

# THE DAILY tribune

Hailey defends her one-year marriage with Justin Bieber

14 CELEBS

WORLD

7

UK PM claims progress in Brexit talks



## Aramco races to repair oil facility

Riyadh

Saudi Arabia is racing to restart operations at a major oil plant after attacks at the weekend cut the production of the world's largest crude exporter by almost half.

Saudi Aramco said the production of 5.7 million barrels of crude a day had been suspended following drone attacks on the world's largest oil processing plant at Abqaiq – near Damman in the Eastern Province – and the country's second-largest oilfield at Khurais, about 200 kilometres away.

The strikes, which happened at around 4am, caused large fires, but there were no reports of casualties.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said the kingdom is "willing and able" to respond to this "terrorist aggression".

## Algeria polls set

Algiers

Algeria – whose president Abdelaziz Bouteflika resigned in April following mass protests – is to hold a presidential election on December 12, his interim successor announced Sunday.



02 Kingdom's democratic achievements stressed

03 '10 per cent drop' in car loans after implementation of VAT

04 'Bahrain Smart Cities Summit 2019' begins

210 fils (includes VAT)



## Emerging hub for cloud computing



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received, at Al Safriya Palace, Vice-President of Amazon Web Services' worldwide public sector business Teresa Carlson, marking her visit to the Kingdom. HM the King hailed the level of co-operation and partnership in the sector of information technology and telecommunications, reiterating Bahrain's keenness on providing advanced facilities and creating favourable environment that supports investment, encourages innovation, and embraces companies and business firms towards achieving comprehensive development and economic diversification. The King commended Amazon's support to the national programme, in co-operation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs by creating training opportunities for Bahraini youth to develop their technological skills towards meeting future needs and enhancing the performance of the national workforce. Ms Carlson expressed thanks to HM the King for supporting the consolidation of co-operation with Amazon, stressing the success of Bahrain, which turned into an attractive hub for international IT and telecommunications companies.

# Firm response call

Pressure grows in US for befitting reply to Iran after Aramco attacks

● Senator Lindsey Graham urges retaliatory strikes on Iranian oilfields if Tehran continues 'provocations'.

● UN Secretary-General urged for calm and called on both sides to 'exercise restraint'.

Washington

An American senator has called for Washington to consider an attack on Iranian oil facilities as pressure grows in the US for a firm response to the Saudi Aramco strikes.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo blamed Iran for the drone attacks yesterday against the Abqaiq oil processing plant and the Khurais oil field.

He also suggested that unlike previous drone and missile attacks on the Kingdom, this one may not have been launched from Yemen by the Iran-backed Houthis.

Reports have said that the at-



A satellite image shows thick black smoke rising from Saudi Aramco's Abqaiq oil processing facility.

tack may have originated in Iraq where Iran also holds sway over a large number of powerful militias.

"It is now time for the US to put on the table an attack on Iranian oil refineries if they continue their provocations or increase nuclear enrichment," Lindsey Graham, a Republican senator close to Donald Trump, said on

Twitter.  
"Iran will not stop their misbehaviour until the consequences become more real."

LINDSEY GRAHAM

haviour until the consequences become more real, like attacking their refineries, which will break the regime's back."

Iran on Sunday denied it was behind the attack, but the Yemeni Houthi militia backed by Tehran, claimed they had launched them.

The White House on Sunday did not rule out a potential meeting between President Donald

Trump and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, even after Washington accused Iran of being behind drone attacks on Saudi oil facilities.

White House adviser Kellyanne Conway said the attacks "did not help" prospects for a meeting between Trump and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani during the United Nations General Assembly this month but she left open the possibility it could happen.

"You're not helping your case much," by attacking Saudi Arabia, civilian areas and critical infrastructure that affects global energy markets," Conway told the Fox News Sunday programme.

The Trump administration's sanctions and "maximum pressure" campaign on Iran over its nuclear and ballistic missile programme will continue whether or not the two leaders meet, she added.

UK foreign minister Dominic Raab said the attack was a "reckless attempt to damage regional security and disrupt global oil supplies."

The European Union warned of a "real threat to regional security" in the Middle East.

STANCE VOW

## Lib Dems pledge to cancel Brexit if they win polls

London

The Liberal Democrats have pledged to cancel Brexit if they come to power at the next general election.

Members voted for the new policy at their party conference in Bournemouth by an overwhelming majority.

Previously, the party has backed another referendum or "People's Vote", saying they would campaign to Remain.

After the vote, their leader Jo Swinson, said: "We will do all we can to fight for our place in Europe, and to stop Brexit altogether."

The commitment only comes into force if the party



Liberal Democrats at their party conference in Bournemouth.

wins the election as a majority government.

Ms Swinson also confirmed that before an election is called, the Lib Dems would continue to work with other opposition parties to campaign for a further referendum, and to prevent a "dangerous" no-deal Brexit.

In his first speech at conference as a Lib Dem MP, Chuka Umunna - who left Labour over its Brexit stance - said it would give the party a "clear, unequivocal position".

He said: "This policy will stop this national embarrassment and enable us to focus on the things that really matter."

But former Lib Dem MP Simon Hughes had called on members to reject the policy, saying it would "take the focus away" from getting another referendum.



His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday received Royal Family members and senior state officials, with whom he reviewed a number of local and international issues at Gudaibiya Palace. HRH the Premier praised the vital role played by sisterly Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, to strengthen the pillars of security and stability across the region. HRH the Prime Minister reiterated Bahrain's firm stance in support of Saudi Arabia and against whoever attempts to target its security and stability.



His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has stressed that the Bahraini people has been, throughout history, known for its solidarity and cohesion within the one-family spirit, lauding Bahrainis' keenness to contribute to their nation's progress, security and stability. "We need to uphold such noble values, and maintain communication among the members of the same society. The ultimate goal of everyone should be to ensure that our nation reaches the highest levels of progress and prosperity," HRH Premier said. The Premier made the statements while receiving, at the Gudaibiya Palace yesterday, Dr Ali Jaffar Al Aradi and some members of his family, who extended to him deepest gratitude and appreciation for condoling with them over the death of the late Mohsen Jaffar Al Aradi.



Commander-in-Chief of Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa yesterday received Director General of the Royal Family Council Shaikh Salman bin Khalid bin Mohammed Al Khalifa. He welcomed him and discussed with him various issues.

## Kingdom's democratic achievements stressed

Assistant Foreign Affairs Minister hails Kingdom's pioneering democratic achievements

Mr Al Dossari noted the establishment of several independent national councils, agencies and institutions to protect public rights and freedoms.

Manama



Mr Al Dossari

lic affairs by the citizens, men and women, and their right to exercise of full political rights, including the right to vote and candidature, in accordance with the Constitution and NAC.

He noted that this comes within the framework of a protective and supportive system of political, economic, cultural and social rights and freedoms, including freedom of opinion and expression, the freedom of the press, media and religious freedoms.

He also cited the people's right to establish, form and join civil and political associations and trade unions, within the framework of equity and equal opportunities for all without discrimination based on sex, race, religion, origin or belief.

He highlighted that the while the parliament is in its fifth legislative term, political reforms have continued since 2002 through a forty member-House of Representatives, free and fair parliamentary elections and full judicial supervision, noting the high popular participation which reached over 67 per cent in 2018. He added that members with expertise and high competence were appointed to the Shura Council, in order for the parliament to be able to represent the entire nation and let citizens exercise their powers, enact legislation and oversee the work of the executive authority.

Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdulla Al Dossari hailed Bahrain's pioneering democratic and human rights achievements since the launch of the reform and civilisational project of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

He referred to the National Action Charter (NAC) endorsed in 2001 by 98.4 per cent of the citizens to establish the rule of law and institutions on the foundations of transparency under a modern constitutional monarchy.

The assistant minister expressed his pride that the Kingdom of Bahrain has joined the civilised world to celebrate the International Day of Democracy on September 15, marked this year under the theme of "Participation, in implementation of the UN General Assembly's September 2007 resolution.

He commended the success of the Bahraini model of democratic transformation with free national will, and an unparalleled popular consensus on the policies of good governance within the framework of the separation of the three legislative, executive and judicial authorities, and cooperation in accordance with the Constitution.

The assistant minister stressed the Kingdom of Bahrain's distinguished constitutional and legal mechanisms guaranteeing popular participation in pub-

67

per cent of the total voters exercised their democratic right during the 2018 elections.

## Bahrain Television in expansion drive

Manama

Bahrain Television has unveiled an ambitious line-up of programmes tailored to appeal to all segments of the Bahraini society and foreign communities in the Kingdom.

The programmes include daily talk shows, trends and social media developments, local, re-

gional and international economic, social and political issues, parliament news coverage, light stories, personalities and profiles, capacity building, children, entrepreneurship, folktale and folklore and documentaries.

The new grid will be launched this month.

With this new expansion drive, Bahrain Television un-

derlines its deep commitment to broadening and improving the TV modern landscape, providing premium content, presenting the latest news, disseminating valuable information, offering entertainment that suits the preferences of the entire family and serving the communities, a statement issued by the Ministry of Information Affairs said.



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Tamkeen

# '10 per cent drop' in car loans after implementation of VAT

New car sales also declined during the same period

**● The report also mentioned that 'user car purchase' have also increased over the period.**

**● Car imports to the Kingdom also declined by 6.6 per cent in the first half of 2019, according to another report.**

TDT | Manama

**C**ar loans issued by different banks in the Kingdom dropped by more than 10 per cent after the implementation of Value Added Tax (VAT) since the beginning of the current year, latest figures showed.

According to the statistics released by the Central Bank of Bahrain, auto loans have declined by 10.3pc in the first half of 2019, in comparison with the same period last year.

VAT was implemented on January 1, 2019, at a rate of five per cent and it covers 95 commodi-



Car sales have dropped since the implementation of VAT.

ties including foodstuff, automobiles and utility services.

The drop in car loans is directly linked to decline in car sales and according to a recent report, the implementation of VAT has had an impact on the automobile market.

"Other than declining sales, the pattern in the choices of customers when it comes to buying cars have been changing since the implementation of VAT," the report said.

The report also mentioned that 'user car purchase' have also increased over the period.

## 19,900

cars were imported through Khalifa bin Salman Sea Port since the beginning of the year to the end of June.

Quoting several individuals involved in the automobile sale business, the report said that the first month of 2019 has witnessed

"slower market movement".

However, a few car dealers witnessed higher sales as they themselves bore VAT charges to attract customers to buy new cars.

Car imports to the Kingdom also declined by 6.6 per cent in the first half of 2019, according to another report.

The figures, the report said, are in line with a significant drop in new car registrations through the General Directorate of Traffic.

The report showed that 19,900 cars were imported through Khalifa bin Salman Sea Port since

the beginning of the year to the end of June 2019 while a total of 21,200 cars were imported in the same period of 2018.

The introduction of a value-added tax (VAT) in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia in 2018 had a "significant impact" on car industry sales, a top automobile official was quoted by Reuters.

"There has been a pretty significant impact on car sales since the implementation of VAT in the region," Crystal Worthem, marketing director at Ford for the Middle East and Africa said.

Worthem said the impact, which included lower consumer appetite to purchase new cars in Saudi Arabia and the UAE, resulted from the introduction of VAT, along with other aspects such as the rise of fuel prices in Saudi Arabia.

"I believe that at the end of last year, we were anticipating a bit of an impact but not as significant because we anticipated a much deeper curve of when oil prices would go up," Worthem said.

The new tax is aimed at helping to diversify the nations' sources of revenue.

**HRH Premier congratulates BBS chairman on re-election**

Manama

**H**is Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has sent a cable of congratulations to the Board of Directors Chairman of the Bahrain Bar Society (BBS), Lawyer Hassan Ahmed Bedaiwi, on his re-election to his post.

HRH Premier stressed that Bedaiwi's re-election as BBS chief reflects lawyers' confidence in him.

The Prime Minister lauded the advanced level reached by the legal profession in Bahrain, wishing BBS' board chairman and members every success in serving the nation.

HRH the Prime Minister received a cable of thanks from BBS' board chairman in reply to his congratulations to him on his re-election.

Lawyer Hassan Ahmed Bedaiwi extended, on behalf of BBS board, sincere thanks, appreciation and gratitude to HRH Premier for congratulating them on their win over the phone.

He noted that HRH Premier's call has had a positive impact on them, and proves the Prime Minister's constant interest in everyday events in Bahrain.

He pledged to support HRH Premier's 'constructive' efforts to enhance Bahrain's progress, and said that he is looking forward to meeting him soon.

## Amazon awards certifications to employees of five government entities

TDT | Manama

**T**eresa Carlson, Vice President, Worldwide Public Sector at Amazon Web Services (AWS) - responsible for strategy, operations, sales and business development, awarded the AWS specialised certifications in the field of Information, Communication, and Cloud Computing to a group of outstanding employees from five public sector entities, out of 400 employees joined the training programme, in the presence of Information and eGovernment Authority (IGA) Chief Executive, Mohamed Ali AlQaed.

The five entities honoured were the Ministry of Education, National Oil and Gas Authority (NOGA), Polytechnic University, National Health Regulatory Au-



Ms Carlson with winners of Amazon awards and participants at the AWS Global Summit.

thority (NHRA), and IGA.

The ceremony was part of AWS Global Summit 2019, which was held yesterday.

Mr AlQaed congratulated the employees for their efforts in completing the Amazon training

courses, praising the active role played by these entities in adopting cloud computing in order to achieve the greatest possible use of the technology.

He expressed his sincere thanks to the Ministers and con-

cerned officials for their guidance in supporting this direction by the government, which aims to strengthen the performance of the IT sector in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

He praised the co-operation

between IGA and Tamkeen in implementing a range of joint programs through the Professional Certifications Scheme, which includes many cloud computing certifications.

He urged other government

entities to adopt the Cloud-First policy in line with the advanced and innovative approach being taken in the region, especially since the Kingdom has also launched, in co-operation with AWS, the first Cloud Data Centre of its kind in the Middle East.

The Centre will enhance the readiness of the ICT sector while creating new opportunities and paving the way for further productivity growth at a lower cost.

In 2017, IGA launched the national project across all government entities, with the aim of migrating the IT infrastructure to cloud computing systems, making this technology the preferred choice for the operation and management of government organisations' systems, saving effort, time, and expenses.

## NHRA to hold first Bahrain Health Regulatory Conference

Manama

**T**he National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA), an independent regulatory body providing provision of healthcare in Bahrain, is holding its 'First Bahrain Health Regulatory Conference' 2019 on November 28-30 at the Gulf Convention Centre here.

The conference is being organised by Education Plus in collaboration with PowerUp and Perfect Solutions Advertising, with the support of government health entities, the private sector and other professional, industry-related societies in the Kingdom.

The first edition of the conference will also feature a comple-

mentary exhibition to showcase various stakeholders.

The three-day conference will feature keynote speakers, lecture presentations, panel discussions, networking, and workshops on health regulation schemes in addition to providing business opportunities for investors in the healthcare industry.

The Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health, Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohamed Bin Abdullah Al Khalifa stated, "Health regulations are implemented in the Gulf such as Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the rest of the GCC countries. There have been a lot of transformations in the health regulations introducing various systems such as in

insurance, technology and others. Health regulations are a hot topic which all stakeholders have to look at, interact and do their best to comply. The conference will provide a place and platform for the stakeholders to learn the best applications, opportunities, issues and what the role of everybody is in providing solution."

Speaking on the occasion, NHRA Chief Executive Officer, Dr Marjan Al Jalalma added, "The organisation of such event is in line with the national Economic Vision 2030 in relation to improving the health sector and making Bahrain a hub for medical tourism. When you think about the health care sector you think about the health regulations. In health

regulations, it is very important to make the patients feel safe and professionals making their acts right. At the conference, many experts will be talking in this field in relation to improving professional regulations, requirements and qualifications required to ensure in bringing the best practices in the country. Also, we will be discussing the accreditation and importance of accreditations in ensuring the quality of services provided in the country."

NHRA's first conference aims to discuss and explore the regional and global health regulation schemes. The conference aims to bring together healthcare providers, the pharmaceutical industries, healthcare organisations, pa-



**Health regulations are a hot topic which all stakeholders have to look at, interact and do their best to comply.**

Lt GENERAL DR SHAIKH MOHAMED

tient safety, medical educators and accreditation standard experts from the region and the globe to share insights on implementing and managing health regulations.

The conference aims to attract key healthcare professionals from Bahrain and the GCC region and beyond. It also aims to bring together entities which play a significant role in the regulation of the healthcare sector including, Government healthcare decision makers, health reform and health regulation experts, pharmaceutical and drug company owners, public and private healthcare providers, investors and interested experts in healthcare business, technology experts and solutions providers.

## Two months in jail for 'reckless' Asian trucker



The truck was seized by the police after the 'speeding incident'.

TDT | Manama

An Asian truck driver was yesterday sentenced to two months' imprisonment for driving on the emergency lane on Istiqlal Highway near Sanad.

This came as the Seventh Lower Criminal Court yesterday announced its sentence, one week after the General Directorate of Traffic in Interior Ministry confirmed the arrest of the man.

The court also ordered to permanently deport the defendant after he completes his imprisonment sentence.

Traffic Prosecution Chief Prosecutor Hussain Al Sairafi said in a statement issued by the Public Prosecution yesterday that the man drove his truck over the speed limit of the road and "drove in a manner that risked motorists lives and used the emergency lane to overtake vehicles".

As reported by Tribune last week, the trucker was seen in a viral video online while speeding and driving on the hard shoulder of Istiqlal Highway. Soon, the Public Prosecution announced that it had interrogated the driver, who confessed to his crime, before referring him to the Criminal Court.

This is the third trucker to be arrested within less than a month because of reckless driving.

This came in line with a nationwide petition calling to curb the "deadly" behaviours of truckers on the Kingdom's roads, especially after it claimed the lives of two Bahraini drivers in the same period.

video on local social media networks, calling the authorities to take deterrent actions against such violators, especially after the numbers of fatal accidents caused by wrong driving behaviours by truckers on the rise in the past few months.

One day after the video was circulated online, Interior Ministry announced through a tweet that the driver has been apprehended, stating: "Concerning the circulated video on social media about reckless driving by a truck driver on the road in a way that risk the safety of road users, the General Directorate of Traffic seized the vehicle and arrested the driver."

He noted the ministry's keenness to carry out purposeful initiatives in developing smart cities within the framework of implementing development and infrastructure projects in accordance with modern trends.

He pointed out the ministry's efforts to achieve the vision and contribute to attaining the global sustainable development goals by organising the fourth edition of the conference and creating an associated exhibition with the participation of over 20 parties from the public and private sectors.

The exhibition is considered the first of its kind in Bahrain concerned with smart cities.

The Kingdom hosted for the

first time regional Director of the World Green Buildings Councils (GBC)'s MENA Network Mohammed Asfoor who gave a presentation on the latest developments in the green buildings sector.

In a statement to Bahrain News Agency (BNA), Electricity and Water Affairs Minister, Dr Abdulhussain Mirza said smart cities are areas built using digital and engineering technologies to improve the economic and social conditions of the residents of these cities by providing and facilitating their access to services.

He pointed out that smart cities will rely on sustainable and

renewable energy such as solar and wind energy.

He underlined the Kingdom's interest in the sustainable energy sector and keenness on sustainable development, pointing out the important steps taken by the government to encourage investment in renewable energy.

He also pointed out the national goals set by the government to increase the users of renewable energy to 5 per cent by 2025 and 10pc by 2030.

The first day of the summit featured many activities including panel discussions and work papers. Many awards were also announced during the summit which will continue until tomorrow with the discussion of a number of work papers.



**The national goals set by the government aims to increase the users of renewable energy to 5 per cent by 2025 and 10pc by 2030.**

Minister had underscored the need for the ministry to adjust its organisational structure in the engineering department and provide job vacancies after work had been affected by the retirement of many employees who benefited from the Voluntary Retirement Programme.

He also stated that the meeting shed light on the issue of media graduates and the role of the ministry in working out a vision in co-operation with the Civil Service Bureau and the Labour Ministry to employ them.

He pointed out the difficulty faced by many graduates in obtaining jobs that fit their specialties, stressing the ministry's keenness to handle the issue according to available job vacancies.

He also asserted the need for Bahrain TV programmes to include the trends aimed at Bahrainising jobs and highlighting the potentials and capabilities of the Bahraini people in various fields.

The committee also demanded the Information Ministry to use the Bahrainisation rate as a

condition in signing contracts with private companies and take into consideration when awarding tenders giving priority to companies that show more interest in employing Bahrainis.

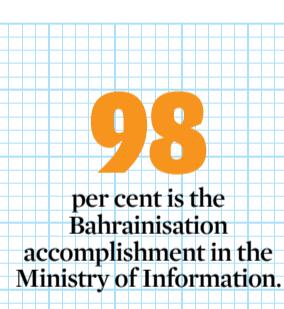
MP Al Nafei lauded the efforts of the Information Minister and his work team and their continuous cooperation with members of the Representatives Council, commanding the ministry's unrelenting Bahrainisation efforts which stem from a belief in the potentials and capabilities of the Bahraini youth.

## Information Ministry's Bahrainisation efforts under spotlight

Manama

The parliamentary probe committee in charge of investigating the non-Bahrainisation of jobs in the public and private sectors, headed by MP Ibrahim Khalid Al Nafei, held a meeting yesterday with Information Minister Ali Al Romaihi to discuss the ministry's Bahrainisation efforts.

MP Al Nafei stressed the positive results achieved by the Ministry of Information in this respect, pointing out confirmation



ing cast light on the obstacles facing the Information Ministry, adding that the Information

## Sri Lanka ties hailed



Labour and Social Development Minister Jameel Humaidan received Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Bahrain, Pradeepa B Saram. The minister praised Bahrain-Sri Lanka friendship ties, wishing the ambassador of Sri Lanka success in her diplomatic mission. Mr Humaidan briefed the ambassador about the Kingdom's labor regulations compatible with international standards and the Kingdom's continuous efforts to ensure the legal protection of all workers. He reaffirmed the ministry's bolstering the social welfare and safe workplace ergonomics. The ambassador praised the bilateral relations, noting Bahrain's development and growth in this prosperous era, citing the advanced labor regulations and the legal protection and social welfare of the workforce.

## Support to authors stressed



Adviser to His Majesty the King for Media Affairs, Nabeel Al Hamer, yesterday received the CEO of Miracle Publishing, Khalid Juman. The adviser discussed with Khalid Juman new publications and encouraged him to continue his march in this field. He expressed his appreciation for the role played by Miracle Publishing, praising the efforts and contributions of the CEO in highlighting the distinctive character of Bahrain and its comprehensive renaissance at all levels. Mr Juman expressed his thanks to Al Hamer for his continuous support for authors and intellectuals, which constitutes an incentive for them to give more creativity.

# WORLD

# world

## Brazil's Amazon chief Raoni tapped for 2020 Nobel Peace Prize nomination

Reuters | Brasilia

A group of Brazilian anthropologists and environmentalists has put forward Chief Raoni Metuktire of the Kayapó tribe as a candidate for the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize for a lifetime of work protecting the Amazon rainforest.



Raoni Metuktire

Raoni, an unmistakable Amazon icon with his large lip plate, yellow macaw-feather headdress and ear rings, became known internationally as an environmental campaigner in the 1980s with musician Sting at his side.

Raoni took to the road again this year seeking help to stop a surge in fires destroying the forest, which he has blamed on the plans of right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro to develop the Amazon economically and assimilate its indigenous people.

"Chief Raoni is a living symbol of the fight to protect nature and the rights of indigenous people in the Amazon," Lotar told Reuters.

"He is respected worldwide for a life dedicated to the survival of our planet that is so threatened by climate change," Lotar said.

The Brazilian government has denied encouraging recent fires allegedly set by farmers seeking to extend the agricultural frontier in the Amazon and blame the surge on the dry season.

The foundation has also written to French President Emmanuel Macron to call for his endorsement of the nom-

ination. Raoni met twice this year with Macron, who led criticism of Brazil's environmental practices at the recent Group of Seven wealthy nations summit in Biarritz.

A spokesman for the foundation, Toni Lotar, said on Saturday that the nomination had been initially accepted by the committee, but the foundation has yet to complete the full nomination process.

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# West African leaders agree anti-jihadist plan

The leaders of West African nations have announced a billion-dollar plan to combat the growing problem of Islamist violence in the region

Jihadist groups have strengthened their presence across the arid Sahel region this year

AFP | Ouagadougou

West African leaders on Saturday announced a billion-dollar plan to fight the rising problem of jihadist violence in the region, at a summit in Burkina Faso.

The plan, to be funded from 2020 to 2024, was announced at end of the Economic Community Summit of West African States in Ouagadougou, where the ECOWAS nations were joined by Mauritania and Chad.

ECOWAS had decided to mobilise "the financial resources of up to a billion dollars for the fight against terrorism", said Niger's President Mahamadou Issoufou.

The money, paid into a common fund, would help reinforce



Presidents Muhammadu Buhari of Nigeria (L), Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana (C) and Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone were among the leaders meeting in Ouagadougou

the military operations of the nations involved -- and those of

the joint military operations in the region.

Full details of the plan would be presented to the next ECOWAS summit in December.

The fight against the rising tide of jihadist violence in the region has so far been hampered

by a lack of funds.

The G5 Sahel, a joint task-force, was created in 2014 to try to tackle the problem, backed by former colonial power France.

From July 2017, it pooled troops from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger in a bid to drive back the jihadist groups.



Landlocked Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger are non-coastal states

But a lack of finance, training and equipment, limited their effectiveness and their numbers. For the moment, the force numbers 4,000 troops, when 5,000 were originally planned.

ECOWAS -- the Economic Community of West African States -- brings together 15 countries whose economies range from regional heavyweights Nigeria and Ivory Coast to the impoverished Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Landlocked Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger are non-coastal states.

## Singapore smog worst in three years

Reuters | Singapore

deepen a regional dispute over forest fires.

Every dry season, smoke from fires to clear land for palm oil and pulp and paper plantations in Indonesia clouds the skies over much of the region, raising concerns about public health

and worrying tourist operators and airlines.

The 24-hour Pollution Standards Index, which Singapore's NEA uses as a benchmark, was in a range of 87-106 in the afternoon. A reading above 100 is considered unhealthy.

## US park rangers debunk myth on tossing banana peels, apple cores

AFP | Los Angeles

Next time you toss a banana peel or apple core on the ground believing you're feeding nature, you may want to think twice.

That's the appeal issued this week by rangers at Glacier National Park in Montana -- one of the country's most famous parks -- who urged visitors not to leave food waste behind.

"These 'natural' food items will not decompose quickly," the rangers said in a Facebook post shared at least 50,000 times by Friday. "If animals don't eat the food waste, decomposition will likely take much longer than you expect."

"Some fruit products can take years to decompose depending on the environment they are in!"



A squirrel eating a banana peel

eight weeks.

The rangers added in their post -- entitled "Myth Busters Banana Peel and Apple Core Edition" -- that so-called natural food items are "usually not so natural" as they may not be native to the area where they are discarded.

"Last but not least, no one wants to see your food waste decomposing on their visit to a pristine national park."

"If eaten by wildlife it will

likely not digest well since these animals are not accustomed to these foods," they wrote. "Fruit and vegetable seeds that end up on the ground could result in a non-native plant growth."

"Last but not least, no one wants to see your food waste decomposing on their visit to a pristine national park."

**شركة مطار البحرين**  
bahrain airport company

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

Tender No.	Tender Title	Tender Doc. Fees	Initial Bond	Tender Closing	
				Day/ Date	Time
BAC/HBH/3/2019	Supply and Maintenance of Baggage Wrapping Machine for the New Airport Terminal	BD 15/- non-refundable	BD 500/-	8th 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](http://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.

# What will be at the end of the magnet?

AFP | Lacroix-Saint-Ouen, France

Equipped with powerful magnets, history enthusiasts and environmentalists scour France's rivers, pulling out bits of scrap metal, bikes, scooters and the odd kitchen appliance.

Sometimes, too, they fish other more unexpected objects out of the water, such as unexploded munitions.

Magnet fishing has fast become a popular pastime, according to public safety officials, but French authorities have clamped down over fears that historical battle sites could still harbour active weapons.

As in other countries, participants in France tie a super magnet to a rope and drop it into waterways, partly for treasure hunting, partly for environmental reasons.

On the banks of the Oise river, in a town about 75 kilometres (47 miles) north of Paris, Owen Gressier, 20, and his three fellow magnet fishermen cast their neodymium magnets.

After several attempts at their spot near a bridge in La Croix-Saint-Ouen, they latch onto something.

It takes a few minutes to haul out the item with the help of a grappling hook.

A rusty, cast-iron pipe emerges: "Nice catch," they say. It's the best find that afternoon.

"We've been fishing here for a number of years, the bottom (of the river) is pretty clean," Gressier, a forklift truck operator, says.

Driven by what he calls his passion for World War II and a quest to find medals, military gear and other historical objects, Gressier says that he also "quickly realised that a t



**Magnet fishing: the hobby that is cleaning up French rivers**



**It's crazy everything you can find in the water, listing anything from electric scooters to traffic signs and microwaves. With a dozen people, you can sometimes pull out 50 kilos of scrap metal in a few hours**

GRESSIER  
A FORKLIFT TRUCK OPERATOR

it was possible to clean up the waterways".

In 2017, he set up a Facebook page, which now has more than 500 subscribers, where members share photos, advice and organise outings.

"It's crazy everything you can find in the water," Gressier says, listing anything from electric scooters to traffic signs and microwaves.

"With a dozen people, you can sometimes pull out 50 kilos (around 110 pounds) of scrap metal in a few hours," he adds.

In the neighbouring Somme department, site of one of the largest battles of World War I, Christophe Devarenne started magnet fishing three months ago.

He says the thrill comes from "not knowing what will be at the end of the magnet".

But the 52-year-old driver warns that "if you expect to find treasures, there are not many".

Although he did pull out a rifle dating from 1914 to 1918, he says that it was "downright rusty after 100 years in the water".

"Even the Museum of the Great War did not want it," he jokes, adding that nothing goes to waste as it is resold or given to scrap merchants.

In other French regions too, where bloody battles were fought during both world wars, magnet fishing enthusiasts have discovered shells, ammunition and grenades.

And they can still be active, warns the national public safety authority.

Faced with the hobby's rising popularity in the last nearly two years, including under the Pont des Arts pedestrian bridge in central Paris, the authority has recently made police across France aware of the dangers.

In May, a man was seriously injured after pulling out a shell that emitted mustard gas, in the Nord region, home to the town of Dunkirk.

Two young magnet fishers in the Somme at the end of July also hauled

out a phosphorus grenade, which irritated their eyes, police said.

The pastime is now illegal in France without a permit issued by the state or landowners.

"We were not aware of the risks... until my son found a grenade," says Helene Ledien, who lives in the Somme.

She said that her 14-year-old son Arthur bought a magnet for about 30 euros (\$33) on Amazon and regularly fishes with his friend for environmental reasons.

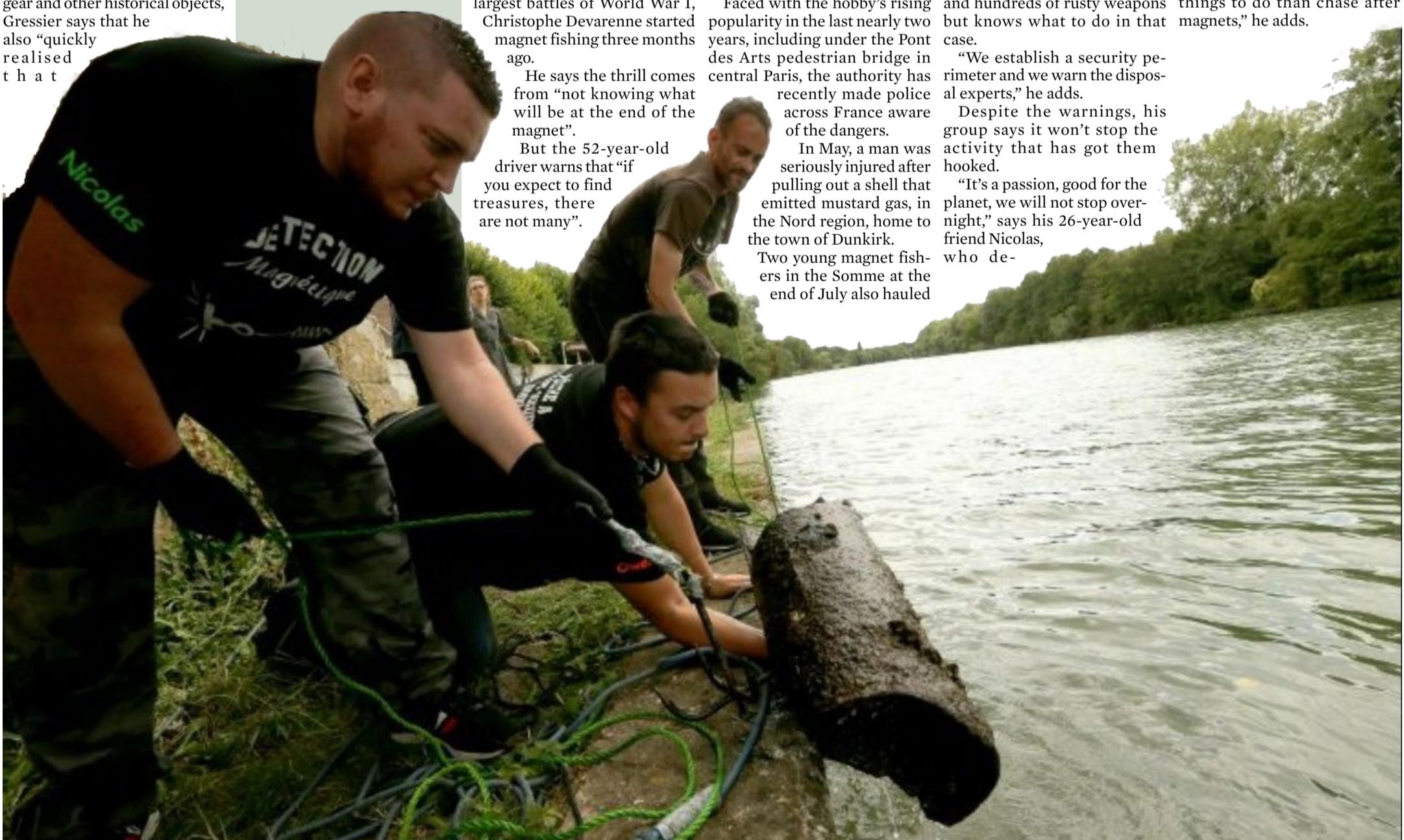
Gressier said that his group had hauled out one active shell and hundreds of rusty weapons but knows what to do in that case.

"We establish a security perimeter and we warn the disposal experts," he adds.

Despite the warnings, his group says it won't stop the activity that has got them hooked.

"It's a passion, good for the planet, we will not stop overnight," says his 26-year-old friend Nicolas, who de-

**Magnet fishing has fast become a popular pastime, according to public safety officials, but French authorities have clamped down over fears that historical battle sites could still harbour active weapons**



Fishermen removing scrap metal they caught with a neodyme magnet from the Oise river in Lacroix-Saint-Ouen, northern France

# UK PM claims progress in Brexit talks

Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson says he's confident he can get a new Brexit deal

AFP | London

**B**ritish Prime Minister Boris Johnson said Saturday he was making a "huge amount of progress" towards a Brexit deal with the EU, in an interview in which he compared Britain to the Incredible Hulk.

"It's going to take a lot of work between now and October 17" when EU leaders gather for their final summit before Britain's scheduled exit from the bloc, he told the Mail yesterday newspaper.

"But I'm going to go to that summit and I'm going to get a deal, I'm very confident. And if we don't get a deal then we'll come out on October 31."

His comments came ahead of talks with European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker and the EU's chief Brexit negotiator, Michel Barnier, in Luxembourg on Monday.

In an odd analogy, Johnson compared Britain to the comic book character Hulk.

"The madder Hulk gets, the stronger Hulk gets and he always escaped, no matter how tightly bound in he seemed to be -- and that is the case for this country," he said.

"We will come out on Octo-



Anti-Brexit activists wave EU flags whilst draped in Union flags as they demonstrate outside the Houses of Parliament

ber 31 and we will get it done, believe me."

But the extent of the parliamentary opposition to Johnson's approach was laid bare on Saturday when one of his Conservative MPs defected to the pro-European Liberal Democrats.

Former universities minister Sam Gyimah has strongly criti-

cised Johnson's threat to leave the EU with no deal, and has called for a re-run of the 2016 Brexit referendum.

#### 'Progress'

Johnson took office in July promising to leave the EU next month with or without a deal, but has faced resistance from the

House of Commons.

Rebel Conservatives joined opposition MPs last week to rush through a law to delay Brexit until January if he does not get a deal in time.

Johnson wants to renegotiate the terms struck by his predecessor, Theresa May, which were rejected by parliament -- but EU

**It's going to take a lot of work between now and October 17. But I'm going to go to that summit and I'm going to get a deal, I'm very confident. And if we don't get a deal then we'll come out on October 31**

BORIS JOHNSON

leaders insist the deal is the best on offer.

The main sticking point is the so-called backstop plan to keep open Britain's border with Ireland, which could keep Britain tied to EU trade rules long after Brexit.

"When I got this job everybody was saying there can be absolutely no change to the withdrawal agreement," Johnson said.

"They have already moved off that and, as you know, there's a very, very good conversation going on about how to address the issues of the Northern Irish border.

"I choose to continue to fight for the values I have always believed in, as a Liberal Democrat."

His defection is the sixth to the Lib Dems this year, and comes just days after a similar move by Conservative MP Philip Lee.

being made."

However, Downing Street has downplayed any major breakthrough in Monday's talks.

Johnson repeated that "under no circumstances" would he delay Brexit.

#### 'Stark choice'

Twenty-one Conservative MPs defied Johnson to back the legislation blocking a "no deal" Brexit, and were swiftly expelled from the governing party.

One of them was Gyimah, who now becomes the Liberal Democrats' 18th MP in the 650-seat House of Commons.

The 43-year-old was once viewed as a rising star in the Conservatives and briefly ran against Johnson for the party leadership.

But he said Saturday: "Boris Johnson created a stark choice for moderate, progressive MPs in the Conservative party -- to accept a no deal Brexit or walk away from public life.

"I choose to continue to fight for the values I have always believed in, as a Liberal Democrat."

His defection is the sixth to the Lib Dems this year, and comes just days after a similar move by Conservative MP Philip Lee.

## California Highway Patrol captures flightless fugitive emu

AP | Los Angeles

**C**alifornia authorities have captured an emu after the flightless fugitive led officers down a highway.

The Fresno Bee reported Friday that the bird was apprehended following a brief pursuit by California Highway Patrol officers.

Authorities say officers responded to a report that an ostrich was wandering along the right-hand shoulder of US Highway 99 northwest of Fresno.

Authorities say Madera County Animal Services took the bird into custody uninjured.



A California Highway Patrol car follows an emu as it ambled along the southbound lanes of Highway 99

Officers say they do not know whether the emu escaped a nearby farm or a moving vehicle.

Animal experts say the flightless native Australian birds can sprint at up to 30 mph (48 kph) and trot quickly for longer distances.

## Snowden says he hopes France will grant him asylum

Reuters | Paris

**F**ormer US spy agency contractor Edward Snowden hopes France will grant him asylum, according to a France Inter radio interview to be broadcast on Monday.

In excerpts made available on the French radio station's Twitter account, Snowden says he would "love to see" French President Emmanuel Macron make a gesture enabling him to live in the country.

It was not immediately clear when or where the interview took place.

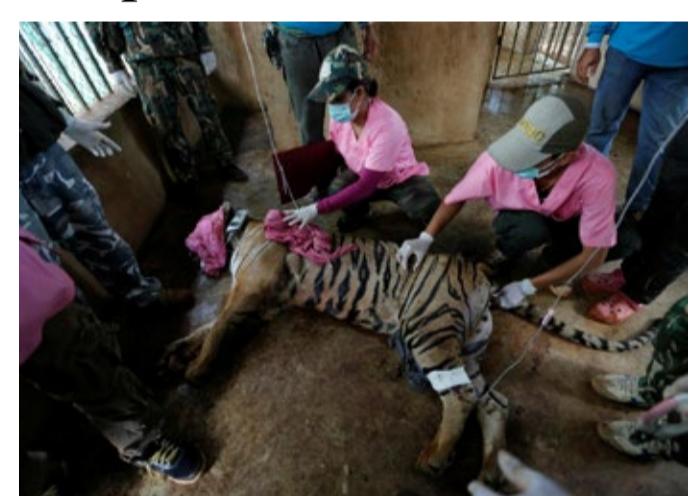
Snowden has been living in Russia since 2013 after he revealed details of secret surveillance programs by US intelligence agencies.



Edward Snowden speaks via video link during a news conference in New York

Many civil rights activists see him as a hero, but at home in the United States authorities want him to stand trial for espionage.

## Scores of tigers rescued from infamous Thai temple have died



A sedated tiger is seen in an enclosure as officials continue moving live tigers from the controversial Tiger Temple, in Kanchanaburi province, west of Bangkok

Reuters | Bangkok

**M**ore than half of the tigers that Thai authorities confiscated in 2016 from an infamous Tiger Temple tourist attraction have died from a viral disease because their immune systems were weakened by inbreeding, media reported.

The Buddhist temple west of Bangkok was a tourist destination where visitors took selfies with tigers and bottle-fed cubs until authorities removed its nearly 150 tigers in 2016 in response to global pressure over wildlife trafficking.

The confiscated animals were taken to two state-run sanctuaries but it soon became apparent they were susceptible to canine distemper virus, said a senior official from the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation.

Environmental protection groups, including Greenpeace, have expressed their concerns over potential safety issues.

mune system due to inbreeding," the department's deputy director-general, Prakit Vongsrivattanakul, told the state-owned broadcaster MCOT on the weekend.

"We treated them as symptoms came up," Prakit said.

Prakit did not give a figure for the number of tigers that had died but public service broadcaster Thai PBS reported that the toll was 86 of the 147 rescued animals.

The temple had promoted itself for years as a wildlife sanctuary, but it was eventually investigated for suspected links to wildlife trafficking and animal abuse.

Wildlife activists accused the temple's monks of illegally breeding tigers, while some visitors said the animals appeared drugged. The temple denied the accusations.

Government officials could not be reached for comment yesterday.

## Russia's first sea-borne nuclear power plant arrives to its base

Reuters | Moscow

**R**ussia's first-floating nuclear power plant has arrived to its permanent base near an isolated Russian town across the Bering Strait from Alaska, Russian state nuclear energy company Rosatom said on Saturday.

Developed by Rosatom, the plant, known as "Akademik Lomonosov", set off on a 5,000 km (3,100 mile) journey on Aug. 23 through Arctic waters to reach the Chukotka region.

Rosatom said it aims to make the floating station operational by the year-end. It would become the world's northernmost nuclear power station.

The plant will replace a coal-fired power plant and an aging nuclear power plant supplying more than 50,000 people with electricity in Chukotka.

Rosatom has long planned to launch the sea-borne power



Russia's floating nuclear power plant Akademik Lomonosov leaves Murmansk

units, which, with their mobile, small capacity plants, are best suited to remote regions. It has said they can help the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions blamed for global warming.

The small plants were designed to make it possible to supply electricity to hard-to-reach areas of Russia. They can operate non-stop without

the need for refuelling for 3-5 years.

Environmental protection groups, including Greenpeace, have expressed their concerns over potential safety issues.

# Trump should prioritise US allies over new Iran deal

*If Tehran does receive the proposed \$15 billion in sanctions relief, it will be prioritised for the bankrolling of paramilitary terrorism*



**BARIA ALAMUDDIN**

The author of "The Art of the Deal" is said to be so desperate for Iranian President Hassan Rouhani to talk to him at the UN General Assembly that he has reportedly been discussing showering Tehran with billions of dollars-worth of sanctions relief. This dumbfounding revelation is apparently what triggered the acrimonious departure from the Donald Trump administration of National Security Adviser John Bolton, the architect of efforts to ratchet up pressure against Iran.

A Rouhani adviser hailed Bolton's departure as a "defeat of America's maximum pressure strategy." Trump, meanwhile, wistfully opines to journalists that "Iran wants to meet." World leaders are now miserably familiar with Trump's one-trick pony negotiating style: In public threatening the "official end of Iran," while behind the scenes repeatedly pleading for the ayatollahs to meet with him. Trump scarcely grasps that, even if he meets Rouhani and Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Zarif, they are glorified diplomats. It is, of course, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and Gen Qassem Soleimani calling the shots from the background.

Although mid-ranking US officials have speculated about expanding sanctions against the allies of Hezbollah, Trump has conspicuously not committed himself to compelling Iran to halt its sponsorship of vast transnational paramilitary forces that are complicit in war crimes, sectarian cleansing,

and the destabilisation of Arab nations. Having undermined America's reputation for honouring agreements by tearing up the 2015 nuclear deal — largely because it bore his predecessor's signature — Trump now suggests that Iran must simply halt its nuclear program, i.e., a return to the status quo from the start of his presidency.

Yet Iran has already fired up a new generation of IR-6 centrifuges, which are 10 times faster than earlier models and capable of enriching uranium to the 90 percent purity required for a nuclear weapon. By allowing Tehran to walk away from its commitments, the Trump administration has inadvertently facilitated its path toward nuclear supremacy. Although Israel could resort to airstrikes, it may lack the firepower required to destroy reactors built deep underground in anticipation of such pre-emptive strikes.

Trump's glitzy Korea summits sought to showcase the president as a globe-straddling dealmaker. Instead they gave Kim Jong Un the exposure and legitimacy he craved, without committing him to substantive concessions. While North Korea's blood-drenched dictator today tests ballistic missiles and pursues his nuclear program, Trump blindly proclaims their "beautiful relationship." Such incompetent diplomacy in Iran's case would simply incentivise Tehran to intensify its nuclear program and clandestine terrorist activities, while escaping international isolation.

If Tehran does receive the proposed \$15 billion in sanctions relief, it will be prioritised for the bankrolling of paramilitary terrorism, exactly as billions of dollars of unfrozen funds were after 2015. This would represent a disgraceful



Trump declaring sanctions on Iran at his White House office.

betrayal of America's Middle Eastern allies.

Teheran boasts that it exercises de facto control over four Arab states, where it is stockpiling rocket arsenals with ranges of up to 700 kilometers. The world has largely ignored hundreds of drone and missile strikes from Iraq and Yemen against Saudi airports and civilian targets, including attacks against Aramco oil facilities this weekend. Why don't the repeated targeting of tankers and oil infrastructure and threats to obstruct the Strait of Hormuz trigger urgent alarm bells about the threat posed by Iranian aggression to the global economy and energy security?

If Israel, Iran and additional states are soon capable of threatening one another with mutually assured destruction, tiny nations like Lebanon face annihilation. The terrorist mullahs of Tehran, under their nuclear shield, would enjoy region-wide impunity for whatever paramilitary adventures Soleimani's fevered imagination

**If Tehran does receive the proposed \$15 billion in sanctions relief, it will be prioritised for the bankrolling of paramilitary terrorism, exactly as billions of dollars of unfrozen funds were after 2015.**

chooses to embark on. A nuclearised Iran could decorate Lebanon and Iraq's borders with forests of missile launch sites, confident that nobody would dare to challenge it.

What of Trump's fabled deal-making genius? He promised the "deal of the century" for Palestine and then casually surrendered Jerusalem and the occupied Golan Heights. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week vowed to de-

vour much of the West Bank, confident of US acquiescence. Trump, meanwhile, was hours away from hosting Taliban terrorists as guests of honour at Camp David — coinciding with America commemorating the 9/11 attacks that were planned on Afghan soil under Mullah Omar's patronage. The Taliban dictates its demands with increasing assertiveness, knowing that Trump, who appears incapable of keeping his negotiating cards close to his chest, is desperate to cut and run from Afghanistan.

With trade wars pitching the global economy into recession, the White House is anxious to tout policies that have not been utter train wrecks ahead of Trump's 2020 re-election bid. Hence the desperation for any deal the administration could beg or bribe Tehran to sign up to; irrespective of whether this fundamentally destabilises the Middle East, transfers billions of dollars into the pockets of terrorist proxies, or the ensuing chaos paves the way for future

9/11s and new generations of terrorism.

The Islamic Republic must be forced to acknowledge that the pursuit of nuclear weapons, terrorism and regional militancy will not reinforce its overseas muscle, but rather will guarantee its demise. Genuine negotiations usually require years of tenacious efforts and careful diplomacy, and the Iranian regime is notorious for its fierce negotiating style. Priding himself on personally leading talks, with little grasp of the labyrinthine complexities and craving the cheap gratification of immediate results, Trump would be woefully, terrifyingly, out of his depth.

Barack Obama's flawed 2015 deal at least represented a sincere effort to address the world's foremost proliferation threat. The Trump administration's calamitous overseas machinations aspire neither to international peace nor US security, instead catering solely to the ego and personal agenda of one man, who — if there is any justice in the world — will be soundly defeated in November 2020.

The latest attacks by Iranian proxies against Saudi Arabia and other targets demonstrate that, when the world fails to stand strong against pariah states, they are emboldened to escalate their terrorist aggression. Instead of pursuing a new "love story" with the theocrats of Tehran, America should prioritise the security of its real Middle Eastern allies; thereby maximising the stability of the global economy and the collective security of the international community.

(Baria Alamuddin is an award-winning journalist and broadcaster in the Middle East and the UK. She is editor of the Media Services Syndicate and has interviewed numerous heads of state.)

## CIVILIAN'S TRIBUNE

### Put an end to these man-made disasters

Environmentalists often caution authorities about the dangers of deforestation, reckless construction activity by the land mafia and quarrying. These destroy the natural drainage channels and harm the water bodies. We have seen how this double whammy caused flooding in Chennai, Mumbai, and Uttarakhand in recent years.

Flooding in Kerala was forecast years ago but officials, in nexus with builders, continued to sanction construction projects without taking the topography into account. But those environmental violations from the past have left the state suffering financial losses and have adversely affected businesses too.

Also, it is not just about one state. Warnings of increased frequency of extreme weather events, severe droughts, rise in the sea level and melting of glaciers from scientists all over the world are unheeded and we continue to remain in a state of denial. Development should not come at the cost of environment.

**Safeer**



1961

Pakistan establishes its Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission with **Abdus Salam** as its head.

1963

Malaysia is formed from the Federation of **Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo (Sabah) and Sarawak**. However, Singapore soon leaves this new country.

1966

**The Metropolitan Opera House** opens at Lincoln Center in New York City with the world premiere of Samuel Barber's opera *Antony and Cleopatra*.

1970

**King Hussein** of Jordan declares military rule following the hijacking of four civilian airliners by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



Brett Kavanaugh should start suing people for libel, or the Justice Department should come to his rescue. The lies being told about him are unbelievable. False Accusations without retribution. When does it stop? They are trying to influence his opinions. Can't let that happen!

@realDonaldTrump

02



Disappointing to see @Malala wade into cliched Pakistan state narrative about #Kashmir when the hard truth is that she can never even return to her own country because she was shot for the rights of girls to go to school.

@BDUTT

03



Let's come back to language. Urdu is an Indian language. Urdu is a proof of the inclusive, creative, innovative and progressive nature of Hindu civilisation. Hindi stands pure and strong without Urdu words but can Urdu survive without borrowed words?

@vivekagnihotri

04



Extremely pained by the capsizing of a boat in Andhra Pradesh's East Godavari. My thoughts are with the bereaved families. Rescue operations are currently underway at the site of the tragedy.

@narendramodi

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

# Oxford has a rich history, but must work harder for a more inclusive future

*Universities should reflect a world where everyone has equal access to opportunities, irrespective of their background*



Oxford University kept the statue of former student Cecil Rhodes, arguing that more than \$100 million in sponsorship depended on it.

## SHELINA JANMOHAMED

As students go back to school and start thinking about where to apply next, the British government has not been a good advertisement recently for its oldest and arguably most prestigious university, Oxford.

In the few weeks since Oxford alumnus Boris Johnson became prime minister, he has suspended parliament, reduced his majority in the house, been accused of trampling on democracy and possibly subverted the rule of law.

Mr Johnson is the latest in a long line of prime ministers to have graduated from Oxford; the 29th out of 56, in fact, including Robert Peel and William Gladstone in the 19th century, right through to Tony Blair, David Cameron and Theresa May. For some alumni, however, graduating from Britain's finest – Oxford has been ranked first in the annual Times Higher Education world rankings for the fourth year in a row – lends a certain amount of entitlement.

Behold, for example, Jacob Rees-Mogg, leader of the House of Commons and graduate of Trinity College, Oxford. He was pictured recently draped across the front benches during a debate on Brexit, in a manner described by one commentator as "waiting to be

fed grapes". Then there is the Bullingdon Club, the infamous all-male drinking circle made notorious by its recruits' rowdy behaviour. The current prime minister, Mr Cameron and former chancellor of the exchequer George Osborne have all been members. It seems the so-called elite is doing everything it can to live down to expectations.

As an Oxford graduate myself, such behaviour makes my skin crawl and leaves me asking whether establishments like Oxford have anything to say in the 21st century world?

Spoiler alert: yes they do, but it is going to require a painful transition in a rapidly changing world, one where simply belonging to a historic institution is not enough, and where people are less enamoured of the idea of (predominantly white) upper-class superiority that held for centuries.

Oxford, like many other elite institutions, has been making important and laudable efforts in recent years to respond accordingly, starting with attempting to recruit a more diverse intake of students. As a Muslim woman of colour, from a working-class, immigrant background, I was definitely one of those who ticked the diversity box when I took up my place 20 years ago as an undergraduate studying psychology and philosophy.

**Oxford has much to offer and if I was to have my time again, I'd still apply, for the experience. But I'd also do it because the only way to challenge the status quo is by being there to instigate change in the first place.**

Statistics also show change is happening. For example, year on year the number of students from state schools has risen from 56.3 per cent in 2014 to 60.5 per cent last year, according to Oxford University figures.

I returned last weekend for the first time in years for a reunion. I felt 18 years old again, spending time with my peers in a bubble of joy, delight and nostalgia. Oxford was everything it had always been. Its golden stone buildings still gleamed in the sunshine. The shadows in its cloisters whispered romance. Its vast libraries still held the knowledge of centuries.

But in a way, that perfectly preserved nature is also part of the problem. At the reunion, I compared notes with others who, like

me, considered themselves outsiders. The Oxford experience had given us many things: access to smart minds, unparalleled resources, a tutorial system that trained us for the toughest work meetings, the relentless honing of our ideas, a peer group which put us with insightful, inspiring people who remained friends for life and who – whether we liked it or not – were likely to provide connections and open doors.

Those are huge advantages. But for many students, that is no longer enough. Course content and cultural life are now make-or-break factors in decision-making about where to study, along with a university's reputation.

Take one recent controversy involving Oxford, which sparked a painful self-examination of its own place in the history of the British empire and establishment.

In 2015 a worldwide campaign called "Rhodes must fall" began in Cape Town and spread to Oxford, prompting students to call for the removal of memorials in honour of Cecil Rhodes, the 19th century prime minister of Cape Colony, now South Africa. A former student at Oriel College, Oxford, he was an advocate of racial segregation, thought Anglo-Saxons were "the first race in the world" and described native Africans as "barbaric".

Despite opposition, Oxford

University decided to keep his statue, arguing that more than \$100 million in sponsorship depended on it.

But how Oxford handles issue such as this is not just a matter of funding and institutional survival; it also sends a message to students and wider society about how it sees itself and its role. How it frames its own history – when so much of society is re-evaluating issues such as equality, the legacy of colonialism or women's rights – speaks louder to students than anything else. They are looking for an inclusive place that will prepare them for the kind of world they want to be a part of, not a past they don't want to preserve. This is the huge cultural shift that has happened over the past half-century and which has accelerated in recent years.

The big picture we are all working towards is a society where everyone, irrespective of their background, has equal access to social, economic and political opportunities. To do this, we need to make institutions such as Oxford representative as well as reflective of the contemporary world.

Oxford has much to offer and if I was to have my time again, I'd still apply, for the experience. But I'd also do it because the only way to challenge the status quo is by being there to instigate change in the first place.

# BUSINESS

## business

# Alba announces key partners for Arabal 2019

TDT | Manama

**A**luminium Bahrain (Alba), host of the of 23rd edition of the Arab International Aluminium Conference (Arabal) 2019, yesterday announced Gulf

Markets International (GMI) as the Platinum Sponsor and COBEX as the Gold Sponsor of this much-awaited event.

Welcoming the partners of Arabal 2019, the Chairman of Alba's Board of Directors, Shai-

kh Daij Bin Salman Bin Daij Al Khalifa said, "As the host of Arabal 2019, we are delighted with the response it has received from global and regional partners as well as our peers in the industry. With a broad spectrum of

sponsors and delegates already committed to this edition, we look forward to another successful event similar to 2014."

Arabal 2019 is being hosted under the patronage of HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al

Khalifa, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain from 19 to 21 November 2019 at Gulf Hotel, Bahrain under the theme 'Shaping the Future of Aluminium in the Arab Region'.

In addition to support from

Middle East smelters, companies sponsoring Arabal include ABB, Alubase Industry Co.Ltd., Wagstaff, Inc., Ahmed Mansoor Al Aali (AMA Group), Dubai Cranes & Technical Services, Rain Carbon Inc. and others.

## Batelco provides connectivity to new AWS Direct Connect location in Bahrain

TDT | Manama

**B**atelco, the Kingdom's leading digital solutions provider, yesterday announced that it is now providing network connectivity to the newly launched AWS Direct Connect location in Bahrain. The AWS Direct Connect location in Bahrain is the first to be operated by Amazon Web Services (AWS), and provides an easy way for customers to establish a dedicated private network connection between AWS and their datacenter, office, or colocation environment.

With AWS Direct Connect, customers can connect to all their AWS resources in any global AWS Region, including the new AWS Middle East (Bahrain) Region, and transfer their business critical data directly between their premises and AWS. Benefits include reduced network costs, increased bandwidth throughput, and a more consistent network experience than Internet-based connections.

Batelco Chief Global Business Officer Adel Al-Daylami,



Adel Al-Daylami - Chief Global Business Officer

explained that as organizations look to move more of their business critical applications to the cloud, network security and performance become critical success factors.

"We are proud to continue to offer services that support customers in their cloud adoption, as we understand and value the needs of our customers and wish to satisfy their demands for both secure and high performing connections," added Al-Daylami.

By providing network connectivity, Batelco is providing customers the ability to leverage AWS Direct Connect as part of its Cloud Connect Solutions, which are designed to enable enterprises to rapidly scale their global digital business operations and easily extend their reach to a wider global audience.

Batelco's efforts and plans are focused on the expansion of its global network and development of strong partnerships with technology giants, with strong emphasis on digital solutions.

## US Fed to cut rates again as optimism is tested

The Fed is expected to cut the benchmark interest rate, despite fairly solid economic data

● The president has tweeted about the Fed and its Chairman Jerome Powell about once every 22 hours since the central bank's last meeting

AFP | Washington

**F**acing a dauntingly uncertain economic horizon and ceaselessly pelted with insults and demands for stimulus from the US president, the Federal Reserve is set to cut interest rates in the coming week.

Though Chairman Jerome Powell has at times struggled to send markets a clear message, since announcing the first rate cut in a decade over the summer he has sent signals that lower rates are coming.

In speeches and public appearances, Powell promised the Fed will "act as appropriate" to preserve the current expansion.

While the world's largest economy is in a "good place," he has warned of "significant risks" to a deteriorating outlook, persistently low inflation and a trade war that looks set to drag on -- views echoed by influential New York Fed President John Williams.

Futures markets as of Friday overwhelmingly forecast the Fed will lower rates on Wednesday at the conclusion of the two-day meeting of the policy committee. And another cut before the end of the year is more likely than not.



US Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell speaks during a press conference

Indeed, Kathy Bostjancic, chief US financial economist at Oxford Economics, told AFP her firm expects three more cuts this year, meaning the central bank will cut at every policy meeting left in 2019.

"It's good that the economy is not crumbling right now," she said, "and that's a good time to take out some stimulus."

Which of course raises the question: why cut rates again?

The sky is not falling. The jobless rate has been at or near historic lows for a year and a half. Consumer spending is resilient. Inflation is firming. Wages are up. Job creation is healthy. GDP growth seems to be holding up. Business and consumer confidence are softening but still high.

So why the pit-of-the-stomach feeling among so many?

### 'Boneheads'

For starters, the only thing sustaining the US economy at the moment is consumer spend-

ing, which accounts for two-thirds of GDP. But by the time that starts to weaken, it will be too late -- the recession will have begun already.

Hiring, while strong, has slowed. Business investment is moribund. Exports are weakening. And manufacturing -- always a vital economic weather vane -- is in recession.

Meanwhile, the global economy is slowing.

To top it off, Trump may not know how to end the trade fight he picked 18 months ago with China, the world's second-largest economy.

Higher tariffs and uncertainty have moved from posing a risk to actually hurting the economy, including job losses -- about 11,000 in August alone, according to one estimate.

Beijing and Washington in recent days have made olive-branch gestures, lifting market hopes of a resolution, or at the very least a truce in a conflict that deteriorated badly

Despite hailing the American economy's vigor, Trump has demanded immediate stimulus of the kind reserved for dire economic crises, calling for benchmark rates of "ZERO or less."

"I don't think they really think too much about that," said Joseph Gagnon, a former Fed economist now at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. "Trump is happy to have a scapegoat that he can blame when something goes wrong."

But, he said, "I don't think he really wants the Fed to follow his advice anyway because if the Fed follows his advice and things go badly, he'll be blamed."

## US House panel wants Boeing CEO to allow employee interviews on 737 MAX crashes

Reuters | Washington

**U**s Congress on Thursday asked Boeing Co's chief executive to make several employees available for interviews as part of a congressional probe into the design, development and certification of 737 MAX aircraft involved in two crashes that killed 346 people.

House of Representatives Transportation Committee

Chairman Peter DeFazio and Representative Rick Larsen, who chairs the aviation subcommittee, said in a statement that while Boeing has provided substantial documents and shared senior management's perspective, "it's important to the committee's investigation to hear from relevant Boeing employees."

The committee plans another Boeing hearing in the



Grounded Boeing 737 MAX aircraft at Boeing Field in Seattle, Washington

coming weeks and previously asked whistleblowers to come forward with any information about the plane's development. Boeing has provided more than 300,000 pages of documents, a person briefed on the matter said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Boeing said in a statement it was "deeply disappointed the committee chose to release private correspondence given our

extensive cooperation to date. We will continue to be transparent and responsive to the committee."

The 737 MAX, Boeing's best-selling jet, was grounded globally in March, days after the crash of an Ethiopian Airlines flight that followed a similar Lion Air disaster in Indonesia in October. A total of 346 people died in the two crashes.

AFP | Gaglano Del Capo, Italy

**W**orking in an arid Italian field of crumbly soil, agronomists are battling a rampant bacterium that has already infected millions of olive trees and could threaten the entire Mediterranean basin.

Xylella fastidiosa, which has no known cure, has devastated ancient olive trees in Italy's southern Apulia region and beyond, causing 1.2 billion euros (\$1.3 billion) of damage to the world's second olive oil exporter after Spain.

Since 2013, the disease has torn through Apulia's olive groves, leaving thousands of

skeleton-like trees in its wake, and little hope for farmers.

Once Xylella fastidiosa bacteria -- carried by tiny sap-sucking insects known as spittlebugs -- take hold, blocking the tree's ability to absorb water, the plant is doomed.

#### Bureaucracy and 'mafia'

The only way to fight the spread of the disease, known as "olive tree leprosy", is to destroy diseased trees, but farmers must seek special permission and say the authorities are not always forthcoming.

Doubtful of conspiracy theories that the mafia are killing trees to make way for hotel construction, agronomist Pierfeder-

agonist and olive oil producer Giovanni Melcarne has lost 90 percent of his plants since Xylella arrived, and he is seeking an even better solution: immune varieties of olive tree.

While much of his machinery for olive cultivation now lies dormant, he has built an improvised greenhouse, filled with dozens of small olive saplings, among which he hopes to find at least one immune variety.

"We will infect them with the illness, we will contaminate them with the insects that transmit the illness so we have scientific proof that this plant, this indigenous variety that we could cultivate, doesn't catch the disease and so is immune,"

21 million trees, and is "spreading inexorably north at a speed of more than two kilometres (over a mile) a month", leaving behind it "a ghostly landscape".

The bug has also attacked orchards in Spain, France and now Iran. Both Greece and Portugal are bracing for its likely arrival.

Some 350 plants are vulnerable, including grape vines, citrus and almond trees.

Scientists say there is a real risk the disease will spread to the entire Mediterranean basin, where olive oil is a staple in the diet and vital to the economy.

This is why the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) in Bari, Apulia's capital,



# Italy battles 'olive tree leprosy'

*The only way to fight the spread of the disease, known as "olive tree leprosy", is to destroy diseased trees, but farmers must seek special permission and say the authorities are not always forthcoming*

ico La Notte noticed that some trees seemed not to become infected, standing tall and green in otherwise devastated fields.

Suspecting that they may be resistant varieties that can develop the disease to a small degree but continue to grow and flower, the soft-spoken researcher rapidly identified two that appeared to suffer little from Xylella.

"The Leccino and Favolosa varieties are a starting point, not the finish line," said La Notte, who works for Italy's National Research Council.

"We hope, and we're working on it, to find a much bigger number of resistant varieties," said La Notte, teaching visiting Egyptian agronomists in a research field outside the ancient town of Gallipoli.

Results so far are promising.

Branches from resistant varieties that are grafted onto the trunks of sick trees are growing perfectly and even producing fruit, offering a glimmer of hope to the devastated region in the heel of Italy's boot.

#### Immunity?

Down the road in the heavily agriculture-dependent region,

Melcarne said, carefully labeling a batch of olive saplings.

But it will be at least another year before the results are known, given the slowness with which the disease will become visible after infection, something that has helped it spread invisibly, and rapidly.

Drones using infrared cameras can help detect the infection marginally earlier, but the disease's progress is relentless.

Known in the United States as Pierce's disease, it devastated California vineyards in the late 19th century.

The European Commission describes Xylella as "one of the most dangerous plant bacteria worldwide, causing a variety of diseases, with huge economic impact for agriculture, public gardens and the environment."

Since it arrived in the Apulia region in 2013, probably from Costa Rica according to the Italian farmers' union Coldiretti, the microscopic pathogen has killed more than a million olive trees in Italy.

#### Mediterranean spread

Coldiretti said earlier this month that Xylella has infected

has decided to train agronomists from around the region, including the Middle East and North Africa.

#### Relentless advance

"Today's technology lets us upload photos in real time, images of symptoms to help and also, through the project, we can mobilise the scientific resources of European countries which can go to other Mediterranean countries to help and to train these people," said CIHEAM agronomist Maroun El Moujabber, from Lebanon.

Budding and experienced experts from around the Mediterranean study at CIHEAM's sunny campus, where an app has also been developed which allows olive farmers or anyone else to input symptoms as they observe them, hopefully providing a better indicator of the disease's spread, and how to slow it.

Arafat Hanani, a young Palestinian doctoral student and plant pathologist at the CIHEAM, says that while "nothing is impossible about science", Xylella is particularly problematic.



The International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies in Bari, Apulia's main city, trains agronomists from around the region, including the Middle East and North Africa



Agronomist and olive oil producer Giovanni Melcarne



Italian farmers' union Coldiretti says that Xylella has infected 21 million trees, and is "spreading inexorably north at a speed of more than two kilometres a month", leaving behind it "a ghostly landscape"

# Gulf stocks slump after oil plant attacks

● Banks and petrochemicals hit in Saudi

● Most property shares down in Dubai

● Financials drag Qatar, Abu Dhabi

● Egypt's 22 of 30 blue chips drop

Reuters | Dubai

Saudi Arabian stocks dropped yesterday with banking and petrochemical shares taking the biggest hit after attacks on two key Saudi oil plants a day earlier knocked out more than half of Saudi crude output.

The drone attacks, which were claimed by Yemen's Houthi group, are likely to push up the



Traders look at a screen at Saudi Stock Exchange

oil price by \$5-10 per barrel when it opens on Monday. Crude may shoot up to \$100 per barrel if Saudi Arabia fails to return to its full oil supply capacity after Saturday's attacks on Aramco oil plants.

Saudi's index closed 1.1 per cent lower to fall for a fourth straight session, with Al Rajhi Bank down 1.2pc and petrochemical maker Saudi Basic Industries (SABIC) lower 2.6pc. SABIC and other petrochemi-

cal firms announced significant reductions in feedstock supplies.

Yesterday's decline means the market has erased all its gains for the year and traded at 0.9pc loss for 2019. Saudi stocks have been forced on the back foot

## Closing Bell

SAUDI	▼1.1pc to 7,749
ABU DHABI	▼0.4pc to 5,074
DUBAI	▼0.6pc to 2,870
QATAR	▼0.6pc to 10,395
Egypt	▼0.6pc to 15,023
BAHRAIN	▼0.7pc to 1,536
OMAN	▲ 4,021
KUWAIT	▼0.3pc to 6,235

prices are likely to go further down this year and next amid a slowing economy and an oversupply of housing units.

Telecoms company Du, which uses Huawei equipment in its 5G network, lost 1.4pc. The United States has raised its concerns with Gulf allies over a possible security risk in using Huawei's technology for their 5G mobile infrastructure.

But in Qatar, it was mainly financials pushing down the index, which also fell 0.6pc. The Gulf's biggest lender Qatar National Bank shed 1.2pc while the region's top insurer Qatar Insurance dropped 2.4pc.

Lenders also pulled the Abu Dhabi index down 0.4pc. Market heavyweight First Abu Dhabi Bank and Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank slipped 0.7pc and 1pc respectively.

Egypt's blue-chip index was down 0.6pc with 22 stocks falling and seven rising. Real estate investment firm Talaat Mostafa Group Holding dropped 2.1pc.

## Workers strike at GM plants in US

AFP | Detroit

Some 850 maintenance workers went on strike yesterday at General Motors plants in Michigan and Ohio amid an impasse in negotiations between the US automakers and the United Auto Workers.

The strike was against Armark, a contractor that handles maintenance services at GM installations in the Midwest, but was seen as a possible prelude to a walkout by the automaker's 46,000-strong unionized workforce.

The union's contract expired Saturday and officers of UAW locals were to meet on whether to go on strike at GM.

On Friday, the union extended its contract with Ford and Fiat Chrysler, but in a letter to union officers the chief UAW negotiator said there would be no extension of the GM contract.

Terry Dittes, a UAW vice president and chief negotiator with GM, said there had been little progress in the talks and members would work without a contract until the union leadership decided on a course of action.

"There will either be an agreement or a strike after the meeting" of union officers, a



The headquarters of the General Motors Company in Detroit, Michigan



**The strike was against Armark, a contractor that handles maintenance services at GM installations in the Midwest**

union official said.

GM issued a statement late Saturday saying it was "prepared to negotiate around the clock" despite "some very difficult challenges."

"We are united in our efforts

to get an agreement our members and their families deserve," Dittes said in the letter to union officers.

The only union members employed by GM who were scheduled to work yesterday were at a GM pickup truck assembly plant in Flint, Michigan, a GM spokesman said.

Aramark maintenance workers in the Michigan cities of Hamtramck, Warren, Flint, Grand Blanc and Parma, Ohio have been working on an extended contract since March of 2018, a UAW spokesman said.

The impasse comes at the end of a chaotic week in which a member of UAW's executive board was arrested by FBI on charges of conspiracy to use union dues for personal expenses.

## BMW engine development expert Duesmann set to become Audi chief in April: report

Reuters | Berlin

BMW's engine development band purchasing expert, Markus Duesmann, is set to become the CEO of Volkswagen's Audi premium brand, after BMW dropped its opposition to his early departure, a German newspaper reported on Saturday.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung cited a person with knowledge of the appointment as saying Duesmann will start as Audi chief on April 1.

It said BMW's board would discuss Duesmann's planned departure to Audi in the near future.

Wolfsburg-based VW is on the lookout for clean-engine expertise as it struggles to overcome an emissions scandal that originated in Audi's engine development department.

Audi's current CEO and VW board member Rupert Stadler was forced to step down temporarily after his arrest in June as part of an ongoing emissions



Markus Duesmann, board member of German luxury carmaker BMW attends the company's annual news conference in Munich, Germany

investigation. VW is seeking to replenish its senior leadership while Stadler remains in custody.

VW had said in July that Duesmann will take up his new position as soon as he is able to do so. He will be the second high-profile defection from rival German carmaker BMW after the poaching of Herbert Diess in July 2015.

Duesmann's BMW contract runs until Sept. 30, 2019, and it would also have a non-compete clause that BMW board members are required to sign.

BMW had said that Duesmann had informed its chairman that he would not make himself available for an extension of his contract because of personal reasons.

## Germany's climate protection measures to cost 40 bn euros by 2023

Reuters | Berlin

Climate protection measures that Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives and their Social Democrat coalition partners want to unveil next week will cost at least 40 billion euros until 2023, a person briefed on the talks told Reuters on Saturday.

"We agree that something needs to be done but it is still open which form this will take," said the source briefed on the talks, which ended late on Friday. "We still have not agreed on a price for a tonne of CO2."

The government wants to unveil its climate protection package on Sept. 20 and Merkel has said the plans would include some sort of carbon emissions pricing to finance measures aimed at reducing emissions.

The coalition partners, which include



A scarecrow stands in a corn field in front of the Neurath coal power plant of German utility RWE in Neurath, west of Cologne

  
On the one hand we want climate protection measures to be effective to meet our commitments. On the other hand we want to be economically sensible and act in a socially acceptable way so that all people can afford climate protection

ANGELA MERKEL

Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU), their Bavaria Christian Social Union (CSU) sister party and the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD) are divided on how to finance Germany's march toward a green future.

Merkel's conservatives have been cast as more eager to ensure that the burden of financing the measures doesn't hurt German industry. The SPD want to protect small earners.

Merkel touched on those dilemmas facing her ministers in her podcast.

"On the one hand we want climate protection measures to be effective to meet our commitments," she said. "On the other hand we want to be economically sensible and act in a socially acceptable way so that all people can afford climate protection."

The plans are expected to touch on a broad range of issues such as extending grants for electric car buyers, expanding a network of charging stations, raising road taxes for polluting vehicles, improving heating systems for buildings and raising a green surcharge for plane tickets.

# 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 (X)

**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, RICA CHADHA, AJAY BAHL

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

SEEF (II) : 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM  
MARGARET QUILLEY, 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, RICA 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, SHRADDDHA KAPOOR, YARUN SHARMA****ANGEL HAS FALLEN (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER)**

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.00 + 5.45 + 11.30 PM  
CITY CENTRE (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 (MAX 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

OASIS JUFFAIR : 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM  
CITY CENTRE : 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 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)

**THE LION KING (PG)(ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FAMILY)**

CITY CENTRE : 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM  
SEEF (II) : 2.30 + 7.00 + 11.30 PM  
DONALD GLOVER, SETH ROGEN, CHIWETEL EJIOFOR

**47 METERS DOWN : UNCAGED (15+)(THRILLER)**

CITY CENTRE : 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 + 12.00 MN  
SOPHIE NELÉSSE, CORINNE FOX, BRIANNE TUU

**ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD (18+)(DRAMA)**

CITY CENTRE : 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM  
LEONARDO DICAPRIO, BRAD PITT, MARGOT ROBBIE

**THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE 2 (PG)(ANIMATION)**

OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA) : 3.00 + 5.00 + 9.15 PM  
CITY CENTRE : 11.00 AM + 1.15 + 3.30 + 5.45 + 8.00 + 10.15 PM  
SEEF (II) : 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM  
SUDEIKIS, JOSH GAD, AWKWAFINA

**READY OR NOT (18+)(THRILLER/ HORROR)**

CITY CENTRE : 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM  
SAMARA WEAVING, ADAM BRODY, MARK O'BRIEN (IX)

**TOY STORY 4 (G)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE)**

CITY CENTRE : 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM  
TOM HANKS, TIM ALLEN, JOAN CUSACK

**ITTYMAANI (PG)(MALAYALAM)**

OASIS JUFFAIR : 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM  
SEEF (I) : 11.45 AM + 2.45 + 5.45 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM  
AL HAMRA : 12.00 + 9.00 PM  
MOHANLAL, SWASICA, RADHIKA SARATHKUMAR

**BROTHER'S DAY (PG-13)(MALAYALAM)**

OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.30 AM + 4.45 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM  
PRITHIVIRAJ SUKUMARAN, MIA GEORGE, MADONA SEBASTIAN, AISHWARYA LEKSHMI

**LOVE ACTION DRAMA (I)(MALAYALAM)**

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM  
SEEF (I) : 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM  
AL HAMRA : 6.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)  
NIVIN PAULY, NAYANTHARA, AJU VARGHESE

**GANG LEADER (I)(TELGU)**

FROM FRIDAY 13th  
SEEF (I) : 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM  
NANI, PRIYANKA ARULMOHAN, KARTIKEYA GUMMAKONDA

**MOVIE REVIEW**

## Official Secrets: Keira Knightley leads riveting thriller

**Keira Knightley plays a real-life whistleblower in the timely 'Official Secrets'**

**O**fficial Secrets' is a whistleblower movie, a genre that shouldn't have to exist but, depressingly, necessarily, does. The narrative bones come down to us from "All the President's Men" (1976), among others: The average-joe heroes, the uncovering of foul corporate or governmental deeds, the meetings in underlit parking garages, the raging (and justified) paranoia.

Movies like Michael Mann's "The Insider" (1999) revived the genre for the new millennium, and the lies of the Iraq War brought on a whole new wave of rueful and truthful suspense films: "Fair Game" (2010), about the Valerie Plame affair; Oliver Stone's "Snowden" (2016); "The Post" (2017), about the Pentagon Papers in the 1960s. Coming up we have "The Report," starring Adam Driver as a Senate staffer looking into the CIA's post-9/11 "detention and interrogation" program.



Keira Knightley in Official Secrets

But first we have "Official Secrets," with Keira Knightley playing Katharine Gun, a translator for Britain's Government Communications headquarters (GCHQ) who leaked a damning NSA memo in the run-up to the invasion of Iraq and saw her life almost undone in retaliation. Directed by Gavin Hood, whose last film was the drone-warfare gripper "Eye in the Sky" (2015), it's a fairly stodgy entry in the whistleblowing genre that's lit

up by its star's unfussy conviction. If it takes glamorous movie stars to get us to pay attention to these stories, well, I guess that's the price we'll all have to pay. Knightley's Katharine Gun is a low-level cubicle jockey, liberal in politics, apolitical at her job. A keep-to-your-lane sort. One day in 2003, she and others at GCHQ received an e-mail from an NSA staff chief in the United States requesting British intelligence's assistance in bugging the United

Nations offices of countries who stood to oppose the US push to invade Iraq. The NSA's intent: to gather dirt or other information that would allow the United States to sway the UN vote approving the invasion. The way "Official Secrets" tells it with engrossing, steady style, Gun is appalled, prints out a copy of the memo and takes it home, giving it to a friend with journalism contacts and expecting nothing to come of

the matter. A month later, it's on the front page of England's The Guardian and Gun ultimately finds herself charged with violating England's Official Secrets 1989 act; i.e., treason. Worth noting: The 1989 act was revised from the original 1911 law to strip out language allowing for leaks in the name of "public interest." In common parlance, Gun is screwed. The drama of "Official Secrets," then, is that of an ordinary person like you or me (who looks like Keira Knightley, but never

mind) thrust unwillingly into the spotlight and risking possible imprisonment for revealing an ugly truth. The surprise is that the glare of that spotlight only stiffens Gun's spine. Hood and his co-writers, adapting Marcia and Thomas Mitchell's book "The Spy Who Tried to Stop a War: Katharine Gun and the Secret Plot to Sanction the Iraq Invasion," depict flurry of people rising to Katharine's defense and offense while slowly charting awakening of one woman's commitment to her moral beliefs.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

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Los Angeles

## Kim Kardashian reveals how she 'got in trouble' with husband Kanye West

**K**im Kardashian has opened up about how she got in trouble with husband Kanye West for letting six-year-old daughter North West wear beauty cosmetics.

She also revealed that the daughter is no longer allowed to do so after Kanye got mad about the whole matter.

"She loves makeup but her dad won't let her wear it. I think he had it, he changed all the rules. I would let her wear, you know, she has a little red for Christmas, I would let her wear a red lip, or I would let her do one pop of something," Kardashian told E! News, as cited by Us Weekly.

## Angeline Jolie still 'good friends' with ex-husband Billy Bob Thornton

Los Angeles

**A**ngelina Jolie might have cut off all ties with Brad Pitt after the two Hollywood superstars decided to call it quits for good, but she is still "good friends" with actor Billy Bob Thornton, with whom she was married for two years from 2000 to 2002.

Thornton revealed this fact in an exclusive interview on Saturday.

"We're good friends. We've



Billy Bob Thornton

been friends for years and years and years," the actor, 64, revealed at Tribeca TV Festival's presentation of Goliath on Friday, September 13. "So we keep up with each other. She's not in town a lot, so we don't see each other much, but we talk," said Thornton, while opening up to "Us Weekly".

Jolie and Thornton share a 20-year age difference. The 44-year-old actress had married Thornton, now 64, in May 2000. Their relationship had been rife with reports of wild tiffs and patch-ups, till they finally separated in 2002. Jolie and Thornton subsequently divorced in 2003.

## Rachel Bloom Announces Pregnancy After Emmy Win

Los Angeles

**C**razy Ex-Girlfriend" star Rachel Bloom made a special announcement after winning her Emmy for best original music and lyrics — she is pregnant.

Bloom announced the news backstage on Saturday at the Creative Arts Emmy Awards. She joked she had planned to reveal the news on Instagram but that doing it at the Emmys was even better.

Bloom won the Emmy along with Adam Schlesinger and Jack Dolgen for the song "Antidepressants Are So Not A Big Deal." They beat out other nominees from shows such as "Documentary Now" and "Saturday Night Live."



Rachel Bloom

## Disha's mood to guide her YouTube channel content

New Delhi

**A**ctress Disha Patani, an active social media user, has unveiled her YouTube channel. She says she will use the platform for putting up "unfiltered and raw" content that would vary, depending on her mood.

"I believe every social media platform has its own significance. For example, Facebook is a place where we can connect with our friends while Instagram is a more visually appealing site where we try to showcase only our best pictures and videos. I can't lie when I say that even I choose only my best pictures for uploading," Disha said.

"Hence, I decided to come up with a YouTube channel where I can show a side of me that people



haven't seen and my fans can know me better... where I can create videos which are a little more candid and about my life without worrying to be prim and proper because I know I already have Instagram for that," she added.

The channel, she said, is just to connect with her fans in a "more true sense so the content will basically be unfiltered and raw".

"There isn't a specified agenda that 'oh Monday, we will talk about health, Tuesday about good looks, etc. The content would vary depending on my mood and what I would like to show my fans. Possibly something funny, casual and cool like an everyday life glimpse for my fans," she said.

The fitness enthusiast will also have something related to it.

## Kim Kardashian reveals how she 'got in trouble' with husband Kanye West

Los Angeles

Commenting on how she would allow North wear lipstick, she added "I would let her if she is wearing a black dress, a black lip. Kylie would give her all of these lip kits, so I kind of got in trouble for that. So, it is now no more makeup."

Kardashian has posted pictures of her daughter wearing lipstick on Instagram and Twitter in the past.

North was seen sporting red lipstick for the Kardashians' annual Christmas Eve party and a purple lipstick for West's regular Sunday service.

Kardashian had also posted some clips of North playing with her KKW Beauty x Mario Eyeshadow Palette on Instagram.



## Hailey defends her one-year marriage with Justin Bieber

Los Angeles

**M**odel Hailey Bieber and singer Justin Bieber are celebrating their one-year anniversary as Mr and Mrs, but they continue to deal with critics and haters who question their marriage.

On September 13, 2018, the couple shocked many when they walked down the aisle in a seemingly impromptu courthouse ceremony in New York.

The surprise move came just two months after they got engaged amid a whirlwind romance they had rekindled not long after Justin and his longtime on-again, off-

again Selena Gomez-parted ways, reports eonline.com.

"Nobody from the outside really knows what's going on between us. I wake up every morning with this person. I'm the only person that has direct dialogue with this person. This is my relationship. What's so tricky about mental health is that it can be easy to let people convince you of something that's not real," Hailey said in an interview with Vogue Australia.



Justin Bieber

## Adele excited about dating again

Los Angeles

**S**inger Adele is feeling free after filing for divorce from her estranged husband Simon Konecki.

Adele and Konecki, who share six-year-old son Angelo, announced their separation in April this year after three years of marriage. She has now filed for divorce.

"Adele feels free and is moving on with her life. It looks like the divorce will be straightforward at this stage. They both want what is best for their son," mirror.co.uk quoted a source as saying.

She is also working on new music.



Adele

## Ashton Kutcher not upset with Demi Moore over tell-all memoir

Los Angeles

**H**ollywood star Ashton Kutcher is not mad at former wife and actress Demi Moore over revelations about their past relationship in her memoir.

According to a source, Kutcher knew that Moore would write about their 2003 miscarriage in her memoir "Inside Out", reports usmagazine.com.

"Ashton knew what was coming. He had a heads up on what is in the book," the source said, adding: "He's not mad or disappointed. This is Demi's truth, and he always felt sympathetic toward her. He knows her story and that her upbringing was difficult."



Demi Lovato

## Demi Lovato, Mike Johnson 'getting to know each other'

Los Angeles

**S**inger Demi Lovato and Mike Johnson of "The Bachelorette" fame are "getting to know each other".

A source told people.com that the singer and Johnson are "having fun and getting to know each other".

The source added: "They've been talking privately for a bit and hanging out."

Lovato was vocal about her interest in Johnson during his time on Hannah Brown's season of "The Bachelorette", and things heated up earlier this month when Johnson commented on her photo.



Los Angeles

**A**ctress Jameela Jamil, who underwent extensive oral surgery on Thursday, showed up at an event the very next day. On Friday, "The Good Place" actress made a scheduled appearance at a PaleyFest panel for a new TBS game show that she is set to host, "The Misery Index" while under the influence of painkillers and holding a bag of frozen peas to her jaws, reported E! News.

"Peas but make it fashion," Jamil wrote on Friday in an Instagram selfie video post showing a black sash attaching the bag to her jaw.

"Three teeth out and jaw and gums surgery yesterday, and I'M STILL going to work," she wrote.

She also posted a photo of herself at the event. "Don't go to work on painkillers without your teeth," she wrote.

"The Misery Index" will premiere on October 22 on TBS.

Jameela Jamil

## Jameela Jamil attends event next day after surgery

## Will Ed Sheeran be blackmailed by Justin Hawkins?

Los Angeles

**M**usician Justin Hawkins says he might blackmail the "Shape of You" hitmaker Ed Sheeran with a photograph taken after their football match.

In an interview to BANG Showbiz, Justin spoke about the match which was played between his "Darkness" band and Ed Sheeran and his members last month, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

Justin shared that he along with Ed Sheeran "swapped shirts" at the end and posed for a snap in their rival team's colours.



Ed Sheeran

# SPORTS

## sports

### Bahraini achieves fifth place in Jordan hurdles championship



Ahmed Mayouf Al-Romaihi rides his horse

TDT | Manama

**B**ahraini chevalier Ahmed Mayouf Al-Romaihi has won the fifth place in the International Al Sa'ad Hurdles Championship in the Jordanian capital Amman.

Al Romaihi competed with more than 22 contestants from nine countries including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, US, Canada, Japan and Jordan.

He dedicated his achievement to HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth and

Sports Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Youth and Sports and to His Highness Shaikh Faisal bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Environment and President of Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation.

He ascribed his achievement to the royal patronage of youth and sports in the Kingdom. He cited such support as the biggest motive for all Bahraini athletes to achieve more feats to hoist Bahrain's name at the various international coronation platforms.

### India-South Africa T20 washed out

AFP | New Delhi

Rain and a damp outfield forced the abandonment of the first Twenty20 international between India and South Africa without a ball being bowled in Dharamsala.

The pitch and the square at the start of the three-match series remained covered throughout, with rain lashing the sleepy hill station in the Himalayan foothills.

Officials called off the match nearly 50 minutes after the

official start time of 07:00 pm (1330 GMT).

"The rains continue and the match has officially been called off. See you in Chandigarh for the 2nd T20I," the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said on its official Twitter handle.

The second match is scheduled for Wednesday.

South Africa, captained by wicketkeeper-batsman Quinton de Kock, are ranked third in T20s, one rung ahead of the Virat Kohli-led India.

### Teenage sensation Fati leads Barca thrashing of Valencia

Reuters | Barcelona

Barcelona's 16-year-old forward Ansu Fati continued his explosive start to life in the first team by scoring and providing an assist as the La Liga champions thrashed Valencia 5-2 on Saturday.

Fati, who became Barca's youngest ever goalscorer two weeks ago by netting at Osasuna, struck his first goal at the Camp Nou to give Barca the lead with less than two minutes on the clock by smashing a pass from Frenkie de Jong into the net.

The teenager then returned the favour by dashing into the area from the left wing and teeing up Dutchman De Jong to score his first goal for the club in the seventh minute.

Valencia, playing their first game since sacking coach Marcelino and replacing him with Albert Celades, pulled a goal back later in the half through Kevin Gameiro but



Barcelona's Guinea-Bissau forward Ansu Fati (L) vies with Valencia's Argentinian defender Ezequiel Garay

Barca came flying back at them after the interval.

Gerard Pique bundled the ball into the net in the 51st minute after Antoine Griezmann had hit the post while Luis Suarez netted twice after coming off the bench. Maxi Gomez got a consolation goal for Valencia in stoppage time.

### BOC signs sports protocol agreement with Spain

TDT | Manama

**B**ahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) signed a sports protocol agreement with the Spanish Olympic Committee (Spanish: Comité Olímpico Español, COE) that included strengthening the mutual collaboration among both parties, opening new horizons for building and developing further partnerships between both countries and committees.

This came during the meeting between HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Deputy President of the Supreme Council of Youth and Sports and President of BOC and Alejandro Blanco, President of COE, in the presence of Mohammed Hassan Al Nusf, Secretary-General of BOC and other officials from BOC.

Commenting during the occasion, HH Shaikh Khalid expressed his utmost delight in signing the agreement, hailing the strong friendship and collaboration links attaching both countries and their keenness to develop and improve those relationships.

He added that this sports protocol would open new horizons for mutual collaboration between both committees and contributes to building a framework for bilateral collabora-



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa and Alejandro Blanco, President of COE after signing the agreement

tion," HH Shaikh Khalid stated.

On his part, Blanco underscored that signing this protocol would positively reflect in the development of the ties linking both committees and meet their aspirations to see their relationship is reaching a new height in collaboration.

He expressed his gratitude to the efforts dedicated by HH Shaikh Khalid towards furthering Bahrain's achievements in sports, pointing out that COE would work to grow their part-

nership with BOC and make this protocol a success.

According to the signed protocol, both parties agreed to develop the Olympic movement and continue their efforts to maintain the peace and sport-ethics enhancing tasks. The two sides have also agreed to acknowledge the global procedures in relation to performance-enhancing-drugs.

Furthermore, both parties agreed to increase sport exchanges, as well as participation in bilateral training sessions, competitions and camps. Additionally, the agreement included exchanging sport-management information, as well as helping each other in the pre-preparation period for the up-coming Olympic, Beach and Mediterranean games, as well as any other event under the Olympic umbrella.

Moreover, they also agreed to explore sport areas of common interest and to develop a collaboration between the two national committees. It is noteworthy that BOC has put in place a strategy for cooperation with other national Olympic committees, both regionally and internationally.

### Norwich stun Man City

Norwich inflict stunning first defeat in eight months on Manchester City

● Teemu Pukki strikes to seal Norwich's shock win

AFP | Norwich

**N**ewly-promoted Norwich stunned Manchester City 3-2 at Carrow Road on Saturday to inflict a first Premier League defeat on the English champions since January.

Kenny McLean, Todd Cantwell and the prolific Teemu Pukki took advantage of a ragged City defence without the injured Aymeric Laporte for a remarkable upset despite Sergio Aguero and Rodri pulling goals back for the visitors.

Defeat for City sees Pep Guardiola's men already fall five points behind European champions Liverpool -- who have a perfect record from their first five games -- in the title race.

"We are absolutely delighted, it is a great day for us, for the whole club and for the supporters," said Norwich manager Daniel Farke, who had to name two goalkeepers on his substitute bench just to make up the numbers due to an injury crisis.

"I can't praise enough the spirit and mentality of my players because it was an unbeliev-



Norwich City's Finnish striker Teemu Pukki (R) vies with Manchester City's Ukrainian midfielder Oleksandr Zinchenko (L)

ably complicated week.

"We worked on a different approach because we thought we have to change a bit our base formation for this game, but after all these injuries, we turned back because I didn't want to annoy the lads too much or confuse them."

City's decision not to strengthen at centre-back over the summer despite former captain

“The people cannot expect all the time (to) win or make 100 points, 90 points. It shows how difficult everything (we have done) is

PEP GUARDiola

"I don't know how many shots we had or how many they had, but football is about goals and about what you do in the boxes."

The City manager fielded his only two fit centre-backs John Stones and Nicolas Otamendi, but they struggled to cope and gifted Norwich back their two-goal lead at the start of the second-half after Aguero had reduced the arrears.

Guardiola's decision to rest Kevin de Bruyne will also be questioned as the visitors started slowly and were punished when McLean rose highest from a corner to head home the opening goal.

It was 2-0 just before the half hour mark as Kyle Walker played Pukki onside and the Finn unselfishly squared for Cantwell to tap into an empty net.

# Neymar scores winner on PSG return

Neymar was jeered by own fans but scored a stunning overhead-kick to seal victory over Strasbourg

AFP | Paris

**N**eymar shrugged off a hostile reception as he marked his return to action for Paris Saint-Germain with a stunning injury-time winner on Saturday, and then insisted it was time to move on from the saga of his aborted return to Barcelona.

The world's most expensive player was booed and insulted by sections of the PSG support in the Ligue 1 match against Strasbourg at the Parc des Princes.

That seemed set to be the only story of the afternoon until the second minute of added time when, with the game still goalless, the Brazilian met Abdou Diallo's cross with an acrobatic effort that sent the ball arcing back over his own head and into the net off the post, sealing a 1-0 win.

It was a remarkable goal and a reminder of why PSG paid a world record 222 million euros (\$264 million at the time) to sign Neymar two years ago. It also moved them three points clear at the top of the early Ligue 1 table.

"I made it clear that I have nothing against the fans, nothing against Paris Saint-Germain as a club. Everyone knows I wanted to leave. I am not going to get into the details of what happened," he told reporters after the game.

"It is time to turn the page. Today I am a Paris Saint-Germain player and I am going to give everything on the field."

He had not played for his club since May and had been left on



Paris Saint-Germain's Brazilian forward Neymar (L) vies with Strasbourg's French defender Lionel Carole

the sidelines in their first four league games of the campaign because of the uncertainty surrounding his future.

However, having been re-signed to a third season in the French capital, he was handed a start by coach Thomas Tuchel here, and loud jeers greeted his name as the teams were read

out before kick-off. He was also regularly whistled by fans when he touched the ball.

"It is not the first time I have been booed by everyone," Neymar admitted.

"I played in Brazil away from home, I was widely booed. I have played in finals and been booed, I have played here in France,

away from home, and also been booed.

"It is sad but I know that, from now on, every game I play will be an away game."

One banner briefly unfurled at one end of the ground in Portuguese, aimed at Neymar's father who is also his agent, read: "Neymar Senior, sell your son in the

Vila Mimosa".

Vila Mimosa is a district of Rio de Janeiro notorious for prostitution.

Another banner mockingly called Neymar "Calimero", a reference to the always unlucky Italian cartoon character.

Certainly not much was going right on the field for the 27-year-



Neymar had not played for his club since May and had been left on the sidelines in their first four league games of the campaign because of the uncertainty surrounding his future

old or for his team, who had been held by Strasbourg twice in the league last season.

## Revenge

Neymar hit the post direct from a corner late on but ended up getting his revenge -- it was against Strasbourg that he suffered a broken foot in a French Cup tie back in January.

As brilliant as the goal was, it was not met with unanimous approval from the supporters, but Neymar will clearly be missed when he sits out Wednesday's Champions League opener against Real Madrid due to suspension.

PSG were still without the injured Kylian Mbappe and Edinson Cavani here, but Mauro Icardi appeared as a second-half substitute after arriving on loan from Inter Milan just before the transfer deadline.

## Marquez wins San Marino MotoGP to close in on sixth world title



Repsol Honda Team Spanish rider, Marc Marquez competes on his way to win the San Marino MotoGP

AFP | San Marino

**S**paniard Marc Marquez snatched victory on the final lap at the San Marino Grand Prix yesterday to close in on a sixth world title.

The Honda rider, starting on the second row, took a third MotoGP win in Misano ahead of France's Fabio Quartararo, on a Yamaha-SRT, who had the lead for most of the race.

"At the end I just decided to go for it," said Marquez, who had been pipped at the line at the last two races in Silverstone and the Dutch GP.

Five-time world champion Marquez won the 77th Grand Prix of his career in all catego-

ries to overtake British legend Mike 'the bike' Hailwood.

The 26-year-old has won 51 MotoGP races, 16 Moto2 and ten Moto3.

Marquez now has a 93-point lead on Italian Ducati rider Andrea Dovizioso with six races left this season. Dovizioso finished sixth yesterday on front of his home crowd.

Pole sitter Maverick Vinales completed the podium for Yamaha.

"It was a very tough race," said Quartararo, 20. "It was the first time that I battled like that with Marquez."

Marquez has won five times in Misano and twice before in the MotoGP category in 2015 and 2017.

## Smith out as England close to win

AFP | London

**S**teve Smith was dismissed for just 23 as England closed in on a series-leveling victory against Australia in the fifth Test at the Oval yesterday.

While the former captain was at the crease, Australia retained a faint hope of chasing down a daunting target of 399 to seal their first Ashes series win in England since 2001.

But when Ben Stokes dived to his left at leg slip to catch Smith off paceman Stuart Broad, England knew they had removed the last serious obstacle in their victory charge.

It was the first time that Smith, who has scored an astonishing 774 runs in seven innings, had been out for a score of less than fifty during this series.

The Oval crowd gave him a standing ovation as he walked back to the dressing room in the September sunshine, with Australia in deep trouble at 85-4 in the post-lunch session.

Earlier, England added 16 runs to their overnight tally, with Jofra Archer and Jack Leach the last men out.

Broad then pounded in, roared on by a packed crowd, who raised the roof when he demolished Marcus Harris's off-stump in the fifth over of the Australian innings.

In his following over, Broad ended David Warner's miserable series, with the opener edging him to Rory Burns in the



Australia's Steve Smith looks back to see England's Ben Stokes catch him out

774

runs have been scored by Steve Smith in seven innings in the Ashes series

ing, had a good World Cup but has endured a torrid time in the Ashes. The attacking batsman scored just 95 runs in 10 innings and was dismissed by Broad seven times.

Warner's dismissal brought Smith to the crease and he opened his account with a sweet drive through the covers for four off Archer.

Smith and Marcus Labuschagne took the score to 56 before off-spinner Jack Leach beat the outside edge of Labuschagne's bat and Jonny Bairstow whipped off the bails to

complete a sharp stumping.

Smith's demise brought all-rounder Mitchell Marsh to the crease.

He was caught in the slips by Rory Burns off a Chris Woakes delivery but was reprieved when replays showed a no-ball.

England, who became world champions in the one-day game for the first time in July, are desperate to end a long summer by levelling the five-match series at 2-2.

If they complete the win, as expected, it would be the first drawn Ashes series since 1972.