

GoT takes top prize at Emmys

HBO's record-breaking fantasy epic "Game of Thrones" stormed back onto the Emmys stage on Monday, winning the coveted best drama series prize on a night full of surprises, including an on-air marriage proposal that stunned the audience. **P16**

OP-ED **8** This is not the end of Trump

THE DAILY **tribune**



Hamilton happy with team's performance **16** SPORTS

BUSINESS **12** China sets retaliatory tariffs on \$60bn goods

Qatari tribe protests Doha regime's torture

Geneva

A delegation from the Al Ghufraan Tribe, one of the biggest tribes in Qatar, staged a protest yesterday in front of the United Nations in Geneva to denounce the crimes of the Qatari regime, which has revoked their nationality, displaced and tortured members of the tribe.

The tribe called on the international community to take a decisive stand on the Tamim regime, whom, they claim, have violated a number of international conventions and treaties through its racist policy against the Al Ghufraan tribe.

"Our issue with the Qatar regime is purely humanitarian and not political, this is why we came here to present our case

"The Qatar regime should be held accountable for the crimes that it has committed against us and other Qataris, and the restoration of our rights."

HAMAD AL MARRI

and our demands to the United Nations Human Rights Council. Our demands are clear: The Qatar regime should be held accountable for the crimes that it has committed against us and other Qataris, and the restoration of our rights," Hamad Khaled Al Marri, a member of the tribe, who took part in the

stand, stated.

A delegation representing Al Ghufraan tribe, one of the biggest tribes in Qatar, which has been subject to systemic discrimination at the hands of the Qatari authorities, handed a letter Monday to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, discussing their deteriorating situation.

The tribe representatives, who had previously submitted a complaint to the Commissioner on September 21, 2017, asked the UN office to stop Qatari authorities' continuous, systematic discrimination against them, and to protect the tribe's members, restore their lost rights and to punish the Qatari regime for human rights violations.

Mangkhut misery



Rescuers continue their search for missing miners in a landslide caused by Typhoon Mangkhut at a small-scale mining camp in Itogon, Benguet in the Philippines. Mangkhut, the most powerful storm to hit the country this year, left at least 74 people dead and dozens of others missing, mostly in the avalanche in the gold-mining town. The storm later blew on to Hong Kong and southern China, where it caused more deaths and damages. See page 6

Imran Khan in Saudi Arabia
 Riyadh

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan arrived in Saudi Arabia yesterday on his first official foreign visit. He will also visit UAE at the invitation of the two countries' leaderships, the Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

It is the prime minister's first foreign visit since he took office in August. Khan will be accompanied by the foreign minister, the finance minister and his commerce adviser, the Foreign Ministry said.

The PM visited the Prophet (PBUH)'s mosque in Madinah and offered prayers, Saudi Press Agency reported.

Deadly friendly fire

Russia says Syria shot down one of its military planes, blames Israel for the 'disaster'

● The Ministry of Defence said 15 Russian military service people had died because of what it described as Israel's irresponsible actions.

Moscow

Russia's Ministry of Defence said yesterday that the Syrian military had accidentally shot down a Russian military plane over Syria, but said

it blamed the incident on Israel, the RIA news agency reported.

The ministry had previously said that the plane had vanished from radar screens over Syria at the same time as Israeli and French forces were launching strikes on targets in Syria.

Yesterday, the ministry accused Israeli military planes of deliberately creating a "dangerous" situation near the Syrian city of Latakia — which is close to a Russian air base where it said the Il-20 aircraft was preparing to land, RIA reported.

The Ministry of Defence said



The Il-20 aircraft was returning to a Russian base on the north-western coast of Syria.

15 Russian military service people had died because of what it

only warned it one minute before launching the strikes, RIA reported.

In another development, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Russian President Vladimir Putin sought to defuse the crisis.

Putin said it was the result of "tragic accidental circumstances."

Israel said it had targeted a Syrian military facility where weapons manufacturing systems were "about to be transferred on behalf of Iran" to Lebanese Shiite group Hezbollah.

LITMUS TEST

Koreas aim at locking deal to unlock nuke talks

● Pyongyang has given no indication it is willing to give up its nuclear arsenal unilaterally and is seeking relief from tough international sanctions.

Seoul

Leaders of South and North Korea plan to announce steps aimed at rekindling stalled nuclear talks and deepening bilateral ties after they meet for a second day of summit talks in the North's capital Pyongyang.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in kicked off their third meeting yesterday, during which Kim said his "historic" summit with US President Donald Trump in June had improved regional



South Korean President Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un attend an official welcome ceremony at Pyongyang Sunan International Airport.

stability and raised hopes for further progress.

A joint statement expected from the

two leaders at the conclusion of their talks today will provide clues to whether negotiations between North Korea

and the United States over dismantling Pyongyang's nuclear programs could regain momentum.

The outcome will also be a litmus test for another meeting Kim has recently proposed to Trump.

Kim pledged to work toward the "complete denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula" during his first meeting with Moon in the Demilitarised Zone that separates the two Koreas in April, and at his summit with Trump in June.

But discussions over how to implement the vague commitments have since faltered, with Washington demanding concrete action toward denuclearization by North Korea before agreeing to a key goal of Pyongyang - declaring an end to the 1950-53 Korean War.

Pyongyang has given no indication it is willing to give up its nuclear arsenal unilaterally and is seeking relief from tough international sanctions.



03 Job out of no jobs

04 Prosecution witnesses to testify in murder trial

05 Main suspect pleads guilty as court begins imam murder case hearing



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National security 'main guarantor for growth'

HRH the Premier underlines government programmes aimed at boosting development

● HRH the Premier affirmed that national work, spearheaded by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, is going ahead unabated to bring about more achievements.

Manama

HRH the Premier yesterday highlighted the importance of maintaining security and stability of the nation, describing it as the main guarantor to continue development in various fields.

This came as His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa received members of the royal family and senior officials at the Gudaibiya Palace.

He affirmed that national work, spearheaded by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, is going ahead unabated to bring about more achievements.

"Bahrain will always remain dear to us and deserves every care from us," HRH the Premier said, calling to take advantage of every opportunity leading to development.

"We must all contribute to boosting



HRH the Premier receives Royal Family members and senior government officials.

stability in a way that promotes the value of work and advances the community," he added, underlining the government's keenness on carrying out more programmes aimed at boosting development and bringing about more accomplishments.

He recalled the remarkable role of the Bahraini forefathers in the kingdom's development march, stressing that global



We must all contribute to boosting stability in a way that promotes the value of work and advances the community.

HRH THE PREMIER

challenges require more awareness and determination from all to face threats to security and stability.

"We have to draw a lesson from what is going around us," HRH the Prime Minister noted, underlining the approach of cooperation based on mutual respect that is adopted by Bahrain in its relations with other countries to promote global peace and security.

75 students join RAP Master's programmes

Manama

A batch of 75 students has been admitted to the Royal Academy of Police (RAP) for their Master's programmes.

"The admitted students work with different sections and directorates affiliated with the Ministry of Interior and other government departments," said RAP Commander.

More than 300 people have applied to enroll at the RAP Postgraduate studies representing different ministries and government entities.

Fourteen government departments have also applied, seeking the admission of employees to the postgraduate academic programmes.

The students who were accepted expressed delight at joining the RAP Master's programmes of studies, hailing the role of the Interior Ministry in promoting its affiliates.

They paid tribute to the Minister of Interior for allowing applicants from other government departments to join the RAP Master's programmes.

RAP Commander announced that a world-standard Master's degree in crisis management has been launched this year for the first time in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Bahrain's SDG strides lauded

Geneva

The Assistant Foreign Minister, Abdullah Al Doseri, met with a number of Ambassadors and Representatives of friendly countries accredited to the Human Rights Councils, on the sidelines of the 39th session of the Human Rights Council at the United Nations Office here.

The Assistant Foreign Minister met the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Peru, Ambassador Claudio Julio de la Puente Ribeyro, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda, Ambassador Christopher Onyanga Aparr and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea, Ambassador Ms. Ji-ah Paik.

The Assistant Foreign Minister praised the distinguished



Mr Al Doseri at the 39th session of the Human Rights Council at the UN office in Geneva.

relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and those countries, stressing the Kingdom's keenness to further develop these relations to achieve common interests.

Tamkeen to support hospitality training

Manama

Tamkeen will collaborate with Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority (BTEA) to support the training programme for Bahraini students who wish to enroll at Vatel Hotel and Tourism Business School, which will open in Bahrain next month.

This came as the Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA), Shaikh Khaled bin Humood Al Khalifa received the Chief Executive of Tamkeen, Dr Ebrahim Janahi.

Vatel is the First Worldwide Business School Group in Hospitality and Tourism Management



Shaikh Khaled with Dr Janahi and other officials.

and now has 31 Schools, 7,000 students and 29,000 alumni.

Shaikh Khaled bin Humood Al Khalifa lauded Tamkeen's support in training the national workforce in the hospitality and tourism sector and in providing them with a wide array of career opportunities, which benefit the development of this industry as a whole as one of the main contributors to the national economy in line with the Kingdom's 2030 Economic Vision.

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BIG STORY
big story

Job out of no jobs

Healthcare job scammers thrive as they prey on Asian jobseekers eyeing work permits in Bahrain

● The amount charged by these agencies include recruitment fee, paper processing fee and visa processing fee.

● A WhatsApp message from a social organisation in India warns jobseekers from taking help of these fraudsters.

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

Fraudsters from Asian countries are using the names of hospitals in the Kingdom to carry out their recruitment scams, it is learnt.

Sources say these scammers have been disguising themselves as recruitment agents of Bahrain hospitals by tricking jobseekers into paying lumps of cash.

Many jobseekers have fallen prey to their scams by paying thousands of dinars in hopes of getting jobs at hospitals in the Kingdom, they added.

The scammers have been mainly targeting qualified nurses, who are allegedly charged a 'recruitment fee' to be placed in Bahrain hospitals.

However, after receiving the payment, these jobseekers are left without a response.

"These recruitment agencies are illegitimate and are in no way connected to hospitals in the Kingdom. This scam has been going on for many years and the main targets are those who wish to obtain a work permit in the Kingdom," sources added.

The amount charged by these agencies include recruitment fee, paper processing fee, and visa processing fee.

Speaking to Tribune, CTM360 chief executive officer Mirza Asrar Baig, who is a leading Bahrain-based cyber-security and scam detection expert, said that many of these fraudsters even run fake travel agencies, from where their victims are asked to purchase tickets.

He said that these fraudsters even create fake websites to carry out the scam. "These types of scams are affecting the whole region. To begin with, they choose a hospital, sometimes a new one or an already established one.

"Then they will create a fake website in the name of this hospital and post vacancies. They would also post these fake vacancies on other job forums through which they would route people to this fake website.

"They even run bogus travel agencies, where you can go and make your bookings. Most of the victims often end up paying visa processing fee, paper processing fee and ticket charges."

"These job scammers are tar-



The scammers have been mainly targeting qualified nurses, who are allegedly charged a high 'recruitment fee' to be placed in Bahrain hospitals.



These types of scams are affecting the whole region. To begin with, they choose a hospital, sometimes a new one or an already established one. Then they will create a fake website in the name of this hospital and post vacancies.

MR ASRAR BAIG



I cannot point towards or accuse any particular agency or people because I don't have any proof. This is something for the authorities to do, but people should be aware that in every industry there are going to be those who are trying to cheat.

MR AGHAYAR

Tribune contacted one such recruitment agent who has allegedly been bamboozling jobseekers. In a telephonic conversation, a representative of the company confirmed that his agency is in charge of recruiting staff to a few hospitals in the Kingdom.

"We are currently recruiting to Bahrain we have interviews taking place here, you can come here and we will tell you the rest," he said.

When asked about the payment needed 'to obtain the job', he said that such details would only be revealed in person after the 'interview' and not over the phone.

A WhatsApp message from a social organisation in India warns jobseekers from taking help of these fraudsters. "Many fake recruitment agencies are charging between rupees eight and 10 lakh for healthcare jobs in the Middle East. As per official sources, the recruitment to fill vacancies in Gulf countries should be free of cost and no applicants are legally bound to make payments," the message read.

Similar scams have been reported in other GCC countries as well. A report published in the UAE-based Gulf News earlier this year revealed how several people were duped by con-artists claiming to be recruitment agents.

The UAE-based diversified global conglomerate Thumbay Group had to issue a notice about bogus recruitment in the name of its Thumbay Hospital.

A veteran in the recruitment sector Abdulrahman Aghayar, said that it is the duty of the people to do a research and use diligence before putting their

trust in any recruitment agency. "I cannot point towards or accuse any particular agency or people because I don't have any proof. This is something for



This scam has been going on for many years and the main targets are those who wish to obtain a work permit in the Kingdom.

SOURCES

the authorities to do, but people should be aware that in every industry there are going to be those who are trying to cheat.

"For example, you take any product in the market. You will get the two versions, genuine and fake. This is the same with the recruitment agencies also.

"Applicants should be careful while choosing the recruitment agencies and meticulously check their credibility before putting trust in them."

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Prosecution witnesses to testify in murder trial

Indian man was allegedly strangled to death by the Sudani national

● During the hearing, the accused had told court that he committed the act “out of his love for Bahrain”.

● To manipulate investigators, he is said to have written slogans on the walls of the apartment to frame a particular sect in the murder and walk free.

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

Prosecution witnesses will be heard on October 14, 2018, in the trial of a Sudani man accused of murdering an Indian national.

According to court details, the 41-year-old suspect tortured his victim to death while recording the act on a camera, quite similar to the ‘Islamic State’ killing.

“The Sudani national chased the Indian man to his apartment after confronting him on a street in Hoora,” the Prosecutors say.

A medical report stated that the Indian man was strangled to

“I went to his apartment because I wanted to advise him. He opened the door for me, and as I entered inside he locked the door and began attacking me. And I responded in self-defence.”

DEFENDANT

death after being beaten up.

During the hearing, the accused had told court that he committed the act “out of his

love for Bahrain”. “I hate drunken men walking through the streets of Bahrain.

“I didn’t have any relationship with the victim. I first saw him on the day of the incident at dawn and he was drunk. I was talking with my Bahraini friends on the road and I stopped him.

“I asked him about his religion and Prophet Mohammed, and because I love Bahrain and I don’t like to see drunken people walking in public, I ordered him to show me his ID. But he ran away.”

The defendant came to know the accommodation of his victim through one of his friends. “I

went to his apartment because I wanted to advise him. He opened the door for me, and I entered inside. He locked the door and attacked me. And I responded in self-defence,” he revealed.

The defendant then proceeded with torturing the victim before murdering him. To manipulate investigators, he is said to have written slogans on the walls of the apartment to frame a particular sect in the murder and walk free.

The defendant, a medical engineering graduate, came to the Kingdom in search of a job. According to court details, his sister works here as a doctor.

Plea verdict date set for convicts in security case

● Three of the defendants were earlier sentenced to five years each, while six of them were given three years behind bars.

TDT|Manama
Ali Tarif

Nine men convicted of attempting to flee to Iran after being implicated in security cases, will learn the fate of their appeals on October 29, 2018.

The appellants were among 11 defendants tried in the case, but only nine of them challenged their convictions.

The defendants were implicated in security cases and they tried to sail across to Iran using a speed boat, according to court details.

“I bought the boat for them because they told me that they would use it to flee to Iran.”

FIRST DEFENDANT

The third defendant allegedly communicated with the first defendant and asked his help for a boat.

“I bought the boat for them because they told me that they would use it to flee to Iran. And I did that for them,” the first defendant revealed to prosecutors.

The defendants were arrested on Juffair beach while they were trying to use the boat to flee.

They were in possession of a GPS which was set for guiding them to Iran. Three of the defendants were earlier sentenced to five years each, while six of them were given three years behind bars.

The remaining two defendants were sentenced to two years in jail each.

5,714 Bahraini pilgrims head to Saudi Arabia for Umrah rituals

● Citizens and residents were cautioned against registering with unlicensed Hajj companies which are offering pilgrims low prices for the travel.

Manama

A total of 5,714 pilgrims headed to Saudi Arabia to perform the Umrah rituals during the Ashoora recess.

One hundred and thirty buses carrying the pilgrims were allowed to cross the King Fahd Causeway linking Bahrain and

130
buses carrying the pilgrims were allowed to cross the King Fahd Causeway linking Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia.

The Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Ministry said that 29 Hajj contractors were given the go-ahead to organise the Umrah trips.

The Directorate of Haj and Umrah Affairs coordinated with the King Fahd Causeway police directorate and the pass-

ports authorities on the Saudi and Bahraini sides to supply them with the lists of authorised pilgrims.

Citizens and residents were cautioned against registering with unlicensed Hajj companies which are offering pilgrims low prices for the travel.

The Directorate of Haj and Umrah Affairs said that it not assume any responsibility for any prejudice done to pilgrims who travel with unauthorised contractors.

It urged planning to perform the Umrah rituals in Saudi Arabia to see the list of authorised contracts on its website www.islam.gov.bh or call the directorate during working hours on 17812854- 17812868 – from 7 am until 2 pm.

Mexican Fiesta



The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) hosted its annual homecoming event under a ‘Fiesta’ theme with students turning out in Mexican inspired outfits at its campus in Busaiteen.

Peace Day marked



Senior School students took part in their annual “International Peace Day” celebrations at St Christopher’s School. A reflective ‘Minute of Silence’ was observed by the students marking the day. A group of students created a ‘Peace Tree’ with each leaf carrying a quote. Student Lilo Al Dahwi read out her poem ‘Imagine Peace’ which emphasized the value of love and harmony for the sustenance of societies across the world.

Main suspect pleads guilty as court begins imam murder case hearing

Public Prosecution is seeking death penalty for the main accused

● The judges at the High Criminal Court adjourned the case yesterday until September 23, 2018, to assign a lawyer for each of the two defendants.

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

The suspected killer of a Bahraini imam yesterday pleaded guilty before the High Criminal Court, it is learnt. This was the 35-year-old Bangladeshi national's first appear-

ance before the court along with the second suspect in the case.

Meanwhile, the second suspect pleaded not guilty at the hearing, stating "he was unaware of his co-defendant's intentions" to murder imam Abduljaleel Hamood.

According to sources, the suspect hit the imam with an iron rod on his back and head until the victim fell unconscious. "He then cut the imam's body into pieces and kept them inside plastic bags."

"The suspect, a prayer caller at the same mosque, where the victim was the imam, led six prayers after committing the crime. It was only after that he took the body from the mosque's office



Imam Abduljaleel Hamood

and headed to Askar to dump it near the scrapyard."

The judges at the High Criminal Court adjourned the case yesterday until September 23, 2018, to assign a lawyer for each of the two defendants.

Imam Hamood went missing in the early hours of August 5

after he performed the Al Fajr prayers.

Police were notified after attempts by the imam's family members to contact him failed and subsequently, search efforts went at full swing.

The missing information went viral on all social media platforms until the Ministry of Interior announced on its official Twitter account that the imam's body was found in plastic bags near the scrapyard in Askar.

Within the next few hours, the main suspect as well as his accomplice was arrested by the police.

It is learnt that the main suspect was a trader of free visas and the imam had warned him many a time against this illegal

”
The suspect decided to kill the imam after he reported his illegal free visa business to the Justice Ministry.

SOURCES

business.

"The suspect decided to kill the imam after he reported this illegal business to the Justice Ministry," sources added.

Sources said the suspect plotted to murder the imam and hid an iron bar inside the mosque, awaiting the right opportunity to pounce on him.

He was driven by the fact that he was suspended from carrying out his duties and was asked to leave Bahrain.

The second suspect is accused of helping the first suspect in cutting the body into pieces.

The Bangladeshi national earlier told prosecutors that he had informed his wife about his plans to kill the imam, sources close to the investigation revealed to Tribune.

The Public Prosecution will seek death penalty for the 35-year-old man for the crime he committed.

He has been charged with pre-meditated murder while his co-defendant has been accused of concealing the crime and evidences.

Initiative to secure road users' safety launched

● The Governorate's Engineering Services gave a visual presentation focused on goals of the initiative and citizens' comments with regard to road user behaviours and traffic safety.

Manama

Southern Governor Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa has launched an initiative with an aim to ensure road users' safety.

The Governor highlighted keenness to implement the directives of Interior Minister Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa to maintain citizens' safety in cooperation and coordination with the concerned bodies.

He stressed the need to provide safety for road users by following the latest standards, saying the initiative aimed at meeting citizens' demands that have brought up at the governorate weekly Majlis, in addition to his personal field visits to various parts of the governorate.

The Governorate's Engineering Services gave a



Shaikh Khalifa chairs the meeting.

visual presentation focused on goals of the initiative and citizens' comments with regard to road user behaviours and traffic safety.

The meeting also discussed setting solutions for road users' safety in the interest of achieving the governorate's stability and prosperity.

A monthly meeting with the competent bodies will be held to apply road safety standards.

Southern Police Director-General, Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning's Undersecretary for Urban Planning and Southern Municipality Director-General were present.

HCs, SMC opening times during Ashoora announced

Manama

The Ministry of Health yesterday announced the working hours of health

centres (HCs) and Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC) during Ashoora holiday.

Muharraq Northern Health Centre, Hamad Kano Health

Centre in Riffa, and Youssef Engineer Health Centre in Isa Town will remain open all round the clock.

Alnaeem Health Centre, Mohamed Jassim Kano Health Centre in Hamad Town (Roundabout 17), Sitra Health Centre, and Shaikh Jaber Al Sabah Health Centre in Barbar will be open from 8 am until 1 pm and from 4 to 12 pm.

The Accident and Emergency Department at the SMC as well as the Emergency Clinic Pharmacy will provide their services to the public around the clock.

The pharmacy at the SMC will be open on Saturday, September 22 from 7 am until 1:30 pm.

Patient family visit at SMC will be possible from 4 to 8 pm, the ministry said in a statement.

Notification of Attendance

The Second High Civil Court
Lawsuit No.: 02/2015/21378/4

Plaintiff: Abdul Hadi Al Afo Company
Plaintiff's power of attorney: Mahmood Rabie

Against

First Defendant: Beton & Rorbow Company
Second Defendant: Robert Timian

Thus, the Second High Civil Court declares to the aforementioned defendants that it has set a hearing on the date of 24/9/2018 to consider the lawsuit, Moreover the report has been received.



Kingdom of Bahrain Ministry of Interior Purchasing Directorate

The Ministry of Interior invites quotations for the following tender:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Initial Bond	Tender Fees	Closing Date		
				Day	Date	Time
Supply of Physical Fitness Equipment for MOI	1512218	BD500.000	BD 15.000	Sunday	07/10/2018	12:30

- Those who are Capable and want to participate in the above tender/ has to call the Directorate of Purchase on 17390142 – 17390583 during the working hours and collect the appropriate tender documents after paying non refundable fees, specified above starting on Sunday 23/09/2018 and to enclose with his offer the Initial Bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the tender value whichever amount is the lesser, provided that no initial bonds value shall be less than BD. 100/-. The initial bond should be in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee, cash or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
- Offers should be deposited in the tender box provided at Purchasing Directorate Police Fort Ministry of Interior gate number 3 (Building No 16) before 12:30 of the final date for submission.
- This tender should comply to the provisions of the General Tenders Regulations, no. (36) For the year 2002, and its executive Regulations No. (37) For the year 2002.
- In addition these conditions has to be considered:
 - Enclose copy of the Commercial Registration Bill, for the current year, and has to be included/matched with the tender subjects.
 - Quotation form is to be filled completely, mentioning the Total Tender Value and Unit Price (accordingly).
 - Enclose a certificate of compliance with the employment percentages for Bahraini manpower issued by the Ministry of Labour.
 - All tender documents (Original / Copy) which has been submitted with the offers should be stamped with the company's Stamp.
- This advertisement is considered to be a supplementary to the tender Documents.

WORLD
world**Jail for not deleting
'fake' news in
Russia**

Moscow, Russia

Russians who refuse to take down online information that has been judged "false" by a court could be sentenced to up to a year in prison under a bill approved by MPs Tuesday in a key second reading.

Deputies in parliament's lower house voted to approve the measure that would apply to individuals on social media as well as to those working for media groups.

Senators and President Vladimir Putin still have to sign off on the bill following a formal third reading in parliament.

The law comes in the context of an ongoing crackdown on internet freedoms in Russia, where social media remains one of the few places the opposition can organise.

Those who break the rules outlined in the bill could also be subject to a 50,000-ruble (\$740, 630-euro) fine, according to an approved text distributed on the judicial site pravo.ru.

**BMW to pause UK
output of Minis**

London, United Kingdom

BMW will stop production at its Mini factory in Oxford for several weeks to avoid supply disruption in case of a no-deal Brexit, the German auto giant said yesterday.

The carmaker will bring forward its annual maintenance shutdown at the facility in southern England to start on Monday April 1, 2019. Britain is to leave the European Union on Friday March 29 -- but trade talks have stalled, stoking concerns over a so-called hard Brexit.

"As a responsible organisation, we have scheduled next year's annual maintenance period at Mini Plant Oxford to start on 1 April, when the UK exits the EU," BMW said. The move was in order "to minimise the risk of any possible short-term parts-supply disruption in the event of a no-deal Brexit".

**Philippines toll climbs as
searchers dig for missing**

Itoyon, Philippines

The death toll in Typhoon Mangkhut hit 74 yesterday, Philippine authorities said, as rescuers used their bare hands to sift through a massive landslide in which dozens were feared killed in the worst-hit region.

The typhoon, the most powerful to strike this year, smashed homes and flooded key agricultural regions in the northern Philippines before battering Hong Kong and southern China with fierce winds and heavy rain.

As Hong Kong gradually got back on its feet, residents from teachers to refugees mobilised to help clean up after Mangkhut, which smashed windows, felled at least 1,000 trees and sent skyscrapers swaying.

The violent storm killed four in China's southern province of Guangdong and the toll rose Tuesday to 74 on the Philippines' northern Luzon island according to police, with that number expected to further climb. Up to 40 people are still feared buried in the landslide in Itoyon unleashed Saturday as the typhoon stalled over the area and dumped a month's worth of



Rescuers carry a body bag containing a landslide victim, triggered by heavy rains during Typhoon Mangkhut.

rain in a matter of hours.

"While I said there is a 99-percent chance that all of them are dead, there is still that one-percent chance," Itoyon Mayor Victorio Palangdan told AFP.

"The rescue effort will continue until the president orders us to stop," he said. Because the

landslide destroyed roads, authorities have been unable to bring heavy equipment into the area to accelerate the search. As a result the teams were using human chains to extract debris.

The effort has been getting progressively more difficult because the rain-soaked soil has

started to harden in the scorching Philippine sun. Crews have been using water to try to soften up the soil.

The area was primed for disaster before Mangkhut hit, as it came on the heels of nearly a month of continuous monsoon rains that left the already

hazardous area soggy and dangerously loose. Almost all the storm's victims were killed in dozens of landslides unleashed along the Cordillera mountain range, a key gold mining area.

'King of storms'

Many of those buried in Itoyon were small-scale gold miners and their families who took refuge in a building abandoned by a large mining firm.

The Philippines has a poor record of regulating mining, with tunnel collapses and landslides regularly killing people in other gold-rush areas in recent years.

Tearful families surrounded a whiteboard bearing names of the dead and missing as others inspected recovered bodies in an attempt to identify their loved ones.

Across northern Luzon, which produces much of the nation's rice and corn, farms were flattened and flooded, with the authorities saying crop losses would likely total more than \$250 million.

That could add to the Philippines' inflation woes and worsen a spike in rice prices that has hit hard the nearly quarter of the nation's population that survives on less than \$2 a day.

**Idlib deal provides
reprieve for civilians**

United Nations, United States

A Turkish-Russian deal to create a buffer zone in Syria's rebel-held Idlib province should avert an all-out military assault and provide reprieve for millions of civilians, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said yesterday.

Welcoming the agreement, Guterres called on all warring parties in Syria to cooperate in implementing it and ensure access for humanitarian aid to all areas of Idlib, where three million people live.

Russian President Vladimir

Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan agreed during a meeting in Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi on Monday to create a demilitarised zone in Idlib.

Syria and Russia had been preparing military action in Idlib to bring the province under the control of Damascus, but Turkey, which supports some of the armed groups, had called for a ceasefire.

The United Nations had warned that an all-out assault on Idlib would trigger a humanitarian catastrophe and possibly one of the worst bloodbaths of Syria's seven-year war.

Japanese billionaire to be first Moon tourist

Graphic News

Elon Musk's company SpaceX has named its first private passenger on a voyage around the Moon as Japanese billionaire Yusaku Maezawa.

Musk says Maezawa will fly to the Moon aboard a new rocket called the Big Falcon Rocket (BFR), which is still in development. The reusable 118-meter BFR will be a two-stage vehicle composed of the most powerful rocket booster ever built and a spaceship designed to carry up to 100 people.

The mission is planned for 2023, and would be the first lunar journey by humans since 1972. The average distance from Earth to the moon is 384,400km.

Maezawa, an art enthusiast, said that he would invite six to



Maezawa and Musk during training

eight artists from around the world to join him on the trip.

"They will be asked to create something after they return to Earth. These masterpieces will inspire the dreamer within all of us," he told reporters.

Maezawa will not land on the moon. He will travel on what is called a "free return trajectory", which will bring his BFR ship back to Earth after it has gone around the far side of the satellite. On Monday, Musk unveiled new artist impressions of the BFR and the spaceship which will carry passengers around the Moon. It appeared to confirm some design changes. The BFR should be able to lift 150 tonnes into low-Earth orbit -- that is more than the Saturn V rockets that lofted the Apollo.

300 elephants pay last respects to their leader

Daily Mail

This is the heartbreaking moment a herd of elephants gathered to pay their last respects to their dead leader.

Footage shows the animals surrounding the carcass on the banks of a lake near Anuradhapura, close to the Kalawewa reserve in Sri Lanka.

Some of the elephants use their trunks to caress the fallen giant, which had been killed by



A screen shot from the footage

Some of the elephants use their trunks to caress the fallen giant, which had been killed by a rival.

a rival.

The extraordinary sight proved a draw for locals who flocked to the scene to take pictures and video.

A clip of the incident shows around ten elephants surrounding their dead leader. But some reports suggested as many as 300 gathered nearby.

Researchers have found that elephants, like humans, grieve for the dead by frequently vis-

iting their graves, 'kissing' their bodies with their trunks and rocking to and fro with grief.

ut while humans usually reserve their grief for friends and family, elephants mourn over the death of the loosest acquaintance, an Oxford University study found in 2006.

The creatures also show compassion towards the sick and dying, trying to nurse them back to health, the study found.

India's singing village

To call out to each other while in the forest, the villagers would use a long version lasting around 30 seconds of each other's musical "name", inspired by the sounds of nature all around.

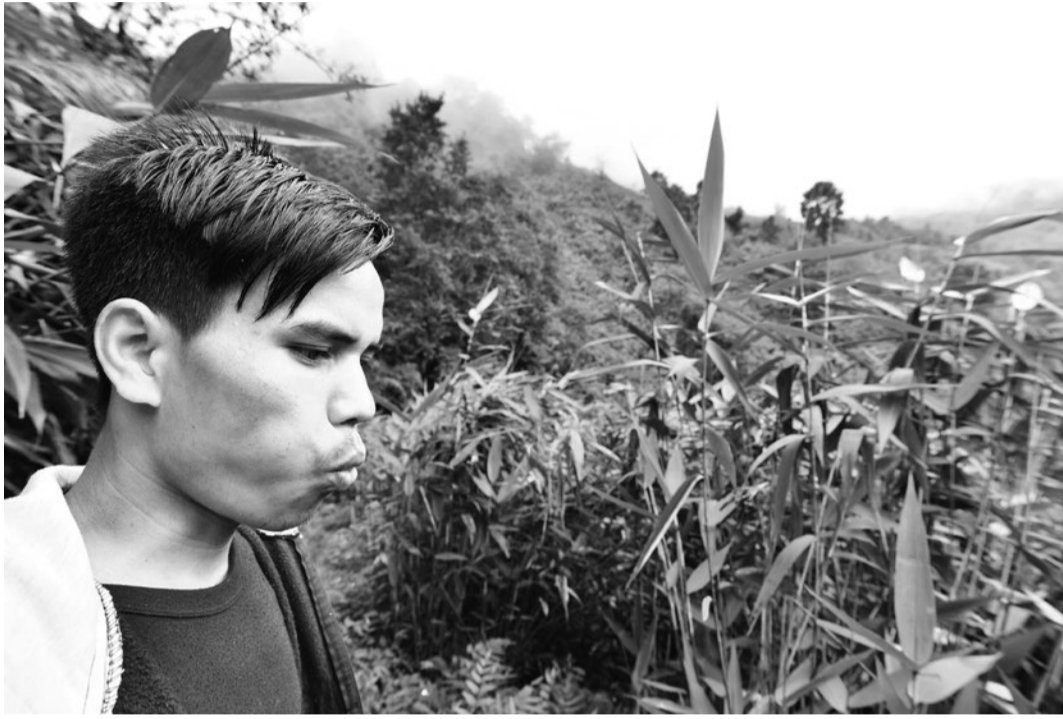
AFP | Kongthong, India

Curious whistles and chirps echo through the jungle around Kongthong, a remote Indian village, but this is no birdsong. It's people calling out to each other in music -- an extraordinary tradition that may even be unique.

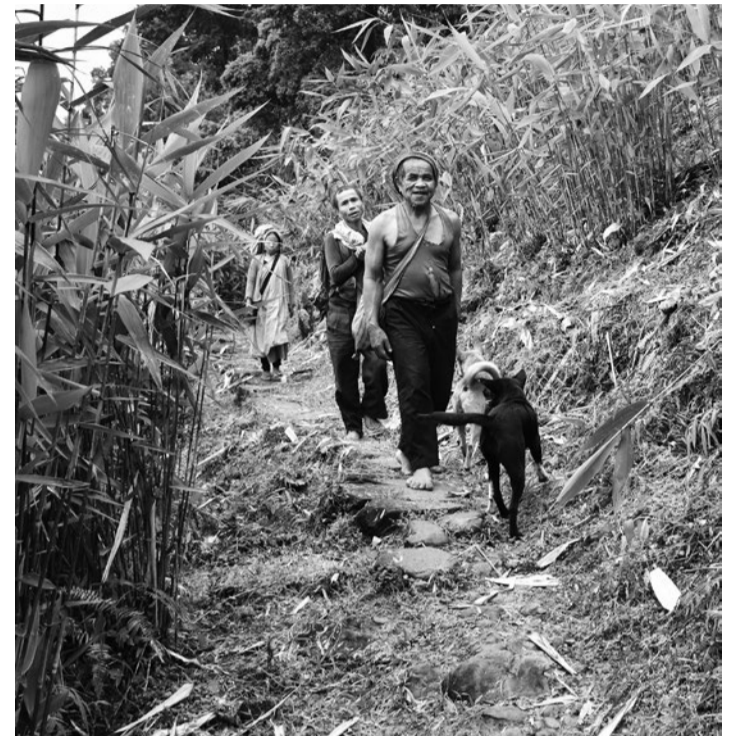
Here in the lush, rolling hills of the northeastern state of Meghalaya, mothers from Kongthong and a few other local villages compose a special melody for each child.

Everyone in the village, inhabited by the Khasi people, will then address the person with this individual little tune -- and for a lifetime. They have conventional "real" names too, but they are rarely used.

To walk along the main road in this village of wooden huts with corrugated tin roofs, perched on a ridge miles from anywhere, is



An Indian villager whistling as he calls to a friend in a field in Kongthong village



Indian villagers on their way to work in fields outside Kongthong village



Indian child whistling her name, in Kongthong village



The composition of the melody comes from the bottom of my heart. It expresses my joy and love for my baby

PYNDAPLIN SHABONG
MOTHER-OF-THREE

to walk through a symphony of hoots and toots.

On one side a mother calls out to her son to come home for supper, elsewhere children play and at the other end friends mess about -- all in an unusual, musical language of their own.

"The composition of the melody comes from the bottom of my heart," mother-of-three Pyndaplin Shabong said.

"It expresses my joy and love for my baby," the 31-year-old said, her youngest daughter, two

and a half years old, on her knee.

"But if my son has done something wrong, if I'm angry with him, he broke my heart, at that moment I will call him by his actual name," rather than singing lovingly, said Rothell Khongsit, a community leader.

Harmony with nature

Kongthong has long been cut off from the rest of the world, several hours of tough trek from the nearest town. Electricity arrived only in 2000, and the dirt road in 2013.

Days are spent foraging in the jungle for broom grass -- the main source of revenue -- leaving the village all but deserted, except for a few kids.

To call out to each other while in the forest, the villagers would use a long version lasting around 30 seconds of each other's musical "name", inspired by the sounds of nature all around.

"We are living in far-flung villages, we are surrounded by the dense forest, by the hills. So we

are in touch with nature, we are in touch with all the gracious living things that God has created," says Khongsit.

"Creatures have their own identity. The birds, so many animals, they have ways of calling each other."

The custom is known as "jingrwai lawbei", meaning "song of the clan's first woman", a reference to the Khasi people's mythical original mother.

And unusually for India, this is a matrilineal society. Property and land are passed down from mother to daughter, while a husband moves in with his wife and takes her name.

"We consider the mother the goddess of the family. A mother looks after a family, after the inheritance we get from our ancestors," Khongsit said.

Modern world

But according to anthropologist Tiplut Nongbri, a professor at Jamia Millia Islamia universi-

ty in Delhi, it is something of a "disguised patriarchy".

Women "don't have decision-making powers. Traditionally, they can't take part in politics, the rules are very clearly demarcated between male and female," she told AFP.

"Taking care of the children, that's the women's responsibility. Statecraft and all that is (a) male function."

The origin of "jingrwai lawbei" isn't known, but locals think it is as old as the village, which has existed for as long as five centuries.

The tradition's days may be numbered, though, as the modern world creeps into Kongthong in the shape of televisions and mobile phones.

Some of the newer melodic names are inspired by Bollywood songs.

And youngsters are increasingly going off singing out their friends' melodic names, preferring instead to phone them.

British cover sues Elon Musk over 'pedo' comments

Washington, United States

A British cover who helped in the dramatic rescue of 12 boys trapped in Thailand earlier this year sued Tesla founder Elon Musk on Monday for calling him a "pedo guy" and a "child rapist."

The defamation suit filed in Los Angeles by Vernon Unsworth, a Briton involved in several cave rescues, follows a highly public spat between the two after Musk traveled to Thailand and offered to assist in rescue efforts.

The dispute made headlines in July, when Unsworth called Musk's effort to build a mini-submarine for the rescue a "PR stunt" and Musk responded on Twitter by calling Unsworth a "pedo guy," or pedophile.

Musk, a tech entrepreneur who also founded the private space firm SpaceX, apologized days later but not before his comments were widely condemned, raising concerns over



Unsworth (left) and Musk. Picture courtesy of Daily Mail

his leadership abilities.

But he reignited the dispute in August with an email to BuzzFeed News accusing Unsworth

of being a "child rapist," marrying a 12-year-old and engaging in child sex trafficking, the lawsuit alleges.

Musk made the series of false statements "with actual malice, that is, with actual knowledge of falsity or a reckless disregard for



It took 11 hours for a diver to make the 5-mile roundtrip to reach the boys. All the while, hundreds of gallons of water were being pumped out -- the equivalent of 48 Olympic-sized swimming pools in a 75-hour period

truth or falsity," according to the complaint.

Instead of apologizing for his comments, Musk responded with an expletive-laden statement saying, "I hope he... sues

me," according to the lawsuit.

Unsworth is seeking unspecified damages "for the worldwide damage he has suffered to his reputation," according to the lawsuit, which noted that a separate complaint was being readied in the High Court of London.

The suit also seeks an injunction barring Musk from making further slanderous comments, according to Unsworth's lawyer L. Lin Wood.

Unsworth, who lives part of the year in Thailand, took part in the gargantuan 18-day effort to retrieve the boys and their coach, a mission that ended on July 10, when the last five members were extracted.

Musk has been the focus of increased scrutiny in recent weeks over erratic behavior including an online interview in which he was smoking marijuana.

Tesla shares have faced pressure amid concerns over Musk's stability as the company seeks to ramp up production of its mass-market electric car.

This is not the end of Trump

It's tempting to think Trump's finished, even if he's already been pronounced politically dead countless times



ROGER COHEN

David Halberstam, in "The Best and the Brightest," listed the "virtues Americans have always respected" as "hard work, self-sacrifice, decency, loyalty." I don't believe that's changed since 1972. President Donald Trump, in his sublime indecency, fails the test on all these qualities except perhaps hard work, yet tens of millions of Americans still admire him.

It's tempting to dismiss this reality. It's tempting to focus instead on the pressure building on Trump from multiple sources: the Mueller investigation, Paul Manafort's cooperating with Robert Mueller, Michael Cohen's guilty plea, the wins of progressive Democratic candidates, falling poll numbers. It's tempting to think Trump's finished, even if he's already been pronounced politically dead countless times.

This would be a mistake. That the Democratic Party will take the House in the midterm November elections and start impeachment proceedings against Trump is plausible, even likely. It's unlikely, however, that the Democrats will have the numbers in the Senate to convict him. This may be a positive scenario for Trump. As the victim president, or acquitted president, he'd fire up support going into 2020.

The chances of a two-term Trump presidency remain significant. I came away from a recent



The chances of a two-term Trump presidency remain significant.

stay in purple-state Colorado more persuaded of this than ever. The strong economy became strong under President Barack Obama but to deny Trump credit for it is not going to wash with most Americans. They feel a new confidence. They see it in more clients at the hardware store, more people eating out, more business startups.

Jamie Dimon, the chief executive of JPMorgan Chase, is right

to tell Democrats to stop "pounding away at business." The Democratic Party is long on anger but short still of a winning message. It's a big mistake for Democrats to have allowed founding American myths of can-do optimism and self-reliance to become the exclusive preserve of Republicans. A unifying Democratic candidate from the heartland could claw them back.

In small-town America, now

synonymous with Republican-majority America, any Democratic voter gets asked why Democrats are intent on taking away American guns, jobs and individualism, and replacing them with handouts to every peeved interest group. Regular mass shootings answer the question easily enough (even if not persuasively to most gun owners). The other questions are more problematic.

An offensive plan for the Balkans that the U

A Kosovo-Serbia land swap would be peaceful ethnic cleansing. But at least



CHARLES A KUPCHANN

The Balkans remains in strategic limbo. Kosovo declared independence from Serbia 10 years ago, but Serbia has yet to come to terms with its loss — refusing to recognize Kosovo and stirring trouble between the country's ethnic Serbs and the ethnic Albanian majority. Almost two decades after the NATO bombing campaign to drive Yugoslav forces from Kosovo, some 4,000 NATO troops remain there to keep the peace.

A breakthrough may now be in the making. It is a morally offensive one, but nonetheless the United States and the European Union should get behind it.

President Aleksandar Vucic of Serbia and President Hashim Thaci of Kosovo are apparently working on a proposal to engage in a land swap that could bring the simmering conflict to an end. Northern Kosovo, which is populated mainly by ethnic Serbs and borders Serbia, would

be transferred to Serbia. In return, a to-be-determined chunk of Serbia's Presevo Valley, which is heavily populated by ethnic Albanians and borders Kosovo, would become part of Kosovo.

This swap is effectively a peaceful form of ethnic cleansing. Still, it is the right thing to do. Pragmatism needs to trump principle in this case to secure a deal that promises to bring a close to the years of bloodshed and border changes that have resulted from the collapse of Yugoslavia.

The proposed land swap has been lurking in the background since the early days of Kosovo's independence. But it has gone nowhere in part because the United States and the European Union have adamantly opposed it. True to form, Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany recently said that "the territorial integrity of the states of the Western Balkans has been established and is inviolable." Backing up Merkel, dozens of prominent scholars and policymakers on both sides of the Atlantic have signed an open letter condemning the proposal and imploring the United States and the European Union to oppose "a return to ethnification of politics and frontiers."

But there are signs that some Western officials are warming up to the idea. John Bolton, Trump's national security adviser, hinted as much last month: "Our policy, the U.S. policy, is that if the two parties can work it out between themselves and reach agreement, we don't exclude territorial adjustments," he said. Bolton is thinking clearly, at least on this front. As long as both the Serbian and Kosovar governments agree to the deal — and can secure sufficient political backing among their publics and legislatures — the United States and the European Union should support it.

Of Kosovo's population of almost two million, roughly 90% are ethnic Albanian and some 6% are estimated to be ethnic Serb. Reliable numbers are hard to come by, but around half of Kosovo's Serbs — high estimates reach 70,000 — live in northern Kosovo, where they make up some 90% of the population. Because of its Serb majority, northern Kosovo (about 10% of the country's territory) has been part of the country in name only since independence. Serbia has continued to hold political and economic sway there, leaving Kosovars with a sizable chunk of



A giant Serbian national flag was hung prior to the visit of Serbian president, Aleksandar Vucic, to Gazivode Lake in Kosovo.

their country that has no interest in belonging to an independent Kosovo.

Serbia's Presevo Valley is reportedly home to some 60,000 ethnic Albanians and is comparable in size to northern Kosovo.

How much of this area Serbia might transfer to Kosovo is unclear. Nonetheless, trading northern Kosovo for at least some portion of the Presevo Valley would broadly preserve Serbia's and Kosovo's current

territorial size and population. The Serbian government will have a hard time granting formal recognition to an independent Kosovo no matter what; the land is of historical and cultural importance to Serbs, and Serbian

1973

King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden has his investiture.



1983

Saint Kitts and Nevis gains its independence.

2006

The Thai army stages a coup. The Constitution is revoked and martial law is declared.

2017

The 2017 Puebla earthquake strikes Mexico, causing 370 deaths and over 6,000 injuries, as well as extensive damage.

If the Republican Party had not set out to destroy the Affordable Care Act, the legislation might have been amended to address its shortcomings. But on this signature issue, the Democratic Party is widely seen as the author of a policy that failed low-wage Americans.

ronmental concerns take them away.”

Saving the planet is important work. But an exclusive focus on environmentalism that ignores working people’s immediate needs can easily look like elitist indifference. Colcord, whose father worked in the mines, has watched in recent years as a coal-fired power plant in his region gets regulated out of existence — “and when all those jobs go and your tax base with it, the party just doesn’t care.”

In rural Colorado, Obamacare is a disaster. Insurance companies have pulled out, and when there’s only one left, premiums go way up. Few people can afford health insurance at that price. It’s perhaps the No. 1 concern of voters outside big cities. Some Coloradans worry that they will lose Medicaid if they take a job. The system is an anxiety-generating labyrinth.

Sure, if the Republican Party had not set out to destroy the Affordable Care Act, the legislation might have been amended to address its shortcomings. But

on this signature issue, the Democratic Party is widely seen as the author of a policy that failed low-wage Americans. Again, this looks like elitist indifference.

Colorado has some of the worst funded schools in the country. Some have gone to four-day weeks because there’s no tax money to support them and it costs too much to run the school buses. Imagine telling the parents of kids in affluent metropolitan Democratic strongholds, sorry, we have to skip a day a week of school. But I don’t see the Democratic Party owning the education issue.

Colcord calls himself an “ultraconservative Democrat.” He supported Trump’s tax cuts for businesses but hated the tax cuts for the wealthiest, and he says the biggest reason he’s a Democrat is growing income inequality, an issue Republicans dismiss. He believes strongly in Roe v. Wade, having witnessed a 13-year-old giving birth when he was an intern in a hospital (“That really set my feelings”). He can’t stand Trump’s lies. He thinks that the country desperately needs immigration — some Colorado farms can’t find workers, thanks to Trump — and that Trump’s proposed wall is a crazy waste of money.

At the same time, he’s disillusioned with a party that can’t find a political idiom comprehensible to Americans around him. To take back the White House in 2020, Democrats would be better advised to keep their eye on Colcord than on Manafort.

(Roger Cohen is a columnist with The New York Times.)

(In collaboration with New York Times)

US should get behind

st it would bring peace

religious sites dot Kosovo. But if the proposed swap offers a face-saving way for Serbia to normalize relations with Kosovo and let the Balkans move forward, Kosovars and their international supporters should jump at it.

Admittedly, the Serbs that stay in Kosovo proper would be an even smaller minority if the north joins Serbia. Indeed, some Serbs will surely leave. Unsavory population transfers would also be likely in the Presevo Valley as ethnic Albanians move to areas destined to become part of Kosovo and ethnic Serbs leave them. But the establishment of formal relations between Kosovo and Serbia would bring a sense of normality and stability to Kosovo, encouraging those Serbs who remain there to become more invested in the country’s future. And Kosovo thus far has done a respectable job of protecting the rights of minorities.

Critics of the swap claim that it would set a dangerous precedent at a time when ethnic nationalism is already surging in Europe and beyond. In particular, the swap could fuel calls in other parts of the Balkans for borders to be redrawn along ethnic lines. Fair enough. Separatist

Pragmatism needs to trump principle in this case to secure a deal that promises to bring a close to the years of bloodshed and border changes that have resulted from the collapse of Yugoslavia.

sentiment among ethnic Serbs in Bosnia, ethnic Albanians in Macedonia or minorities elsewhere could strengthen.

But nowhere else in the Balkans is a consensual adjustment of borders on the table. If the proposed swap materializes, the international community should stress that it supports it as an extraordinary exception.

Rather than causing a contagion of ethnic separation, normalization of relations between Serbia and Kosovo may well do the opposite. Serbia is the region’s dominant player. If it settles its impasse with Kosovo, it may well transition from being

an aggrieved troublemaker to a satisfied stakeholder. Serbia’s help would be particularly welcome in discouraging Republika Srpska, the Serb-dominated region of Bosnia left behind by the war there in the 1990s, from seeking to break away. The positive effects of reconciliation between Serbia and Kosovo further justify a one-off sacrifice of pluralist principles.

Finally, the European Union has made clear that Serbia and Kosovo need to normalize relations if they are to join the union — a step that would immeasurably advance Balkan stability and prosperity. The envisaged land swap brings closer that better future.

The Serb and Kosovar presidents have tough negotiations ahead of them. But if Vucic and Thaci can pull this off, the United States and the European Union should embrace the deal. By offering a tentative green light now, Washington and Brussels can provide crucial encouragement and help build public support for an agreement in both Serbia and Kosovo.

(Charles A Kupchan is a professor of international affairs at Georgetown University and a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Hey, @Eminem -- you, Rap God ... your songs give me all the, uhm, “feels” (wink)... know you were bullied as a kid. could you (or your people) plz reach out to me on DM about trying to get you involved in an anti-bullying campaign for next month?

@MonicaLewinsky

02

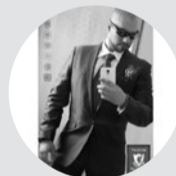


From reading the iPhone Xs/Xs Max reviews I’ve gleaned the following:

- they’re exactly what you’d expect from watching the Apple keynote
- if you’re an iPhone user without an X, they’re a great upgrade
- great camera unless you’re switching from a Pixel 2 (few will)

@MartinsFP

03



Bahrain MPs will vote in two weeks time to approve the VAT.

A 5% tax that the people of Bahrain will have to pay on goods and services.

@ATEEKSTER

04



The most successful people have had the some of the most difficult periods in life too.

The difference is how they respond to the situation. You take every situation as an opportunity. You learn, you strengthen, you grow.

#Leadership

@sadhavi

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

Wide Angle

Women and voting rights



JOEL INDRUPATI

Exactly 125 years ago, on 19 September 1893, New Zealand made history, as it became the world’s first self-governing nation to give voting rights to all its adult women.

However, when it came to equal rights for women, several nations were still backward then.

Two years later, in 1895 however, the women of South Australia achieved the same right. And, one after the other, almost all democratic countries gave women the right to vote.

As we now look back at the 125 years of the history related to women’s suffrage, we must acknowledge a bitter truth -- that the so-called ‘advanced’ nations had been very reluctant to give women the right to become political participants in their governments.

In fact, in USA and UK at that time, there were still protests demanding for women’s right to vote.

But it was not until 1918 and 1920 that UK and USA, respectively, gave in to women’s demands, and allowed them to finally participate in the electoral process.

What The Washington Times had failed to understand then was that the centuries of tradition and the deep-rooted belief systems cannot change at the snap of a finger. And this phased manner of enabling women empowerment must be welcomed, not criticised.

In New Zealand, when the elections were held two months after it had become the law, nearly two-thirds of New Zealand’s women, aged over 21, used their vote despite fears of harassment at the polling booths.

In 2009, I remember that when Saudi Arabia had announced that women will be allowed to run for local elections in 2015, an editorial of ‘The Washington Times’ was quick to criticise.

The editorial had said that since Saudi women are anyway not going to vote that year, the announcement was only a PR ploy. It had said that the announcement was not a big deal, because elections in the 178 Saudi municipalities were being held at a local level.

Yet, it was a giant leap for Saudi Arabia. A leap that all progressive-minded people should appreciate.

Not only had women voted but 17 women had actually won in the local elections of 2015. And great many changes have followed.

The 2016 Global Gender Gap Report by the World Economic Forum has ranked Saudi Arabia ahead of some countries like Syria, Pakistan and Yemen.

What The Washington Times had failed to understand then was that the centuries of tradition and the deep-rooted belief systems cannot change at the snap of a finger. And this phased manner of enabling women empowerment must be welcomed, not criticised.

In fact, the US must look back its own history before commenting on women’s suffrage. Here is the truth I learnt from a little bit of research.

On January 12, 1915, a women’s suffrage bill was brought before the US “House of Representatives” but was defeated by a vote of 204 to 174.

On January 10, 1918, another bill was brought before the House. President Wilson had then made a strong appeal to the House to pass the bill. It was passed by two-thirds of the House, with only one vote to spare. The vote was then carried into the “Senate” and on September 30, 1918, the amendment fell two votes short of passage. Again, on February 10, 1919, it was voted upon, and lost by only one vote.

With great anxiety among politicians of both parties to have the amendment passed before the general elections of 1920, the President called a special session of Congress, and introduced the amendment, which finally passed.

On Aug 18, 1920, with the ratification by the state of Tennessee, it became a law.

In fact, this ‘Nineteenth Amendment’ to the US Constitution, allowing women to vote came out of an extremely slow process. The state of Mississippi was the last state to ratify the amendment. And it did it as late as 1984.

Recognition of women’s voting rights in the 125 years has been slow, but steady.

business

Support for firms attending GITEX

● **GITEX Technology Week will be held from October 14 to 18 at Dubai World Trade Centre**

TDI| Manama

The Labour Fund (Tamkeen) has signed an agreement with Bahrain Technology Companies Society (BTECH) to support 40 enterprises that take part in the Bahraini National Pavilion (BNP) at GITEX2018.

GITEX Technology Week will be held from October 14 to 18 at Dubai World Trade Centre, leveraging unrivalled business access to emerging markets, buyers and governments from more than 130 countries. The agreement aims to support 40 ICT companies and 20 Bahraini start-ups take part in the largest



Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi



Ubaydli Ubaydli

technology event in the Middle East, Africa & South Asia.

“This event offers participants a promising opportunity for exposure and networking,” said Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi, Tamkeen’s Chief Executive, stressing the importance

of this annual event.

“Supporting Bahraini exhibitors at GITEX2018 aims to increase the contribution of technology companies in the private sector, enhance their competitiveness, develop their business and bring their prod-

ucts and services to the regional and global markets, as well as encourage Bahraini ICT entrepreneurs to develop their ideas and projects,” he added.

BTECH Chairman Ubaydli Ubaydli acknowledged that Bahrain’s consecutive annual participation @GITEX reflects positively on the development of the ICT sector in Bahrain, in line with Tamkeen’s strategy to develop programs for business development, in which the ICT industry is one of its main growth streams.

Ubaydli assured the keenness of “BTECH” to invest this support by Tamkeen in achieving the desired goals as effectively as possible, calling on all ICT and telecom companies in Bahrain to take this opportunity of Tamkeen’s generous support to participate in BNP @GITEX2018, run by BTECH in collaboration with WorkSmart for the 12th consecutive year.

Ticking Point



NITIN NOHRIA/ MICHAEL E. PORTER

Developing people and relationships

Building the company’s leadership pipeline is an important CEO function in its own right. We have found that CEOs must be personally committed to and be involved in improving the quality of the company’s leaders. They cannot just leave this task to human resources. Leadership choices are also pivotal in shaping the company’s culture. Who gets hired, promoted or fired signals what is truly valued by the CEO and the company.

CEOs need to get the most out of an organization’s talent, and to do that, they must forge personal connections. Our CEOs spent another quarter of their total work time in meetings that focused on building relationships. When trust is mutual, delegation comes more naturally, agreement is easier to reach and less monitoring and follow-up are necessary. Good relationships also make people more likely to give you the benefit of the doubt when you need it — and to tell you the truth, which is invaluable at the top.

The time CEOs spend building social capital through a network of personal relationships has many benefits and is time well spent.

THEY ARE ALWAYS IN MEETINGS

CEOs attend an endless stream of meetings, each of which can be totally different from the one before and the one that follows. Their sheer number and variety is a defining feature of the top job. On average, the leaders in our study had 37 meetings of assorted lengths in any given week and spent 72% of their total work time in meetings.

MAKING MEETINGS SHORTER AND MORE EFFECTIVE.

CEOs need to regularly review which meetings are truly needed and which can be delegated, and to let go of ones they were accustomed to in previous roles.

They should also take a hard look at meeting length. In our study, meetings that lasted an hour accounted for 32% of a CEO’s meetings, on average. Meetings that were longer accounted for 38%, and shorter meetings, 30%. We found that the length of meetings was often a matter of organizational or personal habit or both — a default length (like one hour) was the norm.

CEOs need to get the most out of an organization’s talent, and to do that, they must forge personal connections. Our CEOs spent another quarter of their total work time in meetings that focused on building relationships

“Standard” meeting times should be revisited with an eye toward shortening them. Doing this can significantly enhance a CEO’s efficiency. In our debriefs, CEOs confessed that one-hour meetings could often be cut to 30 or even 15 minutes. Another good way to streamline things is to reset meeting norms: Every meeting should have a clear agenda, and to minimize repetition, attendees should come prepared. Effective CEOs spread these meeting norms throughout the organization.

Some CEOs were worried that they might appear standoffish if someone asked for an hour and the CEO (or the EA) offered 30 minutes. But we have found that meeting length is worth confronting. “Whatever they ask for, cut it in half,” said one CEO.

Another important meeting attribute is the number and composition of attendees. One-on-one meetings were the most common (accounting for 42% of CEOs’ meetings, on average), followed by meetings with two to five participants (21%). Although every CEO had meetings involving large groups of 50 or more — like town halls, leadership off-sites or all-company meetings — these were infrequent (5% of meetings).

The emphasis on one-on-one and small group meetings makes sense for enabling delegation and relationship building, and allows confidentiality. But leaders should also look for opportunities to bring the right people together. An essential part of the CEO’s role is to align various internal and external constituencies around a common understanding of issues, decisions and action agendas. Having the right people in the room is a powerful way to build that alignment and avoid the need for repetitive, time-consuming interactions to bring everyone along.

Michael E. Porter is a university professor at Harvard, based at Harvard Business School in Boston. Nitin Nohria is dean of Harvard Business School

BCCI Counselling Council holds first meeting

TDI| Manama

The Counselling Council of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) has held its first meeting at Bait Al Tijjar presided over by Chairman Sameer Nass and in the presence of its members constituting leading business owners.

A presentation, detailing the purpose, work frame and work mechanism of the council was made at the meeting followed by a discussion about the outcomes of the study conducted by the Chamber on the new Commercial Registration fees, and the proposals referred to the Chamber by several government bodies. Nass voiced his pride in all the members of the council. He reinstated the pivotal role of



The Counselling Council of BCCI during its first meeting at Bait Al Tijjar

the counselling council for the chamber as an integral part of its decision making mechanism, highlighting the deep experiences and rich knowledge of its members. Similarly, members of the council reaffirmed their keenness in consolidating efforts with the Chamber for the common good of the private

sector.

Present at the meeting were: Ebrahim Zainal; Taqi Albahrna; Jalal Mohammed Jalal; Ali Yateem; Farooq Almoayed; Fouad Kanoo; Mohammed bin AlshaiikhIss’haq; Abdulghafar Al Kooheji; and Mohammed Abdulla Almanaei. And from the Chamber’s side the

first vice-chairman Khalid Najibi; second vice-chairman Mohamed Al Kooheji; Bureau Members Basim Al Saei and Mohamed Farooq Al Moayed; and board members Ahmed Al Saloom, Ramez Al Awadhi, and Sonia Janahi; alongside CEO Shaker Al Shater and other BCCI officials.



Gulf Air Chief Executive Officer Krešimir Kucko (4th from left) with Thales InFlyt Experience Chief Executive Officer Philippe Carette (5th from left) and members of management from both companies at Gulf Air headquarters in Muharraq.

Al Salam Bank's mobile banking service upgraded

The new digital banking service channel will enable customers to carry out their regular banking transactions in a convenient, safe and secure environment

TDT| Manama

Al Salam Bank-Bahrain has launched a new and upgraded mobile banking service to further enhance customer experience.

The bank's new digital banking service channel will enable customers to carry out their regular banking transactions in a convenient, safe and secure environment by using their smartphones or tablet devices built-in with new technological advancements such as MPIN (mobile PIN access code) or biometric authentications and face recognition for an add-on security features.

Customers will be able to view real-time balances in their various accounts in a single screen and through the use of a simple scroll-through function review the various sub menus to view accounts details, instant transfers between own accounts or

“**Al Salam Bank was the first in the Kingdom to launch the mobile banking application service back in 2011 and since its inception, the bank continued its commitment to bringing banking services to the customers' finger tips within the comfort of their homes or offices**

ANWAR MURAD



Anwar Murad, First Deputy CEO of Al Salam Bank

other accounts, make Fawri & Fawri+ transfers, check credit card details and balances, credit cards instant pay, view Finan-

ing and Wakala account details in addition to other supplementary features that includes generating IBAN, view current

special offers, use of financing calculators or currency converter for updated FX rates and finding your nearest branch or ATM amongst other features.

Announcing the launch, Anwar Murad, First Deputy CEO of Al Salam Bank-Bahrain, said: "Al Salam Bank was the first in the Kingdom to launch the mobile banking application service back in 2011 and since its inception, the bank continued its commitment to bringing banking services to the customers' finger tips within the comfort of their homes or offices, having access of a more simplified banking made available at all times. We understand that our customers are increasingly very tech-savvy and astute when it comes to the latest advancements in technology aimed at simplifying their lives and we are delighted to launch our newly upgraded mobile banking application filled with latest enhancements and

security features that includes MPIN, finger print or Face ID (facial recognition)."

"As mobile phones have become an integral part of our daily lives, being able to connect with anyone whenever and wherever is no longer an issue," Anwar Murad said.

"The 24-hour a day access will help our customers keep up with their finances and has the convenience to fit into their busy lifestyle anywhere and anytime," he said.

"Al Salam Bank has always been at the forefront of embracing and rolling out the latest technology aimed at providing customers with a secure and safe means to facilitate their day to day financial requirements and will continue to invest in technology to enable the Bank and Brand to consistently deliver on its creed of being dynamic, diversified and differentiated," he added.

Indian rupee closes all-time low as crude prices rise

Reuters| Mumbai| Bengaluru

The rupee closed at a new all-time low against the US dollar yesterday, pressured by rising crude oil prices and intensifying US-China trade war tensions.

The rupee had fallen more than 12 percent against the dollar this year and it is the worst performing Asian currency year-to-date, stung by an emerging markets sell-off and higher crude oil prices that have widened the country's current account deficit.

After gaining against the dollar early in the day, the rupee slumped to close at 72.9750 against the dollar, after dipping to a record low of 72.99 just before trading ended.

Last week's record low of

72.9150 was breached on Tuesday despite intervention from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that sold dollars late in the day in a bid to stem the slide in the rupee, said dealers.

"There was no reason for the rupee to fall so much," said one forex dealer. "Crude prices went up and suddenly people started shorting, that shows there's no confidence in the rupee. The RBI sold about \$400 million to \$500 million to calm markets, but that didn't work."

A senior government official told Reuters earlier on Tuesday that India sees a rupee value of 72-73 against the US dollar as a "fair value."

The government late last week announced a raft of measures to stabilise the falling local currency.



Muharrag Governor Salman Bin Hindi with Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdulhussain Mirza and EWA Chief Executive Officer Sheikh Nawaf bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa. The Governor praised the excellent services provided by the EWA for the citizens and residents of Bahrain. Dr Mirza was accompanied by EWA Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Distribution and Customer Services Adnan Mohammed Fakhro and a number of officials.

Ferrari quietly revs up for hybrid cars by 2022

AFP| Maranello, Italy

Most of the cars made by Ferrari will be hybrid petrol-electric by 2022, the Italian sports car manufacturer said yesterday, including its first SUV.

"By 2022, nearly 60 per cent of the models we produce will be built around hybrid powertrains," new CEO Louis Camilleri said at the company's Maranello headquarters.

The company known for its low-slung aerodynamic sports cars will also launch its first SUV -- Purosangue -- after the end of the current business plan in 2022.

The company will increasingly make hybrid cars "as the years unfold to meet specific regulatory requirements but also to satisfy customer desires for significantly improved emis-



Louis Camilleri

sions while retaining the driving emotions that render Ferraris simply unique," he said.

Ferrari has been making the limited-edition hybrid LaFerrari for several years, which it has described as offering the most

extreme performance ever achieved by one of its production cars.

Ferrari stock tumbled 8 per cent in August as investors wondered if the company could stay on track for its profit targets

after the death of historic boss Sergio Marchionne.

Ferrari announced an adjusted EBITDA -- or earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation -- of 1.8-2 bil-



The company will launch 15 new models by 2022 with "significant" increase in the average price

lion euros (\$2.1-\$2.3 billion) for 2022, down slightly from the 2 billion euros forecast by Marchionne.

"Even if it's difficult, we are confident that it is doable, this is an ambitious plan but feasible," Camilleri said.

The plan hopes to raise turnover from 3.4 billion euros in 2017 to 5 billion in 2022, notably through the introduction of new cars.

The single-seater Monza SP1 and twin-seater SP2 are the first limited-edition cars in the "Icona" segment for "dedicated clients and collectors," the company said, based on classic designs from the 1940s and 1950s.

The company will launch 15 new models by 2022, chief marketing officer Enrico Galliera announced, with a "significant" increase in the average price.

US finance giant buys UK insurance broker for £5bn

AFP| London

US-based financial services giant Marsh & McLennan Companies Inc. has agreed to buy British insurance broker Jardine Lloyd Thompson for £4.9 billion (\$6.4 billion, 5.5 billion euros) including debt, the pair said yesterday.

MMC has agreed to pay £19.15 per share in cash, representing a 33.7-percent premium on JLT's closing price on Monday, they said in a statement, noting that job cuts were likely.

"JLT is a complementary strategic fit with MMC," noted the US group's chief executive Dan Glaser. "Bringing together our two enterprises will create a platform to deliver exceptional service to clients across geographies and specialties," he added.

Nestle to sell insurance unit for \$1.55 bn

AFP| Geneva

Nestle said Monday that it had agreed to sell its Gerber Life Insurance unit for \$1.55 billion (1.3 billion euros), in the company's latest bid to redouble its focus on food and beverage.

The Switzerland-based food giant said the deal with Western & Southern Financial Group does not affect the iconic Gerber baby food unit, which Nestle will continue to control.

"This move is part of the ongoing evolution of our portfolio. It will allow us to invest further in our core food and beverage business and in consumer health-care," Nestle's chief executive Mark Schneider said in a statement. Nestle made a series of moves recently to more tightly focus its operations, with health food products and coffee emerging as key priorities. Nestle said it was exploring options to sell Gerber insurance business.

Walmart to drop shirts with Soviet symbols

AFP| Vilnius, Lithuania

American retail giant Walmart has pledged to stop selling clothing with Soviet hammer and sickle symbols after receiving complaints that they insult victims of Soviet-era persecution, Lithuanian officials said Tuesday. "The Lithuanian ambassador received a reply from Walmart saying they will remove the products with Soviet symbols," foreign ministry spokeswoman Rasa Jakilaitiene told AFP. Officials and emigrants from Lithuania and fellow Baltic states Latvia and Estonia have sent letters to Walmart calling on it to pull the Soviet-themed merchandise from its shelves. Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin deported more than 275,000 Lithuanians to Siberia in 1940-1952.

Twitter to offer option to go back to chronological feed

Washington

Twitter is preparing an option for users to go back to its original chronological news feed, responding to complaints about its algorithmic system implemented two years ago.

In a series of tweets late Monday, Twitter told users it was “working on new ways to give you more control over your timeline.”

The short-message social network said it still believes most users will want to see the “best” tweets at the top of their feed but will allow people to switch based on their preference.

“We’ve learned that when showing the best tweets first, people find Twitter more relevant and useful,” the San Francisco company said. “However, we’ve heard feedback from people who at times prefer to see the most recent tweets.”

After years of operating with a chronological timeline, Twitter began in 2016 to follow the lead of Facebook in using algorithms to offer what it deemed to be the most relevant messages for users as part of an effort to stimulate growth and engagement.

EU targets BMW, Daimler, VW in pollution cartel probe

Brussels, Belgium

The EU opened an in-depth probe into alleged collusion by major German carmakers over anti-pollution technology Tuesday, a fresh blow to the scandal-hit industry three years after the notorious “dieselgate.”

Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager said BMW, Daimler and VW are suspected of agreeing “not to compete against each other on the development and roll-out” of anti-pollution systems for petrol and diesel passenger cars.

“If proven, this collusion may have denied consumers the opportunity to buy less polluting cars, despite the technology being available to the manufacturers,” she added.

The probe lands three years to the day after shock revelations in the US that VW installed software in millions of its diesel vehicles around the world to cheat emissions tests.

The latest case does not involve these so-called “defeat devices”, but instead focuses on the development of state-of-the-art control systems that reduce smog-causing pollution, such as nitrogen oxides and particulate matter.

The Commission said the probe was working with evidence of meetings and collusion by a group it called the “circle of five”: BMW, Daimler, Volkswagen, in addition to VW units Audi and Porsche.

China sets retaliatory tariffs on \$60bn goods

China will activate on Monday tariffs of five to 10 per cent on 5,200 US goods totalling \$60 billion

Beijing, China

China yesterday announced tariffs on US goods worth \$60 billion in retaliation for President Donald Trump’s decision to slap duties on \$200 billion in Chinese products next week.

Tariffs of between five and 10 percent will take effect on some 5,200 US products on Monday, on the same day as the new US duties, the finance ministry said.

The two sides already traded tariff salvos on \$50 billion in goods from each country in the summer.

“If the United States insists on raising tariffs even more, China will respond accordingly,” the finance ministry said in a statement. China had previously warned that it would target \$60 billion in US goods if Trump made good on his threat to impose the new tariffs.

The lower Chinese figure highlights Beijing’s inability to match the US dollar-for-dollar



China's President Xi Jinping (L) and US President Donald Trump attend a welcome ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. (file)

in a tariffs war.

The US imported around \$500 billion worth of products from China last year, compared to \$130 billion in US goods imported by the Asian country.

Trump threatened to hit another \$267 billion in Chinese goods if Beijing took retaliatory

action. The Chinese finance ministry did not provide a detailed list of products to be hit by the new tariffs on Monday.

A previous list said products ranging from pig hides to cocoa butter and condoms would be targeted. China had previously said the \$60 billion in US goods

Tariffs to start

China will activate on Monday tariffs of five to 10 percent on 5,200 US goods totalling \$60 billion, the finance ministry said in a statement. The ministry did not provide details but a previous list included products ranging from

peppermint oil to pig hides, cocoa butter and condoms.

Last month White House economic advisor Larry Kudlow dismissed China’s threat as “weak” but admitted Beijing could “damage our companies in China”.

India delays action

India has delayed the implementation of higher tariffs on some goods imported from the US to Nov. 2, according to a govt order that put off for a 2nd time retaliatory action against US import tariffs on steel and

aluminum. Trade differences have risen since President Donald Trump took office, but India’s decision to further delay comes as they negotiate a package to remove trade frictions over a range of items.

would face tariffs of five to 25 percent. It was unclear if the tariffs announced on Tuesday were lower to match the US plan.

The US said the Chinese imports will face 10pc tariffs through the end of the year, and then the rate will jump to 25 pc.

Oil prices up

Reuters | London

Oil firmed yesterday on signs that OPEC would not be prepared to raise output to address shrinking supplies from Iran, and as Saudi Arabia signaled it was in no rush to bring prices down.

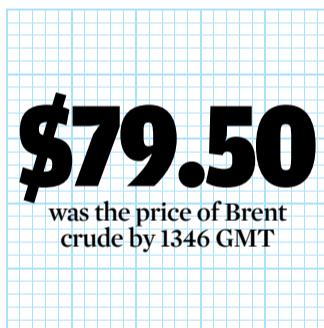
Brent crude LCOc1 futures were up \$1.45 a barrel at \$79.50 barrel at 1346 GMT.

US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude CLc1 was up \$1.32 cents at \$70.23 per barrel.

Ministers from OPEC and non-OPEC producers meet on Sunday to discuss compliance with output policies. OPEC sources have told Reuters no immediate action was planned and producers would discuss how to share a previously agreed output increase.

Bloomberg reported on Tuesday, citing unnamed Saudi sources, the kingdom was currently comfortable with prices above \$80 per barrel, at least for the short term.

The news agency reported that while the kingdom had no desire to push prices higher than \$80 a barrel, it may no longer be possible to avoid it.



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Saudi stocks lifted by oil rise

● SABIC gains 1.5 pct on details of Clariant partnership

● Al Tayyar Travel up on Saudi tourism hopes

● Egypt recovers after tumbling on manipulation case

● Emirates NBD, Aramex weigh on Dubai

Reuters | Dubai

Saudi Arabia’s stock market closed higher yesterday, buoyed by rising oil prices and more details on Saudi Basic Industries Corp’s (SABIC) partnership with Switzerland’s Clari-

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.4%	7,643
DUBAI	▼ 0.3%	2,743
ABU DHABI	▼ 0.1%	4,877
QATAR	▼ 0.09%	9,824
KUWAIT	▼ 0.1%	5,339
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.08%	1,340
OMAN	▼ 0.5%	4,496
EGYPT	▲ 0.02%	14,654

ant. In Egypt, the stock index was flat, closing up 0.02 percent after tumbling to its lowest level this year on Monday.

Other Gulf markets were generally lower after Washington announced new tariffs on Chinese imports, escalating trade tensions between the world’s two biggest economies.

The Saudi index closed 0.4pc

up. Stocks in the kingdom were also boosted by a firming of oil prices on signs that OPEC would not be prepared to raise output to address declining supplies from Iran and as Saudi Arabia signaled it was in no rush to bring prices down.

Emirates NBD weighed on the Dubai index, closing 1.1pc lower. Aramex was also a drag, shedding 4.2pc. The Dubai index finished 0.3pc lower.

In Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank closed 3.3pc down. The bank’s acting chief executive told Reuters on Tuesday that it expected to increase lending in 2018 after boosting its capital. The largest sharia-compliant lender in Abu Dhabi expects single-digit growth in profit this year, Khamis Buharoon al-Shamsi said. The main index finished 0.1pc lower.

Global stocks take trade war escalation in stride

London, United Kingdom

Key figures around 1530 GMT

Stock markets took the latest escalation in the trade war between the world’s top two economies in their stride on Tuesday.

European stocks only briefly turned lower after China retaliated to the latest US sanctions, while Wall Street opened higher, as analysts viewed Beijing’s reaction as being moderate and measured.

China announced yesterday tariffs on US goods worth \$60 billion in retaliation for President Donald Trump’s decision the previous day to slap duties on \$200 billion in Chinese products next week.

“If the United States insists on

New York - Dow Jones:	▲ 0.5pc	at 26,190.91 points
London - FTSE 100:	▼ 0.03pc	at 7,300.23 (close)
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	▲ 0.5pc	at 12,157.67 (close)
Paris - CAC 40:	▲ 0.3pc	at 5,363.79 (close)
EURO STOXX 50:	▲ 0.3pc	at 3,355.42
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▲ 1.4pc	at 23,420.54 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng:	▲ 0.6pc	at 27,084.66 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▲ 1.8pc	at 2,699.95 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▲ \$1.1860	from \$1.1685 at 2040 GMT
Pound/dollar:	▼ \$1.3146	from \$1.3159
Dollar/yen:	▲ 112.33 yen	from 111.83 yen

raising tariffs even more, China will respond accordingly,” the finance ministry said in a statement. Monday’s volley of

tariffs from the White House will see \$200 billion worth of goods taxed at 10 per cent from September 24, going up to 25pc

from January 1 if the two sides are unable to hammer out a deal.

While European markets briefly dropped, they rebounded after Wall Street opened higher, as traders took a sanguine view of the developments.

“The more lenient approach from President Trump last night and a measured reaction from Beijing has left traders a little on the optimistic side,” said market analyst David Madden at CMC Markets UK.

“It is almost as if a hurdle has been cleared and investors have one less thing to worry about in the near-term,” he added.

London gave up its gains, but Paris closed 0.3pc higher and Frankfurt rose by 0.5pc.

The Dow was up 0.5pc in late

morning trade. Fawad Razaqzada at Forex.com called China’s latest move “measured and not over-aggressive” as the tariff rates it applied were less than it had previously indicated.

Consumer tech giant Apple was spared in this round of tariffs, which excluded smartwatches and Bluetooth devices. Apple’s shares were up 0.8pc in late morning trading.

“There were investors who’d been thinking a 25pc tariff in one go is a possibility,” Shogo Maekawa, a global market strategist with JPMorgan Asset Management, said.

“It could be considered something good in this realm of bad things.”

show



“Game of Thrones” author George RR Martin and the cast of the HBO show pose with the best drama series Emmy

GoT takes top prize at Emmys

AFP | Los Angeles

HBO's record-breaking fantasy epic “Game of Thrones” stormed back onto the Emmys stage on Monday, winning the coveted best drama series prize on a night full of surprises, including an on-air marriage proposal that stunned the audience.

The other big story of the Hollywood gala, television's answer to the Oscars, was the huge success of “The Marvelous Mrs Maisel,” Amazon's story of a 1950s housewife-turned-stand up comic, which took home eight Emmys overall, including the best comedy award.

“The Handmaid's Tale” -- last year's best drama and an early favorite for more hardware in 2018 -- went home empty-handed from the star-studded event at the Microsoft Theatre, after winning three minor awards handed out a week ago.

The ceremony hosted by “Saturday Night Live” regulars Colin Hanks and Michael Che took on a decidedly political hue at the start, with a barrage of edgy jokes on hot-button issues from diversity in Hollywood to #MeToo and Donald Trump.

The gala also saw several sentimental favorites take home their first Emmys.

Matthew Rhys won for best drama actor for spy thriller “The Americans,” Claire Foy was named best drama actress for her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth

II in “The Crown” and Henry Winkler triumphed for supporting comedy acting on “Barry.”

But the coveted drama prize went to “Game of Thrones,” which was ineligible for last year's Emmys, and series star Peter Dinklage took home the best supporting actor prize for his portrayal of Tyrion Lannister.

“Writing for these actors behind us is the honour of a lifetime,” said the show's co-creator David Benioff.

“But we didn't invent these characters. That was George R.R. Martin. The show could not be without the mad genius of George.”

“GoT” won nine Emmys this year, meaning the blood-spattered cinematic tale of noble families vying for the Iron Throne -- which returns in 2019 for an abbreviated eighth and final season -- now has 47 awards overall.

That breaks the program's own record as the most decorated fictional show since the Television Academy first handed out prizes in 1949.

In the comedy categories, “Mrs Maisel” bested all comers in its first year of eligibility, sweeping the female acting prizes (star Rachel Brosnahan and co-star Alex Borstein) and best series honours.

Earlier this year, “Maisel” won two Golden Globes.

“One of the things I love the most about this show... it's about a woman who is finding her voice anew,” Brosnahan said.

Emmy-winning director wins a second time -- with on-air proposal

AFP | Los Angeles

The Emmy Awards took on a romantic note Monday when one of the winners proposed to his astonished girlfriend during the live broadcast, earning a standing ovation from the shocked audience of Hollywood A-listers.

Glenn Weiss took the prize for best directing of a variety special for his work on the Oscars. As he accepted the award, he asked Jan Svendsen, who was sitting in the audience, to marry him.

“You wonder why I don't like to call you my girlfriend? Because I want to call you my wife,” he added to cheers, applause and a



Glenn Weiss (L), winner of the Emmy for best directing of a variety special for ‘The Oscars,’ proposes to Jan Svendsen onstage during the ceremony

few teary-eyed actors in the audience. Svendsen then joined Weiss on stage as the director got on one knee and formally proposed.

JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN

(PG) (COMEDY/ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW

⊛ ROWAN ATKINSON, OLGA KURYLENKO, EMMA THOMPSON

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 11.30 AM + 12.00 + 1.00 + 1.30 + 2.00 + 3.00 + 3.30 + 4.00 + 5.00 +

5.30 + 6.00 + 7.00 + 7.30 + 8.00 + 9.00 + 9.30 + 10.00 + 11.00 + 11.30 PM + 12.00 MN +

(1.00 AM THURS./FRI.)

CITY CENTER VIP (I): 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30 + 10.30 PM +

(12.30 MN. THURS./FRI.)

CITY CENTER VIP (I): 11.45 AM + 1.45 + 3.45 + 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM.

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 11.45 + 12.45 + 1.45 + 2.45 + 3.45 + 4.45 + 5.45 + 6.45 + 7.45 + 8.45 + 9.45 + 10.45 + 11.45 PM + (12.45 MN THURS./FRI.)

SAAR DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 11.00 AM + 12.30 + 1.00 + 2.30 + 3.00 + 4.30 + 5.00 + 6.30 + 7.00 + 8.30 + 9.00 + (10.30 + 11.00 PM. THURS./FRI.)

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 11.30 AM + 1.00 + 1.30 + 3.00 + 3.30 + 5.00 + 5.30 + 7.00 + 7.30 + 9.00 + 9.30 + 11.00 + 11.30 PM

BATTI GUL METER CHALU

(PG-15) (HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA) NEW

⊛ SHAHID KAPOOR, SHRADDHA KAPOOR, YAMI GAUTAM, ASHRUT JAIN

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + 12.00 MN

SEEF (I) DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 2.00 + 5.15 + 8.30 + 11.45 PM

SAAR DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

THE NUN

(18+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW

⊛ TAISSA FARMIGA, DEMIAN BICHER, BONNIE AARONS

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 10.30 AM. + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN. + (1.00 AM THURS./FRI.)

DAILY AT (IMAX 2D): 2.15 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM

SAAR DAILY AT: 2.00 + 6.45. + (11.30 PM. THURS./FRI.)

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM

THE MEG

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER)

⊛ JASON STATHAM, RUBY ROSE, BINGBING LI

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN

DAILY AT (IMAX 3D): 11.45 AM + 4.30 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 2.30 + 7.00 + 11.30 PM

EL BADLAH

(PG-13) (ARABIC/COMEDY)

⊛ TAMER HOSNY, AKRAM HOSNI, MAJED EL MASRY, AMINA KHALIL

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (I) DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 2.15 + 7.00 + 11.45 PM

THE PREDATOR

(15+) (ACTION/HORROR/THRILLER/SCI-FICTION)

⊛ BOYD HOLBROOK, TREVANTE RHODES, JACOB TREMBLAY

CINECO (20) DAILY AT (IMAX 3D): 7.00 + 9.15 PM

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

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 2.15 + 6.45 + 11.15 PM

PEPPERMINT

(PG-15) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA)

⊛ JENNIFER GARNER, RICHARD CABRAL, JOHN GALLAGHER JR.

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 12.00 + 4.30 + 9.00 PM

A SIMPLE FAVOR

(15+) (THRILLER/CRIME/DRAMA)

⊛ ANNA KENDRICK, BLAKE LIVELY, HENRY GOLDING

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 2.45 + 7.15 + 11.45 PM

SAAR DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 4.30 + 9.15 PM

ALPHA

(PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA)

⊛ KODI SMIT-MCPHEE, JOHANNES HAUKEUR JOHANNESON

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

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE FALLOUT

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER/CRIME)

⊛ TOM CRUISE, HENRY CAVILL, VING RHAMES

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

THE EQUALIZER-2

(15+) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER)

⊛ DENZEL WASHINGTON, PEDRO PASCAL, ASHTON SANDERS

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

HOTELTRANSYLVANIA 3: SUMMER

(PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/DRAMA)

⊛ ADAM SANDLER, ANDY SAMBERG, FRAN DRESCHER

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 5.15 + 9.45 PM

REPRISAL

(PG-15) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER)

⊛ BRUCE WILLIS, FRANK GRILLO, JOHNATHON SCHAECH

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 9.15 + 11.15 PM

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN

(PG) (FAMILY/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)

⊛ EWAN MCGREGOR, HAYLEY ATWELL, BRONTE CARMICHAEL

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 PM

SKYSCRAPER

(PG-13) (ACTION/THRILLER/DRAMA)

⊛ DWAYNE JOHNSON, NEVE CAMPBELL, PABLO SCHREIBER

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 3.00 + 7.00 + 11.00 PM

MILE 22

(15+) (ACTION/THRILLER)

⊛ MARK WAHLBERG, LAUREN COHAN, IKO UWAIS

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 1.00 + 5.00 + 9.00 PM

WILDLING

(15+) (THRILLER/HORROR) NEW

⊛ LIV TYLER, BRAD DOURIF, BEL POWLEY

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN

ANIMAL WORLD

(PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FANTASY) NEW

⊛ DONGYU ZHOU, MICHAEL DOUGLAS, YIFENG LI

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM

ELIZABETH HARVEST

(18+) (THRILLER) NEW

⊛ ABBEY LEE, CARLA GUGINO, CIAR'N HINDS

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM

THE YELLOW BIRDS

(15+) (DRAMA/WAR) NEW

⊛ TONI COLLETTE, JENNIFER ANISTON, ALDEN EHRENREICH

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

MONSTERS BUSTERS

(PG) (ADVENTURE/FAMILY) NEW

⊛ MATTHEW KOSTO, AUGGIE PULLIAM, AUSTIN ST. JOHN

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM

FARKISH

(PG-15) (SAUDI/EGYPTIAN/COMEDY) NEW

⊛ WAEL ALA, KARIM AL HUSSAINI, ABDULLATIF AL SHAMI

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

PADAYOTTAM

(MALAYALAM) NEW

⊛ BIJU MENON, ANU SITHARA, RAVI SINGH

SEEF (I) DAILY AT: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM

AL HAMRA DAILY AT: 6.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)

SAAMY 2

(TAMIL) NEW

⊛ VIKRAM, TRISHA KRISHNAN, KEERTHI SURESH

FROM FRIDAY 21ST

SEEF (I) DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 12.00 + 2.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM + 12.00 MN

FROM FRIDAY 21ST

AL HAMRA

DAILY AT: 3.00 + 9.00 PM

KINAVALLY

(MALAYALAM) NEW

⊛ SOWMYA MENON, HAREESH PERUMANNA, SURABHI SANTHOSH

AL HAMRA DAILY AT: 12.00 NOON

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, DAYANAND S/O HAREEHAR, holding Indian Passport No. M 1266216, dated 20.08.2014 issued at **LUCKNOW**, having permanent residence at (full address in India) **VILL AND POST TARASARA, DEORIA, PIN: 274204, UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA**. Presently residing at (full address in Bahrain) **BUILDING 329, ROAD 1204, BLOCK 1012, HAMALA** will henceforth be known as (Given name) **DAYANAND (Surname) PATEL**. Objection(s) if any, may be forwarded to Embassy of India, P.O Box 26106, ADLIYA, Kingdom of Bahrain.

I, SUNIL KUMAR S/O SUKUMARAN, holding Indian Passport No. N 8037313, dated 24.10.2016 issued at **BAHRAIN**, having permanent residence at (full address in India) **BATRAPADY HOUSE, KUMBLA PO., KASARAGOD DT., KERALA – 671 321**. Presently residing at (full address in Bahrain) **HOUSE 424, ROAD 2609, BLOCK 626, AL AKR AL GHARBI, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN**. will henceforth be known as (Given name) **SUNIL (Surname) KUMAR**. Objection(s) if any, may be forwarded to Embassy of India, P.O Box 26106, ADLIYA, Kingdom of Bahrain.

SPORTS
sports**Awalii triumphs at Kempton Racecourse**

TDT | Manama

Awalii, owned by Shaikh Duaij bin Salman Al Khalifa, member of the Board of Directors of Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF) and Chairman of the Endurance Committee, has triumphed at the Kempton Racecourse in London, in the 3-5 year race of the fifth level, 1600 m which featured the participation of 11 horses.

Awalii's victory on the synthetic track was orchestrated by jockey James Doyle and trainer Simon Crisford, who were able to accurately read the race and determine the victory plan, employing the abilities of Awalii to attain his first win after three participations.

On this occasion, Shaikh Duaij bin Salman Al Khalifa congratulated HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee.

"The Kempton race is considered one of the toughest, due to the wide participation of various owners. This result reflects the advanced levels achieved by Bahraini equestrian sport," Shaikh Duaij said, praising the outstanding performance offered by Doyle.

Ben Stokes charged with bringing game into disrepute: ECB

AFP | London

Ben Stokes and Alex Hales have been charged with bringing the game into disrepute by the England and Wales Cricket Board following a late-night altercation last year.

The independent Cricket Discipline Commission (CDC) was tasked with leading an internal disciplinary into last September's incident after Stokes was found not guilty of affray following a trial last month.

Ferrari 'reasonably optimistic' about new F1 car design deal

AFP | Maranello, Italy

Ferrari boss Louis Camilleri said yesterday that he was "reasonably optimistic" about reaching an agreement on the new design for Formula One cars to replace the current models in 2021.

"I'm reasonably optimistic about an agreement within an acceptable timeframe," Camilleri said at Ferrari headquarters in Maranello.

Ross Brawn, Formula One's managing director of motorsports, last week unveiled plans for futuristic new cars to be used from the 2021 season to improve racing and be more attractive to fans.

The former Mercedes team principal said he had been working with teams and motorsport governing body FIA to develop new aerodynamics that would enable cars to follow each other at shorter distances without a loss of performance.



Sebastian Vettel during qualifying in Singapore on Saturday

Brawn showed three different concept designs and said the 2021 cars would incorporate the best features from all of them. The unveiling came days after designs had been leaked on so-

cial media.

The three design concepts include simpler front and rear wings and a sweeping integrated halo cockpit protection system to improve aesthetics.

"There's a general consensus on the main objectives, but ideas on how to get there diverge greatly," Camilleri said.

"There's been progress but we're still far from an overall



I'm reasonably optimistic about an agreement within an acceptable timeframe. There's a general consensus on the main objectives, but ideas on how to get there diverge greatly

LOUIS CAMILLERI

agreement that all participants can sign."

Camilleri's illustrious predecessor Sergio Marchionne, who died in July, was at the forefront of efforts to resist a bid by FI's new owner, the United States' Liberty Media, and the FIA, to make racing's top sport more egalitarian.

Selwady lands in Abu Dhabi for Brave 16

TDT | Manama

Amidst speculations of a super fight for the lightweight championship, Abdul Kareem Al Selwady arrived in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

The lightweight fighter visited the venue and confirmed his presence during the fight night in the arena during Brave 16 hosted on 21st September.

The lightweight fighter from Fortis MMA was initially set to compete in the fight night at the Mubadala Arena.

Abdul Kareem was set to face Guram Kutateladze in the main card. However the lightweight fighter who is undefeated in Brave Combat Federation in his past four appearances withdrew from the fight card while discussions of an upcoming championship title fight with Ottman Azaitar was trending in social media in the Middle East.

Mohammad Fakhreddine and Hamza Kooheji who had trained at Fortis MMA and Extreme Studio Performance



Abdul Kareem Al Selwady



Fakhreddine will face Gadzhimusa Gaziev while Hamza Kooheji will face Crisanto Pitpitunge

alongside Abdul Kareem will be featured in the fight card at Brave 16.

Fakhreddine will be facing Gadzhimusa Gaziev in the welterweight division while, Hamza Kooheji will be facing Crisanto Pitpitunge from Team

Lakay in a bantamweight fight. Both Hamza and Fakhreddine have high stakes since they will be looking forward to bounce back after their first loss in the promotion.

BOC begins evaluation meetings with federations

TDT | Manama

Secretary-General of the Bahrain Olympic Committee Abdulrahman Sadeq Askar affirmed that the technical evaluation of the participation of the Kingdom of Bahrain at the 18th Asian Games that came to a close recently in Jakarta and Palembang, in Indonesia, would provide a clear picture of the most positive and negative points of the participation and push towards enhancing the positive aspects and avoiding the negatives ones in the next edition.

This statement was announced after the BOC first scheduled meeting with the national federations that took part at the 18th Asian Games in an attempt to evaluate the results of its teams.

In the first meeting, attended by representatives of four national federations – bowl-

ing, maritime sports, self defence and cycling, technical information were presented, as each federation discussed their respective results at the games with representatives of the BOC.

The second meeting was attended by members of three federations – equestrian sports and endurance horse ride, shooting and cycling, while the third meeting is scheduled for today with the federations of football, athletics and handball. The triathlon and mixed martial arts federations meeting are yet to be scheduled.

Askar expressed appreciation for the great efforts exerted by the players, technical and administrative staff during the Asian Games, but also stressed the importance of this evaluation process in order to look into some of the unexpected results in some sports during the competition.

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Formula One to enable live in-play betting

Reuters | London

Formula One announced a sponsorship and data rights deal with Interregional Sports Group (ISG) yesterday that it said will enable the development of live in-play betting.

The Financial Times newspaper reported earlier that the deal to sell betting sponsorships was worth at least \$100 million over five years.

Formula One's commercial rights holder is John Malone's U.S.-based Liberty Media, who took full control in January last year.

"As part of the deal, ISG will have the right to sub-license betting partnership rights to select betting brands around the world, subject to regulations," Formula One said in a statement, without providing financial details.

It said that would include regionalised branded on-screen graphics, physical and virtual trackside signage and integration across FI's digital and social platforms.

The Financial Times said ISG would pay an upfront fee to Liberty and recoup that money through separate deals with gambling sponsors.

The partnership also involves Sportradar Integrity Services to help ISG and gambling companies use the data to create markets and spot any suspicious betting patterns.

Sean Bratches, the sport's managing director for commercial matters, said the deal would make the most of data generated at races worldwide.

"Data and sponsorship partnerships like this are common practice across almost all premium sports and this is the latest step in our mission to make Formula One the world's leading sports entertainment experience," he said.

FIFA president has doubts about La Liga match in USA

AFP | Barcelona

FIFA president Gianni Infantino has expressed concern about La Liga's proposal to stage a fixture between Girona and Barcelona in the United States.

The two clubs have each approved a request submitted to the Spanish Football Federation for the match to be played at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami on January 26. It was originally scheduled as a home game for Girona, at their Estadi Montilivi.

The idea has proven controversial. Girona would be surrendering the advantages of playing at their own home ground, which in theory could benefit Barcelona.

Infantino said yesterday: "I think I would prefer to see a great MLS game in the US rather than La Liga being in the US. In football, the general principle is that you play a 'home' match at 'home', and not in a foreign country."

La Liga president Javier Tebas responded on Twitter. He wrote: "I will remind the president of FIFA that in the MLS, three teams of Canada participate, and Toronto is the current champion, and also in Canada there is another professional league."



Barcelona players celebrate after scoring a goal

Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver all compete in the MLS but play home fixtures in their own cities, in Canada.

Infantino also confirmed the plan will need approval from the Spanish and US Football Federations, as well as UEFA and CONCACAF, the governing bodies in charge of European and North American football respectively.

He added: "FIFA should also express a view on the matter,

not least since it would have implications for football at a global level as well."

La Liga is discussing playing one game per season in the US as part of a 15-year agreement with the media company Relevent.

Girona supporters have been offered a "compensation package", which is believed to include free flights to the US, as well as 5,000 tickets for the reverse fixture at the Camp Nou

later this month.

The offer to play the game abroad has been accepted by Girona, who have described it as "a great opportunity to expand and grow, not only for the club but also for our city and our territory".

Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde said on Friday: "Everything is still far away. It has been discussed with the players and there is an intention



La Liga is discussing playing one game per season in the US as part of a 15-year agreement with the media company Relevent

(for the match to be moved)."

Real Madrid coach Julen Lopetegui believes moving the game would undermine the equality of the league.

"I'm not in favour of it," Lopetegui said on Friday. "I think we should all play in the same conditions, on the same pitches - that's what makes the league equal."

La Liga has said the match is part of a long-term project, "targeted at promoting football in the United States and Canada".

Spain taxman drops accusations against James Rodriguez

AFP | Madrid

Spain's taxman has dropped accusations that Colombia's James Rodriguez evaded millions of euros in taxes when he played at Real Madrid, the El Mundo daily reported yesterday.

The newspaper revealed in July that tax authorities accused the Bayern Munich midfielder of having evaded 6.35 million euros (\$7.4 million) in taxes and would have to pay that amount plus a fine and interests for a total of 11.65 million euros.

They reportedly said James was transferred to Real Madrid from Monaco for 80 million euros mid-2014, but that he registered as a non-resident that year and should have registered as a resident.

But the 27-year-old's lawyers, according to El Mundo, submitted new documents that saw tax authorities drop their accusations.

Wilshere faces spell on sidelines after ankle surgery

AFP | London

West Ham midfielder Jack Wilshere is facing a spell on the sidelines after undergoing ankle surgery, the Premier League club have announced.

Wilshere, 26, had an operation on Monday after missing Sunday's 3-1 Premier League win at Everton because of his injury.

Reports said the former Arsenal player and England international could be out of action for up to six weeks.

The club's head of medical Richard Collinge said the procedure went well.

Arsenal chief executive Gazidis to join AC Milan

AFP | London

Arsenal chief executive Ivan Gazidis is to leave the club to take up a similar post at Italian giants AC Milan, the Premier League club announced yesterday.

Speculation that Gazidis -- who oversaw Unai Emery's appointment to replace Arsene Wenger in May -- will depart for Italy has been rife for some time.

Now the move has been confirmed, with Raul Sanllehi, currently head of football relations at the Emirates Stadium, to become head of football when Gazidis heads to Milan.

Arsenal's chief commercial officer Vinai Venkatesham will take over the role of managing director at the same point.

Gazidis, 54, has reportedly been offered £3.6 million (\$4.7 million) a year -- a £1 million increase in his present salary -- and an equity stake in the AC Milan by the American owners Elliott Management, who took over in July.

Di Francesco denies racist insults provoked Costa

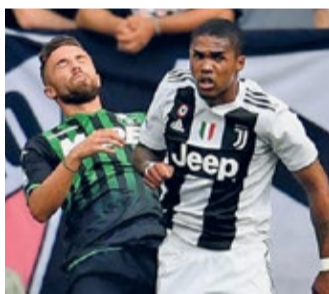
AFP | Milan

Sassuolo winger Federico Di Francesco yesterday rubbished claims that he provoked Juventus forward Douglas Costa with racist insults which resulted in the Brazilian spitting in his face.

Costa was sent off for aiming an elbow and headbutt before spitting in the face of Di Francesco, the son of Roma coach Eusebio Di Francesco, in Sunday's game the champions won 2-1 in Turin thanks to Cristiano Ronaldo's first goals for the club.

Costa, 28, later posted an apology to his teammates and fans on his Instagram account, although he replied to one comment by saying that people did not know what Di Francesco had said to him.

"You don't know what he said to me. But no big deal... I say sorry to all those who I have to say it to, because I did wrong," Costa wrote.



Costa saw red after clashing with Di Francesco

And amid the speculation, 24-year-old Di Francesco hit back at suggestions he had aimed racist insults at his rival.

"I'm deeply troubled by the allegations and inventions that have appeared in some national media outlets," Di Francesco said.

"All of this is offensive and derogatory. I won't allow any racist behaviour and/or phrases, which do not belong to my ethical values and are the fruit of other people's imagination, to be attributed to me. I ask for and demand respect!"

Refs must do more to protect Bayern stars - Rummenigge

AFP | Berlin

Bayern Munich chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge wants referees to give their stars more protection after Corentin Tolisso and Rafinha both suffered long-term injuries at the weekend.

Bayern flew to Portugal ahead of their opening Champions League group stage game at Benfica on Wednesday without World Cup winning France midfielder Tolisso or right-back Rafinha.

Tolisso, 24, tore the cruciate ligament in his right knee following a tackle by Kevin Volland after scoring a superb goal in Bayern's 3-1 home win against Bayer Leverkusen on Saturday and is expected to be out for months.

It was Tolisso's first start of the season.

Rafinha, 33, is also set for a lengthy spell on the sidelines after tearing ankle ligaments



Bayern Munich's Brazilian defender Rafinha (second from left) will be sidelined for several weeks after tearing ankle ligaments at Bayer Leverkusen

from a stamp on his heel by Leverkusen winger Karim Belarabi, who was sent off for the foul and banned for four games.

Bayern have now lost three players in as many league matches as France winger Kingsley Coman also tore ankle

ligaments after being fouled on the opening day of the season against Hoffenheim.

"It can't go on like this or by matchday 10 (in the Bundesliga), we won't be able to put out 11 players," fumed Rummenigge before Bayern jetted off yesterday.

Don't ask for Messi's shirt at halftime, PSV coach tells team

Reuters | Madrid

PSV Eindhoven coach Mark van Bommel says his players can fight it out for Barcelona star Lionel Messi's shirt if they win at the Nou Camp yesterday - but they had better not ask him for it at halftime.

Van Bommel wants the Dutch league leaders to stay professional as they begin the Champions League season facing the player he called the best in the

world.

"If tomorrow we get a good result, I don't care if they fight for Messi's shirt," Van Bommel told a news conference on Monday.

"That is part of being a professional, to always be concentrating. I know they will ask him for the shirt, but they shouldn't do it at halftime."

PSV winger Hirving Lozano may one day line up with the Argentine at Barcelona, having revealed the Catalan side were



Barcelona star Lionel Messi removes his shirt after a game

interested in signing him in the close season after he impressed for Mexico at the World Cup.

"My agents told me that Barca asked about me and it would be a dream to play here in the future," he said, "but now the important thing is focusing on PSV and enjoying it as much as possible."

Despite Messi's exalted status, Barcelona have won only one of the last five Champions Leagues.

"It's hard to explain, I don't understand it," said midfielder Philippe Coutinho, who is looking forward to making his debut in the competition for the Catalan club after being cup-tied last season.

"It's hard to watch the game from outside. I always want to play to help, but I couldn't last season."

Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde said PSV, on paper no match for his side, deserved respect.

Hamilton happy with team's performance

Reuters | London

Mercedes are over-delivering in the Formula One title battle and going from strength to strength, according to championship leader Lewis Hamilton.

The Briton won convincingly in Singapore on Sunday, his seventh victory of the season, to go 40 points clear of Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel with six races remaining and a fifth title beckoning.

Vettel had gone into the weekend as clear favourite but Hamilton seized pole position with a monumental qualifying lap that stunned even his team mates. He then controlled the floodlit race.

"The car's true pace is 100 and we are putting out 102," the Mercedes website quoted the Briton, who headed to Thailand after the race for some promotional work before a few days off, as saying.

"Our understanding of the car, how to utilise the tools that we have — we're far more comfortable at our job right now," he added.

The jet-setting champion answered those who feared his lifestyle — with fashion shows and trips to America — would affect his bid for a fifth title by showing that it was all positive.

"People have asked me if I need to change my approach.



Lewis Hamilton celebrates after his victory in Singapore

I think we've got a great approach as a team. We have outperformed often a car that's slightly better. We just need to keep doing that," said Hamilton.

The 33-year-old said there was no chance of anyone at Mercedes getting 'cocky or overly confident' after stretching the gap to Ferrari in both championships.

"I don't look at it and think that we lucked in. We honestly don't waste any time wondering what they are doing or how they are feeling or if they are feeling pressure, if they are happy or

"
The car's true pace is 100 and we are putting out 102. Our understanding of the car, how to utilise the tools that we have — we're far more comfortable at our job right now

LEWIS HAMILTON

unhappy," he said.

"There is nothing we can do about them. All we can do is be the best we can be that weekend and hopefully that is good enough. If it's not then we will keep working."

Hamilton said he still felt a need to win every race and had assured team boss Toto Wolff that he would do all he could to achieve that.

"I just said to Toto: 'Don't for a second ever believe or let creep into your mind that I don't want to win this championship more than anything. That's my priority,'" he declared.

'Ignorance makes you very bold' - Ramos slams Griezmann attitude

AFP | Madrid

Sergio Ramos has launched a scathing attack on Antoine Griezmann's attitude after the French forward said he has his eye on the Ballon d'Or prize and is on a par with Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo.

In an interview with AS on Monday, Griezmann admitted he was disappointed not to be nominated for the Best FIFA Men's Player award and regarding the Ballon d'Or prize, he said: "I have it in my head and there are three months to give everything".

Asked if he considered himself in the same class as Ronaldo and Messi, the Atletico Madrid player said: "Yes I think so and I know other players are going to come for sure."

"Being at that table is a vision I have but I also know that I can do better."

Griezmann also teased Ramos after Atletico beat Real Madrid 4-2 to win the

UEFA Super Cup in August. The striker posted a picture on social media of Ramos placing a crown upon his head.

When asked about Griezmann's comments yesterday, Ramos said: "Ignorance makes you very bold."

"When I hear this kid talk, I remember players like (Francesco) Totti, Raul, (Gianluigi) Buffon, (Iker) Casillas, (Paolo) Maldini, Xavi or (Andres) Iniesta who have won everything but not a Ballon d'Or."

"Everyone is free to express their opinion but I think he should take the advice of (Diego) Simeone, (Diego) Godin or Koke who represent the values that serve them (Atletico Madrid) well."

"But I have always said that he is a great player and I wish him the best."

Atletico play Monaco in France yesterday in Champions League while Madrid begin the defence of their title at home to Roma on Wednesday.



Sergio Ramos and Antoine Griezmann

Maradona makes Mexico debut with win

AFP | Culiacan, Mexico

Diego Maradona won big in his Mexican coaching debut Monday, as the Argentine legend's new club, Dorados, routed fellow second-division side Cafetaleros 4-1.

Maradona has raised eyebrows with his decision to coach the struggling team from Culiacan, Sinaloa, in the heart of Mexican drug cartel country.

But he was all smiles as Ecuadorian forward Vinicio Angulo -- wearing Maradona's old number 10 -- scored a hat trick to give the new coach the win.

"We played a great match," he told a packed press conference afterward.

"Some people said Marado-



Maradona, 57, lived the finest hours of his playing career in Mexico, leading Argentina to the 1986 World Cup title

na's useless. There were a lot of stupid people going on television to fill up the time. I hope they'll come to the pitch now and look at my record and see what we're actually doing, see that I know how to do this," he added.

Still, it was hardly a monumental win: Dorados were 13th in their league heading into the match, and Cafetaleros 15th.

With their newly earned three points, Maradona's team doubled their previous total and leapt to 10th place.

Maradona vowed it was just the beginning.

"This was nothing, this was just one match," he said, sporting a gold-and-white Dorados cap.

"We're still going to be playing in a lot of finals. Let's not think we've achieved anything with this match. This is just the start of a beautiful dream."

Maradona, 57, lived the finest hours of his playing career in Mexico, leading Argentina to the 1986 World Cup title.

His coaching career has been less stellar, and he has publicly struggled with drug addiction, alcoholism and obesity along the way.

He got a hero's welcome when he arrived in Culiacan last week.

But he failed to fill Dorados's 20,000-seat stadium for his debut.

Attendance did more than double from the club's recent matches, however: there were 10,133 fans in attendance, up from just over 4,000 on average at the previous two home appearances.



Schalke players during their match against Monchengladbach

Struggling Schalke accused of 'selling future'

AFP | Berlin

Schalke, who return to the Champions League yesterday after a four-year hiatus, have been accused of "selling their future" for allowing three rising stars to leave.

The Royal Blues, who finished second in the German league last season, host Porto in Gelsenkirchen in their Group D opener, but are struggling after losing their first three Bundesliga games.

Despite finishing second to Bayern Munich last season, Schalke are already struggling this term leaving head coach Domenico Tedesco under pressure after 15 months in charge.

Ex-Germany midfielder Steffen Freund has criticised Tedesco's boss, Schalke's sports director Christian Heidel, after Leon Goretzka joined Bayern and Max Meyer, both 23, left for

Crystal Palace on free transfers last season.

On top of that, centre-back Thilo Kehrer, 21, was sold to Paris Saint-Germain last month for a reported fee of 37 million euros (\$42.3 million).

"The departures play a big role. Perhaps one notices now that Max Meyer, Leon Goretzka and Thilo Kehrer were the future of Schalke and they sold it," said Freund, a Euro '96 winner with Germany, told broadcaster RTL.

Schalke are second from bottom in the German league table after losing to mid-table sides Wolfsburg, Hertha Berlin and Borussia Moenchengladbach, where they were beaten 2-1 on Saturday.

They reached the Champions League's semi-finals in 2011, bowing out after defeat to Manchester United, but will be lucky to get out of Group D this

season, which includes Lokomotiv Moscow and Galatasaray.

Tedesco says the Champions League offers a fresh start as Schalke make their return since losing to Real Madrid in the last 16 of 2014/15.

"Obviously recent results are playing on our minds, but the Champions League is a fresh start for us and we have earned the right to play these games," said Tedesco.

However, Freund, who retired in 2004 after spells with Tottenham Hotspur and Borussia Dortmund, says the problems are in both attack and defence.

"Schalke have problems scoring goals, they need twenty goal shots to score. You have to compare it with last season - because then they only needed eight shots," said Freund, who spent two seasons at Schalke in the early 90s.



Diego Maradona, head coach of Dorados de Sinaloa soccer team, celebrates a goal