

Liverpool extend perfect start

Liverpool recovered from a shock Newcastle opener to open up a five-point lead at the top of the Premier League with a 3-1 win at Anfield, as Tottenham and Chelsea bounced back to form with big wins yesterday. **P16**

THE DAILY **tribune**



Gigi Hadid sued for posting photo of ex Zayn Malik

Hurricane-hit Bahamas faces tropical storm

Six civilians killed in Syria
Beirut

Regime and Russian fire has killed at least six civilians in northwestern Syria's Idlib province, a war monitor said Saturday, two weeks after Moscow declared a cease-fire in the militant-dominated region. The truce, which brought a halt to four months of devastating bombardment on Idlib province by the government and its ally Russia, had largely held apart from sporadic artillery fire and air strikes.



Smoke is seen following a fire at an Aramco plant in Abqaiq.

Houthi attack

Drone strike rapped

Bahrain strongly condemns terrorist attack on two Aramco oil facilities in Saudi Arabia



02 'AWS centre set to turn Kingdom into key cloud computing player'

03 Deal set to boost Bahrain's 'entrepreneurial landscape'

04 Kingdom, a role model for 'respecting human rights'

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● **The strikes by drones caused fires that were later brought under control, the Saudi interior ministry said.**

● **There was no immediate report of casualties.**

Manama

Bahrain yesterday strongly condemned the terrorist attack that targeted two Aramco oil facilities in Buqayq and Hijrat Khurais in the Kingdom.

The Foreign Ministry stressed the unwavering stance

of the Kingdom in supporting the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia against all forms of terrorism and attempts to undermine its security and stability.

The ministry further affirmed the Kingdom's support to all measures taken by the Kingdom to defend its interests and reinforce regional and international peace.

The UAE also condemned Saturday's Houthi rebel attacks on two Saudi Aramco facilities.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation denounced the drone attack as a "terrorist and subversive act," adding it is new evidence of terrorist groups looking to undermine security and stability in the region.

"The security of the UAE and Saudi Arabia is inseparable. Any



The two fires were controlled and contained, and the relevant authorities have begun investigations.

SAUDI INTERIOR MINISTRY

threat to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is seen as a threat to the stability and security of the UAE," the ministry said.

The strikes by drones caused fires that were later brought under control, the Saudi interior ministry said.

One attack struck a major oil facility in Abqaiq, which

is near Dammam in the Kingdom's Eastern Province.

The ministry identified the other area targeted as the Khurais oil field, about 250 kilometres south-west of Dammam.

"At 4am on Saturday morning, Aramco's industrial security teams fought two fires in two of the company's facilities in Abqaiq and Khurais after they were targeted by drones," the ministry said in a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency.

"The two fires were controlled and contained, and the relevant authorities have begun investigations."

There was no immediate report of casualties.

The Houthi rebels claimed the attack in statement broad-

cast on their Al Masirah TV station.

Rebel spokesman Yahia Sarie said the attacks involved a total of 10 drones and warned of further strikes.

Britain's government condemned the attacks and called on the Houthis to immediately cease such actions.

"Threatening civilian areas and commercial infrastructure is dangerous, provocative and completely unacceptable.

"This escalation also undermines UN-led efforts to end the conflict in Yemen," a foreign office spokesperson said.

The attacks hit at the heart of the Saudi energy complex in the oil-rich eastern province, and took some of the world's largest crude exporter's crude production capacity offline.

Trump confirms death of Hamza bin Laden

Washington

US President Donald Trump on Saturday confirmed that Hamza bin Laden, the son and designated heir of Al Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden, was killed in a counter-terrorism operation along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.

US media reported in late July and early August, citing intelligence officials, that the younger Bin Laden had been killed sometime in the last two years in an operation that involved the United States.

Secretary of Defence Mark Esper confirmed the death last month, saying it was "his understanding" that Bin Laden was dead, but Trump and



Hamza bin Laden

other senior officials had not publicly confirmed the news.

"Hamza bin Laden, the high-ranking Al Qaeda member and son of Osama bin Laden, was killed in a United States counterterrorism operation in the Afghanistan/Pakistan region," Trump said in a brief statement issued by the White House.

Poster plague



The Capital Municipality has begun implementing a major campaign to remove advertising posters pasted on power stations, within its limits. Over 1,000 posters have been already removed, sources said. The campaign is part of 'clean capital drive'.

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'AWS centre set to turn Kingdom into key cloud computing player'

AWS centre will contribute to boosting the Kingdom's comprehensive economic development, says HH Shaikh Nasser

Manama

Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Work and Youth Affairs and Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sport (SCYS) His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa yesterday received Vice President of Amazon Web Services' worldwide public sector business Teresa Carlson.

The meeting was attended by SCYS member and Head of the Co-ordination, Implementation and Follow-up Committee Shaikh Faisal bin Rashid Al Khalifa and Minister of Youth and Sport Affairs Ayman Al Moayed.

HH Shaikh Nasser stressed that Bahrain has become a major host of large international companies, pointing out the efforts of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Pre-



HH Shaikh Nasser receives Ms Carlson.

mier, to boost the Kingdom's status as a favourite destination for those companies in the region.

He added that choosing Bahrain as a centre for Middle East data by Amazon Web Services (AWS) will substantially contribute to boosting the Kingdom's comprehensive economic development and enhancing its status in the technology and cloud computing field.

He noted that this choice will also cast light on the kingdom's civilisational and development achievements.

Bahrain has become a major host of large international companies, thanks to the efforts of HRH the Premier and HRH the Crown Prince.

HH SHAIKH NASSER

He also praised Amazon's joining of "Opportunities" programme, which is overseen by

the Ministry of Youth and Sport Affairs, and keenness to provide Bahraini youngsters with training opportunities in its offices in Bahrain.

Teresa Carlson lauded HH Shaikh Nasser's interest in the activities carried out by Amazon in Bahrain in the technological and cloud computing field, pointing out Bahrain's status as a regional centre in the Middle East.

She also expressed happiness at AWS being an inherent part of Bahrain's national programme "Opportunities", affirming the

company's commitment to work with its partners in the Youth and Sport Affairs Ministry to provide the Bahraini youth with training opportunities.

Amazon Web Services recently announced the opening of the AWS Middle East (Bahrain) region, bringing the cloud giants reach to 69 Availability Zones within 22 geographic regions globally.

AWS has also announced plans for nine more Availability Zones across three more AWS Regions in Indonesia, Italy, and South Africa,

without indicating exact dates.

The cloud firm highlighted that developers, start-ups, and enterprises, as well as government, education, and non-profit organisations can now run their applications and serve end-users from data centres located in the Middle East.

"The cloud has the chance to unlock digital transformation in the Middle East," said Andy Jassy, CEO, Amazon Web Services.

"Today, we are launching advanced and secure technology infrastructure that matches the scale of our other AWS Regions around the world and are already seeing strong demand in the Middle East for AWS technologies like artificial intelligence and machine learning, data analytics, IoT, and much more.

"We are excited to see how our cloud technology will provide new ways for governments to better engage with citizens, for enterprises to innovate for their next phase of growth, and for entrepreneurs to build businesses and compete on a global scale."

Bahrain's Egypt envoy attends Mugabe funeral



Shaikh Rashid at the funeral ceremony of Robert Mugabe.

Harare

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the Arab Republic of Egypt, Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, took part in a funeral service held for the former President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, in the presence of a number of heads of states and governments.

The Ambassador extended the condolences of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness the Prime Minister, Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince,

Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, to the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Emmerson Mnangagwa, on the demise of the former President.

The body of Zimbabwe's former president Robert Mugabe is being kept in his birthplace, after a sparsely-attended state funeral, media reported.

African leaders hailed Mr Mugabe as a liberation hero, while current Zimbabwean president Emmerson Mnangagwa said "our motherland is in tears".

But most seats in the 60,000-capacity stadium were

empty, BBC reported.

Many Zimbabweans said they would shun the ceremony because of the repression that marked Mr Mugabe's later rule.

The country's economy is in crisis, with soaring inflation and unemployment, and some blame this on the former leader.

"We are happier now that he is gone. Why should I go to his funeral? I don't have fuel," a Harare resident told AFP.

"We don't want to hear anything about him anymore. He is the cause of our problems."

Mr Mugabe's body will be viewed by the public in his rural hometown, Zvimba, on Sunday, local media reports.

Bahrain's parliamentary experience hailed

Manama

Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Fawzia Zainal, has affirmed that Bahrain's 17-year-old parliamentary experience is rich and unique

thanks to the unwavering support of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, noting that the achievements of the Council of

Representatives reflect the maturity of the Bahraini voters who have become aware of the importance of their effective participation in the elections, being a sacred national duty.

In an interview with the Bahrain News Agency (BNA) ahead of the new session of the Fifth Legislative Term, the speaker expressed pride in the Representa-

tives Council's achievements at the local and international levels, expressing satisfaction with the performance of lawmakers during the first session of this term.

She expressed hope that the second session will bring about more achievements that serve the nation and meet the citizens' ambitions, in line with HM the King's directives in this regard.






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Deal set to boost Bahrain's 'entrepreneurial landscape'

Tamkeen signs MoU with OSMEP to foster collaboration

● The MoU is also aimed at sharing information on policies of the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurial ecosystem, including regulatory impact assessment.

● The two parties also discussed the aims and objectives of the Thai Expo SME One Fest held in the Kingdom.

Manama

The Ambassador of Thailand to the Kingdom, Thanis Na Song Khla yesterday met with the Chief Executive of the Labour Fund "Tamkeen" Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi to discuss and elaborate methods of collaboration between the two countries. During the meeting, the Labour Fund "Tamkeen" signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion of Thailand (OSMEP) to foster collaboration in the entrepreneurial landscape in both Bahrain and Thailand.

The purpose of this MoU is to jointly study opportunities to promote entrepreneurial and startup ecosystems as well as



Dr Janahi shakes hand with Thanis Na Song Khla after signing the deal.

develop frameworks and roadmaps that support companies and entrepreneurs to grow and expand.

The MoU was signed by Tamkeen's Chief Executive Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi and OSMEP Director General Suwanchai Lohawatanakul.

Stressing the importance of this collaboration, Thanis Na Song Khla hailed Bahrain and Thailand long-standing history of bilateral relations, especially in the trade sector.

"The two countries have been actively exchanging trade missions in various sectors in these recent years. The MoU would even more tighten the relationship and benefits the people of

“The MoU will further boost trade ties between both countries.”

DR JANAH

two countries," he explained.

Dr Janahi praised this partnership as a key step towards fostering entrepreneurship and the creation of innovative businesses to stimulate job creation and boost economic growth in both countries.

He explained that this agreement aims to look into potential ways to benefit from the exchange of expertise as well as explore opportunities to pro-

mote the startup ecosystem and its positive contribution to the national economy.

As well as discussing joint initiatives and projects that shall focus on the development of entrepreneurship, both organisations will work together to establish a close working relationship dedicated to the development and enhancement of small and medium-sized enterprises of the two countries.

The MoU is also aimed at sharing information on policies of the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurial ecosystem, including regulatory impact assessment.

Furthermore, the co-opera-

tion will focus on enhancing technology and startups activities specifically in the fields of strategic businesses and marketing to enhance competitiveness.

The partnership's activities will include exchange of study visits, training and sharing of expertise and introduction of programmes for SMEs in both countries.

The two parties also discussed the aims and objectives of the Thai Expo SME One Fest held in the Kingdom of Bahrain on 11-12 September 2019.

The Expo brought together over 120 Thai representatives from different sectors including fashion, food, cosmetics and technology.

Court begins hearing in drugs case

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has begun hearing the case of two defendants, accused of possessing two kilograms of illicit drugs.

The two were arrested after police officers received information revealing the pair were peddling and consuming drugs.

Anti-drug squads were assigned to capture them



The pair were arrested for possessing different types of drugs, including hashish as well as a digital scale.

PROSECUTORS

after an arrest warrant was issued by the Public Prosecution.

The pair were arrested for possessing different types of drugs, including hashish as well as a digital scale, which they used in selling drugs to customers, according to prosecutors.

They also had BD5,300 and BD3,400 Saudi riyals with them.

One of the men told prosecutors that they received the drugs from a GCC national man, whose name was unknown to them.

He said that he has been addicted to drugs since a very long time and he wanted to purchase drugs in large quantities.

Terror funding suspects jailed

TDT | Manama

Two men involved with funding terrorism have been hit with three years behind bars as well as a hefty fine of BD100,000 each.

According to Prosecutors, the pair were part of Al Ashtar Brigades terrorist group and they were providing financial support to help the outfit carry out its terrorist plans in an effort to destabilise the Kingdom and target police officers.

It's said that the first defendant assigned the second defendant to receive money, which he handed over to terrorists to carry out terror activities while some cash was also given to families of men convicted in terror cases.

The defendants were held guilty based on the technical pieces of evidence submitted against them as well as their statements before the Public Prosecution.

'Bahraini people essential partner in democracy, sustainable development'

Manama

Marking the International Day of Democracy, which is observed on September 15, and celebrated this year under the theme "Participation", the Shura Council affirmed that the reform project of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has laid the bases which made the Bahraini people an essential partner in building real and constructive democracy.

It also stressed the Bahraini people's active contribution to achieving sustainable development and participating in the implementation in its programmes.

The Shura Council expressed utmost pride in the democratic achievements and continuous success of the Kingdom in the democratic and human rights field.

It pointed out the government's tireless efforts to press ahead with more initiatives in this respect under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and the support of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier.

The council praised the Bahraini people's unwavering role in assuming the national responsibility on many occasions and

bringing about democratic accomplishments.

It lauded large participation in the parliamentary and municipal elections held every four years which reflect one of the main features of democracy, freedom and human rights.

It reaffirmed continuous work and efforts to upgrade the national legislative system and keep it in tune with the democratic advancement in the kingdom, according to constitutional tools.

It also underlined commitment to all democratic values underscored by the royal reform project, pledging to continue co-operating with the executive branch for more prosperity to Bahrain and its people.

Separately, Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Fawzia Zainal, said that His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has, during his prosperous era, laid the foundations for an integrated democratic system based on solid legal and legislative bases, which placed Bahrain among modern developed countries through the wise vision embedded in the Royal Reform Project that covers various sectors.

She stressed that HM the King's reform approach has put forward the solid bases for a democratic state, as stipulated in the Constitution, established the state of law



The Shura Council expressed utmost pride in the democratic achievements of the Kingdom.



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has, during his prosperous era, laid the foundations for an integrated democratic system based on solid legal and legislative bases.

MS ZAINAL

and establishments, and encouraged strong popular participation, being among the main pillars of democracy, within open democratic practices aimed at achieving the Bahraini people's aspirations and ambitions.

The speaker underlined the Legislative Branch's keenness to achieve the goals, values and principles of democratic work and practices according to a constitutional and legal method, through enacting legislation and making proposals and initiatives aimed at consolidating the principles of human rights and responsible freedom of opinion and expression, in line with the provisions of Bahrain's constitution and based on the principles of the National Action Charter to implement HM the King's directives in this regard.

In a statement marking the In-

ternational Day of Democracy, the speaker called for concerted regional and international efforts to further consolidate the international democratic and parliamentary work method to achieve the interests of countries and societies, and meet peoples' aspirations.

She added that Bahrain had witnessed a unique national and popular consensus, the highest manifestation of which was the meeting of the royal will and the active and wide popular participation in the adoption of HM the King's Reform Project, culminating in the endorsement of the National Action Charter in February 2001, by 98.4%.

She pointed out that the kingdom's constitution in its paragraph "e", known as the "democracy" paragraph, stipulates that "Citizens, both men and women, are entitled to participate in public affairs and may enjoy political rights, including the right to vote and to stand for elections", the rights that the Bahraini people have actually enjoyed as reflected in the recent parliamentary elections which witnessed the highest turnout in the history of the kingdom, thus reflecting the citizens' confidence in their democratically elected institutions and keenness to exercise their political rights guaranteed by the National Action Charter, the Constitution and laws.

HRH Premier to patronise conference on process engineering

Manama

Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Kingdom of Bahrain will host the fifth edition of the Middle East Process Engineering Conference and Exhibition (MEPEC 2019) and the first edition of the World Petroleum Council Conference during the period 14-16 October 2019.

Held at the Bahrain International Exhibition and Con-

vention Centre, the events will be themed "Transformation of Process Engineering through Innovation".

Since its inception in 2011, the Middle East Energy Events and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers have been organising this event in collaboration and co-ordination with the National Oil and Gas Authority (NOGA) and with the support of Saudi Aramco and a number of local, regional and international companies in order to take advantage of opportunities in the



HRH the Premier

region and increase the demand for the use of modern technology, for efficiency and performance in oil, gas and petrochemicals.

Minister of Oil, Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, expressed his deep thanks and appreciation to HRH the Prime Minister for patronising this global event, which is one of the main conferences and exhibitions in the oil, gas and petrochemicals sector. The event has earned a good reputation in the Middle East.

The minister pointed out that this event is a great platform for large international companies specialised in the field of process engineering techniques in other

companies and institutions to exchange information about the latest experiences, provide the best administrative and technical practices and review the best modern technologies and best engineering solutions in raising the efficiency of work.

He said that process engineering is one of the important topics in several specialised aspects, such as production process engineering, control processes, process progress, tools and advanced equipment to help develop this vital sector.

The Oil Minister pointed out that the Kingdom strives to attract modern technologies to contribute to the development of various projects, such as the Bahrain refinery modernisation project, the third gas plant, the liquefied gas project and the oil pipelines.

He pointed out that MEPEC will witness a series of specialised strategic initiatives and stimulating content with the participation of industry leaders in the oil sector to develop innovative solutions for development.

BTEA to celebrate Saudi National Day



Hosting the event comes in line with BTEA's long-term strategy to further develop the Kingdom's tourism sector.

Manama

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) will be hosting a series of fun-filled activities in celebration of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's 89th National Day over a period of five days, starting from the 19th and until the 23rd of September 2019.

The BTEA's line-up of activities include a number of fun events such as fireworks, traditional sailboats sporting Saudi and Bahraini flags, in addition to musical performances by traditional bands amongst many other activities.

The events are aimed to strengthen the bilateral relations between both Kingdoms under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

"On the occasion of KSA's National Day which we hold very close to our hearts, we would like to express our congratulations to the wise leadership and the

people of Saudi Arabia.

"We also welcome all visitors and residents to participate in the celebrations which will be held over a period of five days across the Kingdom of Bahrain," said Tourism Adviser at BTEA, Dr Ali Follad.

"We strive to host family-oriented events all year round, especially during weekends, in line with our efforts to develop the local tourism sector and enhance Bahrain's leading position on the global tourism map.

"We will continue to work closely with our representative office in Riyadh to create even more unique tourism products with an aim to attract tourists to Bahrain, further boosting the national economy," he added.

Hosting the event comes in line with BTEA's long-term strategy to further develop the Kingdom's tourism sector and strengthen its position on a regional and international level under the slogan of 'Ours Yours', which contributes towards the Kingdom's economy and the 2030 Economic Vision.

Kingdom, a role model for 'respecting human rights'

'Bahrain continues to strengthen its human rights achievements'

Geneva

Assistant Foreign Minister, Abdullah Al Dosari, yesterday stressed that the Kingdom, under the reform approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, has become a leading regional and international model in respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, consolidating the values of patriotism and tolerance, and creating a legislative and regulatory environment to push forward the comprehensive and sustainable development process.

This came on the sidelines of the 42nd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, where the Assistant Foreign Minister met with the Director of Multilateral Diplomacy at the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Rabea Al Haddad.

The Assistant Foreign Minister discussed the development of training programmes and educational curricula as well as raising awareness on human rights values and principles.

He also hailed the programmes



Mr Al Dosari with Mr Al Haddad.

and activities of UNITAR in this regard.

The Assistant Foreign Minister affirmed the Kingdom's keenness to strengthen its partnership with UNITAR in order to develop educational programmes and services, consolidating the values of patriotism, tolerance and peace for the protection of rights and freedoms in accordance with international human rights conventions.

In this regard, he pointed out that the "Mohammed bin

Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies", under the directives of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, is seeking to strengthen co-operation and exchange experiences with international institutions to introduce courses that focus on developing the staff of the diplomatic and consular corps.

He also noted that the employees of the Ministry have benefited from the programmes of UNITAR

The Kingdom is keen to strengthen its partnership with UNITAR in order to develop educational programmes and services.

MR AL DOSARI

regarding the activities of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in the previous years.

The Assistant Foreign Minister affirmed that the Kingdom of Bahrain, under His Majesty the King's reform initiatives, is continuing to strengthen its leading human rights, democratic and development achievements at the regional and international levels.

He also stressed the Kingdom's keenness to support the international community in its efforts to preserve peace and security and promote inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue in line with the Kingdom's economic vision and the SDGs 2030.

Sustainable Energy Centre, Derasat sign MoU

Manama

Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdullhussain Mirza, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Bahrain Centre for Strategic and International Studies and Energy (Derasat), Dr Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Sustainable Energy Centre (SEC) and Derasat to promote renewable energy initiatives and projects in Bahrain, which represent an important contribution to support the economy and protect the environment.

The MoU provides for the exchange of information and expertise, the establishment of joint projects in the fields of research, training and awareness, and conducting surveys, besides preparation of educational publications and specialised studies, which contribute to the interest in sustainable energy.

It also entails organising seminars, workshops and training courses in this area. Dr Mirza



Dr Mirza, Dr Shaikh Abdulla and other officials after signing the agreement.

thanked and appreciated the Bahrain Centre for Strategic and International Studies and Energy for the efforts and co-operation in achieving the desired national goals to promote the use of clean energy and raise energy efficiency.

The minister also thanked and appreciated the wise leadership and the government for their continuous guidance and keen interest in encouraging the use of clean energy for comprehensive sustainable development.

"We have made clear the options for switching to clean energy, working towards increasing

energy efficiency and rationalising consumption as the best solution towards promoting sustainable and inclusive development in all economic, social and environmental aspects," he said.

"We will collaborate with one of the most prestigious research institutions in the Middle East and around the world, and benefit from its advanced expertise in the field of capacity building, on the efficiency of the use of sustainable energy sources, and the qualification of human resources, and conduct qualitative research and opinion polls, according to the

We have made clear the options for switching to clean energy, working towards increasing energy efficiency and rationalising consumption as the best solution towards promoting sustainable and inclusive development.

DR MIRZA

highest quality standards."

Dr Mirza said the MoU is important because it promotes sustainable energy as essential at all levels. "In economic terms, it conserves natural resources and, on the other hand, is clean energy from available and renewable sources," he said.

Dr Shaikh Abdulla expressed his happiness in co-operation with the Electricity and Water Affairs Ministry as a leading national institution, to support the work and objectives of the Centre, in the context of the Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030.

He said environmentally friendly sustainable energy has become one of the most important future directions adopted by Bahrain, reviewing the Royal Decree 22/2019, on the establishment of the Sustainable Energy Centre (SEC), and the role of Derasat in this.

He said the framework looks at the promotion of sustainable energy initiatives and projects, capacity-building and training, and the development and dissemination of awareness and education programmes in the use of conservation and sustainable energy sources, as well as the organisation of exhibitions and conferences, and preparation of training courses.

He said the centre is keen to promote research and studies related to sustainable and clean energy, and at the top of its priorities energy issues, from its various dimensions, insurance, sustainability and efficiency, and seeks permanent ways to produce innovative and sophisticated ideas with regard to renewable energy, energy security and efficiency.

world

Leaders pay tribute at Mugabe funeral

Foreign dignitaries and opposition leaders attended service for Zimbabwe's founding president

AFP | Harare

Zimbabwe gave former leader Robert Mugabe a state funeral yesterday with African leaders paying tribute to a man they lauded as a liberation hero but whose 37-year rule was defined by repression and economic turmoil.

Mugabe, who died in Singapore last week aged 95, left Zimbabwe deeply divided over his legacy with his country still struggling with high inflation and shortages of goods after decades of crisis.

He died on an overseas medical trip almost two years after former army loyalists forced him out in 2017, following a power struggle over what was widely perceived as a bid to position his wife Grace as his successor.

Former and current African leaders, including South Africa's Cyril Ramaphosa and Kenya's Uhuru Kenyatta, arrived to crowds chanting and drumming liberation songs at the less than half-filled 60,000-seat national stadium in Harare.

Mugabe's casket, draped in the green, black, gold and red Zimbabwe flag, was marched slowly into the stadium, accompanied by a military band and an escort of officers. His wife Grace, in a



Robert Mugabe's coffin is flanked by military officers at the national sports stadium in Harare

black veil, and family followed behind.

African leaders and officials from Cuba, Russia and China all praised Mugabe as a pan-African hero for his past as a colonial-era guerrilla leader.

"We honour and remember our African icon. He had many allies and followers... Our motherland is in tears," Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa said.

South African leader Ramaphosa's speech was briefly interrupted by jeers and whistles from the crowds until he apologised for recent xenophobic attacks on African migrants, including Zimbabweans, in Johannesburg.

Mugabe's final burial at a national monument will only happen after a new mausoleum is built in about 30 days. That decision was taken after his family

ended a dispute with Mnangagwa, a former ally who turned against his rule in 2017.

Mugabe's body was returned from Singapore on Wednesday to a country he helped found as an anti-colonial rebel who helped end white-minority rule.

Later, Mugabe turned to repression and fear to crush dissidents and govern for nearly four decades during which he became an international pariah



Zimbabwe's former President Robert Mugabe ruled for nearly four decades before he was ousted in a coup in 2017

for his takeover of white-owned farms.

"You can't talk about Zimbabwe without Bob. Zimbabwe is Bob. It took a man like Bob, his bravery, to get independence," said Norman Gombera, 57, a school principal in Harare. "Bob did his best under the circumstances. There is no country without a problem."

Bitter legacy

A young Mugabe was once jailed in the former British colony Rhodesia for his nationalist ideas. But he swept to power in the 1980 elections after a guerrilla war and sanctions forced the

Rhodesian government to the negotiating table.

In office, he initially won international praise for promoting racial reconciliation and for extending improved education and health services to the black majority.

But he soon turned to the repression and fear that would mark his regime for decades.

Though still lauded as an African icon, at home many Zimbabweans will remember Mugabe more for the increasingly tyrannical rule and economic mismanagement that forced millions to flee the country during decades of crisis.

Many are struggling to survive despite Mnangagwa's vows of more investment and jobs in the post-Mugabe era.

"The fruits of his tenure are the shortages. That is what we remember him for," said Steven, a consultant shopping near the stadium.

"He has made sure there is no opposition and he succeeded. There is no reason to go to his funeral."

Always divisive in life, Mugabe's funeral arrangements were also caught up in a dispute between Mnangagwa and the family over where and when the former leader should be buried.



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				Day/ Date	Time
BAC/ICT/89/2019	Term Contract to Supply and Install Wireless Access Points	BD 15/- non-refundable	BD 500/-	1st October 2019	03:00 pm

• Companies with the required experience are kindly requested to collect the appropriate tender documents at Bahrain Airport Company (Building 124, Road 2403, Muharraq 224 Gulf Air Building 1st Floor Wing B) Procurement Department Tel: 17353385, 17353449 during the following working hours (08:00am – 03:00pm) after payment of tender fees specified above.

• Deposit each Tender Submission in the tender box provided at the Bahrain Airport Company, Procurement Department on the above closing date before 03:00 pm. Any submissions after the mentioned closing date & time shall not be accepted. Along with an initial bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the quotation value whichever amount is the lesser, provided that no initial Bond's value shall be less than BD 500/-, in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.

• Articles of the Decree by Law No. 36 for 2002, regarding the regulation of Government Tenders and Purchases, together with its executive regulations issued in Decree No. 37 for 2002, must be observed www.tenderboard.gov.bh

• The following conditions must also be observed:

1. Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate for the current year, which must include the Tender Subject as one of its activities.
2. Enclose a copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance with the Employment Percentage for Bahraini Manpower issued by Ministry of Labour.
3. All documents submitted as part of the tender (original or copies) must bear the stamp of the bidding Company.
4. Kindly provide a business card when collecting the RFP document

• This advertisement is considered as complementary to the Tender Documents.



BAHRAIN AIRPORT COMPANY wishes to invite proposals for the following Public Tender:

Tender No.	Tender Title	Tender Doc. Fees	Initial Bond	Tender Closing	
				Date	Time
BAC/FM/59/2019	Supply of General Various Hand Tools	BD 15 Non-Refundable	BD 500/-	1st October 2019	03:00 pm
BAC/FM/60/2019	Supply of Special Tools and Test Equipment	BD 15 Non-Refundable	BD 500/-	1st October 2019	03:00 pm
BAC/FM/61/2019	Supply of Power Tools	BD 15 Non-Refundable	BD 500/-	1st October 2019	03:00 pm

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Soon there will be no Giraffes

Gentle giraffes threatened with 'silent extinction'

In 2010, giraffes were a species of "least concern" on the IUCN red list. But six years later they leapt to "vulnerable", one step down from critical, catching many by surprise

The population of the gentle giants has fallen by around 40% in 30 years: IUCN

151,702 - 163,452
Estimated population



1985

97,562

(68,293 mature individuals in the wild)



2015

Main threats:
Shrinking habitat, conflicts, poaching



9 subspecies threatened

Population declining Individuals

- G. c. * tippelskirchi 35,000
- G. c. reticulata 8,661
- G. c. antiquorum 2,000
- G. c. camelopardalis 650

Stable

*Giraffa camelopardalis

- G. c. thornicrofti 600

Numbers growing

- G. c. angolensis 30,582
- G. c. giraffa 21,387
- G. c. rothschildi 1,671
- G. c. peralta 400

Source: IUCN
AFP Photo



Yahoo/AFP | Loisaba, Kenya

For most of his life as a Samburu warrior, Lesaiton Lengoloni thought nothing of hunting giraffes, the graceful giants so common a feature of the Kenyan plains where he roamed.

"There was no particular pride in killing a giraffe, not like a lion... (But) a single giraffe could feed the village for more than a week," the community elder said, leaning on a walking stick and gazing out to the broad plateau of Laikipia.

But fewer amble across his path these days: in Kenya, as across Africa, populations of the world's tallest mammals are quietly, yet sharply, in decline.

Giraffe numbers across the continent fell 40 per cent between 1985 and 2015, to just under 100,000 animals, according to the best figures available to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

But unlike the clarion calls sounded over the catastrophic collapse of elephant, lion and rhino populations, less attention was paid to the giraffe's private crisis.

"The giraffe is a big animal, and you can see it pretty easily

in parks and reserves. This may have created a false impression that the species was doing well," said Julian Fennessy, co-chair of the IUCN's specialist group for giraffes and okapis.

The rate of decline is much higher in central and eastern regions, with poaching, habitat destruction and conflict the main drivers blamed for thinning herds of these gentle creatures.

In Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia, reticulated giraffe numbers fell 60 pc in the roughly three decades to 2018, the IUCN says.

The Nubian giraffe meanwhile has suffered a tragic decline of 97 pc, pushing this rarer variety toward total extinction.

Further afield in Central Africa, the Kordofan giraffe, another of the multitude subspecies, has witnessed an 85 pc decrease.

In 2010, giraffes were a species of "least concern" on the IUCN red list. But six years later they leapt to "vulnerable", one step down from critical, catching many by surprise.

"This is why for the giraffe we speak of the threat of a silent extinction," said Jenna Stacy-Dawes, research coordinator at the San

Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research.

Mysterious giants

Despite this, an international effort underway to put giraffes squarely on the global conservation agenda has divided professional opinion.

Six African nations are push-

ing to regulate the international trade in giraffes under the UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), which meets from August 17 to 28 in Geneva.

Those advocating for the change, including Kenya, want the giraffe classified as "a species that, although not necessarily currently threatened with extinction, could become so if trade in their specimens were not closely controlled". Critics however say

there is little evidence the international wildlife trade is responsible for dwindling giraffe numbers. A lack of reliable data has long hindered efforts to protect them.

"Compared to other charismatic species like elephants, lions and rhinos, we know very little about giraffes," said Symon Masiaine, a coordinator in the Twiga Walinzi giraffe study and protection program, which began in Kenya in 2016.

"Nowadays, we are still far behind, but we are making progress." Almost nothing is reliably known about giraffe populations in Somalia, South Sudan and eastern parts of Democratic Republic of Congo, where collecting such information is perilously difficult.

But even research outside

conflict zones has been patchy.

Arthur Muneza, from the Giraffe Preservation Foundation, said the first long-term study of giraffes was not carried out until 2004. Data on giraffes is often gathered as an afterthought by researchers focussing on other wildlife, he added.

"Without reliable data, it is more difficult to take appropriate conservation measures," Muneza said.

It was not until 2018 that the IUCN had enough statistics to be able to differentiate the threat levels facing many giraffe subspecies.

The reticulated and Masai giraffes, for examples, were classified as "endangered" while the Nubian and Kordofan were "critically endangered".

Trophy hunting

Under the proposal before CITES, the legal trade in giraffe parts, including those obtained by trophy hunters on Africa's legal game reserves, would be globally regulated.

Member countries would be required to record the export of giraffe parts or artefacts, something only the United States currently does, and permits would be required for their trade.

But observers say the limited information available suggests most of this trade originates from places where giraffe numbers are actually rebounding, like South Africa and Namibia, where game hunting is legal.

Muneza says there isn't a clear enough picture that the legal trade is linked to declining giraffe numbers.

"The first step should be to conduct a study to find out the extent of international trade and its influence on giraffe populations," he said.

Those supporting the proposal before Geneva talk of a "precautionary principle" -- doing something now before it is too late.

For Masiaine, the Kenyan giraffe researcher, any publicity is good publicity for these poorly-understood long-necked herbivores.

"It means that people are talking about the giraffe," he said. "And the species really needs that."



Compared to other charismatic species like elephants, lions and rhinos, we know very little about giraffes. Nowadays, we are still far behind, but we are making progress

SYMON MASI AINE

A COORDINATOR IN THE TWIGA WALINZI GIRAFFE STUDY AND PROTECTION PROGRAM, WHICH BEGAN IN KENYA IN 2016.

Top Canadian police official arrested on spying charges



Members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) ride onto Horse Guards Parade

AFP | Ottawa

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said on Friday that they had arrested a senior intelligence officer for allegedly stealing sensitive documents.

Cameron Ortis faces five charges under Canada's criminal code and its Security of Information Act, the federal police agency said in a statement.

"The allegations are that he obtained, stored, processed sensitive information, we believe with the intent to communicate it to people that he shouldn't be communicating it to," prosecutor John MacFarlane told journalists after Ortis appeared in court on Friday.

Canada's Global News reported that Ortis, who was arrested Thursday, was a top advisor to former RCMP commissioner Bob Paulson, and had control over counter-intelligence operations.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who is campaigning for a second term in office, told reporters at an election rally "I can assure you that the authorities are taking this extremely seriously," without comment-

ing further.

His opponent Conservative leader Andrew Scheer said it was "extremely concerning that a senior RCMP intelligence officer has been arrested for leaking national security information."

"This is another reminder of the threats we face from foreign actors," said Scheer, who is tied in the polls with Trudeau.

The RCMP fears Ortis stole "large quantities of information, which could compromise an untold number of investigations," according to Global News, which first reported the arrest.

Canada is a member of the "Five Eyes" intelligence alliance with Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain and the United States.

The public broadcaster Radio-Canada said Ortis is a specialist in East Asia, critical infrastructure and online "bots."

On the LinkedIn social network, the account of a person named Cameron Ortis indicates that he has worked for the Canadian government since 2007 after receiving a doctorate in international relations and political science at The University of British Columbia.

Hurricane-hit Bahamas faces tropical storm



A man bikes past destroyed homes in Marsh Harbour, Bahamas



Winds of up to 60 miles (100 kilometres) per hour were expected and heavy rainfall could bring some flooding to the already saturated islands

express my solidarity with the Bahamian people" and "ways we can continue supporting them."

He said 75 percent of all buildings had been destroyed in some areas by Dorian, a Category 5 storm.

"Hospitals are either in ruins, or overwhelmed," Guterres said. "Schools have been turned into rubble. Thousands of people will continue to need help with food, water and shelter."

He said the hurricane demonstrated the need to address climate change.

"In our new era of climate crisis, hurricanes and storms are turbo-charged," Guterres said. "They happen with greater intensity and frequency -? a direct result of warmer oceans."

"Science is telling us: this is just the start. Without urgent action, climate disruption is only going to get worse. Every week brings news of climate-related devastation."

Meanwhile, NEMA raised the death toll from 50 to 52 -- although officials have said they expect it to rise significantly.

Former prime minister Hubert Ingraham said earlier this week he feared the final death toll could be in the hundreds.

● **The storm is expected to strengthen into a hurricane, threatening to disrupt relief and rescue efforts**

● **A warning was issued for the northern Bahamas, already ravaged by Hurricane Dorian**

AFP | Washington

The devastated northern Bahama islands faced a fresh tropical storm yesterday, potentially complicating desperately needed relief efforts to the shattered archipelago in the wake of Hurricane Dorian.

The announcement from

the National Hurricane Centre (NHC) came after it had warned early Friday that a strengthening tropical depression was heading for the same islands hit by Dorian last week.

The storm, dubbed Humberto, is expected to strengthen into a hurricane, moving very near the northwestern Bahamas, before shifting to offshore Florida after the weekend, the Miami-based forecaster said.

Grand Bahama and Abaco -- in the path of the strengthening weather system, according to Bahamian forecasters -- were among the worst-hit by Dorian.

Carl Smith, a spokesman for the Bahamian National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), warned the storm could have an impact on relief and recovery efforts on the islands.

"The weather system will

slow down logistics," Smith told a press conference in Nassau, the capital. "Fuel and water remain the biggest needs in Abaco."

Humberto was generating 40 mile (64 kilometre) per hour winds, the NHC said, and was expected to become a hurricane in two or three days.

Winds of up to 60 miles (100 kilometres) per hour were expected and heavy rainfall could bring some flooding to the already saturated islands, said the Department of Meteorology's director Trevor Basden.

The announcement that yet another storm would lash the Bahamas came as UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres warned of the dangers of climate change during a visit to the hurricane-battered archipelago.

Guterres said in a tweet he had come to the Bahamas "to

Alaska seal die-off spurs government investigation

Reuters | Anchorage, Alaska

US government biologists are investigating the deaths of nearly 300 Arctic ice seals found on Alaska beaches since last summer, a phenomenon they suspect is driven by warming seas, federal officials said on Thursday.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on Thursday declared the seal die-off an "unusual mortality event," a designation that allows extra resources to be used to



One of many dead seals found washed up on beaches in Alaska

determine the cause.

So far, 282 seal carcasses have been discovered since June 2018. Fewer than half - 119 - were found last year, NOAA said.

That is five times the normal mortality rate for such seals, according to NOAA.

The carcasses likely account for a small fraction of the total

number of dead seals, as scientists assume the majority of stricken animals would sink after dying or otherwise never make it to shore, said Julie Speegle, an Alaska spokeswoman for NOAA's Fisheries Service.

The die-off comes as Arctic Alaska sea ice is scarce and sea temperatures are unusually high - conditions most scientists attribute to global warming brought on by human-caused increases of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere.

Blast at Indonesian police warehouse holding World War Two munitions

Reuters | Jakarta

An explosion went off yesterday in an Indonesian police evidence warehouse containing munitions dating from World War Two, injuring one officer and prompting the evacuation of nearby residents, police said.

The warehouse is in the Mobile Police Brigade headquarters in Sronдол, close to the

city of Semarang in Central Java province.

The explosion happened at 7 a.m. (0000 GMT), provincial police chief A. Dahniel told Kompas TV, adding that the explosives stored in the warehouse had been found by residents.

The cause of the blast was being investigated and firefighters had been deployed to tackle a blaze that it triggered.

Solid gold toilet stolen from English stately home

AFP London

A gang of thieves yesterday stole an 18-carat gold toilet from an art exhibition at Britain's Blenheim Palace, police said -- causing flooding to the World Heritage Site.

The fully-functioning piece by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan, dubbed "America", was once displayed at New York's Guggenheim museum and offered

on loan to US President Donald Trump.

A 66-year-old man has been arrested over the theft at the 18th-century stately home in Oxfordshire, where an exhibition of Cattelan works opened on Thursday.

"The offenders broke into the palace overnight and left the scene at about 4.50am (0350 GMT). No-one was injured during the burglary," local police said.



A fully functioning solid gold toilet, made by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan, on display at the Guggenheim Museum in New York

Detective Inspector Jess Milne said: "The piece of art that has been stolen is a high-value toilet made out of gold that was on display at the palace."

"Due to the toilet being plumbed into the building, this has caused significant damage and flooding."

"We believe a group of offenders used at least two vehicles during the offence."

"The artwork has not been recovered at this time but we are

conducting a thorough investigation to find it and bring those responsible to justice."

Blenheim Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was closed to the public yesterday morning due to "an incident", but it did not give further details.

The palace is home to the 12th duke of Marlborough and his family, and was also the birthplace of British wartime leader Winston Churchill.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

YOUR SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS LIES IN YOU. RESOLVE TO KEEP HAPPY, AND YOUR JOY AND YOU SHALL FORM AN INVINCIBLE HOST AGAINST DIFFICULTIES.
HELEN KELLER

Bolton's exit shows Trump remains his own man in US foreign policy matters

In any White House battle over the direction of American foreign policy, Mr Trump is always going to emerge victorious

CON COUGHLIN

The addition of John Bolton, the former US national security adviser, to the long list of distinguished American foreign policy experts who have lost their jobs during Donald Trump's presidency demonstrates that, for all his lack of experience in the world of foreign diplomacy, the American president is not a man to be trifled with.

Prior to Mr Bolton's precipitate departure from the White House earlier this week, the Trump administration had presided over a steady stream of high-profile national security officials leaving their jobs, including former defence secretary James Mattis and Mr Bolton's immediate predecessor, HR McMaster.

In each case the departures have occurred because sharp differences of opinion have emerged between the president and his key advisers over the direction of American policy.

In both instances one of the reasons given for the breakdown in relations between both Mr Mattis and Mr McMaster and the Oval Office was their more robust approach to national security issues, especially American policy towards Afghanistan.

Having held senior command positions during America's long-running military engagement in Afghanistan in the wake of the September 11 attacks in 2001, both men felt strongly that America should continue to support the democratically elected Afghan government in its continuing battle against the Taliban

and other Islamist terror groups such as ISIS that are operating in the country.

They were firmly of the view that, after the loss of more than 4,000 American lives in Afghanistan and a military campaign that has cost an estimated \$1 trillion, it was very much in America's national interest to ensure that, following the withdrawal of the bulk of US troops at the end of 2014, the country did not once again fall into the hands of the Taliban and become a safe haven for Islamist terror groups to plot attacks against the West.

Mr Bolton, whose involvement in the Afghan issue dates back at least to the Bush administration, had a similar outlook on the issue. His preference was for maintaining a significant American military presence – the number of US forces currently based in the country stands at around 15,000 – in support of the government of Afghan President Ashraf Ghani.

Afghanistan's fledgling democracy is, after all, one of the few tangible gains of the US-led military intervention in the country, one that allows ordinary Afghans a say in the way their country is governed for the first time in their history. And, as a prominent supporter of the neo-conservative movement, which campaigns for the introduction of Western-style democracy in countries with no tradition of democratic rule, Mr Bolton was committed to supporting the Afghan government.

The other important national security consideration from Washington's point of view is that sustaining a democratically



John Bolton's desire to maintain support for the Afghan government was at odds with

the elected government in power in Kabul is the best way of preventing the country from being overrun by Islamist terror groups.

The problem for Mr Bolton, as well as other distinguished US national security experts like Mr Mattis and Mr McMaster, is that their desire to maintain support for the Afghan government was at odds with Mr Trump's desire to end America's involvement in costly and politically damaging overseas military adventures.

Mr Trump's preferred outcome, so far as Washington's involvement in Afghanistan is concerned, is to negotiate a deal

that ends the country's long-running civil war, one that allows remaining American forces in the country to return home – preferably in time for next year's presidential election contest.

And it is to this end that Mr Trump has encouraged Zalmay Khalidzad, the Afghan-born US diplomat, to engage in talks with the Taliban aimed at ending the conflict.

Indeed, such was the president's enthusiasm for the process that he even decided to invite a group of Taliban leaders to Camp David earlier this week in the hope of securing a deal.

Whether Netanyahu wins Israeli elections or

BEN WHITE

Just days before going to the polls for the second time this year, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced, to much fanfare on home turf, that he planned to annex the Jordan Valley region of the occupied West Bank should he secure another term in office.

It was a move intended to rally right-wing voters behind his party, Likud, which remains in close competition with the opposition Blue and White list. Having failed to form a government in April's election and with corruption charges looming over him, the stakes have never been higher for Mr Netanyahu.

Describing the reportedly pending peace plan of the US administration as an "historic opportunity", Mr Netanyahu said he would seek to "apply sovereignty in the communities and other areas" – the euphemistic language used to describe annexing settlements – in co-ordination with the US. In his crosshairs is one quarter of the occupied West Bank, where thousands of illegal Israeli settlers already live.

Yet even if Mr Netanyahu fails to emerge as head of a right-wing government after Tuesday's vote and the coalition talks which will follow, or ultimately ends up being forced out of politics on a criminal indictment, none of the possible outcomes of this election favour Palestinians.

With or without Mr Netanyahu, Likud as a party and its senior

figures are opposed to Palestinian statehood, a policy of rejection shared by the main opposition list. One has only to observe how the Blue and White party's response to Mr Netanyahu's promise to annex the Jordan Valley was to accuse him of stealing their policy rather than condemning it altogether.

Appealing to his base, Mr Netanyahu is hoping to do what he failed to in April's election, when both Likud and the rival Blue and White party tied for 35 seats each: namely, to form a stable coalition government. Then, to thwart the possibility of opposition parties forming an alternative coalition, Mr Netanyahu opted instead to dissolve the Knesset and push for fresh elections.

Yet with just days to go, it remains unclear whether this election re-run will produce a drastically different result from the previous time, let alone a majority coalition for his Likud party.

The long-serving prime minister's natural partners are parties further to the right, such as the Yamina alliance headed by former justice minister Ayelet Shaked, and the two parties representing the interests of ultra-orthodox Jewish Israelis, Shas and United Torah Judaism (UTJ).

According to the polls, however, Likud and its allies will struggle to cross the 60-seat threshold needed to form a majority in the Knesset.

This was, in fact, precisely the problem in April, when Mr Netanyahu found himself needing the support of right-wing former minister Avigdor Lieberman.



A Likud party election campaign banner depicts Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and US President Donald Trump in Jerusalem.

The Yisrael Beiteinu party chair, however, refused to budge on his demand that ultra-orthodox students do military service, setting up an irresolvable clash with Shas and UTJ.

With polls predicting a similar outcome to April, when Likud and the opposition list Blue and White secured just over a quarter of the Knesset's seats each, the stage is set for Mr Lieberman to play the role of kingmaker.

For his part, Mr Lieberman is

heading into the new elections calling for a unity government to include Likud, Blue and White and his own party, as a way of excluding ultra-orthodox factions from gaining power.

Meanwhile, Blue and White's leader, Benny Gantz, a former head of the Israeli military, has declared that he will only sit in government with Likud if Mr Netanyahu is replaced as party leader.

Such a message resonates with many Jewish Israelis, for whom

the looming corruption indictment faced by Mr Netanyahu means that Israel's longest-serving prime minister is no longer fit for office.

Mr Netanyahu faces charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust in three separate cases in which he is accused of offering favours in exchange for gifts, and promising privileges to media outlet owners in exchange for more favourable coverage.

A pre-trial indictment hearing will take place in early October, the

Likud, the party in power, and the Blue and White opposition are both opposed to Palestinian statehood

1972

A Scandinavian Airlines System domestic flight from Gothenburg to Stockholm is hijacked and flown to **Malmö Bulltofta Airport**.

1974

Air Vietnam Flight 706 is hijacked, then crashes while attempting to land with 75 on board.

1975

The French department of “Corse” (the entire island of Corsica) is divided into two: Haute-Corse (Upper Corsica) and Corse-du-Sud (Southern Corsica)



1978

Muhammad Ali outpointed Leon Spinks in a rematch to become the first boxer to win the world heavyweight title three times at the Superdome in New Orleans.



Donald Trump's desire to end America's involvement in military adventures.

In any event Mr Trump decided to cancel the meeting, not because of Mr Bolton's objections, but because the Taliban claimed responsibility for carrying out a terrorist attack that claimed the life of an American soldier.

There is nothing Mr Trump likes more than doing a deal. The primary motivation for his face-to-face meetings with North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un is to negotiate a deal that would end the decades-long stand-off between Washington and Pyongyang over North Korea's nuclear programme.

Mr Trump has adopted a similar approach to the Iran issue. It is often forgotten that when Mr Trump initially signalled his intention to withdraw from the Iran nuclear deal last year, his primary objective was to get a better deal with Tehran, one that

covered other aspects of Iran's nuclear programme such as ballistic missiles, rather than provoking a military confrontation. And this still remains his primary objective, as demonstrated by his suggestion that he would like to meet with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani.

But the president's love of a deal has often put him at loggerheads with hawkish foreign policy veterans such as Mr Bolton who believe adopting a more robust approach to rogue states such as North Korea and Iran is a better way of achieving results.

This was certainly Mr Bolton's view with regard to the Taliban, a movement he continues to regard as a terrorist organisation.

And the notion that Mr Trump was prepared to entertain Taliban leaders at Camp David as America prepared to commemorate the 18th anniversary of the September 11 attacks was clearly too much for Mr Bolton, who is reported to have protested his opposition to the meeting taking place in the strongest possible terms.

In any event Mr Trump decided to cancel the meeting, not because of Mr Bolton's objections, but because the Taliban claimed responsibility for carrying out a terrorist attack that claimed the life of an American soldier.

Nevertheless, Mr Bolton's position became untenable, and the president demanded, and received, his resignation. Which only goes to show that, in any White House battle over the direction of American foreign policy, Mr Trump is always going to emerge victorious.

not, Palestinians will lose

Mr Netanyahu faces charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust in three separate cases in which he is accused of offering favours in exchange for gifts.

Yehudit party, for example, might either give Mr Netanyahu another four or more seats for a coalition, or fail to reach the Knesset at all, which would mean squandered votes.

Meanwhile, the only thing holding the Blue and White party together – an alliance of convenience between Mr Gantz's Israel Resilience, Yair Lapid's Yesh Atid and Moshe Yaalon's Telem – is opposition to Mr Netanyahu. Yet a plurality of voters still see Mr Netanyahu as most qualified to be prime minister.

With all these and other variables at play, there are, unsurprisingly, a few different possible scenarios that could emerge.

Mr Netanyahu's ideal outcome would see Likud and its right-wing allies acquire more than 60 seats collectively, allowing him to form a new Likud-led government while providing him with the opportunity to try to pass legislation that would guarantee him immunity from prosecution.

Another – highly unlikely – scenario would see the Blue and White party, the Democratic Camp (Ehud Barak's team-up with Meretz) and Labour-Gesher secure enough seats to form a minority government with the support – from outside the coalition government – of the Joint List.

However, a more probable outcome, based on current predictions, would see neither Likud nor the Blue and White parties able to form a coalition, under which circumstances Mr Lieberman could be in a strong position to negoti-

ate a Likud-Blue and White unity government that includes Yisrael Beiteinu.

According to one poll, more than one-third of Jewish Israelis prefer a unity government headed either by Mr Gantz or Mr Netanyahu – a total of 39 per cent – compared to 32 per cent indicating they would prefer a right-wing government led by Mr Netanyahu.

Beyond those broad brushstrokes, further permutations are also possible, such as Likud deciding to ditch Mr Netanyahu in the context of forming a unity government with the Blue and White, or Mr Netanyahu tempting elements of the Blue and White party into a coalition government.

But what does all this mean for the Palestinians – and how will the election impact on the Trump administration's reported intention to reveal its political vision for the region?

If the Trump administration does indeed release a plan or the outline of one – and it's not impossible that the entire thing could be shelved, particularly now that one of its chief architects, Jason Greenblatt, has left office – the status quo experienced by the Palestinians under a colonial occupation will not change any time soon.

This, then, is perhaps the grimest aspect of the new election. With no shortage of drama, subplots, and political intrigue, on the one issue that matters the most – the apartheid regime imposed on Palestinians – the election will ultimately make the least amount of difference.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



As Prime Minister, a priority of mine will be to end the scandal of people forced to sleep rough on our streets here in Edinburgh and across Britain. We're the sixth richest country in the world - there is certainly enough wealth in our society for everyone to have good housing.

@jeremycorbyn

02



New York public schools gives permission for students to leave school to participate in the global climate strike on Sept 20. How will local governments and schools in the rest of the world respond? Time is running out...

@GretaThunberg

03



Honoured to unveil a statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Villeneuve, Switzerland. Grateful to the Commune of Villeneuve for bringing Gandhiji to the banks of Lake Geneva and for naming the Square after him #PresidentKovind

@rashtrapatibhvn

04



You can never trust someone who doesn't tell you the truth. Lies in public office are profoundly disempowering, and rarely forgiven. @BorisJohnson believes the ends justify the means. And that will be the end of him.

@drphilhammond

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

Nurturing a knowledge economy



CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

It seems very appropriate to be celebrating the induction of 12,000 first-graders into the public school system of Bahrain last week in this centenary year of formal education in Bahrain.

The very first school was established in 1919 – it was the Al-Hidaya Al-Khalifia Boys School in Muharraq.

The school was in fact the brainchild of Shaikh Abdulla bin Isa Al-Khalifa, the son of the then-ruler of Bahrain Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa, who acted as the de facto Minister of Education, who suggested the idea after returning from post-World War I celebrations in England.

Today, we are proud of our state-of-the-art Ministry of Education in whose hands we place the future of Bahrain.

Our children are entrusted to their care and they mould their thinking and their character to serve Bahrain.

The system itself has become responsive to the changes that are demanded by a dynamic workplace and we have quality assessments based on in-depth surveys, new teaching methodology and also new streams of education which will suit the individual needs of students.

The old one-size-fits-all approach has given way to a system that helps students explore their strengths through counselling and opt for less conventional education such as Polytechnics, specialised training streams for writing code, AI etc.

There is also a formal channel for bright Bahrainis to study abroad – the Crown Prince's International Scholarship Programme has so far enabled over 160 of Bahrain's brightest high school graduates to pursue higher education degrees at top international universities around the world.

The Ministry also awards generous scholarships and stipends to students for various fields of study around the world.

Education forms a key part of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030, the long-term development strategy which is embedded in our Kingdom's development philosophy.

What we need now is to once again change direction in order to step into the world of knowledge-based industry.

A 2014 study showed that only 10 per cent of Bahraini students were enrolled in STEM fields, while 60pc were in business-related programmes.

In addition, only 1pc of students were engaged in PhD studies.

Where Bahrainis were encouraged to specialise in commerce and finance to undertake leadership roles in banking, finance and trading, today the urgent need of the hour is for science-based education.

The ministry is encouraging the adoption of STEM-based curricula and classroom teaching – that's Science + Technology + Engineering + Maths. We should also encourage research and invention so that we can own the knowledge economy of today.

Made in Bahrain need no longer be just machinery or food. It can well be AI, bots or code written here to serve the world.

The 145,000 boys and girls who started their school year last week need to be encouraged to see this choice and embrace it.

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

business

Ebdaa Bank for Microfinance launches school loan

TDT | Manama

Ebdaa Bank for Microfinance announced "School Loan" to coincide with back-to-school season, which aims to give entrepreneurs customers greater financial resources and provide incentives for those wishing to activate their business and fill their shops and stationaries with school supplies.

The loan was launched to be tailored to meet the requirements of customers, which features the loan from BD 200 and maximum loan up to BD 1000, payment in monthly installments to be settled before 13 months, easy documentation, and quick processing, as part of Bank's role in supporting low-income and micro-enterprises in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Chief Executive Officer of Ebdaa Bank, Dr. Khaled Walid Al-Ghazawi, stated that the loan was designed to meet the needs and requirements of entrepreneurs and stationaries owners with the provision of concessional settlement period. He said: "Every year, more students are registered to school, and their school supplies requirements are increasing, thus increasing our responsibility to provide the necessary affordable liquidity to trigger the seasonal commercial market that is active in the back-to-school season."

"The school loan also aims to support entrepreneurs, home businesses, housewives and other Bahrainis wishing to take advantage of the back-to-school season to set up temporary projects to sell clothes, bags or school requirements by providing them with the necessary liquidity." Said Dr. Al-Ghazawi.



Dr. Khalid Al Ghazawi

In that direction, the Bank is offering this seasonal loan during this period of each year, for its contribution in stimulating commercial movement that hundreds of stationeries and stores have benefited from this loan during the past years.

School loan is one of Bank's seasonal loans that is featured with quick processing. However, borrower shall not be under 23 and not older than 60 years old. Furthermore, the borrower shall have a steady and continuous source of income, and the loan shall be used for purchasing stationery, school uniforms and accessories purposes.

Dr. Al-Ghazawi reiterated the Bank's keenness to achieve its vision to expand the middle class in the Bahraini society and improve the living conditions of the targeted group by investing in feasible micro and small projects, pointing to the diversification of the micro-credit base provided by Ebdaa Bank as part of its strategy to expand the middle class by encouraging low-income people to set up their own businesses and support Bahrain Economic Vision 2030.

Crisis-hit Boeing readies huge effort to return 737 MAX to the skies

Reuters | Seattle

As Boeing Co sets its sights on winning approval to fly its 737 MAX within weeks, following a six-month safety ban, engineers around the world are rolling out plans for one of the biggest logistical operations in civil aviation history.

Inside Boeing's 737 factory at Renton, Washington, south of Seattle, workers have pre-assembled dedicated tool kits for technicians tasked with installing software updates and readying over 500 jets that have sat idle for months, insiders said.

Across the globe, Boeing teams are hammering out delivery schedules - and financial terms - with airline customers who have been forced to



Grounded Boeing 737 MAX aircraft are seen parked in an aerial photo at Boeing Field in Seattle, Washington

cancel flights, cut routes and fly aging jetliners while they await the MAX's return.

Although regulators must still approve the jets for flight, Boeing and airline staff and executives say the world's largest planemaker is weeks into an elaborate blueprint for production, maintenance and delivery that one source said involves 1,500 engineers - as many as it takes to design a small new jet.

AUB introduces Deposit Card for business customers

Deposit Card enables employees to deposit cash directly into the business account

TDT | Manama

AUB has launched its Deposit Card for business customers. The card, which can be given to the employees by businesses, enables them to deposit cash directly into the business account without having to dependent on branches.

The employee just needs to visit select AUB ATMs and deposit cash for real time credit to the business account and need not to wait in line or wait for branch opening or closing hours.

As a security measure AUB's deposit card will only be enabled with the deposit function so the card holder can only de-

posit cash without the option to see the balance or withdraw. The account holder that have subscribed for SMS Alerts will receive an Alert for the cash deposits thus having up to date information of the cash deposit transaction.

To accommodate large cash deposits up to 120 notes in a single transaction AUB has introduced bulk cash machines at its Seef Headquarters branch. There is no cap on daily number of transactions at ATM and bulk cash machines. For a list of AUB ATMs enabled with real time cash deposit function visit our website or call 1722 1999.

Launching the new services



AUB Deposit Card

for its customers, AUB's DGCEO - Retail Banking, Suvrat Saigal said "AUB has always been mindful of allowing customers to do their Banking when it is convenient for them.

France, Germany blast Libra, back public cryptocurrency

Facebook's proposed Libra virtual currency has been met with strong regulatory skepticism

● France and Germany say they'll fight the tech giant's attempt to 'claim monetary power'

● Officials have been vocal in their warnings about the danger Libra poses since plans for the virtual currency were announced

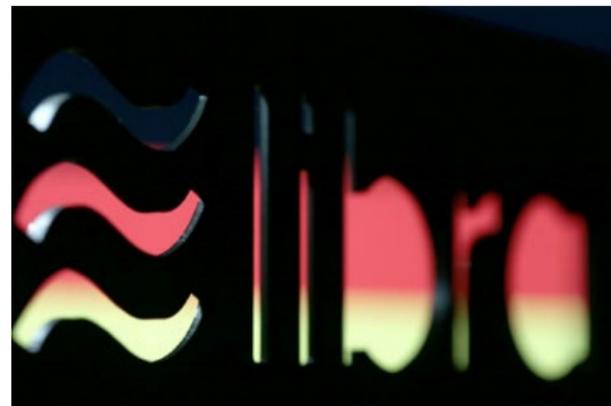
Reuters | Helsinki

France and Germany said on Friday that Facebook Inc's Libra currency posed risks to the financial sector that could block its authorisation in Europe, and backed the development of an alternative public cryptocurrency.

The criticism came as the European Central Bank said it was working on a long-term plan to launch a public digital currency that could make projects such as Libra redundant.

Virtual currencies pose risks to consumers, financial stability and even "the monetary sovereignty" of European states, France's finance minister, Bruno Le Maire, and his German counterpart, Olaf Scholz, said in a joint statement issued at a meeting of euro zone finance ministers in Helsinki.

"France and Germany consider that the Libra project, as set out in Facebook's blueprint, fails to convince that those risks will be properly addressed," they said.



A 3D-printed Facebook Libra cryptocurrency logo is seen in front of displayed German flag

The 19-country euro zone bloc is united in pursuing a tough regulatory approach should Libra seek authorisations to operate in Europe, officials said at the meeting.

It is also considering a common set of rules for virtual currencies, which are currently largely unregulated.

The currency union has worked in past years on several plans to make digital payments cheaper and faster, but none of them has properly taken off so far.

The Libra Association, a 28-member organisation Facebook is setting up in Switzerland to manage the currency, said it welcomed the feedback.

Members "are committed to working with regulatory authorities to achieve a safe, transparent and consumer-focused implementation of the Libra project," Dante Disparic, the group's head of policy

and communications, said in a statement.

Wake-up call

Plans unveiled in June by US social media giant Facebook to launch its own digital currency, Libra, for payments among its hundreds of millions of users in Europe and around the world have triggered a rethink.

Libra was "a wake-up call", European Central Bank (ECB) board member Benoit Coeure told a news conference in Helsinki after a meeting of euro zone finance ministers.

He said Libra had revived efforts to widen the uptake of an ECB-backed project for real-time payments in the euro zone, known as TIPS. The project, launched last year, has been met with caution by banks.

"We also need to step up our thinking on a central bank digital currency," he added, unveiling a so far little-known plan.

Authorities are concerned about the possibility that the currency could help people abandon national currencies in times of crisis, complicating the efforts of a government to manage the economy

An ECB official said the project could allow consumers to use electronic cash, which would be directly deposited at the ECB, without need for bank accounts, financial intermediaries or clearing counterparties.

These actors are all needed now to process digital payments, but may no longer be necessary if the ECB took over their functions, slashing transaction costs. Libra's plan also would do without financial intermediaries.

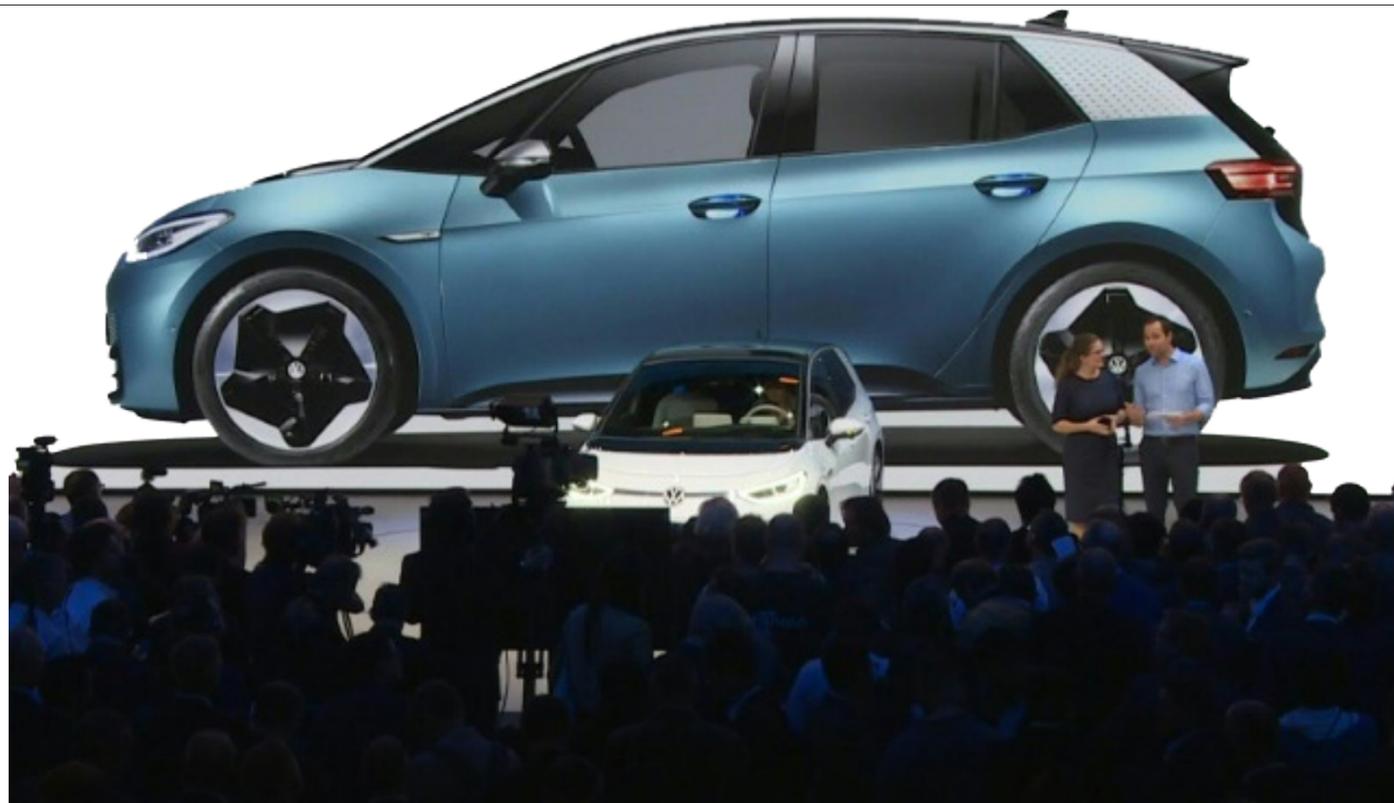
Work on the ECB project started before the launch of Libra and could last months or even years, Coeure said. The technical feasibility remains to be seen and opposition from banks is likely. He will present a report on virtual currencies to G7 finance ministers next month, officials said.

Le Maire said one of the purposes of this initiative was to make sure that banks reduce fees on international payments.



Carmakers near CO2 cliff-edge in electric race

By next year, CO2 must be cut to 95 grammes per kilometre for 95 per cent of cars from the current 120.5g average - a figure that has risen of late as consumers spurn fuel-efficient diesels and embrace SUVs. All new cars in the EU must be compliant in 2021



Volkswagen unveils the ID.3 compact sedan, the first of a series of new electric models, a 30 billion bet to try to make a name for itself in electro-mobility and turn the page on dieselgate

● Ford said it would launch eight electric vehicles in Europe this year

● Fines could total 25 billion euros in 2021 if current lineups were left unchanged

Reuters | Paris/Frankfurt

Time is running out for European carmakers, which have waited until the last minute to try to meet ambitious EU emissions targets and face billions in fines if they fail to comply.

Manufacturers from PSA Group to Volkswagen are using the Frankfurt auto show to reveal the new models and strategies they hope can slash carbon dioxide emissions within months.

But it is a challenge fraught with danger, as the cost of pushing pricey technology on unconvinced consumers could hammer profits in an industry already suffering a downturn in sales.

"You have cars that cost an extra 10,000 euros to build, fleet-emissions targets requiring a certain sales volume and consumers who may or may not want them," said one PSA executive.

"All the ingredients are there for a powerful explosive."

By next year, CO2 must be cut to 95 grammes per kilometre for 95 per cent of cars from the current

120.5g average - a figure that has risen of late as consumers spurn fuel-efficient diesels and embrace SUVs. All new cars in the EU must be compliant in 2021.

The timing could hardly be worse, with the main auto markets in decline and the sector braced for a chaotic UK exit from the European Union and a lengthy U.S.-China trade war.

The industry has long since given up pushing for the goals to be relaxed - a political impossibility underlined by a resurgent climate protest movement that has added the Frankfurt show to its target list. Greenpeace inflated a large, black "CO2" balloon outside a main entrance on Tuesday.

New electric cars wheeled out at the show include PSA Group's Opel Corsa-e mini and the ID.3 compact from Volkswagen. The German carmaker is also making hybrid power standard-issue in its Golf bestseller.

Fiat Chrysler, which lacks adequate green technology, has agreed to pay Tesla hundreds of millions of euros to pool emissions scores with its electric cars and escape penalties.

Cruch Time

For years, image-conscious mass automakers have placed electrified models at the centre of their show stands but near the margins of their commercial offerings. Only now will they be forced to sell them in large numbers, challenging profitability.

Sales of electric cars will need to triple to 6pc of the market by 2021 and rechargeable hybrids surge five-fold to a 5pc market share, German engineering firm FEV Consulting estimates.

A further 15pc cut in CO2 is required by 2025, extending to 37.5pc by 2030. Fines of 95 euros (84.97 pounds) per car, per excess gramme of CO2 quickly add up to hundreds of millions.

While Mercedes has "all the right vehicles on offer to reach those targets", Daimler boss Ola Kaellenius said, "we cannot mandate what the customer buys."

Mass appetite for electrified cars remains "very unclear", Bernstein analyst Max Warburton also warned in a recent note.

"It's going to require the industry to force quite a lot of cars into the market," Warburton predicted, with carmakers leaning on discounted sales

to fleets and their own employees.

Rather than incur fines that could total 25 billion euros in 2021 if current lineups were left unchanged, carmakers are engaged in a huge product overhaul likely to wipe more than half that amount from combined profits, Bernstein projects.

Ford said it would launch eight electric vehicles in Europe this year. Many electrified offerings are arriving just in time - or in many cases too late - for deliveries to begin in January, when less efficient models will also become more scarce.

Hard on the heels of VW's electric ID.3, the Golf 8 to be unveiled next month heralds a mass deployment of 48-volt hybrid technology at the very heart of Europe's auto market.

Such mild hybrids add less cost, starting at 500 euros per car, but bring more modest emissions cuts than plug-in hybrids or pure electrics costing an extra 5,000-10,000 euros, by comparison with an equivalent gasoline model.

Model Cull

French carmakers face a bigger hit to margins than German rivals, analysts say, because they lack significant U.S. and Chinese earnings to soften the blow.

Renault, reliant on its ageing Zoe electric car, is rushing to add hybrid versions of its Clio and Captur subcompacts now expected in the second quarter of 2020.

PSA is counting on pricier plug-ins and electric versions of its DS3, Peugeot 208 and Opel Corsa to claim 7pc of its total sales. It has also scrapped less-efficient Opel models and will halt sportier versions including the Peugeot 208 GTi and 308 GT.

Some of PSA's rivals will struggle to survive the next decade of carbon regulation, CEO Carlos Tavares said. "I'd be surprised if we didn't see a few bankruptcies, considering the amplitude of the coming change."

The cull of less efficient models and engines is being replicated across the sector, threatening automotive jobs already squeezed by the shift to electrification.

With regulatory softening off-limits, the jobs threat may instead prompt new government sales incentives to limit losses and help steer demand to greener cars, some executives believe.

The head of German auto supplier Continental appealed --for state aid to defend jobs, investment and innovation that he said were endangered by CO2 penalties.

"The time to relieve the burden on industry and consumers is now," Chief Executive Elmar Degenhardt told reporters.



BMW Concept 4 is pictured at the 2019 Frankfurt Motor Show (IAA) in Frankfurt, Germany

Protests against German car industry rev up in Frankfurt

The exhibition, a staple of the global automotive calendar, has been the target of protests by environmentalist groups like Greenpeace and Sand in the Works because of the contribution Germany's vast car industry makes to climate change

● Activists were present at car launches, standing on parked cars within the exhibition centre holding Climate Killer posters within the sight of Merkel and of car bosses

AFP | Frankfurt am Main

Environmental campaigners plan to disrupt the Frankfurt motor show this weekend as Germany's car industry comes under increasing pressure to go green and abandon internal combustion engines.

"The car industry has cheated on diesel and is contributing to the worsening climate crisis," said Gerald Neubauer, a spokesman for the campaign group Campact, which is co-organising a demonstration yesterday at Frankfurt's biennial International Motor Show (IAA).

Police say thousands of demonstrators are expected to walk or cycle to Frankfurt's Exhibition Centre and activists want to disrupt the car show by blocking the surrounding streets on Sunday.

"We want a revolution in modes of transport," said a spokeswoman for the climate action group Sand in the Gearbox.

The combination of protests and civil disobedience aimed at Germany's car industry shows the sector no longer enjoys the untouchable status it once held as a key driver in Europe's biggest economy.

Diesel-fuelled cars have remained at low levels of popularity in Germany following Volkswagen's massive "dieselgate" emissions cheating scandal of 2015.

The 10-day long IAA show,



A Greenpeace activist protested at the Frankfurt motor show earlier this week by standing on top of a SUV on display with a poster that read 'Climate Killers'

where the latest automobile trends are being showcased until September 22, is crystallising tensions over the car industry in Germany, where climate change is shaking up the public discourse.

'Climate killers'

There are already calls to ban gas-guzzling SUVs from German city centres after four pedestrians, including a three-year-old boy, were killed this month when one mounted the pavement in Berlin.

"Such tank-like cars do not belong in cities," tweeted Stephan von Dassel, a Greens politician

and mayor of Berlin's Mitte district, where the fatal accident happened.

"They are 'climate killers', even without accidents -- every driving error becomes a life-threatening danger for innocent (pedestrians)."

When the Frankfurt car show opened to the press on Tuesday, Greenpeace activists inflated a giant black balloon outside, bearing the inscription CO2.

Then on Thursday at the Volkswagen and BMW stands, protesters climbed on SUVs with signs bearing the slogan "Climate Killers" during a visit by German Chancellor Angela

Merkel.

"The automotive industry has still not understood the climate crisis," Greenpeace activist Benjamin Stephan told AFP.

"Instead of celebrating fuel-guzzling SUVs, manufacturers must put an end to these urban tanks and shut down combustion engines."

Manufacturers must "get out of petrol and diesel, get out of the combustion engine and reduce the number of cars", added Campact's Neubauer.

The vision for many environmental activists is seeing German cities free of cars.

'Under pressure'

"The IAA is a symbolic place, where politicians meet carmakers to congratulate themselves" on an outdated mode of transport, said the Sand in the Gearbox spokeswoman, using the pseudonym Tina "Velo" - bike in French.

"We have to abandon cars, we want car-free cities."

Sand in the Gearbox is representative of a more radical faction of Germany's environmental movement which is prepared to engage in civil disobedience to attract attention.



The 10-day long IAA show, where the latest automobile trends are being showcased until September 22, is crystallising tensions over the car industry in Germany, where climate change is shaking up the public discourse

Movements such as the Extinction Rebellion network, which use non-violent resistance to protest climate change, are spreading across Europe.

In Germany, the similar group Ende Gelaende succeeded in occupying and temporarily shutting down a large brown coal mine in June, which has galvanised the anti-car movement.

"The automotive industry is under pressure -- it no longer has the support of society as it did a few years ago, because it has missed out on developments and has no concepts for the future," added Tina Velo.

Having long been regarded as an essential cog in Europe's biggest economy, Germany's auto industry has reached a crossroads as it struggles to adapt to the trend of electric cars.

On Thursday, Merkel said she would support the sector through "revolutions" in climate protection and digitalisation, but warned firms must develop new technologies and win back lost trust among the public.

Apple, Facebook, Amazon, Google emails demanded in US House panel probe

Reuters | Washington

A US House of Representatives panel on Friday demanded internal emails, detailed financial information and other company records from top executives of Amazon.com Inc., Facebook Inc., Apple Inc. and Alphabet Inc's Google, widening the antitrust probe of Big Tech.

The letters seek by Oct. 14 internal emails over the last decade from Apple CEO Tim Cook, Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Alphabet CEO Larry Page, among others, about acquisitions.

Apple shares fell about 1.8 per cent after the market



The logos of Amazon, Apple, Facebook and Google in a combination photo

opened. While Apple had been mentioned as a potential target, the House letter offered the first concrete evidence of a wide-ranging antitrust investigation.

Apple has faced criticism that its App Store's policies and algorithms support its own products and stifle third-party applications.

EU finance ministers eye simpler fiscal rules

Reuters | Helsinki

European Union finance ministers were holding a first discussion yesterday about how to simplify the EU's complex fiscal rules to help make public finances more sustainable and stabilise economies throughout business cycles.

Originally designed in 1997, the EU rules, called the Stability and Growth Pact, put limits on borrowing in the economic union of countries that share the euro currency, but left members sovereign over government debt and deficits.

After modifications in 2005, 2011 and 2013, the rules have become so complex that the European Commission, which is the guardian of EU laws, each year publishes an almost 100-page handbook to explain how they work, along with many exemp-



European Commission Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis holds a news conference at the EU Commission headquarters in Brussels, Belgium

tions and exceptions.

The two key elements of the rules are a limit on the nominal budget deficit of 3% of GDP and a ceiling on public debt of 60%.

"When we talk about simplification, it does not mean revising the key fiscal targets, just how they are measured and what parameters we use," European Commission vice president Valdis Dombrovskis told report-

ers on entering the talks.

"We now heavily use directly unobservable parameters like the output gap, or structural balance, so the discussion is if we should use more directly observable parameters like nominal debt and expenditure increases," he said.

Officials said, however, that changing the rules could take more than a year of discussions and legal process that would be driven by the new European Commission starting on Nov 1. Dombrovskis will retain his post in the new EU executive.

The ministerial discussion at the informal talks in Helsinki will be based on a report by the independent European Fiscal Board (EFB), requested by the Commission, which argues the elaborate rules should be boiled down to a medium-term cap on public debt.

show

**DREAM GIRL (PG-15)(HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC)**

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 SAAR: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + (11.00 PM THURS/FRI)
 AYUSHMANN KHURRANA, NUSHRAT BHARUCHA, ABHISHEK BANERJEE

THE GOLDFINCH (15+)(DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE : 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.45 + 6.00 + 11.15 PM
 SAAR: 3.00 + 8.30 PM
 ANSEL ELGORT, OAKES FEGLEY, ANEURIN BARNARD

OFFICIAL SECRETS (PG-15)(THRILLER/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE : 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.00 PM
 SAAR: 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM
 KEIRA KNIGHTLEY, RALPH FIENNES, MATT SMITH (XI)

SECTION 375 (15+)(HINDI/DRAMA/THRILLER)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SAAR: 1.45 + 6.30 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)
 AKSHAYE KHANNA, RICHA CHADHA, AJAY BAHL

STRANGE BUT TRUE (PG-15)(DRAMA/THRILLER)

SEEF (II): 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM
 MARGARET QUALLEY, NICK ROBINSON, BRIAN COX

PAILWAN (PG-15)(ACTION/DRAMA/SPORT)

OASIS JUFFAIR :KANNADA : 10.30 AM + 5.00 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR :HINDI 1.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I):KANNADA 12.30 + 3.45 + 7.00 + 10.15 PM
 SEEF (I):HINDI 11.00 AM + 2.15 + 5.30 + 8.45 + 12.00 MN
 AL HAMRA:KANNADA: 3.00 PM
 AKSHAYE KHANNA, RICHA CHADHA, AJAY BAHL

THE BIG TRIP (PG)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 11.30 AM + 1.15 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.45 PM + 12.30 + 2.15 + 4.00 PM

WADI AL SAIL: 11.30 AM + 1.15 + 3.00 + 4.45 PM
 SUSHANT SINGH RAJPUT, SHRADDHA KAPOOR, VARUN SHARMA

ANGEL HAS FALLEN (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.00 + 5.45 + 11.30 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 2.45 + 8.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 10.30 AM + 11.30 AM + 1.00 + 2.00 + 3.30 + 4.30 + 6.00 + 7.00 + 8.30 + 9.30 + 11.00 PM + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
 CITY CENTRE VIP (I): 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 10.45 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 SAAR: 12.30 + 6.00 + (11.30 PM THURS/FRI)
 GERARD BUTLER, MORGAN FREEMAN, JADA PINKETT SMITH

IT CHAPTER TWO (15+)(HORROR/DRAMA)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 2.30 + 8.15 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 11.30 AM + 5.15 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 1.00 + 4.30 + 8.00 + 11.30 PM + (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX 2D) : 2.45 + 9.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 2.15 + 5.30 + 8.45 PM + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 1.15 + 4.30 + 7.45 + 11.00 PM
 SAAR: 12.45 + 4.00 + 7.15 + (10.30 PM THURS/FRI)
 JAMES MCAVOY, JESSICA CHASTAIN, BILL HADER

FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER)

CITY CENTRE: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM



Ansel Elgort in 'The Goldfinch'

● An elegantly made attempt to transport the Pulitzer prize-winning novel to the screen boasts a strong cast but a confused emotional focus

Few things intoxicate filmmakers like beautiful prose. The prettier a novel's words, the more potential it must have as a big-screen adaptation. No wonder, then, that Donna Tartt's Pulitzer-winning novel from 2014, "The Goldfinch," is now a lushly photographed, two-and-a-half-hour epic. With her elegant style and unrivalled gift for capturing the cosmos-sized ache of adolescence, Tartt is surely catnip to any director looking to make a grand and moving film.

Director John Crowley ("Brooklyn") does his best with his version of "The Goldfinch," which attempts to squeeze nearly every one of the novel's 771

pages onto the screen. Faithful isn't the word for this movie — more like reverential. What Crowley has overlooked is that Tartt's book, though an intoxicating read, tells a maddeningly jumbled story that never quite coheres. The result is a movie that has all the weaknesses and

few of the strengths of its source material.

"The Goldfinch" traces the troubled coming-of-age of Theo Decker — played by Oakes Fegley as a precocious tween and Ansel Elgort as a pretentious adult — who loses his mother in a terrorist bombing at the

Metropolitan Museum of Art. From the rubble, he swipes a small Dutch oil painting of a goldfinch — one of her favourites — without fully realizing its value. He'll cling to this stolen memento as he bounces from a temporary home with a wealthy family (led by Nicole Kidman

as the chilly Mrs. Barbour) to a Las Vegas wasteland with his despicable father (a convincing Luke Wilson) and back to Manhattan to stay with Hobie, a gruff antiques dealer (Jeffrey Wright, warm and burnished as one of his Queen Anne dressers).

Young Theo's story can be

compelling, especially as he pines for a girl he barely knows, Pippa (Aimee Laurence and Ashleigh Cummings), and forms an intense, slightly erotic bond with an Eastern European ne'er-do-well named Boris (Finn Wolfhard and Aneurin Barnard). Less interesting is the older Theo, a hollow charmer with a self-destructive streak. Tartt made this mopey character come alive with pages of first-person inner turmoil, but neither screenwriter Peter Straughan nor Elgort manage the same feat. Theo's foray into a dangerous criminal underworld — a sudden shift in tone — feels even less convincing here than in the book.

"The Goldfinch" overflows with mood and ambience, thanks partly to Roger Deakins' painterly cinematography and Trevor Gureckis' gorgeous, piano-based score. Though often entrancing, the movie isn't saying quite as much as it thinks it is. Crowley's love for Tartt's novel may be like Theo's love for Pippa — an overromanticised infatuation with an ideal.

MOVIE REVIEW

The Goldfinch: Donna Tartt adaptation settles for silver

Donna Tartt's best-selling novel gets a long, lavish adaptation, starring Nicole Kidman and Ansel Elgort.



This year's prestige cinematic literary adaptation, **The Goldfinch**, is a version of Donna Tartt's 2013 novel about art, terrorism, and a lost boy growing up that's scrupulously faithful, yet still misses the book's captivating essence



Gwyneth Paltrow's Goop faces criticism over social media post

Los Angeles

While things are pretty sorted on the personal front for actor Gwyneth Paltrow her lifestyle brand Goop facing troubles once again. She faced backlash after Goop shared an obscene snapshot on its Instagram account. Fans and followers spared no time in questioning about her identity and pinpointing the lady's rib cage. "Her rib cage is showing," one follower wrote. "Such a superficial idealised image," wrote someone else. Agreeing with the comment, another person

wrote, "Goop, you get this wrong so often. Your insta posts are millennial white girls and now this unrealistic body image. For claiming to be about empowering women you need a reality check." Many of the followers of the page also asked if the picture was actually of the actor, in the comment section. "Is this Gwyneth?" asked a fan. "It's Gwyneth!" said a convinced follower. However, the lifestyle brand didn't clear the air about who is featured in the post which promoted an article written by Intuitive Energy Healer Dana Childs.



Zayn Malik Los Angeles

Gigi Hadid sued for posting photo of ex Zayn Malik

Supermodel Gigi Hadid has been sued for copyright infringement after she shared a photo of her ex-boyfriend and singer Zayn Malik. Citing copyright infringement, photographer Robert O'Neil has filed a lawsuit against Hadid in the Southern District of New York, reported E! News. "This action arises out of Defendant's unauthorized reproduction and public display of a copyrighted photograph of English singer and songwriter Zayn Malik, owned and registered by O'Neil, a New York-based professional photographer," stated the court documents. The documents also claimed that Hadid "infringed" O'Neil's copyright by "reproducing and publicly displaying" his photo on her Instagram Story. "Gigi Hadid is not, and has never been, licensed or otherwise authorised to reproduce, publically display, distribute and/or use the Photograph," the documents stated further. To resolve the issue, O'Neil wants Hadid to admit that she did infringe his copyrights by posting the photo. The documents further revealed that O'Neil is also seeking to be awarded either "actual damages and Defendant's profits, gains or advantages of any kind attributable to Defendant's infringement of Plaintiff's Photograph" or "statutory damages of up to USD 150,000."



Gigi Hadid

Akon reportedly splits from wife Tricia

Los Angeles

It seems all is not well between the 'Lonely' hit maker Akon and his wife Tricia Ana. Rumours doing the rounds on the internet have suggested that Ana is dating a mystery man. The rumours gained ground after a couple of pictures surfaced online where Ana is seen getting cosy with an unidentified man, according to Aceshowbiz. Ana and Akon got married in a private ceremony in Africa quite sometime ago. It is also reported that the couple have been having a "on and off" relationship for years.



Akon

Johnny Depp declines ex Amber Heard's demand for substance abuse documents

Los Angeles

Superstar Johnny Depp, who was recently found defending his recent advertisement with luxury fashion and beauty brand Dior has refused to turn over records related to his arrests and drug and alcohol treatment to his ex-wife Amber Heard. According to Fox News, Heard had asked for it in order to present the records as part of her defence in his \$50 million defamation suit. The ace actor filed the lawsuit after his ex-wife wrote a news article in March, mentioning herself as a victim of domestic violence.



Johnny Depp

Many Hollywood biggies support Rihanna's charity event

Los Angeles

It was a remarkable evening for singer Rihanna when scores of Hollywood A-listers came out to show support at Fifth Annual Diamond Ball, held at New York's Cipriani Wall Street, profiting the superstar's Clara Lionel Foundation. Though the singer donned a Givenchy Haute Couture and stole the limelight, one of her guests commanded similar attention: Barbados' Prime Minister Mia Mottley. Mottley - who made history in 2018 after she was elected as the first woman Prime Minister of the Caribbean nation (where Rihanna was born and raised) - was honoured with the 2019 Diamond Ball Award for breaking barriers. However, when talking to The Hollywood Reporter ahead of the charity gala, hosted by Seth Meyers, Mottley sidestepped her own achievements to focus on Rihanna's contributions to their beloved island. Barbados is one of the areas that receive assistance from CLF - founded by Rihanna in 2012 and named after her grandparents Clara and Lionel Braithwaite - which benefits impoverished communities across the globe, with an emphasis on health, education, arts, culture, emergency response and combatting climate change.



Rihanna

Jamie Foxx asked Idris Elba to reject 'Django Unchained'

Toronto

Actor Jamie Foxx says he tried to talk actor Idris Elba out of doing "Django Unchained", because he was interested in the 2012 Quentin Tarantino project. During a session at the Toronto International Film Festival, Foxx confessed that he badly wanted to work with Tarantino, reports "etcanada.com". Foxx was disturbed when he got to know that he was not on the shortlist of actors for "Django" after Will Smith had passed on the part, and Elba was rumoured to in contention. In fact, when he got the chance to meet Elba, he tried to deter the actor from taking the lead part. Foxx told Elba that his good looks would be a distraction for the audience. However, Tarantino decided against casting Elba for a specific reason.



Idris Elba, Jamie Foxx

Britney Spears vacations in Hawaii beside family drama

Los Angeles

Britney Spears isn't letting her recent family drama spoil her vacation goals and can be seen enjoying a great vacation on the pacific coast. The singer is enjoying her solo trip by sunbathing in Hawaii amid getting assigned a new conservator. Spears is flooding the internet with her jaw-dropping snaps. Thereafter she posted two clips, where she can be seen sporting multiple outfits one after another. Recently, Britney Spears's father Jamie Spears asked the court to let him stand down as the singer's conservator. This came after Jamie was accused of hurting her 13-year-old son Sean Preston Federline physically.



Britney Spears

Kangana Ranaut: Criticism doesn't make me bitter

Mumbai

She has raised her voice against Nepotism and the ill-treatment that Bollywood often reserves for outsiders, and her approach towards addressing those issues has given her a controversial image. Actress Kangana Ranaut says as long as her intention is right, she does not regret anything she said so far. "I always keep a check on my intention when I raise a voice against anything critical. Because I took names while starting the conversation on nepotism, sexual abuse, pay disparity or ill-treatment that budding actors face, things always went against my career. One cannot however ignore the importance of these topics. Criticism never made me feel bitter or hostile," Kangana said.



Kangana Ranaut

Rakul Preet Singh now co-owns Hyderabad team in tennis league

Mumbai

Actress Rakul Preet Singh has entered sports entrepreneurship by buying a stake in the Finecab Hyderabad Strikers of the Tennis Premier League (TPL). "I'm very happy and excited to be a part of this league which is taking place under the auspices of AITA (All India Tennis Association) and MSLTA (Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association). It is the only league to promote young boys and girl players of the country," Rakul said. "I come from an Army background and know the importance of sports in all spheres of life. I'm happy that I will be doing my bit for tennis which is a great sport and needs a boost in our country," she added.



Rakul Preet Singh

Irrfan Khan back in Mumbai after 'successful surgery' in London

Los Angeles

Actor Irrfan Khan returned to Mumbai after a 'successful surgery', post wrapping up his upcoming film 'Angrezi Medium' in London. The actor who was feeling homesick will be in the city for a few days to recover. "Irrfan had a successful surgery after wrapping #AngreziMedium shoot in London. He was missing home and has come to Mumbai for a few days to recover. We request the media to not speculate, thanking everyone for their support," Irrfan's spokesperson said in a statement.



Irrfan Khan

SPORTS
sports

Benzema leads Real past Levante

● **Karim Benzema brace earns Bernabeu win as Eden Hazard makes La Liga debut**

● **Benzema scored twice as Real Madrid beat Levante 3-2**

AFP | Madrid

Karim Benzema scored twice yesterday in an outstanding performance for Real Madrid against Levante, although his side were left hanging on for a 3-2 win on the day Eden Hazard made his La Liga debut.

The French striker's goals came just six minutes apart in the first half on a wet afternoon at the Santiago Bernabeu, before Casemiro put Real 3-0 up.

However Levante, who had won their previous two outings, made a fight of it in the second half as they pulled goals back through Borja Mayoral and Gonzalo Melero.



Karim Benzema of Real Madrid scores his side's first goal

While the manner of their victory was not as convincing as coach Zinedine Zidane might have wished, it was a welcome return to winning ways for Real after they had drawn their pre-

vious two games.

Hazard also came off the bench for the final half-hour to make his first appearance in La Liga after a thigh injury had interrupted the start of his Real

career following his 100 million-euro (\$110 million) move from Chelsea.

The Belgian could now start for Real when they go to Paris Saint-Germain for their open-



Real would have won by a greater margin here had it not been for some inspired goalkeeping from Aitor Fernandez, who produced a stunning one-handed stop to keep out a Benzema shot from the edge of the area midway through the first half

ing Champions League game on Wednesday.

Gareth Bale will also be available for that match after suspension kept him out here, but Sergio Ramos will be unable to play against PSG because of a European ban.

Zidane was also without the injured Luka Modric here. However, as well as Hazard, fellow

summer signing Eder Militao came off the bench in the second half and the former Porto defender could start in Paris in place of Ramos.

Real would have won by a greater margin here had it not been for some inspired goalkeeping from Aitor Fernandez, who produced a stunning one-handed stop to keep out a Benzema shot from the edge of the area midway through the first half.

However, the hosts went ahead shortly after that when Dani Carvajal held up a cross from the right for Benzema to bullet home a header from the edge of the six-yard area.

The Frenchman struck again in the 31st minute, with James Rodriguez pouncing when Sergio Postigo headed the ball down into his path, and teeing up Benzema to score his fourth of the campaign.

Benzema was also involved in the build-up to the third goal five minutes before the interval, which concluded with Vinicius Junior squaring for Casemiro to apply the finish.

Vinales on pole for San Marino MotoGP

AFP | Misano Adriatico, Italy

Yamaha's Maverick Vinales snatched pole position for the San Marino MotoGP ahead of fellow Spaniard Pol Espargaro after a thrilling qualifying duel yesterday.

Vinales, 24, sealed pole with a blistering final lap of 1min 32.265sec to overtake KTM's Pol Espargaro, who had been poised to take top spot but was pipped by just 0.295sec.

The pair will be joined on the front row in Sunday's race on Italy's Adriatic coast by French rider Fabio Quartararo of Yamaha-SRT, who had dominated free practice earlier in the day, but was third fastest at 0.306.

Vinales is targeting his second win this season after the Dutch MotoGP and is currently fifth in the world championship standings which Spaniard Marc Marquez is dominating.

World championship leader Marquez clocked the fifth-fastest time at 0.477 behind Vinales, and will be joined on the sec-



Yamaha Spanish rider Maverick Vinales rides during San Marino MotoGP qualifying

ond row by Italian pair Franco Morbidelli (Yamaha-SRT) and Andrea Dovizioso (Ducati).

Marquez spectacularly tumbled in the fourth and final free practice session earlier yesterday but still managed to lead the way into qualifying at the Misano circuit, near Rimini.

The daredevil Marquez showed great pluck by picking

himself up and rushing to get back on his bike, apparently unhurt.

Former seven-time world MotoGP champion Valentino Rossi qualified seventh fastest for the race he has won three times, most recently in 2014.

Both Marquez and Italian Rossi had both also been in the running for pole but ended each others chances.

Sterling not on same level as Messi, Ronaldo, says Guardiola

AFP | Manchester

Pep Guardiola would love Raheem Sterling to reach the same level as Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, but the Manchester City manager is not sure if any player will be able to equal the feats of that legendary pair.

Others have recently been comparing Sterling to the two dominant players of the last decade. England manager Gareth Southgate suggested Sterling could eventually be mentioned in the same breath as Messi and Ronaldo when asked how far the City winger could go if

he maintains his superb form.

Former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher has also said that he sees Sterling as a potential future winner of the Ballon d'Or -- an award Barcelona star Messi and Juventus forward Ronaldo have each won five times.

City manager Guardiola is thrilled at Sterling's progress during their three years working together, but having also coached Messi at Barca, he knows the exceptional standards required at that exalted level.



Raheem Sterling

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Liverpool extend perfect start

Liverpool stretch Premier League lead as Chelsea, Tottenham hit form

● **Liverpool cruised to a 3-1 win over Newcastle United, with Sadio Mane and Mohamed Salah on target**

● **Tammy Abraham scores hat-trick and own goal as Chelsea hammer Wolves**

● **Super Son strikes twice as Tottenham demolish Crystal Palace**

● **Marcus Rashford's early penalty edges blunt Manchester United past Leicester**

AFP | Liverpool

Liverpool recovered from a shock Newcastle opener to open up a five-point lead at the top of the Premier League with a 3-1 win at Anfield, as Tottenham and Chelsea bounced back to form with big wins yesterday.

Tammy Abraham's sensational form continued as the English forward scored a hat-trick as Chelsea romped to a 5-2 win at Wolves.

Spurs were 4-0 up by half-time against Crystal Palace to record just their second win of the season as Son Heung-min scored twice, while Erik Lamela and an own goal from Patrick van Aanholt rounded off the scoring on a miserable day for the Eagles.

An injury-hit Manchester



Mohamed Salah of Liverpool holds off Jetro Willems of Newcastle United

United also coped without Paul Pogba to inflict Leicester's first defeat of the season as Marcus Rashford scored the only goal from the penalty spot in a 1-0 win at Old Trafford.

United join Tottenham and Chelsea on eight points from five games, but Liverpool protected the only 100 percent record in the league by reacting to a slow start in style.

Manchester City could close the gap at the top to two points with victory in a later match at Norwich.

Jetro Willems fired Newcastle in front on seven minutes to leave the European champions trailing at Anfield for the first time since March.

Sadio Mane fired into the top corner to start the revival, but it was the introduction of Roberto Firmino off the bench for the injured Divock Origi that truly turned the tide in Liverpool's favour.

The Brazilian's through ball was spilled by Martin Dubravka to allow Mane a simple task for his second just before half-time,

and another brilliant Firmino flick teed up Salah to seal the points 18 minutes from time.

Relief for Lampard

Frank Lampard has endured a difficult start on his return to Stamford Bridge as manager, but he enjoyed his finest day so far in charge of the Blues with his faith in youth again fully vindicated.

Fikayo Tomori, 21, fired the visitors in front at Molineux with his first goal for the club before Abraham took over to take his tally to seven in his last

three games with three brilliant finishes from close range.

"All three goals were so different, it just shows what he can do," said Lampard.

Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino hoped that the end of the European transfer window would settle his squad and the Champions League finalists looked more like their old selves by tearing apart Palace from the off.

Son was the star as the South Korean opened the scoring then finished off a fine team move by



Liverpool trailed at home for the first time since March, but quickly rallied to record a 14th straight Premier League victory

volleying home Serge Aurier's cross after Van Aanholt deflected a cross into his own net.

"I think the players deserve more than three points today," said Son.

Harry Kane was unable to build on his goalscoring form for England, but did play a part in the fourth as his cross was turned home by Lamela.

United had to suffer far more for just a second win in 10 league matches.

Rashford shrugged off his recent miss from the spot in defeat to Palace to convert a penalty on eight minutes after he had been brought down by Caglar Soyuncu.

"We hung in there. It was the first time this season where we have had to defend for large periods," said United boss Ole Gunnar Solskjær.

Brighton edged out Burnley 1-0 at the Amex thanks to Neil Maupay's winner early in the second-half.

Southampton were also 1-0 victors at Sheffield United courtesy of a brilliant strike from Moussa Djenepo.

Australia's hopes fade as England dominate fifth Test

AFP | London

Ben Stokes and Joe Denly batted England into a potentially match-winning position in the fifth and final Ashes Test at the Oval yesterday as Australia's hopes of a series win faded.

At tea the home side -- desperate to finish their World Cup-winning season on a high by levelling the series at 2-2 -- were 193-2, leading by 262 runs.

England captain Joe Root will be wary of declaring too soon though as India last year made 345 batting fourth at the Oval chasing 464.

Denly was unbeaten on a Test-best score of 82 while Stokes, playing as a specialist batsman, was 57 not out after passing 400 runs for the series.

England enjoyed two slices of good fortune on a pitch offering little in the way of help for the bowlers as the September sun beat down from a clear London sky.

Steve Smith dropped Stokes in the slips when the batsman was on seven and Denly should have been out lbw on 54 but Australia failed to review.

Stokes started his innings slowly but accelerated, reaching his fifty off 89 balls with a huge six off leg-spinner Marcus Labuschagne over wide long-on.

The left-handed batsman is second only to Smith in the combined run-scoring charts



England's Joe Denly plays a shot

over the series, albeit more than 300 runs adrift of the Australian's total of 751.

Denly looked increasingly confident as his innings progressed, finding the boundary regularly as the tourists' spirits drooped.

Off-spinner Nathan Lyon struck twice in the morning session, removing Rory Burns and Root but Australia failed to make a much-needed breakthrough after lunch.

England are aiming to restore pride even though Australia have already retained the Ashes urn.

The tourists came into the

400

runs milestone has been achieved by Ben Stokes for the Ashes Test series

match hungry to wrap up their first series victory in England since 2001 after winning last week's fourth Test to take a 2-1 lead but that looks increasingly unlikely.

Burns and Denly put on 54 for the first wicket -- the highest opening stand of the series for either side -- after surviving a torrid four over on Friday evening during which they scratched nine without loss and had Denly dropped by Marcus Harris.

The Australian opener split the webbing in his left hand in the drop and did not take the field yesterday. He required stitches but is expected to bat.

Off-spinner Lyon struck in his third over when Burns bottom-edged a short ball outside off-stump, with wicketkeeper Tim Paine taking the catch.

Juve held in Fiorentina

AFP | Milan

Maurizio Sarri's first game on the Juventus bench ended with a goalless draw at Fiorentina as the Italian champions held on despite losing three players to injury.

Former Chelsea coach Sarri missed the opening two wins with pneumonia, but was back fit just days before Juventus travel to Atletico Madrid in the Champions League.

But the match in Tuscany proved costly for the reigning eight-time Serie A champions with winger Douglas Costa limping off early, followed by midfielder Miralem Pjanic and defender Danilo.

Brazilian Costa, who turned 29 yesterday, pulled up with a

hamstring problem minutes into the game, as Pjanic had a muscular issue just before the break with Danilo suffering cramps in the heat.

Sarri's side are already missing injured captain Giorgio Chiellini, Mattia De Sciglio and Marko Pjaca.

They nevertheless held on in Fiorentina despite pressure from hosts with former French international Franck Ribery impressive on his first start.

Ex-Bayern Munich player Ribery went off to a standing ovation from the crowd at the Artemio Franchi Stadium after an hour as his team earned their first point this season.

"I hadn't played a game like this for almost three months," said Ribery.



Juventus' Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo passes the ball after being confronted by Fiorentina's Brazilian defender Dalbert