugs in the Kingdom.

Director-General of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science announced the arrest of three men who are all Asians by nationality.

Police recovered heroin and Shabu worth BD35000 from the accused.

The arrests were made based on a tip-off received by the police.

The Director-General said officers also recovered a chemical powder from the men, who were using it to increase the quantity of the substances.

Police also recovered an unspecified amount of money from them.

Public Prosecution has initiated legal proceedings.

**Police recovered heroin and Shabu worth BD35000 from the accused.**



## Five in the dock for stealing aluminium products worth BD4,000

TDT | Manama

Southern police arrested five men for allegedly involving in stealing aluminium products worth 4,000 Bahraini dinars from a company in the southern governorate.

The suspects were identified and brought-in following a complaint filed by the company, the Director-General of the Southern Governorate Police Directorate said.

Police based on the informa-



Southern governorate police directorate

tion received opened an investigation soon, which resulted in identifying five suspects involved in the case.

During interrogation, the suspects confessed to their crimes.

Investigators found that two of the accused managed to steal the products from the company, while others, who owned scrap shops here, assisted them in selling the stolen goods.

Public Prosecution will take further legal measures.

## Put shrimps back on menu

Six-month ban on shrimping expires today in Bahrain

**The Agriculture and Marine Resources Agency of the Ministry of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning yesterday in a statement confirmed the lifting of the ban**

TDT | Manama

Seafood lovers in the Kingdom are free to put delicious shrimps back on their menu, starting today.

Authorities had lifted a six-month ban on shrimping, which began on February 1 to help replenish stocks.

The news also brings much-needed relief to fishermen who were reeling under the hardships brought by the coronavirus pandemic.

The Agriculture and Marine Resources Agency of the Ministry of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning yesterday in a statement confirmed the lifting of the ban, starting today.

The annual shrimping, earlier four-months, was extended to six-months based on the finding that shrimps need at least six months to reach maturity and reproduce.

The move in line with the decision of the Minister of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning Esam Khalaf is as per Resolution No. (18) for



During the period, coastguards patrols, in association with other agencies, closely monitored the coastal waters and caught several violators and confiscated illegally caught shrimps.

Various municipalities also formed working groups that toured fish markets here daily to ensure the implementation of the ban.

**Trawling nets not allowed**



Picture courtesy of Albilad

Officials, however, warned that lifting of the ban doesn't mean that fishermen are free to follow any means of fishing.

As per resolution no (2015) of the year, 2018 fishing by trawl nets in the territorial waters of the Kingdom are banned.

The Marine Control Department called on all fishermen to adhere to the Ministerial Decision to prevent fishing by trawling nets for protecting marine wealth and achieving food security.

**The annual shrimping ban in Bahrain, originally four-months, was extended by two-months in 2012 based on a study finding that shrimps need at least six months to reach maturity and reproduce**

the year 2020. The government announced the six-month moratorium on shrimping, locally called "Rubyan" at the start of February this year.

## Record economic slumps hit Europe



Spain has been ravaged by the pandemic

AFP News

Nation after nation across Europe yesterday unveiled the extent of historic economic devastation as resurgent coronavirus cases forced agonising new trade-offs between lives and financial health.

Europe's economy contracted by a record 13.8 per cent in the second quarter, Spain went into recession after its gross domestic product slumped 18.5 pc, Portugal's economy contracted 14.1 pc, and Italy's GDP plunged 12.4 pc.

Europe as a whole was hammered by its sharpest recorded contraction in the second quarter, with GDP down 12.1 pc in the eurozone and 11.9 pc across the Union bloc.

"It is a shocking drop, but completely understandable as the economy was shut for a considerable period during

the quarter," said Bert Colijn, senior economist at ING Bank.

Airline conglomerate IAG, the owner of British Airways, yesterday posted a first-half net loss of 3.8 billion euros (\$4.5 bn), UK bank NatWest slid into the red while Dutch airline KLM and truck makers Scania said they were each shedding 5,000 jobs.

Historic contractions

The United States -- the world's hardest-hit nation and its biggest economy -- posted a second-quarter loss of 9.5 pc compared with the same period a year ago, the worst figure on record.

If that trajectory carried through the entire year, its economy would collapse by nearly a third (32.9 pc), the data showed. Historic contractions have been additionally recorded in Germany (10.1 pc), Belgium (12.2 pc), Austria (10.7 pc) and Mexico (17 pc).

## Huawei asks Germany not to shut it out of building 5G networks: Der Spiegel

Reuters | Berlin

Huawei's top manager in Germany has appealed to the government not to shut it out of building 5G mobile networks, Der Spiegel said on Friday, after Britain decided to purge the Chinese firm's equipment from its network on security grounds.

Chancellor Angela Merkel's government has put off a decision on tougher certification rules until after the summer break, amid pressure from some lawmakers who sympathise with U.S. calls to ban Huawei outright.

"The government's approach of setting the same,



IFA consumer tech fair in Berlin

tough security criteria for all is the right way to ensure networks are secure," Huawei's representative in Germany, David Wang, told the weekly news magazine.

Germany's three mobile operators are all customers of Huawei, which has had a presence in the country for 15 years.

## Islamic finance as vehicle to economic recovery

Philippine Economic Zone Authority holds international virtual conference

TDT | Manama

The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), in cooperation with the Central Bank of the Philippines (Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas), held its "First International Virtual Conference on Islamic Finance as Vehicle to Economic Recovery."

The virtual conference, third in a series, was organised in collaboration with the Institute for Autonomy and Governance (IAG) and PEZA's Investment Promotion Partners in the Middle East.

The forum highlighted discussions on foreign investment opportunities in Islamic Finance in the Philippines.

PEZA Director General Charito B. Plaza underscored the importance of Republic Act (RA) 11439 "An Act providing for the Regulation and Organisation of Islamic Banks signed by President Rodrigo Duterte on August 22, 2019" which will maximize the full potential of Islamic Financing in promoting inclusive



Participants during the virtual conference



Joseph Timothy Rivera

economic growth.

BSP Managing Director Atty. Arifa A. Ala of the Philippine

Central Bank, the keynote speaker of the event, made a comprehensive presentation on the potential of the Islamic Finance Industry in the Philippines.

Panelists/Reactors who also spoke during the event included Greg Loayon, chairman and managing director of the Philippine Business Council in Qatar; Hashim Guinomla, assistant vice president of the Dubai Islamic Bank; Mohamad Irshad, nominee for Parliament of Singapore and Saleha Sacar,

director of the Bureau of Muslim Economic Affairs under the Office of the President of the Philippines.

Also present were several Philippine Commercial Attaches based around the world. IAG Executive Director Atty. Benedicto Bacani hosted the event while Aleem Guiapal, OIC Group Manager of PEZA's Promotions and Public Relations Group (PPRG-PEZA) served as moderator.

Also present during the forum were several Philippine Commercial Attaches based around the world, particularly Charmaine Yalong, Philippine Commercial Attache for Middle East & Africa; Dr Imran Yousuf Muhammad, honorary Consul General of the Philippines to Karachi; newly appointed PEZA Associate Investment Promotions Partner for South Asia, Ashraf Siddiqui; Doha-based PEZA Investment Promotions Partner Joseph Timothy and several other companies around the Middle East and South Asia.

## N. Korea's economy grew for first time in three years: South Korea

Reuters | Seoul

The economy of isolated North Korea grew for the first time in three years in 2019 as better weather conditions boosted crop yields, but sanctions imposed to stop its nuclear ambitions kept factory output weak, South Korea's central bank said.

Gross domestic product (GDP) in North Korea last



Kim Jong Un, Supreme Leader of North Korea

North Korea's gross national income per capita stood at 1.408 million won (\$1,184.79) in 2019, about 3.8pc of that of South Korea. In the 1950s North Korea's command-driven economy posted a healthy annual growth rate of 13.7pc. But a focus on post Korean War military spending, the fall of the Soviet Union, and a famine in the mid-1990s that killed an estimated two million people, crippled the economy

year rose 0.4 per cent in real terms from the previous year when the economy suffered the biggest contraction in 21 years, shrinking 4.1pc due to a drought and sanctions, the Bank of Korea (BOK) said on Friday.

"The sanctions have not become any tougher since 2017-end and weather conditions have been more fa-

vourable which helped output from the agriculture sector to improve," a BOK official said.

"Even so, its too early to say (North Korea's) economy is in a recovery" as its trade volume in recent years is half the levels seen before the international sanctions kicked in. North Korea's economy grew 3.9pc in 2016, the fastest pace in 17 years, but sharply contracted in the following two years.

The BOK said output from agriculture, forestry and fisheries which accounts for about a fifth of North Korea's economy increased 1.4pc last year, while industrial production fell 0.9pc, following a 12.3pc drop in 2018.

However, North Korea's trade volume jumped 14.1pc in 2019, as exports of non-sanctioned items such as shoes, hats and wigs increased 43pc, the bank said. The BOK official said North Korea's trade was expected to worsen significantly this year as the coronavirus outbreak would have curbed shipments to China, its biggest trading partner that accounts for more than 90pc of total trade.

## India posts record fiscal deficit

Reuters | New Delhi

India's fiscal deficit touched a record \$88.5 billion in the April-June quarter, 83.2 per cent of the target for the whole of the current fiscal year, reflecting the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on tax collections and as the government front-loaded its spending.

Data released yesterday showed total net federal tax receipts in three months through June declined more than 46pc year-on-year to 1.35 trillion rupees (\$18.05 bn), compared with 2.51 trn rupees a year ago.

Over three months, total expenditure rose 13pc year-on-year to 8.16 trn rupees, compared with 7.22 trn rupees a year ago, as the government increased spending on free foodgrains and rural jobs programmes for millions of migrant workers.

New Delhi has increased its market borrowings target to 12 trn rupees for the current fiscal year, from earlier estimates of 7.8 trn rupees, to fund spending.

## US to pay \$2.1 billion to Sanofi, GSK, in COVID-19 vaccine deal

Reuters

The US government will pay \$2.1 billion to Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline Plc for COVID-19 vaccines to cover 50 million people and to underwrite the drug makers' testing and manufacturing, the companies said yesterday.

The award is the biggest yet from 'Operation Warp Speed', the White House initiative aimed at accelerating access to vaccines and treatments to fight COVID-19, the respiratory disease caused by the novel coronavirus.

The deal, announced by the US Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Defence, works out at a cost of around \$42 per person inoculated.



A small bottle labeled with a "Vaccine" sticker is held near a medical syringe in front of displayed "Coronavirus COVID-19" words in this illustration

That is almost identical to the \$40 per patient the US agreed to pay Pfizer Inc and BionTech when it inked a nearly \$2 billion deal for 50 m courses of that potential vaccine last week.

The Sanofi-GSK deal is for 100 m doses, at two per person, and gives the government an option to purchase an additional 500 m doses at an unspecified price. Sanofi and GSK plan to start clinical trials for the vaccine in September.

Sanofi executive Clement Lewin said the companies had not yet agreed with the government on a specific price for the additional doses.

GSK said in a statement that more than half of the total funding will go into further development of the vaccine, including clinical trials, with the remainder used for a manufacturing ramp-up and delivery of doses.

The two companies' inoculation is combination of a vaccine

based on Sanofi's flu shots and a complementary technology from GSK called an adjuvant, designed to improve the vaccine's potency.

Sanofi will receive the bulk of the proceeds from the deal.

It marks the second contract for the Franco-British pair's vaccine candidate after they agreed earlier this week to supply 60 million doses to the British government.

Reuters reported last week that Pfizer's deal was expected to set a pricing benchmark for future deals between drugmakers and governments.

Moderna Inc and Pfizer began two 30,000-subject trials of COVID-19 vaccines on Monday that could clear the way for regulatory approval and use by the end of 2020.



More than 180 vaccine candidates to battle the novel coronavirus are currently in different stages of trials and 26 of these potential vaccines have already reached the human trials phase.

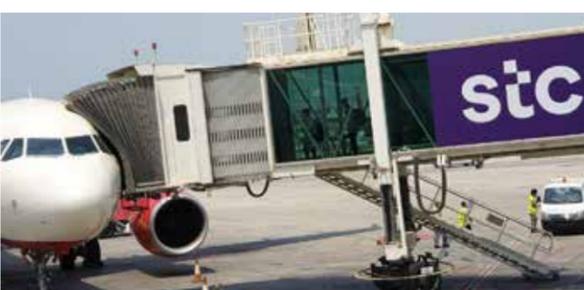
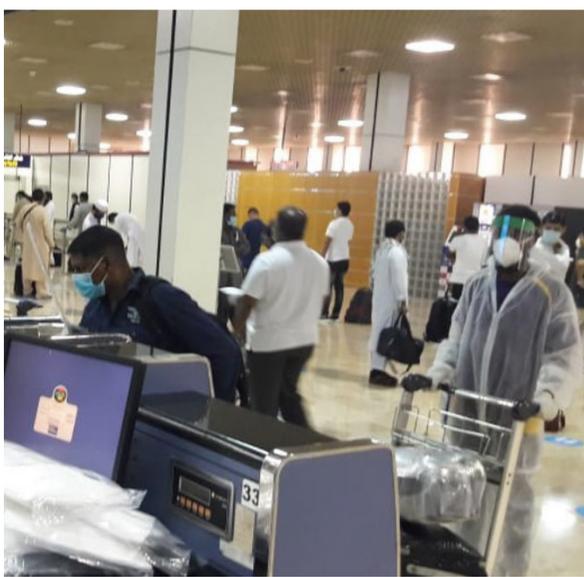
# SOCIETY



Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam Khalaf received Hafez Ibrahim Abdel Ghaffar, Head of the Communications Affairs, on the occasion of his retirement, in the presence of Eng. Ahmed Abdulaziz Al Khayat, Undersecretary for Works Affairs and a number of employees in the department



The Director-General of Muharraq Governorate Police, Col. Brigadier Saleh Al Dossairi has held an online meeting with owners of Majalis, social media influences and residents. He highlighted the importance of community partnerships in promoting precautionary measures against coronavirus during Eid Al Adha



Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa reviews the expansion and maintenance work at Rashid Equestrian & Horseracing Club



Air India flight AI 0940 departed for Delhi from Bahrain International Airport with 169 passengers on-board as part of Vande Bharat Mission, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

# World celebrates Eid

● **Worshippers perform Eid prayers, socially distanced and masked**

Reuters | Jakarta

Masked and socially distanced to fight the coronavirus, believers around the world held prayers yesterday to mark the festival of Eid al-Adha, with mosques at reduced capacity and some praying in the open air.

In Istanbul, worshippers held Eid al-Adha prayers at Hagia Sophia for the first time since the historic building was reconverted to a mosque this month following a court ruling revoking its status as a museum that drew criticism from Western countries.

In Lebanon, devastated by economic crisis, many found it hard to afford traditional Eid customs. In Tripoli, the country's second city, there were no decorations or twinkling lights, and no electricity to power them.

Instead, a large billboard read: "We're broke."

Around the world, the festival had to fit in with the realities of the coronavirus.

In Indonesia, the religious ministry asked mosques to shorten ceremonies, while many cancelled the ritual of slaugh-



Worshippers take part in the Eid al-Adha prayers outside Hagia Sophia in Istanbul

tering livestock and distributing meat to the community.

Instead sheep, goats and cows were being killed in abattoirs to mark the 'Feast of the Sacrifice', celebrated to commemorate Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Ismail at God's command.

"This year's Eid al-Adha is very different from previous years because we need to follow health protocols as we perform prayers, like maintaining social distancing," said Devita Ilhami, 30, who was at the Sunda Kelapa mosque in Jakarta.

She said they had to bring

their own prayer mats, with markers on the ground to show where they should be laid.

Elsewhere in Asia, believers including in Thailand and Malaysia prayed in or outside mosques wearing masks.

In Malaysia, while some mosques cancelled the ritual of slaughtering livestock, 13 cows were killed in the traditional way, but under rules limiting the number of animals and people at the Tengku Abdul Aziz Shah Jamek mosque in Kuala Lumpur.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani attended prayers in Ka-

bul. Islamist Taliban militants say they will observe a three-day ceasefire for the holiday, offering some respite from weeks of violence.

In India, where Eid will be celebrated mostly from today, several states have eased coronavirus restrictions to allow worshippers to gather in mosques in limited numbers.

"Only small groups of worshippers will be allowed into mosques," said Shafique Qasim, a senior cleric at the Nakhoda mosque in the eastern city of Kolkata.

## News in brief

**Car bomb kills at least 17 in Afghanistan**

◆ At least 17 people were killed in a car bomb explosion in Afghanistan as crowds shopped ahead of the Muslim



festival of Eid al-Adha, officials and a medic said. "Seventeen bodies and 21 wounded people were brought to our hospital," Sediqullah, a senior doctor at a hospital in the city of Pul-i Alam in Logar province, told AFP. The interior ministry confirmed the blast, which came on the eve of a three-day ceasefire between the Taliban and Kabul.



◆ **Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro said he was taking antibiotics for an infection that left him feeling weak, chuckling in an online video about "mold" in his lungs,**

**Bolsonaro says he has 'mold' in lungs**

having spent weeks in isolation after catching the novel coronavirus. "I just did a blood test. I was feeling kind of weak yesterday. They found a bit of infection also. Now I'm on antibiotics," Bolsonaro said in a livestream video, without elaborating on the infection. "After 20 days indoors, I have other problems. I have mold in my lungs," he said, referring to nearly three weeks he spent at the official presidential residence.

◆ **At least nine people were killed after a minibus crashed in Crimea in the early hours of Friday, authorities in the Russian-annexed peninsula said.**



The driver of the microbus, which was carrying tourists from the southern Russian city of Krasnodar, fell asleep at the wheel and crashed into a large truck near a village northeast of the regional capital Simferopol, Russian news agencies reported. Seven people died on the spot, while another two died as they were being treated for their injuries. Another nine people were injured.

◆ **Preliminary tests to explain the reason for hundreds of mysterious elephant deaths in Botswana point to a naturally occurring toxin as a probable cause,** a senior wildlife official said. It was highly unlikely that an infectious disease was behind the shocking deaths of at least 281 elephants, added Cyril Taolo, acting director of the Department of Wildlife and National Parks. Officials had been struggling to establish the cause of death more than two months after the first carcasses were spotted.



◆ **A wildfire fanned by soaring temperatures tore through a pine forest in southwestern France, burning down at least one house and forcing dozens to flee their homes.**

"At the end of my street the flames were approaching the homes and they were very strong -- we all jumped in our cars," a resident of the coastal Anglet municipality near tourism hotspot Biarritz told AFP. Around 100 firefighters and two water bombers tried to beat back the fire, which consumed one home and around 40 hectares (100 acres) of the Chiberta forest by 10:30pm, the local prefecture said.

◆ **A South Korean marine major-general was relieved of his command after the military failed to prevent a man's illegal defection back to the North,** officials said. The man's departure only came to light when Pyongyang -- which insists it has not had any coronavirus cases -- announced at the weekend that a "runaway" who had returned across the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone was suspected of having the disease. Defections from the South to the North are extremely rare, and doubly so across the DMZ, which divides the peninsula and is one of the world's most secure borders.

## 'Trump would benefit from talks': Iran's Khamenei says won't negotiate with US

AFP | Karachi

Iran will not open talks with the United States that will only benefit Donald Trump, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said yesterday, insisting the US president's sanctions policy had failed.

Decades-old tensions between Tehran and Washington have soared in the past year or so, with the sworn enemies twice appearing to come to the brink of war. The tensions have been building since 2018, when Trump withdrew the United

States from a landmark nuclear accord and unilaterally reimposed crippling sanctions.

"There is no doubt that sanctions are a crime," Khamenei said in a televised speech.

"But the smart Iranian has made the best use of this attack,

this animosity and benefited... by using sanctions as a means to increase national self-reliance."

Khamenei said Western "think-tanks admit that the maximum pressure (policy) of sanctions and US force has not succeeded".

## Children carry COVID-19 virus, small study finds

AFP | London

Children younger than five carried major amounts of coronavirus in their upper respiratory tract, a small study published showed, raising new questions about whether kids can infect others.

Data on children as sources of coronavirus spread are sparse, and early reports did not find strong evidence of children as major contributors to the deadly virus.

Understanding the transmission potential in children will be key to developing public health guidelines, said the researchers who published the study in the journal JAMA Pediatrics.

Their analysis suggests the young children had a viral load 10-fold to 100-fold greater than adults in their upper respiratory tracts.

Viral loads in older children with COVID-19 are similar to levels in adults. This study found greater amounts of viral nucleic acid -- the genetic codes for proteins to produce new viruses -- in children younger than 5 years.

## India extends suspension of international flights till Aug 31



Aircrafts are seen parked at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport in Mumbai

PTI | New Delhi

India's aviation regulator DGCA yesterday said the suspension of scheduled international flights to and from the country has been extended till August 31 amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The suspension of scheduled international commercial services was till July 31. In the wake of the pandemic, overseas flights were suspended in late March, while cargo flights and those approved by the DGCA have been permitted to operate.

In a statement, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said the government has decided to 'extend the suspension on the Scheduled International Commercial Passenger Services to/from India up to

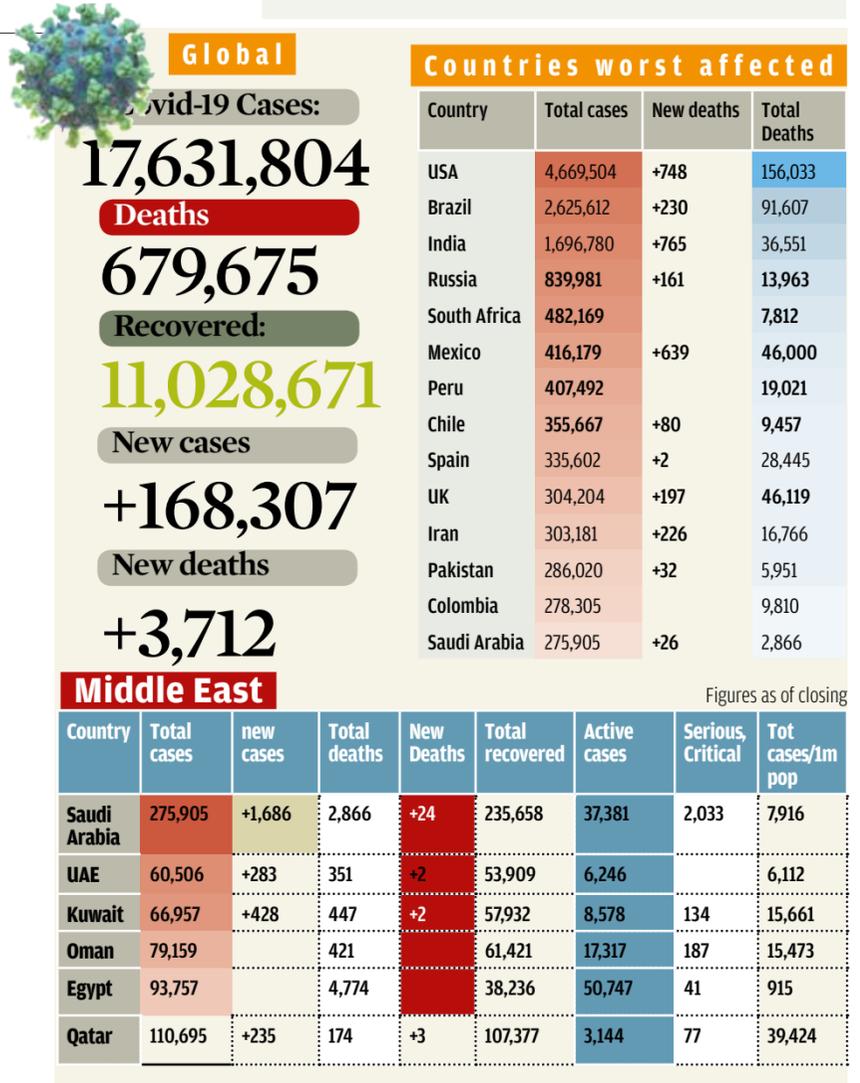
2359 hours IST of 31st August'.

However, this restriction would not be applicable for international all-cargo operations and flights specifically approved by the DGCA.

During the suspension period, more than 2,500 repatriation flights by foreign carriers to uplift stranded passengers to/ from India have been approved, the statement said.

Under the Vande Bharat Mission, Air India and Air India Express have uplifted 2,67,436 stranded passengers, and other charters have uplifted 4,86,811 stranded passengers during May 6 to July 30 period, it added.

As part of allowing gradual movement of passenger traffic amid the pandemic situation, 'Transport Bubble' agreements have been signed with the US, France, and Germany.



# Three decades on, Iraq and Kuwait haunted by Saddam's invasion

*Iraq's occupation of its much smaller neighbour ended swiftly with US-led Operation Desert Storm. But it was followed by a decade of crippling sanctions, another US invasion in 2003, civil war, sectarian violence and the jihadist proto-state of the Islamic State group, only defeated in late 2017*

AFP | Baghdad

Thirty years have passed since Iraqi tyrant Saddam Hussein invaded neighbouring Kuwait, but despite hints of a diplomatic rapprochement, people in both countries say the wounds have yet to heal.

On August 2, 1990, Saddam sent his military, already exhausted by an eight-year conflict with Iran, into Kuwait to seize what he dubbed "Iraq's 19th province."

The two-day operation turned into a seven-month occupation and, for many Iraqis, opened the door to 30 years of devastation that has yet to end.

From Baghdad to Basra, Kirkuk to Babylon, Iraqis agree that the incursion "marked the beginning of the end."

"Since the invasion of Kuwait, we haven't known peace or security," said Um Sarah, a retired teacher in Baghdad.

"It's only gone from bad to worse, like we were cursed."

Iraq's occupation of its much smaller neighbour ended swiftly

with US-led Operation Desert Storm.

But it was followed by a decade of crippling sanctions, another US invasion in 2003, civil war, sectarian violence and the jihadist proto-state of the Islamic State group, only defeated in late 2017.

The most painful of these, for many Iraqis, was the embargo imposed by the United Nations just four days after Saddam's invasion.

The Iraqi dinar, until then worth \$3, began a jaw-dropping devaluation, settling at 3,000 dinars to the dollar.

The wages from a month of working odd jobs were barely enough to buy a chicken to feed the family, recalled Jassem Mohammed, who lived through the embargo in the city of Kut, around 200 kilometres (125 miles) southeast of the capital.

To survive, Iraqis had to get crafty: reusing every bit of plastic or metal, rewearing old clothes and bartering instead of buying.

Iraqi troops returning from Kuwait saw their savings vanish.

"For the first time, I saw a sen-



**Iraq's currency and its homegrown industries have yet to recover, even three decades on. While Iraq languished, Kuwait prospered: its currency is one of the most valuable in the world and its people are some of the wealthiest**

ior officer with the rank of colonel using public transportation to get around," said ex-soldier Sarmad al-Bayati.

"The army lost its prestige."

**'They hung her'**

A few cunning businessmen linked to Saddam ran sanctions-busting and smuggling operations, prototypes of the



An abandoned Iraqi Soviet-made T-62 tank sits in the Kuwaiti desert as an oil well burns in the background, on April 2, 1991

mass graft still plaguing the Iraqi state today.

"The embargo changed people's ethics and opened the way for corruption," said Mohammed.

It also destroyed Iraq's middle class: with goods barred from entering, Hisham Mohammed saw his father's business of importing construction materials collapse.

"With the embargo, products weren't entering anymore and all of my father's capital -- 100,000 dinars -- was worth nothing," said the 50-year-old Baghdad resident.

Iraq's currency and its homegrown industries have yet to recover, even three decades on.

While Iraq languished, Kuwait prospered: its currency is one of the most valuable in the world and its people are some of the wealthiest.

But they are still haunted by Saddam's invasion.

Entire neighbourhoods were destroyed, hundreds of Kuwaitis were tortured or executed, and thousands more were taken as prisoners of war.

Only 17 at the time, Ghida al-Amer is still horrified by the fate of her older sister, a chemist who helped the Kuwaiti "resistance" lay explosives for incoming Iraqi troops.

"They hung her with electrical wires," she recalled.

"The wound is still there."

**Forgive, but never forget**

Even politically, the war's bitter legacy is taking years to undo. The UN only lifted the last of

its sanctions on Iraq in 2010, and Baghdad has paid around \$50 billion in the last three decades in reparations.

Today facing its worst fiscal crisis in years amid the coronavirus pandemic and plummeting oil prices, Iraq has asked for an extension for the final \$3.8 billion.

Kuwait has demonstrated some goodwill: in 2018, it hosted a global summit to gather funds to rebuild Iraq, ravaged by the three-year fight against IS.

But it remains bitter over two issues: borders and bodies.

Kuwait's maritime patrols regularly detain Iraqi fishermen who stray too far into neighbouring waters. Iraq says the UN-drawn maritime borders are unfair.

Kuwait is also lambasting Iraq for delays in identifying the remains of Kuwaiti victims buried in Iraq.

The fate of around 1,000 citi-

zens from each country remains unknown, after years of war and chaos.

A programme by the International Committee of the Red Cross to repatriate remains has only brought home the bodies of 215 Kuwaitis and 85 Iraqis.

Shuruq Qabazard, who was a young girl during the invasion, said the last 30 years have helped her empathise with Iraqis.

Her father Ahmad, a leading figure of Kuwait's resistance, was tortured and ultimately killed by Iraqi forces.

"With time, we discovered that Iraqis, like us, suffered the tyranny of Saddam Hussein," she said.

But erasing the scars of the invasion is "impossible," she said.

"It was the most important event for my entire generation," she told AFP.

"We may be able to forgive and reconcile, but we will never be able to forget."



Aircraft carrier USS America traverses the Suez Canal on its way to the Red Sea to take part in the Gulf War, in January 1991



Two Kuwaiti men walk in the al-Ahmadi oil field, where wells were set ablaze by retreating Iraqi troops, in March 1991

## Adventurer's 'Into the Wild' bus may be headed to Alaska museum

Reuters | Anchorage, Alaska

The infamous bus that served as the final campsite for doomed adventurer Christopher McCandless could be preserved as a museum piece under a plan announced by Alaska officials.

The University of Alaska Museum in Fairbanks has offered to house the bus, removed by the state last month from its six-decades-long resting site near Denali National Park.

The 1940s-era bus had been an attraction for fans of the 1996 book "Into the Wild" and the 2007 movie of the same name. Over the years, hundreds



Alaska Army National Guard helicopter hovers near 'Bus 142' near Stampede Road

trekked out to spend time at the abandoned bus, where McCandless spent 114 days before dying of starvation in 1992.

Many of those making pilgrimages to the site put themselves at risk, prompting the state to airlift the bus from the trail made famous by the 24-year-old McCandless.

Two hikers drowned during river crossings. Others have been rescued after becoming injured or stranded. In February, five Italian tourists, one with frostbitten feet, were rescued, and in April a stranded Brazilian tourist was helicoptered out.

The museum's offer allows the state to memorialize all those who took shelter in the bus while avoiding the "specter of profiteering" from tragedy, Corri Feige, Alaska's natural resources commissioner, said in a statement.

"I believe that giving Bus 142 a long-term home in Fairbanks at the UA Museum of the North can help preserve and tell the stories of all these people," Feige said. "It can honor all of the lives and dreams, as well as the deaths and sorrows associated with the bus, and do so with respect and dignity."

# CELEBS

## celebs

### Ellen DeGeneres addresses 'toxic' workplace allegations

Reuters | Los Angeles

**E**mbattled talk show host Ellen DeGeneres has addressed allegations of a "toxic" workplace culture in a memo to staff.

The longtime host wrote that she intends to "correct" issues raised about behind-the-scenes behavior on her eponymous show, according to the Hollywood Reporter, which first revealed the memo.

"As we've grown exponentially, I've not been able to stay on top of everything and relied on others to do their jobs as they knew I'd want them done. Clearly some didn't," she wrote. "That will now change and I'm committed to ensuring this does not happen again."

While DeGeneres does not list specific actions that will

be taken, according to the Hollywood Reporter, the show's executive producer, Ed Glavin, will be let go.

Insiders have been vocal about suggesting that DeGeneres, 62, isn't the sunny person fans see on-screen. In the memo, DeGeneres suggested that something had shifted backstage to alter her intended "happy" vibe there.

"On day one of our show, I told everyone in our first meeting that 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show' would be a place of happiness - no one would ever raise their

voice, and everyone would be treated with respect," wrote DeGeneres. "Obviously, something changed, and I am disappointed to learn that this has not been the case.

And for that, I am sorry. Anyone who knows me knows it's the opposite of what I believe and what I hoped for our show."

The program had faced allegations of both racism and intimidation, and showrunners had said they were "truly



**As we've grown exponentially, I've not been able to stay on top of everything and relied on others to do their jobs as they knew I'd want them done. Clearly some didn't. That will now change and I'm committed to ensuring this does not happen again**

ELLEN DEGENERES



Ellen DeGeneres

who opened up.

"As someone who was judged and nearly lost everything for just being who I am," said DeGeneres in her memo, alluding to her rocky coming-out in the 1990s, "I truly understand and have deep compassion for those being looked at differently, or treated unfairly, not equal, or - worse - disregarded."

On Monday, it was reported that WarnerMedia's employee relations group and a third-party firm would interview former and current staff members about allegations. DeGeneres' series also has faced the possibility of cancellation during the brouhaha. When asked about cancellation rumours by The Post, DeGeneres' production company representatives said, "Telepictures can confirm it's untrue."

### Lady Gaga's Rose Bowl appearance canceled after Chainsmokers debacle

Pagesix | Los Angeles

**A** surprise appearance by Lady Gaga and Ariana Grande at the Rose Bowl in LA was canned on Thursday due to fear of crowds not following social-distancing rules.

The pop stars were expected to appear at Voss Events' Drive 'N Drag show Friday, but the venue pulled the plug after the Chainsmokers' Hamptons concert made headlines for maskless fans crowding in front of the stage at what was meant to be a safer "drive-in" event.

"Gaga really wanted to do it, but the Rose Bowl pulled the plug because of what happened in the Hamptons," a music insider told Page Six. "They feared that once the crowd realized who it was, they would run toward the stage, not social distance, and they feared they'd lose their license."

The drive-in event will go on, with drag stars Asia O'Hara, Plastique Tiara, Kameron Michaels, Jaida Essence Hall, Vanessa Vanjie Mateo and Violet Chachki performing.



Lady Gaga

### Katie Holmes: 'Lockdown has had a lot of silver linings'

IANs | Los Angeles

**A**ctress Katie Holmes has learned several lessons amid the Covid pandemic.

In an interaction with etonline.com, Katie spoke about her quarantine life with her 14-year-old daughter, Suri.

"This lockdown has had a lot of silver linings. I've been taking time to FaceTime and really be there, be present. This year has also been a reminder that the simple things are really beautiful and that is, those are the gifts of life," she said.

Katie is all set to feature in the film, "The Secret: Dare To Dream". She portrays Miranda Wells, a widow with three children who is struggling to be there for her family.

"The narrative is a good accompaniment to the book. She's really struggling to provide financially and emotionally, and you just see her exhausted and really not surrendering to anything, just kind of fighting it all. That's taking its toll on her children and her relationship with herself," Katie shared.



Katie Holmes

### Matthew McConaughey set to release his memoir in October

Los Angeles

**M**atthew McConaughey has written a memoir.

The 50-year-old actor - who is one of the best-paid stars in Hollywood - has revealed that 'Greenlights' will be comprised of his personal journal entries and musings, describing it as a "playbook based on adventures".

He told ABC News: "This is not a traditional mem-

oir, or an advice book, but rather a playbook based on adventures in my life.

"Adventures that have been significant, enlightening, and funny, sometimes because they were meant to be but mostly because they didn't try to be."

The Oscar-winning star has also discussed the memoir on his Twitter account.

In a video clip on the micro-blogging platform, McConaughey said: "Ever since I learned to write, I've been keeping a journal. Writing down anything that turned me on, turned me off, made me laugh, made me cry, and made

me question what kept me up at night.

"Two years ago I worked up the courage to take all those journals off into solitary confinement just to see what I had and I returned with a book."

The movie star also revealed he named the memoir 'Greenlights' because it's about how "we all can catch more of them in this life we're living".

### Leonardo DiCaprio to develop utopian series 'Island'

ANI | Washington

**A**ctor Leonardo DiCaprio's production house, Appian Way, and In Good Company Films are all set to develop a utopian series 'Island', which is based on Aldous Huxley's novel of the same name.

According to Variety, the writer's final book, published in 1962, revolves around the story of a cynical journalist shipwrecked on the fictional utopian island of Pala in the Indian Ocean.

Originally tasked with exploiting Pala's natural resources, he uncovers an independently developed society and embraces the people, their culture and traditions. His experience and adventures alter the course of his mission.

DiCaprio and Jennifer Davisson are the executive producers for Appian Way along with George

DiCaprio and Roe Sharon. Andrew Alter and Jason Whitmore will executive produce for IGC Films, cited Variety.

Appian Way Productions is a Los Angeles-based film and television production company founded by DiCaprio and has been producing credits on

**Aldous Huxley's final book, published in 1962, revolves around the story of a cynical journalist shipwrecked on the fictional utopian island of Pala in the Indian Ocean**

more than a dozen feature films, including 'The Aviator', 'Shutter Island', 'The Ides of March', 'Runner Runner', 'The Wolf of Wall Street', and many more.



Leonardo DiCaprio

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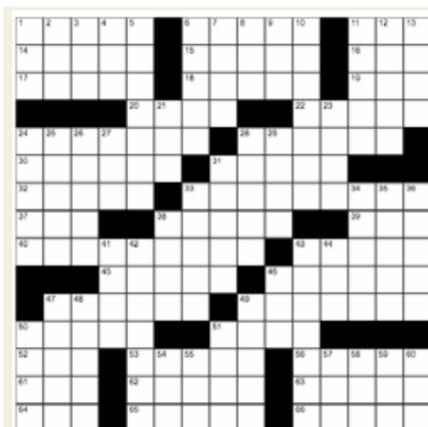
#### SUDOKU

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Yesterday's solution

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**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.



#### CROSSWORD

Across

1- Smallest; 6- Camera setting; 11- Dos Passos trilogy; 14- Academy award; 15- French wine valley; 16- Henpeck; 17- Goller Calvin; 18- Inactive; 19- "Cats" monogram; 20- Chinese dynasty; 22- Elevate; 24- Postal carrier's tote; 28- Feeling cold; 30- Ultimate purpose; 31- Israeli seaport; 32- Line in a play directed to the audience; 33- Dying for a noble cause; 37- Friend of Tigger; 38- Mexican money; 39- Bordeaux buddy; 40- Diametrically opposite; 43- Gogol's "Bulba"; 45- Rare delight; 46- Believable; 47- "Fiddler on the Roof" setting; 49- North Star; 50- Pub perch; 51- Melodies; 52- Suffix with ball; 53- Grammarian's concern; 56- Scarpa's killer; 61- It may come after you; 62- Clod of turf; 63- Pungent bulb; 64- Roulette bet; 65- Adonais, Thanatopsis, or In Memoriam; 66- Tall tales;

Down

1- Chop off; 2- Nationality suffix; 3- Good hole card; 4- Watched the kids; 5- Quiver; 6- Throw with force; 7- Album unit; 8- Bind; 9- Eight-time Norris Trophy winner; 10- Convert into stone; 11- Pending; 12- Impudent; 13- "A Death in the Family" author James; 21- Proverb ending; 23- Banned apple spray; 24- Funny Anne; 25- Baseball Hall of Famer Cap; 26- Dostoyevsky novel, with "The"; 27- Fellow; 28- Christmas song; 29- Strikes; 31- Attacks; 33- Decoration; 34- Challenger; 35- Muscat native; 36- Thin fogs; 38- Ovid, e.g.; 41- What's \_ you?; 42- Overture; 43- Russian novelist; 44- Turkish title; 46- \_ anglais (English horn); 47- Put away; 48- Sharpened; 49- Devoutness; 50- Fly; 51- Excited; 54- Part of RSVP; 55- Hall, to Caesar; 57- \_ roll; 58- Poitier role; 59- Jailbird; 60- Ques. response;

Yesterday's solution

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## Bahrain buys 20pc stake in 2nd division French club Paris FC



A general view outside Paris FC's Charlety Stadium  
AP | Paris

Bahrain has bought a minority stake of 20 per cent in second-division French club Paris FC with its sovereign wealth fund.

With its new investment, Paris FC hopes to achieve promotion to the first division within three seasons and to make the women's team among the best in France.

"The transaction was carried out through an increase in capital shares to strengthen the club's own capital and allowing sovereign funds to own 20 pc," Paris FC said Monday in a statement. "On top of this investment, Bahrain becomes the club's main sponsor with the objective of increasing the country's image."

Explore Bahrain will be the sponsorship name. Paris FC

chairman Pierre Ferracci will remain the main shareholder with a 77pc stake.

Paris FC finished 17th in the second division last season and narrowly avoided relegation. The new campaign starts on Aug. 22.

The club's youth academy will also be expanded in a bid to develop more players from the sizeable Paris region, while the French club will help oversee the development of young players in Bahrain.

Paris FC added that it expects further foreign and domestic investment over the coming months.

Veteran coach Jean-Marc Nobilo will run the club's academy. He won the second division with Le Havre and was voted the league's best coach that year. Nobilo also won the French Cup at youth level with Auxerre in 2015.

# Stroll fastest as Hulk returns

● Stroll fastest for Racing Point at Silverstone as Albon crash brings out the red flags

● Sergio Perez who will miss the race after testing positive for coronavirus, was replaced by Nico Hulkenberg

AFP | Silverstone

Canadian Lance Stroll led the way for Mercedes-lookalikes Racing Point in British Grand Prix practice yesterday while Red Bull's Alex Albon crashed and brought out red flags.

Nico Hulkenberg meanwhile signed on as a stand-in team mate for Stroll after Mexican Sergio Perez tested positive for COVID-19.

The team owner's son lapped the former World War Two airfield with a best time of one minute 27.274 seconds -- marginally quicker than Max Verstappen's best effort of the morning for Red Bull.



Racing Point's Lance Stroll steers his car during practice

Verstappen, whose team mate Albon crashed at Stowe in the afternoon but still ended up second overall, managed a 1:27.422 in a sizzlingly hot opening session when Stroll was third fastest.

The Dutchman was only 14th after lunch when he was blocked on his sole attempt at a quick lap.

Hulkenberg, back for what may be two races, looked like he'd never been away after lapping ninth and seventh fastest respectively for a team whose car is subject to an ongoing protest over its legality.

Mercedes six times Formula One world champion Lewis

Hamilton was second and fifth in the sessions run in front of empty grandstands with spectators not allowed due to the pandemic.

The Briton, a six times winner at Silverstone, leads Finnish team mate Valtteri Bottas, sixth and third fastest in the respective sessions, in the standings by five points after three races.

Ferrari had Charles Leclerc fifth and fourth but the Monegasque's team mate Sebastian Vettel was sidelined for the opening session after Ferrari detected something wrong with his car's intercooler system and decided to strip it down.

The German was then 18th after lunch, when Ferrari decided to change his car's pedals.

Hulkenberg was the 'new' name on the screens, the experienced driver walking back into the paddock 10 minutes before the start of the session to take over the Mexican's 'Pink Mercedes'.

Wearing a spare pair of Stroll's overalls, the German acquitted himself well.

Alfa Romeo's Antonio Giovinazzi brought out red flags at the half hour mark after spinning at the exit to Becketts in the morning, leaving debris across the track.

## BRAVE CF 37 staredowns almost come to a boil with Mokaev and McVeigh squaring off

TDT | Manama

BRAVE Combat Federation will have a blockbuster fight night for this Saturday, as the fastest-growing MMA organization in the world lands in Stockholm, Sweden for the first time ever.

Ahead of fight night, the weigh-ins and staredowns went smoothly except for the highly-anticipated debut of the pound-for-pound number one amateur fighter in the world, Muhammad Mokaev.

"The Punisher" will take on Glenn McVeigh in what is now a Catchweight bout of 141lbs (64 kg) after the short-notice McVeigh didn't make weight. Both fighters agreed to go ahead but their staredown stole the show as the intensity almost came to a boil.

As they stared down, Mokaev and McVeigh went face to face, until Glenn lightly pushed Muhammad. The former IMMAF star then asked his opponent



Muhammad Mokaev and Glenn McVeigh react during weigh-in

"why he was shaking" and said that they saw each other yesterday and he did nothing. The Irish debutant proceeded to claim they could fight anytime, even volunteering his room number to Mokaev.

After they were separated by the extra security put in place just to avoid any brawls taking place, the staredowns went on with the main event athletes both weighing at the BRAVE CF Welterweight limit, which is 79.4 kg, or 79.8 with the tolerance. Louis Glismann stepped on the scales earlier at 79.4 kg, while Henri Lintula weighed in at 79.5 kg. Both fighters shook hands and squared off amicably before facing off tomorrow night.



The two know each other from the British-Irish MMA scene and the word-choice by McVeigh to grab BRAVE CF's attention wasn't much appreciated by Mokaev

### BRAVE CF 35 Fight Card

Welterweight: Louis Glismann (79,4 kg) vs Henri Lintula (79,5 kg)  
Heavyweight: Irman Smajic (119,6 kg) vs Fatih Aktas (108,4 kg)  
Bantamweight: Muhammad Mokaev (61,2 kg) vs Glenn McVeigh (64 kg)  
Catchweight (100 kg): Anton Turkalj (97 kg) vs Athanasios Chergkeletzis (99,2 kg)  
Featherweight: Michael Deiga-Scheck (66,1 kg) vs Fernando Flores (66 kg)  
Strawweight: Bianca Antman (52,6 kg) vs Veera Nykanen (51,9 kg)  
Lightweight: Seyyed Masoud Derekeh (70,2 kg) vs Hamid Sadid (69,9 kg)  
Welterweight: Ahouzi Kouame (76,5 kg) vs Mohamed Zarey (77,3 kg)

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