

**Eva Longoria to direct '24-7'**

Actress Eva Longoria Baston will make her feature directorial debut with workplace comedy "24-7". She will also produce and star with Kerry Washington in Universal's comedy, reports variety.com. **P13**

**Victory for Bahraini fighter**

**THE DAILY tribune**

**Don't want to be stressed: Cheryl**

**SHOW**



**Hockney sells for \$90.3m, smashes living artist record**

**PM to hand over award to Ban Ki-moon**  
TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa will hand over the "Khalifa bin Salman Award for Sustainable Development" to former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at a ceremony to be held on Sunday at the Gudaibiya Palace. Mr Ban has been selected for the 2018 award, in recognition of his efforts in serving humanity, promoting peace and security and achieving sustainable development goals.

See Page 5



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**\$5 billion success**

Deals worth more than \$5bn made at Bahrain International Airshow 2018

**The fifth edition of the Bahrain International Airshow witnessed unprecedented growth with more participation in the event than ever before.**

TDT | Manama  
**Mohammed Zafran**

Aerospace orders and commitments to the tune of \$5 billion were signed over the course of past three days at the Bahrain International Airshow.



Hundreds flocked to Sakhir Air Base to catch a glimpse of the air show on its last day yesterday.

This year's edition of the air show, which was the largest ever since the show's inception saw billions of dollars' worth of deals being agreed upon. Some of the major announce-

**35** per cent has been the increase in the number of participating companies at the air show when compared to the last edition.

ments during the air show included Saudi Gulf Airlines order of 10 Airbus A320neo with a further option for 10 more to the value of US\$2.1bn and Royal Bahraini Air Force's purchase of AH-1Z Attack Helicopter for US\$912 million.

**Continued on pages 2-3**



**ROLEX**

OYSTER PERPETUAL

**ROLEX DEEPSEA**



*Modern Art Studio*

Rolex Boutique - Bahrain City Centre



# Deals galore as Bahrain

Contd from Page 1

Other announcement included Bahrain Airport Company awarding contract worth BD 22 million for design and supervision of Cargo Area, Gulf Air Completion of Sales and Leaseback of six Airbus A320neo to support future acquisitions and Gulf Air Group Holding increasing their shares in Bahrain Airport Services to 44 per cent.

Investments in Bahrain's aerospace infrastructure were announced by Bahrain's Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications including the construction of a new Air Traffic Control Centre, supply of air navigation equipment from Leonardo and a two-year contract with DFS Aviation Services for the provision of manpower for air navigation services.

This year's edition noted huge improvements including 35 per cent increase in total participating companies as well as a doubling in size for the exhibition area. The UAE, the US, Russia, Romania, and Kuwait were some of the new country pavilions at the air show.

Held under the patronage of

”



The success witnessed over the past three days affirms Bahrain International Airshow's position as the fastest growing air show in the Middle East.

MR AHMED

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and under the supervision of His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Personal Representative of HM the King and Chairman of the Supreme Organising Committee, the fifth edition of the Bahrain International Airshow witnessed unprecedented growth with more participation in the event than



Spectacular displays were delivered by participating teams at the air shows.

ever before.

Minister for Transportation and Telecommunications and Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Organising Committee of the Bahrain International Air-

show, Kamal Ahmed said: "The success witnessed over the past three days affirms Bahrain International Airshow's position as the fastest growing air show in the Middle East. The senior

international government officials and top-level executives attending reflect the value of the show as a platform for business. It is also a great opportunity to showcase the show as one of the major global

events on the aerospace events calendar."

"The Bahrain International Airshow is a key opportunity to engage with customers across the region. This year the show was

## Phase 2 of ILS- CAT III Upgrade Project on

TDT | Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

In efforts to boost the Kingdom's air navigation systems and to align it with international standards, Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications announced the Implementation of Phase 2 of the ILS- CAT III Upgrade Project.

Kamal Ahmed, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, and French company Aeroport de Paris Ingenierie signed an agreement yesterday (ADPI), for an amount of BD 930,200.

The ministry stated that the implementation is with joint efforts from MTT's Civil Aviation Affairs and the Bahrain Airport Company.

"Implementing CAT III, which ensures the highest level precision approach for aircrafts landing on the runway, is part of the ministry's plan to develop and modernise the ILS operations at Bahrain International Airport (BIA). The system enables pilots to navigate and land safely in difficult weather conditions and low visibility," The ministry stated.

Mr Ahmed said that the project involves installing additional lights on the runway and the development of auxiliary substations to support CAT III operations.

"I am pleased to announce that the MTT is about to appoint a consultant to upgrade the ILS operations at BIA to CAT III, which allow pilots to land in visibilities of up to 50m.

"This involves installing additional lights on the runway and the development of auxiliary substations to



Many defence, aerospace companies showcased their latest defence aircraft, military vehicles at the air show.

**930,200**  
Bahraini dinars is the value of the deal signed between the Ministry and ADPI.

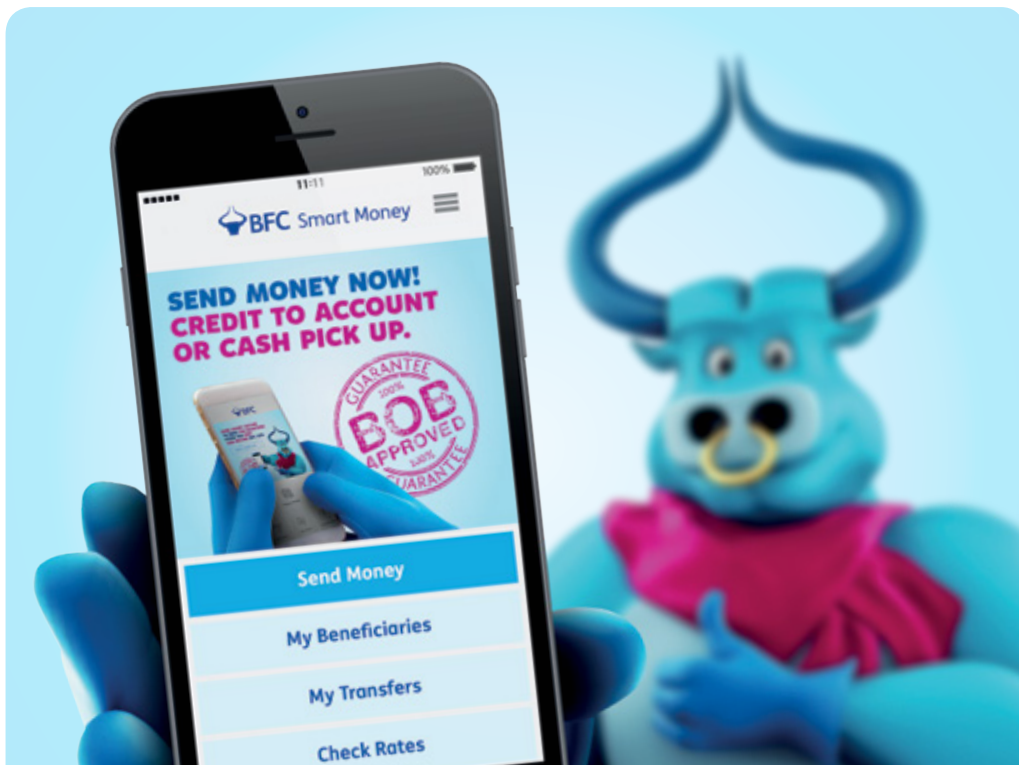
support CAT III operations.

"This will enable enhanced safety and security during take-off and landing and will help reduce the number of divert-

ed flights from BIA, as well as prevent delays and protect the safety of passengers.

"The Kingdom has long been considered as a pioneer in the field of air navigation and air traffic control, and has been providing these services for over 70 years.

"The Air Traffic Control Centre at BIA is considered to be one of the most important in the region, providing services at excellent standards due to its team of highly qualified and trained Bahrainis who undergo training supervised by the MTT's Civil Aviation Affairs."



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# Airshow concludes



Hundreds visited the pavilions at the air show yesterday

a success for the RBAF and Bell with the announcement regarding the acquisition of 12 AH-1Z attack helicopters. We are looking forward to growing our footprint in Bahrain and attending the next

edition of BIAS in 2020," said Doug Wolfe, Bell Global Military Business Development Director - Middle East and Africa.

The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications also

signed bilateral air service agreements and contracts for major projects over the three days that would see more improvements to the Kingdom's aviation infrastructure as part of the Kingdom's

ambitious Airport Modernisation Programme.

"Developing the show content through conferences and other knowledge-sharing initiatives adds real value to the participants

and visitors to the show. The Manama Airport Symposium, the Airport Conference, BIAS FINN Sessions, and Women in Aviation Forum all provided opportunities to engage, inspire and network,"

said Amanda Stainer, Commercial Director for Farnborough International, which co-organises the event with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications.

## BAC in deal with telecom providers

TDI | Manama

The Kingdom's three leading telecom operators will provide their services at Bahrain International Airport's (BIA) new Passenger Terminal Building, ensuring broader and faster mobile coverage for travellers and tenants, Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) announced.

BAC Chief Executive Officer, Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah signed the respective five-year agreements with Batelco Acting/Consumer Unit General Manager, Maha Abdulrahman, Zain Bahrain General Manager, Mohammed Zainalabedin, and VIVA Bahrain Chief Executive Officer, Ulaiyan Al Wetaid.



**Our aim is to ensure that passengers enjoy swift and seamless coverage from the moment they arrive in the Kingdom.**

MR AL BINFALAH

The signings, which took place on the sidelines of Bahrain International Airshow (BIAS) 2018, are in line with the Airport Modernisation Programme's goal to enhance the overall passenger experience at BIA. Under the agreement, Batelco, Zain, and VIVA will also operate retail outlets at the new terminal, offering a range of products and other services.

Mr Al Binfalah said: "Upon landing, the first thing many passengers do is turn on their mobiles phones. Our aim is to ensure they enjoy swift and seamless coverage from

the moment they arrive in the Kingdom, which is why we have partnered with the biggest players in Bahrain's telecom sector. The strong coverage will also enable airport

tenants to conduct business more effectively and help departing passengers to stay connected to their work and personal lives while waiting for their flight."



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# Victory for Bahraini fighter

Bahraini Hussain Ayyad defeats Mohamed Abo Ali from Egypt



Hussain exhibited impressive fighting skills to defeat Mohammed.

*Abdulkhozjaev recorded a win as he dropped Kondratuk and finished him with his striking. In the next fight Goyti Dazev defeated Vasily Kurochkin by TKO in the third round.*

● The evening started with a fight in the featherweight division, as Nikolay Kondratuk took on Anzor Abdulkhozjaev.

● Stephen Loman from the Philippines fought Felipe Efrain and won becoming the first Brave champion to defend his belt two times.

TDT | Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

Bahraini MMA fighter Hussain Ayyad rose to the occasion to record an emphatic victory in front of a cheering home crowd during Brave 18 yesterday.

Hussain defeated Mohamed Abo Ali from Egypt in an impressive display where the fight ended with a technical knockout.

The fight did not go past the first round as a dominant performance from Ayyad defeated Ali.

After taking down Ali, Ayyad proceeded to 'ground and pound' when the referee had to intervene and stop the fight, awarding a victory to Ayyad.



Stephen Loman defended his belt as he won the fight against Felipe Efrain.



Abdul Kareem Al Selwady exults after winning the fight.

## Title fights

For the first title fight of the night Marcel Adur took on Velimurad Alkhasov for the inaugural Brave flyweight championship. Velimurad Alkhasov defeated Marcel Adur.

Stephen Loman from the Philippines fought Felipe Efrain and won becoming the first Brave champion to defend his belt two times.

For the main event of the day and Lightweight Championship, Defending champion Lucas Miniero faced Abdul Kareem Al Selwady, in which Al Selwady won the first round.

## Bouts

The evening started with a fight in the featherweight division, as Nikolay Kondratuk took on Anzor Abdulkhozjaev. Abdulkhozjaev recorded a win as he

dropped Kondratuk and finished him with his striking. In the next fight Goyti Dazev defeated Vasily Kurochkin by TKO in the third round.

In the next featherweight bout Akhmed Sheraniev took on Antônio Carlos "Buiu" Ribeiro. Akhmed Sheraniev defeated Antonio Carlos Ribeiro through a unanimous decision by the all-three judges.

Featherweight action followed when Robert Emerson met Magomedrasul

Khasbulaev which resulted in a victory for Khasbulaev as he defeated his opponent by arm-triangle choke submission.

Abdul-Rakhman Dudaev defeated Joe Taimanglo by unanimous decision in the next fight. It was followed by a win for Khamzat Chimaev by technical knockout.

Next to step into the arena were Cian Cowley and Hardeep Rai. Cowley ensured the victory with a battery of strikes.

## Bahrain welcomes rejection of resolution to block arms sale

Manama

Bahrain has welcomed the US Senate's rejection with a clear majority of votes of the resolution to block arms sale to the Kingdom.

"The Kingdom stresses that this important step is in line with the historic and strong relations between Bahrain and the US, characterised by the strategic partnership between the two friendly countries, and contributes to the security of the region," the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

"The ministry expresses its appreciation towards this positive stance

that contributes to the security of the Kingdom of Bahrain, highlighting the United States of America's policy in adhering to the security of the Gulf region, combating terrorism and countering all practices and activities aimed at undermining peace and security in the region."

The ministry added that it reiterates its firm position and solidarity with the United States of America in its efforts and initiatives for the establishment of security and peace regionally and internationally.

The US Senate on Thursday rejected an attempt to block a \$300 million arms sale to Bahrain, with sup-



**The Kingdom stresses that this important step is in line with the historic and strong relations between Bahrain and the US, characterised by the strategic partnership between the two friendly countries.**

FOREIGN MINISTRY

porters of the deal stressing that the kingdom was a critical ally hosting an American naval base.

The attempt to stop the sale was led by Republican Senator Rand Paul, an opponent of the war in Yemen, on the grounds of Bahrain's involvement in the Arab Coalition supporting the government against Iran-backed rebels.

Critics of the bill to block the sale said punishment of Bahrain would be misplaced, especially as 7,800 US military personnel are deployed there on a base that hosts the US Navy's Fifth Fleet, which helps protect Washington's interests in the region.

"Its willingness to host our naval

forces also places Bahrain at greater risk from attack from Iran and terrorist groups seeking to do harm to the United States," said Democratic Senator Bob Menendez.

The Trump administration had threatened to veto the bill if it passed the Senate, saying the sales of 120 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System pods and 110 Army Tactical Missile System pods were intended for Bahrain's defence.

"The utilisation of this ground-based system would enhance Bahrain's ability to protect itself against threats to territorial sovereignty, particularly from Iran," the White House said.





His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received at Sakhir Air Base yesterday French Ambassador to Bahrain Cécile Longé. He expressed thanks and respect to France for its important participation in Bahrain International Air Show (BIAS) 2018 which, he said, reflects deep-rooted and outstanding historic relations between the two friendly countries. HM the King lauded the advanced level of bilateral relations and growing cooperation at all levels. He expressed respect to French President Emmanuel Macron for his keenness to bolster relations of friendship with Bahrain, praising France's active role and contribution, alongside the international community, to promote regional and international peace and stability.



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, accompanied by Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov, paid a visit to Bahrain International Air Show 2018. The two leaders visited the United Arab Emirates pavilion, Russian pavilion and listened to a brief on the Russian airplanes specifications and performance data. They also visited the Saudi Military Industries Company and a number of US companies pavilions, where they were briefed on the companies roles at the military and civil levels.

## HRH Premier to hand over top award to Ban Ki-moon

● The first award, was delivered in 2008 to the "Green Brigade Project" from the Republic of Burkina Faso, during the fourth session of the Fourth World Urban Forum held in Nanjing, China.

TDT | Manama

A ceremony to be held on Sunday at the Gudaibiya Palace, His Royal High-

ness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa will hand over the "Khalifa bin Salman Award for Sustainable Development" to former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Mr Ban has been selected for the 2018 award, in recognition of his efforts in serving humanity, promoting peace -and- security and achieving sustainable development goals.

Chairman of HRH Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa Award for Sustainable Development, Shaikh Hussam bin Isa Al Khalifa, had named the award winner in September this year.

The announcement was made

during the "Bahrain Forum: Shared Visions for a Successful Future" organised by the Kingdom on the sidelines of the last UN General Assembly in New York.

Anna Tibaijuka, former Minister of Land, Housing and Human Communities of the Republic of Tanzania, former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and former Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), was the winner of the previous version of the 2016 Award.

The first award, was delivered in 2008 to the "Green Brigade



HRH the Premier

Project" from the Republic of Burkina Faso, during the fourth session of the Fourth World Urban Forum held in Nanjing,

China.

The 2010 award was granted to the Bento Ribiao Foundation's project called the "Land and Housing Programme", from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Mr Ban, who will be honoured tomorrow, is the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations.

His priorities during his presidency of the United Nations 2007-2016 focused on mobilising world leaders on a range of new global challenges ranging from climate change, economic turmoil, epidemics and increased pressures on food, energy and water.

He sought to bridge the gap between member nations of the United Nations. His key mandate was to promote sustainable development and his first initiatives at the 2007 climate change summit were followed by intensive diplomatic efforts that helped to place the issue of sustainable development at the forefront of the global agenda.

During his presidency, Mr Ban sought to strengthen the peace efforts of the United Nations, including through the New Horizons for Peacekeeping Initiative, the Global Field Support Strategy and the Review of Civilian Capacity.

# Labour Court orders bank to pay BD15,000 over 'unfair dismissal'

Top Arab legal consultant was sacked 'without serving notice'

TDT | Manama  
Ali Tarif

The High Labour Court has ordered a local bank to compensate an Arab legal consultant with BD15,000 for illegal termination of his contract.

The court also ordered the bank to pay one per cent legal interest per annum from the date of the claim until full payment.

From her side, lawyer Shireen Al Ghazali, the plaintiff's legal representative, said that the bank had contacted her client several times in six months, asking him to join the legal team of the bank in order to benefit from his legal experience.

"My client also serves as an international arbitrator and was chosen in 2015 on Legal 500 magazine's list of the most 100 influential legal consultants.

“The bank shocked my client by asking him to submit his resignation in one hour.”

LAWYER

"Due to the defendant's insistence, my client resigned from his post in order to join

the bank.

"In the first six months of his tenure, the bank made many direct successes, managing to collect BD6,000,000 from settlements with debtors who stopped covering their instalments.

"He also made essential changes to the articles of association of the bank.

"However, the bank shocked my client by asking him to sub-

mit his resignation in one hour.

"His email was deleted from the database of the bank and all the works were directed to other employees serving in the legal department," the lawyer told The Daily Tribune.

The court considered the bank's action illegal and the plaintiff's dismissal unlawful and ordered the bank to compensate him for the remaining term of the contract.

## Court rejects fake bombers' appeals

TDT | Manama  
Ali Tarif

The High Criminal Appeals Court has rejected the appeals filed by four men convicted of planting a fake bomb.

The four were tried in connection with planting a fake bomb on Budaiya Highway, and they were sentenced to three years behind bars each.

The defendants were arrested after their human cells were extracted from the device which was found at the scene.

“We used a big water bottle, tapes and electrical wires to make the device.”

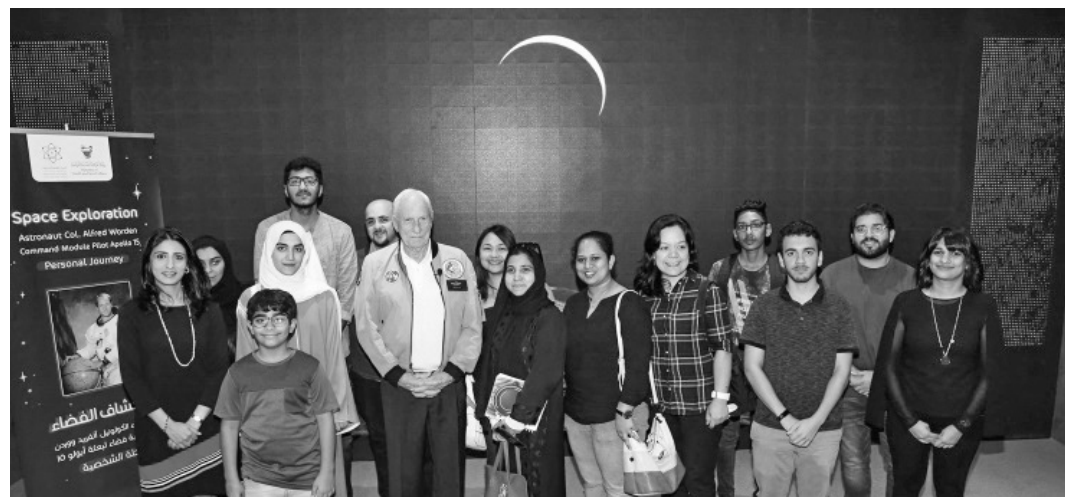
FIRST DEFENDANT

## Bahrain Science Centre hosts astronaut

● A short film on Apollo 15 lunar mission was shown, and then the astronaut answered the questions of those present on his space mission.

Manama

The Youth and Sports Ministry's Bahrain Science Centre has hosted, in cooperation with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications and the US Embassy, American astronaut, Alfred Worden, who was the Command Module Pilot for the Apollo 15 lunar mission in 1971.



Mr Worden with Bahrain Science Centre officials and students.

The astronaut delivered a lecture in which he introduced himself and highlight his successful lunar mission, as well as ways his preparations ahead of it.

He also reviewed the equipment and special clothes that should be used by the astro-

naut, in addition to medical check-ups they should undergo.

He also described his feelings during the launch of the space shuttle and throughout the journey, in addition to what he had seen while on the moon.

A short film on Apollo 15 lunar mission was shown, and then the astronaut answered the questions of those present on his space mission.

Shaikha Noora bint Mohammed Al Khalifa, the Director of Youth Activities at the Youth and Sports Ministry, said that hosting the American astronaut is part of the centre's events and programmes aimed at informing youth and youngsters about successful experiences in space sciences.

"I was with the trio at the third defendant's grandfather's house and we agreed to plant a mock bomb on Budaiya Highway.

"We used a big water bottle, tapes and electrical wires to make the device," the first defendant told prosecutors.

"I was asked to monitor the place to make sure that there were no police officers. And I did it.

"I then called the second defendant and instructed him to plant the bomb," he added.

The defendants were given lighter sentences owing to their ages at the time of the incident.



WORLD  
world**Number of missing in California fire hits 600**

Paradise, United States

The number of people listed as missing in one of California's deadliest wildfires has skyrocketed past 600, authorities said Thursday, as the remains of seven additional victims were found by rescuers.

Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea said the number of missing had more than doubled during the day to 631 as investigators went back and checked emergency calls made when the fire broke out a week ago.

"I want you to understand that the chaos we were dealing with was extraordinary" when the fire started, he told journalists, in explaining the staggering new number.

The seven additional victims brings to 63 the number of people who have died in the so-called Camp Fire in northern California.

At least three other people have died in southern California in another blaze dubbed the Woolsey Fire.

President Donald Trump is set to visit California on Saturday to meet with victims of the wildfires believed to be the worst in the state's history.

**11 killed as cyclone whips Indian coast**

Gaja is the second major storm to hit India's east coast in recent weeks

- Gaja packed winds of up to 120 kilometres

- Compensation of one million rupees announced

AFP | Chennai, India

At least 11 people were reported dead yesterday as a powerful cyclone battered India's eastern coast, authorities said.

Thousands of trees were felled by winds that destroyed homes and vehicles as hundreds of thousands fled to shelter homes.

Cyclone Gaja packed winds of up to 120 kilometres (75 miles) per hour as it barreled into Tamil Nadu state after hitting the coast near Nagapattinam early Friday bringing heavy rains, India's weather office said.



Indian residents clear away fallen trees near the train station in Nagapattinam in India's southern Tamil Nadu state after a cyclone struck the region

The ruling party in the prosperous state said on Twitter that 11 people were killed in the powerful storm that has flooded several low-lying areas along the coastline on the Bay of Bengal. The All India Anna Dravida

Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) party provided no further details about the victims.

The government has announced compensation of one million rupees (\$14,000) to victims' families as hundreds of

emergency workers were trying to restore roads and electricity.

The storm was predicted to move westwards and gradually weaken before heading into the Arabian Sea, the India Meteorological Department said.

Torrential rain caused water-logging and threatened landslides. There were widespread power outages in the region.

Authorities closed schools and colleges and thousands of emergency workers were on standby along with two naval ships with divers, helicopters and inflatable boats.

Authorities had warned fishermen since Sunday not to risk going out to sea.

Gaja is the second major storm to hit India's east coast in recent weeks. Cyclone Tilti battered Odisha state in October, killing at least two people.

Last year, Cyclone Ockhi left nearly 250 people dead in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

**Assange charged in US: WikiLeaks**

Washington, United States

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange has been charged in the United States, the organization said, in a development that could have implications for Robert Mueller's probe into alleged Russian meddling in the US presidential election.

Prosecutors inadvertently disclosed the existence of a sealed indictment in a court filing in an unrelated case, WikiLeaks said Thursday.

The exact nature of the charges against Assange was not immediately known.

**North Korea tests new 'ultramodern tactical weapon'**

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un (L) and his wife Ri Sol Ju (R) waving to Cuba's President Miguel Diaz-Canel and his wife Lis Cuesta Peraza

Seoul, South Korea

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has overseen the testing of a "newly developed ultramodern tactical weapon", Pyongyang's state media reported yesterday, a move seen by analysts as more of a political message than a serious provocation.

It marked the first official report of a weapons test by North Korea since it began a delicate diplomatic process with Washington over its nuclear and missile programme.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency, quoting an unidentified government source, said the weapon could be a long-range cannon that the North has been developing for many years.

It said the test was successful but did not specify the type of device involved.

**Russia set for first ISS launch since accident**

Moscow, Russia

A Russian Soyuz rocket with a cargo vessel is to blast off in the first launch to the International Space Station (ISS) since a manned accident last month.

"The mission control centre has completed the work set out for the launch of the Progress MS-10 cargo vessel. The take-off of the Soyuz-FG rocket is set for 1814 GMT," Russian space agency Roscosmos said. The launch from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan is seen as a rehearsal for the next manned voyage, planned for December 3. That flight is to carry Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko, Canadian astronaut David Saint-Jacques, and NASA's Anne McClain to the ISS.

**Suspected gas cylinder blast kills 42 on Zimbabwe bus**

Harare, Zimbabwe

At least 42 passengers were killed, Zimbabwe police said yesterday, after a suspected gas cylinder exploded on a bus, with pictures showing the burnt-out wreckage of the vehicle.

The Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation published photographs showing the destroyed vehicle on a highway between the South African border and the second city Bulawayo.

"At the moment we know that more than 42 people died," police spokeswoman Charity Charamba said after the accident late on Thursday, with state media reporting that a cooking gas cylinder belonging to a passenger was believed to have exploded igniting a fire.

"Our police officers are at the



Dozens dead after a gas cylinder explodes on board a Zimbabwe bus.

scene," Charamba added.

The state-owned Herald newspaper said on its Twitter feed that "it is suspected a gas tank belonging to one of the

passengers caused the inferno in the bus.

"Dozens have been confirmed dead and several others injured through burns."

**Ethiopians last in line for toilets**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Ethiopians are less likely than anyone else on Earth to have access to a decent toilet, a new study said yesterday.

Charity WaterAid found Ethiopia leads the world in toilet scarcity with 93 percent of Africa's second-most populous country lacking a safe lavatory. Instead people must defecate in the open or unsafe latrines, aiding the spread of diseases such as diarrhoea. The report, released ahead of the UN's annual World Toilet Day, found that 2.3 billion people worldwide lack a loo at home, including 620 million schoolchildren.

"This is not only threatens their health and education and safety, but it also threatens their future," said WaterAid's campaign director Savio Carvalho.

**Brake failure blamed for high-speed runaway mining train**

AFP | Sydney, Australia

Brake failure was yesterday blamed for a runaway train laden with iron ore that sped through the Australian outback for almost an hour and had to be derailed remotely by mining giant BHP. The train moved off on its own after the driver got out to make an inspection, travelling at speeds of up to 110 kilometres (68 miles) per hour towards the

town of Port Hedland in Western Australia's Pilbara in early November.

Following a preliminary internal investigation, BHP said the train initially stopped due to a disconnected cable controlling the braking system, but then started moving as the emergency brake was not engaged.

At the same time, the braking system that halted the 268-wag-



Australia is one of the world's major sources of iron ore.



Twisted remains of the train (Courtesy of The West Australian)

on train "automatically released after one hour while the driver was still outside", Western Australia Iron Ore asset president Edgar Basto said in a statement.

BHP, which owns the four-locomotive train, derailed the train before it reached Port Hedland, causing the carriages to crash off the rails, damaging around 1.5 kilometres (a mile) of track but hurting no one.



# Hockney sells for \$90.3m, smashes living artist record

*“Portrait of an Artist (Pool with Two Figures)” was snapped up after more than nine minutes of bidding, dominated by two rival telephone bidders*



A woman looks at David Hockney's "Portrait of an Artist (Pool with Two Figures)" during a press preview at Christie's New York.

AFP | New York, United States

A masterful swimming pool painting by British legend David Hockney sold for \$90.3 million in New York on Thursday, smashing a new auction record for a living artist.

“Portrait of an Artist (Pool with Two Figures)” was snapped up after more than nine minutes of bidding, dominated by two rival telephone bidders.

It left for dust the previous record held by American artist Jeff Koons and his “Balloon Dog (Orange),” which sold for \$58.4 million at Christie's in 2013.

It was standing room only to watch history in the making in the packed sales room at Christie's, where applause broke out when the epic sale concluded, the painting hammering for \$80 million. The buyer's premium and commission took the final price for the canvas, which adorned the wall of the bidding room, to \$90,312,500, the auction house announced.

The \$90 million price tag was all the more astonishing given the roughly \$20,000 that Hockney told CNN his dealer originally sold the painting for in 1972, subsequently believing it had been undervalued.

Hockney told the network he thought that was “a lot of money at the time, but within six months it was sold again for \$50,000.”



**I thought it was a lot of money at the time, but within six months it was sold again for \$50,000.**

DAVID HOCKNEY

Thursday's price was more than three times the 81-year-old's previous auction record -- \$28.4 million for “Pacific Coast Highway and Santa Monica” from 1990 at Christie's great rival, Sotheby's, in May.

“I hope he's not upset that we sold it for so much money,” Alex Rotter, Christie's co-chairman of post-war and contemporary art, said when asked what he thought Hockney's reaction would be to the colossal price tag. “I'm a big fan of his,” he added.

## Trophy piece

“I hope he's happy and pleased but he's an artist, he doesn't need us to tell him that he's great. He knows.”

Christie's had estimated the painting pre-sale at \$80 million and insisted it was “one of the great masterpieces of the modern era.”

“Absolutely!” Christie's Alex Rotter told AFP when asked if the picture was really worth \$90 million.

“We weren't the only ones going after this painting,” he said. “This is the trophy piece by one of the greatest living artists currently, if not the greatest living artist,” he added.

Swimming pools have long held a fascination for Hockney.

One of Hockney's most celebrated works, it has featured on the cover of a number of monographs about the artist and was part of an international retrospective that celebrated his 80th birthday in 2017.

In the picture, a smartly dressed man, standing on the edge of the pool, looks pensively at another figure swimming toward him in glistening waters, with an idyllic mountain view in the background.

The observer depicts Hockney's former lover and muse, Peter Schlesinger, one of his students at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Their affair ended the year that the picture was finished and experts have suggested that the swimmer could be Peter's new lover.

## Anonymous buyer

Christie's declined to reveal the identity of the seller nor any information about the buyer, insisting they wanted to remain anonymous.

But Bloomberg and the Artnet website reported that it was put up for sale by British billionaire Joe Lewis, who owns the Tavistock Group, London Premier League soccer team Tottenham Hotspur, and whom Forbes estimates to be worth \$5 billion.

Thursday's sale at Christie's flagship post-war and contemporary evening art was part of marquee art auctions held every year in New York in November.

Last November's season was distinguished by the single most expensive piece of art ever sold at auction -- the eye-watering \$450.3 million paid for Leonardo da Vinci's “Salvator Mundi” at Christie's.

A prolific artist who has continued to work well into old age, Hockney told Britain's Channel 4 television in an interview in 2015 that painting was “all I want to do now at my age. That's all I care about.”

“When I paint, I feel I'm 30. It's only when I stop I feel my age,” he added.

## China ups cash rewards for citizens who report porn

AFP | Beijing, China

China is raising the cash rewards paid to citizens for reporting pornographic and “illegal” publications to authorities, government regulators said yesterday.

Starting December 1, people can rake in up to 600,000 yuan (\$86,000) for reporting illegal content, online or otherwise, double the 300,000 yuan under previous guidelines.

What counts as “illegal” content in China is broadly defined, but includes work that “endangers national unity”, “leaks state secrets”, and “disturbs social order” -- umbrella terms that are also sometimes used when authorities punish or silence Chinese dissidents and rights campaigners.

The new rules, published by a bureau under the top media regulator, come as Beijing ramps up controls on content.

Earlier this week the Cyber-space Administration of China (CAC) said it had “cleaned up”

9,800 accounts on Chinese social media platforms which it accused of spreading “politically harmful” information and rumours.

The internet regulator also chastised popular social media platforms WeChat and Weibo for negligence and “irresponsibility”. And on Thursday CAC published new rules requiring online platforms to save a plethora of user data, including chat logs, network addresses, and device type, by the end of the month.

The new requirements are part of CAC's efforts to tighten control over sites that influence public opinion, such as chat groups, blogs, and Twitter-like Weibo, which was forced to roll out real-name registration in 2012.

Oversight of social media has ramped up in recent years as part of the government's push to “promote the healthy, orderly development of the Internet, protect state security and public interest”.

## Indonesian jet crash victim's family sues Boeing



Investigators examine engine parts from the ill-fated Lion Air flight JT 610 at a port in Jakarta

AFP | Jakarta, Indonesia

The family of an Indonesian man killed in a Lion Air jet crash is suing Boeing, alleging that the accident may have been caused by a problem with the flight-control system in its newest 737 plane.

The father of Rio Nanda Pratama filed the lawsuit Wednesday in the US state of Illinois, where the plane manufacturer is headquartered, over the death of the young doctor who was to have married his high-school sweetheart this week.

Pratama's fiance Intan Syari, 26, has made headlines after she posed alone for photos in a wedding gown that she was to have worn at the couple's nuptials in Indonesia.

Syari said her husband-to-be had asked in jest that she

carry on with the photo shoot if he did not return from what turned out to be a fatal trip.

The 26-year-old man was among the 189 people killed when the Boeing 737-MAX plunged into the Java Sea on October 29, less than 20 minutes after leaving Jakarta on a routine flight to Pangkal Pinang city. There were no survivors.

The 737-MAX in question had only begun service for budget carrier Lion Air in August.

Questions have swirled about Boeing's alleged failure to tell airlines and pilots about changes to an anti-stall system that is being investigated for its possible links to the crash.

The jet's engines are heavier than those installed on prior versions, meaning the plane can stall under different conditions.

## Indonesia woman gets jail after exposing philandering boss

AFP | Lombok, Indonesia

An Indonesian woman who exposed her cheating boss has been slapped with a six-month jail term for her trouble.

The supreme court's shock ruling overturned an earlier court decision that had cleared the woman, Baiq Nuril Mak-

nun, of breaking a controversial law against spreading indecent material.

“I'm saddened and shocked by this sentence,” Maknun's husband Lalu Muhamad Isnaini said Friday in reaction to the ruling, which was issued last week.

The odd case stretches back to

2012 when Maknun recorded a conversation in which the principal of the school where she worked on the island of Lombok revealed graphic sexual details about an affair he was having with another colleague.

Co-workers of the school administrator -- who herself had

rebuffed the principal's repeated advances -- later convinced Maknun to release the recording in a bid to expose the man's history of lecherous behaviour, according to her lawyer Joko Jumadi.

“The principal shared very graphic details about his affair

with the school's treasurer in the recording,” he told AFP.

In response, the principal fired Maknun and filed a complaint with authorities.

Maknun was initially cleared of the charges by a local court in Lombok, next to holiday hotspot Bali. But, last Friday, Indonesia's

top court reversed that decision, finding her guilty of violating the electronic information law and sentencing her to six months' jail along with a 500 million rupiah (\$34,000) fine.

The 36-year-old Maknun told local reporters that the ruling was unfair.



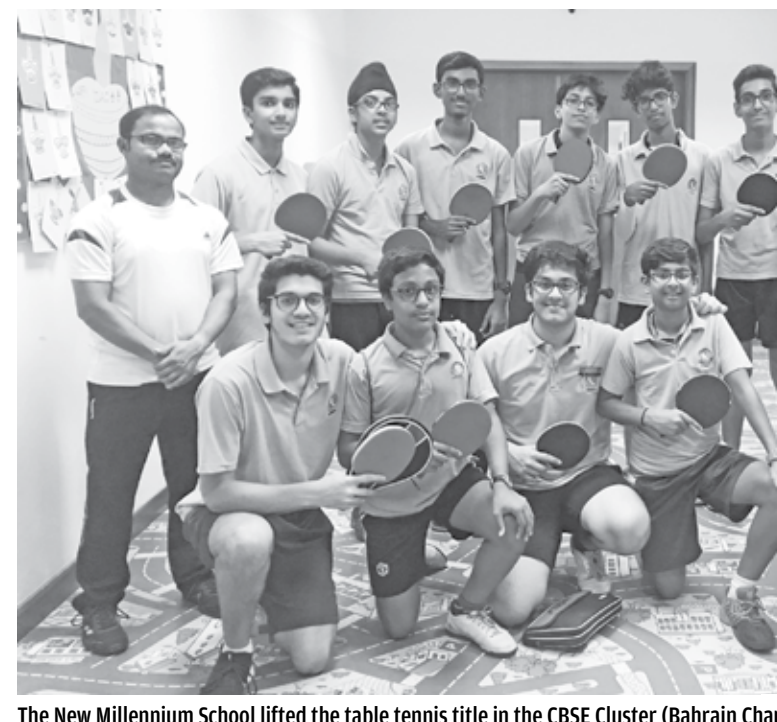
# SOCIETY



The New Indian School celebrated 'Diwali' with great devotion and excitement. A special assembly concluded with a thought-provoking message by the school Director, Dr V Gopalan followed by Principal Gopinath Menon emphasising the importance of Diwali.



The New Millennium School (NMS-DPS) lifted the table tennis title in the CBSE Bahrain Chapter Cluster Inter-school Competition. NMS-DPS teams were winners in the Under- 19 (girls) defeating the Indian School. Team members were Advika Shetty, Sanjana Rajesh, Sania Omer and Zainab Yasin. In the Under- 17 (Girls) category, the NMS team was declared as winners after defeating the ISB. Team comprised Pritha Balu, Keerthana V, Asheeba Ayub and Neha Kulkarni.



The New Millennium School lifted the table tennis title in the CBSE Cluster (Bahrain Chapter). NMS-DPS teams were winners in the under- 19 (boys) defeating the Indian School by 3-2. Team members were Jas Gajaria, Rushil Mathur, Siddharth Manakil. In the under- 14(boys) category, the NMS team was declared as winners after defeating the Indian School by 3-0. Team comprised Angad Preet Singh Gaba, Saad Ayub and Pritha Balu.



Samskruthi Bahrain held a Grand Diwali Programme under the leadership of Jaydeep Sikan at Atiram Premier Hotel, Juffair with cultural programs showcasing Indian traditions and heritage. In attendance were Guest of Honour Ahmed Alhaiki, Director of Inspection and Occupation Safety, Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Chief Guest Prabir Kumar Chowdhury, Second Secretary of the Indian Embassy, Arun Kumar Praharaj, Chief Patron of Samskruthi Bahrain and CEO of Dadabhai Group.



The Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) held a meeting at the Philippine Consulate, Diplomatic Area.



The New Millennium School-DPS Bahrain made a scintillating show of its talent as it hosted its first Intra -School Music and Dance Talent Show, 'MELODY 2018'. Students from grades 3 to 12 presented their vocal, instrumental and dancing talent leaving the audience mesmerized. All performing students had to go through an audition and the best performers were chosen to showcase their talent in the grand finale.

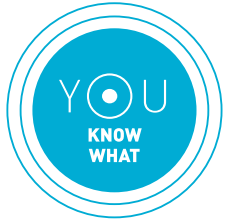


The Delhi Public School Society is recognised throughout the academic world for its progressive approach and commitment to excellence.



The New Indian School Bahrain stood victorious in the state level table tennis tournament held at Davengere, Karnataka, India.





The New Indian School established in 1990 is one of the leading CBSE Schools in the Gulf with classes from Kindergarten to Senior Secondary.



'Food Revolution Day' was held at St Christopher's School. First initiated in the UK by celebrity chef Jamie Oliver, the event promotes healthy eating in schools.



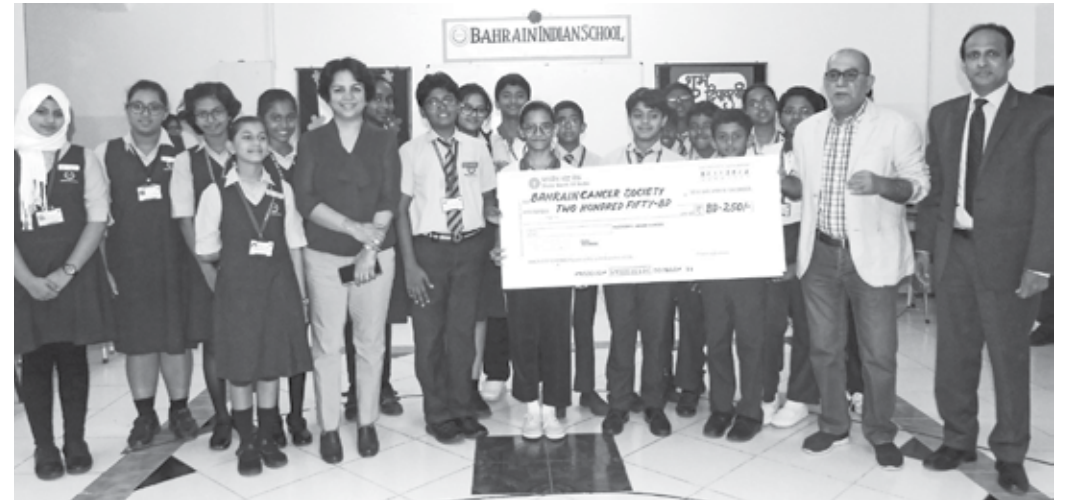
Inter School Competition. NMS members were Amruth Chandra, team was declared as winners after Ganapathy and Ryan Paul Devassy.



Children's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and gaiety on November 14 by the students and teachers of the New Millennium School-DPS Bahrain. Students, spent a memorable day at school enjoying the special assemblies and a number of class activities conducted by the teachers.



Accountants (PICPA), Bahrain Chapter held a "VAT Awareness for Filipino Entrepreneurs and Consumers" Seminar at the Fraser



Bahrain Indian School (BIS) children has made a donation to Bahrain Cancer Society. Ahmed Ali Al Nuwakthha received the donation on behalf of the society. Above, Ahmed Ali, Ritu Verma (Director, BIS) and Saji Jacob, Principal, along with the students during the donation drive.



athletes at the CBSE Bahrain Cluster Athletic Meet 2018-2019 (Under 19 category). Fahad Abdul Nazar have qualified to the National level Athletics Meet which will be



Bahrain Indian School's Girls Team lifted the Girls' Under-14 Table Tennis title in the CBSE Cluster (Bahrain Chapter) Inter School Competition. BIS Girls Team represented by Amruta Amit Phadke, Nayana Susan Koshy, Bhisakha Bhakuni outplayed all other CBSE Schools to crown the glory. Above, director Ritu Verma, Bhisakha, Nayana, Amruta and Principal Saji Jacob.



# business

## Iraq, Kurds ink deal to restart oil exports

● Iraqi security units took the fields from Kurdish forces in October 2017

● Iraq is OPEC's second-largest oil exporter at 4.5 billion bpd.

AFP | Kirkuk, Iraq

Iraq's central government has agreed with Kurdish authorities to resume oil exports from Kirkuk, the oil ministry said yesterday, a year after federal forces seized the lucrative fields.

Iraqi security units took the fields from Kurdish forces in October 2017, in retaliation for a controversial independence referendum in the Kurdish region.

But since the pipeline to neighbouring Turkey ran through Kurdish-held territory, there was no way to take significant sums of oil out of Kirkuk, so exports stopped.

Yesterday, oil ministry spokesman Assem al-Jihad said Baghdad and Arbil had agreed on restarting them.

"The federal government and the government of the Kurdish



Representative picture



The Kurds took Kirkuk in 2014, as the Islamic State group swept across parts of Iraq's north

ment to resume oil flows starting today from the Kirkuk fields through the KRI's pipeline to the Ceyhan port in Turkey," he said.

He said between 50,000 and 100,000 barrels per day (bpd) would be exported through the Kurdish pipeline.

A source from the state's North Oil Company confirmed that oil had begun pumping out of Kirkuk at 10:00 am (0700 GMT) on Friday morning, describing it a test.

"It began as an experiment with 50,000 bpd and will later reach an average of 80,000 bpd," the source added.

The Kirkuk fields have changed hands several times in recent years in a tug-of-war

over one of Iraq's most oil-rich regions.

The Kurds took Kirkuk in 2014, as the Islamic State group swept across parts of Iraq's north, and began exporting to Turkey from there through their own pipeline at around 420,000 bpd.

Last year, federal forces seized the fields but could only take around 30,000 bpd out by tanker truck to Iran.

The federal government had pledged to renovate their own parallel pipeline, but experts said it would take two years.

The announcement is one of the earliest victories for Iraq's new Prime Minister Adel Abdel-Mahdi, a previous oil minister known for his good relations with Kurdish authorities in Arbil.

It also comes less than two weeks after Washington re-imposed sanctions on Iran's oil, energy and finance sectors.

Baghdad was granted a 45-day waiver from the sanctions as long as it came up with a plan to wean itself off of Iranian-imported gas and electricity.

Oil exports make up almost the entirety of the government's revenue, bringing in \$8.5 billion last month.

## ECB sees 'no reason' for eurozone slowdown

Frankfurt am Main, Germany

European Central Bank President Mario Draghi said yesterday he saw "no reason" why growth in the eurozone should wither, minimising a sharp slowdown in the third quarter.

"There is certainly no reason why the expansion in the eurozone should suddenly come to an end," Draghi said at a Frankfurt conference, in comments confirming his determination to end massive central bank support for the economy this year.

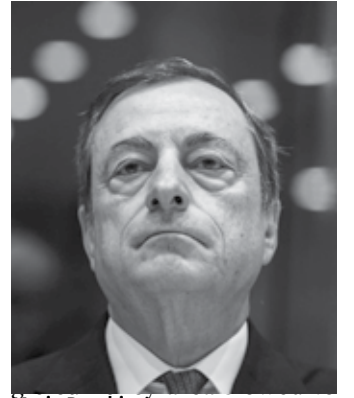
But he added that if bank lending dried up or inflation fell back, then that "should in turn be reflected in an adjustment in the expected path of future interest rates."

That would suggest interest rates could remain at historic lows beyond summer 2019, analysts said.

The ECB chief "just sent a clear signal of the ECB's willingness to err on the side of caution" before raising rates, ING Diba bank economist Carsten Brzeski commented.

Draghi repeated his assessment that risks to economic growth in the bloc were "broadly balanced" despite looming threats.

That judgement would back ECB plans to end in December



Mario Draghi

just 0.2 percent between July and September, with shrinking output in heavyweight economy Germany a major factor.

"A gradual slowdown is normal as expansions mature and growth converges towards its long-run potential," Draghi said.

He also underlined "one-off factors" such as cold weather, a flu outbreak, industrial action and the introduction of new car emissions tests that have braked production in the vital sector since September.

But the greater danger, he argued, was from "trade uncertainty... in particular relating to protectionism" that could further weigh on already sluggish global trade growth.

## US industrial output gains in October

Washington, United States

Auto production and mining slowed sharply in October but not by enough to halt the continued and accelerating output by the US industrial sector, the government reported yesterday.

The production gains came despite the impact of back-to-back hurricanes in the past two months that crimped output, according to the Federal Reserve's monthly data, a strong sign for the US economy.

Industrial production rose just 0.1 per cent last month compared to the prior month, which was well below expectations, while output in September was revised down to a gain of 0.2pc.

The report said hurricanes dampened output in October and September, trimming about 0.1pc off the gains in each month.

But manufacturing remains robust, with an increase of 0.3 percent in the latest month offsetting the less weighty mining and utilities sectors, which declined 0.3pc and 0.5pc, respectively.

That fifth consecutive manufacturing gain came despite a 4.6pc plunge in motor vehicle production, which reversed the rise in September.

Excluding that decline in autos, as well as the drop in auto parts, manufacturing output would have increased 0.5pc.

The strong showing is a boost to the US economy, as overall output is up 4.1pc compared to October 2017.

## Chilli powder thrown as Sri Lankan MPs brawl again

A Rajapakse loyalist was seen throwing chilli powder at legislators and police

● Rajapakse lost a similar vote on Wednesday, but refused to step down

Colombo, Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's political crisis escalated yesterday with police having to escort the speaker into parliament and MPs throwing chilli powder and furniture at rivals.

The Indian Ocean nation has been paralysed since October 26 when President Maithripala Sirisena sacked Ranil Wickremesinghe as premier and replaced him with former strongman Mahinda Rajapakse.

Yesterday speaker Karu Jayasuriya was blocked from taking his chair for almost an hour by a group of legislators backing Rajapakse. Finally, Jayasuriya entered the red-carpeted chamber protected by dozens of unarmed officers and parliamentary staff.

Rioting MPs took away the ceremonial chair, but staff carried in an ordinary office chair as a makeshift replacement.

However, rioters grabbed that chair too, breaking it into pieces that were then used as projectiles to attack rivals and police.

A former parliament staffer said Friday's



Members of the Sri Lankan parliament backing former president and currently appointed prime minister Mahinda Rajapakse drag away the parliament speaker's chair in Colombo

scenes were unprecedented.

**No confidence**

Standing in a corner with a human shield of khaki-clad constables, the speaker, in his usual black and gold robes, used a wireless microphone to take a voice vote on a revised no-confidence motion against Rajapakse.

Rajapakse lost a similar vote on Wednesday, but refused to step down saying that vote was not taken properly. His party had acknowledged that they did not command a majority in the 225-member assembly despite attempts to engineer defections.

President Sirisena, who has the power to appoint a new prime minister, told political parties representing a majority of legislators on Thursday night to submit an amended motion to confirm the toppling of Rajapakse.

Rajapakse himself stayed away from the rioting and walked out of the chamber after the no-trust motion was passed against him.

A Rajapakse loyalist was seen throwing chilli powder at rival legislators and police. Several constables and legislators were taken to the parliament's medical centre for first aid.

Gamini Jayawickrema Perera, a legislator from ousted prime minister Ranil Wickremesinghe's party, said he was among those treated after chilli mixed with water was thrown at his face.

Leftist lawmaker Vijitha Herath said he suffered a forehead injury when a rival hit him with a hard-cover copy of the constitution that was on the speaker's table.

"I was also attacked with chilli water," Herath said. "Usually, chilli powder or water is the favourite weapon of bank robbers and gangsters."



# Tajikistan launches \$4 bln dam to end power shortage

● The power plant is expected to reach capacity of 3,600 megawatts

● Tajikistan raised \$500 million from an inaugural international bond

AFP | Rogun, Tajikistan

Tajik President Emomali Rakhmon yesterday inaugurated what is expected to be the world's tallest hydro-electric power plant, a \$3.9 billion project that will turn the impoverished country into a key power producer in Central Asia.

In a colourful ceremony deep in the Pamir mountains, the Tajik leader pushed a large symbolic button to applause from the audience to mark the first of six turbines in the Rogun hydroelectric dam going online.

Men in hard hats danced to songs about the dam and waved national flags.

"Rogun is light, Rogun is glory!" went one of the songs.

The power plant is expected to reach capacity of 3,600 megawatts -- the equivalent of three nuclear power plants -- when it is completed in a decade.



A general view of the Rogun hydro-electric dam, about 100 km northeast of the Tajik capital Dushanbe,

awatts -- the equivalent of three nuclear power plants -- when it is completed in a decade.

The power plant will double energy production in the country of nearly nine million people, alleviating a long-lasting, debilitating national energy deficit. Surplus energy will be sold to neighbours such as Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

Built on the Vakhsh River in southern Tajikistan, the plant is expected to reach a height of 335 metres (1,099 feet) when completed, becoming the world's tallest hydro-electric dam.

Today, Rogun -- overseen by

the Italian company Salini Impregilo -- is still a vast construction site, with rocky earth covering the territory from which the powerful Vakhsh was diverted.

In 2016, Rakhmon, a former collective farm boss, climbed into a bulldozer at a groundbreaking for the dam, in a sign of the president's personal attachment to the scheme.

Plans to build a dam in southern Tajikistan date back to the Soviet era, but the project was scaled up in recent years.

In 2017, Tajikistan raised \$500 million from an inaugural international bond to help finance the

construction.

Authorities hope that when the project gains momentum it will generate money to finance further construction.

Before the ceremony, Rakhmon discussed the construction of the plant with Cyril Muller, World Bank vice president for Europe and Central Asia.

## 'National consolidation'

Observers say the project is hugely significant for a country that lost tens of thousands of people in a civil war in the 1990s when rebel groups, including Islamists, rose up against the



If it reaches the planned height of 335 metres, the dam will be 30 metres taller than the recently-built Jinping-I Dam in China and 35 metres taller than Tajikistan's own Soviet-era Nurek dam, also on the Vakhsh River.

government. Rogun has become "a concept for national consolidation", political analyst Abdugani Mamadzimov said.

There have been calls by public figures to rename the dam after Rakhmon.

Saidjafar Usmonzoda, chairman of the Democratic Party of Tajikistan which is represented in parliament, said such a tribute would only be fitting given Rakhmon's "heroic accomplishment" making Rogun a reality.

## The project has a number of risks

Observers warn that the Tajik authorities do not appear to concern themselves with the environmental sensitivities of Rogun.

It is located "in a highly seismic area, and several geological studies have warned about the risks of building such a large dam in this setting," Filippo Menga, a lecturer in human geography at the University of Reading in the United Kingdom, told AFP.

Geopolitical tensions surrounding the project have, for the moment, subsided in a region that suffers from water scarcity.

Uzbekistan's late leader Islam Karimov once hinted that his downstream agriculture-dependent country might go to war over Rogun and a similar project in neighbouring Kyrgyzstan.

But Uzbek opposition to the dam has evaporated since Karimov's death in 2016.

Representatives of Uzbekistan's state energy company Uzbekenergo attended the inauguration and the country of 32 million people could one day become a client.

## S.Korea says too early to restart industrial zone with North



Cho Myoung-gyon

Washington, United States

South Korea said Thursday it would not restart an industrial zone with North Korea until its neighbor moves to give up nuclear weapons, although it voiced hope for progress.

Cho Myoung-gyon, the South's unification minister, said Seoul was abiding by international sanctions on Pyongyang despite President Moon Jae-in's calls for a step-by-step easing of pressure.

"One thing I would like to highlight here is that we are not going to open the Kaesong industrial complex soon," Cho said on a visit to Washington.

Kaesong -- a border industrial zone in which South Korean companies enjoyed low-wage labor and the North's government earned badly needed revenue -- was one of the most visible signs of reconciliation that followed the landmark 2000 visit to Pyongyang by Kim Dae-jung, the South's first liberal president.

## Facebook plans independent body for calls on content

San Francisco, United States

Facebook announced Thursday it is creating an independent body to make potentially precedent-setting calls on what content should be yanked from the social network.

The announcement came as Facebook reported it has ramped up its ability to quickly detect "hate speech" and other posts violating community rules, with the leading social network under pressure from regulators in various countries and activists to root out abusive and inappropriate content.

"I have come to believe that we shouldn't be making so many decisions about free expression and safety on our own," Facebook chief executive Mark Zuckerberg said in a media briefing.

Content spied by artificial intelligence software or reported by users is now reviewed by an internal system that Facebook has been ramping up.

An independent body to be constituted in the coming year will act as a "higher court" of sorts, considering appeals of content removal decisions made by the social network, Zuckerberg said.

The composition of the appeals body along with how to keep it independent while remaining in line with Facebook principles and policies was to be determined in the coming year.

Facebook also planned next year to begin releasing content removal summaries quarterly



**I have come to believe that we shouldn't be making so many decisions about free expression and safety on our own**

MARK ZUCKERBERG  
FACEBOOK CHIEF EXECUTIVE

in a tempo on par with earnings reports, according to executives.

"We have made progress getting hate, bullying and terrorism off our network," Zuckerberg said.

"It's about finding the right balance between giving people a voice and keeping people safe."

Challenges faced by the California-based social network include the fact that people naturally tend to engage with more sensational content that, while perhaps at the edge of violating Facebook policies, are unhealthy for civilized discourse, according to Zuckerberg.

"We see this in cable news and tabloids too," Zuckerberg said. "A lot of our work is to insure that borderline content that comes close to violating our content gets less attention not more."

Bullying represents a tougher challenge to AI systems, because it tends to be personal

and subjective. For example, someone might playfully mock a friend in a post that could also be interpreted to be mean.

Detecting bullying or hate can also require understanding of the gamut of languages used at Facebook, along with cultural contexts.

"We are getting better at proactively identifying violating content before anyone reports it, specifically for hate speech and violence and graphic content," Facebook said in the new transparency report.

"But, there are still areas where we have more work to do."

Facebook said that since its last transparency report, the amount of hate speech detected proactively, before anyone reported it, has more than doubled.

"The single biggest improvement comes from AI and machine learning," said product management vice president Guy Rosen.

## UK supermarket's viral orangutan ad slammed by oil giant

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

British supermarket Asda's viral commercial about an orangutan left homeless because of deforestation from palm oil planting was slammed as a cheap publicity stunt by a major industry body yesterday.

The Christmas ad -- which features a cartoon orangutan telling a little girl that its jungle home had been destroyed -- has racked up millions of views on social media and sparked the trending hashtag #NoPalmOilChristmas on Twitter.

The multi-billion-dollar palm oil industry was not impressed by the Iceland ad, dubbed "Rang-tan", which calls for consumers to be aware of the environmental impact of the world's most widely used vegetable oil.

"Banning palm oil is not the

solution. Boycotting is not the solution," Darrel Webber, chief executive of the Malaysia-based Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), said yesterday.

"Retailers' margins are very small these days. The cheapest way to get publicity is the best way for them," he added.

Frozen food specialist Iceland has previously announced it would stop using palm oil, found in everything from margarine and biscuits to soap and shampoo, over concerns that it causes widespread environmental destruction.

"We have not removed palm oil from our own label food as 'a marketing gimmick', but to raise public awareness of the continuing destruction of the rainforest," Iceland managing director Richard Walker said in an email to Bloomberg News.



A scene from Iceland Foods' viral commercial. (Courtesy of Iceland Foods)



# Brexit storm rages in UK

London, United Kingdom

The pound rebounded yesterday, a day after a severe shellacking, as some investors were willing to bet on Prime Minister Theresa May getting a controversial Brexit draft deal through parliament, dealers said.

Even as dark clouds continued to gather over the prime minister's political future, many felt she might just get enough support for what she called "the best deal for Britain", they said.

"The pound is holding on to its early Friday morning gains, on the back of UK PM May's radio interview in which she said her deal was the best Brexit compromise the UK could achieve," said Dean Popplewell, an analyst at Oanda.

In the European mid-afternoon the pound was up around 0.7 per cent against the dollar, and a touch firmer against the euro.

The UK currency had slumped 1.7pc against the dollar on Thursday, the biggest daily drop for more than two years.

## 'Short-lived'

"Stability in the pound... could be short-lived, with clamours

## Key figures around 1445 GMT

Pound/dollar:	▲ at \$1.2865 from \$1.2778 at 2200 GMT
Euro/pound:	▼ at 88.62 pence from 88.64 pence
Euro/dollar:	▲ at \$1.1405 from \$1.1325
London - FTSE 100:	▼ 0.6 pc at 6,996.06 points
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	▼ 0.7 pc at 11,272.73
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 0.6 pc at 5,003.54
EURO STOXX 50:	▼ 0.7 pc at 3,167.14
New York - Dow:	▼ 0.3 pc at 25,202.96
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 0.6 pc at 21,680.34 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng:	▲ 0.3 pc at 26,183.53 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▲ 0.4 pc at 2,679.11 (close)

for a vote of no confidence from Conservative Brexiteers meaning the political upheaval will continue as we end the week," said Joshua Mahony, market analyst at IG trading group.

May made a rare outing on a radio phone-in during which she faced a call to step down after a tumultuous Thursday in which ministers resigned and members of her own party plotted to oust her.

Brexiters fear the draft deal would keep Britain shackled to the Brussels, while EU supporters say it would leave the UK on worse terms than it has inside the bloc.

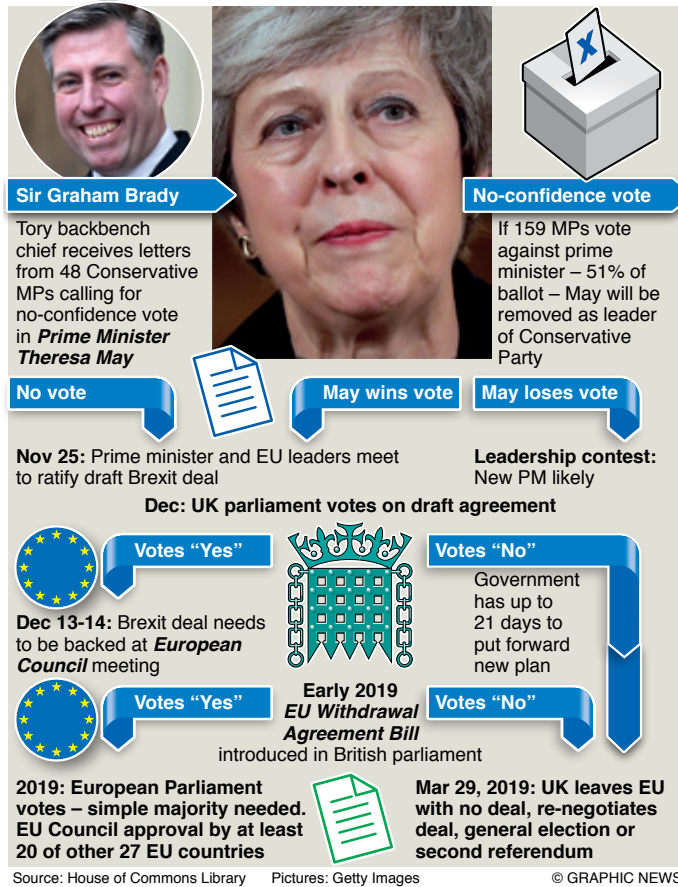
Meanwhile, stock markets on both sides of the Atlantic traded lower.

In Europe, Brexit fears kept markets down, with banking shares particularly under pressure "over concerns of a disorderly UK exit from the European Union", said analysts at Charles Schwab.

On Wall Street, the tech sector was under pressure again after results or guidance from chip makers Nvidia and Applied Materials, they said.

Asian stock markets meanwhile swung throughout Friday as investors weighed China-US trade speculation. The Financial

## Brexit's rocky road ahead



Times said the two sides were stepping up efforts and that US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer had told business leaders the next round of tariffs would be put on hold.

## GE Capital to sell healthcare equipment financing business

Reuters

General Electric Co's finance arm GE Capital said it is selling its healthcare equipment finance business worth \$1.5 billion to U.S. regional lender TIAA Bank.

GE Capital used to issue financing for cars and aircraft and was once a big chunk of the industrial conglomerate's profits, but the 2008 financial recession raised the unit's funding costs and nearly sank the entire company.

Former Chief Executive Officer Jeff Immelt had in April 2015 announced a plan to reduce GE Capital's size and divest most of its assets. GE Capital's deal with TIAA comes nearly a month after it sold its portfolio of \$1 billion in energy investments to private equity firm Apollo Global Management LLC.

TIAA on Friday said it will acquire a portfolio that includes loans and leases to around 1,100 hospitals and 3,600 physician practices and diagnostic and imaging centers across the United States.

## Oil price gains on talk of supply cut

Reuters | London

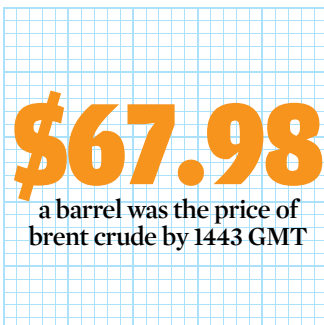
Oil rose yesterday on expectations that OPEC and its allies would agree to cut output next month but prices remained down on the week on concerns that the global market was oversupplied.

Brent was up \$1.36 at \$67.98 a barrel by 1443 GMT. The global benchmark looked set for a third day of gains since hitting an eight-month low on Tuesday, but was down more than 3 percent on last week's close.

US light crude was up 98 cents at \$57.44 after its steepest one-day loss in more than three years on Tuesday.

Ministers from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries meet on Dec. 6 in Vienna to decide on production policy for the next six months amid a growing surplus in world markets.

US oil production reached another record last week, at 11.7 million barrels per day, U.S. data showed. The record output helped U.S. crude oil



stocks to their biggest weekly build in nearly two years.

Fearing a repeat of the 2014 price rout, OPEC is widely expected to start trimming output soon.

This could produce a swift price rebound, some analysts say, especially if production falls further in Venezuela and Libya.

"We are likely from December onwards to have at least 1 million barrels per day (bpd) less of (Iranian) crude exports," Harry Tchilinguirian, global head of commodity markets strategy at BNP Paribas, told Reuters Global Oil Forum.

## APEC summit host urges respect for trade rules

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

The leader of Papua New Guinea, host of this year's APEC summit, yesterday urged respect for international trade rules by "countries large and small" as spats between the US and China threatened to overshadow the gathering.

As leaders from Asian Pacific nations prepared to fly in to Port Moresby for their annual meeting, Prime Minister Peter O'Neill appeared to call his guests to order on damaging trade rows.

"Smaller economies, countries like Papua New Guinea, place considerable reliance on international trade and especially the international trade rules," stressed O'Neill.

"We suffer when rules are broken or ignored and we benefit when rules are followed by all countries, large and small," he added.

The world's top two economies have been engaged in a spiralling trade conflict that economists have warned could



Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister Peter O'Neill (R) and China's President Xi Jinping walk to pose for photos in Port Moresby

be catastrophic for the global economy.

Washington and Beijing have slapped tit-for-tat tariffs worth billions of dollars on each other's goods and both sides have threatened to escalate the conflict if needed.

China is pushing a trade deal with other Asian powers like Japan and India -- a Region-

al Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) -- after US President Donald Trump pulled out of the rival Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

The TPP is still alive even without Washington -- and will come into effect in December -- but RCEP, if realised, will be the world's biggest trade deal.

## US judge orders W.House to restore CNN reporter's access

Washington, United States

A federal judge yesterday ordered the White House to reinstate the press credentials of CNN reporter Jim Acosta, whose pass was revoked after a heated exchange with President Donald Trump.

Judge Timothy Kelly issued a temporary restraining order that requires the White House to restore Acosta's access until a full hearing is held, according to the network.

CNN and other media groups, including Trump favorite Fox News, backed the lawsuit, which claimed that revoking Acosta's pass violated constitutional guarantees of a free press.

Kelly said that his ruling was based on "due process" for the journalist, and that he would hold additional proceedings on the constitutional issues at stake, including the First Amendment free press guarantee.

## Volkswagen says to invest 44 bn euros in e-cars by 2023

Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Volkswagen yesterday said it would invest 44 billion euros (\$50 billion) over the next five years in the smarter, greener cars of the future as the German auto giant ramps up efforts to catch up with foreign rivals.

"Over the coming five years to the end of 2023, the company will be spending almost 44 billion euros alone on the future issues of e-mobility, autonomous driving, new mobility services and digitalisation," VW said in a

statement.

The figure represents roughly a third of the group's planned expenditure over the period, underscoring how serious VW is about closing the gap with Asian competitors and the likes of US tech giant Tesla.

As part of the new strategy, VW will convert two existing German plants into assembly lines for all-electric vehicles from 2022.

The plan in Emden will focus on building small electric



A VW electric car is plugged on a power station at a Service station in Berlin

cars and sedans for several of the group's 12 brands, while the Hanover plant will make the I.D. Buzz, the zero-emission version of VW's iconic camper van.

VW has promised to guarantee jobs at both sites until 2028.

"We are making our plants fit for the future," VW board member Oliver Blume said in a statement after a meeting of the supervisory board.

As part of those efforts, the group intends to increase pro-

ductivity and bundle production of different models to achieve economies of scale across brands.

"German plants are particularly well suited to making the transformation to the production of electric vehicles, given the high manufacturing expertise and qualification level of our employees," said Blume.

VW said it also plans to open a new factory at a yet to be determined location in eastern Europe.



## show

# Eva Longoria to direct '24-7'

FIANS | Los Angeles

Actress Eva Longoria Baston will make her feature directorial debut with workplace comedy "24-7".

She will also produce and star with Kerry Washington in Universal's comedy, reports variety.com.

Paul Feig is producing with partner Jessie Henderson through their Feig-Co Entertainment banner. Longoria Baston is producing through Unbelievable Entertainment as is Washing-

ton via her Simpson Street company. Unbelievable's Ben Spector is also a producer.

Longoria Baston will direct from Sarah Rothschild's script about a group of women accountants in a firm who band together against a similar male group in order to solve a fraud case that will save their jobs.

Longoria Baston recently completed work on live-action "Dora the Explorer" movie, portraying the mother of the title character.

# Don't want to be stressed: Cheryl

FIANS | London

Discussing her battle with anxiety and life as a mother left singer Cheryl glowing. She says she doesn't want to be stressed in any way.

The singer, riding high on the popularity of her new single "Love Made Me Do It", walked out of the BBC Radio Studios in a denim top and baggy black, with radiance on her face, reports dailymail.co.uk.

She spoke candidly about her own

battles with mental health as she admitted she no longer gets nervous about releasing new music.

In a chat with host Nick Grimshaw she said: "I used to have anxiety - been seeing someone in the past year to keep that in check - I don't want to be stressed as a mum or a pop star. We're supposed to be living our best lives aren't we? Stresses I used to feel are less relevant."

The songstress explained that her view on life changed after giving birth to 19-month-old son Bear last year.

"You see things differently after you have a baby, there's a different



Cheryl

**"I used to have anxiety - been seeing someone in the past year to keep that in check - I don't want to be stressed as a mum or a pop star"**

CHERYL

# Hugh Grant joins Nicole Kidman in 'The Undoing'

FIANS | Los Angeles

Actor Hugh Grant will star opposite actress Nicole Kidman in the upcoming series "The Undoing".

The six-episode HBO series is based on the book "You Should Have Known" by Jean Hanff Korelitz, reports variety.com.

It centers on Grace Sachs (Kidman), who is living the only life she ever wanted for herself. She's a successful therapist, has a devoted husband, Jonathan (Grant), and young son who attends an elite private school in New York City. Overnight a chasm opens in her life: a violent death, a missing husband, and, in the place of a man Grace thought she knew, only a chain of terrible revelations. Grace must dis-



Nicole Kidman and Hugh Grant

mantle one life and create another for her child and herself. Jonathan is described as an acclaimed pediatric oncologist, devoted husband to Grace and doting father, whose past undergoes scrutiny when he suddenly disappears, leading to a chain of terrible revelations.

# Nick Knowles is single

FIANS | London

Television presenter and music artiste Nick Knowles has been linked to a plethora of women over recent months, two years since his split from wife Jessica Moor. Now he says he is single.

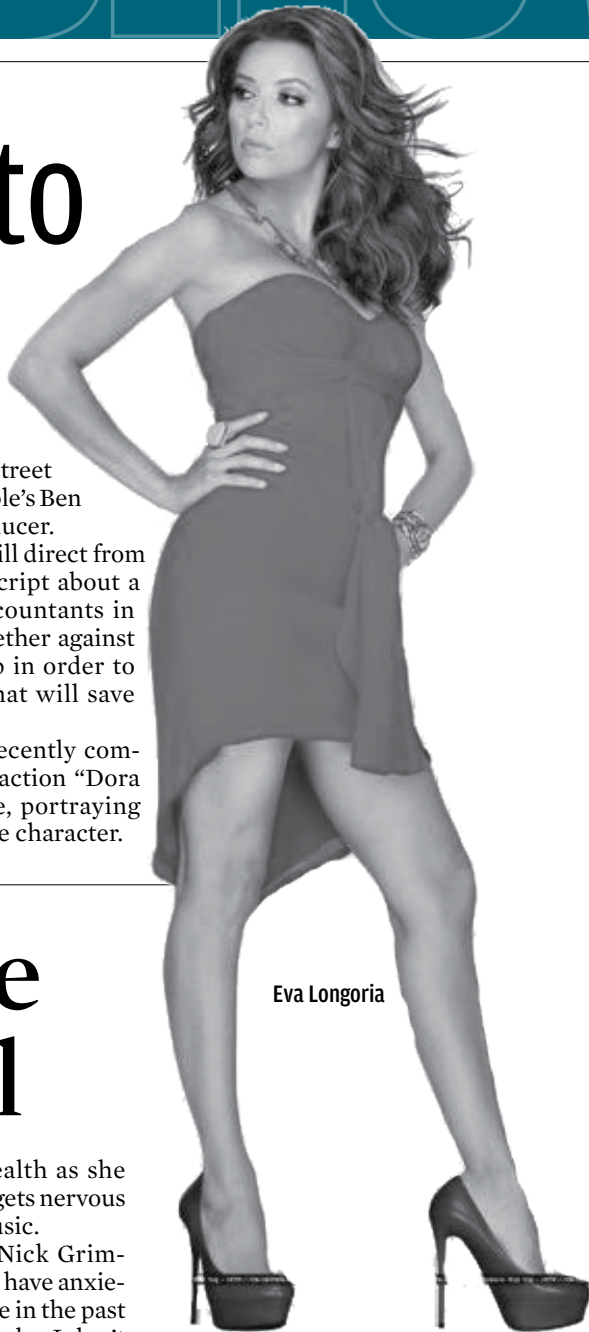
The "DIY SOS" presenter, 56, is one of the ten celebrities heading into the reality show "I'm a Celebrity" this Sunday night. He said it became a "kind of sport" as several women claimed they were dating him, when they weren't.

He has also ruled out any chance of a romance on the show as he is too busy with work and his family.

The presenter revealed to MailOnline that the rumours about his love life were "a load of old codswallop".

## URGENTLY REQUIRED

A reputed international fast food company is hiring individuals for the position bike drivers, interested candidates can contact 17683222 or email cv to [sujith.udhayam@gmail.com](mailto:sujith.udhayam@gmail.com)



Eva Longoria

### 1-FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWA

(PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW  
Ⓢ EDDIE REDMAYNE, KATHERINE

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT (ATMOS): 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT (VIP): 11.00 AM + 1.45 + 4.45 + 7.45 + 10.45 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT (IMAX 3D): 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT (ATMOS): 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + 12.00 MN

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + 12.00 MN + (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT (VIP II): 10.30 AM + 1.30 + 4.30 + 7.30 + 10.30 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT (VIP I): 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM

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SEEF (II): DAILY AT (3D): 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM

SAAR: DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + (11.30 PM THURS/FRI)

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WADI AL SAIL: DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 + 11.30 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II): DAILY AT: (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I): DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM

SAAR: DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + (11.00 AM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL

WADI AL SAIL: DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM

HUNTER KILLER

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER)

Ⓢ GERARD BUTLER, GARY OLDMAN, COMMON

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT: 2.00 + 6.45 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN + (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I): DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

THE GRINCH

(G) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)

Ⓢ ANGELA LANSBURY, RASHIDA JONES

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT: 12.30 + 4.30 + 8.30 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II): DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 + 4.45 + 6.45 + 8.45 + 10.45 PM

SAAR: DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 4.30 + 9.15 PM

WADI AL SAIL: DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 PM

THE NUTCRACKER AND THE

(PG) (ADVENTURE/FANTASY)

Ⓢ KEIRA KNIGHTLEY, MORGAN FREEMAN

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 1.45 + 3.45 + 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM

SEEF (II): DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

WADI AL SAIL: DAILY AT: 1.00 + 5.15 + 9.30 PM

OVERLOAD

(15+) (ACTION/THRILLER/HORROR)

Ⓢ JOVAN ADEPO, PILOU ASBAEK

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT: 1.15 + 6.15 + 11.15 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM

SEEF (II): ON THURSDAY & FRIDAY 16TH: 10.30 AM + 3.00 + 7.30 PM + 12.00 MN

FROM SATURDAY 17TH: 7.30 PM + 12.00 MN

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

(15+) (MUSICAL/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY)

Ⓢ RAMI MALEK, LUCY BOYNTON, GWILYM LEE

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 3.30 + 8.30 PM

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.00 PM

SAAR: DAILY AT: 1.45 + 6.30 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)

SARKAR

(PG-15) (TAMIL)

Ⓢ JOSEPH VIJAY, KEERTHI SURESH

OASIS JUFFAIR: DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 1.45 + 4.45 + 7.45 + 10.45 PM

SEEF (I): DAILY AT: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + 12.00 MN

AL HAMRA: DAILY AT: 9.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)

JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES

(PG) (COMEDY/ACTION/ADVENTURE)

Ⓢ ROWAN ATKINSON, EMMA THOMPSON

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THUR/FRI)

SEEF (II): DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 1.45 + 3.45 + 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM

VENOM

(PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)

Ⓢ TOM HARDY, RIZ AHMED

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN

SEEF (II): ON THURSDAY 15TH & FRIDAY 16TH: 12.45 + 5.15 + 9.45 PM

FROM SATURDAY 17TH: 9.45 PM

### NIGHT SCHOOL

(PG-15) (COMEDY)

Ⓢ KEVIN HART, ROB RIGGLE

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM

SMALL FOOT

(PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)

Ⓢ CHANNING TATUM, ZENDAYA

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 + 4.45 + 6.45 + 8.45 + 10.45 PM

HALLOWEEN

(18+) (THRILLER/HORROR)

Ⓢ JAMIE LEE CURTIS, JUDY GREER, NICK CASTLE

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM

EL BADLASH

(PG-13) (ARABIC/COMEDY)

Ⓢ TAMER HOSNY, AKRAM HOSNI, AMINA KHALIL

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

THE MEG

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER)

Ⓢ JASON STATHAM, RUBY ROSE, BINGBING LI

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM

THE EQUALIZER-2

(15+) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER)

Ⓢ DENZEL WASHINGTON, ASHTON SANDERS

CITYCENTRE: DAILY AT: 1.15 + 6.30 + 11.45 PM

GALVESTON

(18+) (DRAMA/CRIME) NEW

Ⓢ BEN FOSTER, ELLE FANNING, BEAU BRIDGES

SEEF (II): DAILY AT: 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM

TAXIWALA

(TAMIL) NEW



SPORTS  
sports

## Zverev sets up Federer clash

Alexander Zverev



Alexander Zverev advances to last-four at ATP Finals after defeating John Isner

AFP | London

**A**lexander Zverev set up a last-four clash against Roger Federer in the ATP Finals after seeing off John Isner 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 yesterday while Novak Djokovic will take on Kevin Anderson.

Zverev played American giant John Isner at London's O2 Arena knowing a win by any scoreline would take him through to the semi-finals of the season-ending tournament.

The turning point in the round-robin match came at the end of the 12th game, when the 21-year-old German saved a set point on his own serve with an

**”**  
John is such a tough opponent. The last two matches for him against (Marin) Cilic and me could have gone either way

ALEXANDER ZVEREV

ace, going on to force a tie-break. The players swapped mini breaks but the giant Isner then

faltered again on his own serve to hand the set to Zverev -- meaning he no longer had any chance to qualify for the last four.

In the second set a single break of serve in the eighth game proved decisive as Zverev served out the match.

“I am unbelievably happy to be through to the semi-finals,” he told Sky Sports.

“John is such a tough opponent. The last two matches for him against (Marin) Cilic and me could have gone either way. The first set was unbelievably tight. I am just happy to be through. I will prepare myself the best for tomorrow.”

Djokovic will play Cilic later yesterday but it is now a dead rubber as Cilic cannot mathematically reach the semi-finals.

Third seed Zverev has won three titles this year, including the Madrid Masters, but although he is often talked about as the leader of the next generation, his record in Grand Slams is poor and he will be desperate to make a statement in London.

Zverev is the youngest semi-finalist at the ATP Finals since Juan Martin del Potro in 2009.

Djokovic goes into his evening match against Australian Open finalist Cilic with the luxury of already knowing he has qualified top of the Guga Kuerten Group.

## Roma to donate 150,000 euros in support of injured Liverpool fan

Reuters | Milan

**A**s Roma will donate 150,000 euros (\$170,295) towards the medical and rehabilitation costs of a Liverpool fan, who was injured in an attack outside Anfield in April, the Italian club have announced.

Sean Cox, 53, from Ireland, suffered a brain injury in the incident, which took place before the Champions League semi-final first-leg match between Liverpool and Roma.

Roma said they will donate 100,000 euros through Roma Cares foundation, while their president Jim Pallotta will make a personal donation of 50,000 euros.

The Serie A club have also agreed to work with Cox's wife Martina on further fundraising initiatives to help cover the ongoing costs of his recovery.

“What happened to Sean Cox should never happen to anyone attending a football match,” Pallotta told the club website.

“Our thoughts today, as they have been from day one, are with Sean, Martina and their whole family. We all hope Sean makes as full a recovery as possible.”

## Teams continue pursuit at AMA golf tournament

TDT | Manama

**T**he second day of the 21st Annual AMH Island Classic Charity Golf Tournament commenced at 7:30 am yesterday on the Private Golf Course of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Patron of the tournament.

The first day of golfing got off to a wonderful start and the teams playing yesterday are looking forward to the same favorable weather conditions. Competition is tough, the organisers said in a press release issued.

Dr George Cheriyan, CEO/CMO of American Mission Hospital said, “The excitement level is very high with all the teams trying their best to win this coveted title. There are two flights – the championship and the premier and we will have three winning teams from each flight. The logic of having two different flights is to ensure that every team has a chance at winning the titles irrespective of their handicaps.”

## Yesterday's Results:

Championship Flight (average handicap 6 or under):

Top team yesterday - DHL 2

Second place team yesterday -BAHRAIN CONFIDENTIAL

Third place team yesterday - AMH RIFA 2

Premier Flight (average handicaps 6.1 or over):

Top team yesterday - E.K. KANOO 2

Second place team yesterday - BH- USA 1

Third place team yesterday - US EMBASSY

Prizes for the Championship Flights and Premier Flights will be presented to the overall winning teams following the full three days of play at an event to be held at the Diplomat RadissonBlu Hotel and Spa. The overall winners will not be known until Saturday afternoon but the current leaders after two days are listed below.

## After two days:

Championship Flight (average handicap 6 or under):

Team currently in the lead - AL HAWAJ 1

Team currently in second place - DHL 2

Team currently in third place - BAHRAIN CONFIDENTIAL

Premier Flight (average handicaps 6.1 or over):

Team currently in the lead - AMH RIFA 1

Team currently in second place - E.K. KANOO 2

Team currently in third place - BH - USA 1

## Side Contests

Flight C (morning) Side Contest winners were:

Closest to the Pin (Hole 2): DAVID AXTELL (GULF WEEKLY)

Most Accurate Drive (Hole 8): DAVID AXTELL (GULF WEEKLY)

Longest Putt (Hole 4): NASSER EID (Y.K. ALMOAYYED 2)

Flight D (afternoon) Side Contest winners were:

Closest to the Pin (Hole 2): -NAWAF AL NOAIMI (AMH AMWAJ 2)

Most Accurate Drive (Hole 8): -RASHID SAEID (AMH RIFFA 2)

Longest Putt (Hole 4): -WALEED AL MANASEER (AMH RIFFA 2)

## Pressure on De Gea as Kepa waits in the wings

Reuters | Madrid

**P**ressure is mounting on Spain goalkeeper David de Gea with fans and media calling for him to be dropped following a surprise 3-2 loss to Croatia

in Thursday night's Nations League meeting.

De Gea has been Spain's number one since Euro 2016 but he has struggled to consistently replicate his impressive Manchester United club form and was criticised for not closing down Croatia forward Andrej Kramaric, who scored the opener in Zagreb.

“The Croat did what most people who have taken a shot at De Gea have done in the past year: found the back of the net,” Spanish soccer journalist Diego Torres wrote in El Pais.

Tomas Roncero of sports daily



Spain's David De Gea during a warm up before the match against Croatia

AS has been critical of De Gea since Spain's disappointing last 16 exit at the World Cup in July and said it was time for a change.

“We all saw what happened at the World Cup and nothing's changed,” Roncero wrote.

“He just stands there, he doesn't come out of his goal for their first two – this is a guy who is two metres tall! He could have even pushed the ball away for a corner for the third instead of straight to their player.”



Switzerland's Roger Federer returns against South Africa's Kevin Anderson

## Federer cruises past Anderson at ATP Finals

AFP | London

**R**oger Federer gained sweet revenge over Kevin Anderson at the ATP Finals on Thursday but is putting thoughts of his 100th title to the back of his mind after both players reached the last four.

The Swiss broke the giant South African's serve four times in a comprehensive 6-4, 6-3 victory at London's O2 Arena even though Anderson had not faced a single break point in his two earlier round-robin victories.

Second seed Federer suffered a painful loss at the hands of Anderson in the Wimbledon quarter-finals this year after leading by two sets, his only defeat against him in five meetings before Thursday's clash.

The six-time champion started the week with an uncharacteristically ragged display in a straight-sets defeat by Kei Nishikori but has beaten Dominic Thiem and Anderson in straight sets and is looking more like his old self as the tournament progresses.

The victory over fourth-seed Anderson in the Lleyton Hewitt Group takes Federer through to the semi-finals for the 15th time in 16 attempts at the season-ending finale and means he will likely avoid a meeting in the last four against in-form Novak Djokovic.

“I'm happy that this is another week like this,” said Federer. “Didn't look like it maybe 72 hours ago. But I was

**Federer has been rooted on 99 titles since his success at the Swiss Indoors last month, when he beat Marius Copil in straight sets in Basel**

able to come back and play good tennis.

“Personally I'm still not thinking of the number 100. I won't let that get in my head, make me go crazy because it should be something I'm excited about and not something I should feel extra pressure

“As long as I think Novak is in the draw anyhow, he's playing so good again, it's never going to be easy.”

The first set was a topsy-turvy affair, with both players quickly into their groove on serve before a succession of breaks.

Federer, buoyed by his customary vocal support, broke to lead 4-3, only to lose his momentum immediately as Anderson levelled.

The Swiss broke the South African in the next game, sealing the break with a crisp backhand volley at the net but was immediately in trouble at 0-40 on his own serve before winning five successive points to take the set.



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# Croatia stun Spain

Tin Jedvaj strikes twice to keep Croatia's Nations League hopes alive

AFP | Zagreb, Croatia

Spain passed up the chance to seal progress to the Nations League finals as they were beaten 3-2 by Croatia on Thursday, undone by a 93rd-minute winner from Tin Jedvaj.

Jedvaj's late strike leaves Group 4 wide open ahead of its final fixture between England and Croatia on Sunday. The victors will qualify, while Spain can still go through if the match at Wembley finishes in a draw.

Croatia were deserving winners in Zagreb, where Jedvaj scored twice -- his first international goals -- to snatch a memorable victory at the end of a pulsating contest.

Andrej Kramaric had put Croatia ahead but twice Spain came back, as Dani Ceballos' equaliser and Sergio Ramos' penalty looked to have earned them a point, before Jedvaj prodded in deep into injury-time.

Croatia will now head to London with a spring in their step while Spain are left to ponder back-to-back defeats under their new coach Luis Enrique, following their surprise loss by the same scoreline at home to England last month.

"I am obviously worried about the things we have to improve. But I think football today has not



Croatia's Tin Jedvaj celebrates after scoring a goal during the UEFA Nations League football match between Croatia and Spain

been fair to us," Enrique said.

Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic said: "We were rewarded for a magnificent match."

Spain are at least safe from relegation, which cannot be said of either England or Croatia, who could still both finish first or last come Sunday night. England will be relegated if they lose or are held to a score draw. Croatia will go down if they are beaten or draw 0-0.

"It shows it was a very difficult group," Luis Enrique added. "We still have a chance."

**'Win or wait in hope'**

Diario AS summed up Spain's position with the headline "Win or wait in hope" on Thursday. For Croatia, there was pride to be restored, after their 6-0 humiliation in Elche in September. "Six reasons to respond", read the front page of Croatian daily

Sportske Novosti.

Eight of their 11 World Cup finalists started as Jedvaj, Nikola Kalinic and Kramaric replaced Ivan Strinic, Danijel Subasic and Mario Mandzukic, the latter two having since retired from international football.

Jordi Alba went straight into Spain's line-up while Athletic Bilbao's Inigo Martinez played alongside Ramos in central defence, with Nacho out injured.

Croatia dominated the opening exchanges but Spain began dictating possession as the half wore on, even if Isco's long-range shot shortly before half-time was their only real effort of note.

The game was more balanced and open after the restart and two goals arrived in as many minutes. First, Ramos and Sergio Roberto were pressed into a mistake, the latter's poor pass allowing Kramaric to sneak in and slot past De Gea with 53 minutes gone.

Spain performed better at the other end. Ceballos bundled in a quick equaliser and Aspas should have added another soon after but poked onto the crossbar.

Spain paid the price for that miss when Jedvaj headed in his first international goal after meeting Luka Modric's sumptuous cross at the back post.

Marcelo Brozovic should have put Croatia out of sight but spurned a one-on-one, his shot grazing De Gea on its way wide. This time Spain made them pay.

Sime Vrsaljko hacked substitute Alvaro Morata's header off the line before giving away a penalty, lowering his arm to meet a cross that was probably on its way behind. Ramos made no mistake from the spot.

## Marquez tops Valencia practice

AFP | Valencia

World champion Marc Marquez powered his Honda to the top of the timesheets in a rain-interrupted free practice session for the season-ending Moto GP in Valencia.

With a massive lead of 101 points on Italian Andrea Dovizioso (Ducati), Marquez has already secured the championship title ahead of the season finale.

The Spaniard has won three consecutive titles and five overall in motorcycling's top category.

But he signalled his bid to finish the season in style by setting a fastest lap of 1min 39.767sec in the first session, which held throughout a day plagued by delays due to heavy rain.

"The conditions were complicated," said the 25-year-old Marquez. "There was less water in the morning and the grip was good, but in the afternoon there was more water."

"There were two points where the water crossed (the track), and you had to be careful."

Ducati's Jack Miller and Italians Danilo Petrucci and Andrea Pedrosa took the next positions, with Dani Pedrosa clocking the fifth fastest time at 0.700sec on what will be his final world championship weekend before retirement.

## BRAVE 18 marks new chapter in the history of Bahraini Sports

TDI | Manama

The fight night of Brave 18 marked the biggest success in the history of sports in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Brave Combat Federation is a truly Bahraini sports initiative found by H Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

The biggest sports event in the Kingdom of Bahrain was presided by Ramzan Kadyrov,

### WFCA 54 Official Results

Abdul Rakhman Dudaev defeats Joe Taimanglo by unanimous decision  
Magomedrasul Khasbulaev defeats Robert Emerson by Anaconda Choke (Round 2)  
Akhemd Sheraniev defeats Antonio Carlos Ribeiro by unanimous decision  
Goyti Dazev defeats Vasily Kurochkin by knockout (Round 3)  
Anzor Abdulkhojaev defeats Nikolay Kondratuk by TKO (Round 1)

Head of State of Chechnya, HH Khalifa and HH Shaikh Khalid Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

The event attracted big names from the world of sports including Khabib Nurmagomedov, the son of legendary coach, Abdulmanap Nurmagomedov and the current UFC lightweight champion.

Brave International Combat Week 2018 marked the biggest combat sports event hosted in Asia. The fight night opened with the fights from WFCA 54.

## Cowley shocks Rai



Cian Cowley faces Hardeep Rai

TDI | Manama

Cian Cowley from SBG Ireland shocked fellow IMMAF medalist, Hardeep Rai with a thrilling first round TKO finish.

The prospect who trains at SBG Ireland was accompanied by veteran Coach, John Kavanagh. In a pure stand up action,

Cowley unleashed menacing low kicks that brought Rai down.

In the opening bout of Brave CF, Khamzat Chimaev picked a first round TKO victory. The welterweight proved to be a force to be recognised in the near future in the most competed division in the promotion.

## Japan remain undefeated under new boss

AFP | Oita, Japan

Japan drew with Venezuela 1-1 in a home friendly yesterday with defender Hiroki Sakai netting his first goal for the Blue Samurai, who stay undefeated under their new coach.

The draw in Oita came as Japan are gearing towards an attempt at a record-extending fifth title in the Asian Cup starting in January.

Sakai scored a 39-minute opener for Japan as he fired a volley following Shoya Nakajima's precise free-kick. It was his first goal for the national team on his 49th international.

In the second half, midfielder Tomas Rincon netted an equaliser for Venezuela from the penalty spot after a foul in the box by Sakai.

The Blue Samurai nipped at the South Americans' heels and Maya Yoshida's header



Japan's Yuya Osako (2nd L) and Venezuela's Jhon Chancellor (L) fight for the ball during their international friendly soccer match in Oita, Japan

squeezed the ball into the goal but it was disallowed for offside, silencing the 33,000 local fans.

Japan made it three wins and one draw from Hajime Moriyasu's first four games following their surprise run to the last 16

of the World Cup under Akira Nishino.

"Our players made the best preparations and won the opener," Moriyasu said.

"We wanted to add a goal to win but that's what we have to

**"**  
We wanted to add a goal to win but that's what we have to overcome

HAJIME MORIYASU

overcome," he said.

Venezuela coach Rafael Dudamel was quoted by Jiji Press as saying: "It was a tough match. I'm satisfied as our players concentrated on the fight understanding Japan's offence."

Last month Japan stunned Uruguay 4-3 as Takumi Minamoto netted twice against the World Cup quarter-finalists.

Japan will take on Kyrgyzstan in another friendly Tuesday next week before going to the United Arab Emirates for Asia's showcase tournament.

## Trophies will define Liverpool's season, not stats - Wijnaldum

Reuters | London

Liverpool's Premier League statistics this season make for impressive reading but the focus should be on delivering trophies at Anfield, according to midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum.

The Merseyside club are second in the league after 12 matches with 30 points, two

behind defending champions Manchester City.

It is Liverpool's joint best start to a league season since the inception of the Premier League in 1992 and their unbeaten run has been built on solid foundations at the back.

The team has conceded five league goals — joint-best defensive record in competition alongside Manchester City.



# Root ton puts England in charge

Bold and brave Joe Root century raises tempo and puts the visitors back in the driving seat against Sri Lanka

● **England took a 278-run lead over Sri Lanka with one second-innings wicket remaining**

AFP | Kandy, Sri Lanka

Captain Joe Root smashed 124 and newcomer Ben Foakes again hit valuable tail end runs to put England in command of the second Test against Sri Lanka yesterday.

England reached 324 for nine -- a second innings lead of 278 -- when bad light stopped play for the day at Kandy.

Foakes was batting on 51 alongside James Anderson on four.

Spinner Akila Dananjaya, whose action is under investigation by the International Cricket Council, claimed six wickets on the turning pitch.

He trapped Root lbw and then bowled Sam Curran for nought with his next ball. Adil Rashid thwarted the hat-trick but soon fell to Dananjaya's guile for two.

It was his third five wicket haul in just his fifth Test for



England captain Joe Root hits out to the boundary

Dananjaya, who must rush off to Australia after the game for an ICC examination of his bowling.

He however could not stop Root and Foakes swinging the game.

Root reached his 15th Test ton soon after tea, making the sweep and reverse sweep valuable

weapons, as he hit 10 fours and two sixes in his 146-ball knock.

Root said he enjoyed making the runs despite the pressure.

"That's what it should be. You shouldn't feel pressure like the pressure is too much for you, you should enjoy the occasion and make the most of the opportunity in front of you," he said after the day's play.

"The whole group managed to harness that today and make the most of it."

Root raised his bat to a standing ovation from travelling English fans who also lauded Foakes.

Root made an 82-run seventh

England 290	
Sri Lanka 336	
England (overnight 0-0)	
J. Leach lbw b Perera	1
R. Burns lbw b Pushpakumara	59
K. Jennings c de Silva b Dananjaya	26
J. Root lbw b Dananjaya	124
B. Stokes lbw b Perera	0
J. Buttler b Dananjaya	34
M. Ali lbw b Dananjaya	10
B. Foakes not out	51
S. Curran b Dananjaya	0
A. Rashid lbw b Dananjaya	2
J. Anderson not out	4
Extras (b4, lb9)	13
Total (9 wickets, 76 overs)	324
Bowling: Perera 19-2-87-2, Pushpakumara 26-1-97-1, Dananjaya 23-0-106-6, De Silva 4-0-7-0, Lakmal 4-0-14-0	

wicket stand with Foakes, who reached his fifty with a six off Dilruwan Perera. The hit turned out to be the last ball of the day with dark clouds gathering and thunder heard in the distance.

## 'Attack best form of defence'

As he did in his sparkling century on his Test debut in the opening game of the series, Foakes mixed caution and aggression to push up the England score.

Every one of England's top seven batsmen were out attempting a sweep of some description.

Jos Buttler dragged one of Dananjaya's deliveries onto his stumps while trying to reverse sweep on 34. Moeen Ali was trapped lbw for 10 after failing to connect with an attempted sweep.

"From my point of view, it was almost a safer shot than playing the forward defensive," said Root.

"With the amount the ball was turning there's a lot of risk involved in that. At times attack is the best form of defence on a wicket like that."

Earlier, left-hander Rory Burns registered his maiden Test half-century in just his second match. He was trapped lbw off Malinda Pushpakumara for 59.

Perera wasted little time in sending nightwatchman Jack Leach back to the pavilion for one in the second over of the day.

Burns then put together 73 runs for the second wicket with Keaton Jennings, who made 26, to steady the innings and help England overcome their 46-run deficit.

## Pakistan hold edge after New Zealand dismissed for 153

AFP | Abu Dhabi

Leg-spinner Yasir Shah led a double-barrelled attack of spin and pace to leave Pakistan sitting comfortably on the opening day of the first Test against New Zealand yesterday.

Yasir spearheaded Pakistan's wicket-taking with 3-54 as New Zealand, who won the toss and batted on a grassless Sheikh Zayed Stadium pitch, were bowled out for a below-par 153 in 66.3 overs at the stroke of tea.

The day saw 12 wickets fall as Pakistan closed at 59-2, having lost both their openers, Imam-ul-Haq (six) and Mohammad Hafeez (20), before Haris Sohail and Azhar Ali stopped the rot.

Pakistan need 94 more to take a lead and go one up in the three-match series.

Imam was first to go as he edged Colin de Grandhomme's delivery to the slip while Hafeez miscued a pull straight to short mid-wicket -- both caught by Kane Williamson.

New Zealand skipper Williamson, declared fit after missing last Sunday's third one-day international due to a groin injury, top-scored with 63 before falling softly to medium pacer Hasan Ali, who finished with 2-38.

Hasan removed Williamson with a slower delivery as the New Zealand skipper went for a hook and gloved the ball for wicketkeeper Sarfraz Ahmed's fourth catch of the innings.

Williamson's 112-ball knock



Pakistani spinner Yasir Shah (L) celebrates after taking the wicket of New Zealand batsman Ross Taylor (C)

<b>New Zealand 1st innings</b>	
J. Raval c Sarfraz b Abbas	7
T. Latham c Hafeez b Yasir	13
K. Williamson c Sarfraz b Hasan	63
R. Taylor c Sarfraz b Yasir	2
H. Nicholls c Sarfraz b Abbas	28
BJ Watling lbw b Sohail	10
C. de Grandhomme lbw b Hasan	0
I. Sodhi lbw b Sohail	4
N. Wagner c Shafiq b Asif	12
Ajaz Patel lbw b Yasir	6
T. Boult not out	4
Extras: (lb 4)	4
Total: (all out; 66.3 overs)	153
Bowling: Abbas 12-7-13-2, Hasan 16-6-38-2, Asif 13-1-33-1, Yasir 16-3-2-54-2, Sohail 8-2-11-2, Hafeez 1-1-0-0	
<b>Pakistan 1st innings</b>	
Imamc Williamson b de Grandhomme	6
Hafeez c Williamson b Boult	20
Azhar Ali not out	10
Haris Sohail not out	22
Extras: (lb 1)	1
Total: (for two wkts; 23 overs)	59
Bowling: Boult 6-2-20-1, de Grandhomme 8-4-17-1, Patel 6-2-13-0, Wagner 3-0-8-0	

had five boundaries and he added 72 for the fourth wicket with Henry Nicholls who made 28 with four boundaries.

In the same over Hasan trapped De Grandhomme for a first-ball duck before Sohail dismissed Ish Sodhi (four) and BJ Watling (four) -- both were trapped leg-before.

Mohammad Abbas, who has figures of 2-13, had removed Nicholls, caught behind by Sarfraz soon after lunch.

Pakistan dominated the first session as New Zealand were 81-3 at lunch, with leg-spinner Yasir Shah taking the first of his two wickets in his opening overs.

Yasir had derailed New Zealand's progress in the first session with the wickets of opener Tom Latham (13) and Ross Taylor (two) in his first spell.

Yasir said he changed his strategy.

## England youngsters shine to sink USA on Rooney farewell

AFP | London

Wayne Rooney believes the future is bright for England as a youthful Three Lions eased past the United States 3-0 at Wembley on his international swansong on Thursday.

Jesse Lingard, Trent Alexander-Arnold and debutant Callum Wilson grabbed the goals in a dominant England display despite Gareth Southgate fielding a very inexperienced side.

Should England avenge their heartbreaking World Cup semi-final defeat by Croatia on Sunday at Wembley, Southgate's men can build on the progress made by surpassing expectations in Russia this summer by qualifying for the semi-finals of the inaugural Nations League.

"It's my opinion that England are in very safe hands from what I've seen this week," said Rooney.

"The way they are being coached is brilliant, it's a great group of young players who have a bright future.

"They will go close to being the next team to bring a trophy back for England."

The decision to honour Rooney with a first cap for two years divided opinion.

However, the biggest cheer of the night was reserved for the introduction of England's greatest ever goalscorer just before the hour mark on his 120th international appearance.

"It will live with me for a long time," added Rooney.

"It is something which created debate because it was the



**Wayne Rooney was honoured before kick-off with a guard of honour and the presentation of a plaque bearing a golden Three Lions badge by current skipper Harry Kane**

first time something like this happened, but it is the right thing to do for the players if you achieve and leave your mark on the England team."

England's former captain was also honoured before kick-off with a guard of honour and the presentation of a plaque bearing a golden Three Lions badge by current skipper Harry Kane.

"I asked Harry Kane to present me with the award because I believe he will beat my goalscoring record and I look forward to presenting him with the trophy," added Rooney.

Kane didn't get the chance to add to his 19 international goals as Southgate prioritised keeping most of his key players fresh for Croatia's visit on Sunday.

"It has been a brilliant year no matter what happens on Sunday. We've had real shoots of progress and achieved some outstanding results," said



Wayne Rooney of England acknowledges the fans after the International Friendly match between England and United States

Southgate.

"But everybody wants to get to a semi-final out of a very tough group so it would be a really big step forward."