

'Fast and Furious' star Vin Diesel talks about franchise's end

9

CELEBS

BUSINESS

5

G7 agree to hike climate finance, details missing



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Campaign
to Combat
Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

Getting vaccinated, booster shots and vaccines for 12-17 year olds protects everyone

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Bahrain leaders greet Queen Elizabeth II on her birthday



HM the King



HRH Prince Salman



Queen Elizabeth II

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the

Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent cables of congratulations to Queen Elizabeth II on the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday.

HM the King and HRH the

Crown Prince and Prime Minister wished HM the Queen good health and happiness, and to the people of the United Kingdom further progress and prosperity.

Last update - 9:00 pm
13 June 2021

Individuals vaccinated

(First dose)

1026666

(Second dose)

864930

Speaker Zainal defends Kingdom



P2

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED

4717158

ACTIVE CASES

12931

DEATHS

1221

DISCHARGED

244579

NEW CASES

879

CRITICAL

299

210 fils (includes VAT)



'Foundation of success'

HRH Prince Salman calls on everyone to continue working together to defeat COVID-19

The times call for collective responsibility and community action

HM the King support for national response efforts highlighted

Kingdom committed to supporting sectors affected by pandemic

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday made a fresh appeal to everyone who calls the Kingdom "home" to continue working together to defeat the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Describing it as a national responsibility, HRH Prince Salman noted that collective community action continues to be the foundation of success in the fight against the deadly virus.

His Royal Highness was speaking during his virtual meeting yesterday with senior



HRH Prince Salman speaks during an online meeting yesterday

government officials, National Medical Taskforce for Combating the Coronavirus (COVID-19) members, and first responders.

Taking part in the online meeting were the Deputy Prime Ministers, HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa and HE Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, and Finance and National Economy Minister Shaikh Salman bin

Khalifa Al Khalifa.

HRH Prince Salman renewed his call for everyone to follow all precautionary measures and register for vaccinations to limit the spread of virus and its mutations, especially the Delta variant.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister said the Kingdom continues to closely follow global developments to protect the community.

He highlighted His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's continued support for national response efforts against COVID-19, adding that Team Bahrain has

made an essential contribution to safeguarding the health of all.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister underscored the Kingdom's commitment to supporting various sectors affected by the pandemic in line with development goals.

His Royal Highness thanked the citizens and residents who have joined the fight against COVID-19.

He extended his deepest condolences to all who have lost loved ones to COVID-19 and wished all active cases full and speedy recovery.

HRH Prince Salman extended his appreciation to the national taskforce, along with frontline workers who have doubled efforts to ensure the Kingdom's community remains healthy.

Houthi drone falls on school
Riyadh

A Houthi booby-trapped drone fell on a school in Asir region but no injuries were reported, the General Directorate of Saudi Civil Defense reported yesterday.

The Civil Defense said it had received reports of a projectile launched from Yemen by the Houthi militia towards one of the region's governorates that turned out to be a drone that had fallen on a school.

Bahrain condemns terrorist attack

TDT | Manama

Bahrain condemned the launch by the terrorist Houthi militia of an explosive-laden drone against a school in Asir region, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Foreign Ministry denounced the repeated and systematic attack targeting safe civilians and civil objects in violation of international humanitarian law.

It affirmed Bahrain's full support for Saudi Arabia and all the measures it takes to confront the terrorist Houthi militia and its criminal acts.

HRH Prince Salman thanked by Egypt leader



HRH Prince Salman
TDT | Manama



Al Sisi

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday received a cable of thanks from Egypt President Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, in response to HRH's cable of condolences on the victims of Toukh train accident that took place in the Governorate of Qalyubia.

Shaikh Khalid hails Finance Minister efforts in progress



Shaikh Khalid
TDT | Manama

the visions and aspirations of the government, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, in order to enhance Bahrain's progress.

HH Shaikh Khalid discussed with Shaikh Salman areas of cooperation between the GSA and Finance Ministry, in addition to topics of mutual interest.

HH Shaikh Khalid also reviewed a number of plans, programmes and strategies that the GSA seeks to implement in the coming period to contribute to developing the sports system in accordance with the Bahrain Economic Vision 2030 and the Fiscal Balance Programme aimed at reaching a balance between government expenditure and revenues by 2022.

The meeting was also attended by GSA Chief Executive Officer Dr Abdul Rahman Sadiq Askar.



Minister Shaikh Salman and Dr Askar at the online meeting

Bahrain stops issuing work permits to citizens from red list countries

TDT | Manama

The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) has temporarily stopped the issuance of new work permits to citizens from countries on its red list.

This was based on the directives issued by the National Taskforce for Combating the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The new arrangement hopes to contribute to strengthening Bahrain's tireless efforts to overcome the critical stage of this pandemic.

Bahrain had suspended the entry of travellers coming from the countries included on the red list, namely India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal, on all flights starting from 24 May 2021, including those coming from these countries who will enter Bahrain temporarily, with

the exception of citizens and visa holders, valid residency in Bahrain, where they must undergo a precautionary quarantine for 10 days in their homes or places designated for quarantine licensed by the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA).

Based on the directives and procedures of the Coordinating Committee and the recommendations of the National Team to Address the Coronavirus, the LMRA took the initiative to respond to these directives by stopping the issuance of new work permits to those outside Bahrain, temporarily, from the countries listed on the red list.

Bahrain confirmed that the countries on its red list are added or removed, and based on regular review, the list is updated periodically.

Clean-up efforts underway after sandstorm



The Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning is stepping up efforts to clean up streets following the sand storm which lashed Bahrain over the past two days. The municipalities have removed 60 truckloads of dust and sand from streets and other public places since the clean-up campaign was launched - 16 in the Capital Municipality, 14 in Muharraq, 15 in the Southern Municipality and 15 in the Northern Municipality. The municipal authorities have also removed 12 uprooted trees and 56 damaged street billboards, said Undersecretary Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Khalifa.

Shura Council head lauds royal initiatives against COVID

HM King's reassuring message to the nation hailed

TDT | Manama

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh paid tribute to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa who sent a reassuring message to the nation, affirming that Bahrain is recovering from the coronavirus (COVID-19).

He lauded the royal praise of the efforts led by His Royal

Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and Team Bahrain to curb the pandemic.

He praised the royal trust in the mandatory precautionary measures and the steps being undertaken as part of the national drive led by HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister to combat the virus.

He made the statement following HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's meeting with senior officials and members of the National Medical Taskforce for Combating COVID-19.



Shura Chairman Al Saleh

He praised the pivotal role led by HRH the Crown Prince

and Prime Minister to protect citizens and residents' health and safety, provide vaccines free of charge and find solutions in support of hardest-hit sectors.

He noted the tangible drop in the number of infections and deaths over the past days as well as the increasing number of recoveries thanks to the efficacy of the mandatory precautionary measures.

He also praised the sacrifices and efforts of medical frontliners and other supporting authorities, urging full compliance with the measures set by the National Medical Taskforce for Combating COVID-19.

Speaker defends rights record

European Parliament resolutions against Bahrain 'lack objectivity and credibility'

Zainal holds telephone call with Kuwaiti National Assembly Speaker

TDT | Manama

The European Parliament's resolutions against Bahrain lack objectivity and credibility as they tend to ignore the Kingdom's big strides in protecting human rights.

This was emphasised by Representatives Council Speaker Fawzia bint Abdullah Zainal as she discussed Arab issues with Kuwaiti National Assembly Speaker Marzouq bin Ali Al Ghaniem over the phone yesterday.

She also criticised the European Parliament for relying on unofficial information aimed at tarnishing the Kingdom's image and belittling its pioneering human rights experience.

Speaker Zainal stressed the development of the human rights system in Bahrain in light of the noble royal care and di-



Speaker Al Ghaniem



Speaker Zainal

utter impartiality.

Zainal emphasised the need to further boost the Arab-European relations and the exchange of experiences in vital areas, including sources of sustainable and renewable energy.

She stressed the importance of the issue as a top priority in the policies of the Arab and Gulf countries, in light of the national endeavours to increase the renewable energy sources.

The Speaker affirmed support to the Arab efforts aimed at backing the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian people to obtain their legitimate rights according to the two-state solution, the Arab Peace initiative,



"The European Parliament relies on unofficial information aimed at tarnishing the Kingdom's image and belittling its pioneering human rights experience."

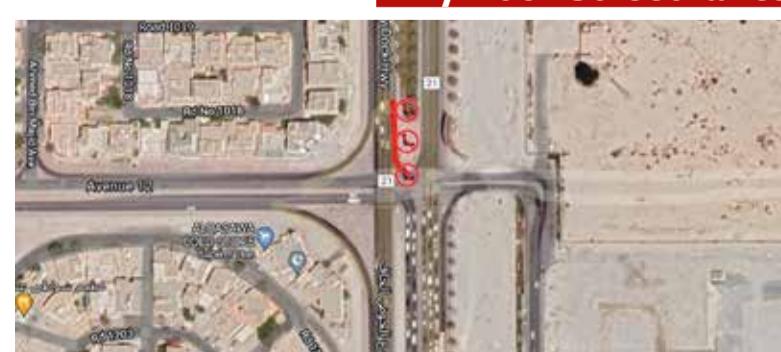
- SPEAKER ZAINAL

and the relevant resolutions of the international legitimacy.

She also touched on the ongoing talks regarding the Iranian nuclear issue, stressing the importance of taking into consideration regional and international worries about the Iranian nuclear programme and ensuring the way of handling this issue does not harm the interests of the Arab countries.

The Speaker wished Al Ghaniem every success in the meetings he will hold as a representative of the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union and in coming up with positive results to achieve the interests of the Arab countries.

Dry Dock Street lanes set for closure



The Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning in coordination with the General Directorate of Traffic at the Ministry of Interior, announces that the development work of the entrance to the city of East Hidd at the intersection of Dry Dock Street with Hatem Al Tai Street requires the closure of some lanes on Dry Dock Street for southbound traffic as follows. Work includes closure of the lane left and two lanes for traffic; and the left turn and the reverse rotation are prohibited. Traffic will be diverted to the intersection of Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Bridge and the intersection of Hatem Al Tai Street. Work will take place on the aforementioned site starting from tomorrow for a period of one month. Citizens and residents are requested to abide by the traffic rules in order to preserve the safety of all.

US Embassy announces Fulbright program competition

TDT | Manama

The US Embassy is pleased to announce the competition for the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program for 2022.

The Fulbright FLTA is a nine-month, non-degree seeking program sponsored by the US Department of State.

The FLTA program provides participants with an opportunity to increase their English language proficiency and extend their knowledge of the

society and culture of the US.

They will also have a chance to refine their teaching skills while teaching their native language (Arabic) to US students and strengthen foreign language instruction at US colleges and universities.

LTA participants also interact with their host communities through extracurricular activities and community outreach projects.

The deadline for accepting applications is August 1, 2021.

46 restaurants, cafes violate COVID-19 health protocols

● They were referred to the relevant authorities for legal action

TDT | Manama



An inspector visit to a vegetable and fruit shop

authorities for legal action.

The department on Saturday inspected an additional 211 establishments in its campaign to ensure public health and safety.

Establishments that failed to meet the required standards were warned to address the issues and rise up to the needed responsibility levels and implement anti-COVID measures.

Forty-six violations were reported as the Health Ministry's Public Health Department continued its inspection visits to ensure full application of precautionary measures to address the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The restaurants and cafes were referred to the relevant

Solid Bahrain and Pakistan ties praised

● Shura Chairman receives Pakistani Ambassador

TDT | Manama



Chairman Al Saleh with Ambassador Ayub

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh has lauded the depth of the distinguished friendly Bahraini-Pakistani relations, praising their steady progress mainly in the trade, security and economic fields.

He also hailed the ongoing cooperation between the Shura Council in Bahrain and the legislative branch in Pakistan.

While receiving yesterday, the newly-appointed Pakistani Ambassador to Bahrain, Muhammad Ayub, the Shura head stressed the need to take advantage of the two countries' shared values in order to bolster bilateral cooperation at all levels.

Al Saleh highlighted the Shura Council's keenness to develop parliamentary relations with the Pakistani legislative branch,

through exchanging expertise and coordinating at international gatherings in order to support efforts to achieve global peace, security and coexistence.

He also praised the contributions of the members of the Pakistani expatriate community in Bahrain and their good relations with the Bahraini society.

Ambassador Ayub praised the advanced level reached by relations between the two friendly countries across all fields, hailing the support of the Bahraini leadership to his country.

He affirmed his country's keenness to enhance its coordination with Bahrain in order to achieve regional security and stability, wishing Bahrain further progress and prosperity.

Enhancing partnership to develop AI

● Nasser Vocational Training Center, UAE company sign agreement

TDT | Manama



The stakeholders during the agreement-signing ceremony

Nasser Vocational Training Center (NVTC) and UAE National Program for Artificial Intelligence (AI) signed an agreement to enhance partnership and cooperate to develop AI skills and the digital economy, and improve virtual education and training systems by exchanging experiences.

The agreement was signed virtually by UAE Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy and Remote

Work Applications Omar Sultan Al Olama, and NVTC General Director Dr Abdullah Nasser Al Nuaimi.

A delegation from NVTC head-

ed by Secretary General of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF) and NVTC Board of Trustees Vice Chairman Dr. Mustafa Al Sayed, visited UAE Artificial

Intelligence Office, where they were briefed on the National Program for AI initiatives and the projects implemented to achieve UAE Strategy goals for AI.

Digital government success

Bahrain hailed for strengthening cooperation and exchange of experiences with Arab countries

● iGA holds virtual Regional eGovernment Experts workshop

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's efforts to strengthen cooperation and exchange of experiences with Arab countries in the field of e-government was praised by speakers and participants during a regional workshop.

A virtual Regional eGovernment Experts workshop was held to provide vital inputs to improve eGovernment Development Indicators for the upcoming United Nations eGovernment Survey Report 2022, a globally recognised index and benchmark on the development of eGovernment.

The workshop, organised under the patronage of iGA Chief Executive Mohammed Al Qaed, brought senior UNDESA officials, leaders of digital government in the Arab and Gulf region, ICT experts, decision makers, academicians, researchers, government officials and practitioners across the globe.

iGA held an engaging and productive discussion with the participants.

The event granted the participants deep insights into the



The online discussion in progress



The workshop brought senior UNDESA officials, leaders of digital government in the Arab and Gulf region, ICT experts, decision makers, academicians, researchers, government officials and practitioners across the globe.

achievements of GCC countries in the digital government field as well as the ways to address

across the region and how ICT advancements have accelerated the diversification of the economy in many countries in the region.

Al Qaed stressed how technological advancement had supported the government's effort to address the challenges related to COVID-19 pandemic, and he highlighted the importance of reflecting the regional challenges and technological advancement aspirations in the UN Report.

In his keynote speech, Vincenzo Aquaro, Chief, Digital Government Branch, Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) provided a glimpse of Global eGovernment scenario and the methodology associated with various components of eGovernment development components such as Online Service Index (OSI), Telecommunication Infrastructure Index (TII) and Human Capital Index (HCI).

the issues and challenges pertaining to UN eGovernment indicators.

In his opening remarks, Al Qaed talked about the significance of the UN eGovernment Development Report and how it paves the way for the future direction of the Digital Government.

He added that the UN eGovernment Report provides visionary directions to set the international ICT Trends.

He stressed the importance of cooperation between the GCC and Arab region and UNDESA.

The region takes the report seriously by embedding it in their national strategies and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

He discussed the major technological advancements such as 5 G, Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence that has been implemented in many countries

He also highlighted the proposed improvements in Online Service Index and other pilot initiatives including use of AI for more effective groupings of member states.

The digital leaders of eGovernment in the GCC and Morocco presented their digital achievements and their plans with the participation of Egypt and Jordan.

Tender Board opens envelopes for 19 bids



The procedure in progress

● It included the opening of a tender for Bapco regarding the provision of reagents

TDT | Manama

The Tender Board, the independent regulatory body tasked with supervising government bidding and bidding practices, has opened envelopes for 19 bids for five bids offered by three administrators.

The opening committee's agenda included the opening of a tender for the Bahrain Petroleum Company (Bapco) regarding the provision of reagents and spare parts for the organic chemistry analyser

device for the Awali Hospital laboratory with a three-year contract, and one bid was received for this tender.

The committee opened three tenders for the Petroleum Development Company, the first one regarding the provision and renewal of the current software hardware, NetPack Veritas, and two bids were received for this tender.

The second tender was for the supply of industrial gases, and one bid was received for this tender, and four bids were received. The third tender was for maintenance, repair, overhaul and testing of electric motors.

The committee also opened 11 bids for the Housing Bank tender for the appointment of a contractor to construct two service store buildings in Al Luzi and Al Haninich.

NMS-Bahrain organises online farewell ceremony

Bidding adieu to outgoing class XII students of batch 2020-21 through memorable programme

● Senior students grew sentimental and emotional

● Recalled happy memories of 14 long years in school

● Heart-warming for teachers to see class again

TDT | Manama

A farewell event was organised remotely by class-XI students of New Millennium School, Bahrain on 9 June for the outgoing class XII students of batch 2020-21.

The ceremony commenced with an official welcome address delivered by the headmistress of the ceremonial lamp.



Teachers and students meet online in this special occasion



"I applaud the patience and perseverance displayed by students in accepting all the changes during the aberrant time of the pandemic."

- PRINCIPAL ARUN KUUMAR SHARMA

play of class photo album and digital messages, thoughtfully arranged by class XI students as they wanted to make this occasion a truly memorable one for their seniors.

The Chief Guest, Ganesh Pillai, Director Knowledge Management Group, delivered a speech in which he blessed the outgoing batch and extended

his good wishes to them for a bright, successful and prosperous future.

Principal Arun Kumar Sharma, in his speech, applauded the patience and perseverance displayed by students in accepting all the changes during the aberrant time of the pandemic.

Class XII students grew sentimental and emotional as they recalled their happy memories of 14 long years in the school. It was overwhelming to see everybody together on the online platform.

Students poured out their hearts and thanked teachers for taking them through the wonderful school years. It was heart-warming for the teachers to see their class again.

With a new ray of hope for the world to heal soon, the ceremony culminated on a successful note.

Royal University for Women announces partial scholarships

● Admission open for first semester of academic year 2021-2022

TDT | Manama

The Royal University for Women announced that admission is now open to students who graduated from high school or those who wish to transfer from universities by receiving applications for the first semester of the academic year 2021/2022.

The Director of Admission and Registration at Royal University for Women, Sami Mohammad Dagash, said that applications for admission from high school graduates or students who wish to transfer from another university inside or outside the Kingdom of Bahrain will be received online through the university's official website www.ruw.edu.bh without the need for personal attendance to the university's campus, to ensure the safety of all our students in the face of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Dagash explained that the application system had been updated to ensure an easy and seamless experience for all applicants.

The requirements for admission are available on the university's website, where students



Design,
Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design,
Bachelor in Architectural Design,
Master in Design Management,
Master of Fine Art in Drawing and Painting

College of Law

Bachelor of Law, (only bilingual Law program in the Kingdom taught 60% in English and 40% in Arabic).

Dagash added that the university offers a number of partial scholarships that cover a percentage of the tuition fee. Applicants eligible for RUW scholarship must show evidence of having high academic standing in their high school grade.

He pointed out that the university seeks to provide all the necessary tools for students to have a smooth application process. This includes explanatory videos posted on the official social media channels of the university explaining the steps for applying for admission.

Students who wish to join the university can also communicate with the admission and registration staff who will help and respond to inquiries through calling the toll-free number 80008900 or through the direct messaging in WhatsApp application number 38898800 or through the live chat service available on the university's website www.ruw.edu.bh or by emailing admit@ruw.edu.bh.

The Royal University for Women is the first private university in Bahrain to receive Institutional Accreditation from the Higher Education Council (HEC), and it is also recognised and recommended by the Ministry of Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the Bachelor programmes, the State of Kuwait for the College of Business and Financial Sciences Bachelor programmes and by the Ministry of Higher Education in the Sultanate of Oman for all programmes.

Students off to virtual field trip on Environment Day



Students take part on various online activities

TDT | Manama

New Millennium School, Bahrain conducted 'Virtual Tours' for the students of Grades KG to VIII, on 2 and 3 June, as a part of the Environment Day celebrations.

Amidst the chaos of the pandemic, the 'Virtual Tours' provided a great relief to the students from the mundane life. Students went for a virtual exploration to various wildlife sanctuaries, grasslands, dessert lands and forests.

The virtual tours enabled the students to make real world connections and enhance their knowledge of the environment. In addition, students achieved a higher level of critical thinking when they evaluated their own learning by participating in the Online Quizzes based on the videos viewed.

The 'Virtual Tour' also offered students and teachers the opportunity to interact outside of the academic content thus enhancing the bond between the teacher and the taught. The students shared their reviews stating that, it was an excellent learning experience for them.

The students and parents expressed their heartfelt thanks to the management, the principal and the staff for motivating and engaging the students during this aberrant time, by organising such innovative online activities.



University campus

Bid of \$28 million wins a rocket trip with Bezos

Reuters

A seat on a spaceship ride with billionaire Jeff Bezos went for \$28 million during a live auction on Saturday, concluding the month-long bidding process for the sightseeing trip on the Blue Origin's maiden voyage next month.

Within four minutes of the open of Saturday's live phone auction, bids reached beyond \$20 million. The bidding closed seven minutes after the auction began. The identity of the winner - presumably an ultra-wealthy space aficionado - was not immediately disclosed.

The July 20 launch of Blue Origin's New Shepard booster from West Texas would be a landmark moment as U.S. firms strive toward a new era of private commercial space travel.

Blue Origin's founder and Amazon.com Inc executive Bezos, the world's wealthiest man and a lifelong space enthusiast, has been racing against fellow aspiring billionaires Richard Branson and Elon Musk to be the first of the three to travel beyond Earth's atmosphere.

G7 agree to hike climate finance, details missing

● The leaders signalled their desire to build a rival to Beijing's multi-trillion-dollar Belt and Road initiative

Reuters

G7 leaders agreed on Sunday to raise their contributions to meet an overdue spending pledge of \$100 billion a year to help poorer countries cut carbon emissions and cope with global warming, but campaigners said firm cash promises were missing.

Alongside plans billed as helping speed infrastructure funding in developing countries and a shift to renewable and sustainable technology, the world's seven largest advanced economies again pledged to meet the climate finance target.

But climate groups said the promise - in a copy of a draft communique seen by Reuters - lacked detail, most importantly a figure for the increases. A spokesman for British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said individual nations were expected to set out the size of the increases "in due course".



British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, US President Joe Biden, France's President Emmanuel Macron, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, President of the European Council Charles Michel, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi, Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa and South Korea's President Moon Jae-in attend a working session during G7 summit in Carbis Bay, Cornwall, Britain

There was a clear push by leaders at the G7 summit in southwestern England try to counter China's increasing influence in the world, particularly among developing nations.

The leaders signalled their desire to build a rival to Beijing's multi-trillion-dollar Belt and Road initiative but the details were few and far between. read more

In the draft communique the seven nations - the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan - reaffirmed their commitment to "mobilise \$100 billion/year from public and private sources, through to 2025".

"Towards this end, we commit to each increase and im-

prove our overall international public climate finance contributions for this period and call on other developed countries to join and enhance their contributions to this effort."

In statement released late on Saturday, G7 host Johnson said: "Protecting our planet is the most important thing we as leaders can do for our people".

"As democratic nations we have a responsibility to help developing countries reap the benefits of clean growth through a fair and transparent system. The G7 has an unprecedented opportunity to drive a global Green Industrial Revolution, with the potential to transform the way we live."

Alba launches environment, social and governance campaign

TDT | Manama

Aluminium Bahrain yesterday announced launching a first-of-its-kind campaign, 'Achieving the Balance', that focuses on Environment, Social and Governance matter. With this campaign, Alba joins its peers in the GCC to mark the ESG Week under the umbrella of the Gulf Aluminium Council.

The campaign will be held virtually until 17 June 2021 on sustainable initiatives aligned with Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030.

Alba's Chief Executive Officer, Ali Al Baqali, said: "Global challenges such as Climate Change, Environment Conservation, Clean Energy and COVID-19 pandemic have prompted a sense of urgency to rebalance ESG matters." In Alba, we want to be the ESG change we want to see in the world. As one of the leading companies in Bahrain, we can only produce respon-



Participants during the virtual campaign

sibly by achieving the balance between our business activities and sustainable initiatives."

The campaign kicked off with a virtual keynote by Al Baqali to all employees and contractors' personnel yesterday. Alba Man-

agement will present, via virtual lectures during this week, topics on Reduction of Green House Gases, Creating a Sustainable Social Impact, and Responsible Sourcing, amongst others.

A live debate on Climate

Change between two teams comprising Alba employees will highlight the last day of the campaign. Alba officials will also participate in activities held in cooperation with the Gulf Aluminium Council.

Gulf Air honours outgoing Bahrain Airport Services CEO



In pictures, the honouring ceremony

TDT | Manama

Gulf Air, the national carrier of Bahrain, organised a fare-

well for the outgoing Bahrain Airport Services CEO Salman Al Mahmeed in recognition of his 18-year career at BAS.

The airline's Executive Management, represented by the Acting Chief Executive Officer Captain Waleed AlAlawi,

thanked him for his overall support to the national carrier during his tenure.

Gulf Air's Acting CEO present-

Bahrain hosts REGE 21 workshop, discusses UN survey indicators



TDT | Manama

ment had an effort to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Al Qaed highlighted the importance of reflecting the regional challenges and technological advancement aspirations in the UN Report.

Vincenzo Aquaro, Chief, Digital Government Branch, Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) provided a glimpse of the Global eGovernment scenario and the methodology associated with various components of eGovernment development

components such as Online Service Index (OSI), Telecommunication Infrastructure Index (TII) and Human Capital Index (HCI).

Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and Morocco presented their digital achievements and plans with the participation of Egypt and Jordan.

Information & eGovernment Authority said it would summarize all observations, suggestions, and recommendations and submit them to UNDESA to present at the UN Expert Group meeting to update the UN eGovernment Survey 2022.

Toshiba's No.2 shareholder calls for resignation of board chair, 3 directors

Reuters

cording to people with direct knowledge of the process.

Toshiba Corp's second-biggest shareholder on Sunday demanded the board chairman and three other directors immediately resign after an investigation found the company had colluded with the Japanese government to pressure foreign investors.

The letter is from 3D Investment Partners, which owns a 7.2% stake in Toshiba. It was sent to the four on Sunday, ac-

ording to people with direct knowledge of the process.

It is likely to heighten scrutiny into governance at Toshiba,

a renowned industrial con-

glomerate in crisis sparked by

Thursday's report.

The shareholder-commissioned report marked an explosive turn in a long battle between the Japanese company's management and foreign shareholders.

In addition to 3D, these shareholders include activist investors and Harvard University's endowment fund.

ed a commemorative dhow to Al Mahmeed. Newly appointed BAS CEO Mohammed Khalil was present.

Executive Management of Gulf Air wished Khalil all successes and extend their full support during his tenure

News in brief

◆ Thousands of Spaniards protested in Madrid on Sunday against government plans to pardon 12 Catalan politicians who were convicted over the region's failed independence bid in 2017, a move the demonstrators see as a threat to national unity. Spain's Deputy Prime Minister Carmen Calvo gave the clearest indication yet that the pardons of the Catalan separatists were "close" in an interview published on Sunday with La Vanguardia newspaper, but the issue has bitterly divided Spaniards. Around 63% of Spaniards oppose granting the pardons while some 25% backed it and about 6% were indifferent, according to a poll published on Sunday for niusdiario.es, an online newspaper.



Thousands protest against Spain's possible pardons for jailed Catalan leaders

◆ At least 12 people were killed and nearly 140 others injured when a gas line exploded in a residential compound in central China's Hubei province yesterday, local officials said. Rescue workers are



uncertain how many people may still be trapped under the debris, according to a statement from the disaster management bureau in the city of Shiyan. Videos shot by witnesses and verified by Beijing News show several buildings reduced to rubble and rescuers carrying shocked survivors on stretchers.

◆ Saudi Arabia will bar people from entering its shopping malls unless they have been vaccinated against COVID-19, state TV reported

Saudi shopping malls open only to vaccinated people from August



on Sunday, citing a decision by the trade ministry that will come into effect on Aug. 1. "Having received at least one vaccine shot will be a condition for entering commercial facilities," the ministry said. Saudi Arabia has administered 15.7 million vaccine doses so far, enough to have inoculated 23% of the population, according to the Reuters COVID-19 tracker.

◆ Jordan's military court will start the trial next week of a



Jordan ex-royal court chief faces trial

former royal court chief and a minor royal on charges of agitating to destabilise the monarchy, state media said yesterday. Prosecutors last week referred to court the case of Bassem Awadallah, an ex-royal court chief and finance minister who played a big role in the drive to liberalise Jordan's economy, and Sherif Hassan Zaid, a distant relative of King Abdullah. They were arrested in early April when former heir to the throne Prince Hamza was placed under house arrest over allegations that he had liaised with foreign parties over a plot to destabilise Jordan, a close U.S. ally in the Middle East. Proceedings against Prince Hamza, who along with Awadallah had been under investigation for some time, were later dropped after he pledged allegiance to King Abdullah.

COVID-1-9 Countries worst affected

	Country	Total cases	Total deaths	Global tally
1	USA	34,316,178	614,972	176,553,298
2	India	29,485,374	371,271	
3	Brazil	17,376,998	486,358	
4	France	5,737,810	110,407	
5	Turkey	5,325,435	48,668	
6	Russia	5,208,687	126,430	
7	UK	4,558,494	127,896	
8	Italy	4,244,872	127,002	
9	Argentina	4,111,147	85,075	
10	Spain	3,733,600	80,501	
11	Colombia	3,724,705	95,192	
12	Germany	3,722,606	90,456	
13	Iran	3,028,717	82,098	
14	Poland	2,877,469	74,573	

Figures as of closing

Middle East

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	272,491		15,582		200,273	56,636
Saudi Arabia	465,797	+1,017	7,572	+19	448,093	10,132
UAE	597,986	+1,969	1,726	+2	577,234	19,026
Kuwait	326,451		1,817		308,829	15,805
Oman	234,634	+1,482	2,513	+24	210,952	21,169
Qatar	219,730	+117	577	+1	216,944	2,209

Two thirds of eligible people in Dubai fully COVID vaccinated



A man receives a dose of a vaccine against the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Reuters

About two-thirds of people eligible for inoculation against COVID-19 have now received two doses of the vaccine in Dubai, the tourist and business hub of the United Arab Emirates, Dubai Health Authority (DHA) said.

Dubai is the most populous of the seven emirates that make up the UAE and has one of the world's busiest airports.

For six months the UAE has been running one of the world's fastest vaccination campaigns against COVID-19, initially using a vaccine developed by the China National Pharmaceutical Group (Sino-pharm) and then adding the Pfizer/BioNTech and AstraZeneca shots and Russia's Sputnik V.

DHA deputy director general Alawi Alsheikh Ali told Dubai Television late on Saturday

that 83% of people aged over 16 - or about 2.3 million people - had now received at least one dose of a vaccine and that 64% had received two doses in the emirate.

The UAE recently said nearly 85% of its total eligible population had received at least one dose of a vaccine, without saying how many people had had both doses.

The UAE, which does not break down the number of cases by emirate, has seen a rise in the number of infections in the past month. It recorded 2,281 new cases on Saturday, bringing the total so far to around 596,000 cases. Daily cases peaked at almost 4,000 a day in early February.

DHA said 90% of the COVID-19 patients admitted to intensive care units in Dubai hospitals were unvaccinated, without specifying when that statistic was recorded.

Netanyahu?

New Israeli government

● Parliament convened at 4 p.m. (1300 GMT) to approve the government in a confidence vote

● Palestinians are unmoved by the change of administration, saying Bennett will likely pursue the same right-wing agenda as Netanyahu



Party leaders of the proposed new coalition leader Merav Michaeli, Blue and White party Bennett, New Hope party leader Gideon Saar Horowitz pose for a picture at the Knesset, coalition government, in Jerusalem

Israeli politician of his generation, pledged he would soon return to power

● Netanyah, 71, the most dominant Israeli politician of his generation, pledged he would soon return to power

● Under a coalition deal, Bennett will be replaced as prime minister by centrist Yair Lapid, 57, in 2023.

Reuters

Benjamin Netanyahu's 12-year run as Israel's prime minister ended yesterday with parliament approving a new "government of change" led by nationalist Naftali Bennett.

Heading into opposition, Netanyahu, 71, the most dominant

A former defence minister and a high-tech millionaire, Bennett, 49, was due to be sworn in shortly after the vote.

His alliance includes for the first time in Israel's history a party that represents its 21% Arab

In a raucous session in which Netanyahu's right-wing and ultra-Orthodox supporters shouted "shame" and "liar" at Bennett, parliament voted confidence in his new administration by a razor thin 60-59 majority.

A former defence minister and a high-tech millionaire, Bennett, 49, was due to be sworn in shortly after the vote.

His alliance includes for the first time in Israel's history a party that represents its 21% Arab

Myanmar's anti-junta movement shows viral strength

AFP | Yangon

Anti-junta protesters flooded Myanmar's social media with pictures of themselves wearing black Sunday in a show of solidarity for the Rohingya, a minority group that is among the most persecuted in the country.

Since the military ousted civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi from power in a February 1 coup, an anti-junta movement demanding a return to democracy has grown to include fighting for ethnic minority rights.

The mostly Muslim Rohingya -- long viewed as interlopers from Bangladesh by many in Myanmar -- have for decades been denied citizenship, rights, access to services and freedom of movement.

Activists and civilians took to



Myanmar has been rocked by mass protest since the military ousted civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi in February

social media on Sunday to post pictures of themselves wearing black and flashing a three-finger salute of resistance, in posts tagged "#Black4Rohingya".

"Justice must (be) served for each of you and each of us in Myanmar," said prominent rights activist Thinzar Shunlei Yi on

Drought-hit Jordan to build Red Sea desalination plant

AFP | Amman

Jordan said yesterday it plans to build a Red Sea desalination plant operating within five years, to provide the mostly-desert and drought-hit kingdom with critical drinking water.

The cost of the project is estimated at "around \$1 billion", ministry of water and irrigation spokesman Omar Salameh told AFP, adding that the plant would be built in the Gulf of Aqaba, in southern Jordan.



Jordan is facing one of the most severe droughts in its history

The plant is expected to produce 250-300 million cubic meters of potable water per year, and should be ready for operation in 2025 or 2026, Salameh said.

"It will cover the need for drinking water (in Jordan) for the next two centuries," he said, adding that the desalinated water would be piped from Aqaba on the Red Sea to the rest of the country.

Jordan is one of the world's

1821

Badi VII, king of Sennar, surrenders his throne and realm to Ismail Pasha, general of the Ottoman Empire, bringing the 300 year old Sudanese kingdom to an end

1940

Auschwitz concentration camp opens in Nazi controlled Poland with Polish POWs (approx. 3 million would die within its walls)

1941

Estonia loses 11,000 inhabitants as a consequence of mass deportations into Siberia

1982

Argentina surrenders to Great Britain, ending the 74-day Falklands Islands conflict



's rule ends

nt wins majority vote



n government, including United Arab List party leader Mansour Abbas, Labour party leader Benny Gantz, Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid, Yamina party leader Naftali Bennett, Yisrael Beiteinu party leader Avigdor Lieberman and Meretz party leader Nitza

Israel's parliament, before the start of a special session to approve and swear-in the

minority.

With little in common except for a desire to end the Netanyahu era and political impasse that led to four inconclusive elections in two years, the coalition of left-wing, centrist, right-wing and Arab parties is likely to be fragile.

Israel's longest-serving leader, Netanyahu was prime minister since 2009, after a first term from 1996 to 1999. But he was weakened by his repeated failure to clinch victory in the polls since 2019 and by an ongoing corruption trial, in which he has denied any wrongdoing.

Under a coalition deal, Bennett will be replaced as prime minister by centrist Yair Lapid, 57, in 2023.

The new government, formed after an inconclusive March 23 election, plans largely to avoid sweeping moves on hot-button international issues such as policy toward the Palestinians, and to focus on domestic reforms.

Palestinians were unmoved by the change of administration, predicting that Bennett would pursue the same right-wing agenda as Netanyahu.

support for Rohingya

2017

In 2017, a bloody military campaign in Myanmar's west sent some 740,000

Rohingya fleeing across the border into Bangladesh carrying accounts of rape, mass killings and arson.

Twitter.

Local media also showed a small protest in Myanmar's commercial hub Yangon, with black-clad demonstrators holding signs in Burmese that said they were "protesting for the oppressed Rohingya". By afternoon, the #Black4Rohingya hashtag was trending

on Twitter in Myanmar, with more than 180,000 mentions.

Sunday's show of support from the mostly Buddhist, ethnic Bamar-majority population is a far cry from previous years, when even using the term "Rohingya" was a lightning rod for controversy.

The Myanmar public was largely unsympathetic to the Rohingya's plight, while activists and journalists reporting on the issues faced vitriolic abuse online.

Prominent Europe-based Rohingya activist Ro Nay San Lwin told AFP the online campaign is a yearly effort to raise awareness -- but Sunday was "the first time" he had seen it go viral in Myanmar.

ation plant

Swiss set to reject synthetic pesticide ban

AFP | Geneva

Switzerland seemed on course yesterday to reject proposals to make it the first European country to ban synthetic pesticides following a campaign that saw the idyllic image of peaceful Swiss Alpine pastures ruptured by fiery debates.

Polling stations closed at midday (1000 GMT) and market researchers GFS Bern projected that 61 percent of voters had followed the government's ad-



vice and said no to the publicly-proposed initiatives.

Meanwhile GFS Bern said 61% also seem set to have approved a

Covid-19 law that would extend government powers to fight the pandemic and mitigate its consequences on society and the economy.

The pollsters predicted that 57 % had approved controversial sweeping new police powers to combat terrorism, despite warnings from the United Nations and Amnesty International.

The results are expected to be known by the end of day.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Participated in the @G7 Summit session on Health. Thanked partners for the support during the recent COVID-19 wave. India supports global action to prevent future pandemics. "One Earth, One Health" is our message to humanity

@narendramodi

02



Our top priority must be to tackle the climate crisis, or all our other efforts will be in vain. I thanked the #G7 today for their net zero emissions commitments & asked for the #ClimateAction leadership the world needs to build a safe & sustainable future for all. #G7UK

@antoniofotterres

03



I'm very pleased to announce that @G7 leaders have pledged over 1 billion doses to the world's poorest countries – another big step towards vaccinating the world. This weekend the @G7 came together. And together we are building back better, greener and fairer from the pandemic.

@BorisJohnson

04



Today we introduced new privacy protections to help users have more transparency and control over what happens with their information.

@tim_cook

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

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

CLAY JAPANESE-PERUVIAN RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33773374 or Mohameda@themeatco.com

ARLA FOODS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR(MECHANICAL MACHINERY)GENERAL , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464562 or JGRE@ARLAFOODS.COM

ALHUBAISHI BUILDING MAITENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33344352 or JHUBAISHI@GMAIL.COM

AL BASHAER RECRUITMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 32269111 or SMOHAMMEDBH@GMAIL.COM

UMM ALSUBBAN MECHANICAL CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17703404 or USMC@BATELCO.COM.BH

UMM ALSUBBAN MECHANICAL CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464562 or JGRE@ARLAFOODS.COM

AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL has a vacancy for the occupation of MIDWIFE , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17177711 or CATHERINE@AMH.ORG.BH

MACDONALD has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17220022 or HR@FAKHRO.COM

MACDONALDS has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17220000 or HR@FAKHRO.COM

Delmon house for publishing and distribution has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17406620 or SJ.EA@LIVE.COM

ALMUSTAQBAL PROMOTION, ADVERTISEMENT, & TRANSLATION COMPANY (PAR has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT , suitably qualified applicants can contact 77111133 or EMADALDDIN@HOTMAIL.COM

ARLA FOODS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR(MECHANICAL MACHINERY)GENERAL ,

suitably qualified applicants can contact 36956890 or WLDONECONT@GMAIL.COM

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or MAGICSHINE775@YAHOO.COM

C PLUS FOR CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33343833 or MOHD.ALAWAINATI@GMAIL.COM

Marketplace by Live Well has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (COFFEE SHOP) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 39607989 or INFO@LIVEWELL.BH

ERNST & YOUNG - MIDDLE EAST has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17535455 or SARA.EBRAHIM@BH.EY.COM

ALHAWASHIM COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33339540 or tah0082@hotmail.com

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can contact 36956890 or WLDONECONT@GMAIL.COM

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GHAREEB EXPRESS RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (JUICE & SANDWICHES) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414070 or SAMIALMULLA15@GMAIL.COM

Nevada car wash has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17840451 or A7MAD___1991@HOTMAIL.COM

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T G I FRIDAY'S has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or ssaleh@americana-food.com

ATLAS BUSINESS MANGEMENT SERVICES has a vacancy for

the occupation of CLEANER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or MAGICSHINE775@YAHOO.COM

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or MAGICSHINE775@YAHOO.COM

CHICKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or MAGICSHINE775@YAHOO.COM

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MEST FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT(GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 32019092 or A.YEHYA@MESTSOFT.COM

Biden suggests Russia might be weaker than it seems

Reuters

U.S President Joe Biden said on Sunday that "autocrat" Vladimir Putin was right to say that relations were at their lowest point in years though he suggested that Russia might be weaker than it seemed and that Moscow had overreached in the Middle East.

Biden used the G7 summit in the English seaside resort of Carbis Bay to argue that the world's richest democracies now faced an existential contest with "autocrats" that would define the 21st Century.

After attending a NATO summit on Monday, Biden will meet Putin on June 16 in Geneva for a meeting that promises to be a combative encounter after disputes over spying, hacking, election meddling, Ukraine, Belarus and human rights.

Biden, who called the former KGB spy a killer in March, cast Russia as engaging in unacceptable behaviour on a range of fronts but also pointed to Russia's own "dilemmas" - its post-Soviet economic collapse, what he called overreach in Syria and problems with COVID-19.

Asked why Putin, who has served as Russia's paramount leader since Boris Yeltsin resigned in 1999, had not changed despite years of Western sanctions, Biden quipped: "He's Vladimir Putin".

"Autocrats have enormous power and they don't have to



Joe Biden

answer to a public and the fact is that it may very well be if I respond in kind, as I will, that it doesn't dissuade him - he wants to keep going," Biden said of Putin.

The two former Cold War foes have had a turbulent relationship for years though relations soured after Putin sought to rebuild some of the clout lost in the chaotic 1991 Soviet collapse and began meddling far beyond Russia's borders.

U.S. and other Western leaders now see Putin and Xi Jinping's China as their main strategic threats, though the Kremlin dismisses as fiction almost all allegations against Russia and says the West is gripped by anti-Russian hysteria.

The West casts Russia as a dictatorial kleptocracy governed by a mercurial elite that has involved itself in irresponsible escapades such as the 2014 annexation of Crimea, attempts to meddle in US and European elections, and a series of high-profile espionage and assassination attempts abroad.

CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, GOUTHAM KRISHNA ,D.O.B 25.03.98,Indian passport number N5189568 ,S/O OF UNNIKRISHNAN PURAVANGARA,permanent address ,ANAND VIHAR,T.C. ROAD, KUTHUPARAMBA,KERALA, P.O 670643 (BAHRAIN ADDRESS VILLA 39,FAROUK GARDEN ,BLOCK 356 ,BLDNG 230, ROAD 328, SALIHIYA,MANAMA)have changed my given name to GOUTHAM and surname to KRISHNA for all purposes for future purposes

Reuters

G roup of Seven countries will provide 1 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses over the next year and work with the private sector, the G20 and other countries to increase the contribution over months to come, according to an almost finalised draft of the communiqué.

"The commitments since we last met in February 2021 including here in Carbis Bay provide for 1 billion doses over the next year," said the communiqué, seen by Reuters.

"We will work together with the private sector, the G20 and other countries to increase this contribution over the months to come," the communiqué said.

Two sources said the draft had been largely finalised by diplomats who worked late into Saturday night to agree most of the text, though they said parts of the draft could change over coming hours.

There were few disagreements over the communiqué, which is going through final drafting, though Japan pushed for a tougher line on China, a diplomatic source said.

The G7 said in the draft that the vaccine donations built on exports from domestic production with at least 700 million doses exported or to be exported this year, of which at least 50% have gone to non G7 countries.

The group added that it had "a commitment to continue exporting in significant proportions; and the promotion of voluntary licensing and not-for-profit global production, which has so far accounted for 95% of the COVAX supply," the communiqué said.

The COVAX facility, backed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), aims to secure 2 billion

G7 agrees 1 billion vaccine donation

Modi's call for COVID vaccine patent waiver gets widespread G7 support



● The TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) council of the WTO is likely to start text-based negotiations on the proposal.

TDT | agencies

I ndian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call seeking support for a proposal to waive the patent protection for COVID-19 vaccines received widespread backing, said the Indian Ministry of External Affairs.

The proposal by India and South Africa received the backing of G7 during a virtual address of Modi during an inaugural outreach session of the summit.

As per MEA, South African

vaccine doses for lower-income countries by the end of 2021.

"We reaffirm our support for all pillars of the ACT-A across treatments, tests and strengthening public health systems as

President Cyril Ramaphosa, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, WTO Director-General Okonjo Iweala and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres backed Modi's call.

"I can confirm that there was widespread support in deliberations for text-based negotiations on the India-South Africa proposal for TRIPS waiver at the World Trade Organisation (WTO)," P Harish, additional secretary (economic relations) in the MEA, said at a press conference.

The TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) council of the WTO is likely to start text-based negotiations on the proposal.

Calling on the G7 to demonstrate leadership, Modi sought the grouping's strong support for the proposal for a TRIPS waiver at the WTO, Harish said about the prime minister's

well as vaccines," the communiqué said.

The ACT-Accelerator partnership was designed to accelerate the design, production and distribution of vaccines.

remarks on Saturday at the session titled 'Building Back Stronger-Health'.

"His call was echoed by President Cyril Ramaphosa. Referring to his conversation with the prime minister earlier, PM Morrison expressed his strong support for the TRIPS waiver, as did the Director-General of the WTO, Okonjo Iweala, and the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, who identified the TRIPS waiver as an important element of his 'Global Vaccination Plan'- a roadmap to vaccinate the entire global population by doubling vaccine production," Harish said.

He said French President Emmanuel Macron also highlighted the need to focus on ramping up production capacity in Africa and called on India to lend its expertise as an important production hub globally.

"We support discussions regarding the extension of the ACT-A mandate into 2022, noting the planned comprehensive review to optimise its effectiveness and accountability."

CHEERS celebs

Mayim Bialik shares she felt 'different' while growing up in Hollywood

ANI | Washington

Mayim Bialik recently opened up about her experience of growing up as a young child performer in Hollywood and revealed that she felt "different" from others while it was happening.

According to Fox News, the 'Big Bang Theory' alum divulged, "I don't know if I felt normal growing up. But I don't think that had to do with the fact that I was a child actor -- I think that I came from a really unusual family. So nothing felt normal for me. I always felt different."

The 'Jeopardy!' guest host pressed that she felt like an outsider growing up in the public eye as a young actor. She explained, "Being on television defi-



Mayim Bialik

nately ... made me feel like more of an outsider. Being in the public eye is definitely abnormal. But there was a lot about my life that was still normal: I was still treated like a normal kid who had to go to school, and do my chores and be picked on by my brother."

During a virtual panel for Fox's Winter Press Tour in December, Bialik told reporters that seven years after breaking out as an actor in the 1988 musical drama 'Beaches' at the age of 12, she removed herself from the Hollywood eye simply because she wanted to have "an experience of being appreciated for what was inside and not just sort of what I could offer people."

The 45-year-old actor, at the time said, "I was 19 when I left the industry and I

Being on television definitely ... made me feel like more of an outsider. Being in the public eye is definitely abnormal. But there was a lot about my life that was still normal: I was still treated like a normal kid who had to go to school, and do my chores and be picked on by my brother

MAYIM BIALIK

was away for 12 years. I got my degree and I had my two sons and I taught neuroscience for about five years after getting my degree. And the God's honest truth is I was running out of health insurance and I went back to acting so that I could literally just get enough insurance to cover my toddler and my infant. And I had never seen the 'Big Bang Theory.'

Mayim Bialik

Sharifa Yateem is working on her first art exhibition



Sharifa Yateem with her work

TDT | Manama

The Bahraini visual artist Sharifa Yateem is currently getting ready to establish her first art exhibition soon through Bint AlShaikh Gallery located in Moda Mall, Bahrain.

The gallery has been planned previously and implemented, but due to the current Covid-19 condition in the Kingdom, it has become partially closed and will resume when the ban is lifted in the Kingdom.

The exhibition includes Sharifa Yateem's latest abstract paintings that focuses on multiple themes inspired by studies, memories, and diverse cultures. The topics that Sharifa focused on in her art projects consists of the evolution of buildings, studies about Sufism through a series of paintings, a series of market development. Further details about Sharifa's projects, exhibition date, and upcoming art events will be published through her Instagram art account

Nicole Kidman, Melissa McCarthy co-star in series 'Nine Perfect Strangers'

IANS | Los Angeles

Nicole Kidman and Melissa McCarthy team up for the first time in the new web series "Nine Perfect Strangers" based on The New York Times best-selling book of the same name from Australian author Liane Moriarty. The trailer and first look images of the eight-part drama series dropped on Saturday,



Nicole Kidman

and the show is scheduled to premiere on August 20 worldwide including India, but not in the US and China.

Filmed on location in Australia, the drama is set at a boutique health-and-wellness resort that promises healing and transformation. The series traces the story of nine stressed-out

city dwellers looking for a better way of living. Kidman plays the resort director Masha (Kidman), a woman on a mission to reinvigorate tired minds and bodies. However, the protagonists have no idea what is about to hit them.

The cast includes Luke Evans, Tiffany Boone, Bobby Cannavale, Melvin Gregg, Regina Hall,

Manny Jacinto, Asher Keddie, Michael Shannon, Grace Van Patten, and Samara Weaving. Both Kidman and McCarthy are among executive producers of the show along with the novel's author Liane Moriarty.

"Nine Perfect Strangers" is co-written by David E. Kelley and John Henry Butterworth, with Jonathan Levine directing the series.

Melissa McCarthy

Valerie Bertinelli joins Demi Lovato in NBC comedy pilot 'Hungry'

ANI | Washington

NBC this April.

American actor and TV personality Valerie Bertinelli has been roped in to star opposite Demi Lovato in a single-camera comedy pilot 'Hungry', produced by Universal Television that was ordered by

In the show, the Lisa, Teddy's (Lovato) mom, group of friends helps each other look for love, success and the perfect thing in the fridge that's going to make it all better. Bertinelli plays

Valerie Bertinelli

Lisa, Teddy's (Lovato) mom, who's always quick to point out that they're also best friends. Warm and loving, she's also a self-critical and emotional mess who has lost and gained the same 30 pounds for 30 years," per a description of the character.

SUDOKU

Yesterday's solution

Austria see off North Macedonia to secure first ever Euro win



Austria's Michael Gregoritsch (right) steers the ball past North Macedonia's goalkeeper Stole Dimitrovski

AFP | Paris

Substitutes Michael Gregoritsch and Marko Arnautovic scored late goals as Austria sealed a 3-1 victory over major tournament debutants North Macedonia in their Group C opener at Euro 2020 on Sunday.

Stefan Lainer put the Austrians ahead early on in Bucharest, but 37-year-old captain Goran Pandev levelled before the half-hour mark to become the second-oldest scorer in Euro history and delight the vocal Macedonian fans.

But Gregoritsch diverted home the deciding goal 12 minutes from time and Arnautovic added a third to ensure Austria claimed their first-ever European Championship win and struck first blood in a group also containing the Netherlands and Ukraine, who meet in Amsterdam later in the day.

Austria next visit the Dutch on Thursday, while North Macedonia stay in the Romanian capital to face Ukraine.

After a bright start by Igor Angelovski's Macedonians on Sunday, Austria struck against the run of play in the 18th minute as right-back Lainer met Marcel Sabitzer's cross at the back post to volley past goalkeeper Stole Dimitrovski.

Lainer celebrated by holding up a shirt with the words "Eriksen stay strong" after Denmark midfielder Christian Eriksen suffered a cardiac arrest in their game against Finland on Saturday.



Michael Gregoritsch sent a message to Christian Eriksen after scoring, holding up a shirt which read "Eriksen stay strong"

It was the first time Austria had taken the lead in a European Championship game.

They quickly threatened a second goal as Sasa Kalajdzic turned Sabitzer's pass too close to Dimitrovski.

But North Macedonia continued to press and levelled in the 28th minute as Austria goalkeeper Daniel Bachmann lost the ball as he slid out to collect it after some comical defending, and Pandev gleefully accepted the gift to slot into an empty net.

It was a record-extending 38th goal for the former Inter Milan forward for his country, making him the second-oldest player to net in the tournament after Austrian Ivica Vastic at the age of 38 against Poland in 2008.

England make winning start at Euro 2020

England up and running at Euro 2020 as Raheem Sterling's strike sinks Croatia

● Raheem Sterling scored the only goal as England deservedly beat Croatia in a tight game at a sweltering Wembley

AFP | London

Raheem Sterling ignited England's Euro 2020 campaign as the Manchester City forward's clinical finish sealed a 1-0 win against Croatia in their Group D opener yesterday.

Gareth Southgate's side were struggling to break down Croatia until Sterling struck in the second half at sun-baked Wembley.

The 26-year-old's first goal at a major tournament -- in his 13th game -- was the perfect riposte to critics who questioned Southgate's decision to select him instead of Jack Grealish.

Sterling has endured a chequered relationship with England fans after being hounded following his tame performances at Euro 2016.

He also struggled to hold down a place with Premier League champions City this term, culminating in his lacklustre display in their Champions League final defeat against Chelsea.

But, days after he was given an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for his anti-racism campaigning, Sterling enjoyed a perfectly-timed moment of redemption.

In a rematch of the 2018 World Cup semi-final won by Croatia, England were hampered by a lack of cutting edge until Sterling came to the rescue.

It was Southgate's surprise decision to select Kelvin Phillips



England's Raheem Sterling scores and celebrates during the match against Croatia

tension at Wembley and got fans bellowing 'Football's coming home' in the hope England can emulate their run to the semi-finals when they hosted Euro 96, and maybe even win a major tournament for the first time since the 1966 World Cup.

In truth, this was a far from convincing performance, but Southgate will take heart from the way his team kept their nerve on a pressure-packed occasion.

England host neighbours Scotland in their second Group D match on Friday before taking on the Czech Republic in their final game of the first stage on June 22.

After England were booed for taking the knee in support of the Black Lives Matter movement before their friendlies against Austria and Romania in Middlesbrough, there were fears fans at Wembley would turn on the team as well.

There were a smattering of boos from sections of the 22,500 crowd, but the majority cheered the gesture this time.

It was Southgate's surprise decision to select Kelvin Phillips

that attracted most pre-match attention.

But it proved an inspired move as, along with Sterling, the Leeds midfielder was England's most accomplished performer.

England hold firm

Manchester City forward Phil Foden, his hair bleached blond, has drawn comparisons with England legend Paul Gascoigne, who sported the same eye-catching hair cut during Euro 96.

Foden was inches away from giving England the perfect start in the sixth minute with the kind of magic that made Gascoigne so beloved.

Collecting Sterling's pass on the edge of the area, Foden worked space to curl his left-footed shot off the far post.

Phillips was quickly into his stride and forced Dominik Livakovic to make a scrambling save with his strike from the edge of the area.

But Southgate's men showed signs of running out of ideas after their early flurry failed to yield a goal.

Southgate had picked Foden,



In a rematch of the 2018 World Cup semi-final won by Croatia, England were hampered by a lack of cutting edge until Sterling came to the rescue

Sterling and Mason Mount as the creative forces behind Harry Kane.

With that quartet still struggling to unhinge Croatia into the second half, fans began chanting for the introduction of Aston Villa playmaker Grealish.

But Sterling quelled the mounting anxiety as England struck in the 57th minute.

Phillips was the catalyst as he burst forward past two Croatians and slipped a deft pass behind the defensive line.

Sterling arrived just ahead of his lunging marker and slotted a low shot past Livakovic from 10 yards.

Kane was denied in painful fashion when he crashed into the post after Duje Caleta-Car made a superb block to keep out his close-range effort.

Mount fired a free-kick narrowly over but England went on the offensive in the closing stages.

In the absence of the injured Harry Maguire, Tyrone Mings and John Stones were up to the task as England's centre-backs held firm to clinch a victory in their opening European Championship game for the first time.

Lukaku urges Eriksen to 'stay strong' as Belgium make winning start to Euro 2020

AFP | Sochi

Belgium striker Romelu Lukaku sent a message of support to his stricken Inter Milan team-mate Christian Eriksen after scoring, as his double helped the Red Devils open their Euro 2020 campaign with a 3-0 win over Russia on Saturday.

Lukaku gave Belgium an early lead in Saint Petersburg, then shouted "Chris, Chris, stay strong -- I love you" into a pitchside camera during the celebration for his opening goal.

Eriksen is recovering in hospital in Copenhagen after collapsing on the pitch during extraordinary scenes which overshadowed Denmark's 1-0 home defeat by Finland in Saturday's earlier Group B game.

"I am really happy with the win, but it was hard for me to play because my thoughts were with Christian Eriksen," said Lukaku, who revealed he cried



Romelu Lukaku sends a message of support to Christian Eriksen after scoring in Belgium's win over Russia

tears of concern before kick-off for his Inter team-mate.

Belgium coach Roberto Martinez admitted other members of his squad were also affected after seeing Eriksen suddenly slump to the turf during the Denmark-Finland game.

"We were watching the game live and five minutes after Christian collapsed, we went into a team meeting. As you can imagine, the last thing we wanted to do was talk about football," said Martinez.

"There were a lot of tears

from players who have shared dressing rooms and big moments with Christian.

"All our thoughts go to him and his family, but also to the Danish team, as that was a really tough moment."

Substitute Thomas Meunier doubled Belgium's lead on 34 minutes before Lukaku put the result beyond doubt with a late second goal.

Belgium, the world's top-ranked team, are under pressure to deliver at the European Championship as some pundits claim this is Martinez's last chance to win a title with an

Pogacar warms up for Tour de France with home victory

AFP | Paris

Tadej Pogacar warmed up for the defence of his Tour de France title by winning the Tour of Slovenia yesterday as German Phil Bauhaus won the fifth and final stage into Novo Mesto.

"I've wanted this victory for a while and I am really happy with it," said Slovenian Pogacar, who rides for Team UAE.

"My condition is quite good, I will rest now for a while, do some more training and then

"My condition is quite good, I will rest now for a while, do some more training and then the Tour will start", he said, adding that it would be "more difficult than last year, for sure".



Tadej Pogacar celebrates on the podium

the Tour will start", he said, adding that it would be "more difficult than last year, for sure".

Pogacar, who finished 1min 23.31sec ahead of Italian teammate Diego Ulisse, had ridden his home tour three times before finishing fifth in both 2018 and 2019.

After the Tour, which ends on July 18, Pogacar plans to compete in the Olympic road race in Japan on July 24.

"I want a holiday after the Olympics," he said.

TADEJ POGACAR

BRAVE CF leads the way as biggest promotion in Europe

BRAVE CF dominates Europe to officially became the number one MMA promotion in the continent

● BRAVE CF hosts 7 events in Europe in one year

TDT | Manama

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa's mixed martial arts company BRAVE Combat Federation has achieved another milestone. After dominating Asia earlier this year, BRAVE CF dominated another continent and officially became the biggest MMA promotion in Europe.

BRAVE CF was established with a vision to reform the MMA industry from an event business to a sports business, and give opportunities to fighters and the entire industry around the world regardless of marketability, language, nationality or religion. His Highness Shaikh Khalid's vision believed that talent should be the only variable and with that vision achieved what other promotions only dreamed of.

The fastest growing promotion in the world identified Europe as an important market in 2020 and broke combat sports history by being the only global promotion in the world to host 7 events in Europe in one year. The accomplishment's magnitude was magnified as it occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic when



most promotions stopped hosting events or left the continent entirely.

Earlier this year, BRAVE CF returned to Europe with their 46th edition taking place in Sochi, Russia and reigned the European MMA scene with an event headlined with the defence of the Super Lightweight World Title by Eldar Eldarov and the return of the biggest Russian

MMA phenom Ali Bagautinov. The event sent waves across the continent, and the growth of BRAVE CF became exponential.

After reaching the 50th event landmark in the promotions headquarters in the Kingdom of Bahrain, BRAVE CF returned on the road and activated the European scene once again with BRAVE CF 51 in Minsk, Belarus and bringing up the next genera-

BETTER YOU KNOW

With 80+ active European fighters from 30+ countries, BRAVE CF currently has the largest active market share in Europe in more than three regions and the biggest scouting network in the continent

tion of Belarusian mixed martial arts fighters.

With 80+ active European fighters from 30+ countries, BRAVE CF currently has the largest active market share in Europe in more than three regions and the biggest scouting network in the continent. It has hosted events in 7 European countries — Northern Ireland, England, Romania, Sweden, Slovenia, Russia, and Belarus — and is continuing the journey with an event in Milan, Italy on August 1st.

BRAVE CF's future in the MMA industry looks bright as it continues expanding across the globe and making its way up towards becoming the biggest promotion in the world.

Brazilian actor Caio Castro impressed by BRAVE CF reach

TDT | Manama

Lucas "Mineiro" Martins is not only one of the most successful Brazilian Mixed Martial Artists, he's also one with the most distinguished inner circle, having some of the most coveted celebrities in the South American country training under his mentorship. One of these personalities, Brazilian soap opera superstar Caio Castro followed Lucas to Belarus, to be part of his entourage to the then-cancelled main event against Marcel Grabinski. Despite the unfortunate events surrounding Mineiro's fight, BRAVE CF left a great impression on Castro, as he stated himself.

"It's not like I was surprised by how big the event is, I knew it. But regardless, when I actually came and experienced it, saw it myself, it was crazy. I feel like part of it. I'm here with Lucas, we're living it, the day-by-day, we have all these strong feelings going around, it really runs through your blood", Castro said in a backstage interview held at the Falcon Center in Minsk.

"I can speak for myself, even in my career as an actor we were and are always looking for opportunities", Castro continued. "And for the fighters,



Caio Castro and Lucas Martins at BRAVE CF 51



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CAIO CASTRO

having big events like that, with great fighters in the roster, it gives athletes in Brazil the opportunity to showcase their talent, an aspiration for where they want to be. I can tell you, at least from Brazil's perspective, that Brazilians are super excited".

BRAVE CF 51 took place on June 4th, in Minsk, Belarus. After the last-minute cancellation of Lucas Martins vs Marcel Grabinski, after the German fighter's participation was vetoed by the medical team, the night was headlined by the local hero Denis Maher's knockout victory over the undefeated Rinat Sagintay in the second round.

French Open organisers defend Osaka handling, say 'can do better' on mental health

Reuters | Paris

French Open organisers defended their handling of the Naomi Osaka situation yesterday but accepted that the governing bodies need to do better on mental health issues following the Japanese player's exit from the Grand Slam over her media boycott.

Osaka announced in the build-up to the French Open that she would not attend the mandatory post-match press conferences for players, saying the questioning by journalists impacts her mental well-being.

The four-time Grand Slam winner stuck to her stance and did not face the media



I think we really cared for her. We really tried to engage. We were pragmatic in the way we handled the progressive approach to sanctions. It was a very sensitive and difficult situation, but we believe we really treated that with respect, with care

FRENCH TENNIS FEDERATION DIRECTOR GENERAL AMELIE OUDEA-CASTERA

Bangladesh star Shakib suspended over umpire outburst



Shakib Al Hasan throws the stumps to the ground during the match

AFP | Dhaka

Bangladesh star all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan, who has a history of disciplinary breaches, has been suspended for three matches and fined for "showing aggressive behaviour towards the umpire" during a domestic match, the country's governing body said.

Shakib, the International Cricket Council's top-ranked all-rounder in one-day internationals, kicked the stump after an appeal was turned down by the umpire during a match between Abahani Limited and Mohammedan Sporting Club in Dhaka on Friday.

He later pulled out all three stumps and flung them aside after the umpire halted the game because of rain.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) found Shakib, who captains Mohammedan, guilty of two counts of misconduct and suspended him for three upcoming matches in the Bangabandhu Dhaka Premier Division T20 Cricket League. He was also fined 500,000 taka (US\$5,900).

brought the game into disrepute through the use of offensive language and reckless conduct with the umpires, the BCB added.

Shakib wrote on Facebook that he was "extremely sorry for losing my temper".

"An experienced player like me should not have reacted that way but sometimes against all odds it happens unfortunately."



Japan's Naomi Osaka reacts during her first round match against Romania's Patricia Maria Tig

after her opening win, leading to a \$15,000 fine and a strongly-worded letter from the board of the four Grand Slam tournaments warning her of possible expulsion from Roland Garros and future majors.

Japan's Osaka ended the stand-off with the French tennis federation (FFT) by withdrawing from the claycourt major after winning her first round match, explaining she had been suffering from depression for almost three years.

FFT director general Amelie Oudea-Castera said the organisers tried to reach out to Osaka several times without success and the statement from the four

majors was to just remind her of the consequences of her decision.

"On the \$15,000 fine, you noticed we did not want to put that fine at the maximum. Maximum was 20," Oudea-Castera told reporters. "On purpose we only wanted to be at 15 because we wanted to send a message that we wouldn't go to a default right away."

"I think we really cared for her. We really tried to engage. We were pragmatic in the way we handled the progressive approach to sanctions. It was a very sensitive and difficult situation, but we believe we really treated that with respect, with care."

Double delight for Bahrain Victorious!

Bahraini cycling team's elite riders clinch pair of stage victories in top European road races

● Phil Bauhaus sprints to success in fifth and final stage of the Tour of Slovenia

● Gino Mader clinches fine win in eighth and concluding stage of the Tour de Suisse

TDT | Manama

Team Bahrain Victorious had twice the reason to celebrate yesterday after two of their riders claimed stage victories in their respective road races held in Europe.

Phil Bauhaus sprinted to success in the fifth and final stage of the Tour of Slovenia, while Gino Mader clinched a fine win in the eighth and final stage of the Tour de Suisse.

The Slovenia event was part of the 2021 UCI Europe Tour, while the Switzerland race was part of this year's UCI World Tour calendar.

His Majesty the King's humanitarian work and youth af-



Phil Bauhaus pumps his fist in celebration after winning the final stage in the Tour of Slovenia

fairs representative His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa lauded Team Bahrain Victorious' success.

HH Shaikh Nasser expressed confidence in the ability of the team to continue their fine form,

thanks to the cyclists' keenness to achieve the best results, represent the Kingdom in the best way, and contribute to achieving the goals of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030.

In Slovenia, Bauhaus claimed

a victory for the second time on the tour. The German was led out superbly by his teammates to the final sprint and made no mistake winning by a clear margin.

Teammate Matej Mohoric was also rewarded for his strong per-



HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa expressed confidence in the ability of Team Bahrain Victorious to continue their success, thanks to the cyclists' keenness to achieve the best results, represent the Kingdom in the best way, and contribute to achieving the goals of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030

We did the last two km pulling on the front, and then it was a perfect one into the finish...Happily, it was a good one!"

Mohoric added: "We are delighted to conclude the Tour of Slovenia like that, with Phil's win and my red jersey. I think we can look forward to the Tour de France, where I will target the stage wins."

In Switzerland, Mader won what was the event's queen stage. He put in a perfectly timed move over the final climb to break away from the general classification group and beat his closest rival to the finish line.

The Swiss rider said: "I was looking forward to this stage. I wanted to finish off my home race with a win, and I achieved it. The team worked well from the beginning, with Wout Poels in the breakaway, then Hermann Pernsteiner jumping across to him and having two riders in the front was perfect.

"All the other teammates were helping me behind, bringing food and water and mental support as well. They positioned me perfectly into the last climb. It was incredible teamwork from everybody."

formances throughout the five-stage race, securing the points jersey for Team Bahrain Victorious.

Bauhaus was quoted as saying: "It's incredible. The team did a fantastic job once again today.

Eriksen 'was gone' before being resuscitated: Denmark team doctor



Denmark's players gather as paramedics attend to midfielder Christian Eriksen (not seen)

AFP | Copenhagen

Denmark's team doctor said yesterday that Christian Eriksen's heart stopped and that "he was gone" before being resuscitated with a defibrillator at the European Championship.

Eriksen collapsed during Denmark's opening Euro 2020 group game against Finland on Saturday and was given lengthy medical treatment before regaining consciousness.

"He was gone. And we did cardiac resuscitation. And it was cardiac arrest. How close were we? I don't know. We got him back after one defib. That's quite fast

DENMARK'S TEAM DOCTOR MORTEN BOESEN

experts," he said.

He also said the 29-year-old Eriksen may not have survived had the game not been played at a major soccer tournament with top-class medical equipment at hand.

"That was completely decisive, I think," Boesen said.

"The time from when it happens to when he receives help is the critical factor, and that time was short. That was decisive."

Denmark coach Kasper Hjulmand said when he spoke to Eriksen, the Inter Milan midfielder was more concerned about his teammates' well-being than his own.

Eriksen was in stable condition at a Copenhagen hospital and had spoken to teammates via video link yesterday, team officials said. Boesen said it was still unclear what caused the mid-fielder's collapse.

"I'm not cardiologist, so the details about why it happened and further, I will leave to the

Djokovic fights back to win second French Open title

Novak Djokovic rallies to beat Stefanos Tsitsipas in epic French Open final

● Djokovic claims 19th grand slam title with Paris win

AP | Paris

Novak Djokovic claimed a 19th Grand Slam title and became the first man in 52 years to win all four majors twice when he came from two sets down to beat Stefanos Tsitsipas in a gripping French Open final yesterday.

The world number one triumphed 6-7 (6/8), 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 over the Greek 22-year-old who was playing in his first Slam final.

Djokovic is now just one major away from equalling the all-time record of 20, jointly held by Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

It was a second French Open crown for Djokovic after his 2016 victory and adds to his nine Australian Opens, five Wimbledon titles and three at the US Open.

The 34-year-old is the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to win all four Slams on multiple occasions and just the third in history.

Djokovic had also spent more than four hours on court on Friday to knock out defending champion Rafael Nadal.

"It was an electric atmosphere. I want to thank everyone



Novak Djokovic celebrates with the trophy after winning the French Open against Stefanos Tsitsipas

who has been with me on this journey," said Djokovic after the four-hour 11-minute final.

"I had good run here so I am happy with myself," said Tsitsipas.

"Novak has shown what a great champion he is and I hope one day have half of what he has achieved."

"I tried my best. I had a good run and I'm happy with myself."

Tsitsipas survived a nervy opening service game, having to save two break points.

Djokovic, by contrast, didn't concede a point in his first three service games.

But suddenly he faced a set point in the 10th game courtesy of an ugly shank but saved it after a 26-shot rally.

Fired-up Djokovic

Fired up by a time violation,



I have played almost nine hours over the last 48 hours against two great champions, it was really tough physically over the last three days, but I trusted in my capabilities and knew I could do it

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

Djokovic broke for the first time for a 6-5 lead but was unable to serve out the opener as a series of razor-sharp returns put Tsitsipas back on level terms.

In a dramatic tiebreaker, Tsitsipas saw a 4/0 and 5/2 lead disappear. He had to save a set point before claiming the opener after 70 minutes when Djokovic fired a forehand wide.

Dropping the opening set at this year's Roland Garros was familiar territory for Djokovic.

He had to recover from two sets down to beat Lorenzo Musetti in the last 16 and lost the opener against Nadal on Friday.

Tsitsipas, 12 years the world number one's junior, broke again in the first game of the second set as the 2016 champion looked increasingly weary in the 30-degree afternoon heat.

The Greek edged ahead 5-2 and pocketed the second set with his eighth ace of the contest.