

Spain Edge Belgium, Face France

Super sub Mikel Merino broke Belgian hearts and sent Spain through to a World Cup semi-final against France with a late goal in a gripping 2-1 win on Friday. | P12

WORLD 6 Syria says IS behind Damascus blasts, finds explosives cache

THE DAILY tribune

Mbappe strikes again as France beat Morocco to reach World Cup semi-finals

BUSINESS 5 Thai crew of ship struck in Gulf sues operators

HM King, HRH Crown Prince congratulate Mongolia on National Day

TDT | Manama



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa sent a cable of congratulations to Mongolian President Ukhnaa Khurelsukh on the occasion of his country's National Day.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, also sent a congratulatory cable to President Khurelsukh on the occasion of Mongolia's National Day (Naadam Day).

Ebola risks worsening in DR Congo: UN

AFP | Kinshasa, DR Congo

A deadly Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo risks exacerbating the already dire humanitarian situation in the troubled region, Unicef's east Africa director warned yesterday.

Eastern DRC is the epicentre of an outbreak of the haemorrhagic fever that has infected 1,792 people and killed 625 since it was detected in May, according to the latest figures from Congolese health authorities.

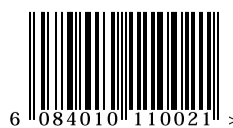
Gaza hospital chief 'lawfully detained', not dying

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

Israel said yesterday that the detention of a Gaza hospital director, who has been held since December 2024, was "lawful", and rejected reports that he suffered a life-threatening condition. Hussam Abu Safiya "is lawfully detained by Israel based on concrete intelligence", Israel's diplomatic mission in Geneva said.

"At no stage of his detention has he exhibited any indication of a life-threatening condition."

220 fils (includes VAT)



Fresh Iran assassination threat against Trump

AFP | Washington, United States

Israel shared intelligence with the United States this week about a new and "specific" plan by Iran to assassinate President Donald Trump, US media reported Thursday. Washington has monitored "a steady drumbeat" of intelligence about possible plans

to assassinate Trump, "but the warning from Israel was new and concerned a specific plot," CNN reported, citing unnamed sources familiar with the matter.

The Wall Street Journal, also citing unidentified sources, said the intelligence described a "fresh" plot.

"They want to take out the US leader — me. I'm on whatever

list. I saw this morning I'm on every single one of their lists," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One as he flew home from a NATO summit.

Trump used his old Air Force One plane to leave Turkey, where the summit took place, sending his new Qatari-gifted jet on ahead to Britain, where he switched planes for the journey to Washington.

The switch from the new jet on its maiden foreign trip sparked speculation it was because its security features were lacking -- particularly as the US launched fresh strikes against Iran, which borders Turkey.

The New York Times reported late Wednesday that the switch was made at the request of the US Secret Service "as a security precaution."

Talks on, but ceasefire off

Trump's latest message to Iran

AFP | Washington, United States

President Donald Trump said Friday the United States has agreed to continue negotiations with Iran but reiterated that the ceasefire between the two countries is finished.

"Iran has asked us to continue 'talks.' We have agreed to do so, but the United States has stated to them, in no uncertain terms, that the Cease Fire is OVER!" Trump posted on his Truth Social platform.

Trump said in Ankara earlier this week that the April 8 ceasefire -- which ended weeks of all-out war but has been marred by repeated lower-intensity conflict -- was done.

The US president also said at the time that he would speak to

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has asked us to continue 'talks.' We have agreed to do so, but the United States has stated to them, in no uncertain terms, that the Cease Fire is OVER!"

TRUMP

businessman-turned-negotiator Steve Witkoff and his son-in-law Jared Kushner, who have been dealing with the Iranians, but insisted it was up to Tehran to return to the table.

The two sides have exchanged

fire on several occasions this week, with Tehran targeting commercial ships, Washington carrying out strikes in response and Iran attacking US assets in Middle Eastern countries with drones and missiles.

Iranian media reported that a delegation from mediator Qatar was in Tehran on Friday after the warring sides exchanged strikes again this week.

Qatar, Egypt

Meanwhile, Egyptian and Qatari foreign ministers yesterday called on the United States and Iran to resume negotiations.

During a phone call, Egypt's Badr Abdelatty and Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani "urged all parties to give priority to the language of diplomacy and dialogue and to return to the negotiating table", Egypt's foreign ministry said in a statement.



Mid-air horror

Man nearly sucked out of 'detached' window on Ryanair flight

AFP | Thessaloniki, Greece

A man was nearly sucked out the window of a Ryanair flight when it "detached" mid-air en route to Germany, with other passengers pulling him back inside, witnesses and officials said yesterday.

The passenger, described as a tourist from Serbia on a flight from Thessaloniki in Greece to Memmingen in Germany, has been hospitalised with friction burns but was otherwise in good condition, authorities said.

"Most of us had fallen asleep, we had closed our eyes. There was a noise, like a tyre bursting," a fellow passenger told Radio Thessaloniki.

"We immediately realised there had been a decompres-



Picture for representation only

sion. There were screams ... for a moment I thought someone had accidentally opened the emergency door," the woman said.

"The masks dropped and there was a strong smell. The head and shoulders of one passenger were outside the win-

dow. Fortunately, he hadn't taken off his seat belt."

Other passengers near the man helped to pull him in, she said. Greek media reported the incident had occurred over North Macedonia, and said the window had been broken by a piece of debris that detached from one of the plane's engines.

Ryanair in a statement said the flight "returned to Thessaloniki shortly after takeoff when a passenger window detached during the flight. The aircraft landed normally and the passengers returned to the terminal."

A replacement aircraft was made available to transport the remaining passengers to Memmingen, the Irish carrier said.

Private pharmacies hit record 456



TDT | Manama

Bahrain's private pharmacy sector has reached its highest level on record, with the number of pharmacies climbing to 456 in 2024, according to the latest figures released by the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA).

The total has more than doubled over the past decade, rising from 195 pharmacies in 2015 to 456 in 2024—an increase of 261 pharmacies, or about 134%.

The figures show steady expansion across most of the period. Pharmacy numbers rose from 195 in 2015 to 213 in 2016 before increasing to 264 in 2017. A marginal dip to 263 was recorded in 2018, but growth resumed the following year, with the total reaching 315 in 2019, 331 in 2020 and 396 in 2021.

The largest annual increase came in 2021, when 65 new pharmacies opened compared with the previous year. Other notable increases were recorded in 2019, with 52 new pharmacies, and 2017, when the sector expanded by 51 outlets.

Growth continued in 2024, with the number of private pharmacies increasing from 415 in 2023 to 456, adding 41 new pharmacies in a single year—an annual rise of nearly 10%.

Seven Riders Represent Bahrain



Seven riders from Bahrain's Royal Endurance Team are set to compete in the Striegistal International Endurance Ride in Germany after all of the team's horses successfully passed the mandatory veterinary inspection ahead of today's competition.

The team will be represented by Jaber Bader Jaafar, Abdulrahman Khalid Al Khateri, Mayouf Abdulaziz Al Rumaithi, and Khalifa Jamal in the 160km race. Competing in the 125km event will be Saud Mubarak Sabt, Sultan Abdulaziz Al Rumaithi, and Yousif Mohammed Al Saadoun.