

Yavi sets new records with France win

Bahraini long-distance specialist Winfred Yavi posted new national and Asian indoor records en route to winning the women's 3,000 metres at the Meeting de l'Eure in France.

P 16

OP-ED 8

Munich Security Conference could present new hope for Libya

THE DAILY **tribune**



Dutch DJ Don Diablo to perform live in Bahrain Grand Prix show

2 NEWS OF BAHRAIN

WORLD 10 The Bolt of buffalo? Indian jockey's record wins praise

A unique Children's Plan
TALEEM
 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PLAN OF LIC INTERNATIONAL
IN BAHRAIN FOR 30 YEARS
 Download the LIC app on Google Play & App Store
 39936618
 bah.lic@licinternational.com
 www.licinternational.com

HAVE A MILLION WISHES?
 Realise them with MyHassad

Annual Prize **US\$ 2 million**
 21 Weekly Prizes **US\$ 1,000**

2 Quarterly Prizes **US\$ 1 million**
 Eid Al Adha Prize **US\$ 500,000**

Call 17 22 1 999 now

ahliunited.com
 @aubahrain
 ahli united bank
 Licensed as a Conventional Retail Bank by the CBB

Libya peace process on 'the track'

Munich

Progress towards a lasting ceasefire in Libya that would allow full scale talks between the country's warring factions was backed by a 13-nation meeting of the Berlin Conference process yesterday.

In a joint communique issued after the meeting in Munich, the countries, which included the UAE, Europeans, Russia and the US, resolved to take step-by-step measures toward reconciliation, including an inclusive Libyan political forum to be held in Geneva before the end of the month.

Ivanka Trump praises Bahrain for gender equality

Riyadh

Ivanka Trump has commended Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Jordan for its efforts in empowering women by changing laws to respect women's freedom of movement and access to credit and financial services.

Speaking on the first day of the Global Women's Forum, organised by the Dubai Women Establishment, in Dubai yesterday, Trump, adviser to US President Donald Trump, congratulated the Kingdom and four

other countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region for instituting significant reforms over the past two years.

"Progress ultimately builds upon progress," she said.

"Bahrain has introduced legislation to prevent discrimination in the workplace; Jordan eliminated legal restrictions on women's ability to work at night; Morocco expanded women's land rights; and Tunisia introduced critical laws to combat domestic violence.

"We all need to applaud these



"We all need to applaud these achievements and advancements. And yet, we won't grow complacent."

IVANKA TRUMP

achievements and advancements. And yet, we won't grow complacent because there is still so much more work to be done."

Trump said too many women continue to face obstacles to entering the workforce, starting their own businesses, reaching their full potential and charting their own future.

In the region, on average, women have only half the legal rights of men, yet their economic equality has the potential to add \$600 billion to the global annual GDP by 2025.

She lauded the courage to shatter the barriers of inequality and blaze a new path of opportunity that gives hope to millions.

Tremor strikes Iran island

Tehran

A 5.8-magnitude earthquake hit Iran's Qeshm island, the European Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC) reported.

According to the EMSC, the quake occurred at a depth of 47km, reported Sputnik News.

Tremors were felt in parts of UAE as well, posts on social media suggested.



02 Nominations open for Isa Award fifth edition

03 Key meeting discusses ways to tackle threat from coronavirus

04 His Majesty's reforms made Kingdom 'a free, open and representative nation'

210 fils (includes VAT)



Prisoner trade deal

Warring parties in Yemen agree on major prisoner trade

● The statement came after seven days of meetings between the two sides in Jordan's capital.

● The talks were co-chaired by Griffiths' office and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Amman

Yemen's warring sides have agreed to implement a long-delayed and major prisoner swap, the United Nations said yesterday, in a sign that talks to end the disastrous war between the country's internationally recognised government and the Houthi militia could be making progress.

It would be the "first official large-scale" exchange of its kind since the beginning of the con-



Mr Griffiths, centre, attend a new round of talks by Yemen's warring parties on prisoners swap.

flict, according to the UN

The prisoner swap deal was seen as a breakthrough during 2018 peace talks in Sweden.

The Iran-backed Houthis and the internationally recognised government agreed then to several confidence-building measures, including a ceasefire in the strategic port city of Hodeidah.

Implementation of the tenta-

tive peace plan stumbled amid ongoing military offensives and a deep-seated distrust between the two sides.

The UN mission in Yemen said that both the Yemeni government and the militia had decided to "immediately begin with exchanging the lists for the upcoming release" of prisoners.

Sunday's statement came after seven days of meetings between

1,400 prisoners including Saudis and Sudanese will be released as part of the deal.

the two sides in Jordan's capital, Amman.

"Today the parties showed us that even with the growing challenges on the ground, the confidence they have been building can still yield positive results," the UN envoy Martin Griffiths said.

The talks were co-chaired by Griffiths' office and the International Committee of the Red Cross, ICRC.

Griffiths urged both parties to move forward with the agreed-upon prisoner exchange "with the utmost sense of urgency."

He did not elaborate when they would start the exchange.

Franz Rauchenstein, the head of the ICRC in Yemen's capital, Sanaa, welcomed the step as "encouraging."

"Today, despite ongoing clashes, we saw that the parties have found common humanitarian ground that will allow many detainees to return to their loved ones," Rauchenstein said.

The war in Yemen has also spawned the world's worst humanitarian crisis, leaving millions suffering from food and medical shortages. It has killed over 100,000 people, including fighters and civilians, according to the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project, which tracks violence reports in Yemen.

Houthi spokesman Mohammed Abdel-Salam said they would release 1,400 prisoners including Saudis and Sudanese.

Yemeni Foreign Minister Mohammed Abdullah Al Hadrami said he welcomed the "phased agreement" to release prisoners, in a tweet Sunday.

TRAGIC END

Student quarantined in Jeddah hospital for virus test commits suicide

Jeddah

An overseas student, studying at a Saudi university, died early yesterday after throwing himself from the window of the quarantine room at King Fahd Hospital in Jeddah.

A statement by the Jeddah Health Department said the student was admitted

to the hospital after he was transferred by the Saudi Red Crescent Authority on Friday.

A respiratory virus was suspected based on the symptoms showing on the patient at the time of his admission to the hospital, the statement said.

But it did not explain whether the virus was thought to be coronavirus.

"By the time the negative results were released the patient had already ended his own life."

HOSPITAL SOURCES

The patient was treated according to medical norms and all precautions were taken. He was quarantined pending the release of laboratory results.

All samples came "negative" of the virus on Saturday morning, but by the time the results were released the patient had already ended his own life, sources said.

Dutch DJ Don Diablo to perform live in Bahrain Grand Prix show

Don Diablo is widely considered as a pioneer in dance music

● Don Diablo has earned praise from talent and tastemakers across the globe for major hits.

● Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2020 tickets can be bought online at www.bahraingp.com.

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) raised the excitement level up another notch for the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2020, announcing yesterday that global Top 10 DJ and producer Don Diablo has been added to the star-studded concert line-up for the racing and entertainment spectacle.

Don Diablo is the second internationally renowned artist lined up for the Grand Prix weekend, which is scheduled

to take place March 19 to 22 at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East" in Sakhir.

He will be performing live on the Saturday of the event as the second act of the night.

Don Diablo joins fellow-DJ, producer and songwriter Afrojack as the big names already announced as the major concert acts of this year's highly anticipated race, with Afrojack entertaining fans on the Friday night of the Grand Prix.

BIC expects to announce yet another major international artist – the headline act for Saturday – very soon, it is learnt.

All those with tickets to the four-day extravaganza will be able to attend the concerts at no extra cost, the BIC said yesterday.

BIC Chief Executive



Don Diablo is all set to enthral Bahrain fans.

Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa commented: "Don Diablo is a superstar in the music world and we are truly privileged and thrilled to have added him to our concert line-up for this year's Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix.

"He is another high-calibre DJ who will be electrifying fans for a second straight night, following Afrojack on the Friday of the race weekend.

"We look forward to welcoming Don Diablo to Bahrain for another epic night of music."

As a founding father of the Future House movement, Don Diablo is widely considered as a pioneer in dance music. He has earned praise from talent and tastemakers across the globe for major hits such as 'On My Mind', 'Take Her Place', 'What We Started', 'Chemicals' and 'Cutting

Don Diablo is a superstar in the music world and we are truly privileged and thrilled to have added him to our concert line-up.

SHAIKH SALMAN

Shapes' and most recently his highly-acclaimed album 'Future'.

For his own songs, Don Diablo has had the privilege of collaborating with artists such as Gucci Mane, Diplo, Emeli Sandé, Calum Scott, Ansel Elgort, Kelis, Alex Clare, Dragonette, A R I Z O N A and Tiësto, to name just a few. In addition, Don Diablo is also a hugely in-demand remixer and his remix portfolio includes the likes of Kygo, Martin Garrix and Khalid, DJ Snake and Justin Bieber, Ed Sheeran, Rihanna, Bastille, Madonna, Birdy, Chainsmokers and Coldplay, MØ and Diplo, and many more.

A packed global tour schedule sees him play in excess of 150 live shows a year, taking to the main stage of renowned festivals Tomorrowland, EDC, Creamfields, Mysteryland, Lollapalooza and Ultra, whilst also selling out his own shows in major venues throughout the UK, US and the rest of Europe.

Those looking to buy their Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2020 tickets can do so online at www.bahraingp.com, over the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000, or at the BIC stand in City Centre Bahrain.

For further information on the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2020, visit BIC's official website www.bahraingp.com or call the BIC Hotline on +973-17-450000.

Also, follow BIC's official social media accounts on Facebook ([facebook.com/OfficialBahrainInternationalCircuit](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialBahrainInternationalCircuit)), Twitter (@BAH_Int_Circuit), Instagram ([instagram.com/bah_int_circuit](https://www.instagram.com/bah_int_circuit)) and YouTube ([youtube.com/bahrainbic](https://www.youtube.com/bahrainbic)) for regular updates.

Move up in your career with an international qualification in accountancy



CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT (CPA)

Paper 1: Auditing & Attestation

Paper 2: Financial Accounting & Reporting

Paper 3: Business Environment & Concepts

Paper 4: Regulation

Duration: 5 Months (16 Hours/week)

Fees: BD 460 (Exclusive of Books)

33180252
33407382
17740150

Evening Classes Twice in Week!

20% Discount for Early Bird Registrations

CERTIFIED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT (CMA)

Paper 1: Financial Planning, Performance & Control

Paper 2: Financial Decision Making

Duration: 5 Months (8 Hours/week)

Fees: BD 460 (Exclusive of Books)

LAURELS
CENTRE FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION

CR No. 134818-1, P.O. Box 11148 McIndies Centre, Mahooz, Kingdom of Bahrain, Ph: +973 17740150, +973 17740484
E-Mail: info@laurelsworld.com, Web: www.laurelsworld.com

Nominations open for Isa Award fifth edition

Manama

The General Secretariat of the Isa Award for Services to Humanity has announced that is now accepting nominations for the award's fifth edition (2020/2021).

In 2009, His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa established the award, as a tribute to His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, who dedicated his life to serving humanity.

By honouring and rewarding those who provide exceptional services to humanity, the award recognises Shaikh Isa's outstanding humanitarian legacy and the impact he had on his country and on the world.

Individuals, organisations, scientific research centres and pioneers who fund humanitarian projects from anywhere in the world can nominate themselves for the award; their humanitarian work must benefit the largest possible segment of people without discrimination, and it must be non-political and non-profit.

The General Secretariat of the Award also conducts field studies to identify other eligible humanitarian projects.

The Isa Award for Service to Humanity is presented, every two years, to people and projects in fields that include disaster response and relief, education, com-



The award logo



The winner of the Award will be presented with a Royal Certificate of Appreciation, a medal made of pure gold, and \$1 million at a ceremony in Bahrain in June 2021.

community service, promoting dialogue among civilisations, promoting human tolerance, promoting social peace, urban development, climate change and protecting the environment, scientific

achievement, alleviation of poverty and destitution and any other field of humanitarian service.

A jury of experts from around the world will judge the nominees' works.

The winner of the Award will be presented with a Royal Certificate of Appreciation, a medal made of pure gold, and \$1 million at a ceremony in Bahrain in June 2021.

The ceremony will be held under the patronage of His Majesty the King and in the presence of senior officials.

Nominations will be accepted until the end of June 2020. The winner will be announced via all media outlets.

For more information about the Award's conditions and requirements, visit the Award's website <http://www.isaaward.org> or e-mail info@isaaward.org.

Talks focus on executive-legislature co-operation

Manama

Following directives from His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, to continue strengthening Executive-Legislature cooperation to better serve the nation and the citizens, as well as to achieve the goals of the comprehensive development march spearheaded by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, a joint meeting was held here today between the Representatives Council's Bureau, the Shura and Representatives Councils' Affairs Committee and the representatives of the Government.

Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Fawzia Zainal, led the parliamentary side during the meeting, also attended by



Shaikh Salman, Shaikh Khalid and other ministers with Ms Zainal and House of Representatives team.

First Deputy Speaker, MP Abdulnabil Salman Nasser, Second Deputy Speaker, MP Ali Ahmed Zayed, Chairman of the

Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee, MP Mohammed Al Abbasi, Chairman of the Financial and Economic Committee,

MP Ahmed Sabah Al Salloom, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Economy Committee, MP Mohammed

Ibrahim Al Sisi, Chairman of the Services Committee, MP Mamdooh Abbas Al Saleh, Chairman of the Public Utilities and Envi-

ronment, MP Hamad Al Kooheji, and Secretary-General, Chancellor Rashid Mohammed Bu Najma.

The representative of the government included Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister, Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa, Finance and National Economy Minister, Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Labour and Social Development Minister, Jameel Humaidan, Parliament Affairs Minister and Chairman of the Shura and Representatives Councils' Affairs Committee, Ghanim Al Buainain, and Information Affairs Minister, Ali Al Romaihi.

The meeting discussed areas of co-operation between the Council of Representatives and the Government, in light of the royal keynote speeches and the Government Action Plan 2019-2020.

Key meeting discusses ways to tackle threat from coronavirus

Health Ministry officials review readiness to deal with patients, if needed

● The meeting reviewed the preparations to deal with the disease apart from taking precautionary measures with regard to granting visas for foreigners.

TDI | Manama

Methods to tackle threats from coronavirus were discussed at a major meeting chaired by the Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health, Lieutenant-General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa in the presence of Health Minister Faeqa Al Saleh and other senior Health Ministry officials.

The meeting hailed the continuous follow-up by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister regarding the situation.

It reviewed the preparations to deal with the disease apart from taking precautionary measures with regard to granting visas for foreigners who had visited China within 14 days before entering the Kingdom.

It also reviewed the readiness to quarantine patients if at all required.

The meeting also discussed the appointment and equipping



Genetic analysis early in the outbreak of COVID-19 in China revealed that the virus was similar to, but distinct from, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV), but the closest genetic similarity was found in a coronavirus that had been isolated from bats.

of emergency teams to handle cases in all hospitals and Bahrain International Airport and ports, evaluation and follow-up of protocols taken towards citizens and residents of the People's Republic of China and follow-up of the latest developments at the local, regional and global levels, and the need to investigate the facts and communicate the latest developments to the public.

Meanwhile, China President Xi Jinping has stressed improving the mechanism for major epidemic prevention and control and the national public health emergency management system.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China

(CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, specified the requirements at the 12th meeting of the central committee for deepening overall reform, which he chairs.

Noting that safeguarding people's life and health is a major mission of the Party in governing the country, Xi stressed the need to strengthen areas of weakness and close the loopholes exposed by the current epidemic.

Xi said the current fight against the novel coronavirus pneumonia epidemic is a major test of China's system and capacity for governance.

Stressing the need to strengthen legislation on public health, Xi called for the assessment of revising laws and regulations concerning infectious disease prevention and treatment, as well as wildlife protection. He also highlighted speeding up establishing a law on biosecurity, stressing that biosecurity should be included in the system of national security.

Xi urged reforming and improving the disease prevention and control system to prevent major outbreaks, strengthening primary-level capacity, and improving a coordinated system for major public health risk analysis, evaluation, decision-making, and prevention and control.

Xi stressed improving the mechanism for major epidemic emergency response, and enhancing the coordinated mechanism for scientific research, disease control and clinical treatment.

The system of treatment for major epidemics should also be improved, Xi said, encouraging the application of digital technologies including big data, artificial intelligence and cloud computing in areas such as epidemic monitoring, tracing virus sources, epidemic prevention and treatment, and resource allocation.



Lt-General Dr Shaikh Mohammed chairs the meeting.

طيران الخليج GULF AIR
FORMULA 1 GULF AIR BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX 2020

DON DIABLO

SATURDAY - 21 MARCH

FOR TICKETS BAHRAINGP.COM

مجلس البحرين الدولية Bahrain International Council

The F1 FORMULA 1 logo, F1 logo, FORMULA 1, F1, FIA FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX and related marks are trade marks of Formula One Licensing BV, a Formula 1 company. All rights reserved.

Kingdom's diplomatic success strides stressed

Manama

National Security Adviser and Royal Guard Commander, Major-General His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, yesterday received the newly-appointed Foreign Affairs Minister, Dr Abdullah Al Zayani, in the presence of Shaikh Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa.

HH Shaikh Nasser congratulated Dr Al Zayani on the precious royal trust bestowed upon him through his appointment to his post, wishing him every success in assuming his duties, and continuing the successes achieved by Bahraini diplomacy in many fields.



HH Shaikh Nasser receives Dr Al Zayani.

HH Shaikh Nasser asserted that the successes of the Bahraini diplomacy reflect His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's unwa-

vering interest in such a vital sector, which, he said, has projected to the world Bahrain's sober identity and foreign policies.

The National Security Adviser stressed that Dr Al Zayani's wide ranging experience, which he had acquired through the

government positions he held or as a Secretary-General of the Gulf Co-operation Council, would enable him to upgrade Bahraini diplomatic work, develop foreign policy and build on the existing great achievements, in accordance with the Kingdom's fundamentals and policies thanks to which the Bahraini diplomacy has earned worldwide appreciation, respect and confidence.

HH Shaikh Nasser indicated that Dr Al Zayani's enlightened vision in the diplomatic field would enable him to implement HM the King's directives aiming to ensure the continuous development of the performance of the Bahraini diplomacy in order

to ensure its sustainability, readiness and ability to cope with all global development.

The Foreign Minister expressed thanks and appreciation to HH Shaikh Nasser for receiving him and congratulating him on his post, pledging that he will do his utmost to implement the royal vision on ensuring the continuity of the Bahraini diplomacy's successes, as well as on building on its distinguished achievements.

Dr Abdullatif Al Zayani stressed that he would harness his experience for the sake of promoting the values and fundamentals of Bahraini diplomacy to strengthen the world's respect and appreciation for Bahrain.

New York

Bahrain's Ambassador to the US, Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, stressed that His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa carried out a series of reforms that made the Kingdom more free, open and representative, reflecting the aspirations of the people of Bahrain which HM has recognised more than two decades ago.

The ambassador was speaking at the round table held by the Rotary Club of New York, to which the ambassador was invited to mark the 19th anniversary of the National Action Charter (NAC).

Shaikh Abdullah said that Bahrain not only has a direct representation through a bicameral parliament, but like the US, it also enjoys an inclusive culture that welcomes everyone and values them for their differences and similarities.

Bahrain is a country to which people have a feeling of belonging, regardless of religion, gender or social background, he stressed.

The ambassador pointed out that the Kingdom today supports the establishment of hundreds of

different religious institutions, including churches, synagogues and temples next to mosques.

He noted the launch of "Kingdom of Bahrain Declaration", which calls for religious tolerance and peaceful coexistence for all people of the world.

The declaration was launched formally in Los Angeles in September 2017 and has since embarked on a journey around the world and presented to world leaders for their support.

The ambassador stressed that tolerant Bahrain in addition to welcoming people of all religions, is committed to the welfare of men and women and to elevating the status of women.

Women in Bahrain hold senior leadership positions and for in-

His Majesty's reforms made Kingdom 'a free, open and representative nation'

Kingdom's history as a land of tolerance and coexistence stressed



Shaikh Abdullah

stance the Speaker of the Council of Representatives is a woman and more than 54 per cent of the advanced positions in the public sector are held by women, he said, adding that Bahrain

welcomes talented people from around the world.

The Ambassador touched on the Bahrain-US Free Trade Agreement (FTA), stating that more than 400 financial institutions are based in Bahrain, availing of the skilled workforce and the proficiency in English as the language of business.

Another major advantage, he noted, is Bahrain's strategic location that allows easy access to Arab and GCC countries and to new markets and to the forming of sustainable partnerships and promoting lasting friendships.

The ambassador highlighted Bahrain's pride in being a stable country and its confidence in its capabilities to communicate with the world.



"Like you here in the US... we are proud of our identity. We are open and honest and we work hard," he said.

The ambassador said that the time is particularly appropriate to join the American Bahrain Friendship Society (ABFSDC) that will turn 30 this year, appreciat-

ing the great efforts made during the past three decades.

"We will celebrate this throughout 2020 with remarkable events," he said.

Shaikh Abdullah said that Bahrain is one of the first countries to host F1 races in the region, adding that on March 22, ABFSDC will host a ceremony at the embassy to watch the 2020 race hosted by Bahrain.

The Rotary Club of New York granted Shaikh Abdullah their honorary membership.

Rotary International is a voluntary international service organisation, founded in Chicago more than 100 years ago, and Rotary Clubs are open to all races and cultures and without discrimination or prejudice.



Al Noor International School celebrated the National Action Charter Day on 13th February 2020, marking the students' love, and loyalty towards their country. The students, dressed in a variety of traditional costumes, expressed their joy and pride at being citizens of Bahrain. Present on the occasion were the School Director Dr Muhammad Mashood, Principal Mr Amin Mohammed Ahmed Hulaiwah as well as the Head Teachers, co-ordinators and teachers from the different sections of the school. The event ended with good wishes for all the citizens of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

INOVEST.

Recommendation of Declaration of Dividends

The Board of Directors of INOVEST B.S.C. resolved, at its meeting held on 16th February 2020, to recommend the distribution of dividend for the year ending 31 December 2019 to the shareholders whose names are registered on the company's register on the Record Date. This is subject to the approval of the company's shareholders on the upcoming Annual General Meeting. The proposed distribution is as follows:

Bonus Share: 5% of paid-up capital, equivalent to 1 share for every 20 shares held

| Event | Date |
|--|-----------------------------|
| General Meeting Date (Shareholders' approval date) | 22 nd March 2020 |
| Cum-Dividend Date (Last day of trading with entitlement to dividends) | 23 rd March 2020 |
| Ex-Dividend Date (First day of trading without entitlement to dividends) | 24 th March 2020 |
| Record Date (The Day on which all shareholders whose names are on the share register will be entitled to dividends) | 25 th March 2020 |
| Payment Date (The Day on which the dividends will be paid to the entitled shareholders) | 5 th April 2020 |

Dr. Omar Salem Al Mutawa
Chairman

www.inovest.bh

CBB Regulated - Category 1 Investment Firm

Arab Children's Parliament calls for unified Arab education

Sharjah

The Arab Children's Parliament has called for the establishment of a unified Arab education that will boost standards.

The recommendation was issued following a debate in which the participants in the session held in Sharjah discussed the right of the Arab children to education.

The session addressed child participation in developing education, curricula and textbooks, improving the quality of education, children without schools, talents and children, and the role of education in empowering the child to participate in achieving the sustainable development goals.

"The third session of the parliament addressed issues and challenges related to Arab chil-



The session addressed child participation in developing education, curricula and textbooks.

children, especially those related to their right to education," Ayman Othman Al Barout, Secretary General of the Parliament said.

"Participants have played an important role in expressing their opinions that aim to promote the establishment of a unified Arab education. We are

confident that the next stage will witness a significant rise in Arab education."

Members of the Parliament also called to pay attention to the refugee and displaced Arab children and work on providing them with appropriate education.

business

Inovest announces profit, dividend

● Board recommends distribution of 5pc stock dividends

● Consolidated operating income increased by 49pc

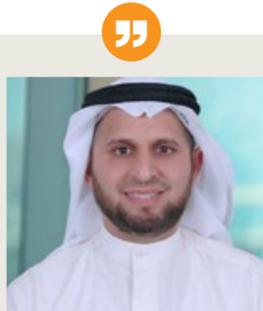
TDT | Manama

Helped largely by an increase in management fees attributed to its subsidiary, Inovest posted a 26 per cent jump in its consolidated net profit attributable to the parent shareholders to US\$2.14 m from US\$1.70m in the same quarter a year ago.

Earnings Per Share for the last quarter of 2019, amounted to US cents 0.76 as compared to Earnings Per Share of US cents 0.60 for the same period in 2018.

Net operating profit increased by 249pc to US\$2.07 m from US\$0.6 m for the same period last year.

Consolidated operating income for this quarter increased by 49pc to reach US\$6.3 m from US\$4.22 m in year ago quarter.



On an operational and administrative level, significant effort has been placed on strengthening our Group-wide network towards overcoming challenges, as well as creating greater efficacy through establishing professional standards for Group-wide progress and development

DR OMAR AL MUTAWA
INOVEST CHAIRMAN



Despite it being an economically difficult year in the market and region, we have, with the grace of God, managed to effectively implement the first year of our strategy and to further maintain positive financial indicators across the board; Return on Equity stands at 5pc, Return on Assets at 3pc, and in terms of liquidity, cash and bank balances represent a healthy 15pc of the total consolidated assets

YASSER AL JAR
CEO OF INOVEST

Full year results

For the year ended December 31st, 2019, consolidated net profit attributable to parent shareholders of US\$7.15 m, representing a 49pc decline as compared to US\$14.01 m for last year.

Inovest attributed the decline primarily to an expected decrease in revenue from the contracting activities, from completion of a major government project, and the capital gain from disposal of an investments that took place in the same period of last year.

Earnings Per Share of the parent company amounted to US cents 2.52 as compared to US cents 4.95 in 2018.

Consolidated net operating profit decreased by 51pc to US\$6.17 m from US\$12.52 m a year ago.

Equity Attributable to Parent Shareholders, increased by 1pc to stand at US\$138 m at the end of the of December 31st, 2019 in comparison to US\$137 m at

2018 year-end.

Within the same period, INOVEST reported consolidated total assets of US\$244 m, representing a decrease of 9% in comparison to US\$267 m as of 2018 year-end

Operating income for 2019 dropped by 16pc from US\$23.74 m to US\$19.94 m.

Group's operating expenses increased, standing at US\$13.78 m in comparison to US\$11.22 m for 2018, reflecting an increase of 23pc.

The increase stems, as in previous quarters this year, from completion of a major government project and therein the reclassification of labour expenses within our contracting arm from a project level cost to an operational level until work begins on new construction projects, which is expected within 2020.

Dividend

The board recommended, a stock dividend distribution of 5pc of paid up capital subject to the approval of Central Bank of Bahrain and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and Tourism.

Twitter says Olympics, IOC accounts hacked
Reuters

Twitter said yesterday that an official Twitter account of the Olympics and the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) media Twitter account had been hacked and temporarily locked.

The accounts were hacked through a third-party platform, a spokesperson for the social media platform said in an emailed statement, without giving further details.

"As soon as we were made aware of the issue, we locked the compromised accounts and are working closely with our partners to restore them," the Twitter spokesperson said.

A spokesperson for the IOC separately said that the IOC was investigating the potential breach.

Last month, the official Twitter accounts of several US National Football League (NFL) teams, including the San Francisco 49ers and Kansas City Chiefs, were hacked a few days ahead of the Super Bowl.

INOVEST.

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2019 (Audited)

(Amounts are expressed in thousands of US dollars)

| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 31 December 2019 | | | CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME For the year ended 31 December 2019 | | | | CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the year ended 31 December 2019 | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------|---|----------------------|-------------------|--|---|----------------------|--|
| | 2019 | 2018 | | 2019 | 2018 | | 2019 | 2018 | |
| ASSETS | | | OPERATING INCOME | | | | OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Cash and bank balances | 37,315 | 36,375 | Net income from construction contracts | 4,196 | 16,239 | Net profit for the year | 7,783 | 14,058 | |
| Accounts receivable | 18,672 | 32,656 | Income from investment in real estate | 8,327 | 3,073 | Adjustments for: | | | |
| Investments | 13,052 | 16,201 | Income from investments | 147 | 3,566 | Depreciation | 1,266 | 2,158 | |
| Investment in a joint venture and associates | 87,387 | 88,500 | Fee for management and other services | 3,411 | 953 | Net recoveries from impaired receivables | (1,614) | (1,543) | |
| Investments in real estate | 77,402 | 80,786 | Net share of loss from investment in a joint venture and associates | (462) | (2,238) | Net share of loss from investment in a joint venture and associates | 462 | 2,238 | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 9,982 | 11,146 | Other income | 4,325 | 2,142 | Realised gain on sale of investment in real estate | (3,462) | (88) | |
| Other assets | 521 | 1,305 | TOTAL OPERATING INCOME | 19,944 | 23,735 | Unrealised fair value loss on investment in real estate | - | 2,387 | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 244,331 | 266,969 | OPERATING EXPENSES | | | Net changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | | |
| LIABILITIES AND OWNERS' EQUITY | | | Staff costs | 5,657 | 5,235 | Short-term deposits (with an original maturity of more than 90 days) | (15,253) | 68 | |
| Liabilities | | | General and administrative expenses | 4,204 | 2,723 | Accounts receivable | 12,791 | 9,273 | |
| Other liabilities and accounts payable | 75,369 | 93,389 | Financing costs | 469 | 703 | Other liabilities and accounts payable | (17,938) | (8,867) | |
| Financing from a bank | 6,386 | 9,227 | Property related expenses | 2,273 | 1,651 | Other assets | 784 | 2,713 | |
| Total liabilities | 81,755 | 102,616 | Depreciation | 1,172 | 908 | Net cash (used in) / from operating activities | (15,181) | 22,397 | |
| Owners' Equity | | | TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | 13,775 | 11,220 | INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Share capital | 114,604 | 114,604 | NET OPERATING PROFIT | 6,169 | 12,515 | Proceeds from sale of investment | 3,149 | - | |
| Less: Treasury shares | (1,239) | (1,239) | Recoveries from impaired receivables | 1,614 | 1,543 | Purchase of non-controlling interest | (1,043) | - | |
| Reserves | 113,365 | 113,365 | PROFIT FOR THE YEAR | 7,783 | 14,058 | Impairment loss on a joint venture | - | 1,516 | |
| Retained earnings | 20,529 | 19,808 | Attributable to: | | | Additions in investment in real estate | (60) | (6,872) | |
| Equity attributable to Parent's shareholders | 137,967 | 136,531 | Equity shareholders of the Parent | 7,146 | 14,007 | Proceeds from sale of investment in real estate - net | 6,906 | 610 | |
| Non-controlling interest | 24,609 | 27,822 | Non-controlling interest | 637 | 51 | Distributions received from a joint venture and associates | 651 | 372 | |
| Total owners' equity | 162,576 | 164,353 | BASIC AND DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE (US\$ cents) | 2.52 | 4.95 | Purchase of property, plant and equipment | (103) | (345) | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND OWNERS' EQUITY | 244,331 | 266,969 | | | | Dividends received from investments | - | 719 | |
| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN OWNERS' EQUITY | | | Equity attributable to Parent's shareholders | | | | | | |
| For the year ended 31 December 2019 | | | Reserves | | | | | | |
| | Share capital | Treasury shares | Statutory reserve | Share option reserve | Retained earnings | Total equity | Non-controlling interest | Total owners' equity | |
| At 1 January 2019 | 114,604 | (1,239) | 3,358 | - | 19,808 | 136,531 | 27,822 | 164,353 | |
| Appropriation to charity funds | - | - | - | - | (50) | (50) | - | (50) | |
| Purchase of non-controlling interest | - | - | - | - | - | - | (1,043) | (1,043) | |
| Dividend paid | - | - | - | - | (5,660) | (5,660) | - | (5,660) | |
| Capital redemption | - | - | - | - | - | - | (2,807) | (2,807) | |
| Profit for the year | - | - | - | - | 7,146 | 7,146 | 637 | 7,783 | |
| Transfer to statutory reserve | - | - | 715 | - | (715) | - | - | - | |
| At 31 December 2019 | 114,604 | (1,239) | 4,073 | - | 20,529 | 137,967 | 24,609 | 162,576 | |
| At 1 January 2018 | 114,604 | (1,239) | 1,957 | 42 | 7,036 | 122,400 | 27,771 | 150,171 | |
| Cancellation of ESOP | - | - | - | (42) | 166 | 124 | - | 124 | |
| Profit for the year | - | - | - | - | 14,007 | 14,007 | 51 | 14,058 | |
| Transfer to statutory reserve | - | - | 1,401 | - | (1,401) | - | - | - | |
| At 31 December 2018 | 114,604 | (1,239) | 3,358 | - | 19,808 | 136,531 | 27,822 | 164,353 | |

Ithmaar Holding posts full-year 2019 profit

● **Net profit attributable to equity holders for the year ended 31 December 2019 was US\$0.67m**

TDT | Manama

Ithmaar Holding (ITHMR), a Bahrain-based holding company, reported a net loss attributable to equity holders for the three-month ended 31 December 2019 of US\$11.38 million, a 57.4 per cent decrease compared to net loss of US\$26.71m reported for 2018.

Earnings Per Share (EPS) for the quarter ended 31 December 2019 were negative US Cents 0.39, compared to negative US Cents 0.92 for the same period

in 2018.

Total net loss for the three-month ended 31 December 2019 was US\$6.69m, a 423.1 pc increase compared to a net loss of US\$1.28m reported for 2018 mainly due to impairment provision during the period.

The announcement, by Ithmaar Holding Chairman Prince Amr Al Faisal, follows the review and approval of the Boards of Directors of the company's consolidated financial results.

Full-year results

Net profit attributable to equity holders for the year ended 31 December 2019 of US\$0.67m, compared to net loss of US\$23.98m reported for 2018, mainly due to growth in core income.

EPS for the year ended 31 December 2019 improved to US

Cents 0.02, compared to negative US Cents 0.82 for 2018.

Total net profit for the year ended 31 December 2019 was US\$12.20m, a 21.3 pc increase compared to the net profit of US\$10.06m reported for 2018.

Ithmaar Holding's total owners' equity stood at US\$95.55m as at 31 December 2019, a 17.9 pc decrease compared to US\$116.36m as at 31 December 2018, resulting mainly from the devaluation of Pakistan Rupee.

Accumulated losses at 31 December 2019 of US\$746.29m amounted to 98.5 pc of the share capital compared to 99.2 pc at 31 December 2018.

Total assets stood at US\$8.09 billion as at 31 December 2019, a 4.8 pc decrease compared to US\$8.49 bn as at 31 December 2018.

New US charges are recycled disputes from last 20 years: Huawei Manama

The US Department of Justice has filed new charges against Huawei, as it is looking to ratchet up the pressure on Huawei, the company said in a statement. "This new indictment is part of the Justice Department's attempt to irrevocably damage Huawei's reputation and its business for reasons related to competition rather than law enforcement. These new charges are without merit and are based largely on recycled civil disputes from last 20 years that have been previously settled, litigated and in some cases, rejected by federal judges and juries," Huawei said.

Huawei said the government will not prevail on its charges, which we will prove to be both unfounded and unfair.

CBB's announces Annual Middle East Asset Management Forum

TDT | Manama

The Central Bank of Bahrain will hold the fifth edition of the Middle East Asset Management Forum (MEAMF) on 6 April 2020 at the Gulf Hotel, Manama.

Over 250 international industry leaders are expected to attend the one-day event held in partnership with Global Investor Group, part of the renowned Euromoney plc group.

Discussions will focus on economic outlook, regulatory landscape, Ethical, Environmental and Social investing, robo-advisory and real estate tokenization.

Commenting, Abdulrahman Al Baker, Executive Director of Financial Institutions Supervision at the CBB, said the event will shed light on the most prominent developments



Abdulrahman Al Baker, Executive Director of Financial Institutions Supervision at the CBB

in the asset management industry in light of the economic and technological changes and uncertainties in the region and globally.

The event will also highlight "the position of the Kingdom of Bahrain as the pre-eminent financial center of asset management and investment."

CrediMax re-introduces 0.377 USD rate on Cardy EX

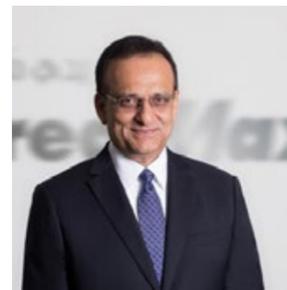
TDT | Manama

CrediMax announced it will be re-introducing its exclusive offer on "Cardy EX" where cardholders will continue to receive 0.377 USD rate exclusively without any international transaction fees or any additional fees till 30th of June, 2020.

The move follows the launch of CrediMax's Multi-Currency card "Cardy EX" back in July of 2019, which CrediMax said, "witnessed tremendous success."

Commenting, CrediMax Chief Executive Yousif Ali Mirza said they will be adding new currencies and innovative features that will be announced in due time.

Cardy EX, CrediMax said, allows cardholders the choice



CrediMax Chief Executive Yousif Ali Mirza

to pay for goods and services from up to six major currencies including Bahraini Dinars (USD, GBP, EURO, AED and SR) all in one card. Cardholders will be able to, with just a tap, pay in the local currency for easy and secure payments and very attractive low exchange rates.



Al-Hawaj Group hosted Italian international perfume designer, Alessandro Gualtieri, co-founder of the perfume brands Nissomato and Orto Parisi during a Meet & Greet event in the presence of Italian Ambassador Paola Amadei and Rita Donadei, Export Manager of the company at Niche Garden branch at The Avenues on 12 February 2020. Al Hawaj Managing Director Jawad Al-Hawaj thanked Alessandro for his presence. Also present from the Management were Abdul Wahab Y. Al Hawaj - General Manager, Dr Abdulla Y. Al Hawaj - Director, Shyam Narayanan - Operations Manager, Harish Rajuth - Brand Manager and Shaker Abdulla - Division Manager.

Al Hayrat awards winners one million dinars grand prize



Al Hayrat, BBK's unique savings account continues to present its customers with exceptional opportunities to win prizes while they save for the future.

TDT | Manama

Al Hayrat, BBK's unique savings account, has awarded BD 500,000 each to Zahra Abbass and Dr Thamer Ali, the grand prize winners, during an elaborate handover ceremony on 13 February 2020.

The winners were escorted along with their families to the

handover ceremony at Water Garden City and were welcomed by Reyadh Sater, BBK's Group Chief Executive, in the presence of top management.

Speaking at the award ceremony, Reyadh Sater said: "We hope that through this Grand Prize, our two lucky winners will be able to secure a more prosperous and joyful future for themselves as well as their

families. And on this occasion, we would like to remind our customers that they have another chance to win big with the next massive prize of BD 500,000 from Al Hayrat for March."

The raffle draw took place on 3rd February 2020.

Zahra commented: "My dream has always been to buy and own a house and Alhamdu-

lillah; my dream is becoming a reality with Al Hayrat."

On the win, Dr Thamer Ali said: "I honestly never expected to win but my wife has always been optimistic and Alhamdulillah we've been blessed by Allah with this prize."

"To me, the real win is the look of happiness on my children's faces when they have heard the news".

It'll get ugly, France warns

Munich | Germany

France yesterday warned Britain to expect a bitter, bloody battle in Brexit trade talks with the EU, saying the two sides would "rip each other apart".

Negotiations for a deal on future EU-UK relations are not due to start until next month, but London and Brussels have already clashed over rules for British financial firms' access to the EU after Brexit.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said it would be tough to achieve Britain's aim of agreeing a free trade deal by the end of the year, with the two sides far apart on a range of issues.

"I think that on trade issues and the mechanism for future relations, which we are going to start on, we are going to rip each other apart," Le Drian said at the Munich Security Conference.

"But that is part of negotiations, everyone will defend their own interests."

Britain formally left the EU two weeks ago but still trades like a member under a transition period ticking down to the end of this year.



Negotiations for a deal on future EU-UK relations are not due to start until next month

The remaining 27 EU states are currently drawing up their mandate for the talks on the future relationship, with France in particular pushing for a strong stance, notably on the vexed question of fishing.

France and several other countries want to be able to keep fishing in British waters, while London wants full autonomy and limited access for European fishermen.

The bloc's chief negotiator Michel Barnier has said the EU's top priorities are fishing, security and maintaining fair trading conditions for European companies. Barnier firmly rejected a British suggestion that City of London companies could be given broad, permanent access to EU markets without conditions.

Alba wins big with five major international safety awards

● **The 2020 Safety Leadership Award, 2020 Occupational Excellence Achievement Award, 2020 Significant Improvement Award, Perfect Record Award and Milestone Award from NSC, USA**



Alba Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali

TDT | Manama

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) yesterday announced winning five major international safety awards from the National Safety Council (NSC) - USA.

“Starting 2020 strong with winning five major international Safety Awards from the National Safety Council is one of our best achievements till date,” said Alba Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali.

Alba bagged the 2020 Safety Leadership Award, 2020 Occupational Excellence Achievement Award, 2020 Significant Improvement Award, Perfect Record Award and Milestone Award from NSC, USA.

Alba will receive the Awards at the 2020 National Safety Council Congress and Expo Indianapolis USA in October 2020.

The five NSC Awards recognize Alba in various areas of Safety: Safety Leadership Award for achieving a ‘per-

fect record’ of zero fatalities over the last six consecutive years; Significant Improvement Award for reducing the number of Lost Time Injury (LTI) from 3 in 2018 to 0 in 2019; Occupational Excellence Achievement Award for reducing the number of all injuries in 2019; Perfect Record Award for completing at least 12 consecutive months without incurring any LTI; and Milestone Award for completing at least 30 days without incurring injuries.

Adding further, Alba’s Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali said: “Through our strong commitment to ‘Think Safety First & Always’, we aim to soar higher and continue setting new benchmarks in Safety.”

In 2019, Alba achieved Zero Lost Time Injuries (LTIs) to top more than 15 million working-hours without LTI for the first time since its commercial operations in 1971.

Seef reports BD11.19m profit

TDT | Manama

Seef Properties (SEEF) reported a fourth-quarter net profit attributable to the parent of BD 3.86 million, compared to BD 3.77m in the prior-year quarter, with an increase of 2.34 per cent.

Seef attributed the increase to cost reduction and savings, coupled with management of expenses as well as lower provisions.

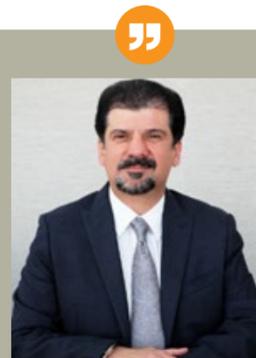
Diluted earnings per share amounted to 8.39 fils compared to 8.20 fils for the same period the previous year.

Total comprehensive income for the quarter increased by 2.34pc to BD 3.86m helped by increases in the share of profits from investments in the associate and joint venture companies.

Operating profit stood at BD 3.65m, compared to BD 3.82m in the year-ago quarter, with a decrease of 4.69pc.

Full-year results

Meanwhile, Seef Properties has reported a net profit attributable to the parent of BD 10.93m, in comparison with BD 10.91m a year ago, achieving an increase of 0.11pc. The increase is attributed to a growth in operating profit of 1.86pc compared to last year. Diluted earnings per share amounted to 23.75 fils for the year ended 31 December 2019, compared to 23.73 fils for the same period of the previous year.



“The sustainability of our earnings, despite the high competition in the market, reflects the sound strategies that we have set in order to move forward towards wider horizons. Through this framework, we seek the continuity of the Company’s leadership in the retail, hospitality, entertainment and real estate development sectors.”

ESSA NAJIBI
SEEF PROPERTIES CHAIRMAN

Total comprehensive income increased by 0.67pc to BHD 11.19m helped by new cost-saving initiatives which affected efficiency and controlled expenses.

Operating profit increased 1.86pc to BD 15.13m from BD



“The main priorities for the year 2020 are centered on the completion of Al Liwan multipurpose real estate project in Hamala, with the continuation of lease contracts signing and the commencement of delivery of retail stores. The Company is also endeavoring to become the pioneer in the field of entertainment in the Kingdom by introducing unique programs through the Company.”

AHMED YUSUF
SEEF PROPERTIES CEO

14.85m in the year-ago period.

Total equity attributable to the shareholders (after excluding the equity attributable to minority) for the period ended 31 December 2019, has increased by 2.46pc reaching BD 154.54m, compared to BD 150.83m for

the same period of the previous year. Total assets for the period ended 31 December 2019, have increased by 3.54pc reaching BD 174.32m, compared to BD 168.37m in the previous year.

Dividend

Based on the financial results, the Board of Directors will recommend to the General Assembly cash dividends of 15pc, an equivalent of BD 6.9m, the allocation of BD 0.170m for donations, in addition to transferring an amount of BD 1.1m to the general reserve account.

Commenting on the results, Seef Properties CEO Ahmed Yusuf said the commercial malls operating under the Company’s umbrella are maintaining the same annual pace with regards to attracting visitors and shoppers, confirming that the Company is enhancing shoppers and visitors’ experience with the introduction of unique promotional campaigns, to achieve a quantum leap in clients’ experience.

On the hospitality sector, Yusuf said: “Fraser Suites Seef Bahrain has maintained good annual occupancy rates, despite the competition in the market. The technical services in the hotel have been upgraded last year, and we are currently working on a comprehensive upgrade for the facilities with the aim of providing the best services to the clients.”



BAHRAIN FAMILY LEISURE COMPANY B.S.C.



Condensed interim statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019 (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

| | 31 December 2019 | 31 December 2018 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Non-current assets | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 379,198 | 512,969 |
| Intangible assets | 20,785 | 23,068 |
| Right-of-use assets | 782,245 | - |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss | 4,056,741 | 5,730,662 |
| | <u>5,238,969</u> | <u>6,266,699</u> |
| Current assets | | |
| Inventories | 29,496 | 61,908 |
| Trade and other receivables | 121,462 | 122,732 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 356,275 | 172,372 |
| | <u>507,233</u> | <u>357,012</u> |
| Total assets | <u>5,746,202</u> | <u>6,623,711</u> |
| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES | | |
| Capital and reserves | | |
| Share capital | 4,000,000 | 4,000,000 |
| Statutory reserve | 794,927 | 794,927 |
| Capital reserve | 68,245 | 68,245 |
| (Accumulated losses)/retained earnings | (66,244) | 1,534,030 |
| Treasury shares | (400,000) | (400,000) |
| | <u>4,396,928</u> | <u>5,997,202</u> |
| Non-current liabilities | | |
| Employees’ terminal benefits | 89,325 | 85,869 |
| Non-current-lease liabilities | 560,904 | - |
| | <u>650,229</u> | <u>85,869</u> |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Trade and other payables | 463,114 | 540,640 |
| Current-lease liabilities | 235,931 | - |
| | <u>699,045</u> | <u>540,640</u> |
| Total liabilities | <u>1,349,274</u> | <u>626,509</u> |
| Total equity and liabilities | <u>5,746,202</u> | <u>6,623,711</u> |

Condensed interim statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the for the year ended 31 December 2019 (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

| | Year ended 31 December 2019 | Year ended 31 December 2018 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Operating income, net | 1,469,658 | 1,429,801 |
| Operating costs | <u>(1,398,866)</u> | <u>(1,336,074)</u> |
| Operating gross profit | <u>70,792</u> | <u>93,727</u> |
| Expenses | | |
| General and administrative expenses | (145,536) | (199,646) |
| Finance cost on lease liabilities | (40,360) | - |
| Selling and advertising expenses | (68,728) | (84,323) |
| Directors’ fees | (43,300) | (83,100) |
| | <u>(297,924)</u> | <u>(367,069)</u> |
| Loss before losses on investment and other income | <u>(227,132)</u> | <u>(273,342)</u> |
| Losses on investment and other income | <u>(1,373,142)</u> | <u>(765,139)</u> |
| Net loss and total comprehensive loss for the year | <u>(1,600,274)</u> | <u>(1,038,481)</u> |
| Basic and diluted loss per share | <u>Fils (44.45)</u> | <u>Fils (28.85)</u> |

Condensed interim Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2019 (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

| | Year ended 31 December 2019 | Year ended 31 December 2018 |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Operating activities | | |
| Net loss for the year | (1,600,274) | (1,038,481) |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Depreciation on property, plant and equipment | 158,365 | 163,874 |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | 3,704 | 3,473 |
| Amortisation of right-of-use asset | 256,652 | - |
| Unrealised fair value loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss | 1,666,688 | 1,086,878 |
| Finance cost on lease liabilities | 40,360 | - |
| Interest income | (4,921) | (721) |
| Dividend income | (286,508) | (286,320) |
| (Profit)/loss on sale of property, plant and equipment | (213) | 637 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Inventories | 32,412 | (27,355) |
| Prepayments and other receivables | (1,507) | (41,239) |
| Trade and other payables | (112,915) | (62,843) |
| Employees’ terminal benefits, net | 3,456 | 11,724 |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | <u>155,299</u> | <u>(190,373)</u> |
| Investing activities | | |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment | (24,605) | (132,121) |
| Purchase of intangible assets | (1,420) | (3,500) |
| Additions in financial assets at fair value through profit and loss account | - | (4,011) |
| Proceeds from disposal of financial assets at fair value through profit and loss account | 7,233 | - |
| Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment | 224 | - |
| Interest received | 4,921 | 721 |
| Dividend received | 286,508 | 286,320 |
| Net cash provided by investing activities | <u>272,861</u> | <u>147,409</u> |
| Financing activities | | |
| Principal and interest paid on lease liabilities | (244,257) | - |
| Dividends paid | - | (286,899) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | <u>(244,257)</u> | <u>(286,899)</u> |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | <u>183,903</u> | <u>(329,863)</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year | <u>172,372</u> | <u>502,235</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year | <u>356,275</u> | <u>172,372</u> |

The audited financial statements were approved, authorised for issue by the Board of Directors and signed on their behalf by:

Abdul Latif Khalid Al Aujan
Chairman

Garfield Jones
Vice-Chairman and
Managing Director

Condensed interim statement of changes in shareholders’ equity for the quarter and nine months period ended 31 December 2019 (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

| | Share capital | Statutory reserve | Capital reserve | Retained earnings | Treasury shares | Total |
|--|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| At 31 December 2017 | 4,000,000 | 794,927 | 68,245 | 2,932,511 | (400,000) | 7,395,683 |
| Net loss and other comprehensive loss for the year | - | - | - | (1,038,481) | - | (1,038,481) |
| Dividend for the year 2017 (Note 22) | - | - | - | (360,000) | - | (360,000) |
| At 31 December 2018 | 4,000,000 | 794,927 | 68,245 | 1,534,030 | (400,000) | 5,997,202 |
| Net loss and other comprehensive loss for the year | - | - | - | (1,600,274) | - | (1,600,274) |
| At 31 December 2019 | 4,000,000 | 794,927 | 68,245 | (66,244) | (400,000) | 4,396,928 |

Munich Security Conference could present new hope for Libya

Despite the challenges, holding the line against Libya succumbing to the control of ideologues remains an important strategic goal for everyone

DAMIEN MCELROY

The task of engineering a new start for Libya has been an important discussion point this weekend at the Munich Security Conference, the premier European forum for international security.

Delegates agree that Libya is at an "incredibly sensitive" moment. Niels Annen, a German foreign minister who has led the Berlin mediation process on Libya, has been at pains to point out the Libyan conflict's African context.

Europeans view the conflict most acutely in terms of the tens of thousands of African migrants that use Libya as a platform for entry across the Mediterranean. The conflict has provided these migrants an open gateway to prosperity in Europe despite the risk to life, both from crossing Libya itself and when people-smugglers put them on flimsy boats.

Global diplomats have been engaged in a high-stakes effort to negotiate and sustain a ceasefire.

Only when this takes hold can there be the outlines of a new settlement in Libya. Once achieved, a Libyan peace might provide wider effects across the Sahara, into West Africa and as far away as Sudan and Eritrea. However, we are a long way from that point.

Last week, the UN Security Council marked a rare moment of progress when it passed a resolution in support of a lasting ceasefire and the Berlin process. The officials at the session expressed their hopes for meetings of a joint military commission composed of uniformed Libyan officers, who



Tripoli government forces clash with forces led by Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar, south of the capital Tripoli in Libya last year.

are convening daily in Geneva.

Even with a breakthrough at that level, a ceasefire would need further support from willing partners. Indeed, following the passage of the UN resolution, offers from outside to set up a monitoring mission are on the table.

Since the demise of Muammar Gaddafi, Libya's former dictator,

there have been multiple diplomatic initiatives dealing with the country.

Most were built on foundations that took little account of conditions on the ground, and failed accordingly. At the end of four decades of one-man rule, there was no state infrastructure for Libyans to inherit. To say the offi-

cial structures had been hollowed out is an understatement.

The consequences endure to this day. The Government of National Accord has a writ that does not stretch beyond the gates of a Tripoli naval base.

It has taken up too much of the focus of the UN envoy's efforts, obscuring the essential truth that

In Syria, Russia faces multiple d

RAGHIDHA DERGHAM

The position of Russia with respect to its partners in Syria - Iran and Turkey - is looking increasingly uncomfortable.

Iran, Moscow's ally in the fight, is resentful of its failure to strongly oppose US sanctions against Tehran. Furthermore, there is growing anger in the ranks of the Russian military establishment following Turkey's recent actions against the Bashar Al Assad regime in Syria, which risk opening yet another front for Moscow in the ongoing Syrian war and highlight the burden of an alliance with Damascus.

The core challenge Russia faces is to redefine a new vision and strategy for Syria beyond mere tactical steps. For one thing, further escalation of violence could destroy any chance of crafting a political and constitutional settlement that would relieve Russian forces as Moscow entrenches its presence in Syria further.

Another source of concern is the multiple, often contradictory roles of the US in the country. President Donald Trump may re-activate his personal involvement in Syria policy in the spring which would have implications for Moscow's policies in the Middle East.

The Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who fears the prospect of Washington making deals and decisions without consulting Ankara, is proceeding with confidence and determi-



A Turkish military mobile rocket launcher fires from a position in the countryside of the Syrian province of Idlib towards Syrian government forces' positions.

nation to alter the facts on the ground, not only in Syria but in Libya, too.

Russia has called on Turkey to refrain from further "provocations", and Ankara has indeed since toned down its rhetoric. Both countries' militaries would still prefer to avoid direct clashes between their forces in Syria,

including incidents that might lead to the downing of Russian warplanes. The consequences of such an event would be dire.

In the eyes of the Russians, Turkey must honour its prior agreements with them, and Mr Erdogan's own bellicosity must end. The problem is that Moscow's options are limited at this

point. Ending communication with Turkey in Syria and disengaging from the Al Assad regime are both non-starters. But failure to contain the situation could preclude the political settlement that Russia needs in order to stabilise Syria.

For his part, Mr Erdogan wants to compel Moscow to reduce the

commitments made to Mr Al Assad, particularly with respect to Idlib on the Turkish border, where the Russian military is supporting its Syrian counterpart in a major offensive. Mr Erdogan is not seeking to topple the Al Assad regime, nor is he demanding Russia abandon its alliance with Damascus altogether.

Risking separate confrontations with Turkey, the US and Iran, the core challenge is to redefine a new strategy for Syria

1980

First winter ascent of Mount Everest by **Krzysztof Wielicki** and **Leszek Cichy**.



1992

Nagorno-Karabakh War: Armenian troops massacre more than 20 Azerbaijani civilians during the Capture of Garadaghly.

1995

The **Cenepa War** between Peru and Ecuador ends on a ceasefire brokered by the UN.

1996

In **Philadelphia**, world champion Garry Kasparov beats the Deep Blue supercomputer in a chess match.



It has taken up too much of the focus of the UN envoy's efforts, obscuring the essential truth that the militias stretching from Misrata to the heart of the capital have not had their grip removed since the aftermath of Gaddafi's flight from power. The vacuum left by the fall of the regime has resulted in a concerted ideological campaign to capture Libya.

battle. Factions steeped in programmatic Islamist politics have been and are determined to control Libya. These groups, aligned to the Muslim Brotherhood, have tried to own the revolution that toppled Gaddafi.

Backing from Turkey has sustained this campaign. There are clear parallels between the policy pursued by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and the Ottoman approach to North Africa over hundreds of years.

Countries such as France have seen the agenda to control Libya and are deeply concerned about the implications of this power putsch. Paris convened a meeting of sub-Saharan countries earlier this month to address the security risks involved.

Europe does not want an outflow of migrants from Libya to be compounded by an outflow of radical ideologies.

Moreover, oil sets Libya apart from other African nations in this calculus, too. Gaining control of

the enormous revenues generated by Libya's natural resources would mark a new departure for the Islamists. The consequences of the 1979 revolution in Tehran for Iranian oil are clear enough for Europe to deter Libya from taking a similar path.

As it is, Europeans have recently suffered a series of terror attacks staged by young men who have spent time in Libya. One accused, Hashem Abedi, is standing trial in British courts for multiple murders. He tried to flee justice by going to Tripoli.

Therefore, a well-resourced Islamist-run state in Libya is a risk that many in the European security establishment are not prepared to countenance. But on the sidelines of the Munich gathering, there was no uniformity on the question of how to avoid this.

Italy continues to seek its own agenda gains, while British policies have not really shed their Arab uprising alignments. Germany's diplomats, on the other hand, have done more than most to provide a much-needed boost for what had been a flagging role for diplomacy.

Nonetheless, holding the line against Libya succumbing to the control of ideologues remains an important strategic goal for everyone.

The prize – a unified, stable Libyan state – will not happen merely by devolving control to whoever happens to occupy Tripoli. Fighting in Libya is an open sore. At the Munich Security Conference, there are signs that it may yet heal.

the militias stretching from Misrata to the heart of the capital have not had their grip removed since the aftermath of Gaddafi's flight from power.

The vacuum left by the fall of the regime has resulted in a concerted ideological campaign to capture Libya.

Therein lies the country's real

ilemmas



Although it continues to support the Al Assad regime, Iran is not directly involved in Russia and Turkey's Syrian standoff, giving some limited respite to Moscow's military strategists.

recently remarked that Washington is looking into how to give Turkey support within the framework of Nato. The US is increasingly weighing into the conflict there not only because of the massacres taking place against civilians in Idlib, which have caused more than 800,000 Syrians – mostly civilians – to flee, but also because Washington sees Turkish-Russian differences in Syria as an opportunity.

President Trump is inclined to personally steer the wheel of foreign policy on Russia, Turkey, and Iran. He is reportedly revisiting US foreign policy across the globe, not to deviate from its current trends, but rather to take stock of successes and failures. This would involve scrutinising various political fronts and bolstering his policies on economic sanctions. Mr Trump also wants to shore up support for his so-

called Deal of the Century and to ensure that the Arab Gulf states present a united front against Iran.

This week, the US Senate passed a resolution requiring congressional consent for future military operations against Iran. Mr Trump may veto it, but he may also use the resolution to contain further escalation with Tehran. Although it continues to support the Al Assad regime, Iran is not directly involved in Russia and Turkey's Syrian standoff, giving some limited respite to Moscow's military strategists.

Those strategists are more concerned at the moment with a potential revival of Turkey's Nato links, having thought Moscow succeeded in driving a wedge between Turkey and its Western allies through co-operation in Syria and the sale of missiles to the Turkish military.

Riding above all of these individual tensions, however, is the fact that Moscow, Washington, and Ankara all converge on their desire to avoid a large-scale conflict in Syria that would draw in the three countries as well as Israel. As Mr Jeffrey said, "the four major players...in Syria – that is Russia, the United States, Turkey and Israel – are being very careful militarily". The problem however is that these major players do not care about the disastrous consequences of their battles for the human population of Syria. In this regard, they are anything but careful.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



CCTV footage has Cemeraged showing police assaulting Jamia students without provocation. Horrifying. Exemplary punishment must be levied on these lawless policemen.

@ShashiTharoor

02



As Londoners will know, I'm proud that my dad worked as a bus driver. It's a tough and important job, and I've launched a new scheme to help support them. 20,000 bus drivers will receive up to £1,600 as part of our recruitment and retention plans.

@SadiqKhan

03



To help Hubei province fight the epidemic, medical teams from across China were sent to the central Chinese city of Wuhan to save the infected and assist the combat. Salute! #coronavirus #COVID19 #China

@ChinaDaily

04



Chinese spying has Creached unprecedented levels in the United States. The FBI is now overseeing around 1,000 cases of espionage, with Chinese spies infiltrating the State Department, the CIA, and Defense Intelligence Agency.

@NikkiHaley

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

Celebrating Bahrain Sports Day



YENUS S

Last week, Bahrain Sports Day was celebrated in various places. A host of outdoor activities carried out by mostly public employees, were observed encompassing staff from ministries at all levels.

It will be a waste of time to discuss here the importance of sports in contributing healthy lifestyle, reducing chronic diseases and generally, healthy and active body.

However, mention of a summary by Dr Edward R Laskowski from the Mayo Clinic in the US will be sufficient to give us a clear picture of the negative impact of employees who sit long hours in the office.

He said, the effects of continuous sitting include obesity and a cluster of conditions including blood pressure, high blood sugar, excess body fat around the waist and abnormal cholesterol levels. He continues, too much sitting also seem to increase the risk of death from cardiovascular disease and cancer.

Here, I will try to focus on the political implication of the event. Since February 11, started to be marked as an annual public event under the royal order of

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa few years ago, the occasion has given employees awareness of the importance of sports in everyday life, which has now become a culture worth appreciating.

Bahrain Sports Day is then an awareness campaign of the importance of sports in our daily lives. Not necessarily, we have to be limited to outdoor activities but while seated in the office exercising and /or stirring different parts of the body including fingers and the neck can make a difference. A person working on the tenth floor can go two stairs up and catch the elevator on the third floor. Similarly, when leaving office, one can go two stairs down and use the elevator at the eighth floor. Such minor exercises play important roles in maintaining a healthy body.

If we see it in a broader sense, the half-day event is a government investment in order to build a healthy body. Paying full-day's salary but working half of the day is an investment worth considering. Considerable amount of budget is allocated by government sectors to boost human development, and training its staff in various trades ranging from skill upgrading courses to

full-fledged degree courses to equip its citizens with the necessary knowledge and technical know-how of modern technology.

The government does not stop here; it also invests in building a healthy physical body capable of putting the gained knowledge into practice and positively contribute to the development the country is going through.

So far, what we have observed was the involvement of public employees but private employees need to be engaged as well. The employers may not allow half-day event but even half to one-hour commitment is enough to put the body in the right gear and motivate workers. Studies show that motivated workers who work less hours are more productive than those engaged in routine work for long hours.

Few countries in the region, if any, have Sports Day programme in their annual schedules. For his initiative, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa deserve appreciation for his vision in building a talented mind and a healthy body, two assets needed to develop Bahrain.

Every year, Bahrain Sports Day will be observed and while the body is in motion, our subconscious mind should appreciate and thank the Premier, who works not only for the developments of the nation as a whole but also imparts health awareness of the individual staff who contribute in nation building.



world

The Bolt of buffalo? Indian jockey's record wins praise

AFP | New Delhi

Indian sports authorities announced Saturday they will hold trials for a buffalo jockey whose record-setting performance in a traditional footrace has seen him compared to Usain Bolt.

On a track of muddy slush, Srinivas Gowda ran 142.50 metres in 13.62 seconds on January 31, setting a record in the traditional buffalo race known as Kambala held every year in southern Karnataka state.

The 28-year-old farmer has since become a sensation after people praised him on social media and compared him to retired Jamaican sprint superstar Bolt, who is the world's fastest man for his record run of 100 meters in 9.58 seconds.

Comparing Gowda's performance with the Jamaican star's record, commenters have assumed that the farmer would have run 100 metres in 9.55 seconds, which is 0.03 seconds faster than the Olympian's feat.

India's junior sports minister Kiren Rijiju said that authorities have called Gowda to the capital New Delhi for trials under the country's best coaches.

"Officials from Sports Authority of India (SAI) have contacted him. His rail ticket is done and he will reach SAI centre on Monday. I will ensure top na-



Srinivas Gowda, seen running with his buffalo on January 31, 2020, has been compared to Usain Bolt for his record-setting performance in a traditional Kambala race

tional coaches to conduct his trials properly," Rijiju wrote on Twitter.

Many users have however cast doubts on his performance, con-

sidering the high standards of the Olympics and the help received from the buffaloes, who during the races are lashed together with ropes and outfitted

with a plough while a participant matches their speed and controls them.

Gowda is a regular participant in the popular buffalo races

held in the farming belts of the southern coastal state during the winter.

"I did not think I would run this fast. The buffaloes were



I did not think I would run this fast. The buffaloes were quick and I followed them

GOWDA



Srinivas Gowda ran 142.50 metres in 13.62 seconds on January 31, setting a record in the traditional buffalo race known as Kambala held every year in southern Karnataka state

quick and I followed them," Gowda told reporters.

The sport was briefly banned following petitions by animal rights groups who deemed it as cruel, but races resumed in 2017 under government orders.

Britain's Kate talks of 'mummy guilt' in podcast

● The morning sickness that she suffered with all three of her children had strained the family, she said.

AFP | London

Prince William's wife Kate laid bare her "mummy guilt" during a landmark podcast yesterday, recorded as part of her efforts to bring about a "generational change" in early-years childcare.

The duchess told the "Happy Mum, Happy Baby" podcast that she suffered anxiety about her performance as a mother "all the time", adding that "anyone who doesn't as a mother is actually lying".

"Questioning your own decisions, and your own judgements, and things like that... I think that starts from the moment you have a baby," said the mother-of-three.

"I totally underestimated the impact and the change it had on our lives.

Asked if she felt "mummy guilt", the duchess -- mother to George, aged six, Charlotte, four and Louis, 20 months, responded -- "yes, absolutely".

She said she "definitely would have done things different... knowing what I know now" referring to her first pregnancy with Prince George.

The morning sickness that she suffered with all three of her children had strained the



The Duchess of Cambridge is mother to George, aged 6, Charlotte, aged 4 and Louis, aged 20 months



William didn't feel he could do much to help and it's hard for everyone to see you suffering without actually being able to do anything about it

KATE

family, she said.

"William didn't feel he could do much to help and it's hard for everyone to see you suffering without actually being able

to do anything about it," she explained.

Despite the challenges, she said that since having children she had "found a new enjoyment out of life".

Her experience of bringing up three children have led her to launch an early years survey to help find answers about raising a "happy, healthy" generation.

"I think there's a few things that really stand out for me," she said.

"One is quality of relationships -- so those moments that you spend with people that are around you. I remember that from my own childhood.

"I had an amazing granny

who devoted a lot of time to us, playing with us, doing arts and crafts and going to the greenhouse to do gardening, cooking with us, and I try and incorporate a lot of the experiences that she gave us at the time into the experiences I give my children now," she added.

When asked what she hopes her children will remember from childhood, Kate replied: "Going to the beach getting soaking wet, filling our boots full of water."

Kate has previously spoken of worrying about how well she was adapting to motherhood, saying "it is lonely at times and you do feel quite isolated".

New Banksy artwork vandalised



Banksy confirmed he was the artist by posting two images of the artwork on his Instagram account in the early hours of Valentine's Day

London

A new Valentine's Day work by UK street artist Banksy, showing a young girl firing a slingshot of flowers, has been defaced after appearing on a building in western England.

A photograph circulating on social media showed abusive graffiti likely directed at local authorities in the city of Britol scrawled across the artwork in the south west England city.

Banksy confirmed he was



It's a real shame, but it was always going to happen, unfortunately

A LOCAL RESIDENT TOLD THE DOMESTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWS AGENCY

the artist by posting two images of it on his Instagram account in the early hours of Valentine's Day.

14 year old charged in stabbing death of student

● Majors, 18, was at Morningside Park on Dec. 11 when three teenagers tried to rob her

● One of the teens put her in a chokehold as the others rifled through her pockets

● A few days prior to the stabbing, the 14-year-old and two others robbed someone else of their cellphone at knifepoint

AFP | New York



Barnard College student Tessa Majors

A 14-year-old boy has been arrested and charged in the stabbing death of a New York university student, authorities said Saturday, in a case that is being closely watched due to its racial dynamics.

Tessa Majors, 18, a freshman at Barnard College, was attacked by three teens as she walked through Morningside Park on

December 11.

The park separates the prestigious Barnard College and Columbia University from Harlem, the predominantly black neighborhood in Manhattan's northwest.

Majors, who was white, was



Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance briefs the press



A makeshift memorial for Tessa Majors, an 18-year-old Barnard College freshman killed in a stabbing attack in a park near her school, on December 26, 2019

found just outside the park bleeding heavily, the criminal complaint said. She had been stabbed multiple times in the chest and died at a hospital.

Rashaun Weaver, 14, who is black, was accused of stabbing Majors. He had been wanted for

several weeks and was arrested without incident Friday night.

Weaver will be tried as an adult on second-degree murder and robbery charges, Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance said.

"We are confident that

we have the person in custody who stabbed her, and that person will face justice in a court of law," New York police chief Dermot Shea told a news conference.

Vance said investigators have video and DNA evidence and suggested the suspect had incriminated himself on an audio recording.

A 13-year-old alleged accomplice was also charged but will be tried in juvenile court.

The events evoke memories of the 1989 "Central Park Five" case, when five black and Hispanic teens were wrongly convicted and sentenced to prison for the rape and assault of a white female jogger in the famous park.

Vance suggested the sensitivities of the latest case contributed, in part, to the delay in charging Weaver.

"We're dealing with a 14 year old and we will be very careful to safeguard all the rights that he has as we go forward with this case," he said.

"I want New Yorkers to know that we are recommitting today to fairness in this case, because only a fair process will result in true justice for Tessa Majors."

UK issues rare 'danger to life' warning over Storm Dennis

London

Storm Dennis swept across Britain on Sunday with the army drafted in to help deal with heavy flooding and high winds, officials warning it could be "life-threatening" in South Wales.

The government weather agency issued a rare red warning for the area, saying there was a risk of "significant impacts from flooding" that included a "danger to life from fast flowing water, extensive flooding to property and road closures".

Almost 200 flood warnings were in place early on Sunday, extending from Scotland's River Tweed to Cornwall in southwest England.

Winds of over 90 miles per hour (150 kilometres per hour) were recorded in Aberdaron, south Wales.

The Ministry of Defence had earlier deployed troops in West Yorkshire, northern England, which suffered badly



Troops have been deployed in West Yorkshire, northern England, which suffered badly from flooding caused by last weekend's Storm Ciara

from flooding caused by last weekend's Storm Ciara.

"Our armed forces are always ready to support local authorities and communities whenever they need it," said defence minister Ben Wallace.

British Airways and easyJet confirmed they had grounded flights, while two bodies were pulled from rough seas off the south England coast on Saturday as the storm barreled in.

One of the men is assumed to have been the subject of a search triggered when an LPG tanker reported that one of its crew was unaccounted for.

He was last seen several hours earlier.

Sri Lanka calls on US to reconsider barring army chief

AFP | Colombo

Sri Lanka yesterday said the US should reconsider its decision to refuse entry to the island's army chief over his alleged war crimes and warned that relations were being "unnecessarily complicated".

The US Friday said the travel ban for Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva and his family was imposed over what it called credible evidence of human rights violations in the 2009 finale to the civil war.

US ambassador Alaina Teplitz was summoned by Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena on Sunday, officials said.

He said Colombo was "disappointed" with the decision, the first against a Sri Lankan military officer.

"The minister said this action unnecessarily complicates the US-Sri Lanka relationship," his office said in a statement



Washington barred Sri Lankan army chief Shavendra Silva over alleged war crimes linked to the ending of the civil war

shortly after the closed-door meeting.

Silva was unfairly barred on unverified allegations, Gunawardena added.

The foreign ministry quoted Teplitz as saying the US would continue its cooperation with Sri Lanka, including in defence, despite the ban on Silva.

Silva's appointment in August sparked international outrage because of his links to alleged war crimes, and the UN briefly

suspended the recruitment of Sri Lankan troops for peacekeeping duties.

Silva headed the army's 58th division in the final months of the battle against Tamil Tiger rebels. The military claimed victory in May 2009, but it also sparked allegations that up to 40,000 civilians were killed by troops.

There was no immediate comment from Teplitz or the US embassy in Colombo.

US denounces detention in Venezuela of Guaido's uncle

Washington

The US State Department on Saturday condemned the detention in Venezuela of an uncle of opposition leader Juan Guaido, saying the man was being held on "preposterous charges."

"The United States strongly condemns the detention of Juan Jose Marquez, uncle of interim President Juan Guaido, and demands his immediate release," said a statement from State Department spokesperson Morgan Ortugas.

Marquez was detained Tuesday at the international airport near Caracas while accompanying Guaido on his return trip from a three-week tour to several countries including the US aimed at building pressure on President Nicolas Maduro.

Snake coupling prompts partial closure of Florida city park

AFP | Washington

A city in Florida closed off part of a park after residents spotted dozens of snakes which had apparently gathered for their annual coupling.

"It appears they have congregated for mating," the City of Lakeland Parks and Recreation Department said on Facebook with a photo of one of the serpents seen in the park by Lake Hollingsworth, southwest of Orlando.

Officials on Thursday sealed off an area where the amorous reptiles had gathered for their pre-Valentine's Day tryst with caution tape.

"This is for the protection of



One resident said he saw around 25 Florida water snakes gather at a park in Lakeland, southwest of Orlando

They are generally found resting in tree limbs over water or basking on shorelines. They are an important part of the ecosystem and should not be disturbed

THE CITY OF LAKELAND PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

the public and the snakes," the department said.

One resident said he saw around 25 Florida water snakes gather at a park in Lakeland, southwest of Orlando

The slippery customers were identified as harmless native Florida water snakes.

"They are generally found resting in tree limbs over water or basking on shorelines. They are an important part of the ecosystem and should not be disturbed," the department said.

Resident Tim Newberry, whose Facebook photos of snakes in the park alerted city authorities, told 10News he saw about 25 that day.

Top UK TV presenter Caroline Flack found dead

London

British television presenter Caroline Flack was found dead on Saturday, her family said in a statement, the third star connected with the hit reality show "Love Island" to have died.

"We can confirm that our Caroline passed away today on the 15th February," the 40-year-old's family said in a statement.

British media reported that the star, who was soon to go on trial accused of assaulting her boyfriend, was found at her London flat having taken her own life.

She was best known for previously hosting the smash show "Love Island", whose future has been thrown into doubt by a string of tragedies.

Contestants Mike Thalassitis and Sophie Graydon pre-



British television presenter Caroline Flack poses on the red carpet on arrival for the BRIT Awards 2018 in London

viously took their own lives having appeared on the dating programme.

Bloomberg faces increasing fire from fellow US Democrats

Washington

Democratic presidential candidates sharpened their attacks on billionaire rival Michael Bloomberg yesterday as moderates battled to elbow their way to the top of a crowded pack.

Bloomberg -- who skipped the Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire primary but has been trying to make up for it with huge spending on television ads -- has faced increasingly sharp criticism, much of it over past positions and comments being criticized as crude, racist or misogynistic.

"Voters are looking for a president who can lead us out of the days when it was just commonplace or accepted to have these kinds of sexist or discriminatory attitudes," Pete Buttigieg, the moderate former mayor from Indiana, said Sunday on Fox. "This is our chance to do something different."

And Senator Amy Klobuchar, another Democratic moderate who had an unexpectedly strong showing in New Hampshire, accused Bloomberg of using his onslaught of TV ads to "hide behind the airwaves."



A television screen shows Democratic presidential candidate Mike Bloomberg as the former New York mayor speaks at an event in Houston, Texas

The race for the Democratic nomination remains exceptionally unsettled after Vermont senator Bernie Sanders has edged to the front in the two first states, slightly ahead of Buttigieg but without a commanding lead.

Those early states, Iowa and New Hampshire, are small and predominantly white.

The next two -- Nevada on February 22 and South Carolina a week later -- are far more diverse, as are the 14 states voting on "Super Tuesday," March 3, raising the possibility of a shakeup in the Democratic order.

S. Sudan rebels reject president's compromise

AFP | Juba

South Sudan rebels rejected on Sunday a government peace offer to return to a system of 10 states, dashing hopes of ending a six-year war that has left 380,000 dead.

President Salva Kiir had said he would compromise by cutting the current 32 regional states back down to the original 10 -- a key rebel demand -- to pave the way for a unity government.

But Kiir also included on top of the 10, three "administrative areas" of Pibor, Ruweng and Abyei.

Rebel chief Riek Machar said he opposed those three areas, saying it "cannot be referred to as reverting to 10 states" and "as such cannot be accepted".

"We therefore call upon President Kiir to reconsider this idea of creating administrative areas," he said in a statement.

Machar warned the three areas risked causing further problems, calling the issue a "Pandora's box".

Deadline looming

Kiir and Machar -- who lives



The rejection of a peace offer by South Sudan rebel chief Riek Machar (L) dashes hopes of breaking a deadlock and ending a six-year conflict that has left at least 380,000 people dead

in exile -- are under increasing international pressure to resolve their differences before a February 22 deadline.

Machar has repeatedly said he could not return to his old job as vice-president if country's structure of states did not return to its original form.

The number of states is contentious because the borders will determine the divisions of power in the country.

When it gained independ-

ence from Sudan in 2011, South Sudan had 10 states, as set out in its constitution.

Kiir increased that in 2015 to 28, then 32 -- and has now reduced them back to 10, plus the three areas.

He issued an order late Saturday relieving all governors of the 32 states of their posts.

He has said the final matter of states would be debated once the unity government forms.

Pompeo pledges 'collective' approach to African troop presence

Dakar

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said yesterday that the United States favoured a "collective" approach with its allies when deciding on troop numbers deployed in Africa against jihadist insurgents.

"We'll get it right, we'll get it right collectively, I'm convinced of that," Pompeo told reporters in Dakar.

Pompeo said he had no specific announcement to make about any cuts in US troops deployed against jihadist groups in the Sahel region of Africa.

But he said the US would work closely with Senegalese and other forces in the region as well as its European partners, especially France.

"We have an obligation to get



Pompeo is on a tour of Africa

security right here, in the region, it's what will permit economic growth and we're determined to do that," he said.

"When our review is done

we'll have a conversation with not just Senegal but all the countries in the region, we'll talk through why we're doing what we're doing and we'll deliver

Treat us like something between a telco and a newspaper: Zuckerberg

Reuters | Munich

Online content should be regulated with a system somewhere between the existing rules used for the telecoms and media industries, Facebook (FB.O) CEO Mark Zuckerberg told global leaders and security chiefs on Saturday.

Speaking at the Munich Security Conference in Germany, Zuckerberg said Facebook had improved its work countering online election interference, and expanded on his previous calls for regulation of social media firms. "I do think that there should be regulation on harmful content ... there's a question about which framework you use for this," Zuckerberg said.

"Right now there are two frameworks that I think people have for existing industries - there's like newspapers and existing media, and then there's the telco-type model, which is 'the data just flows through you', but you're not going to hold a telco responsible if someone says something harmful on a phone line."

"I actually think where we should be is somewhere in between," he said.

an outcome that works for all of us."

Senegal Foreign Minister Amadou Ba said that the United States had informed his government of its "wish to withdraw combat troops".

This, he said, would still leave an American military presence, notably in the areas of training and intelligence.

But he also insisted that Washington remained a crucial ally in the fight against jihadist violence that has plagued the Sahel.

"More than ever, Africa is faced with major challenges linked to insecurity and terrorism," Ba said.

"It needs the United States of America as a strategic ally for a definitive return to peace and stability."

Fancy felines hit Hanoi for first ever cat show

Reuters | Hanoi

Vietnam, where cats have been viewed in the past as food, hosted its first ever cat show yesterday, gathering around 60 pedigree cats with feisty stage names such as Angry Alice, Di Maria The Great and Timosa Sumo.

The show, run by the World Cat Federation, the world's largest federation for cats, featured a dozen different breeds. Event organiser Nguyen Xuan Son said the aim was to make people see that cats are worthy of love.

"We also want to form a national playground for pet owners to practice and gain experience before competing in international shows," Son added.

Vietnam introduced a ban on eating cats in 2018.

"In a country where cats are still served as foods and stray cats being mistreated are popu-



Vice Chairman of World Cat Federation Albert Kukowski presents first title to the cat of Nguyen Xuan Son of Vietnam and second title to the cat of Tawin Prai of Thailand during the Vietnam's first cat show in Hanoi, Vietnam



lar, the event is a chance to raise awareness among people," said Nguyen Dieu Hong, one of the attendees.

"Cat is not a sign of bad luck as many Vietnamese think and should be filled with love."

Over the course of a day, judges poked and prodded the animals, felt their fur, stroked their tails, looked at their teeth and tested their agility.

Seven cats won "best of class" awards and one, Timosa Sumo, won the heart not just of judges but of the public, which applauded him enthusiastically.

The blueish grey cat is of Scottish Fold breed, but owner Dinh Chau Hieu Tam said it was not just his beauty that made him a crowd favourite.

"He spreads the love to everyone," Tam said.

"He is my furry son. I just love him and am proud of him so much."

celebs



Britney Spears spotted wearing medical boot

Los Angeles
Singer Britney Spears was recently seen wearing medical boot just days after her former co-star Taryn Manning wrote a cryptic post about being "worried" for her.

Spears, who flaunted her fit figure in a red crop top and white shorts, was wearing a medical boot on her left foot while on her way to a tanning salon in Los Angeles, reports the-sun.co.uk.

This comes just days after Manning expressed her concern for Britney Spears, with whom she starred in "Crossroads" in 2002.

Manning captioned a photo with Spears and Zoe Saldana on Instagram: "Not trying to get likes I could care less. I am worried about my friend and co-star. Too many times we let one go a-stray and never bother to poke our heads around. 'Not my chair, not my problem!'"

She then apologised for her comments after receiving backlash from followers.

James Bond back in action in new teaser of 'No Time To Die'

Los Angeles
The new teaser of "No Time To Die", which will see Hollywood star Daniel Craig as the suave spy James Bond for the last time, promises a lot of action.

The high-octane 30-second clip also features Rami Malek, Ralph Fiennes, Lea Seydoux, Ana de Armas and Lashana Lynch, reports dailymail.co.uk.

"James Bond," Malek's voice begins at the start of the clip. "License to kill. I could be speaking to my own re- Daniel Craig flection."

"Come on, Bond," Fiennes says with a look of intensity. "Where the hell are you?"

The teaser promises plenty of high-speed chases and explosions, with Bond narrowly averting disaster on multiple occasions.

The teaser also shows the newest Bond girl, played by Armas.

Bond approaches Paloma (Armas) at the corner of a bustling street corner, where she is having a drink. "Whenever you're ready," he tells her. She scolds him, "You're late."

Jessica Simpson opens up about being body-shamed

Los Angeles

Singer Jessica Simpson has spoken about being body-shamed after photos of her in high-waisted denim "mom jeans" at a music festival in 2009, went viral.

The 39-year-old told Stellar magazine that it was a difficult time and she was "heartbroken" by the response to the photos, reports dailymail.co.uk.

"I beat myself up over it. I was taking diet pills and pinching my fat until it bruised," she said.

"People were used to seeing me washing a car in a bikini as Daisy Duke in 'The Dukes Of Hazzard'," she recalled.

She went on to say that she has since changed and has "a lot of confidence in the woman I am today".

"The person I'm presenting to

people (today) is very vulnerable and very raw, but I can take ownership over her," she said.

She recently released her autobiography, "Open Book", where she touched upon her relationships, struggle with substance abuse and childhood trauma.

There is also chapter in her memoir dedicated to her fat-shaming experience, titled: "Death by Mom Jeans".

Talking about the experience on a TV show, she explained that she was just a size four at the time.

"This picture that circulated and went worldwide broke my heart," she said while promoting her memoir.

"Not the picture necessarily, but the caption. Like, all the captions. I was taken down by the world," she said.

Justin Bieber Tearfully Talks About 'Protecting' Billie Eilish

Los Angeles

Singer Justin Bieber got emotional while saying that he wants to "protect" young singer Billie Eilish as she continues to climb up the success ladder.

"Let her do her thing and if she ever needs me, I'm gonna be here for her," said Bieber during an interview with Zane Lowe, reports people.com. "But yeah, just protecting the moment because people take for granted encounters," the singer added as he began to cry.

"Yeah, so, yeah, I just want to protect her," he continued. "I don't want her to lose it. I don't want her to go through anything I went through. I don't wish that upon anybody. If she ever needs me I'm just a call away."

Eilish, who made history at the Grammy Awards 2020 by becoming the youngest person ever to win the four main categories (she won five in total), shared a clip of Bieber's emotional interview on her Instagram page.

The Bad guy singer also posted a throwback photo of herself wearing a Justin Bieber T-shirt, and showed off her room at the time, with posters of the Baby hitmaker.



Billie Eilish



Justin Bieber

SITUATION VACANT

We are looking for a young man to work in a coffee shop. The ideal candidate should be less than 25 years, smart, energetic and pleasing and must be able to speak English. Please forward resumes to **Almadani.engineering@hotmail.com**.

TAEKWONDO CLASSES

Ladies, let's taekwondo! I'm a mother, started training at 55, when I'm getting weaker, joints creaking. Now feels revitalized, have higher self-esteem. Fortunately found a very patient, black belt lady coach who has her own dojang (clean and posh gym) in Seef. Classes for children and gentlemen too. BD30/month, 2/week, evenings, weekends. **See you, Mar**

CONTACT

- FACEBOOK: dlq Taekwondo Jins
- INSTAGRAM: dlqtaekwondojoins
- WHATSAPP: 33359476, 39944069

CLASSIFIEDS

WHAT TO DO AFTER EXAMS ???

KEY to success is Keep Educating Yourself
FIITJEE Offers BRIDGE COURSE for

Students Moving to Class X

- Refresh Class IX Concepts
- Intro to Class X Boards
- Orientation for Competitive Exams

Students Moving to Class XII

- Refresh Class XI Concepts
- Intro to Class XII Boards
- SAT Subjects
- Explore IIT - JEE

Last Date For Registration

19th Classes Begin From
FEBRUARY 2020

FIITJEE Please Call / WhatsApp: +973 33784481, 33911860
E-mail: bahrain.classes@fiitjee.com | Log on: www.fiitjeebahrain.com

BAHRAIN CENTRE

FIITJEE Bahrain Centre Office 11, Bldg 667, Road 3626, Adliya, Kingdom of Bahrain, Tel: 7715335

Mumbai

Actress Disha Patani is currently enjoying the success of her latest film "Malang", and is also thinking of her future. She says she loves to experiment with roles and would like to do an action movie someday.

On Sunday, the "Baaghi 2" had a chat session with her fans on Twitter. She spoke about various things, including the kind of roles she would like to do.

A fan asked her: "What are your next projects? Can we see you in

Disha Patani: Look forward to doing an action film someday

never seen before avatar?" To which she responded saying: "I look forward to doing an action film someday!" Overall, I love

experimenting with my roles and looking forward to play some interesting characters."



Disha Patani

Amanda Bynes shows off her 'lover' after engagement news

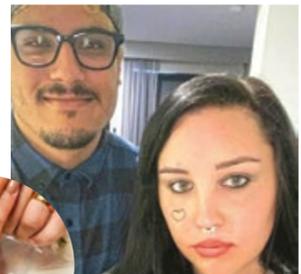
Los Angeles

Actress Amanda Bynes recently surprised her Instagram followers with her engagement announcement. After keeping her fiancée's identity a secret, she has now shared a photo with him.

During the Valentine's Day holiday, the 33-year-old revealed that she was engaged. "Engaged to (the) love of my life," she captioned her post, reports eonline.com.

In the image, she flaunted her diamond ring. She also had her left hand placed on top of her fiancée's, however, she kept his identity hidden.

On Saturday afternoon, Bynes took to Instagram to finally show off her beau, who is Paul Michael,



according to eonline.com.

"Lover," she wrote on Instagram, in which she shared a photo of her beau smiling as he stood behind her.

According to a source, the 33-year-old actress met Michael while she was in rehab and they have been dating for about two to three months.

She updated her fans about her personal life after a long time. In the last few years, she had stepped out of the spotlight to focus on other aspects of her career, as well as health.

Taapsee is no 'Bollywood ki female Ayushmann Khurrana'

Mumbai

Taapsee Pannu is thrilled about sharing the Best Actress (Critics) Filmfare Award 2020 with her "Saand Ki Aankh" co-star Bhumi Pednekar. But it's her witty reply to the "Bollywood ki female Ayushmann Khurrana" comment that's winning hearts.

After her victory on Saturday night, producer Tanuj Garg wrote: "Congrats to the powerhouse @ taapsee,

humaare #Bollywood ki female Ayushmann Khurrana. #Saand-KiAankh #bestactress."

Taapsee replied to him saying: "What about calling me Bollywood ki pehli Taapsee Pannu."

Garg continued the conversation and wrote: "Woh toh ho hi! Inimitable, singular, distinctive!"

Filmmaker Sujoy Ghosh joined in and called her: "authoritarian."

Calling it "Correct", she asked Ghosh: "That reminds me, did u start writing the script or no ??? So sust yaar."

Netizens are also lauding her win and "befitting reply" to the producer.



Taapsee

SPORTS

sports

Bnl Titans edge Young Star

TDT | Manama

Mohan Thyagarajan's spin did the magic for Bnl Titans as they defeated Young Star by 36 runs in CBA Division C 25 overs League.

Titans won the toss and elected to bat first. They scored a fighting total of 167 runs at the end of 25 overs. Jamsheer (30) was the top scorer. Atif took three wickets for Young Stars. Chasing the target, Young stars started well as opener Chandrabhan (53) scored a half century. Mohan Thyagarajan's magical 4 overs helped Titans to pull the victory towards them. Mohan Thyagarajan took five wickets for just 23 runs. Ibrar took two wickets to help Titans to restrict Young Stars for 131 runs and win the match by 36 runs.

Bnl Titans 167/7 (Jamsheer 30, Vijeesh 28, Atif 3/40) beat Young Stars 131/10 (Chandrabhan 53, Mohan Thyagarajan 5/23, Ibrar 2/22) by 36 runs

Phoenix CC 102/3 in 16.4 overs (Suraj 37, Sukdev 2/23) beat FOG CC 101/10 (Anil 43, Prakash 3/8, Sooraj 3/10) by 7 wickets

Punjabi Boys 105/0 in 7.2 overs (Zahid 86) beat Honda Bahrain 104/10 (Ali 24, Imran 2/9) by 10 wickets

Hempel Paints 189/3 in 22.2 overs (Manish 104, Bilal 40, Shiva 2/25) beat Union CC 185/10 (Shiva 41, Kamran 36) by 7 wickets

Legends CC 213/5 (Abhijith 57, Nimesh 41, Shuhaib 3/40) beat Patrick York 151/10 (Zohaib 52, Vijesh 4/33, Sabir 3/43) by 62 runs

Global Star 172/9 in 23.5 overs (S. Anwar 37, Adeel 36, Umer 2/2) beat TISCA Stars



Manish - Hempel Paints



Mohan Thyagarajan

171/8 (Saif 45, Imran 3/19) by 1 wicket

Royal Indians 172/10 (Arun 37, Shabir 3/20) beat Awali Gents 168/9 (Akram 41, Rijo 4/28) by 4 runs

Modest XI 214/6 (Rafeeq 80, Nabeel 30) beat Riffa Star 173/8 (Waqas 39, Ali 5/26) by 41 runs

Royal Blasters 152/7 in 22 overs (Akhil 44, Sudeesh 36, Mujtaba 2/14) beat Sprite CC 150/10 (Asif 44, Vinod 4/26, Vijeesh 3/35) by 3 wickets

LuLu 175/7 (Suneer 45, Safran 3/22) beat Awali Camels 167/10 (Sanjay 48, Suneer 3/26) by 8 runs

NDC Bahrain 152/10 (Sam 34, Upender 2/15) beat Pak Eagles 134/10 (Majid 36, Shehin 3/23) by 18 runs

Sachi CC 252/6 (Sagar 94, Ganesh 45) beat Lantern Lions 56/10 (Vikky 16, Ganesh 2/10) by 196 runs

Manchester City's appeal may focus heavily on process of UEFA probe

Reuters | Manchester

Facing a costly and damaging two-season ban from European football, English champions Manchester City will now turn to the Swiss-based Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in an appeal that is likely to focus heavily on procedure.

The Premier League club's key players on the pitch may be the likes of Sergio Aguero, Raheem Sterling and Kevin De Bruyne, but off it their line-up of British and Swiss lawyers will also be in focus as they

fight to get the ban overturned.

European soccer's governing body UEFA said on Friday the club had committed "serious breaches" of its Financial Fair Play (FFP) regulations by "overstating its sponsorship revenue in its accounts and in the break-even information submitted to UEFA between 2012 and 2016."

UEFA will also issue a 30 million euro (\$32.5 million) fine to City, who it said had "failed to cooperate in the investigation", possibly contributing to the harshness of its punishment.

Arkhagha set to face Gonzalez in Sweden

KO artist Hashem Arkhagha returns against Diego Gonzalez at BRAVE CF 37

TDT | Manama

It will be nearly a year since a vicious KO put the entire Middleweight division on notice, but Hashem Arkhagha is ready for his much-anticipated return to the BRAVE CF fold. On April 18th, he will look to build on from his victory over Jeremy Smith as he takes on Diego Gonzalez on the main card of BRAVE CF 37, which takes place in Stockholm, Sweden, in partnership with AK Fighting Championships.

Hashem Arkhagha ended a six-year-long hiatus to return to fighting as he made his BRAVE CF debut in front of his crowd, at BRAVE CF 23. The Jordanian fans were treated to one of the most breath-taking knockouts of the year, as he face-planted the tough Jeremy "Pitbull" Smith in the first round, with a perfectly placed uppercut.

The stunning result meant "Cavaca" maintained his undefeated status, improving to 5-0,



and will now look to build himself towards a title shot against a much more experienced opponent.

Swedish Diego Gonzalez is coming off a third-round loss against Ikram Aliskerov, in which he showed tremen-



Hashem Arkhagha ended a six-year-long hiatus to return to fighting as he made his BRAVE CF debut in front of his crowd, at BRAVE CF 23

dous heart and was praised by Aliskerov himself. "The Silencer" has 35 professional bouts to his name and is looking for his first BRAVE CF victory against Arkhagha.

BRAVE CF 37 will be headlined by a monumental title fight, as world champion Jarrah Al-Selawe defends his crown against super prospect Khamzat Chimaev in one of the biggest fights of the year in mixed martial arts.

Dybala, Cuadrado fire Juventus back top

AFP | Milan

Paulo Dybala and Juan Cuadrado scored as Juventus rediscovered winning form, beating 10-man Brescia 2-0 yesterday to reclaim top spot in Serie A before title rivals Inter Milan and Lazio clash later.

Argentine forward Dybala curled in a perfect free kick eight minutes before the break after Brescia's Florian Aye was sent off for two yellow cards in quick succession.

Colombian Cuadrado tapped in the second from close range after a Blaise Matuidi cross with 15 minutes to go, as the champions bounced back from last weekend's shock defeat at Hellas Verona.

Juventus move three points clear of Inter Milan, with third-placed Lazio third, four points

adrift of the leaders, before hosting Antonio Conte's title rivals in the Stadio Olimpico later yesterday.

Cristiano Ronaldo was rested for Sunday's game in Turin, but veteran defender Giorgio Chiellini returned after a long injury layoff.

Captain Chiellini came on for the final 12 minutes over five-months after rupturing cruciate ligaments in the right knee.

Brescia goalkeeper Enrico Alfonso went off after just 10 minutes following a knock to the head, with substitute keeper Lorenzo Andrenacci pulling off some fine saves against the champions.

Andrenacci smothered a second Dybala effort on the line minutes after the opener with the Brescia 'keeper also denying Gonzalo Higuain just after the



Juventus' Argentine forward Paulo Dybala shoots to score

break.

Dybala missed the chance for a second just before the final whistle, clipping the bar with

Andrenacci beaten.

Brescia fell to their fifth defeat in seven games, as they sit second last in the table.



Students of Al Noor International School during Bahrain Sports Day celebration. The school has conducted various sports events with the active participation of students from Kindergarten till Grade 12. Al Noor International School Scouts and Girls Guide troop participated in a walk at Sitra Park. Students also participated in the Bahrain Sports Day celebrations organized by the Capital Governorate at Al Najma Club



Yavi, left, looks to take the outside lane en route to her victory in the women's 3,000m

Yavi sets new records with France win

Winfred Yavi posts new Bahrain and Asian indoor records in women's 3,000 metres

TDI | Manama

Bahraini long-distance specialist Winfred Yavi posted new national and Asian indoor records en route to winning the women's 3,000 metres at the Meeting de l'Eure in France.

The competition was a part of the European athletics season, and it featured many top international elite athletes from around the world.

Yavi was a leading entrant heading into her race and she did not disappoint.

She completed the distance in a winning time of eight minutes 39.63 seconds, beating out 12 other competitors.

With her mark, Yavi shattered the previous women's indoor 3,000m Bahraini record held

by former Olympic and World champion Maryam Yusuf Jamal, who had a time of 8:43.16.

Yavi also set a new Asian record, beating the previous benchmark of 8:41.34 registered by Dong Yanmei of China.

Yavi won the race marginally ahead of Quailyne Kiprof of Ethiopia who was the runner-up in 8:40.20, while another Ethiopian in Tsigie Gebreselama came third in a distant 8:45.76.

Rounding out the top six were Zerfe Wondemagegn of Ethiopia in fourth, Roseline Chepngetich of the UAE in fifth and Beyenu Degefa, also of Ethiopia, in sixth.

Another Bahraini athlete was competing in the meeting, but Mohammed Tiouli did not finish his run in the men's 1,500m.

Yavi's strong performance in



Winfred Yavi finished the race in eight minutes 39.63 seconds

France continued her impressive form so far this season in leading global events. She had previously won the six-kilometre women's race for the second straight year at the Cinque Mulini cross country race, held in San Vittore Olona, Italy about three weeks ago.

The event, happening for the 88th time in 2020, was a part of the World Athletics Cross Country Permit series.

Gnabry nets twice as Bayern regain top spot

AFP | Berlin

Germany winger Serge Gnabry netted twice as Bayern Munich swept back to the top of the Bundesliga yesterday with a 4-1 away win at Cologne.

After RB Leipzig had claimed top spot in Germany's top flight for 24 hours with a 3-0 home win against Werder Bremen on Saturday, Bayern wasted no time in regaining first place in Cologne.

Bayern have won seven of their last eight league games, which includes last Sunday's goalless draw with Leipzig.

Robert Lewandowski and Kingsley Coman netted for Bayern to add to Gnabry's brace while Mark Uth, on loan from Schalke, scored Cologne's consolation goal.

Bayern were 3-0 up after 12 minutes as they blitzed the Cologne defence.

The Bundesliga's top scorer Robert Lewandowski claimed his 23rd league goal with clinical finishing after Thomas Mueller's pass put him in behind the defence on three minutes.

Lewandowski then moved



Bayern Munich's German midfielder Serge Gnabry (C) scores a goal

the ball in the box to Mueller, whose pass found Coman to beat Cologne goalkeeper Timo Horn, making it 2-0 after only five minutes.

It was Mueller's 14th assist this season, leaving him second only to Manchester City's Kevin de Bruyne, on 16, for chances

created in Europe's top five leagues.

Gnabry then made it 3-0 when his shot gave Horn no chance on its way into the bottom corner to leave the home crowd stunned.

With 15 minutes gone, Horn was the only Cologne player

in double figures for touches of the ball - three of his 10 were picking the ball out of his net.

Gnabry then fired wide, midfielder Joshua Kimmich hit the post and Mueller went close as Bayern kept up the pressure as it stayed 3-0 at half-time.

Man Utd visit is not about revenge, says Chelsea's Kante

Reuters | London

N'Golo Kante says Chelsea's home clash with Manchester United on Monday is not about avenging an opening-day hammering at Old Trafford but keeping their noses in front in the scrap for a Premier League top-four finish.

Chelsea are still in fourth spot but after only one win in their last four league games, the gap over the clubs beneath them has been steadily eroded.

They are just two points above fifth-placed Sheffield United while Tottenham Hotspur can move within a point of the Blues if they win at Aston Villa yesterday. United are six points behind.

"Man United were a bit behind but now

Man United were a bit behind but now they have closed the gap so it's a big opportunity either for us to keep them behind or for them to close the gap more

N'GOLO KANTE

Kante said.

"It's an important game for both teams. We all know that Man United at home is a very difficult game, especially after what happened in the first game but we don't look at this.

"We just look forward because we want to keep the gap and so that's why we need to win, not to get revenge."

It is a crucial period for Chelsea with United on Monday, then a home clash with Tottenham on Saturday before a Champions League last-16, first leg tie at home to Bayern Munich.

Kante said the mid-season break has hopefully enabled Chelsea to re-charge for a final push.

"I spent time with family and friends at home in Paris, just chilling," the 28-year-old said. "It's a nice thing, a new thing in the Premier League and it's good for the players."

"We have come back and tried to get a good fitness, to be prepared for the next game because we need to make sure we get the three points."

"I believe we have the team to get what we want this season -- to finish in the top four, get Champions League football next season and why not to win a title as well. We have everything that we need in this team."

Sevilla held by rock bottom Espanyol to stay out of top four

AFP | Madrid

Sevilla missed the chance to move in to the La Liga top four yesterday as they drew 2-2 with rock-bottom Espanyol.

The Andalusian outfit failed to take advantage of fourth-placed Atletico Madrid's own 2-2 draw at Valencia on Friday. Sevilla stay fifth, level on 40 points with Diego Simeone's side who occupy the final Champions League place.

Espanyol remain last, three points from safety alongside Leganes, who earlier played out a goalless draw with Real Betis.

Lucas Ocampos headed Sevilla in front after 14 minutes before Adrian Embarba levelled the scores with a free-kick that crashed through a poor wall.

China winger Wu Lei put the



Diego Carlos Santos Silva of Sevilla competes for the ball with Wu Lei of Espanyol

away side ahead when he slotted home Espanyol's second five minutes after the break.

However Victor Sanchez was sent off for a second bookable offence when he clipped over

Youssef En-Nesyri as the Moroccan forward surged towards goal.

Suso exploited Sevilla's man advantage to score his first goal for the club since arriving

on loan from AC Milan last month, cutting inside before firing inside Diego Lopez's near post.

The Basque derby between Eibar and Real Sociedad is awaiting a new date after being called off on Saturday due to poor air quality.

Sociedad were due to make the short journey to Eibar, an industrial town in a narrow valley, for a 1500 GMT kick-off.

However the Basque regional health department had recommended that sports be avoided in the area after a rockslide on February 6 into the Zaldibar rubbish dump, about eight kilometres (4.97 miles) from Eibar's Ipurua stadium.



N'Golo Kante