

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa spearheads last training session in presence of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad bin Hamad Al Khalifa | P12

**Kadyrov says Russia should use low-yield nuclear weapon**



Reuters | London

Ramzan Kadyrov, head of Russia's region of Chechnya, said yesterday that Moscow should consider using a low-yield nuclear weapon in Ukraine after a major new defeat on the battlefield.

As Russia confirmed the loss of its stronghold of Lyman in eastern Ukraine, Kadyrov slammed top commanders for their failings and wrote on Telegram: "In my personal opinion, more drastic measures should be taken, right up to the declaration of martial law in the border areas and the use of low-yield nuclear weapons".

"Due to a lack of elementary military logistics, today we have abandoned several settlements and a large piece of territory," he said.

Kadyrov said that two weeks before he had raised the possibility of a defeat at Lyman with Valery Gerasimov, chief of Russia's general staff, but that Gerasimov had dismissed the idea.

After Russia's defeat in Kharkiv, Kadyrov said he would be "forced to go to the country's leadership to explain to them the situation on the ground" unless urgent changes were made in the conduct of the war.



**Derasat, Russia's ICLRC join hands** P4

**The battle is on**

Candidates to pay election nomination fees starting today

**Ministry, supervisory committees to receive fees, insurance**

**Candidacy fee is BD50 for municipal and BD200 for parliamentary election**

**Supervisory committees will receive candidates between Wednesday and Sunday**

**Final list of candidates will be announced on the 26th of this month**

TDT | Manama

The stage is set for yet another high-voltage poll battle in the Kingdom, with the authorities here welcoming aspiring candidates to make their candidacy official for the upcoming Parliamentary and Municipal Council election next month.

Starting today, candidates could file their nominations and pay their candidacy and



Representative picture

insurance fees to make their candidacy official.

Candidates for municipal council elections should pay BD50, and parliamentary seats should pay BD200 as nomination fees.

Municipal election candidates should also pay BD100 as insurance on electoral advertisements and headquarters. They, however, will get back this amount once they clear their electoral advertisements and tents after concluding campaigns.

Last year, the House of Representatives rejected a bill by the Shura Council to raise the fee for parliamentary elections from BD200 to BD400. The dep-

uties had also rejected another proposal to increase the nomination fee for municipal elections from BD50 to BD200.

Candidates vying for a seat at the 40-member national assembly may pay their nomination fees on the first floor of the Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Ministry building in the Diplomatic Area during official working hours.

"They may also pay those fees at relevant supervisory committees between October 5 and 9, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm," said Mohammed Abdulrahim Bucheeri, Assistant Undersecretary for Courts and Documentation Affairs at the Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Ministry.

Candidates for municipal election may pay their fees and insurance amounts at the offices of Muharraq Municipality, the Northern Area Municipality in A'ali, Hamad Town and Budaiya and Southern Area Municipality during working hours.

"Candidates may also pay their fees and insurance amounts at supervisory centres from Wednesday until Sunday between 5 am and 9 pm," said Mohammed Adel Abu Hassan, Assistant Undersecretary for Resources and Information at the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture.

**YOU KNOW WHAT**  
 General elections will be in Bahrain on the 12th of November 2022 using a two-round system. If there is no majority for candidates in the first round, the vote will go for a second round. Voting at Bahrain embassies, consulates and diplomatic missions abroad will take place on the 8th of November 2022 and re-run, if necessary, on the 15th of November 2022.

**Supervisory committees ready to receive candidates** P2

**Music fest begins**



The Bahrain National Theatre yesterday held the opening of the 31st Bahrain International Music Festival, with the Bahrain Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Maestro Mubarak Najem. The event was attended by Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, and a number of high-level diplomatic figures, along with a huge crowd, as the tickets were sold out three days prior to the event. This event is the first official launch of the Bahrain Philharmonic Orchestra, during the event, the Orchestra presented a number of Bahraini and Arabic masterpieces which are conducted by Maestro Mubarak Najem of international classical genres merged with the beauty of infamous Arabic tunes.

**List of eligible voters on Thursday**

TDT | Manama

The executive management of the 2022 Parliament and Municipal Council elections said they will publish the list of eligible voters on Thursday.

In this regard, the committee also rejected a report published by Akhbar Al Khaleej as 'untrue'.

The executive management affirmed the need to ensure accuracy in publishing and obtaining information on elections.

**Protesters rally across Iran in third week of unrest over Amini's death**



A police motorcycle burns during a protest

Reuters | Dubai

Protesters rallied across Iran and strikes were reported throughout the country's Kurdish region on Saturday as demonstrations against the death of a woman in police custody entered their third week.

The protests, sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old from Iranian Kurdistan, have spiralled into the biggest show of opposition to Iran's clerical authorities since 2019.

In Tehran's traditional business district of Bazaar, anti-government protesters chanted "We will be killed one by one if we don't unite", while elsewhere they blocked a main road with a fence torn from the central reservation, videos shared by the widely followed Tavsir1500 Twitter account showed.

**Elon Musk shows off humanoid robot 'Optimus'**



P9

**BAHRAIN COVID-19**

TOTAL TESTED

10382684

ACTIVE CASES

2917

DEATHS

1520

DISCHARGED

676368

NEW CASES

246

CRITICAL

1

220 fils (includes VAT)



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# Supervisory committees ready to welcome candidates, says official

Special mechanism in place for COVID-19 patients to exercise constitutional rights

TDT | Manama

Supervisory committees in all four governorates of the Kingdom are ready to receive citizens wishing to run for the upcoming Parliamentary and Municipal Council elections, announced a top election official.

Chancellor Nawaf Abdullah Hamza, the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission President, Parliamentary and Municipal Elections Executive Director, said the committees will start receiving candidates from Wednesday until Sunday.

Supervisory committees, he said, are authorised to receive nominations for the Council of Representatives and Municipal Councils.



COVID-19 patients wishing to run for the elections should contact the hotline 77277277 to book an appointment with the relevant supervisory committee, fill in the nomination form (available on vote.bh), and attach the required documents

NAWAF ABDULLA HAMZA

“Special arrangements are also in place for citizens who had contracted COVID-19 to exercise their constitutional rights,” said Chancellor Hamza.

He urged COVID-positive candidates to contact 77277277 to book an appointment with the relevant supervisory committee. “They should fill in the nom-

ination form (available on vote.bh) and file it with the required documents.

“COVID-positive candidates should also remain in their vehicles upon arrival, as a committee member will verify their identity, collect their nomination form, required documents and candidacy fee,” he added.

The Executive Director further called upon all citizens wishing to run to verify nomination requirements on www.vote.bh.

5 to 9 pm

The centres will receive nominations from 5 pm until 9 pm during the nomination period.

Khawla Secondary Girls’ School in the Capital Govern-

orate is for receiving parliamentary candidates only. Other centres are Al-Hidaya Al Khalifiya Secondary Boys’ School for the Muharraq Governorate, the Yathreb Intermediate Girls’ School for the Northern Governorate, and the Al-Mustaqbal Primary Girls’ School for the Southern Governorate.

**To publish candidates’ list on October 10**

The list of approved candidates will be published between October 10 and 12, during which potential candidates may challenge the decisions of the supervisory committees. Then, by October 15, the supervisory committees will decide on the challenges. Candidates may

challenge those decisions again at a competent court before October 18. The court will issue its decision by October 25.

Authorities will release the final list of candidates on October 26.

Chancellor Nawaf Abdullah Hamza had earlier announced receiving 14,318 applications from citizens wishing to help organise the election process. He had also said that 265,138 people had checked the voters’ list.

In another development yesterday, the Progressive Platform Society yesterday announced four candidates. Abdul Nabi Salman, Sayed Falah Hashem, Iman Choueiter and Dr Mahdi Al-Shuwaikh will fight the polls.



## Al-Asumi re-elected Arab Parliament Speaker

TDT | Manama

Adel bin Abdulrahman Al-Asumi was re-elected yesterday as the speaker of the

Arab Parliament for a second term during elections held in Cairo yesterday. Al Asumi thanked Bahrain’s leaders and Arab Parliament members.



## UPEACE grants Honorary Doctorate to Shaikha Rana

The University for Peace (UPEACE) yesterday granted Secretary General and Vice Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Higher Education Council, Shaikha Dr Rana bint Isa bin Daif Al Khalifa with an honorary doctorate. The doctorate was presented during an event held at the UN headquarters in Geneva in the presence of the UPEACE Board of Trustees Chairperson, Former Director General of UNESCO Irina Bokova, UPEACE President Dr Francisco Rojas and representatives of the diplomatic corps. Shaikha Dr Rana is the first Arab woman to receive the Honorary Doctorate and the second Arab personality after the Secretary General of the Muslim World League Dr Mohammed Abdulkarim Al-Isa, from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The honour recognises Shaikha Dr Rana’s role in supporting international diplomacy, boosting friendship and cooperation between peoples and fighting hatred.



## ONAM FEST’22 concludes with grand ‘Onasadhya’



The Indian Club Onam Fest’22 came to a successful conclusion on Friday with an ‘Onasadhya’ Feast that was enjoyed by around 2,500 people. The sumptuous banquet of 26 items was prepared by celebrity chef Ajith Kumar, specially flown in from India. Piyush Shrivastava - Indian Ambassador to Bahrain inaugurated the feast along with Steven C. Bondy (Ambassador of the United States of America), Paola Amadei (Ambassador of the Republic of Italy), Shazryll Zahiran (Ambassador of Malaysia), Abdulnabi Al Sho’ala (Former Minister & Shura Council Member), Yousif Lori (Director of Information & Follow up at the capital Governorate), Khalil Daylami (Philanthropist/ Social Worker), K.G. Baburajan (MD-QEL Holdings), Pambavasan Nair (MD-AMAD Group), Ajith Kumar (CEO - Dadabhai), Soman Baby, Prince Natarajan (Chairman of Indian School), Ijaz Ahmed of Indian Embassy & past presidents of The Indian Club. The Onam Fest’22, was a series of programmes conducted as part of ONAM Celebration, which included a musical night led by reality show artist/ playback singer Abid Anwar, Thiruvathira Competition, Natyolsavam 2022, Payasa Mela, Onappattu Competition, Onapudava Competition, Ona Chanda, Pookalam Competition, Tug of War, Musical Night performed by reality show Artist/Play Back Singer Sudheesh U. Sasikumar, Nadaswaram Fusion, Historic Mega Mohiniyattam performed by more than 100 Ladies, Musical Night led by Playback Singer Rahul Sathyanadh, Ghoshayatra competition & Nadan pattu by renowned folk singer Praseetha Chalakudy.

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Young Entrepreneur Mashroo3i

# NO END TO ELDERLY ABUSE

Negligence topped all forms of abuse faced by the elderly in the Kingdom

‘5pc of Bahraini elderly populace facing abuse’

● The study carried out by Dr Nasser S, Dr Mallala H, Dr Jadeed and Dr Taraiif

● Bahrain is one of the first Arab countries which formed a National Committee for Elderly in the year 1984

Zahra Ayaz  
TDT|Manama

Five per cent of the Kingdom's elderly population faces some or other form of abuse, according to a study carried out by geriatric researchers.

The term elderly applies to all those aged above 65 as per the global research standards.

The study carried out by Dr Nasser S, Dr Mallala H, Dr Jadeed and Dr Taraiif revealed the situation regarding elderly

**An alarmingly large segment of the elderly population (66.4pc), were involved in potentially abusive situations. For instance, 6pc of the sample do not feel comfortable with the individuals residing with them and do not trust them and 4.4pc feel that nobody wants them around**

abuse and elderly care in the Kingdom and they were published in Bahrain Medical Bulletin.

The study attains immense significance amidst the Kingdom all joining other nations in the world to mark the International Day of Older Persons yesterday.

The Kingdom of Bahrain is one of the first Arab countries which formed a National Committee for Elderly in the year 1984 to protect the rights of the elderly population. Elderly abuse is considered a violation in the Kingdom according to

Bahrain Act numbered 85 introduced in the year 2009. Those responsible for subjecting an elderly Bahraini to abuse that includes neglecting could be either fined or jailed or could face both, depending on the type of abuse.

“Majority of study subjects were literate (78pc). More than two-thirds of elderly participants were financially independent (73.6pc), with 18pc that relied on financial aid from family members, 13.9pc benefited from government aid, and less than 1pc on charity (0.7pc),” the study said.

“With regards to employment, the majority (55.3pc) of subjects were retired, 38pc unemployed with 6.8pc still actively working. The majority of the elders were currently married (71.9pc); about one-fifth were widows/widowers (22.7pc) with the majority living with spouse and children (62pc) and (7.8pc) of subjects were living with other caregivers, which includes either housemaids or other distant relatives.

“Only (3.4pc) of subjects were living alone. Among study participants (89.5pc) reported that they had at least one chronic morbidity. Of the interviewed elders, 82.4pc were physically independent of the remaining who used instrumental aids; 6.8pc needed wheelchairs to get around.”

The five types of elderly abuse acknowledged in the study were neglect, financial abuse, psychological abuse, physical abuse and sexual abuse. Neglect topped the chart with 21pc males and 8pc of females belonging to the

sampling group reporting it. It was followed by financial abuse (17pc), psychological abuse (15pc) and physical abuse (3pc). There were no complaints of sexual abuse by any of the study subjects.

“An alarmingly large segment of the elderly population (66.4pc), were involved in po-

tentially abusive situations. For instance, 6pc of the sample do not feel comfortable with the individuals residing with them and do not trust them and 4.4pc feel that nobody wants them around.

“Health care providers should be alert to these situations as they might not be overt abuse cases, but it could potentiate future abuse. It should be viewed as a spectrum of personal violation of rights,” the study noted.

The International Day for Older Persons was marked under the theme ‘Elderly women's resilience and contributions’ yesterday, highlighting the contributions of elderly women and the challenges they face.

As the number of older people increases, the Kingdom is keener to take care of the elderly and provide for all their needs. The International Day of Older Persons is celebrated annually which highlights the contributions older people make to society and raises awareness of the opportunities and challenges in today's world.



The five types of elderly abuse acknowledged in the study were neglect, financial abuse, psychological abuse, physical abuse and sexual abuse.

## Top court acquits man accused of stealing from abandoned property

TDT | Manama

A man convicted of stealing from the premises of Jaafari Endowments and serving a jail term was acquitted of his crime a the Court of Appeal, citing inconclusive evidence.

The Court ordered to reduce his prison terms from one year to three months, retaining the charges of illegally entering the premises.

The incident leading to the case occurred seven years ago at a property belonging to Jaafari Endowments on Budaiya Street.

Lawyer Abdulaziz Musa, who appeared for the defendant, told the Court that his client had entered and stayed

overnight at the said property as it was abandoned and deserted.

Stealing was not his intention, as at that time, he was wanted and was looking for a safe place to sleep.

The Court also viewed that there was no concrete evidence to prove that the man had committed the crime of theft or took part in it. Citing his presence on the property does not prove that he had committed the crime.

The Court of First Instance had passed the judgement accepting DNA samples of the suspect found on several objects at the property and fingerprints found from a mirror frame inside the building that matched the suspect.

## Appeals court cuts jail terms in 2012 Al-Dhafiri bombing case

A convict who was a minor granted 7 years instead of life

TDT | Manama

The Supreme Court of Appeal reduced the prison terms awarded to a convict in the 2012 Al-Dhafiri bombing case from life to seven years, considering that the suspect was below 18 years of age at the time of the incident.

The Court had jailed him in connection with the murder of Ahmed Salem Al-Dhafiri by detonating a shell planted inside a car tire on the street in April 2012. Judges said they are reducing the jail term of the suspect as per Article 30 of Law No.



4 of the year 2021 concerning restorative justice for children and their protection from maltreatment.

The Court also considered reports of two social psychological experts that the convict is aware of the gravity of the crime and is neither aggressive nor violent in his behaviour. The report also indicated that the convict has

no hatred of society or desire for anti-social behaviour in future.

The incidents leading to the case occurred in April 2012 when a group of men, including the defendant, blocked the main streets with tires. They also put a shell in one of the tires before setting them on fire.

The shell exploded when the victims tried to remove them from the road.

The blast inflicted severe burns on one of the victims, who was rushed to a hospital and later taken abroad for treatment but succumbed to his wounds. According to forensic doctors,

the death was due to first-degree burns that caused cessation of blood and respiratory circulation and injuries on the face, upper arm and shoulder where skin peeled off.

Public Prosecution soon took over the investigation and charged six people with crimes of terrorism.

The First High Criminal Court charged the suspects with premeditated murder, possession and use of explosive devices for a terrorist purpose.

The Court accepted the confessions of the defendants as evidence against them.

**CAPTAINS CORNER**

**Papal visit is vote for Bahrain's harmony**



**CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD**

The visit of Pope Francis to the Kingdom of Bahrain is a great vote of approval for His Majesty's work to promote global peace and harmony and the country's track record of inter-faith tolerance.

Indeed, all eyes in the region are trained on Bahrain for this historic visit and there will be a great influx of visitors who will come to seek the blessing of a Papal public audience during that time.

**Many people in the other GCC countries have expressed delighted surprise at the visit and one question on everybody's mind (if not openly expressed) is: Why Bahrain? How did the country with the smallest land mass secure such a singular honour?**



Many people in the other GCC countries have expressed delighted surprise at the visit and one question on everybody's mind (if not openly expressed) is: Why Bahrain? How did the country with the smallest land mass secure such a singular honour?

This is not the first time that people have asked this question – I recall that when Indian Guru Sri Sri Ravishankar visited the Kingdom too in 2014, it was his first to a GCC country, and people who were part of Art of Living in Dubai and Muscat wondered how he happened to choose the Kingdom.

I think it is all about the consistency of our message. Whether it is about allowing residents to practice their faith openly and freely or the Royal gift of plots of land to build churches and temples, Bahrain has kept its doors and heart open to the world.

In a global scenario which often seems on edge because of fighting, Bahrain offers the balm of measured peace and calm. It is this which brings success to the Kingdom when it comes to leaders of global faith and spirituality blessing us with their presence.

As a Bahraini, I am proud of my leaders who have created this haven of security and harmony for us all.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

**Derasat, Russia's ICLRC join hands**

● Focus on enhancing research cooperation, exchanging publications, and organizing joint events

TDI | Manama

The Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International and Comparative Law Research Centre in Moscow, as part of Derasat's efforts to expand its research partnerships with various think tanks around the world.

The agreement was signed on the sidelines of Derasat's delegation's participation in the 2022 Ecumene Global Financial Forum held from 28 to 30 September. The agreement was jointly signed by Derasat Executive Director Dr Hamad Ebrahim Al-Abdulla and ICLRC Director General Dr Ekaterina Salugina-Sorokovaya. Present during the signing ceremony were Shaikha Nayla bint Ali Al-Khalifa, Director of Communications and Knowledge Management, and Ejlal Essa Bubshait, Director of Opinion Polls and Surveys at Derasat.

The agreement confirmed both centres' keen focus on enhancing research cooperation, exchanging publications, and organizing joint events and seminars on various issues and areas of common interest.

The Ecumene Forum attended by the Derasat delegation discussed several topics, among which were climate change, the economics of biodiversity, sustainable development for cities and the world, women's role in advancing sustainable development, continuous education, and other important matters.



**Bhavans-Bahrain Indian School**



Bhavans-Bahrain Indian School celebrated the 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi with a variety of activities. Kindergarteners came dressed in tricolour attires and share the preaching's of Mahatma Gandhi through videos and stories. Students of Grade I used art paper and white tissues to carve the image of Mahatma Gandhi. Grade II made charkha with ice cream sticks. Grades III to V students made posters and presented quotes and slogans of Gandhiji. A special assembly highlighting the life and important contributions of Mahatma Gandhi was presented by students of Grade VII. Directors Himanshu Verma and Ritu Verma and Principal Saji Jacob congratulated the students.



**New Horizon School**



The New Horizon School celebrated the birthday of 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the 116th birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri on 2nd October 2022. On the occasion, students took part in a special assembly and sang the bhajans of Mahatma Gandhi. Students also came dressed like Gandhiji and Lal Bahadur Shastri and presented a dance performance. A portrait drawing and quote contest of Gandhiji was also held. Vice Principal, Vandana Sateesh urged students to follow the principles of Gandhiji in their life.

**BeBot 4 clean shores**



Eco-friendly robots to clean coastlines across Kingdom

**Zahra Ayaz**  
TDI | Manama

Serial Cleaners has introduced innovative robots called BeBot, which are dedicated to combating marine pollution that is deteriorating the Kingdom's coastlines as plastic waste has become a major concern.

Their slo-

gan is "Stop wandering and start cleaning," and the entire project is dedicated to collecting trash from the coastlines with the help of an innovative team.

Speaking to the *Daily Tribune*, Mr Ebrahim Sajjad,

Founder of Sea Remediation and Waste Management said, "I got sick and tired of seeing the cigarette buds, plastics bags and disposal items whether it was on streets or on the coastlines, I wanted to make a change so I decided to find the solution."

"What makes BeBot special is that it is

still the only environmentally friendly robot and concentrates on attempting to find a solution on genuinely cleaning the sand.

"And the main key point of BeBot is entirely electric, protecting the beach from problems with erosion," he continued.

"People around will be able to take accurate measurements and be aware of the type of pollution that they are surrounded by."

Recently, the government agencies have been putting in their best efforts to promote plastic alternatives as part of a bid to implement pro-environment measures,

according to a senior government official.

Shaikh Hamad bin Salman Al Khalifa, Assistant Undersecretary within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, said a comprehensive study is ongoing regarding the introduction of alternative products to plastic bags in the longer run.

The official's comment comes in light of the Kingdom banning single-use plastic bags having thickness of less than 35 microns since September 18.

To know more, follow the links: Facebook link - <https://fb.watch/frULkzIXmC/>; YouTube link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vzr-Gx-daDIM&t=24s>.



# Eskan Bank, NBB in deal for new housing finance

TDT | Manama

Eskan Bank has signed an agreement with the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) to finance eligible citizens for the new Housing Financing schemes.

The signing ceremony took place at Eskan Bank in the presence of Dr Khalid Abdulla, the General Manager of Eskan Bank and Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive - Retail Banking at NBB, alongside executives from both entities.

The agreement will include financing options for citizens who would like to benefit from the new housing financing schemes, which include, "Tas'heel" which features three financing options - 'Tas'heel Aqari', 'Tas'heel Al Bait Al Oud', and 'Tas'heel Ta'awon', as well as the new category of "Mazaya" along with the previous version one. Dr Khalid Abdulla, General Manager of Eskan Bank, said: "Through our collaboration with the various private sector and financial institutions in the Kingdom, we are able to provide



Eskan Bank and NBB officials during the deal signing

a variety of housing options to fit the needs of different segments of our beneficiaries."

Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive Retail Bank-

ing at NBB, said: "Both Tas'heel and Mazaya finances are key contributors to our sustainable financing portfolio, and in-line with our ESG commitments.

Our team are well prepared to extend financial advisory services to prospective clients who will make use of the recently launched schemes."



Minister of Oil and Environment, Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, Dr Mohamed bin Mubarak bin Daina, met the Minister at the Cabinet Office and President of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 26), Alok Sharma, during his visit to the United Kingdom. Dr Bin Daina highlighted the Kingdom's wide-ranging efforts to achieve Net-Zero emissions by 2060 and a 30% drop in carbon emissions by 2035 through decarbonisation and efficiency initiatives that include the doubling of afforestation project, quadrupling of mangrove trees, doubling of renewable energy targets, increasing energy efficiency and direct investment in carbon capture technologies.

## BisB names Yaser Alsharifi as CEO

Yaser Alsharifi, CEO and Dr Esam Abdulla Fakhro, Chairman  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) has appointed Yaser Alsharifi as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bank, starting Saturday. The appointment follows the retirement of Hassan Jarrar the former CEO after seven years of service.

Dr Esam Abdulla Fakhro, Chairman of the Board of Directors of BisB, said, "To begin with, we'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to Hassan Jarrar, the former CEO of the Bank, for his distinguished leadership and years of service during the latest phase of the Bank's journey. We also commend his instrumental role in effectively paving the way for the Bank's transformation and securing pivotal milestone achievements, which have contributed

to cementing BisB's reputation as one of the leading banks in the Kingdom, and we wish him continued success in his future."

Dr Esam Abdulla Fakhro added, "We are confident that Alsharifi will drive BisB's transformation journey and contribute to enhancing its growth and progress in the sector. With this new phase in BisB's journey headed by Yaser Alsharifi, we look forward to the continuous support of the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) to maintain the momentum of transformation and development."

Yaser Alsharifi has over 25 years of experience in financial services across the GCC, Europe and the US, with past senior executive roles at the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) and Al Rajhi Holdings.

## S&P cuts UK rating outlook after tax cut plan

Reuters | London

Ratings agency Standard & Poor's cut the outlook for its AA credit rating for British sovereign debt on Friday to "negative" from "stable" as it judged Prime Minister Liz Truss's tax cut plans would cause debt to keep rising.

Finance minister Kwasi Kwarteng announced around 45 billion pounds (\$50 billion) of permanent, unfunded tax cuts on Sept. 23 as well as costly temporary subsidies to household and business energy bills, sending sterling and bond markets into a tailspin.

S&P forecast Britain would enter a technical recession in the coming quarters and its GDP would shrink by 0.5% in 2023.

## India enforcement body says \$682 m block on Xiaomi's bank assets upheld

Reuters | New Delhi

An Indian appellate authority has confirmed a seizure order against Chinese smartphone maker Xiaomi Corp (1810.HK) that froze \$682 million in an investigation related to illegal remittances to foreign entities, authorities said on Friday.

India's federal financial crime fighting agency, the Enforcement Directorate, seized 55.51 billion rupees in April, saying a probe found the company had made illegal remittances to foreign entities by passing them off as royalty payments.

"Under the cover of various unrelated documentary facade created amongst the group entities, the company remitted this amount in guise of royalty abroad," which violated India's



People look at a Xiaomi glass-screen during GSMA's 2022 Mobile World Congress (MWC), in Barcelona, Spain

foreign exchange laws, the agency said on Friday.

The decision was "the highest amount of seizure order in India which has been confirmed by the authority," it added.

Xiaomi did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the ruling by the body known as the Competent Authority under the country's foreign exchange laws.



Banagas, Tawseah hold board meeting



The Bahrain National Gas Company (Banagas) and the Bahrain National Gas Expansion Company (Tawseah) held their third Board of Directors Meetings. The meetings were chaired by Mark Thomas, Group Chief Executive Officer of the Oil and Gas Holding Company (nogaholding) and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Banagas and Tawseah in the presence of Board Members from both companies. Thomas thanks Bahrain's leaders and commended Banagas and Tawseah on their efforts to elevate this vital sector, in line with the Kingdom's Economic Vision 2030. The Board of Directors discussed the 2023 budget, 2022 financial forecast, cash management activities, and key initiatives aimed at improving the work environment and operational performance.

## News in brief

### Gunfire and confusion hit Burkina Faso capital day after coup



Gunfire was heard in Burkina Faso's capital yesterday a day after President Paul-Henri Damiba was declared ousted in the second coup the West African country has seen this year. Amid reports of rifts within the army, there was no update from self-declared leader Captain Ibrahim Traore, who was installed by the same group of army officers who helped Damiba seize power in a Jan. 24 coup. "I have nothing to say," Damiba's government spokesperson Lionel Bilgo said in response to a request for comment. A foreign security source in Ouagadougou said there were reports of gunfire in several parts of the city as a result of forces loyal to Damiba clashing with those supporting Traore.

### A Tanzanian doctor working in Uganda who contracted Ebola has died, the first health worker killed by the disease in the latest outbreak in the country, Uganda's health minister said yesterday.

### Ebola kills doctor in Uganda, first health worker killed in latest outbreak

"I regret to announce that we have lost our first doctor, Dr. Mohammed Ali, a Tanzanian national, 37-year-old Male," the health minister, Jane Ruth Aceng, tweeted. She said Ali had tested positive for Ebola on Sept. 26 and died while receiving treatment at a hospital in Fort Portal, a town about 300 kilometres west of the capital Kampala.



### Antonio Inoki, Japanese pro-wrestler politician with N.Korea ties, dies



Antonio Inoki, a Japanese professional wrestling star turned politician, widely known for his match with Muhammad Ali and ties to North Korea, has died aged 79, after years of battling a rare disease, the company he founded said yesterday. "New Japan Pro-Wrestling is deeply saddened at the passing of our founder, Antonio Inoki," the company he started in

1972 posted on Twitter. "His achievements, both in professional wrestling and the global community are without parallel and will never be forgotten." The lantern-jawed, 1.9-metre (6-foot-three-inch) performer entered politics, winning a seat in the upper house of Japan's parliament in 1989. He made headlines the next year going to Iraq during the Gulf War and intervening on behalf of Japanese hostages, who were subsequently released.

### Nicaragua suspended diplomatic ties with the Netherlands, according to a statement published by the Central American country's foreign ministry.

### Nicaragua cuts diplomatic ties with Netherlands

The Nicaraguan government took the decision because the "interventionist and neo-colonial" European country had "offended and keeps offending Nicaraguan families," the statement said. Earlier this week, Nicaraguan officials declared the European Union ambassador "persona non grata" and also said that the country would not accept the new U.S. ambassador, fueling tensions between President Daniel Ortega and the international community.



## COVID-19: Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	Total deaths
1 USA	98,232,353	1,084,803
2 India	44,592,289	528,655
3 France	35,437,807	155,112
4 Brazil	34,715,149	686,097
5 Germany	33,386,229	150,064
6 S. Korea	24,796,014	28,445
7 UK	23,672,855	190,317
8 Italy	22,500,346	177,130
9 Japan	21,301,280	44,894
10 Russia	21,018,942	387,372
11 Turkey	16,873,793	101,139
12 Spain	13,422,984	114,179
13 Vietnam	11,480,028	43,149
14 Australia	10,239,653	15,221

### Global tally

623,169,301

### Deaths

6,549,730

### Recovered:

602,878,080

### New cases

+264,408

### New deaths

+518

Figures as of closing

## Middle East

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	515,645		24,613		442,182	48,850
Saudi Arabia	816,575	+77	9,353	+1	803,694	3,528
UAE	1,027,502		2,345		1,006,731	18,426
Kuwait	658,520		2,563		655,316	641
Oman	397,993		4,260		384,669	9,064
Qatar	451,168		682		444,174	6,312

# Florida, Carolinas count the cost of Hurricane Ian

Reuters | Fort Myers

Florida, North and South Carolina faced a massive clean-up yesterday from the destruction wrought by Hurricane Ian, after one of the most powerful storms ever to hit the U.S. mainland caused tens of billions of dollars in damage and killed dozens.

New images from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration showed several beach cottages and a motel building that lined the shores of Florida's Sanibel Island were wiped away by Ian's storm surge. Even though most homes were still standing, they appeared to have roof damage, the images showed.

Ian, now a post-tropical cyclone, continued to weaken yesterday morning but is still forecast to bring treacherous conditions to parts of the Central Appalachians and Mid-Atlantic, according to the National Hurricane Center, which added that flood watches were in effect across southwest Virginia and southern West Virginia.

"Major to record river flooding will continue across central Florida through next week. Limited flash, urban and small stream flooding is possible across the central Appalachians and the southern Mid-Atlantic this weekend, with minor river flooding expected over the coastal Carolinas," it said.

The storm struck Florida's Gulf Coast on Wednesday, turning beach towns into disaster areas. On Friday, it pummeled waterfront Georgetown, north of the historic city of Charleston in South Carolina, with wind speeds of 85 mph (140 kph).

Roads were flooded and blocked by trees while a num-



A destroyed gas station is seen after Hurricane Ian caused widespread destruction in Fort Myers, Florida

## YOU KNOW WHAT

Insurers braced for a hit of between \$28 billion and \$47 billion, in what could be the costliest Florida storm since Hurricane Andrew in 1992

"We're just beginning to see the scale of that destruction. It's likely to rank among the worst ... in the nation's history"

US PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN

ber of piers were damaged.

Over 1.6 million homes and businesses were without power in the Carolinas, Virginia and Florida at 11:00 am ET (1500 GMT) yesterday, according to tracking website PowerOutage.us.

Both the number of casualties and repair costs remain unclear, but the extent of the damage was becoming apparent as Florida entered its third day after Ian first hit.

There were at least 35 deaths in Florida's Lee County alone

that were attributable to the hurricane, the county sheriff's office said in a Facebook Post yesterday morning. Many of the deceased across Florida were elderly citizens, including a 92-year-old man, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement said earlier.

Thousands of people were still unaccounted for, officials said, but many of them were likely in shelters or without power.

"Those older homes that just aren't as strong built, they got washed into the sea," Governor Ron DeSantis said on Friday.

"If you are hunkering down in that, that is something that I think would be very difficult to be survivable."

## Afghan women protest Hazara 'genocide' after Kabul bombing

AFP | Kabul

Dozens of women from Afghanistan's minority Hazara community protested in the capital yesterday after a suicide bombing a day earlier killed 20 people -- mostly young women from the ethnic group.

A bomber blew himself up on Friday at a Kabul study hall as hundreds of pupils were taking tests in preparation for university entrance exams in the city's Dasht-e-Barchi area.



Afghan women display placards and chant slogans during a protest

The western neighbourhood is a predominantly Shiite Muslim enclave and home to the minority Hazara community -- a historically oppressed group that has been targeted in some of Afghanistan's most brutal attacks in recent years.

Police said at least 20 people were killed but the United Nations has put the number at 24.

Yesterday about 50 women chanted, "Stop Hazara genocide, it's not a crime to be a Shiite", as they marched past a hospital in Dasht-e-Barchi where several victims of the

attack were being treated.

Dressed in black hijabs and headscarves, angry protesters carried banners that read: "Stop killing Hazaras", an AFP correspondent reported.

Witnesses have told AFP that the suicide attacker detonated in the women's section of the gender-segregated hall.

"Yesterday's attack was against the Hazaras and Hazara girls," protester Farzana Ahmadi, 19, said.

"We demand a stop to this genocide. We staged the protest to demand our rights."

# Russia

Russian forces withdraw

## Lyman is key logistics hub in eastern Donetsk region

Reuters | Kyiv

After being encircled by Ukrainian forces, Russia pulled troops out yesterday from an eastern Ukrainian city that it had been using as a front-line hub. It was the latest victory for the Ukrainian counteroffensive that has humiliated and angered the Kremlin.

Russia's withdrawal from Lyman complicates its internationally vilified move to annex four regions of Ukraine and paves the way for Ukrainian troops to potentially push further into land that Moscow now illegally claims as its own.

The fighting comes at a pivotal moment in Russian President Vladimir Putin's war. Facing Ukrainian gains on the battlefield -- which he frames as a US-orchestrated effort to destroy Russia -- Putin this week heightened his threats of nuclear force and used his most aggressive, anti-Western rhetoric to date.

Russia's Defense Ministry claimed to have inflicted damage on Ukrainian forces in battling to hold onto Lyman, but said outnumbered Russian troops were withdrawn to more favorable positions. The Russian announcement came soon after Ukraine's air force said it had moved into Lyman and the Ukrainian president's chief of staff posted photos of a Ukrainian flag being hoisted on the town's outskirts.

Lyman, a key transport hub, had been an important node in the Russian front line for both

## One dead, dozens earthquake hits Indonesia

Reuters | Jakarta

A 5.9-magnitude earthquake hit Indonesia's Sumatra island early yesterday, according to the US Geological Survey, killing at least one person and injuring dozens as locals rushed out of buildings seeking safety.

The quake hit at a relatively shallow depth of 13 kilometers (eight miles) just before 2:30 am (1930 GMT), about 40 kilometers from the town of Sibolga in North Sumatra province, according to the USGS.

A man in his 50s died from a heart attack triggered by the quake and at least 25 other people were injured, regional disaster mitigation agency official Febrina Tampubolon said.

Authorities are still gathering reports on damage but electricity poles and telecommunication towers have been hit, knocking out services, said Tampubolon.

More than 50 aftershocks were recorded by the Indonesian Meteorology and Geophysics Agency.

BMKG head Dwikorita Karnawati advised residents to watch for further tremors and urged people to seek shelter on safe ground.



The Taliban regard the Hazara community as heathens, and rights groups often accused the Islamists of targeting them during their 20-year insurgency against the former US-backed government

Sultan Saladin captures Jerusalem from Crusaders

King Henry VII of England invades France



George Washington transmits the proposed Constitutional amendments (The United States Bill of Rights) to the States for ratification

"Prelature of the Holy Cross and the Work of God", known as Opus Dei, founded by Saint Josemaría Escrivá

# Russia abandons Ukrainian bastion

Evacuees leave Lyman in eastern Ukraine to avoid being surrounded by Ukraine's army



Local residents cross the Donets river next to a destroyed bridge in Staryi Saltiv, east of Kharkiv



Russia has used Lyman as a logistics and transport hub for its operations in the north of the Donetsk region. Its fall would be Ukraine's biggest battlefield gain since a lightning counteroffensive in the northeastern Kharkiv region last month



Ukrainian soldiers training in the Chernihiv region



Lyman is important because it is the next step towards the liberation of the Ukrainian Donbas. It is an opportunity to go further to Kreminna and Sievierodonetsk, and it is psychologically very important

SERHII CHEREVATYI, SPOKESPERSON FOR UKRAINE'S EASTERN FORCES

ground communications and logistics. Located 160 kilometers (100 miles) southeast of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, Lyman is in the Donetsk region near the border with Luhansk region, both of which Russia annexed Friday after an "referendum vote" was held at gunpoint.

Ukrainian forces have retaken vast swathes of territory in a counteroffensive that started in September which saw them push Russian forces out of the Kharkiv area and move east across the Oskil River toward Lyman and

other strategic points.

Meanwhile, Russian bombardments have intensified in recent days as Moscow moved swiftly with the annexation and ordered a mass mobilization at home to bolster its forces.

In the northeast, Ukrainian officials accused Russian forces of attacking a civilian evacuation convoy, killing 20 people including children. In the south, Ukraine's nuclear power provider said yesterday that Russian forces blindfolded and detained the head of Europe's largest nuclear plant.

Despite Putin's land-grab Friday of four regions, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and his military have vowed to keep on fighting to liberate the annexed regions and other Russian-occupied areas.

Ukrainian authorities yesterday accused Russian forces of targeting two humanitarian convoys in recent days, killing dozens of civilians.

The governor of the Kharkiv region, Oleh Syniehubov, said 24 civilians were killed in an attack earlier this week on a convoy of people trying to flee the Kupi-

ansk district, calling it "cruelty that can't be justified." He said 13 children and a pregnant woman were among the dead.

"The Russians fired at civilians almost at point-blank range," Syniehubov wrote on the messaging app Telegram.

The Security Service of Ukraine, the secret police force known by the acronym SBU, posted photographs of the attacked convoy. At least one truck appeared to have been blown up, with burned corpses in what remained of its truck bed. Another vehicle at the front of the convoy also had been ablaze. Bodies lay on the side of the road or still inside their vehicles, which appeared pockmarked with bullet holes.

Russia's Defense Ministry said its rockets destroyed Ukrainian military targets in the area, but has not commented on accusations that it targeted fleeing civilians. Russian troops have retreated from much of the Kharkiv region amid the successful Ukrainian

counteroffensive but have continued to shell the area.

In an apparent attempt to secure Moscow's hold on the newly annexed territory, Russian forces seized the director-general of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, Ihor Murashov, around 4 p.m. Friday, according to the Ukrainian state nuclear company Energoatom. That was just hours after Putin signed treaties to absorb Moscow-controlled Ukrainian territory into Russia, including the area around the nuclear plant.

Energoatom said Russian troops stopped Murashov's car, blindfolded him and then took him to an undisclosed location.

Russia did not publicly comment on the report. The International Atomic Energy Agency said yesterday that Russia told it that "the director-general of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant was temporarily detained to answer questions." The Vienna-based agency did not immediately elaborate.

The power plant repeatedly has been caught in the crossfire of the war. Ukrainian technicians continued running it after Russian troops seized the power station,

and its last reactor was shut down in September as a precautionary measure amid ongoing shelling nearby.

In its heaviest barrage in weeks, Russia's military on Friday pounded Ukrainian cities with missiles, rockets and suicide drones, with one strike in the Zaporizhzhia region's capital killing 30 people and wounding 88.

In its daily briefing yesterday, the British Defense Ministry said the Russians "almost certainly" struck a humanitarian convoy there with S-300 anti-aircraft missiles. Russian-installed officials in Zaporizhzhia blamed Ukrainian forces, but gave no evidence.

In other fighting reported yesterday, four people were killed and six wounded by Russian shelling Friday in the Donetsk region, governor Pavlo Kyrylenko reported.

The Russian army struck the southern Ukrainian city of Mykolaiv twice overnight, once with drones and the second time with missiles, according to regional Gov. Vitaliy Kim. Five people were injured, including a 3-month-old baby, he said.

## Injured after Indonesia's Sumatra



Medical workers treating a survivor injured by falling debris

More than 50 aftershocks were recorded by the Indonesian Meteorology and Geophysics Agency

"For those whose houses were damaged, it is advised to not stay inside as possible aftershocks could worsen the damage," Karnawati said in a virtual press conference.

Aftershocks could also trigger landslides, she added.

Indonesia experiences frequent earthquakes due to its position on the Pacific "Ring of Fire", an arc of intense seismic activity where tectonic plates collide.

## North Korea fires fourth missile in a week as South flexes military muscle

Reuters | Seoul

North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles toward the sea off its east coast yesterday, hours before South Korea staged a large military show, displaying stealth fighters and its own missiles.

Pyongyang's fourth launch in a week comes amid a flurry of military muscle-flexing by countries in the region, including joint anti-submarine exercises on Friday by the navies of South Korea, the United States and Japan.

US Vice President Kamala Harris visited the region this week, meeting with South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol in Seoul on Thursday.

The rival Koreas are in a regional arms race that has seen a major increase of weapons and military spending.

Marking South Korea's 74th Armed Forces Day, Yoon condemned what he called recent military provocations by the North and vowed to strength-



South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol salutes as he inspects honor guard during the 74th anniversary of Armed Forces Day

The North has completed preparations for a nuclear test, a window which could open between China's Communist Party Congress this month and US mid-term elections in November



The government will further strengthen the Korea-U.S. joint exercises, will respond strongly to North Korean provocations and threats by showing them the 'Alliance in Action'

SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT YOON SUK-YEOL

multiple rocket launchers, ballistic missiles, main battle tanks, drones and F-35 fighter aircraft, among other systems.

The US military demonstrated fighter jets and attack aircraft. Images of the event showed Yoon saluting from the back of a convertible car while driving by rows of tanks and other weapons.

He has said his country's conventional weapons are key to deterring the North, and Seoul has also been seeking more major arms sales around the world.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



Half of all climate finance must go to adaptation & resilience, to protect people & economies. Unless funds are disbursed now, climate tragedies will multiply, with devastating consequences for years to come.

@antonioгутerres

02



We're beginning to see the scale of the devastation in Florida which is likely to rank among the worst in the nation's history. Our hearts break for the folks whose lives have been devastated by this storm. We are with you. And we'll stay at it for as long as it takes.

@POTUS

03



Happy International Day of Older Persons! On this day and every day, @WHO and @UNDecadeAgeing partners call on all countries to ensure older people receive the opportunities, respect and care they deserve. Let's commit to #HealthyAgeing for all!

@DrTedros

04



Europe has everything it needs to break free from Russian fossil fuels. The inauguration of the Bulgaria-Greece interconnector is a game changer. Together, let's shape a strong and resilient energy Union.

@vonderleyen

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

# Classifieds



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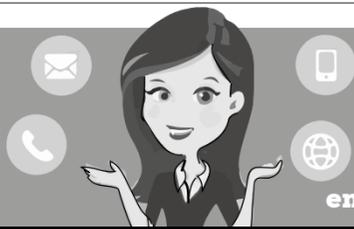
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## Flag raisings and burnings in Taiwan as some mark China's national day

Reuters | Taipei

Two small Taiwanese groups at far ends of the debate over relations with Beijing marked China's national day yesterday with flag raisings and flag burnings, very opposite responses at a time of rising tension over the Taiwan Strait.

Oct. 1 marks when Mao Zedong proclaimed the People's Republic of China in 1949, with the defeated Republic of China government fleeing to Taiwan at the end of that year and where it remains to this day, neither recognising the other.

China's national day is not officially marked in any way in democratically-governed Taiwan, which celebrates its national day, the founding of the Republic of China, on Oct. 10.

But some small groups in Taiwan do mark China's national day, with either pride at being Chinese or fury at Beijing's threats against the island, especially after China staged war games near Taiwan in August.

In a rural part of Tainan in the south, the Taiwan People's Communist Party gathered



People attend the flag rising ceremony to celebrate China's national day at the base of the Taiwan People's Communist Party in Tainan, Taiwan

about 200 people, mostly elderly, to sing China's national anthem and raise the country's flag on what the party referred to in a news release as "a sacred part of China's territory".

Lin Te-wang, the chairman of the party which has no elected officials and is very fringe, told Reuters that China was no threat, despite the recent war games which were condemned by all of Taiwan's mainstream parties.

"Military exercises are good for Taiwan because they show

the majesty of China's military force internationally," Lin, 67, said.

At the other end of the spectrum, the pro-independence Taiwan Statebuilding Party burned a Chinese flag yesterday on a boat off Taiwan's south coast in an area of the sea where China staged its August drills, shouting slogans including "protect Taiwan to the death".

Party Chairman Chen Yi-chi told Reuters on the boat in the Taiwan Strait that burning the flag was not provocative.



In a rural part of Tainan in the south, the Taiwan People's Communist Party gathered about 200 people, mostly elderly, to sing China's national anthem and raise the country's flag on what the party referred to in a news release as "a sacred part of China's territory"

"How can burning the flag be extreme? If you want to show your resistance to defending Taiwan now, if burning the flag is extreme, what will you do when the artillery fire comes?"

The party lost its only member of parliament last year after he was voted out in a recall election.

## Elon Musk shows off humanoid robot 'Optimus'



Reuters | San Francisco

Tesla CEO Elon Musk showed off on Friday a prototype of its humanoid robot 'Optimus', predicting the electric vehicle maker would be able to produce millions and sell them for under \$20,000 - less than a third of the price of a Model Y.



Musk said he expected Tesla would be ready to take orders for the robot in three to five years, and described an effort to develop the product over a decade or more, the most detailed vision he has provided to date on a business he has said could be bigger than Tesla's EV revenue.

Tesla's push to design and build mass-market robots that would also be tested by working jobs in its factories sets it apart from other manufacturers that have experimented with humanoid robots. The eagerly awaited reveal of prototype robots at Tesla's office in Palo Alto, California was also part of what Musk has described as an effort to have Tesla seen as a leader in fields like artificial intelligence, not just a company that makes "cool cars."

An experimental test robot that Tesla said was developed in February walked out to wave at the crowd on Friday, and Tesla showed a video of it doing simple tasks, such as watering plants, carrying boxes and lifting metal bars at a production station at the company's California plant. But a more streamlined current one, which Musk said was closer to what he hoped to put into production, had to be rolled out on a platform and did a slow wave to the crowd. Musk called it Optimus and said it would be able to walk in a few weeks.

"There's still a lot of work to be done to refine Optimus and prove it," Musk said, adding later, "I think Optimus is going to be incredible in five or 10 years, like mind blowing."

## More penguins dying from avian flu at Cape Town's Boulders beach colony

AFP | London

More penguins have died from avian flu at the colony at Cape Town's Boulders beach, a popular tourist attraction and an important breeding site in South Africa, raising concerns for the species and for other seabirds.

David Roberts, a clinical veterinarian at the South African Foundation For The Conservation Of Coastal Birds, said at least 28 out of around 3,000 penguins in the colony had died from the disease since the middle of August.

"We have confirmed avian influenza in 14 African penguins since the middle of August," Roberts said, adding that at least another 14 penguins were also affected but not tested for the virus.

"This is a continuation of the outbreak that happened last year and it affects several different species of sea birds and at the moment we are quite concerned because the numbers of penguins that are being affected and dying from the disease is



Researcher Albert Snyman prepares the scalp of an African penguin carcass before post-mortem analysis

going up," Roberts added.

South African environmental authorities said on Sept. 16 that the strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza was similar to that detected last year among a range of wild seabirds, including Cape cormorants and common terns.

Roberts said scientists were monitoring the situation because it was not clear how the

outbreak would evolve.

"Because the virus is contagious between birds, we're doing everything that we can to reduce the viral load and transmission rate between the penguins," Alison Kock, marine biologist at South African National Parks, told Reuters.

To identify and remove sick birds from the colony, South African scientists perform tests

This is a continuation of the outbreak that happened last year and it affects several different species of sea birds and at the moment we are quite concerned because the numbers of penguins that are being affected and dying from the disease is going up

DAVID ROBERTS

or diagnose penguins on their symptoms, Roberts said. Sick and dead birds are then euthanised and cremated in attempt to reduce the spread of the disease.

"There is almost no risk to people from the virus but we do ask people to make sure that when they visit the colony that they disinfect their shoes because it is transmissible between different seabird colonies and also poultry farms," Kock said.

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## Napoli see off Torino to strengthen Serie A lead



Napoli's Andre Zambo Anguissa, second left, scores his side's opening goal  
Reuters | Milan

Napoli strengthened their hold on the Serie A summit with yesterday's 3-1 win over Torino which put them three points clear of their title rivals.

An early brace from Andre-Frank Zambo Anguissa, his first goals in Serie A, and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia's fifth of his first Serie A season will keep Napoli in first place unless Atalanta beat Fiorentina by five goals on Sunday.

"I'm very happy, I don't want to lie, it's the first time for me in Serie A," Anguissa told DAZN.

"It's important to score but I just want to do my job. If the goals come I'm happy but the first thing for me is my team, for my team to win.

"So if we can win all the games, even if I don't score I don't care. I just want to win."

# Leclerc takes pole in Singapore as Verstappen fumes in eighth

Leclerc claims pole position by 0.022s from Perez in stunning wet-dry Singapore qualifying

## Max Verstappen fumes on team radio as Red Bull abort final qualifying lap

AFP | Singapore

Charles Leclerc took pole position yesterday for the Singapore Grand Prix, but Formula One world championship leader Max Verstappen was left fuming after finishing only eighth fastest in damp conditions.

Leclerc clocked 1min 49.412sec in his Ferrari to top the timesheets 0.022sec ahead of Red Bull's Sergio Perez with the Mercedes of Lewis Hamilton third.

Verstappen, who can mathematically retain his world title this weekend, had looked set to challenge Leclerc's time on his final flying lap before being told to abandon and return to the pits by his Red Bull engineer.

The Dutchman had set the fastest first sector, then let fly an expletive-peppered tirade over team radio after being instructed to abort.



Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc, left, talks with Red Bull driver Sergio Perez after the qualifying session

Only the top-10 shootout for pole took place on slick tyres on the night Marina Bay circuit.

Most of qualifying took place on intermediate tyres with the track still too damp to risk slicks, with the unforgiving concrete walls of the city centre track an ever-present danger for any loss of control.

"In Q3 we didn't really know what to do," said Leclerc, about whether to switch to slicks. "We went for the soft at the

very last minute -- and it paid off.

"I mean, it was really, really tricky."

Monaco's Leclerc can prevent Verstappen from sealing the championship this weekend by finishing higher than eighth in Sunday's race.

Leclerc now has a commanding grid advantage over the Dutchman, who will start from the fourth row on a circuit that offers few overtaking opportu-

They told me to box and then I realized what was going to happen. We ran out of fuel. It is incredibly frustrating and it shouldn't happen ... At least you (should) track that throughout the session to know you aren't going to make it. We should've seen that way earlier

MAX VERSTAPPEN

nities.

Verstappen had celebrated his 25th birthday with a cake in the Red Bull team hospitality on Friday but had nothing to cheer a day later.

He needs to win the race, score 22 points more than Leclerc and see teammate Perez finish fourth or lower to retain his world title with five races to spare.

Hamilton's Mercedes teammate George Russell failed to find any grip on his intermediate tyres and failed to make it into Q3 after being only 11th fastest.



Verstappen needs to win the race, score 22 points more than Leclerc and see teammate Perez finish fourth or lower to retain his world title with five races to spare

"Sorry guys, I couldn't do anything. I really struggled," said the Englishman over team radio. "What a shame."

Alex Albon did well just to make it to Singapore three weeks after suffering from appendicitis at the Italian Grand Prix in Monza and then having complications from surgery.

However, the British-born Thai could not find any grip or pace in his Williams and was eliminated in the first qualifying session after finishing 19th.

## Arsenal rewarded for keeping faith with Arteta, says Conte



Tottenham Hotspur's Italian head coach Antonio Conte (L) shakes hands with Arsenal's Spanish manager Mikel Arteta (R) after

AFP | London

Antonio Conte has urged Tottenham to allow him the same patient approach that Arsenal adopted with Mikel Arteta.

Tottenham pipped Arsenal to Champions League qualification at the end of last season, but the Gunners have kept faith with Arteta and are now reaping the rewards.

Arteta was allowed to invest heavily in new signings despite his failure to secure a lucrative Champions League berth, with both Oleksandr Zinchenko and Gabriel Jesus playing key roles after arriving from Manchester City.

Conte is impressed with Arteta's work and believes Tottenham should be equally clear-headed about their approach to his own rebuilding project.

"I think if I see what happened at Arsenal, they're a club

who backed Arteta over the years," Conte said.

"You're seeing when you trust a person, and Arsenal showed this also in a tough period with Arteta by backing him in every moment, now they're having good results.

"They had a good step. I think this season they're better than last season. They made good signings, especially Jesus and Zinchenko from a club like Manchester City, two players that are used to winning and having a winning mentality.

## Gabriel Jesus says he left City over Guardiola style of play

AFP | London

Arsenal's Brazil striker Gabriel Jesus left Manchester City because he no longer wanted to play under Pep Guardiola, he said in an interview published by ESPN Brasil.

The 25-year-old has made a sensational start at the Emirates since he was unveiled as Arsenal's marquee \$50 million (45 million pounds) summer signing by manager Mikel Arteta, a former assistant to Guardiola at the Etihad.

Jesus has been one of the stars of the early season with four goals and three assists in his first seven Premier League matches for the Gunners.

"I was very happy at Manchester City, it's not that I was unhappy there," said Jesus.

"But I also had to accept the way the team wanted me to play ... The issue was the way that he (Guardiola) understood football and what he wanted.

"In this case, it's up to you



Gabriel Jesus controls the ball as manager Pep Guardiola and then assistant coach Mikel Arteta look on during a Manchester City training session (file photo)

to accept it or not. If you don't accept it, then 'thanks' and let's go for another challenge.

"I accepted it for a while but then I got to the point when I said: 'I want something else for me'. I thanked him ... he understood and that's it."

The former Palmeiras forward had been unhappy with the amount of playing time he

was given by Guardiola and left City as the Citizens signed Norway star Erling Haaland and young Argentine prospect Julian Alvarez.

Haaland has made a sensational start with 11 goals in seven league games.

Jesus spent five years in Manchester, winning the Premier League four times, the FA Cup

At City it was different, the forward didn't touch the ball much, you just have to watch the games to see

GABRIEL JESUS

once, the League Cup three times, and playing in the 2021 Champions League final.

But he was unhappy at being mostly deployed by Guardiola on the flank rather than his preferred center forward role.

"Here at Arsenal, it's different, the football is different, there are different players, different ways of playing," he said.

"At City it was different, the forward didn't touch the ball much, you just have to watch the games to see.

"I spoke a lot with Arteta about the style of play. He knows me, I know him, I understood what he wanted from me."

## Dortmund loses in Cologne 3-2 and misses chance to go top

AP | Berlin

Borussia Dortmund missed a golden chance to go top of the Bundesliga, collapsing in the second half to lose 3-2 at Cologne yesterday.

Dortmund led 1-0 at the break and looked set to capitalise on league leaders Union Berlin's first loss of the year at Eintracht Frankfurt, but conceded two goals in two minutes early in the second half for their third loss of the season.



Cologne's Denis Huseinbasic, right, and Dortmund's Niklas Sule, left, challenge for the ball

Dortmund led at half-time thanks to a Julian Brandt goal, set up by English teenager Jude Bellingham, who was named captain for the first time due to Mats Hummels' late withdrawal.

The visitors dominated the opening half and looked in full control of the game, until Florian Kainz equalised in the 53rd minute.

Former Dortmund striker Steffen Tigges took advantage of poor defending from a Dort-

mund corner just two minutes later, climbing above the defence to head home.

A suddenly unorganised Dortmund continued to defend poorly, giving midfielder Dejan Ljubicic far too much time in the 71st minute, allowing the midfielder to guide in a long-distance shot to put the game beyond doubt.

Dortmund pulled one goal back through a lucky deflection in the 78th minute, but Cologne held on for a deserved victory.

## Bahrain beat Lebanon in Asian U-17 qualifier

● Sami Bassam scores for Bahrain from penalty spot in 68th minute

TDT | Manama

Bahrain defeated Lebanon 1-0 to make a winning start in the qualifiers for the 2023 AFC U-17 Asian Cup, currently being held in Muscat.

Sami Bassam scored the winning goal from the penalty spot in the 68th minute of action.

That was enough to separate the two sides in the Group C clash, as the Bahrainis came away with all three points.

In yesterday's other divisional fixture, Qatar defeated Iraq 2-1.

The nationals will next take on their Qatari counterparts when they return to the pitch tomorrow. Bahrain then play Oman on Wednesday, before facing Iraq in their concluding game on Friday.

There are 44 nations in this stage of the qualifiers. They have been divided into 10 groups—four with five teams and six with four teams.

In each group, teams will play each other once at a centralised venue. The ten group winners and the five best runners-up will qualify for the final tournament.

# Royal Endurance Team all set for worlds

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa spearheads last training session in presence of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad bin Hamad Al Khalifa

● Covering 120km in distance, event expected to feature wide participation

TDT | Manama

Under the leadership of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, Captain of the Team, the Royal Endurance Team is set to participate in the World Endurance Championship for eight-year-old horses, which will be held in Spain.

Covering 120km distance, the event is expected to feature wide participation.

HH Shaikh Nasser was keen to spearhead the last training session of the team upon his arrival at the endurance village in the presence of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and



HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa and HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad bin Hamad Al Khalifa in Spain

Sports, President of the General Sports Authority and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee. HH Shaikh Nasser and HH Shaikh Khalid followed the veterinary examination which took place yesterday ahead of the race.

On this occasion, HH Shaikh Nasser stressed that the World Endurance Championship for eight-year-old horses represents an important opportunity for the Royal Endurance Team to affirm Bahrain's ability and its

continued development with its permanent presence in the largest championships after a series of positive results achieved in the past period.

His Highness explained that Bahrain has accomplished many achievements during the last period, and the presence of the Royal Endurance Team in the World Championship is an extension of the successes made by the Bahrain's endurance in European competitions, the last of which was winning three

consecutive titles this season, starting in the Windsor Festival and going down to the Monte Sino International Endurance Championship and then the Slovakia International Endurance Championship.

### Successes

HH Shaikh Nasser indicated that these successes achieved by the team in the past months will be a great motivation to achieve the desired results and goals in this context, which will give the riders a rich experience and will increase harmony among

them in light of the participation of the Royal Endurance Team with fresh faces who are capable of carrying the flag of Bahrain in the future. Moreover, His Highness indicated that he is keen to support and encourage young riders, wishing the team all success.

It is worth noting that HH Shaikh Nasser will lead the team which also includes Mayoof Al Rumaihi, Sultan Abdulaziz Al Rumaihi, Isa Al Enzi, Mohammed Khalifa Al Ruwaie and Khalifa Mubarak Sabt.



HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa on his horse during training in Spain

## Bahrain bow out of Futsal Asian Cup



Action from the match

● Bahrainis lose 1-6 to Uzbekistan in final Group B game

● Nationals end tournament campaign with just a single point

TDT | Manama

Bahrain were eliminated from further contention in the AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2022 last night.

The Bahrainis bowed out from the competition following a disappointing 1-6 loss to Uzbekistan in Kuwait City.

The defeat was their worst result from the tournament and it was their second in three outings. They had previously

lost 3-4 to Tajikistan and then drew 4-4 with Turkmenistan.

The nationals thus finished the championship in third place in Group B with just a single point.

The Bahrainis were one of 16 teams from across the continent taking part in the competition, which is being held for the 17th time.

There are four groups in the opening stage. Each of the top two teams from all four groups move through to the quarter-finals following a single round-robin.

Uzbekistan and Tajikistan advanced from Bahrain's group. The Bahrainis booked their tickets to this year's Asian Cup after finishing second in their group in the West Zone qualifying tournament held last April in the UAE.

## Solid start for Loeb in Morocco

● Battle begins in earnest tomorrow as Bahrain Raid Xtreme star looks to build on lead in world title race

TDT | Manama

Sebastien Loeb made a solid start to the Rallye Du Maroc today as he set out to extend his lead in the World Rally-Raid Championship with Bahrain Raid Xtreme (BRX).

Loeb recorded the third fastest time on the opening day in his BRX Prodrive Hunter, as Qatar's Nasser Al Attiyah in a Toyota Hilux set the pace on the 8.67 km prologue, which served as a warm-up for the main action to follow over the next five days.

Orlando Terranova, Loeb's BRX team-mate, finished the stage in fifth place, one spot adrift of

French driver Guerlain Chicherit in another Prodrive Hunter.

Loeb started the rally leading Al Attiyah by one point in the race to become the first FIA World Rally Raid champion, with the final round, the Andalusia Rally, to follow in Spain from 18-23 October.

The nine-time World Rally Champion and fellow Frenchman Fabian Lurquin snatched



Sebastien Loeb



Sebastien Loeb steers his Bahrain Raid Xtreme Prodrive Hunter during the Rallye Du Maroc

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The choice is tricky. We know the navigation will be difficult tomorrow so being first on the road is a bit dangerous, but being behind some slower cars can also be hard. We were the first car on the road today so we had to make the track (for the cars behind), but we had a good stage. There was nothing more that we could do

SEBASTIEN LOEB

that slender advantage during the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge back in March, and they know that one small mistake or twist of misfortune could decide the title race.

The prologue was little more than a sprint for the three Prodrive Hunters and the other 80 starters in the cars and trucks category, before the rally begins in earnest tomorrow with the first of five long desert stages, a 316-kms competitive section from Agadir to Tan-Tan.

The route covers more sand than in previous years, with bivouacs at Tan-Tan and Laayoune, and stages that are similar to those seen in Saudi Arabia in recent years for the Dakar Rally. Argentine Terranova, who

took his BRX Hunter to a fine fourth place finish in this year's Dakar back in January, said: "I am happy to be back again rallying."

"My personal target is to do a good rally and get quicker as the rally progresses. This is a big test for the Dakar, as Morocco is a tough rally, but one that I enjoy too."

Chicherit, partnered in the third BRX Hunter by fellow Frenchman Alex Winocq, said: "Rallye du Maroc is very hard for the cars and for the crews."

"In short, one kilometre in Morocco counts double or triple in normal conditions. I will do everything I can and if we are in the game, it will give us confidence for the Dakar."