

'Serenity' asks a lot from audience: Anne Hathaway

Actress Anne Hathaway says the complexities of her upcoming film "Serenity" asks a lot from the audience. **P14**

Trump is right to seek an end to America's wars

THE DAILY tribune



Kim and Kanye West expecting fourth child

Germany arrests army adviser for 'spying for Iran'



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Militants kill 14 in Nairobi hotel attack
Nairobi

Gunmen blasted their way into a hotel and office complex in the Kenyan capital on Tuesday, killing at least 14 people and sending workers diving under desks from an attack claimed by Somali extremists Al Shabaab.

Police warned the "terror attack", which echoed a 2013 assault on a Nairobi shopping centre, may be ongoing, with assailants still inside the upscale 14 Riverside Drive complex.

Nairobi is a major expatriate hub, and the compound attacked houses offices of various international companies.

"The main door of the hotel was blown open and there was a human arm in the street severed from the shoulder," said Serge Medic, the Swiss owner of a security company who ran to the scene to help when he heard of the attack from his taxi driver.

Medic, who was armed, entered the building with a policeman and two soldiers, he said, but they came under fire and retreated. An unexploded grenade lay in the lobby, he said.

"One man said he saw two armed men with scarves on their head and bandoliers of bullets," Medic told Reuters, as gunfire echoed in the background. *See Page 7*



03 Hunted down for fun

04 New laws urged to protect SMEs owned by Bahrainis

05 475 violate traffic rules, drive on hard shoulder



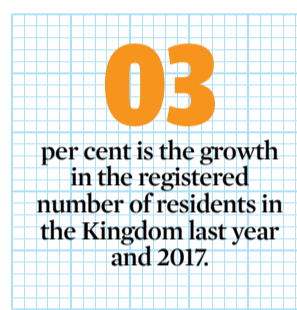
Newspaper report wrong: Residents 'on the rise'

TDT | Manama

● He also revealed that the residence applications had been facing ongoing increase because of the attractive investment and business environment of the Kingdom.

Dismissing a report that appeared on *Akhbar Al Khaleej* and *Gulf Daily News*, the Interior Ministry Undersecretary of Nationality, Passport and Residence Affairs (NPRA) Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa has asserted that NPRA statistics show an annual rise in the number of residents from 2014 to 2018.

The last two years, 2017 and



2018, registered a growth by 3 per cent, Shaikh Rashid said.

He said that this affirms the

attractions Bahrain offers to expatriates, highlighting that the Indian community represents the highest percentage of expats among other communities.

He also revealed that the residence applications had been facing ongoing increase because of the attractive investment and business environment of Bahrain, in addition to its tolerance and cultural and religious pluralism.

He appreciated all efforts that

contribute to the development of the nation, through fulfilling duties within the law and regulations of the Kingdom, in order to protect rights and carry responsibilities.

He mentioned some international reports that ranked Bahrain in leading positions in the Middle East and North Africa as the best destination for migrant workers, hailing the living and other privileges provided by Bahrain.

Brexit ship sinks

May's EU divorce deal crushed by 230 votes in parliament

● The only suspense before the vote was over the scale of May's defeat.

● Labour Party leader and head of the opposition in parliament Jeremy Corbyn immediately tabled a motion of no confidence in May's government.

London

British Prime Minister Theresa May received a crushing defeat in a his-



May sits down in Parliament after the vote on Brexit deal.

toric vote on Tuesday over the Brexit deal she struck with the European Union, leaving the world's fifth biggest economy in limbo.

202 MPs backed the prime minister's deal, while 432 re-

"You are not children in the playground, you are legislators."

ATTORNEY GENERAL COX

jected it, handing May and her government the biggest defeat in the House of Commons for almost a century.

Labour Party leader and head of the opposition in parliament Jeremy Corbyn immediately tabled a motion of no confidence in May's government after the result, a motion which will be debated on Wednesday.

With just over two months to go until the scheduled Brexit date of March 29, Britain is still bitterly divided over how and even whether it should split away from the bloc's other 27 nations.

The only suspense before the vote was over the scale of May's defeat.

The British leader's last-minute appeals to MPs fell on deaf ears and the defeat now raises the question about whether she will try again, is removed from office, delays Brexit -- or if Brexit even happens at all.

"You are not children in the playground, you are legislators," Attorney General Geoffrey Cox, representing the government, told MPs just before the vote.

Cox warned that the current deal would have to return "in much the same form with much the same content" for another vote if this one failed.

Meanwhile, Corbyn told the house that he and his party would vote against the deal.

ERASING DOUBTS

Not all veggies, fruits are VAT free

TDT | Manama

Quite contrary to the general understanding among the public about the Value Added Tax (VAT) in Bahrain, it emerged that not all vegetables and fruits are exempted from the tax.

Speaking to Tribune, a VAT expert said that the word 'exempt' is slightly misleading many customers while gaining

a detailed knowledge on the newly-introduced tax.

"To make it more clear, I must say that no product is exempted from VAT. Some are 5 per cent rated, while others are zero rated.

"While most of the vegetables and fruits are zero rated, there are many for which VAT is applicable," he pointed out.

Tribune reported yesterday about an alleged VAT violation at a leading supermarket in Tubli.

"While most of the vegetables and fruits are zero rated, there are many for which VAT is applicable."

EXPERT

However, the representatives of the supermarket told Tribune that there have been

no VAT violations. "The VAT-charged vegetables shown in the bill are not zero rated and thus the tax," the representatives pointed out.

In another development, the National Bureau for Taxation (NBT) yesterday introduced a new service that allows consumers to verify vendors' VAT registration status through a search tool accessible on www.nbt.gov.bh.

The new system allows con-

sumers to pull up vendors' official registration records by searching for its VAT Registration Number, Commercial Registration Number and QR code.

This new service builds on the government's efforts to strengthen consumer protection and transparency to further build on the success of the VAT.

The NBT continues to encourage consumers to report violations by calling 80008001 or by emailing www.nbt.gov.bh.