

**20 injured in Iraq blast**  
Kirkuk

A suicide car bombing yesterday targeting a warehouse in Kirkuk where ballot boxes from Iraq's May elections were stored killed one person, two days before a vote recount, a security source said.

Another 20 people were wounded in the explosion. The warehouse holding the ballot boxes was not damaged, the sources said.

"Nine policemen, six members of a counter-terrorist unit and four civilians were wounded when a car bomb driven by a suicide bomber exploded at the main gate of the warehouse," another source said.

The building was damaged by the blast but the ballot boxes were unaffected, said Rakan Al Juburi, the governor of Kirkuk north of Baghdad.

**FlyDubai airmiles scheme merges with Emirates**

Dubai

FlyDubai is to adopt the Emirates airline Skywards loyalty programme from the start of August, the Dubai Media office announced yesterday.

Under the merger, passengers who have previously signed up to FlyDubai's OPEN scheme will be able to transfer their frequent flyer miles to the Skywards programme on a two-for-one basis.

The change will take effect from August 1, 2018 when passengers will be able to collect points when travelling with either airline.



**03** Nightmares of nightingales

**04** More sites added to Unesco heritage list

**05** New waste policy planned as garbage bins overflow



## Bahrainis constitute 45pc of Kingdom's population

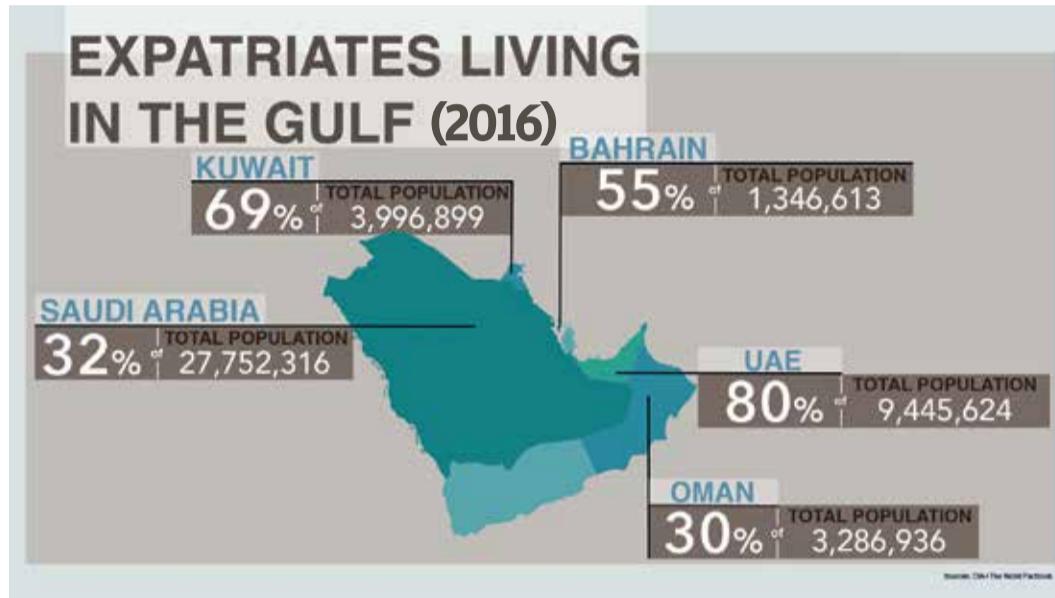
- The number of Bahrainis rose only by 12,000 last year when compared to 2016 number.

**TDT|Manama**  
**Abbas Al Mughanni**

The population of the Kingdom, which is the smallest country in the region, crossed 1.5 million mark during the end of last year, according to data obtained from the Central Informatics Organisation (CIO).

The number of Bahrainis in the Kingdom reached 677,000, constituting 45 per cent of the population, while there are 823,000 expatriates living here (55pc of total population).

The data reveals that the number of expatriates has been growing substantially with over 64,000



80pc of population in the UAE are expatriates.

foreigners arrive last year alone.

The number of Bahrainis rose only by 12,000 last year when compared to 2016 numbers.

Speaking to Tribune, citizen Abdulhassan Al Deiri, also an expert in the subject said the population of Bahrainis is only growing at a small pace, thanks to increasing number of divorces, migrations abroad and high death rates.

**64,000**  
foreigners arrived in the Kingdom last year alone.

Newly-wed couples are preferring to have one or two children, worrying about their children's future. This attitude is bringing down the growth of population of Bahrainis."

Citizen Mohammed Redha said he is not worried about the growing number of foreigners in the Kingdom. "The Kingdom is one of the best preferred destinations for expatriates. We welcome expats here. Bahrain is an attractive country, for both citizens and expats."

## A nation of protests

People hit roads in Iran protesting over water shortage, corruption in governance

- State television showed banks with broken windows and footage appearing to shows an identified demonstrator armed with a rifle.

- Iran's capital has been racked by protests this week over a plunge in the value of the country's currency, the rial.

Dubai

Protests in the southern city of Khorramshahr, near Abadan in Iran, over water shortages turned violent overnight with reports of police shooting at demonstrators who attacked banks and public buildings.

"No one has been killed in the unrest and just one person has been wounded in a shooting,"



A view of dried up grounds in Shahreza, Iran.



A group of people protest in Khorramshahr.

said Interior Minister Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli, quoted by the state news agency IRNA.

"Our effort is to bring these protests to an end as soon as possible with restraint from police and the cooperation of authorities, but if the opposite happens, the judiciary and law enforcement forces will carry out their duties," Rahmani Fazli was quoted as saying.

Shots could be heard on videos circulated on social media from the protests in Khorram-

shahr, which has been the scene of demonstrations for the past three days, along with the nearby city of Abadan.

State television showed banks with broken windows and footage appearing to shows an identified demonstrator armed with a rifle.

Police fired tear gas as protesters set fire to a bridge, and to a garden surrounding a museum which is a memorial to the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s, state media said.

A number of protests have broken out in Iran since the be-

ginning of the year over water, a growing political concern due to a drought which residents of parched areas and analysts say has been exacerbated by mismanagement.

Iran's capital has been racked by protests this week over a plunge in the value of the country's currency, the rial. Crowds at one point shut down Tehran's sprawling Grand Bazaar, an economic center and a place where the 1979 revolution gained footing.

### FALL OF STARS

#### Messi-Ronaldo airport joke goes viral

Moscow

The knockout round of the FIFA World Cup has just begun and both five-time Ballon d'Or winners were shown the exit doors on Saturday.

First, France's teenage sensation Kylian Mbappe stepped up to the occasion and blew the Argentines away with a breathtaking performance for his side.

Messi and Argentina could not keep their defences from getting breached as Didier Deschamps' France roared back in grand style. As a result, Argentina succumbed 4-3 to France in the thrilling encounter.

Cristiano Ronaldo, on the other hand, put on a subdued performance against Uruguay and Portugal suffered a humiliating 2-1 defeat.



Interestingly, Messi and Ronaldo have never scored in a World Cup knockout

match. Fans around the world were hoping to see their favourite stars meet each other at the field but after they were sent packing home on the same day at the World Cup, netizens made sure they met at the airport.

Many jokes over the two soccer superstars meeting at the Moscow International Airport went viral across all social media platforms yesterday.



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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday paid a visit to the Majlis of Shaikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa, who passed away recently. HM the King offered condolences to the deceased's sons and grandsons, praying to Allah the Almighty to rest the soul of the late Shaikh Mohammed in eternal peace. HM the King stressed that through the demise of the late Shaikh Mohammed, Bahrain has lost one of its dedicated citizens.

# Brave BDF soldiers form Kingdom's protective shield



His Majesty being received at the BDF General Command.

**HM the King, the Supreme Commander, valued highly the patriotic duties carried out by the BDF servicemen with bravery, determination and discipline, praising the advanced professional level they have reached as proved in the various tasks assigned to them.**

## Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander, yesterday paid a visit to the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF)'s General Command.

Upon arrival, HM the King was welcomed by the BDF Commander-in-Chief, Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, and Defence Affairs Minister, Lieutenant-General Yussef bin Ahmed Al Jalalma.

HM King Hamad was accompanied by Royal Court Minister, Shaikh Khalid

bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Royal Guard Commander, Brigadier-General, HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and Royal Guard's Special Force, Major HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

HM King Hamad, while meeting senior officers, expressed pride in the BDF's brave servicemen, who, he said, will remain the protective shield that defends the nation and safeguards its hard-won achievements, civilisational march and unity.

HM the King, the Supreme Com-

duty carried out by the BDF servicemen with bravery, determination and discipline, praising the advanced professional level they have reached as proved in the various tasks assigned to them.

HM the King stressed that the BDF's personnel's mastery of modern technology encourages the BDF to move to military industry to complete its military system.

HM King Hamad hailed the successive victories and achievements attained by the BDF servicemen in the Operation Restoring Hope carried out

by the Saudi-led Arab Coalition to support justice and legitimacy and fight terrorism, praising also their humanitarian support for the brotherly Yemeni people.

HM the King lauded the graduation of the 10th joint command and staff session during a ceremony held recently under his patronage at the Royal Command, Staff and National Defence College, extending congratulations to the graduates from Bahrain and other brotherly countries, and wishing them every success in serving their countries and Nation.

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**College of Engineering**  
Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering  
(Hosted by West Virginia University)

## People's welfare top priority for GCC governments



HRH the Premier receives royal family members and senior officials.

## Manama

HRH the Premier has stressed the success of the GCC governments to steer growth and development of their countries and boost people's welfare.

He described the remarkable growth as the dividend of the GCC leaders' keenness to put the interests of their people above anything else.

This came as His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa received members of the royal family and senior officials, in the presence of Kuwaiti Ambassador to Bahrain and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Shaikh Azam Mubarak Al Sabah at Gudaibiya Palace yesterday.

HRH the Premier urged to maintain achievements through more effective cooperation and coordination mainly amid regional and international challenges, including the economic one.

He underlined the importance of intensifying GCC meetings to boost coordination regarding security and economic issues and preserve accomplishments. He also underscored Bahrain's keenness on bolstering GCC cooperation, stressing fraternal ties binding the GCC countries.

HRH the Prime Minister reviewed with the Kuwaiti ambassador historic brotherly relations between Bahrain and Kuwait and growing bilateral cooperation to achieve common interests.

# BIG STORY

# big story

# Nightmares of nightingales

Nurses daily face tough workloads and various types of abuses at workplace



Majority of nurses hardly report the abuses they suffered to higher authorities.



In developed countries such as the United Kingdom paramedics and nurses are given body cameras to help them protect from attacks.

**● The study concurs with the findings of the World Health Organisation (WHO), which says that nurses are exposed to violence in the workplace thrice as much as other professions.**

**● The research team attributed the spread of violence against nurses in the workplace to the pressure faced by hospitals due to staff shortage.**

TDT|Manama  
Thamer Tayfour

**C**lose to 65 per cent of nurses in the Kingdom have suffered some form of abuse, be it verbal, physical or sexual at workplace, a study has revealed.

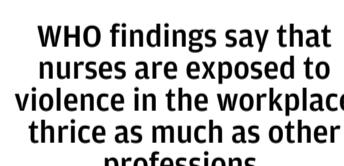
The study conducted by a team of medical students at the Arabian Gulf University also showed that a majority of nurses have never reported the abuses they suffered to higher authorities.

"Although 80 per cent of the surveyed nurses indicated awareness of existing laws to hold perpetrators accountable, 46pc reported that the deterrent systems are ineffective," the study said.

The study concurs with the findings of the World Health Organisation (WHO), which says that nurses are exposed to violence in the workplace thrice as much as other professions.

In developed countries such as the United Kingdom paramedics and nurses are given body cameras to help them protect from attacks.

The research team attributed the spread of violence against nurses in the workplace to the pressure faced by hospitals due to staff shortage, which forces them to exceed capacity and may lead to delays in the preparation of patients or their transfer to specialised treatment departments.



**WHO findings say that nurses are exposed to violence in the workplace thrice as much as other professions.**

behaviour.

"A lot of people mistakenly believe that nurses are there to follow whatever orders the doctors provide us. While we also do that, nurses must also thoroughly assess a patient or medical situation, critically think and then implement the plan of care. To be frank, many patients refuse to cooperate with us and at times behave very badly."

Another nurse, who also preferred to remain anonymous, said many a time she faced bad behaviour from the part of patients and bystanders while working in the Kingdom.

"The abuses can be really tough. Moreover, we also have to see our patients going through physical, mental and emotional sufferings."

"People really don't understand that we sacrifice eating and even going to the bathroom to get the work done," she said, adding that nurses can sometimes sacrifice things to the point of

harming their own health.

Sharifa, a Bahraini nurse, said verbal abuses have become part of the profession.

"The job is really tough. Many patients and their relatives shower their anger on us. Only people with burning patience can survive in this profession."

Sharifa said Asian nurses suffer the most due to language barriers in the Kingdom.

"Bahraini and Arab nurses to a large extent handle the situation. But Asian nurses suffer very badly as they fail to properly communicate with patients and their relatives."

Sharifa said there should be a legal mechanism to hold the aggressors accountable if they cross the limit.

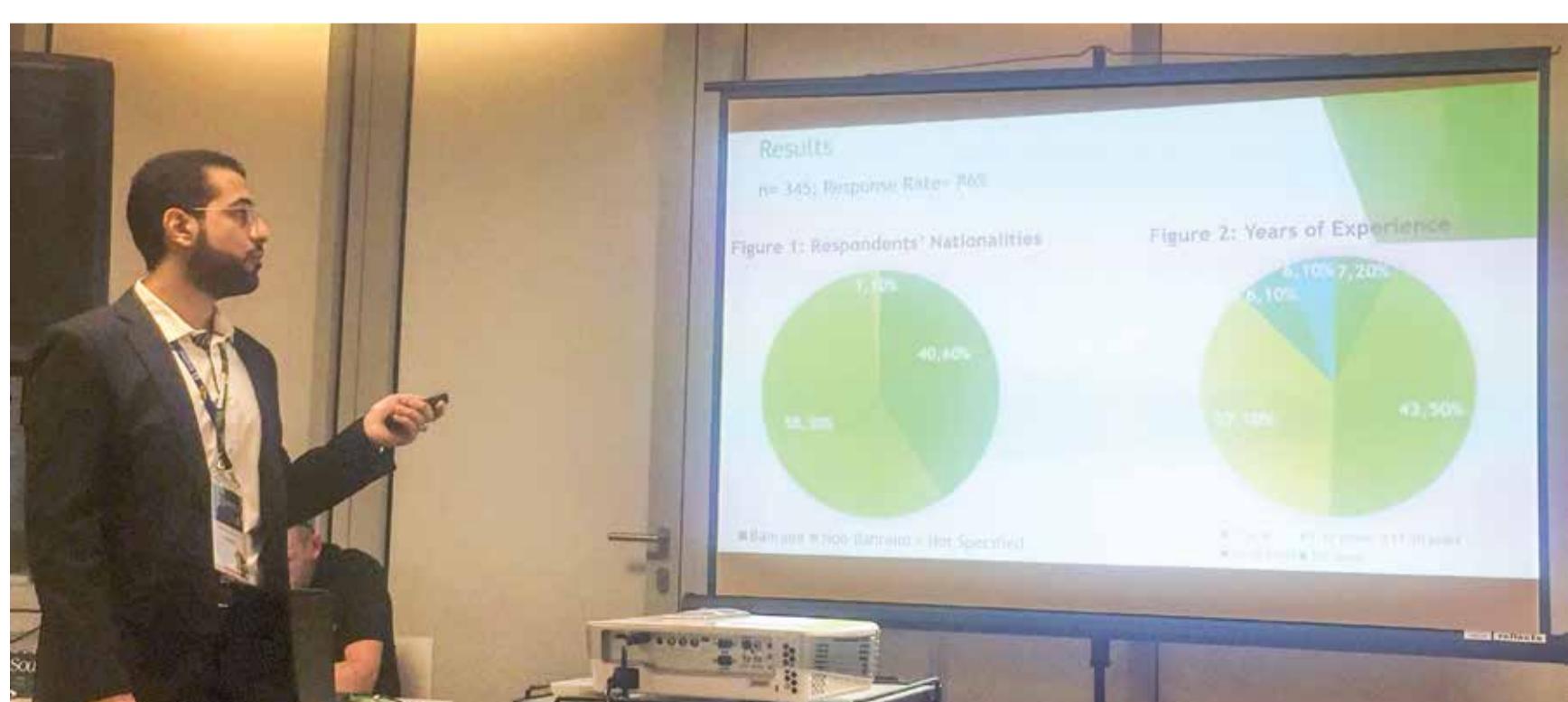
"Nurses are also humans. We have rights and self-respect. I wish each and every nurse report all kinds of abuses to higher authorities to bring down bad experiences."

**Many patients and their relatives shower their anger on us. Only people with burning patience can survive in this profession.**

SHARIFA

**Nurses are also humans. We have rights and self-respect. I wish each and every nurse report all kinds of abuses to seniors.**

A NURSE



# More sites added to Unesco heritage list

With 53 in the list, Italy has maximum places marked as Unesco heritage sites

Germany's Naumburg Cathedral, Pimachiowin Aki in Canada and Chiribiquete National Park in Colombia were also added to the list.

TDT|Manama

Spain's caliphate city of Medina Azahara was yesterday added to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) list of World Heritage.

The place, located in Cordoba, southern Spain, was the seat of the Caliphate of Cordoba in the 10th and 11th centuries.

Spain has 47 places added to the List of World Heritage and the city of Cordoba has four: the Medina Azahara, Fiesta de los Patios, the Mosque of Cordoba and the historical centre of the city.

"Thanks to this, we show that this province offers not only tourism, but heritage, culture, and knowledge of different civilizations who lived here and the trace they have left," the mayor of Cordoba, Isabel Ambrosio, was quoted by local media.

Medina Azahara was a city built by the first caliph of Cordoba, Abd al-Rah-



Göbeklitepe is regarded as one of the oldest sites of archeological ruins.

man III, in the 10th century. The place features infrastructure such as bridges, water systems, roads, buildings and other objects.

Among others, Göbeklitepe regarded as one of the oldest sites of arche-

ological ruins and one of the oldest temples in the world, located in Turkey's southeastern Sanliurfa province, was also added to the list.

Discovered during excavations by researchers from Istanbul and Chicago universities in 1963, Göbeklitepe is located near the neighborhood of Örencik in Sanliurfa, 18 kilometers (11 miles) from the city center.

Characterised as "ground zero for human history," Göbeklitepe stands out among other archeological sites, dating back 12,000 years, circa 10,000 BC. Excavations at the site were launched in 1995 by German Professor Klaus Schmidt, who brought to life the previously-unearthed finds that have long caused a stir among academics.

Germany's Naumburg Cathedral, Pimachiowin Aki in Canada and Chiribiquete National Park in Colombia were also added to the list.

## Forum on SDGs a big success

TDT|Manama

An interactive exhibition on sustainable development goals (SDGs) held at the City Centre Bahrain concluded yesterday amid a remarkable public presence.

The National Communication Center (NCC) staged the three-day event that coincided with Bahrain's presentation of its first voluntary national report to implement the goals of sustainable development.

NCC Executive Director Dr Mohammed Ali Behzad said the event aimed at disseminating awareness of the sustainable development and its significance, in addition to highlighting the government's efforts to incorporate the Government Action Programme into Bahrain Economic

**“The event has embodied the principle of community partnership among citizens and residents.”**

DR BEHZAD

Vision 2030 in the interest of citizens and residents.

Dr Behzad added the event has embodied the principle of community partnership among citizens and residents, as well as among government and private institutions.

The UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative in Bahrain, Amin Al Sharkawi, pointed out the UN's



Scores of people attended the expo.

constant efforts to provide expertise to various government sectors to introduce knowledge and awareness of the sustainable development goals.

He emphasized the UN interested in national initiatives of government and private sectors.

The Kingdom will present its first voluntary report to implement the sustainable development goals at a ministerial meeting to be held on in the current month on the sidelines of the UN high-level political forum on sustainable Development.

The 17 sustainable development goals set by the UN cover issues related to combating poverty and hunger, health, education, climate change, gender equality, water, energy, environment and social justice.

## Siddhartha's dilemma through mudras



A dance drama titled Kamala depicting the spiritual journey of Siddhartha, the protagonist in Hermann Hesse novel by the same name, was held last night at the Bahrain Cultural Hall. The show featuring renowned dancer Sneha Ajith in lead was choreographed by Vidya Shreekumar.

## Trip organisers ready with best Hajj packages

TDT|Manama  
Abbas Al Mughanni

The Hajj pilgrimage cost per person has reached BD1,500 and it could go up to BD2,500, according to travel agencies in the Kingdom.

"About 5,600 pilgrims from the Kingdom are expected to perform Hajj this year. The Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs has licensed 60 organisers to arrange pilgrimage and each will get 100 seats on an average," said Ayman Al Sitri, one of the organisers.

The cost will cover entire expenses including airline tickets and stay at Mecca and Medina, he added.

"The expenses can vary mainly on the basis of flights one chooses. The highest flying charge is BD1,890 while the

**5,600**  
pilgrims from the Kingdom are expected to perform Hajj this year.

lowest is BD1,550."

He stressed that the expenses will be lower this year since more number of pilgrims has been allocated to each trip organiser.

Hamza Mansour, another Hajj trip organiser, said the average charge for the pilgrimage comes in the neighbourhood of BD1,750.



# New waste policy planned as garbage bins overflow

The Kingdom produced 1773,107 tonnes of waste last year

Of the total waste produced, 559,053 tonnes were from households, 313,362 tonnes commercial and 82,006 tonnes industrial.

The Ministry stated that in order to compile the statistics, scientific and comprehensive methods were used, with data being collected from different regions of Bahrain.

TDT|Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

Bahrain's households produce more waste than the country's commercial, industrial and green waste combined, according to an official statistics.

Authorities are now gearing up to implement a new waste management strategy as the waste produced in the Kingdom continues to pile up.

The official statistics released by Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning revealed that the country produced 1773,107 tonnes of waste last year.

Of the total waste produced, 559,053 tonnes were from households, 313,362 tonnes commercial and 82,006 tonnes industrial.

Green waste, which is biodegradable and are mainly agricultural, garden or park waste amounted to 125,306 tonnes. The highest amount of waste produced were categorised as building waste, which amounted to 684,610 tonnes.

Of the household waste, food waste was the highest making up 35.2 per cent of domestic waste produced, plastics stood second most at 30.1pc, paper and



The break up figures offered by the study.

cardboard wastes constituted 11.6pc, and textiles, miscellaneous and other organic made up the rest of the household waste. Food waste in Bahrain amounted to 196,786 tonnes.

Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Essam Khalaf said that gathering and studying the statistics related to waste is necessary in understanding how to reduce waste produced in the Kingdom.



2017

كمية المخلفات الصلبة المنتجة سنويًا وفُنّاتها  
Annual Solid Waste Streams Generated



A strategy to reduce waste in the Kingdom as well as protect environment is on the way.  
MR KHALAF

The Ministry stated that in order to compile the statistics, scientific and comprehensive methods were used, with data being collected from different regions of Bahrain.

## New strategy

Another study to further understand the waste in Bahrain and to collect updated data is ongoing, said Bob Doig, a waste management adviser who works with the Ministry and ESTIDAMA - a waste management centre, which comes under the Ministry.

He said that a new strategy to tackle waste across Bahrain will soon be in place.

"We are currently having another study to gather updated data. Our goal is to implement a new strategy to deal with the waste. The waste is growing all across as the population grows. This is why we need to have to update our strategy for waste management," he told Tribune.

## Medicine shortage only 'a temporary issue'

The ministry indicated that the management of the Salmaniya Medical Complex has taken precautionary measures to avoid the shortage of drugs.

TDT|Manama  
Abbas Al Mughani

Dismissing shortage of medicines at Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC) and health centres, MP Majid Al Majid said that shortage is temporary and it cannot be considered a real problem.

"We trust the government represented by the Ministry of Health to provide enough medicines at SMC and health centres."

MR AL MAJID

The ministry indicated that the management of the Salmaniya Medical Complex has taken pre-

cautionary measures to avoid the shortage of drugs.

It also asked patients, citizens and residents not to believe social media rumors and communicate directly with the ministry through Tawasul programme.

The ministry conveyed its utmost readiness to receive and follow up any observations and respond to them through the patient complaints office via telephone number 32220112.

The Ministry of Health through SMC and health centres offer best treatment and we have confidence in the ministry, he pointed out.

Earlier, the Ministry of Health had dismissed reports of medicine shortage that went viral on social media.

The Ministry also stated that it has activated precautionary measures to manage the inventory and control existing resources, in order to maintain the efficiency of the provision of health services.

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## Khalifa Town project reviewed



Shaikh Khalifa along with Mr Al Hamer and other officials review the project.

Shaikh Khalifa was updated on the project units which were distributed to eligible recipients.

Manama

Work on the residential Khalifa Town development project is proceeding on good track, it emerged.

Directed by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Southern Governor His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa

paid an inspection visit to the project and was updated on the progress of work on the development project.

Housing Minister Bassem Al Hamer, Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry Undersecretary Ahmed Al Khayyat and Youth and Sports Affairs Ministry Assistant Undersecretary Khalid Al Haj were present.

Shaikh Khalifa was updated on the project units which were distributed to eligible recipients and the progress of work on other facilities which include the health centre, the Zaskar Youth Centre and Al Dur convention hall.

Housing Minister Bassem Al Hamer thanked Shaikh Khalifa for the visit, hailing his keenness on the progress of work on the integrated project which includes service, social and commercial facilities.

## Royal University for Women attain regional accreditations

TDT|Manama

The courses offered by the Royal University for Women has been recognised by the Ministry of Education in Saudi Arabia, the Ministry of Higher Education in Kuwait and the Ministry of Higher Education in Oman.

The University's administration expressed its pride in the achievements made at regional level in the past, starting from being the first private university in the Kingdom to obtain the accreditation by the Higher Education Council and ending with gaining recognition and recommendation from other countries.

Dr Mona Suri, Acting President of the Royal University for Women, said that the university has demonstrated



Royal University for Women is among the top universities in the region.

high standards of quality and contributed in the educational process in the Kingdom, which it is clearly shown in local and international basis, such as the cooperation ties with West Virginia

University and other universities. She added that the Royal University for Women has demonstrated its distinction and excellence through obtaining recognition and recommendation in

the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Oman. "All undergraduate programmes are recognized by the Ministry of Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Also, the programmes in the college of Business and Financial Sciences are recognized by the National Bureau for Academic Accreditation and Education Quality Assurance and Ministry of Higher Education in Kuwait.

"Moreover, RUW is listed amongst the recommended higher education institutions by the Ministry of Higher Education in the Sultanate of Oman."

The university had announced earlier the opening of admission and registration for the academic year 2018/2019 for their academic programmes listed in four different Colleges: College of Arts and Design, College of Business and Financial Sciences, College of Law and College of Engineering which has the Civil Engineering programme hosted by West Virginia University.

## Bookkeeping 'a critical element in any business'

**Without proper bookkeeping, entrepreneurs will have a tough time once VAT gets implemented**

TDT|Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

A majority of Bahraini entrepreneurs (86 per cent) does not have a proper bookkeeping system, and this could lead to disastrous consequences for them in the long run, according to a recent local study.

The recent study conducted by Stradico company in collaboration with Ibdaa Hub training center, revealed how majority of Bahraini entrepreneurs overlooked bookkeeping and accounting.

The study themed "The Reality of Entrepreneurship in Bahrain", involved a sample of 300 Bahraini entrepreneurs.

Speaking to Tribune, Khalil Al

Oahiri, CEO of Stradico Company, said that the high percentage of Bahraini entrepreneurs who failed to keep proper bookkeeping is alarming.

"The percentage of those who did not follow bookkeeping is too high. This is something that affects their businesses and this affects Bahrain's ability to have a successful SME sector."

He said that this will have consequences in the long run, "They may think that they are fine now but very soon it is going to have implications for the future. Especially when VAT is enforced they are going to struggle," he said.

"Apart from the legal implications from VAT it also affects their profitability and success. How would they know if they



**They did not have clearly defined strategy, objectives and goals, they did not have a proper indicators to measure their success or failure.**

MR AL QAHIKI

are profitable or not without proper bookkeeping. How would they know when to scale up or make a business move?" he asked.

The study also found that 60pc of the Bahraini entrepreneurs did not have a clear business strategy. "They did not have clearly defined strategy, objectives and goals, they did not have a proper indicators to measure their success or failure. Their goals were vague and they were not sure how they will achieve these goals."

"According to the study, 55pc of Bahrainis over the age of 40 were determined to launch new businesses in the future. More than 45pc of entrepreneurs studied were female," he added.



All three rotary clubs in the Kingdom and the Rotaract Club of Bahrain organised a joint gala dinner at the Gulf Hotel. The Gala Dinner was to celebrate a successful rotary year and to ring in the new one. The presidents from the outgoing year will pass the baton of leadership to the incoming presidents.

## Assault victim granted divorce from husband

TDT|Manama

The High Sunni Sharia Court granted divorce to a woman in her twenties from her husband after she complained of ill-treatment.

The 28-year-old woman filed the divorce lawsuit against her husband, aged 48, citing physical assaults against her.

The defendant, who is 20 years her senior, is said to have been attacking her in public and he didn't provide her with an accommodation to live in.

He also didn't give her a monthly pocket money. Thus, she resorted to the Sharia Court to put an end to her ordeal.

"He was attacking her, insult-

ing her, swearing at her without taking into account their relationship," the plaintiff's lawyer Ibtisam Al Sabagh said.

"Once, he attacked her inside the car. He slammed the car's door against her and he punched on the stomach despite being aware that she was pregnant."

Several eyewitnesses were at the scene during the car assault, and they testified before prosecutors. They said that he was smelling alcohol and he was in an abnormal state.

"He didn't just beat her, but also didn't give her any pocket money. So she took the decision to end her marriage with him," lawyer Al Sabagh revealed.

## July end deadline for salary bank transfers

TDT|Manama

Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour, Sabah Al Dosari revealed that the Labour Market Regulatory Authority has instructed all employers and companies to transfer the salaries of all employees through banks operating in the kingdom by the end of July.

Al Dosari pointed out that the Ministry of Labour strongly supports this decision as it

would alleviate the problems faced by labourers. He also pointed out that the new procedures will abolish the system of giving salaries in cash.

Central Bank of Bahrain Governor Rasheed Almaraj revealed in early March that the Central Bank, in cooperation with the relevant government and private sectors, is committed to transferring all salaries of foreign workers through their bank accounts operating in the kingdom.

## Next academic year preparations discussed

**The two sides also discussed preparations to the upcoming 2018-2019 school year, building on the previous school year which ended in June 2018.**

TDT|Manama

The Ministry of Education and the Quality Assurance Authority for Education and Training (QAAET) held the second coordination meeting of the joint executive committee.

The session which was attended by



Members of joint executive committee at the meeting.

officials focused on review reports of the educational institutions results of national exams, re-sit exams and the overall students' results for the year 2017-2018.

The two sides also discussed preparations to the upcoming 2018-2019 school year, building on the previous school year which ended in June 2018.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Undersecretary for General and Technical Education Latifa Al Bunudha.

Acting Assistant Undersecretary for Curricula and Educational Advising Ahlem Al Amer and other officials from the ministry and the Quality Assurance Authority for Education and Training.

# BUSINESS

## business

# Saudi out of recession, oil to fuel GDP growth

The GDP of GCC's biggest economy grew 1.2pc in the first three months of 2018

**● Saudi oil production is set to expand as producers agreed last month to boost output by a combined 700,000 to 1 million bpd**

Reuters | Dubai

Saudi Arabia's economy pulled out of recession in the first quarter of 2018 after shrinking for the first time in eight years during 2017, official data showed yesterday, and the recovery looks set to accelerate in coming months with a rise in oil production.

Gross domestic product, adjusted for inflation, grew 1.2 percent from a year earlier in the first three months of 2018, the government's statistics agency said.

GDP had dropped from a year earlier in every quarter of 2017 as a global price-supporting agreement among oil exporting countries caused Saudi Arabia to cut back its crude output. For the whole of 2017, GDP shrank



Saudi GDP had dropped from a year earlier in every quarter of 2017

0.7 percent.

The impact of the oil deal faded at the start of 2018 after Saudi Arabia completed the required cuts.

This allowed the oil sector, which comprises over 40 percent of the economy, to grow 0.6 percent from a year ago in the first quarter — a big contrast to its 4.3 percent decline in the last quarter of 2017.

Oil prices have been steadily rising since early 2016, when OPEC and non-OPEC producers struck a deal to cut output.

In the next several months,

Saudi oil production is set to expand. Global producers agreed last month to boost output by a combined 700,000 to 1 million barrels per day, and as the world's biggest crude exporter, Riyadh may account for the lion's share of the increase.

U.S. President Donald Trump said in a tweet on Saturday that Saudi Arabia's King Salman had agreed to boost output by as much as 2 million bpd to offset anticipated losses in production by Iran, which faces U.S. sanctions, and Venezuela.

Analysts think such a big jump

is very unlikely. But Monica Malik, chief economist at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, said she was conservatively assuming a rise in average Saudi output of 500,000 bpd in the second half of 2018, which would be a year-on-year increase of about 5 percent.

Supply disruptions elsewhere in the world could cause Riyadh to lift output even more, Malik added, predicting overall Saudi GDP growth of 2.1 percent this year, led by the oil sector.

Many non-oil businesses in Saudi Arabia are struggling under the weight of austerity steps designed to cut the government's big budget deficit. A 5 percent value-added tax was imposed at the start of 2018 and domestic fuel prices were increased.

As a result, Malik predicted only modest non-oil GDP growth of 1.8 percent this year, up from 1.0 percent in 2017.

"To some degree we're likely to return to Saudi Arabia's old model of growth this year, with rising oil exports feeding through into the rest of the economy," she said.



The Minister of Industry, Commerce & Tourism Zayed R. Alzayani with Faisal Ahmed Saleh, an employee from Bahrain Bourse, who completed the Fellowship Programme of the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister. The meeting was attended by the CEO of Bahrain Bourse Shaikh Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al-Khalifa

## BAC VP for HR elected to Airport Council

TDT| Manama



Bahrain Airport Company (BAC), the operator and managing body of Bahrain International Airport (BIA), has announced that its Vice President of Human Resources, Hind Mahmood, was elected as Second Vice Chair of the Airports Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific Regional HR Committee. Her appointment is a milestone achievement and marks the first time a BAC employee has held this role.

Hind attended a committee meeting at the 13th ACI Asia-Pacific Regional Assembly, Conference and Exhibition, at Narita, Japan. More than 50 experts delivered presentations on the industry's issues, trends, and developments at the conference.

and panel discussions. ACI represents the world's airports and their collective interests. It promotes professional excellence in airport management and operations, and works closely with prominent aviation organisations such as ICAO and IATA to develop standards, policies, and recommended practices.

In her new role, Hind will



**Her appointment is a milestone achievement. It is the first time a BAC employee holds this role**

help the HR Committee work towards its goals to encourage the exchange of best practices among the ACI Asia-Pacific member airports and to expedite their growth through employee development.

## Al Noor Express Mart opened at Gravity Village in Zallac

TDT| Manama

Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa yesterday opened the Al Noor Express Mart at the Gravity Village, Zallaq. The mart was opened in the presence of dignitaries from various walks of life.

"With a promise to deliver top-quality shopping experience, Al Noor Express Mart, ideally located amidst a serene ambiance, offers a comprehensive range of quality products in a well-organized, shopping environment enriched by a dedicated customer service," said Ali Hassan, Chairman of Ali Ventures International Holding Company, the promoters of Al



Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa opening Al Noor Express Mart at the Gravity Village as Ali Hasan looks on

Noor Express Mart. "The Mart features the most innovative displays and a perfect mix of global and regional brands that lead to an elite shopping experience," he added. Al Noor Express Mart is now open to the public and visitors at the Gravity Village can now relish on a quality shopping experience.

## Vijay Mallya's luxury jet sold for paltry \$5.05 m

PTI| Mumbai

After at least four aborted attempts since March 2016, the service tax authorities managed to get a buyer for the confiscated luxury jet of the runaway businessman Vijay Mallya, with a Florida-based Aviation Management Sales emerging as the highest bidder for Rs 34.8 crore (\$5.05 million) last Friday, a source said. The service tax authorities had put the luxury A319 jet, which Mallya used to crisscross the world to solicit business deals, under the hammer to recover their dues to the tune of Rs 800 crore accumulated on account of non-payment of service tax before his erstwhile Kingfisher Airline went belly up in October 2012. The transaction was completed last Friday through an e-auction, following a court order, the source said, adding the jet has been parked at a hangar of the Mumbai airport since its confiscation in 2013.

## Brexit divisions roil Tories ahead of key cabinet meet

AFP| London

Britain's ruling Conservatives were mired in divisions over Brexit Sunday ahead of a crunch cabinet meeting next week and following warnings from the EU that time is running out to reach a withdrawal deal.

Just days after backbench lawmakers told Prime Minister Theresa May that its "departure must be absolute", Business Secretary Greg Clark refused to rule out indefinitely extending a transition period out of the EU.

Under the current timetable the implementation period is set to end in December 2020, after Britain leaves the bloc next March.

## Givenchy's British designer to kick off haute couture shows

AFP| Paris

Clare Waight Keller, the Givenchy stylist who grabbed the world fashion spotlight by designing Meghan Markle's wedding dress, on Sunday unveils her haute couture collection as the shows kick off in Paris.

The show will be the first since the house's founder Hubert de Givenchy died in March at the age of 91. It is 47-year-old Waight Keller's second haute couture collection since she succeeded Riccardo Tisci at Givenchy in March 2017, shortly after leaving rival label Chloe after six years at the helm. The British artistic director created the boat-necked, sculpted dress that Markle wore for her wedding to Prince Harry on May 19.

# Asian economies discuss trade pact amid rising protectionism

**● A pact among the countries that together make up half the global population has an enormous growth potential, says Abe**

API Tokyo

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe yesterday called for an early conclusion of a regional trade pact that ensures free and rules-based commerce in the face of an increasingly protectionist United States under President Donald Trump.

Japan co-chairs the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, or RCEP, with Singapore, and seeks to take leadership in shaping the pact as an alternative to a Pacific Rim free-trade grouping that Trump abandoned early this year.

In his opening remarks to a meeting of 16 Asian trade ministers, Abe said a pact among the countries that together make up half the global population has an enormous growth potential.

"As we are faced with concerns of the rise of protectionism in the world, all of us in Asia must unite, and our future de-



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, center, joins hands with trade ministers from Asian countries for a group photo during the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership meeting in Tokyo yesterday. (Kyodo News via AP)

pends on whether we can keep hoisting our flagship principle of free and fair trade," Abe told the meeting in Tokyo. He said RCEP is increasingly getting more attention from the rest of the world amid concerns of protectionism, so "Let us be as one and achieve a free, fair and rules-based market in this region."

Trump, who says he prefers bilateral deals, has pulled the US out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, leaving the remaining 11 countries from Chile to New

Zealand to work on a revamped version of that pact.

Trump has imposed high tariffs on steel and aluminum imports and has threatened to add automobiles to reduce America's trade deficit. He has singled out China's products, prompting fears of a trade war.

Japan, already hit by increased US steel and aluminum tariffs, has told the World Trade Organization it may retaliate against US goods totaling about 50 billion yen (\$450 million).

Japan's government on Friday warned the US Department of Commerce that a higher US tariff on auto imports could backfire, jeopardizing hundreds of thousands of American jobs created by Japanese automobile industry-related companies, raising prices for US consumers and causing a disaster for the US and global economy.

Trump's moves have resonated in Asia, where many countries have prospered thanks to free trade and the expansion

of global supply chains. Japan hopes to conclude the RCEP pact by the end of this year. Members of the initiative, launched in 2013, however still struggle with issues including tariffs, trade in services and investment rules, as well as protection for intellectual property rights. Japan is also cautious about China's influence. China, which is not part of the TPP, plays a key role in RCEP. RCEP also includes Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, India and South Korea.

## Slovakia to feel most pain from Trump car tariffs

**● Slovakia boasts Germany's Volkswagen – the country's biggest private-sector employer**

AFP| Slovakia Bratislava

As the world's largest per capita car producer, Slovakia stands to be hit hardest if US President Donald Trump makes good on his threat to impose a 20 percent tariff on cars imported from the EU, analysts say. Trump's threat was the latest salvo in an escalating trade war that saw the European Union slap duties on US-made jeans and motorcycles in a tit-for-tat response to US tariffs on European steel and aluminum exports. The specter of US tariffs that sent shares

in Fiat Chrysler, Daimler and BMW tumbling on European stock exchanges also spooked Slovakia's automotive sector.

It boasts Germany's Volkswagen – which is Slovakia's biggest private-sector employer – France's PSA and South Korean Kia along with more than 300 automotive supply companies. All told, they generate over 300,000 jobs in the eurozone country of 5.4 million. Jaguar Land Rover will also open a new plant in September. This makes Slovakia the EU's leading car and car part exporter to the United States in terms of share of GDP – and the most vulnerable to tariffs. "The ratio of overseas car exports to Slovakia's GDP is significantly the highest among all countries of the EU, with it being up to 1.7 percent," the Slovak Institute for Financial Policy (IFP) said in a study.

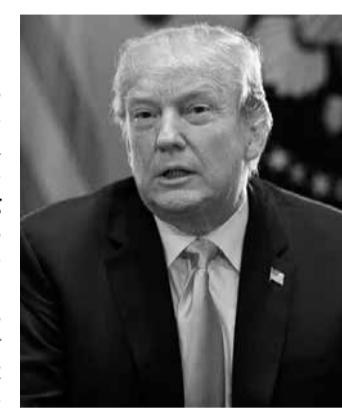
## EU 'possibly as bad as China' on trade: Trump

AFP| Washington

Europe is "possibly as bad as China" on trade, US President Donald Trump said in an interview broadcast yesterday, with trade wars emerging against both the Asian giant as well as longtime allies in Europe and Canada.

"The European Union is possibly as bad as China, only smaller," Trump said on Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures" program.

"They send a Mercedes in, we can't send our cars in. Look what they do to our farmers. They don't want our farm products. Now in all fairness they have their farmers... But we don't protect ours and they protect theirs," he said. Trump had already threatened tariffs



President Donald Trump

on cars imported from the European Union, in response to the EU's retaliatory tariffs last week on iconic US products including bourbon, jeans and motorcycles. The EU retaliation came after Trump's administra-

tion on June 1 struck Europe as well as allies in Canada, Mexico and elsewhere with tariffs on aluminum and steel. Canada's retaliatory tariffs take effect Sunday against American products including Florida orange juice, ketchup and Kentucky bourbon. Canada and the US are among the world's largest trading partners, with an estimated \$673.9 billion in goods and services exchanged in 2017, with the US scoring a small surplus (\$8.4 billion), according to US government data. At Trump's insistence, Canada, Mexico and the US are renegotiating the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"NAFTA, I could sign it tomorrow but I'm not happy with it. I want to make it more fair, OK?" Trump said.

## US workers fear steel tariffs could be nail in the coffin

AFP| Poplar Bluff, US

The mood is tense at a nail factory in rural Missouri, where workers fear that steel tariffs imposed by President Donald Trump's administration could cost them their jobs.

As giant spools of steel feed the manufacturing process, the men and women operating the whirring, screeching machines of the Mid-Continent Nail Corporation wonder if Trump himself will come to their rescue.

It has been a successful busi-



Boxes of products at Mid Continent Nail Corporation

ness, employing some 500 people in the rural community of Poplar Bluff.

"People like us, we thought: biggest nail manufacturer in the United States, our jobs should be safe. Obviously, it's not," said machine shop supervisor Sean Hughey.

The nail company is publicly raising the alarm, saying the tariffs on steel imports may put it out of business.

They have had to raise prices to pay for more expensive steel and cannot compete with cheap-

er imported nails -- completed products that face no tariffs at all.

"It's a misguided policy," said Chris Pratt, Mid Continent's chief financial officer and operations chief. "I just think it's a policy that wasn't thought out completely. And we got to fix it."

Immediate effect

Many of the workers here voted for Trump. And the Poplar Bluff region favored the president over Hillary Clinton in the 2016 election by a margin of more than 60 percent.

# Bahrain, Oil boost Gulf stocks

**● The Bahraini index closed 0.2 percent up yesterday. The Saudi index gained 0.3pc with petrochem companies rising**

Reuters| Dubai

Gulf stock markets closed in positive territory yesterday, boosted by a surge in oil prices, an increase in retail investors and encouraging news on Bahrain's financial prospects.

Oil prices surged last week on concerns that US sanctions against Iran would remove a substantial volume of crude oil from world markets at a time of rising global demand.

Bahrain's bonds and currency rebounded from multi-year lows late last week after Saudi Ara-



Traders at Bahrain Bourse in Manama - Reuters. (File photo)

bia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates said in a joint statement that they would announce soon measures to support its economy.

The Bahraini index closed 0.2 percent up yesterday. It climbed 0.9 percent since last week's announcement from the country's regional allies.

The Saudi index gained 0.3 percent, with petrochemical companies rising on the back of

higher oil prices, and with real estate investment trust funds posting large gains of up to 10 percent.

The best performer was Al Jazira Mawten REIT, up 9.9 percent, followed by Taleem REIT Fund, which jumped 9 percent.

A fund manager said an increase of retail investors participating in the Saudi market over the last week could have pushed REIT valuations up, given that REIT

## Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.3% » 8,340
DUBAI	▲ 1.5% » 2,864
ABU DHABI	▲ 1.3% » 4,621
QATAR	▲ 1% » 9,114
KUWAIT	▲ 0.2% » 4,915
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.2% » 1,314
OMAN	▼ 4.9% » 4,347
EGYPT	■

stocks are generally speculative and attract high-yield seekers.

Lifted by surging oil prices, petrochemical companies such as Saudi Kayan Petrochemical Co. and Sahara Petrochemical Co. gained 1.3 percent and 1.9 percent, respectively.

The worst performer was Fawaz Abdulaziz Alhokair Co., with stocks in the Saudi retailer plunging 6.4 percent after the company reported its annual

financial results late last week.

Net profit for the year ending on March 31 2018 declined 76 percent, to 103.5 million ryals from 425.3 million ryals the previous year, it said.

Stock exchanges were up across the region, with the Dubai index and the Abu Dhabi index up 1.5 percent and 1.3 percent respectively.

In Abu Dhabi, Eshraq Properties jumped 6.7 percent. The company said last week it was seeking to deploy "excess liquidity" in investments across the United Arab Emirates, after dropping merger plans with Abu Dhabi developer Reem Investments. It also said it has no exposure to Dubai's private equity Abraaj Group.

In Dubai, most stocks were up but trading volume was concentrated on Drake & Scull (DSI), which shed 0.7 percent after some gains earlier on Sunday.

## Thyssenkrupp investor calls for further recast

Reuters| Duesseldorf/Frankfurt

Major Thyssenkrupp shareholder Cevian yesterday called for further restructuring of the German conglomerate, a day after it sealed a steel joint venture with India's Tata Steel.

Activist investor Cevian is the second largest shareholder in Thyssenkrupp and, like fellow shareholder Elliott, has criticised Thyssenkrupp CEO Heinrich Hiesinger, saying there is significant room for improvement at the steel-to-submarines conglomerate.

"The creation of the steel

joint venture and the deconsolidation of the steel business from Thyssenkrupp is a step towards reducing the overly complex conglomerate structure," Lars Foerberg, founding partner of Cevian Capital, told Reuters in emailed comments.

"There is now an urgent need and opportunity to address the significant and persistent underperformance of the industrial businesses," he said.

The joint venture with Tata Steel - to be named Thyssenkrupp Tata Steel - will have around 48,000 workers and about 17 billion euros in sales.

Based in the Netherlands, it will be the continent's second-largest steelmaker after ArcelorMittal. It forms the core of Hiesinger's plan to turn the steel-to-submarines conglomerate into a technology company.

Foerberg said the best operating structure and ownership for each of the group's businesses now needed to be assessed and that they would only survive and prosper if they were nimble and efficient.

**17bn**

euros is the total sales of the joint venture company

## E-commerce in the region set to be worth \$48bn by 2022

**● UAE and Saudi will remain the largest and fastest-growing e-commerce markets in the region, says a BMI Research report**

The National | Abu Dhabi

The Middle East e-commerce market is hotting up as competition accelerates and, driven primarily by the UAE and Saudi Arabia, the market will grow by 16.4 per cent over the next three and a half years, according to a report by BMI Research.

"We forecast the e-commerce market in the region ... to be worth \$48.6 billion in 2022, up from an estimated \$26.9bn in 2018," the report's authors said.

"In particular, the UAE and Saudi Arabia will remain the largest and fastest-growing e-commerce markets in the region."



by UAE conglomerate Emaar Malls, "to focus initially on these two countries for expansion", BMI said.

The National reported last week that according to a poll of 600 UAE residents by global payments company Visa, 66 per cent of shoppers are now happy to buy online - a figure as high as 81 per cent for Emiratis - while 70 per cent are at ease paying utility or government bills using digital platforms.

Noon.com signed an agreement with eBay this month to enable its customers to purchase products listed on eBay in the US and other countries globally.

From the second half of 2018, Noon will fulfil eBay orders and deliver the products directly to consumers throughout the UAE and Saudi Arabia, through a dedicated app, as well as via mobile and desktop.

This comes on the back of Amazon's purchase of Souq.com, a leading online player in the Mena region, for \$586 million last year.

## Trump says Saudi King agreed to ramp up oil production

AFP| Washington

US President Donald Trump yesterday said that Saudi Arabia's King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud had agreed to his request to ramp up oil production, a week after OPEC already announced an output rise.

The official Saudi Press Agency confirmed a phone call between the two leaders about oil, but mentioned no specifics.

"Just spoke to King Salman of Saudi Arabia and explained to him that, because of the turmoil & dysfunction in Iran and Venezuela, I am asking that Saudi Arabia increase oil production, maybe up to 2,000,000 barrels, to make up the difference," Trump announced in an early morning tweet.

"Prices too high! He has agreed!"

Later, the White House re-

leased a more cautious statement saying "the two leaders reaffirmed their dedication to a healthy and stable global energy market for the benefit of all nations."

"The two leaders agreed that balancing the global oil market is essential to ensure access to reliable and affordable energy to people everywhere," it said.

"In response to the president's assessment of a deficit in the oil market, King Salman affirmed that the kingdom maintains a two million barrel per day spare capacity, which it will prudently use if and when necessary to ensure market balance and stability, and in coordination with its producer partners, to respond to any eventuality."

The Saudi Press Agency said Trump had called Salman and the two highlighted "the necessity of doing efforts in order to



Donald Trump with Saudi King in Riyadh. - AFP file photo

preserve the stability of the oil market and the global economy growth."

They also discussed "efforts of the producing countries to cover any possible shortage in supplies," the agency said in its brief report. Saudi Arabia is the world's biggest oil exporter and

has usually kept at least 1.5 million to two million barrels per day of spare capacity, according to the United States Energy Information Administration.

'Simply not doable' But oil officials cited by The Wall Street Journal said it is de-

yadh, a major ally, to boost output as he hopes for lower pump prices before midterm congressional elections in November.

His latest comments come a week after ministers from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries -- of which Saudi Arabia is the major member -- agreed to raise output from July. Non-OPEC member Russia on June 23 also backed the effort, capping a week of tense diplomacy for the grouping that averted a damaging rift between arch foes Iran and Saudi Arabia. The ministers announced they would ramp up oil production by around one million barrels a day from July.

"This is just simply not doable," said one senior Saudi oil official cited by the Journal.

Trump has repeatedly lashed out at OPEC on Twitter in recent months, piling pressure on Ri-

## 5000th Tesla Model 3 car rolls out

Reuters| San Francisco

Tesla Inc nearly produced 5,000 Model 3 electric sedans in the last week of its second quarter, with the final car rolling off the assembly line yesterday morning, several hours after the midnight goal set by Chief Executive Elon Musk, two workers at the factory told Reuters. The 5,000th car finished final quality checks at the Fremont factory and was ready to go around 5 a.m. PDT (1200 GMT), one person said.

## Germany not ruling out further car recalls

Reuterrs| Berlin

Germany is not ruling out further recalls of cars as it continues to check the car industry for illegal software, transport minister Andreas Scheuer told a German daily. "We will continue to review the situation. It's an ongoing monitoring of the market," he was quoted as saying by Handelsblatt. The ministry last month said 774,000 Mercedes-Benz vehicles in Europe had been found to contain unauthorised software defeat devices, ordering Daimler to recall 200,000 cars.

## Tenaris lays off Canadian workers

Reuters| Winnipeg, Canada

Steel pipe maker Tenaris SA is temporarily laying off workers and adjusting production at a Canadian plant because of uncertainty in the steel market following tariffs imposed by the United States, a company official said. The first publicly disclosed job losses in the Canadian steel industry since the Trump administration's metal tariffs were disclosed in March takes effect the same day as Canada's retaliatory trade action against US takes hold.

# Uniting the world against terrorism

*No cause or grievance can justify terrorism*



ANTÓNIO GUTERRES

Terrorism is a persistent and evolving global menace. No country is immune. Social media, encrypted communications and the dark web are being used to spread propaganda, radicalize new recruits and plan atrocities. The threat ranges from the crude tactics of lone actors to sophisticated coordinated attacks and the horrific prospect of terrorists using chemical, biological or radioactive weapons.

Our response needs to be equally agile and multifaceted. That is why I am convening the first-ever United Nations High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism this week in New York. Heads of national counter-terrorism agencies and representatives from international institutions and civil society will discuss how to improve international cooperation and build new partnerships.

The conference will focus on four key areas. First, it will consider how governments, security agencies and law enforcement bodies can improve the exchange of critical information and strategies to detect, disrupt and prosecute terrorist networks. Second, the conference will discuss how the United Nations can do more to assist countries around the world affected by terrorism.

Third, it will address the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters. With the military defeat of ISIL in Syria and Iraq, large numbers of these ideologically-driven mercenaries are relocating to other theatres of conflict or returning



Mourners leave the service of remembrance at the Saint Etienne Church in Trebes in southwest France, two days after a shooting.

home, passing on their battlefield expertise, recruiting new followers and planning further attacks.

Fourth, I intend the conference to focus on how we can prevent terrorism and violent extremism. Improved security will never be enough. We need to address the underlying conditions that make people susceptible to toxic ideologies.

Terrorism is a transnational threat that cannot be defeated by any single government or organization. It needs a concerted multilateral response at global, regional and national levels. It is essential

to strengthen counter-terrorism structures and institutions. But we must also address root causes by promoting education, tackling youth unemployment and addressing marginalization. That means engaging with local communities, religious organizations and the media. Civil society is central to the conference and our broader counter-terrorism strategies.

Clearly, the response to terrorism and violent extremism must respect human rights and comply with international law. That is not just a question of justice, but of effectiveness. When counter-terrorist pol-

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## Bahrain leading the way to combat human trafficking

*For the first time, Bahrain received a tier 1 ranking in the 2018 Trafficking in Persons Report.*



JUSTIN SIBRELL

to combat human trafficking consistent with standards identified in the US Trafficking Victim's Protection Act (TVPA). The TVPA outlines clear, measurable, and effective steps that a government can take to mitigate the prospect of a person becoming a trafficking victim, by ensuring prosecution of traffickers, protection of victims, and prevention through promoting awareness of trafficking.

Bahrain was recognized for its clear and bold leadership on these issues, reflecting a commitment to protect vulnerable workers and to ensure that Bahrain's labor market contributes soundly and effectively to an ambitious economic strategy that has made Bahrain the fastest-growing economy in the GCC. In 2015, Bahrain opened an internationally renowned shelter for vulnerable workers and trafficking victims.

I recently had the opportunity to visit the shelter, where I met with staff members and a number of expatriate workers receiving protection and assistance from the Government of Bahrain to resolve outstanding issues.

Earlier this year, Bahrain launched a Trafficking Victim's Assistance Fund to provide financial assistance to any individual declared as a trafficking victim by the Public Prosecutor's Office. This fund ensures

**The US Government is very supportive of the efforts underway in Bahrain to address worker vulnerability and combat human trafficking. On behalf of my government, I express my appreciation.**

that trafficking victims do not suffer financial hardship in addition to the traumatic experience they have already endured at the hands of their traffickers. Bahrain has improved coordination across government agencies by implementing a standard-setting National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Trafficking in Persons consistent with its commitment to a victim and worker-centered approach to addressing potential trafficking crimes. Crucially, Bahraini prosecutors have won convictions in several trafficking-related court cases.

At Thursday's TIP report release



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and White House senior advisor Ivanka Trump unveiling the Trafficking in Persons Report award to Ausamah Al Absi.

ceremony, Secretary Pompeo also recognized Mr. Ausamah Al Absi for his extraordinary leadership as Chairman of Bahrain's National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons (NCCTIP). Mr. Al Absi, who is also the Director of the Labor Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), was honored as a "TIP Hero" – one of only ten individuals recognized in this way worldwide. During Mr. Al Absi's tenure as the NCCTIP Chairman, Bahrain has driven forward its

program of reforms and collaborated extensively with both the United Nations' Office of Drugs and Crime, as well as with the International Organization for Migration to develop new institutions and practices to address the most vulnerable members of society.

National governments bear the primary responsibility in combating human trafficking, but they cannot do it alone. The 2018 TIP Report highlights the importance of local communities

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1863

The Union left flank holds at Little Round Top during the Battle of **Gettysburg**.

1937

American aviation pioneer **Amelia Earhart** disappears in the Central Pacific during an attempt to fly around the world.

1976

North and South **Vietnam** are officially reunified.

1980

President **Jimmy Carter** reinstates draft registration for males 18 years of age.



days after a man carried out an attack in which four people were killed.

**y, terrorism and violent extremism have a profound gender dimension. Terrorists continue to violate the rights of women and girls through sexual violence, abduction, forced marriages and prevent free movement and access to education.**

icies are used to suppress peaceful protests and legitimate opposition movements, shut down debate, target human rights defenders or stigmatize minorities, they fail and we all lose. Indeed, such responses may cause further resentment and instability, and contribute to radicalization.

No cause or grievance can justify terrorism. But we will only diminish the threat by ending the conflicts, human rights abuses, poverty and exclusion that drive so many to violent extremism. Most new recruits to terrorism are between 17 and 27 years old. We must offer

them better prospects, economically and socially. And we must reverse the polarization, xenophobia and hate speech that are proliferating around the world.

Let us also remember the tens of thousands of people killed, wounded and traumatized by terrorism. Survivors need our support in seeking justice and rebuilding their lives, both financially and psychologically. We must also listen to them and learn from their experiences.

Finally, terrorism and violent extremism have a profound gender dimension. Terrorists continue to violate the rights of women and girls through sexual violence, abduction, forced marriages and preventing free movement and access to education. Involvement in domestic abuse is a common thread among many perpetrators. That is why we must urgently prioritize the rights, participation and leadership of women.

The international community has come a long way in its efforts to counter terrorism. There is a clear international framework that makes it easier to prosecute terrorists, disrupt their financial networks and prevent online radicalisation. But there is much still to be done.

Terrorist groups share an agenda of authoritarianism, misogyny and intolerance. They are an affront to the common values encapsulated in the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Our responsibility is to unite to build a world of peace and security, dignity and opportunity for all people, everywhere, so we can deprive the violent extremists of the fuel they need to spread their hateful ideologies.

(António Guterres is the Secretary-General of the United Nations)

## Human trafficking

### 2018 TIP report



in Persons Report, along with Human Trafficking in Persons Report Hero.

guarding the places they call from the insidious effects of trafficking. It encourages governments to support and offer those closest to the problem they face the challenges and consequences of modern slavery. Impetus for community-based can come from any number of — a concerned local official, raising the alarm, law enforcement investigating the crime, or individual who simply wants to be

a part of the solution. Once support has been garnered, there are several important steps a community can take to bolster its response.

First, it is important that communities build multi-stakeholder partnerships among all levels of government from the national to the local and between law enforcement, service providers, survivors of human trafficking, and other key community actors. Creating a task force may be one of the best ways to ensure coordination among the many facets of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy.

Second, communities, with support from their national governments, can conduct an assessment to help better understand who may be most vulnerable to human trafficking, what services currently exist, and what gaps need to be addressed.

Third, targeted training and awareness-raising efforts for those who may come into contact with victims of human trafficking are critical to a local response. Professionals, and especially those likely to interact with victims such as doctors, teachers, judicial officials, law enforcement officers, and business-owners, should be trained to recognize the indicators of human trafficking and know how to seek assistance. In addition, community-based organizations such as women's, immigrant advocacy, and

religious groups are well-placed to raise awareness among their members, who are often the eyes and ears of their communities.

Fourth, communities can develop processes and protocols that ensure victims are proactively identified and provided with comprehensive emergency, short-, and long-term care. Such a protocol can help to leverage resources and expertise, create standards for a victim-centered and trauma-informed approach, and be a conduit for sharing information.

Ultimately, the message of this year's report speaks to the power of local knowledge and the strength of community ties. Modern slavery is a reality in every region and country of the world. But we can all find ways to contribute to the solution. In doing so, we all take steps to end human trafficking.

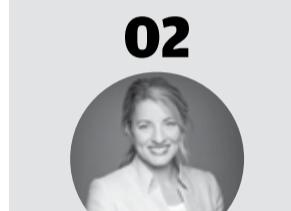
The US Government is very supportive of the efforts underway in Bahrain to address worker vulnerability and combat human trafficking. On behalf of my government, I express my appreciation for the leadership of the Government of Bahrain on these vital issues and look forward to deepening our partnership in the months and years to come.

(Justin Siberell is the US Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain)



@realDonaldTrump's short list of Supreme Court nominees was hand-picked by right-wing extremists who want to criminalize abortions and punish women who have them. Roe v. Wade.

@SenWarren



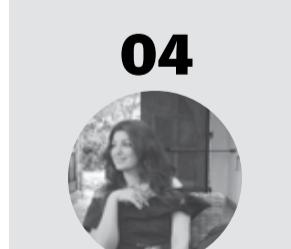
In behalf of the entire @CdnHeritage team, Happy #CanadaDay! Today, we celebrate who we are. Remember to use #CanadaDay to share all of your memorable moments with us.

@melaniejoly



When people come into our Country illegally, we must IMMEDIATELY escort them back out without going through years of legal maneuvering. Our laws are the dumbest anywhere in the world. Republicans want Strong Borders and no Crime. Dems want Open Borders and are weak on Crime!

@realDonaldTrump



Isn't it human nature to be largely indifferent to people when they are alive and to pay homage only when they are dead?

@mrsfunnybones

**Disclaimer:** (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

# China-Arab relations on right track



HE ANWAER

As agreed by China and the Arab states, the eighth ministerial meeting of China-Arab States Cooperation Forum will be held on July 10 in Beijing. State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, foreign ministers or representatives from the Arab states and Secretary-General of the League of Arab States will attend the meeting.

At the meeting, the relevant parties will have comprehensive and in-depth discussions on further consolidating the traditional friendship between China and the Arab states, advancing the Belt and Road Initiative, jointly building a new type of international relations and forging a community with a shared future for mankind, enhancing the mechanism building of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum and other international and regional issues of common interest.

Since the seventh ministerial meeting of China-Arab States Cooperation Forum two years ago, the institutional activities under the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum have been advanced smoothly. The Senior Officials' Meeting, the Strategic and Political Dialogue at the Senior Officials' Level, the Seminar on China-Arab Relations and China-Arab Civilisation Dialogue, the China-Arab Energy Cooperation Conference and the China-Arab Friendship Conference were held successfully. The cooperation consensus under the framework of the forum have been implemented. We have established the China-Arab Research Center on Reform and Development, launched the Joint Training Program for Chinese-Arabic Translators and held the China-Arab States Beidou Cooperation Forum, Anti-extremism Roundtable and the China-Arab Forum for Development and Reform.

The cooperation of the forum has been extended to cover such areas as post-war reconstruction, talents training, women exchanges and high-tech cooperation in more dimensions.

At the upcoming ministerial meeting, we are willing to further strengthen communication and coordination with the Arab states, jointly champion mutual respect, fairness and justice and win-win cooperation and continue to play a positive role in upholding and promoting regional peace, stability and development. We stand ready to enhance cooperation on production capacity, post-war reconstruction, humanitarian development and cultural and people-to-people exchanges with the Arab states under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative and better support their efforts for national transformation and economic diversification.

Bahrain is not only an important member of the Arab League and the GCC, but also an important partner of China in the Gulf region, and has played fundamental role as a bridge between China and the GCC.

(H E Anwaer is the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Kingdom of Bahrain)

# world

## Cyclone barrels towards Japan's Okinawa

AFP | Tokyo

Okinawa residents braced for large waves and violent winds yesterday after weather authorities warned of a fierce cyclone approaching the southern Japanese island.

Typhoon Papirroon was closing in on Okinawa's capital Naha on Sunday afternoon while packing gusts of up to 144 kilometres (90 miles) per hour, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency.

It was expected to draw close to the Okinawa island Sunday night through to the next morning before veering towards southwestern Japan and the Korean peninsula, the agency said.

## Iraq begins border fence with Syria

AFP | Baghdad

Iraq has begun building a fence along its border with Syria to stop Islamic State group jihadists crossing into the country, a border guards spokesman said yesterday.

"Ten days ago we started to set up a barbed wire security fence with surveillance towers along the border with Syria," said Anwar Hamid Nayef, spokesman in Iraq's Anbar province.

The frontier barrier includes a six-metre-wide trench and involves thermal cameras and drones scanning the border.

## 19 dead in Afghan suicide attack

AFP | Jalalabad

A suicide bomb attack in a city in eastern Afghanistan where President Ashraf Ghani was visiting killed at least 19 people, including the only Sikh candidate in upcoming legislative elections, officials said yesterday. The attacker struck a market located hundreds of metres from the provincial governor's compound.

## Eleven family members found dead in Delhi home

AFP | New Delhi

A family of 11 found dead at their home in New Delhi had been observing "spiritual, mystical practices", police said yesterday.

Officers cordoned off the property in the north of the capital where the bodies of 7 female and 4 male victims were discovered early Sunday morning. A police statement drew attention to the spiritual beliefs.

# Pause in Hodeida offensive

The pause is aimed at pursuing negotiations for an unconditional rebel withdrawal from the port

AFP | Abu Dhabi

The United Arab Emirates yesterday announced it had halted the offensive it is backing against Houthi rebels in Yemen's port city of Hodeida to give a chance to UN diplomatic efforts.

In a series of tweets, UAE Foreign Minister Anwar Gargash said the pause was aimed at pursuing negotiations for an unconditional rebel withdrawal from the port but warned that full military action could resume.

The weeks-long offensive on Hodeida -- Yemen's main port -- has raised fears of further suffering and deprivation in a country already deeply shaken by years of war between the Iran-backed Houthi and President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi's Gulf-backed government.

Pointing to a renewed push for



Yemeni fighters from the Amalqa ("Giants") Brigades gather with armed pick-up trucks and armoured vehicles on the side of a road

a negotiated settlement by UN envoy Martin Griffiths, Gargash said: "We have paused our campaign to allow enough time for

this option to be fully explored. We hope he will succeed."

He said the pause had been in effect since June 23 and while

there was continued "pressure on the parameter", pro-government forces were awaiting the results of an upcoming visit by Griffiths to the rebel-held capital Sanaa.

Griffiths met with Hadi in the southern city of Aden on Wednesday and is reported to be pushing for the Houthi to cede control of Hodeida to the United Nations.

The rebels have said they may be willing to share control of Hodeida's port with the UN but say their forces must remain in the docks and the rest of the Red Sea city.

The Houthi have controlled Hodeida and its port since 2014, when they also drove the Hadi government out of the capital and seized large swathes of northern Yemen.

On June 13, the UAE and its allies, including Saudi Arabia,



**Yemen's Hodeida was the site of a Soviet naval base in the 1970s and 80s**

launched a massive military operation -- dubbed "Golden Victory" -- to drive the rebels out of the port. Pro-government forces managed to seize control of Hodeida's airport in mid-June.

## North Korea's Kim asked Xi Jinping to help lift sanctions

● Kim Jong Un made the request during his third meeting

AFP | Tokyo



Kim Jong Un

N Korea 'very serious' on nuke talks: Trump

AFP | Washington

North Korea is "very serious" about efforts toward denuclearization, US President Donald Trump said in remarks broadcast yesterday.

"I think they're very serious about it. I think they want to do it," he said in a prerecorded interview on Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures" program.

sanctions," Kim reportedly told Xi, according to the newspaper.

In recent months the Cold War-era allies have sought to repair ties strained by Pyongyang's nuclear tests and Beijing's support of subsequent UN sanctions.

Kim chose Beijing -- his main economic patron and diplomatic protector -- for his first official foreign trip in March and met Xi again in May in the northeastern port city of Dalian.

Xi in turn told Kim he "actively supports North Korea's reform and opening-up and will proactively cooperate with issues associated with the efforts," according to the Yomiuri.

urged China to back Pyongyang in its denuclearisation talks with Washington, the report said.

Xi asked Xi to help ease the sanctions that have crippled North Korea's economy, and

## 48 killed in bus accident in N India



This handout photo taken and released by the State Disaster Response Found (SDRF), shows a wrecked bus and passengers belongings scattered

● Bus fell into a deep ravine in Uttarakhand

Reuters | Mumbai

Forty eight people were killed and eleven injured when an overcrowded bus spun off a slippery road and fell into a deep ravine in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand yesterday, police said. "It was a 28-seater bus but was carrying 59 passengers," said a police official at

the office of senior superintendent of police from the local area called Pauri where the accident took place.

He declined to be identified since he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Rescue operations are complete and police are trying to get the dead bodies identified by relatives and friends, the police official said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted saying he was "extremely saddened by the bus accident in Pauri Garhwal."

## Thai divers advance as cave search gains ground

AFP | Mae Sai



Thai emergency rescue workers walk down the hill leading up to Tham Luang cave at the Khun Nam Nang Non Forest Park in the Mae Sai district of Chiang Rai province yesterday

rains. But the clouds parted on Sunday and with the help of water pumps divers were able to establish a forward operating base inside the twisting chambers, raising hopes that the "Boars", as the team is known, could be located soon.

"Today what we have to do is to rush to the kids," Thai Navy Seal commander and Rear Admiral Apakorn Yookongkaew said earlier at the site. "We will not stop until we find them."

Responders are placing extra oxygen tanks, strong ropes and LED lights along the cave's walls in hopes they can provide a path to an airy chamber called Pat-taya Beach.

cave had decreased and that almost 60 foreign and Thai divers were involved in the rescue effort.

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## Thousands march against US immigration policy

AFP | Washington

Thousands of demonstrators marched in cities across the United States on Saturday against President Donald Trump's hardline immigration policy and to demand the immediate reunification of families separated at the border with Mexico.

Directly across from the White House, demonstrators filled Lafayette Square park in an atmosphere of both indignation and sadness, before marching toward the Capitol.

## Leftist 'AMLO' favorite as Mexico vote opens

Mexico City

Mexicans began voting yesterday in general elections marked by deep anger over endemic corruption and brutal violence, with anti-establishment leftist Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador looking poised to sweep to power.

Leading by more than 20 points in the polls, the sharp-tongued, silver-haired politician known as "AMLO" has successfully tapped voters' anger with a seemingly never-ending series of corruption scandals and horrific violence.

## 4 dead, hundreds evacuated as Torrential rain hits Romania

AFP | Bacel

Days of torrential rains in Romania have claimed four lives and forced more than 250 people to flee their homes, local authorities said yesterday.

High waters swept away two men and a woman, while a fourth person was crushed when flooding caused her home to collapse.

An embankment gave way in the hard-hit central Covasna region, swamping several villages.

## Hardline interior minister rejects Angela Merkel's migration plan

AFP | Berlin

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's hardline interior minister Horst Seehofer is unhappy with an EU-wide deal she struck last week to reduce migration, sources said yesterday.

After his Bavarian CSU party spent weeks pressuring Merkel to toughen immigration and asylum policy, Seehofer complained to allies that he had endured a "conversation with no effect" with the chancellor Saturday, the sources said.

# Tributes paid to Simone Veil

Thousands of people gather in Paris Pantheon to pay their final respects to the Holocaust survivor

**● Simone Veil is only the fifth woman to be buried in the Pantheon**

Paris

Thousands of people gathered in Paris yesterday to pay their final respects to Holocaust survivor and women's rights icon Simone Veil as she was given the rare honour of burial at the Pantheon a year and a day after she died.

Veil's death at the age of 89 prompted an outpouring of emotion as she had long been considered one of France's most popular and trusted public figures.

The Pantheon in the heart of Paris houses the remains of many great French figures, including Voltaire, Victor Hugo and Emile Zola.

But she is only the fifth woman



France's President Emmanuel Macron holds a moment of silence as he pays his respects by the coffin of former French politician and Holocaust survivor Simone Veil during the burial ceremony at the Pantheon in Paris yesterday - AFP

to be buried there, being laid to rest alongside her husband Antoine, a high-ranking civil servant who died in 2013.

Their coffins were escorted by Republican Guards through

Paris from the Holocaust Memorial where they had been for 48 hours to allow the public to pay their last respects.

They were then carried by pall-bearers on a blue carpet

leading to the Pantheon.

"Thank you Simone" President Emmanuel Macron said the decision to bury her there was a decision taken by the entire nation.

"It is... what all French people wanted," he said at the ceremony.

"With Simone Veil, all the women that have made France are here."

"We owe it to Simone Veil not to let the doubts and crises which are hitting Europe mitigate the dazzling victory that, for 70 years, we have won over the rifts and mistakes of past centuries," he said.

Among the crowds were many women wearing T-shirts with the slogan: "Thank you Simone."

Beatrice, 43, paid tribute to "the way she worked for women's freedom, so that they can choose their career, choose whether to have children or not".

Bernard Greensfeld, who was outside the Holocaust memorial, said Veil "broke every glass ceiling, in terms of women in society, but also that of (France's role in) the extermination of the Jews: it was taboo."

## Italy's Matteo Salvini calls for Europe-wide alliance

AFP | Pontida

Italy's hardline Interior Minister Matteo Salvini called for a Europe-wide alliance against "mass immigration" at a triumphant annual gathering of his far-right League party yesterday, after declaring the country's ports closed to NGO migrant ships.

"I think of a league of Leagues in Europe, which unites all the free movements that want to defend their borders and the wellbeing of their children," Salvini said at his fifth party conference in the northern port of Pontida.

Around 50,000 people from around Italy attended the event, local media reported, drawn by Salvini's "Italians first" rallying cry.

"It's an indescribable feeling," Salvini told the crowds, to



Matteo Salvini addressing party conference - AFP

hear the "calls of love coming from Pontida".

He said the League had cemented its place as the "most populist party" in Europe.

"The term is a compliment to me," the 45-year-old, clad in a blue T-shirt bearing his own portrait, told journalists earlier.

"I will tour capital cities, and not just European ones, to cre-

ate an alternative to this Europe founded on exploitation... (and) mass immigration."

Salvini, who is also co-deputy prime minister, has thrived with his hardline stance as the migrant issue has become central to the European Union's agenda. He announced Friday that Italian ports would be closed "all summer" to charity ships which rescue migrants trying to cross the Mediterranean from Africa to Europe.

"The NGOs will only see Italy on a postcard," Salvini had quipped.

"The decision to open or close ports is taken by the interior minister," he said Sunday.

Anti-immigration hardliners accuse the rescuers of exacerbating the situation in the Mediterranean, where migrants try to cross the sea on rickety boats from North Africa.

## New Swedish law recognises sex without consent as rape



People hold torches during a rally in support of #metoo and for all victims of sexual offenses, in Stockholm (file)

AFP | Stockholm

A tough new law that will recognise sex without explicit consent as rape comes into effect in Sweden yesterday, after the country was rocked by the #MeToo movement denouncing sexual harassment and assault.

The law stipulates that a person has committed rape if they have been part of a sexual act in which the other person has not participated "freely".

Rape had previously been defined as a sexual act carried out with the use of violence or threat. Now for someone to face rape charges, "it is no longer necessary that violence or threats were applied, or that the aggressor took advantage of the victim's particularly vulnerable situation," according to the government.

Courts will need to pay particular attention to whether consent was expressed with words, gestures or in another manner, and judges will have to rule on the issue, according to the law passed in May.

Judge Anna Hannell, who helped create the law, said there was "absolutely no requirement to formally say 'yes', to hit a button in an app or anything else of the same type".

"Simply participating physically is a sign of consent," she told Swedish news agency TT.

More than 7,000 rapes were reported in Sweden last year, a 10 percent increase compared

**YOU KNOW WHAT**  
More than 7,000 rapes were reported in Sweden last year, a 10 per cent increase compared to 2016, latest official figures show

to 2016, latest official figures show. Rape is punishable by up to six years in prison, with a maximum penalty of 10 years if the victim is a minor.

Backed by the ruling Social Democrat-Green coalition, the law has drawn criticism from several quarters including the Swedish lawyers' association and the national law council.

Opponents say it will force judges to make arbitrary decisions on whether or not there was consent.

However, the government has defended the legislation.

"#MeToo showed with force that a lot still needs to be done to fight sexual harassment and sexual violence at work and in the rest of society," Gender Equality Minister Lena Hallengren said in a statement.

## French gangster in helicopter jailbreak

**● Redoine Faid broke out of the prison with the help of two accomplices**

AFP | Reau



Police near a French helicopter Alouette II abandoned by French armed robber Redoine Faid after his escape from prison in Reau, north of Paris - AFP

The men quickly made good their escape in the helicopter in an operation lasting just 10 minutes, Delabroye said at the penitentiary in Reau in the French capital's southeastern suburbs. It is the second time Faid has pulled off a spectacular jailbreak -- in 2013, he blasted his way out of a prison in northern

France using dynamite.

The helicopter -- hijacked from a terrified flight instructor -- landed at around 0915 GMT in the prison yard. The two black-clad men armed with assault rifles set off smoke bombs before breaking their way into the prison's visitation room using the power tools.

# features

# Chasing dinosaurs in Myanmar's north

*The jade and ruby industries dwarf the largely artisanal amber trade*



Akbar Khan inspecting a piece of honey-coloured fossilised tree sap (Pic courtesy: AFP)

AFP | Myitkyina

**A**mber hunters" on a quest for a Jurassic Park-style discovery of dinosaur remains sift through mounds of the precious resin in Myanmar -- a lucrative trade that captivates palaeontologists but also fuels a decades-long conflict in the far north.

The morning amber market on the outskirts of Myitkyina, the capital of Kachin state, throngs with traders using torches and magnifying glasses to scrutinise pieces of the honey-coloured fossilised tree sap.

Some sell rough-edged uncut chunks. Others tout finished products: pendants, necklaces and bracelets made from carefully polished pieces.

The trading takes place just a few dozen kilometres from the fighting between Myanmar's army and ethnic Kachin rebels battling for autonomy, land, identity -- and natural resources that help finance both sides.

The jade and ruby industries dwarf the largely artisanal amber trade, but the resin can still fetch big sums for whoever controls the mines.

In Myitkyina's market there is money to be made, says trader Myo Swe. His speciality is "inclusions", sap that has trapped parts of plants, animals and even dinosaurs before hardening into amber -- history suspended inside the resin.

Find the right buyer and he could pocket up to \$100,000 a piece in a shady industry that sees most amber smuggled across the border to China.

"Even if it just contains an ant or a mosquito -- every piece is interesting," the 40-year-old said. "I value every one of them."

#### Dinosaur tales

Amber, historically coveted as jewellery by nobility from China to ancient Greece, enjoyed a revival in popular culture thanks to the 1990s hit movie "Jurassic Park", set in a theme park where dinosaurs have been cloned by extracting DNA from mosquitos preserved in the resin.

However, most amber heralds not from the Jurassic but from the later Cretaceous Period, up to 100 million years ago.

The best preserved "inclusions" offer today's scientists and collectors a three-dimensional fossil, with some creatures even frozen mid-motion. There are amber deposits found all over the world but, for palaeontology, the mines of Kachin are "irreplaceable", explains 36-year-old Lida Xing from the China University of Geosciences in Beijing.

"The amber mining area in Kachin is the only Cretaceous period amber mining site in the world that is still engaged in commercial mining," he says. "There's no better place than Myanmar."

Lida Xing shot to fame among fellow palaeontologists in 2015 when he brought back part of a feathered dinosaur tail to China from Myanmar that dated back some 99 million years.

The excitement of his discovery, though, was tinged with disappointment when he returned to try to find the source.

"They said they did not know. They had probably already sold or smashed it. This dinosaur might have even been a complete one with a head," he told AFP in Beijing.

#### 'Conflict amber'

Amateur amber hunters aside, the main challenge for traders and collectors is working in a conflict zone.

An upsurge in fighting between the army and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) over recent years has left more than 100,000 people displaced in the region.

Leaflets dropped by army helicopters in June last year even warned people living around the mines to leave the area or be considered to be cooperating with the rebels, according to Human Rights Watch.

Now only the hardest of amber hunters attempt to go there.

Amber, jade, timber and gold are also "major drivers" of the conflict in northern Myanmar, says Hanna Hindstrom from monitoring group Global Witness.



A piece of amber, a honey-coloured fossilised tree sap from Kachin State in Myanmar, under a magnifying glass at a streetside stall (Pic courtesy: AFP)

## Scratchcard lottery craze grips Bulgaria, even childrens

AFP | Tsurkva

**A**rmed with a coin, 96-year-old Stoyan Stoimenov from the small village of Tsurkva outside Sofia hunches over and tries his luck on yet another scratchcard. "I tell myself: 'I will win again.' It's not very likely but who knows," he says, winking.

Stoimenov is just one of thousands of Bulgarians who have been gripped by a craze for scratchcards in recent years in the EU's poorest member state, with some now raising the alarm over the dangers of widespread addiction.

In February, Stoimenov won 5,000 leva (2,500 euros, \$3,000) -- roughly 25 times his monthly pension -- and distributed his prize among his children, grandchildren and great-grand-



Stoyan Stoimenov, 96, buys scratchcards at a local coffee shop in the village of Tsurkva, near the capitol of Sofia (Pic courtesy: AFP)

children. They thanked him by giving him more scratchcards for his 96th birthday on May 6. In the small cafe where Sto-

menov won his prize, the tables are full of fellow gamblers. "I sell more scratchcards than anything else," the girl at the



Bulgaria is the only country in Europe whose name has not changed since the original establishment of the country (in 681 AD)

children allowed to participate with no age restriction.

"I play from time to time but there's a boy in my class who does nothing but buy scratchcards," says 10-year-old Denislav, while buying a two-leva ticket with his daily lunch money.

According to an expert study, commissioned by a government body in July 2016 in Bulgaria's northwest -- the EU's poorest region -- 10 per cent of high school students buy scratchcards every day and 11 percent buy them once a week.

#### Alarm over 'epidemic'

According to an estimate by Bulgaria's Capital financial weekly, 100 million scratchcards were sold in 2017 in a country of less than seven million people.

And a Gallup poll carried out in April estimated that 57 per-

cent of Bulgarians participate in some form of gambling. The country is thought by experts to have the second biggest gambling industry in the EU behind Malta.

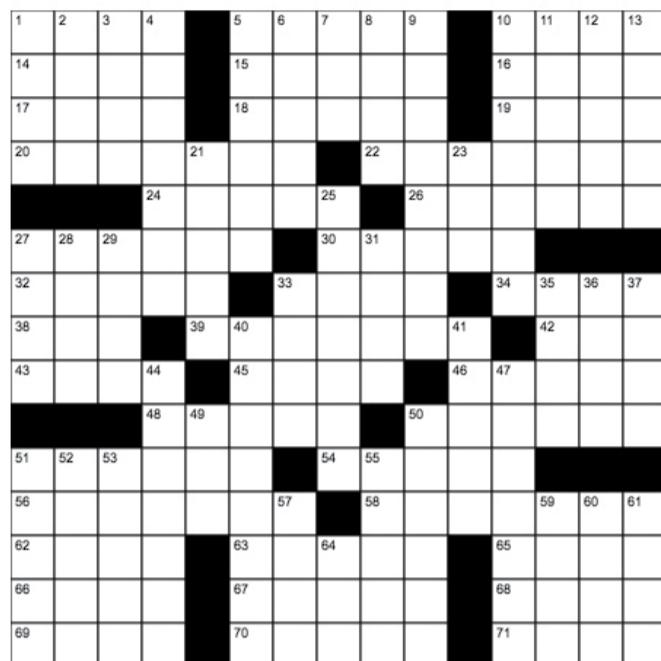
Adding to the lucrative nature of the business is the fact that the industry enjoys lower tax rates than, for example, tobacco concerns, and Bulgaria is the only EU country where the law doesn't require lottery companies to donate a certain portion of their profits to good causes.

Some politicians are now pushing for action to curb the phenomenon. Tsvetan Tsverjanov, deputy chief of the ruling GERB party, warns of "an epidemic among adolescents and people of low social status".

The gaps in current legislation are illustrated by the rules for gambling advertising.

# entertainment

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

1- Pierce with a knife; 5- St. \_\_\_ fire; 10- Intestinal sections; 14- Juror; 15- Depart; 16- Female servant; 17- French 101 verb; 18- On \_\_\_-to-know basis; 19- Dock; 20- Dry red table wine of Italy; 22- Republic in W Africa; 24- Ages between 13 and 19; 26- Lea; 27- Self-supporting structures; 30- It's human; 32- Trimmed; 33- Planted; 34- Plaster backing; 38- Ike's WWII command; 39- Satisfaction; 42- Sheep talk; 43- Pouches; 45- Nervous twitches; 46- Russian range; 48- Aquarium fish; 50- Rough design; 51- Secret stuff; 54- Divulge; 56- Without any flaws;

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



58- Elected legislator; 62- Coral formation; 63- \_\_\_ la vista; 65- Horse hair; 66- Salinger girl; 67- Ford flop; 68- Sporting blade; 69- Clairvoyant; 70- Borge's countrymen; 71- Spent, as batteries;

### Down

1- Blueprint detail, for short; 2- 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet; 3- Ethereal: Prefix; 4- Respire; 5- Thrills; 6- Bolshevik leader; 7- West of Hollywood; 8- Cooking appliance; 9- Dregs; 10- Adorn with "oyster gems"; 11- Scottish landowner; 12- Refrain in a children's song; 13- End in \_\_\_; 21- Requirements; 23- Neth. neighbor; 25- Impassive; 27- Simians; 28- Pro \_\_\_; 29- Gator's cousin; 31- Is in the red; 33- Agitate; 35- Like \_\_\_ out of hell; 36- Bath powder; 37- Corned beef concoction; 40- Connected; 41- Klondike territory; 44- Employee; 47- Gave a new title; 49- Opposite of wsw; 50- Takes by theft; 51- \_\_\_-ski; 52- Singer Della; 53- \_\_\_ de menthe; 55- Lauder of cosmetics; 57- I did it!; 59- Record with a VCR; 60- Draft status; 61- Marsh growth; 64- Nine-digit ID;

## BEETLE BAILEY



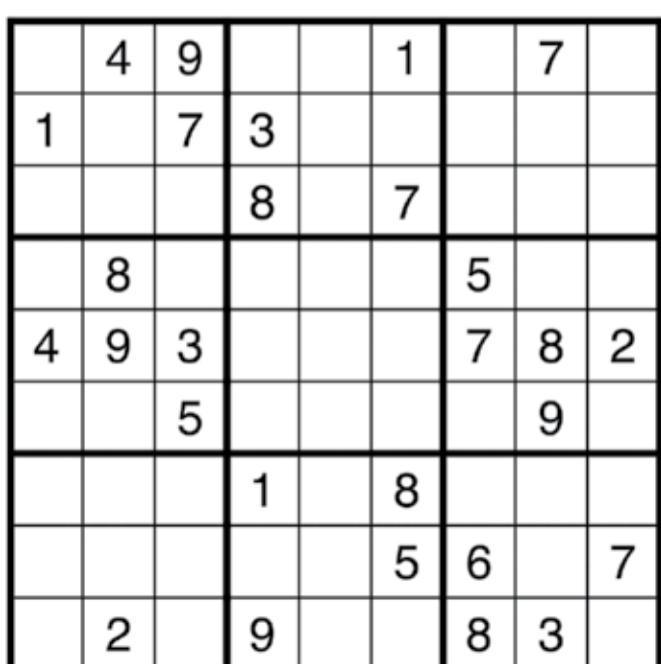
## SUDOKU

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



### How to play

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



## YOUR STAR TODAY

### Aries



Someone could be prodding you to take action today. It might be best if you beat them to it and motivate yourself. Stay a step or two ahead of the herd. Lead your own stampede and go wherever you want to go. It's quite likely that you'll run into conflict regarding issues about which you feel strongly.

### Taurus



You might experience a great deal of emotional confusion today. There's a debate brewing inside you. You're having a hard time deciding whether to pursue the practical or the fanciful. Looking to others for help could only add to the confusion, so take their advice with a grain of salt.

### Gemini



Keeping things in balance will be a challenge today. You're likely to find that there's conflict brewing that doesn't seem to want resolution. It's OK. Don't press the issue. You may find that the best solution is to escape into the clouds and come back to reality when the storm has settled.

### Cancer



Tension is likely to arise in many different areas of your life. It's possible that you're either too dreamy or too practical for the issue at hand. It's important for you to strike a balance. The toughest part will be finding people and situations that agree with you.

### Leo



Yesterday's trajectory might run into a couple of snags today. You could find that your dreamy nature conflicts with the planned and steady. This conflict of interests may be creating some tension that will be difficult to work with.

### Virgo



Try to keep yourself in line with your emotions today. It's possible that a powerful yet subtle force is slowly trying to pull you off track. If so, think about taking a break and doing some physical activity to get your blood pumping. Go for a walk with a friend to help clear your head so you can think more rationally about the decisions you need to make.

### Libra



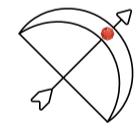
You could find that an emotional issue rubs you the wrong way today. Your tendency is to want to escape. Try to do so in a healthy manner. Go out and see a movie or read a book. Don't fall prey to the temptation to indulge in more dangerous pursuits. That would only push the problems away temporarily.

### Scorpio



Your artistic side may want to take to the airwaves in some way today. Perhaps you should consider building your own website or getting a spot on a local radio show. Your dreams need a vehicle for distribution. Give them the means to be dispersed to others.

### Sagittarius



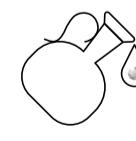
You could find that what was so light and active yesterday runs into roadblocks today. It might seem as if you're suddenly heading straight for a brick wall regarding some of your current projects. Suddenly there's a more reserved tone to things, and you may have lost a bit of your precious momentum.

### Capricorn



The pace of things is likely to slow down a bit compared to what was happening yesterday. This is probably for the best. Take this time to do some planning and stabilizing. You've ploughed forth into the fields. Now stop and assess what you've accomplished. Take things one step at a time and don't get ahead of yourself.

### Aquarius



You might find that there's a quality of dreaminess to your emotions today that keeps you from focusing on the task at hand. People are likely to be stubborn and confused, and you could be one of them. It might seem as if your mind is going in two directions and you aren't sure which way to proceed. Try to incorporate more of your dreams into your waking reality.

### Pisces



Little voices are whispering in your ear today. They could be asking you to join them in the clouds. You might get the feeling that there's a lot of tension between what your heart has to say and what your mind has to say. Don't be surprised if the energy of the day leaves you confused by the time the day ends. Don't stress about making hard decisions or commitments.

# SHOW

## Drake smashes streaming record

AFP | New York

**D**rake has smashed streaming records with his new album "Scorpion," with Apple Music and Spotify both reporting unprecedented listenership in its first day.

Apple Music said on Instagram that the Canadian hip-hop superstar's fifth studio al-

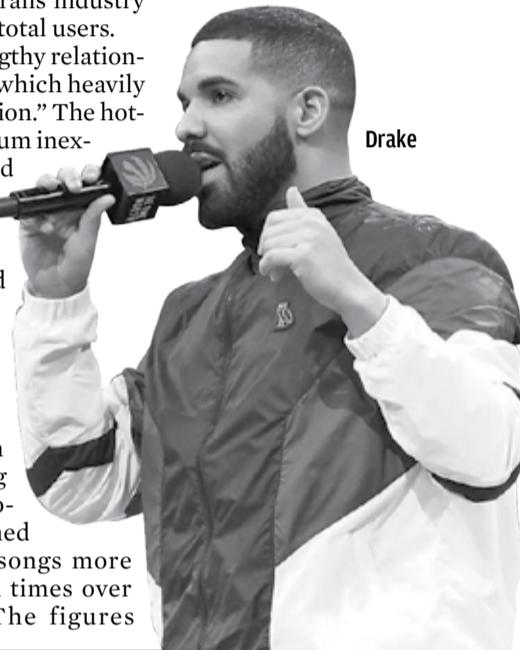
bum was streamed 170 million times in the 24 hours since its release Friday. The worldwide figure is the highest ever reported by any streaming service for an album over one day and comes even though Apple Music significantly trails industry leader Spotify in total users.

Drake has a lengthy relationship with Apple, which heavily promoted "Scorpion." The hotly anticipated album inexplicably appeared two hours late on Spotify.

But "Scorpion" also set a record on Spotify, which heavily featured the album after it went alive.

The site Spotifycharts, which tracks listening data, said that Spotify users streamed the album's 25 songs more than 132 million times over the first day. The figures

smash the previous record for one-day streaming -- rapper Post Malone's album "Bebongs and Bentleys," which was streamed just under 79 million times on Spotify on the first day of its release in April.



In 2009, Drake released his third mix tape, and the single "The Best I Ever Had" peaked at #2 on Billboard's Hot 100 Singles chart

## Brad Pitt always wanted to be a 'great dad'



Brad Pitt

PTI | Los Angeles

Hollywood star Brad Pitt is in better spirits as he is getting to spend more time with his children. The actor, 54, will soon be in London, where ex Angelina Jolie is currently filming 'Maleficent 2' to see his children for a second time in recent weeks.

The visit comes after a judge presiding over the former couple's divorce proceedings established a detailed schedule for him to spend time with Pax, 14, Zahara, 13, Shiloh, 12, and nine-year-old twins Vivienne and Knox.

"Having kids was always very special to him. He wanted kids for years before he met

Angie. He was dreaming about being a dad. And he has always been a great dad. Very involved and present. He talks about the kids non-stop now. He brought gifts back to England," a source told.

The court papers stated, "The children not having a relationship with their father is harmful to them," and that Jolie, 43, could lose full custody of the kids if she does not allow them to grow their relationships with Pitt.

Their oldest son Maddox, 16, is not included in the timetable because, according to the court, he is old enough to decide for himself how much time he wants to spend with his father.

### Krasinski will return for 'A Quiet Place' sequel



PTI | Los Angeles

Producer Andrew Form has assured that despite his scheduling commitments, director-actor John Krasinski is 'definitely involved' in 'A Quiet Place' follow-up. Form said the studio Paramount is not rushing in with a sequel and coordinate with Krasinski, who both directed and acted in the film, to fit him in the schedule.

"Oh (Krasinski is) definitely involved. We're lucky on this one. I've had movies where the studio says to you, 'Here's your date. Let's go!' and on this one we're not rushing anything, which is amazing. So we're gonna take our time, we're gonna figure out where to go, but there is no rush on it and we're just starting to talk about it. We're figuring out what everyone's involvement's gonna be and what the actual next movie's gonna be," the producer told.

'A Quiet Place' chronicles the story of a family which struggles to survive amid the invasion of blind, sound-hunting monsters.



PTI | Los Angeles

### OCEAN'S EIGHT

(PG-13) (COMEDY/CRIME) NEW  
★ SANDRA BULLOCK, CATE BLANCHETT, ANNE HATHAWAY

CINECO (20) (ATMOS): 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN DAILY AT (VIP I); 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM DAILY AT: (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SEEF (II) (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

SAAR 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM

WADI AL SAIL 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM

### SICARIO: DAY OF THE SOLDADO

(15+) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER) NEW  
★ JOSH BROLIN, BENICIO DEL TORO, ISABELA MONER

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM + (12.45 MN THURS/FRI) (VIP II): 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM

SEEF (I) 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SAAR 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

WADI AL SAIL 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM

### SANJU

(PG-15) (HINDI/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY) NEW  
★ RANBIR KAPOOR, SONAM KAPOOR, PARESH RAWAL

CINECO (20) 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 29TH: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

SAAR 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM

WADI AL SAIL 29TH: 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM

### THE ESCAPE PLAN 2: HADES

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER) NEW  
★ SYLVESTER STALLONE, DAVE BAUTISTA, XIAOMING HUANG

CINECO (20) 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN + (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM

SAAR 9.00 + 11.15 PM

WADI AL SAIL 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM

### KARMA

(PG-15) (ARABIC/DRAMA/THRILLER) NEW  
★ AMR SAAD, GHADA ABDEL RAZEK, ZEINA, SARA AL-TUNSI, KHALED AL-SAWY

CINECO (20) 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM

### SGT. STUBBY: AN AMERICAN HERO

(PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE) NEW  
★ HELENA BONHAM CARTER, LOGAN LERMAN, GERARD PARDEURIE

CINECO (20) 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 PM

SEEF (II) 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 + 4.45 PM

### HEREDITARY

(18+) (THRILLER/HORROR)

★ TONI COLLETTE, GABRIEL BYRNE, ALEX WOLFF

CINECO (20) 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM

SEEF (II) 10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 PM

### RAMPAGE

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER/SCI-FICTION)

★ DWAYNE JOHNSON, JEFFREY DEAN MORGAN, WILL YUN LEE

CINECO (20) 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 PM

### KUTTANPILLAYODE SIVARATHRI

(MALAYALAM) NEW

★ SURAJ VENJARAMOODU, ASHAMADATHIL, MITHUN

SEEF (I) 2.00 + 7.00 PM + 12.00 MN

AL HAMRA 28TH: 12.00 + 3.00 + 9.00 PM FROM FRIDAY 29TH: 3.00 + 9.00 PM

### ABRAHAMS SANTHATHIKAL

(MALAYALAM)

★ MAMMOOTTY, KANICA, TARUSHI

SEEF (I) 11.30 AM + 4.30 + 9.30 PM

AL HAMRA 6.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)

### ASURAVADHAM

(TAMIL) NEW

★ K. SASIKUMAR, NANDITHA SWETHA

AL HAMRA 29TH: 12.00 NOON

### I've always loved fashion and dressing up and having fun with that



I've always loved fashion and dressing up and having fun with that

ELLE FANNING

style -- I usually like to experiment and wear outfits that suit my mood and state of mind. I pretty much try to stay true to what seems to connect with me."

## Elle Fanning's love for fashion

IANS | Los Angeles

Actress Elle Fanning says she always had a love for fashion and dressing up.

In an interview with the Sydney Morning Herald newspaper, the 20-year-old actress said that she enjoys delving into the world of fashion, reports femalfirst.co.uk. "I've always loved fashion and dressing up and having fun with that."

However, the actress, who also appeared as a campaign model for Miu Miu, Marc by Marc Jacobs and Tiffany & Co.,

confessed she is yet to find her go-to style. She said: "I don't really have any one particular

spoke word artist, announced the news of his friend's death on Twitter. He wrote: "Smokey is gone, may our prayers follow him to heaven."

Smoke Dawg's death comes just weeks after XXXtentacion, a US rapper, was shot dead in Florida.

## Canadian rapper Smoke Dawg shot dead

IANS | Los Angeles

Canadian rapper Smoke Dawg has been shot dead here in an incident which left another man and a woman injured. Smoke was 21. "Multiple shots" were fired in the Entertainment District of the city on

Mustafa the Poet, a Canadian

# SPORTS

## sports

# Salwa Eid breaks record, wins 400-m in Paris

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Salwa Eid Naser has broken the Asian record in the women's 400 metre race during the seventh round of the Diamond League, held on Saturday in Paris.

Salwa stormed to an incredible victory in the Meeting de Paris, clocking 49.55 seconds to set a new personal best, which became a new Asian record surpassing Ma Yuqin's record of 49.81 seconds that had lasted almost 25 years. Meanwhile,

Jessica Beard led a 2-3-4 U.S., finishing in 50.39. Team USA's Phyllis Francis, the reigning world champion, was third with a time of 50.50, followed by Shakima Wimbley in 50.81.

Salwa has been in a record breaking spree, where she smashed four personal records in space of four weeks. Salwa is eying to make an unprecedented achievement for Bahrain's athletic sports, by winning the 400 m contest in the Diamond League. And she is well on track as she has 24 points in second place, behind Francis who has 27 points.



Salwa Eid cruising to victory in the 400-m race at Diamond League, in Paris

HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of West Asian Athletics Association, President of Bahrain Athletics Association, President of Bahrain Athletics Association (BAA) stressed that the

compete strongly in the Asian Games which will be held in Indonesia, in results a source of pride and give early indications of her tremendous ability to

achieve which the BAA looks forward to achieving a positive result.

## Jeremy Kennedy challenges the featherweight division



Jeremy Kennedy

TDT | Manama

Jeremy Kennedy signed with Brave Combat Federation bringing an end to his nearly two-year run in the UFC, which saw Kennedy go 3-1, bringing his overall MMA record to 11-1.

Kennedy announced that he had signed a multi-fight contract with the Bahrain based global MMA promotion. Kennedy's wrestling style has given toughest challenges for all of his opponents.

The addition of Kennedy will bring



**The move to Vegas and Xtreme Couture MMA has been the best decision made in my career to date. These poor featherweights have no idea. There is a whole new menu to choose from**

JEREMY KENNEDY

a major change to the developing featherweight division of Brave Combat Federation.

Meanwhile the promotion is aggressively signing the upcoming and top prospects ahead of the paced expansion plan throughout the year.

Kennedy had hinted his debut around August, yet it was not confirmed officially by the promotion.

## Verstappen gains

● Sebastian Vettel third and moves top of title race by one point

● Hamilton loses lead thanks to Mercedes error then has to retire

AFP | Spielberg, Austria



Red Bull's Max Verstappen celebrates

who was supported by an "Orange army" of more than 20,000 fans.

"Very hard to manage the tyres, lot of blistering, but we managed to hang on," he said. "It was amazing to win here with so many Dutch fans."

The double-retirement was a first for McLaren since the 2016 Spanish Grand Prix, which Verstappen won on his Red Bull debut after Hamilton collided with team-mate Nico Rosberg.

## Pakistan beat Zimbabwe in T20I tri-series opener

AFP | Harare

Pakistan cruised to a 74-run win yesterday over their hosts in the opening match of the Zimbabwe Twenty20 Tri-Series.

A career best 61 from opening batsman Fakhar Zaman, and a late flurry of boundaries from Asif Ali and veteran batsman Shoib Malik set up Pakistan's imposing 182 for 4.

In reply, Zimbabwe mustered just 108 all out, with the wickets shared around by Pakistan's bowling attack. Mohammad Nawaz, Usman Khan, Mohammad Hafeez and Hasan Ali

### Scorecard

**Pakistan 182 for 4 (Zaman 61, Asif 41\*, Malik 37, Chisoro 2-28) beat Zimbabwe 108 (Musakanda 43, Hafeez 2-3) by 74 runs**

picked up two apiece.

Zaman's efforts were vital to Pakistan's total. He kept Pakistan steady through the first half of their innings while Zimbabwe, having opted to bowl first, chipped away at the other end

with regular strikes.

With Mohammad Hafeez, Hussain Talat, and captain Sarfraz Ahmed all falling cheaply, Pakistan were helped by Zaman's fluent scoring at the other end, and he brought up his second T20I half century from 33 deliveries with a flick through square leg in the 13th over.

Zaman appeared settled at the crease, but two overs later he missed a heave at Chisoro and had his leg stump pegged back. By then, however, Pakistan were 121 for 4, and with just over five overs still to be bowled had set a considerable platform

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# Croatia send Denmark out

Croatia head to quarter-finals after winning 3-2 on penalties with Danijel Subasic saving three spot-kicks

**AFP** | Nizhniy Novgorod, Russia

Luka Modric.

Goalkeeper Danijel Subasic was the hero as Croatia squeezed into the World Cup quarter-finals with a penalty shoot-out victory over Denmark yesterday.

On a night of late, late drama Ivan Rakitic stroked home the decisive spotkick to ensure the Croats advanced to a last eight meeting with Russia after the two sides finished locked at 1-1 following extra-time.

The Barcelona midfielder's winner came after Milan Badelj and Josip Pivaric saw their penalties saved by Danish goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel, who also saved an extra time penalty from

But Danes Christian Eriksen, Lasse Schone and Nicolai Jorgensen were thwarted by Subasic in the shootout to ensure Croatia won 3-2 and advanced to their first quarter-finals since the 1998 World Cup in France.

The dramatic ending followed early excitement -- but little in between.

In an astonishing start to the match, both teams scored within four minutes via their first attacks.

First, Mathias Jorgensen turned home in the second minute after Croatia failed to clear a long throw-in from Jonas Knudsen, the defender's shot creeping under Subasic to give Denmark



Luka Modric of Croatia misses a penalty

the perfect start.

But any hopes they could hold onto their lead vanished within 90 seconds.

With the Nizhny Novgorod stadium still rocking from the frantic start, Croatia went up-field and promptly equalised.

Again, the goal owed more than a little to bad defending when a Sime Vrsaljko cross was hammered by Henrik Dalsgaard into fellow Dane Andreas Christensen and the ball fell obligingly in the penalty area to Mario Mandzukic who scored.

The explosive start -- both sides hit the back of the net

## What next?

Russia will face Croatia in the quarter-finals

inexorably towards extra time and penalties.

Billed as a clash between the opposing number 10s, Modric and Eriksen, it instead became increasingly attritional and tactical, with both playmakers unable to find any space.

Instead the player who created most chances was Knudsen with his long throws.

Few clear chances were created by either side until Modric's late penalty miss.

That came after Ante Rebic was fouled in the 116th minute Mathias Jorgensen, with the goal at his mercy.

### Today's matches

Brazil - Mexico (5:00 pm)  
Belgium - Japan (9:00 pm)

### Quarter final

Quarter-final match-ups

### July 6

At Nizhny Novgorod  
Uruguay v France  
At Kazan  
Brazil or Mexico v Belgium or Japan

### July 7

At Sochi  
Russia v Croatia  
At Samara  
Sweden or Switzerland v Colombia or England

CROATIA 1 1 DENMARK

Penalty shoot-out 3 2

4' Mandzukic 1' M. Jorgensen

Possession



	Shots	On target	Fouls
22	15	3	19
7	3	5	19
5	19	5	19

Modric stepped up but side-footed weakly and Schmeichel made the first of his three penalty saves on the night, all in vain, as his legendary goalkeeping father Peter punched the air in delight as he watched on in the stands.



Danijel Subasic saves in the penalty shootout, as Croatia booked their place in the quarter-finals with victory against Denmark



As the Daily Tribune World Cup 2018 Predict and Win contest is getting immense response from the football loving readers, an exact forecast of each day's matches is becoming tougher and unpredictable which adds to the excitement of the game. The winners of the past three days, Reema Farikh, Mohammed Hasan Haris and Bala Murali Krishnan, were given the gift pack sponsored by Coca Cola. The Daily Tribune readers can participate in the Predict and Win contest by filling in the contest form published in each day's TDT sports page or Website and sending it to WhatsApp 33609505 or email: mail@newsofbahrain.com

### WORLD CUP PREDICT AND WIN

Yesterday's lucky winner is Yasin. Winner will be contacted

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DAY 19, 2nd JULY 2018

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MEXICO



BELGIUM



JAPAN



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Send a photo of the filled in form to WhatsApp No. 33609505 or email: mail@newsofbahrain.com

Alternatively you can participate in the contest on our website www.newsofbahrain.com

Winner's photo will be published in The Daily Tribune.

Entry should be submitted before 2pm

# Akinfeev stars

Igor Akinfeev saved two penalties in a shootout as the hosts knocked out Spain and booked their place in the quarter-finals

AFP | Moscow

Russia captain Igor Akinfeev saved two penalties in a dramatic shootout as the World Cup hosts dumped title contenders Spain out in the last 16 following a 1-1 draw.

Veteran Russia centre-back Sergei Ignashevich gifted Spain the opening goal on 12 minutes in Moscow when he unwittingly turned into his own net after grappling with Sergio Ramos.

Russia hit back just before the interval as Artem Dzyuba nervelessly converted a penalty awarded for a handball by Gerard Pique.

Spain controlled the game as expected but struggled to create genuine chances, with Akinfeev sharp on the few occasions they did before saving from Koke and Iago Aspas to seal a 4-3 win on penalties.

"We are having a fantastic World Cup," said Akinfeev.

"Not just our fans, but the fans of other countries got a sense of this atmosphere and understood that Russians really know how to play football and want to play football."

Russia will meet either Croatia or Denmark for a place in the semi-finals, as Spain's rotten run against hosts nation at major tournaments continued.

Fernando Hierro made the bold decision to drop Andres Iniesta for Koke in central midfield, with Marco Asensio handed his first start of the competition.

Russia boss Stanislav Cherchesov left out leading scorer Denis Cheryshev, opting for three central defenders in a conservative 5-3-2 formation.

It was Nacho, in for Dani Carvajal at right-back, who won the free-kick that led to Spain taking the lead as he was caught by Yury Zhirkov to the right of the penalty area.

Sergio Ramos of Spain looks dejected

Asensio, who made two brief substitute appearances in the group stage, whipped in dangerously to the far post where the ball looped in off an unsighted Ignashevich as he tussled with Ramos.

Spain dominated the first 30 minutes, pressing Russia heavily as the hosts struggled to advance beyond the halfway line in humid conditions.

Aleksandr Golovin carved out their first chance of note, starting a move with a jinking run before bending just wide of David de Gea's left-hand post.

Isco produced a series of regal touches with Spain's King Felipe VI among those in the crowd at the Luzhniki Stadium, but Russia equalised shortly before half-time.

## Pique penalised

A deep corner was met by Dzyuba, whose header struck the outstretched arm of Pique, with referee Bjorn Kuipers contemplating his decision before pointing to the spot.

Dzyuba calmly sent De Gea the wrong with his penalty to join Cheryshev on a team-leading three goals.

Akinfeev snuffed out an opening for Diego Costa on the stroke of half-time as the Spain striker tried to latch onto a through

ball. The Russia goalkeeper was again involved early in the second half, flying to his left to pluck a spinning Jordi Alba effort from the air.

Cherchesov introduced Cheryshev for Alexander Samedov on the hour, a move greeted by a deafening roar from the home support.

Iniesta replaced David Silva, while Costa was withdrawn for Aspas, and the two substitutes went close to winning it late in regulation time.

A low 20-yard drive heading towards was palmed away by Akinfeev at full stretch, with the angled follow-up from Aspas also pushed to safety.



In four matches in his first World Cup appearance, David de Gea goes home having effected just one save in the entire tournament. Besides the penalty kicks in the shootout, there were only a total of seven shots on target at his goal through the tournament, and he conceded goals to six of them, including three to Cristiano Ronaldo

**SPAIN 1 RUSSIA 1**

12' (og) Ignashevich Dzyuba (pen) 41'

Penalty shootout 3 4

Moscow - Luzhniki Stadium  
Last 16

Referee  
Bjorn Kuipers (NED)

Possession



Shots	25	6	2
On target	9	1	1
Fouls	5	19	2

**48**

Russia are into the last eight of the World Cup for the first time in 48 years, since a quarterfinal appearance in Mexico in 1970 as Soviet Union. This was their first penalty shootout in World Cups, while for Spain this was their fourth. Only Argentina (five) have had more shootouts

## Russia make World Cup history with fourth change

Russia midfielder Aleksandr Erokhin made World Cup history. He became the first player to enter the field as the fourth substitute at Russia's World Cup clash with Spain.

With the two teams tied at 1-1 and seven minutes of extra-time played, Russia coach Stanislav Cherchesov opted to take advantage of FIFA's new ruling, which allows a fourth substitution to be made in the extra 30 minutes. Erokhin, who plays his club football for Zenit, replaced Daler Kuzyaev as Russia looked for a way to turn the tide of attacks from Fernando Hierro's men.

Hierro followed suit seven minutes after Erokhin's entrance, sending on Rodrigo Moreno for Marco Asensio.



Russia players celebrate following their side's victory in the penalty shootout

**1029**

Spain completed 1029 passes across the 120 minutes of play in their match against Russia, and also managed 1013 touches of the ball in regulation time. This was just the fourth time since 1966 that a team touched the ball over a thousand times in 90 minutes, joining Brazil (vs Italy in 1994), Spain (vs Germany in 2010) and Germany (vs Algeria in 2014)