

Bahrain powered to a resounding 29-18 victory over the UAE yesterday to begin their Main Round campaign on a positive note in the 2020 Asian Men's Handball Championship, being held in Kuwait.

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THE DAILY tribune



Brad Pitt, Jennifer Aniston's backstage moment at SAG Awards **14** CELEBS

WORLD **6** Malta minister quits over husband's links to murder 'mastermind'

His Majesty begins Morocco visit

Rabat

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday began his visit to Morocco.

His Royal Highness Prince Moulay El Hassan, Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Morocco, received His Majesty upon arrival in Rabat.

Four killed in Baghdad as protests surge

Baghdad

At least four protesters were killed and dozens injured on Monday as Iraqi security forces clashed with anti-government demonstrators, with the United Nations urging for calm amid heightened tensions.

In the last 24 hours, two protesters were killed in Baghdad, one in Karbala and another in Basra while 14 security forces were injured, an official from the Independent High Commission for Human Rights said.

For three months, Iraqis have been calling for an overhaul of the political system they see as corrupt. On January 13, protesters gave the government a week to meet their demands for sweeping political reforms, or the demonstrations will escalate.

In Baghdad, dozens of protesters were wounded after security forces used tear gas and live ammunition, prompting road closures.



02 Bahrain welcomes Libya deal reached at Berlin Conference

03 Number of pending cases before judiciary 'dropped 56pc' last year

04 Major drug ring busted

210 fils (includes VAT)



Last Royal Appointment!



Prince Harry talks to Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson during the UK-Africa Investment Summit in London. Prince Harry yesterday flew to Canada to reunite with Meghan Markle and son Archie Harrison after the 'last royal engagement'. See Page 6

Man dies minutes after being turned away from private hospital

TDT | Manama

An Asian expatriate, who suffered a cardiac arrest, died after being reportedly turned away from a private hospital in Sanad, on Sunday.

The man, in his early forties, died on way to Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC), according to friends and relatives.

"We rushed him to the private hospital immediately after he suffered severe chest pain. But the hospital did not admit him, directing us to take the patient to SMC or BDF Hospital," a close relative of the deceased, said.

"The doctors at SMC could not do much as he died on way to SMC."

Many discussed the matter on social media, demanding

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FRIEND OF THE DECEASED

strict action against the private hospital, which refused to admit a patient in critical stage.

"Hospitals are meant to serve human beings. Here is a hospital, which does inhuman service," a friend of the deceased, opined.

The man, who hailed from the Indian state of Kerala, was working with a private firm in the Kingdom. His body was flown home yesterday.

Economy 'on track'

Mega projects, economic initiatives helping to boost growth, generate employment

● The Cabinet reviewed the projects and programmes being implemented by the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) to achieve the priorities included in the Government Action Plan.

Manama

The Cabinet chaired by Deputy Prime Minister, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, commended the 'positive' efforts exerted to implement initiatives and launch mega projects and economic programmes that have

succeeded in reducing the deficit, maintaining positive economic growth and creating new job opportunities.

While reviewing the work and achievements of the Ministerial Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs and Fiscal Balance in 2019, Deputy Premier, HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak praised the tremendous efforts exerted by the panel to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations and resolutions referred to it by the Cabinet.

In this context, Deputy Premier and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs and Fiscal Balance, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, highlighted topics discussed by the panel during its meetings, as well as the priorities it had set



HH Shaikh Mohammed

for 2019-2020.

The priorities, based on the initiatives of the Government Action Plan and Fiscal Balance Programme, cover seven themes under which 27 programmes are implemented, the Deputy Premier said, adding that the Fiscal Balance Programme, the General State Budget, infrastructure, economic reports and enhancing

Bahrain's competitiveness, in addition to the relevant local and international economic issues topped the agenda of the ministerial committee's meetings during the same period.

Among other things, the Cabinet reviewed the projects and programmes being implemented by the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) to achieve the priorities included in the Government Action Plan and initiatives to consolidate financial sustainability and economic development, secure a supportive environment for sustainable development, enhance the efficiency of resources and energy use, in addition to implementing the Fiscal Balance Programme and achieving partnership with the private sector.

According to the Minister of

Electricity and Water Affairs, EWA's programmes and projects include providing strategic housing projects with electricity and water services, developing the electrical transmission networks of 220, 400 and 66 kV, establishing a control and monitoring centre for electricity and water networks, developing the water transmission networks, developing the water transmission network associated with the second stage of the Al Dur power and water production plant, collecting the dues of EWA from subscribers in the private sector and SMEs, checking energy in buildings and facilities, improving lighting efficiency and replacing traditional lighting lamps with energy-saving ones and the development of electronic electricity and water services.

WEEKEND VIOLENCE

Lebanon president to chair crisis talks

Beirut

Lebanon's under-fire president is set to meet Monday with top security officials to discuss rare violence over the weekend that left hundreds wounded in the protest-hit country.

Michel Aoun will be joined by the care-taker ministers of the interior and defence as well as the chiefs of the military and security agencies in the early afternoon,

his office said in a statement.

The meeting will touch on "security developments" in a country rocked since October 17 by unprecedented protests against a political class deemed incompetent, corrupt and responsible for an ever-deepening economic crisis.

It will also address "measures that need to be taken to preserve peace and stability," the state-run National News agency (NNA) reported.



Michel Aoun

Demonstrators at the weekend lobbed stones, firecrackers and street signs at riot police, who fired tear gas and rubber bullets to clear a flashpoint road near parliament.

Over the most violent weekend in three months of street protests, some 530 were wounded on both sides, according to a toll compiled by AFP from figures provided by the Red Cross and Civil Defence.

Lawyers and rights groups

have condemned the "excessive" and "brutal" use of force by security forces.

Human Rights Watch accused riot police of "launching tear gas canisters at protesters' heads, firing rubber bullets in their eyes and attacking people at hospitals and a mosque."

Internal Security Forces, for their part, have urged demonstrators to abstain from assaulting riot police and damaging public or private property.