

Muharrag battle past Ahli in thriller

Victors take down defending champs in low-scoring affair for league-leading ninth win in 2020/2021 Zain Bahrain Basketball League | P 12

WORLD **6** With a nation in crisis, pressure builds on Biden

THE DAILY **tribune**

Carey Mulligan had fun with violent scenes in 'Promising Young Woman'

10 CELEBS

BUSINESS **5** Stocks welcome Yellen's call to 'act big' on virus spending



HM King issues decree on endowment affairs

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday issued Royal Decree 3/2020, replacing Article (1) of Decree 6/1985 with regards to the Organisation of the Sunni and Jaffari Councils and their Directorates.

The new article stipulates that the Sunni and Jaffari endowments shall each be overseen by a council.

The two councils shall be independent entities that report to the minister in charge of endowment affairs.



HM the King

Each council shall manage its endowments, disburse their revenues, preserve their assets and develop them in accordance with the provisions of the

Islamic Sharia.

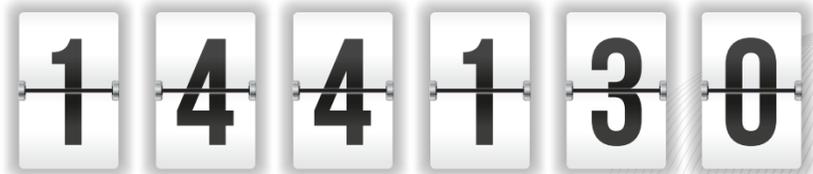
Each council shall have full authority over its affiliate endowments regarding their management, preservation and construction, as well as the collection of their revenues and their distribution to the relevant beneficiaries. The heads of endowments are appointed and dismissed as per decisions taken by the councils.

The phrase "The Minister in charge of endowment affairs" shall replace the phrase "Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs" wherever it appears in Decree 6/1985.



Last update - 9:00 pm
20 January 2021

Individuals vaccinated



Egypt and Qatar agree to resume diplomatic ties

Cairo

Egypt and Qatar have agreed to resume diplomatic relations, the Egyptian foreign ministry said yesterday, making Cairo the first to officially do so under an Arab deal to end a long-running dispute with Doha.

'Without unity, there is no peace'

Biden calls on 'deeply divided' nation to start afresh at inauguration as 46th US president

● Trump leaves Washington ahead of proceedings

● Harris makes history as first female vice president

Washington

Issuing a call for unity, Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th president of the United States yesterday, telling a nation battered by a pandemic and the recent storming of the US Capitol: "We must end this uncivil war that pits red against blue."

At a midday ceremony on a day that lacked much of the customary pomp and circumstance due to health and safety concerns, Biden was sworn in by Chief Justice John Roberts, repeating the oath of office on the west steps of the Capitol with his hand on a family Bible.



Biden is sworn in as the new US president

The inauguration was attended by a relatively small, distanced audience, a contrast to the crowds that typically line the National Mall to celebrate a new administration.

"Today we celebrate the triumph not of a candidate, but of a cause, the cause of democracy," Biden said before a crowd that included family and former presidents, but lacked former President Donald Trump, who opted to leave

Washington ahead of the proceedings. "At this hour, my friends, democracy has prevailed."

Kamala Harris was sworn in by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, making history as the first female vice president. The first Black woman and first of Indian descent nominated on a major party's ticket, she becomes the highest-ranking woman ever in the presidential line of succession.

With his inaugural address, Biden asked a deeply divided country to look past their differences and sought to draw a contrast with former President Trump, who took a combative approach to politics in his four years in office and who spent the months since Election Day questioning the election's outcome.

Biden made no mention of his predecessor but sought to use the moment as an inflection

point for the nation.

"Let's start afresh, all of us. Let's begin to listen to one another again," Mr. Biden said, adding "Politics doesn't have to be a raging fire, destroying everything in its path."

"Without unity, there is no peace," he said.

Referencing the Jan. 6 attack on the US Capitol by a pro-Trump mob looking to stop certification of Biden's win, the new leader stressed that they did not succeed in disrupting democracy and declared: "It will never happen. Not today, not tomorrow, not ever."

While Trump did not attend the inauguration, leaving Washington for Florida earlier in the morning, former Vice President Mike Pence and his wife, Karen Pence, did attend.

Biden asked those who opposed his candidacy during the contentious presidential election to give him a chance, pledging to be a president for all Americans.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED

2584657

ACTIVE CASES

2967

DEATHS

366

DISCHARGED

95240

NEW CASES

313

CRITICAL

13

210 fils (includes VAT)



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HM King congratulates US President Biden

TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa sent a cable of congratulations to new US President Joe Biden on his inauguration yesterday, wishing him good health, happiness and success in his presidential duties to lead the friendly American people to achieve further progress and prosperity.

HM the King expressed deep pride in the longstanding historic relations and solid partnership spanning 120 years, based on strong friendship and



HM the King

mutual respect.

HM the King looked forward to further consolidating strategic relations binding the Kingdom of Bahrain and the US and bolstering joint cooperation.

His Majesty receives more cables of congratulations

TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received more cables of congratulations on being conferred the Legion of Merit, Degree of Chief Commander by former US President Donald Trump, in recognition of his efforts to further consolidate historic relations of friendship and cooperation between Bahrain and the US, consolidate security and stability and promote peace in the region.

Members of the royal family, ministers, lawmakers, diplomats and senior officials, among others expressed pride and appreciation of the high-profile legion which asserts His Majesty's tireless efforts and contribution to promoting peace and security.

Cables of congratulations came from the following:

Deputy Prime Minister Jawad bin Salem Al Arayyad.

Head of the Prime Minister's Court and the Cabinet Secretary General Hamad bin Faisal Al Malki, Cabinet Affairs Undersecretary His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, President of the Constitutional Court Shaikh Khalifa bin Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Advisor to HRH the Prime Minister His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Advisor to HRH the Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Abdulla bin Hassan Saif, Advisor for Legislative Affairs, Dr. Mohammed Ali bin Shaikh Mansour Al Sitri, Parliament Minister Ghanim bin Fadhl Al Bouainain.

Education Minister Dr. Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, Defence Affairs Minister Lieutenant-General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi, Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa, Transportation and Telecommunications Minister Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed, Minister of Housing, Bassim bin Yaqoob Al Hamar, Labour and Social Development Minister Jameel bin Mohammed Ali Humaidan, Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam bin Abdulla Khalaf.

BDF Chief-of-Staff Lieutenant-General Theyab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities Shaikha Mai bint

Mohammed Al Khalifa.

His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Highness Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Highness Shaikh Nawaf bin Rashid bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Rashid bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Highness Shaikh Ibrahim bin Rashid bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Rashid bin Isa Al Khalifa, Shaikh Salman bin Ahmed bin Salman Al Khalifa, HH Shaikh Salman bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, HH Shaikha Noora bint Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa.

Bahrain's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Shaikh Humood bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Arab Emirates, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

Special Envoy for Climate Affairs and CEO of the Supreme Council for Environment (SCE) Dr. Mohammed bin Mubarak Bin Daina, Northern Governor, Ali bin Al-Shaikh Abdul Mohsin Al Asfoor, Capital Governor, Shaikh Hesham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (SCIA) Chairman Shaikh Abdulrahman bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Khalifa.

Attorney General Dr. Ali bin Fadhul Al Buainain, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW) Hala Al Ansari, President of the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) Ahmed bin Zayed Al Zayed, National Intelligence Agency (NIA) President Lieutenant-General Adel bin Khalifa Al Fadhel, Supreme Council for Health (SCH) President, Chairman of the National Taskforce for Combating COVID-19, Lieutenant-General Dr. Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa.

Bahrain Horse Racing Affairs Deputy President His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Ali bin Isa Al Khalifa, Board Chairman of Bahrain Telecommunications Company (Batelco) Shaikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Riffa Club Deputy President His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Isa Al Khalifa, Survey and Land Registration Bureau (SLRB) President Shaikh Salman bin Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, President of the National Financial and Administrative Audit Office (NAO) Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa.

'Complacency is the biggest risk to community health'

Taskforce reiterates importance of complying with public health measures

● The Ministry of Health will continue to conduct inspections in public establishments in coordination with relevant authorities

● Administrative and legal action will be taken against those who will commit violations in industrial or commercial establishments

TDI | Manama

The virus does not rest, and so the Kingdom of Bahrain is intensifying its efforts to prevent its spread. Ministry of Health Undersecretary Dr. Waleed Khalifa Al Manea stressed the importance of continued and full adherence to public health measures to keep the community safe.

Also a member of the National Medical Taskforce for Combating the Coronavirus (COVID-19),



The taskforce providing an update on the Kingdom's COVID-19 response during a press conference

Dr Al Manea warned that complacency is the biggest risk to community health.

He was speaking during the taskforce's press conference held yesterday at the Crown Prince Centre for Training and Medical Research at the Bahrain Defence Force Hospital.

The Kingdom has witnessed a 43 per cent increase in active cases between 1 and 18 January from the period between 14 and 30 December last year. Significantly, 18 per cent of cases registered during that period are of children 17 years and below.

Dr Al Manea said the "spike" in the number of active cases this month is a direct consequence of individuals not following public health measures.

The Ministry of Health will continue to conduct inspections, in coordination with relevant authorities, on restaurants, cafes, beauty salons, barber shops and gyms, to ensure that all health measures are followed.

Administrative and legal action, Dr Al Manea emphasised, will be taken against those who will commit violations in industrial or commercial establishments.

Mobile vaccination units have been launched to provide vaccinations to the elderly and those with special needs in the comfort of their homes.

Dr Al Manea noted that social distancing remains an important measure to be followed at all times. Gatherings should also

be limited to members of the same household or close social circle, and outdoor open spaces should be utilised rather than closed places.

Currently, the capacity of the Kingdom's isolation and treatment centres is 5,202 beds, of which 2,241 are occupied, representing 43.1% of the capacity.

Taskforce member Lt. Col. Dr. Manaf Al Qahtani, Infectious Disease Consultant & Microbiologist at the BDF, highlighted the importance of vaccinations, which protect the community from diseases and reduce infection rates.

Another taskforce member, Dr. Jameela Al Salman, reiterated the importance of adhering to all preventative measures aimed at combating the COVID-19.

Bahrain e-transactions volume grows 48% to reach BD230 million

● HH Deputy Premier chairs Supreme Committee for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) meeting

TDI | Manama

The volume of e-transactions in the Kingdom of Bahrain last year exceeded BD230 million, marking an increase of 48 per cent compared to 2019.

A report by Supreme Committee for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) also showed that 83 e-services have been developed last year, an increase of 108 per cent compared to previous years.



HH Deputy Premier during the virtual discussion

These findings were presented during the committee's 17th meeting held remotely yesterday and chaired by its chairman, His Highness Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa.

The committee reviewed a report on the digital transformation of government services following its directives to public entities to expedite preparing

their electronic transformation plans in coordination with the Information and e-Government Authority (iGA).

The report revealed that more than 500 e-services and e-payment services have been provided.

This contributed to reducing government costs by 82 per cent and transactions' time by 76 per cent, as well as increasing the number of transactions by 26 per cent, the panel was told.

iGA also developed an integrated government system covering the Interior Ministry, the Health Ministry, iGA, the National Medical Taskforce for Combating Coronavirus, the National Communication Centre and the Government Services Call Centre in order to be able to deal with the requirements of the COVID-19 pandemic through

the BeAware Application.

The Deputy Premier commended the tremendous efforts exerted by iGA to put in place an integrated system of e-services in order to be able to deal with the exceptional requirements imposed by the pandemic.

Also participating in the meeting were Deputy Premier, HH Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and Deputy Premier, HH Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, and members of the Committee participated in the meeting.

The panel reviewed the latest developments of the National Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence Strategy. iGA presented a report on the findings of the study it had conducted in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Foreign Minister receives Ambassador Shaikh Rashid



Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani received yesterday at the Ministry's General Court, the Chairman of the Committee on Archiving the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Decisions, Ambassador Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman bin Rashid Al Khalifa, as well as members of the committee. Ambassador Shaikh Rashid gave a presentation on the efforts made by the committee in inventorying, classifying and documenting the decisions, procedures and instructions issued at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also briefed the Minister about the mechanism that the committee had followed in monitoring and documenting all decisions and archiving them in a central record whose electronic system was developed in cooperation with the Information Systems Directorate of the Ministry.

Vow to make Bahrainis the 'first choice of employment'

Tamkeen reopens programmes to develop skills and further support citizens

● In line with HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's directives

● Initiatives part of National Employment Programme second edition

● Focus on developing national human resources for new market needs

TD | Manama

Labour Fund "Tamkeen" has announced the reopening of its programmes to develop the skills of Bahrainis and make them the first choice of employment within the labour market.

This is in line with the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to launch the second edition of the National Employment Programme which aims to employ 25,000 citizens this year and provide 10,000 training opportunities, through three initiatives.

These initiatives include the

reopening of Tamkeen's programmes to enable Bahrainis to be the employees of choice within the private sector, in addition to supporting employers to create new job opportunities for citizens, and improving their wages. Currently, the average wage of national workers in the private sector amounts to BD763.

In particular, Tamkeen has allocated a budget of BD120 million for the next three years, from 2021 to 2023, to support the employment of Bahrainis.

The amount has been doubled compared to the budget allocated the past five years. It has also increased the amount and duration of the support provided for those registered at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development as well as fresh graduates.

The budget is also dedicated towards developing and enhancing current and new programmes, including supporting remote and part-time work, to meet the needs of the current market, especially due to the economic repercussions caused by the pandemic on the global market.

Tamkeen chairman Shaikh Mohammed bin Essa Al Khalifa said the reopening of its programmes come as part of the Government's vision for the next phase of encouraging the employment of Bahrainis, including



A virtual discussion about Tamkeen's programmes



These initiatives include the reopening of Tamkeen's programmes to enable Bahrainis to be the employees of choice within the private sector, in addition to supporting employers to create new job opportunities for citizens, and improving their wages.

recent graduates.

This is done through enhancing their competitiveness in the labour market and focusing on developing their skills based on the market requirements.

During a press conference, the Minister of Labour and Social Development and Chairman of the Board Directors of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), Jameel bin Muhammed Ali Humaidan, discussed the role that the Ministry and the Authority will play in cooperation with Tamkeen and the other relevant parties in executing the three initiatives of the second version of the National Employment programme.

Humaidan stated that the launch of this programme aims to encourage employers to hire citizens during the pandemic,

as this period witnessed a surge of job applications, which was made easier through online registration instead of in person.

This has also led to the increase of the numbers of job seekers, which comes with the aim of supporting employers by allowing them to create job opportunities for citizens, in addition to monitoring and evaluating the labour market.

Humaidan pointed out that LMRA will start implementing the second initiative by extending the period for announcing the vacancies in Bahrain, from two weeks to three weeks, before opening the application for recruitment to expatriate workers.

This is done to encourage employers to benefit from this programme, increase the period of advertising jobs, and give employers better opportunities to select candidates based on their needs.

As for the third initiative, Humaidan explains that LMRA will coordinate with the Ministry of Interior to tighten security measures to monitor and deport any illegal workers, to allow Bahraini citizens to be the employee of choice when employers are hiring.

The initiative seeks to address any issues within the labour market caused by this type of employment, where Humaidan

pointed out that the inspectors will work to execute the seven rules recently issued by the Cabinet to regulate flexi and non-flexi employment.

The Minister called on employers and job seekers to benefit from the National Employment Programme, indicating that the Ministry will provide electronic services to facilitate the procedures, and ensure its success, and achieve its desired goal of increasing the employment of Bahraini citizens in the private sector.

Tamkeen Chief Executive Officer Dr Ebrahim Mohamed Janahi stated that the registration for the programme will open on 24 January.

Tamkeen's support will be provided through training and wage support, in addition to offering a special programme catered towards recent graduates to boost their employment opportunities, whether it's full-time, part-time, or an internship, preparing them to work within private sector enterprises.

Applications for the Enterprise Support Programme is scheduled to be opened next month. It will include new changes that contribute towards meeting the requirements of the market, in addition to supporting employees with their career progression.

Loans in Bahrain grow 5.8% to BD10 billion

● The unified budget for loans granted by retail banks is divided into business, individual and government sectors

TD | Manama

Newly published official data revealed that the total loans and facilities in Bahrain until the end of November last year reached BD10.3 billion, increasing by 5.8 per cent on an annual basis from BD9.7 billion in the



Bank loan

same period of 2019.

According to Central Bank of Bahrain data, the unified budget for loans granted by retail banks is divided into three main branches.

They are the business sector,

which constitutes 51.3 per cent of the total loan budget amounting to about BD5.3 billion; the individual sector, which constitutes 45.3 per cent of the total loans amounting to BD4.7 billion; and the government sector, which constitutes 3.3 per cent of the total loans amounting to BD349 million.

In terms of business sector loans, the data shows a growth in total loans granted by 2.8 per cent, growth of personal loans by 7.9 per cent, while loans granted to the government registered a growth of 30.6 per cent on an annual basis.

In the business sector, loans are distributed among several sectors, namely the construction sector, in which loans amounting to BD1.9 billion, followed by loans granted to the industrial sector about BD1.2 billion, and trade sector loans amounting to BD950.1 million.

Amounting to BD4.7 billion, personal loans were topped by securing real estate with 46.3 per cent of personal loans, and the loans themselves amounting to BD2.177 billion constituted about 21 per cent of the total loans granted in Bahrain.

Newly redeveloped Isa Town Walkway inaugurated



Special guests during the inauguration

● It provides space for children to enjoy recreational games and other sports

TD | Manama

The Southern District Municipality has inaugurated the Isa Town Walkway after being redeveloped and rehabilitated under the patronage of the Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, Engineer Essam bin Abdullah Khalaf.

Present were Deputy Issa Al Qadi, Representative Ahmed Al Amer, Director General of

the Southern District Municipality, Eng. Asim Abdullatif Abdullah and Deputy Governor of the Southern Governorate Issa Thamer Al Dossary.

The project, which is located on an area of 10,000 and 300 square metres, included the installation of a rubber floor in five areas for games of different colours with an area of 1,500 square metres; the installation of artificial grass and red bricks for the game corridors; in addition to the installation of multiple games and other sports, planting various trees, and installing irrigation network and umbrellas in the gaming areas, at a total cost of BD55,000.

BDF Chief of Staff receives Jordanian Military Attache



Chief of Staff of Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), Lieutenant General Dhiab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, received in his office yesterday Military Attache at Jordan's Embassy in Bahrain, Air Commodore Mohammed Ali Al Samadi. He welcomed him, lauding his role in bolstering military cooperation between the two brotherly countries. He also praised solid fraternal ties binding both countries. Both sides discussed means of boosting bilateral cooperation mainly in the military and defence field.

Shaikh Zayed Highway lane set for closure

TD | Manama

The Ministry of Works, Municipality Affairs and Urban Planning has announced the closure of one lane on Shaikh Zayed Highway to give way to improvement works.

One lane will be provided between Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Highway and Salmabad bypass for east-bound traffic. The closure will be effective from today at 11pm until Sunday at 5am. All road users are requested to observe and obey the traffic rules for the safety of all.

Recognising HM King's key role in reshaping Middle East landscape



DR YASSER A GOMAA
UNIVERSITY OF BAHRAIN

In recognition of his effective role in promoting global peace and prosperity, authentic faithful charisma over the top leadership, and vision for the Kingdom of Bahrain to emerge as a global power, His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa was conferred the "Legion of Merit" (LOM), Degree Chief Commander, by US President Donald Trump on 18 January.

The LOM is the highest military award of the US Armed Forces that is given to uniformed US military service members, to military and political figures, or to government heads of other countries who have made especially outstanding meritorious contributions to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public endeavours.

The LOM is a recognition of His Majesty's unfaltering leadership under which the Kingdom of Bahrain has advanced a deep and an enduring partnership with many countries all over the world across various domains.

It is an appreciation of his splendid vision and stout-heartedness that have positively reshaped the landscape of the Gulf region and the Middle East, leading to a new era of security and prosperity for the Kingdom and the world.

Moreover, it is an acknowledgment of his positive impact on the political scene in the Middle East and the effective role that he has played in supporting regional and international stability.

It is an avowal of his success to establish friendly relations and strategic solid partnership with many countries all over the world, and his unprecedented courage in supporting the vision of peace that has started a new era of economic and security cooperation in the Middle East, endeavouring to harness the tremendous potential of the unique strengths of Bahrain and its people to provide global leadership for the benefit of entire humanity.

The LOM is not the first award that His Majesty has received. He has received numerous honours and decorations from many countries, such as the Order of the Star of Jordan, Moroccan Order of Sovereignty, Iraqi Order of the Two Rivers, Jordanian Supreme Order of the Renaissance, Egyptian Order of the Republic, Order of King Abdulaziz, Star of the Republic of Indonesia, Order of Merit the Republic of Mauritania, UK Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Order of the Grand Conqueror of Libya, Malaysian Order of the Crown of the Realm, Order of Zayed, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Order of the Republic of the Yemen, Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Dannenberg, Grand Cross of the National Order of Merit of France, Grand Cross of the Order of Isabella the Catholic of Spain, the Royal Family Order of the Crown of Brunei, Grand Cordon of the Order of the Republic of Tunisia, First Class of the Royal Family Order of Johor, and Egyptian Collar of the Order of the Nile.

Sincere congratulations to His Majesty on these well-deserved honours and decorations, which clearly show how the international community places His Majesty and the Kingdom of Bahrain high.

They also reflect a recognition of his wise policy and unremitting efforts to maintain an internationally respected diplomacy and humanitarian role.

In addition, they are a source of pride and praise for the entire Bahrainis and residents alike. May Allah bless His Majesty and offer him long life and power, and maintain peace, security, prosperity and progress in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

It is an appreciation of his splendid vision and stout-heartedness that have positively reshaped the landscape of the Gulf region and the Middle East, leading to a new era of security and prosperity for the Kingdom and the world. Moreover, it is an acknowledgment of his positive impact on the political scene in the Middle East and the effective role that he has played in supporting regional and international stability.

Why space science is important to society

NSSA holds workshop to discuss its applications for progress and development

● For the teaching staff at Nasser Vocational Training Center (NVTC)

TDT | Manama

Space science not only makes us look outwards from our planet, to the stars and beyond but it drives innovation and leads to progress and economic development.

It brings many technological and scientific advances that benefit the society in areas including health and medicine, transportation, public safety, consumer goods, energy and environment, information technology, and industrial productivity.

The importance of space science and technology for the attainment of sustainable development and the need to strengthen its framework were among the issues dis-



This technology inspires future generations of scientists and engineers

cussed during a technical workshop organised by the National Space Science Agency (NSSA) for the teaching staff at Nasser Vocational Training Center (NVTC).

It was held within the framework of the NSSA's endeavours to spread awareness on the importance of space science and its

applications among all segments and institutions of the society.

This specialised workshop introduced space science to the staff responsible for preparing educational and training curricula for the center's students.

It provided a general introduction to the authority's role, objectives and strategic initiatives.

It included a detailed explanation of the importance of micro satellites and their design methods, in addition to an explanation of the basic remote sensing technology, and the importance of its applications in raising and improving the quality of human life.

The course was conducted by space engineers Ali Al Quraan and Ashraf Khater, aerospace engineer Aisha Al Haram and satellite imagery technical analyst Aisha Al Hajri.

"The authority is keen to spread awareness on the importance of space science and its applications, and the information presented in

this workshop is only a little part of what we have learned and gained from the knowledge and experiences from the training programmes and space missions in which we participated during the last period," said Al Quraan.

The NSSA has implemented a series of competitions, courses and workshops for schools and the Gifted Care Center in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and a number of higher education institutions in coordination with the Higher Education Council.

The authority is also in the process of implementing more courses, activities and lectures for school and university students this year.

The NSSA was established by Royal Decree 11/2014, with a vision "to promote Bahrain to a position of international prominence in the field of space science for the purpose of achieving comprehensive and sustainable development".



The workshop was held within the framework of the NSSA's endeavours to spread awareness on the importance of space science and its applications among all segments and institutions of the society.



Space science can improve the quality of human life

Batoul tops TIMSS mathematics and science tests

TDT | Manama

The student Zainab Preparatory School for Girls' Batoul Sayed Hassan Muhammad Alawi has topped the international tests for mathematics and science in the last TIMSS 2019.

Batoul scored an average of 750.6 in the two subjects for the eighth grade (second preparatory) among all public and private schools, well above the global average of 500.

Her parent, Suad Abdullah Ali, was so proud of her daughter's achievement, saying it was "one of my happiest moments."

Suad was unable to describe her great joy when she received the good news of her daughter's honorable rate that exceeded expectations.

She also gave credit to the school curricula prepared by the Ministry of Education in government schools, and developed continuously, for her daughter's excellent performance.

Shaikh Nasser lauds NSSA continuing efforts to develop space science



The meeting in progress

TDT | Manama

National Security Advisor His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa received Transportation and Communication Minister and Chairman of the National Space Science Agency (NSSA) Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed and NSSA Chief Executive Officer Mohammed Ebrahim Al Aseeri.

HH Shaikh Nasser commended NSSA for preparing research and studies and capacity building of Bahrainis to serve Bahrain's orientations and enhance its position in space science.

He stressed the importance of continuing serious work to boost Bahrain's capabilities in all areas, including the space sector and research development.

HH Shaikh Nasser praised the NSSA plans, strategies, training pro-

gress and efforts to enhance cooperation with various countries to upgrade the space science sector and achieve the goals set for the Kingdom's further prosperity.

HH Shaikh Nasser was briefed on the major achievements accomplished by the NSSA and on the steps it has taken to enhance its performances.

The minister commended HH Shaikh Nasser's interest in promoting the NSSA and stressed that Bahrain has now acquired distinguished experiences and gained aptitudes in space sciences.

Al Aseeri said HH Shaikh Nasser's support was a great motivation for its members to advance space science as a major priority for Bahrain and stressed that the NSSA has laid out a strategy to boost its performance, enhance the skills of its personnel and deepen cooperation with other countries.

Parliament rejects bill raising candidacy fee to BD400

TDT | Manama

The House of Representatives rejected a bill submitted by the Shura Council that aims to increase the amount of candidacy fee for parliamentary elections from BD200 to BD400.

The deputies also unanimously agreed to reject a consultative bill amending some provisions of the municipal councils election system, which includes specifying the duration of candidacy for municipal elections to be three days, and increasing the nomination fee from BD50 to BD200.

Representative Hamad Al Kooheji commented on the law submitted by the Shura Council: "I am surprised to see some members of the Shura Council look at financial matters without any consideration, and the elections are an important part of His Majesty's reform project. HM the King and the democratic process are greater than any amount."

SICO retains top broker status on Bahrain Bourse



Fadhel Makhloq, Chief Capital Markets Officer



Mariam Isa, Head of Brokerage

TDT | Manama

SICO, a leading regional asset manager, broker, and investment bank (licensed as a wholesale bank by the CBB), announced yesterday that it had retained its status as the leading broker on the Bahrain Bourse (BHB) for the 22nd consecutive year.

SICO's market share in terms of traded value on the BHB for the year was 56%, gaining an additional 15% in 2020. This amounted to 18,827 handled transactions involving 1.318 billion shares, with a total value of BD 240 million. SICO said it remained as "the broker of choice for large trades and executed the majority of major deals on the BHB during the year owing to its focus on serving active investors with large trading books."

"We are delighted to have maintained our leading posi-

tion on the BHB, successfully delivering strong results and increasing our market share, in spite of a challenging external environment," said Chief Capital Markets Officer Fadhel Makhloq.

"Our brokerage business demonstrated outstanding resilience during the year, posting positive results and contributing to SICO's bottom line. The division increased its client base and continued to offer value-added advisory services to its clients, including broad and customized research products," said Head of Brokerage Mariam Isa.

SICO said it also offers online trading through its platform SICO LIVE, which offers clients seamless multi-market access across key stock markets in the GCC and select MENA markets from a single account, granting them the ability to trade in real-time and access SICO's research products.

Mercedes unveils electric SUV

Reuters

Daimler AG's Mercedes-Benz yesterday unveiled the EQA, a new electric compact SUV as part of plans to take on rival Tesla Inc and offer more emission-free vehicles to consumers to meet targets in Europe and China.

The EQA, the first of several electric models Mercedes-

Benz plans to launch this year, will initially have a range of 426 kilometres (265 miles), with a 500km model coming later, the premium brand carmaker said in a video presentation.

The SUV will go on sale in Europe on Feb 4 at what board of management Britta Seeger described as "very attractive price points".

BisB names winner of Innovation Challenge

TDT | Manama

Verofax, founded by Wassim Merheby and their technology partner Turnkey Lender, has been named as the winner of the "BisB Innovation Challenge" competition held in partnership with the CBB Digital Lab "FinHub 973".

Verofax proposed a unique approach and emerged as the Fintech with the potential to build a promising Proof of Concept (PoC) for the sought solution.

The appointed judging panel comprising of Osama Nasr, Chief Information Officer of BisB, Wesam Baqer, Chief Corporate & Institutional Banking of BisB, and Yasmeen Al Sharaf, Head of Fintech and Innovation Unit at the Central Bank of

”
We want to create better synergies between FinTechs and Banks, and harness the power of technology and AI to solve real-life issues, and encourage cross-industry collaboration, in order to offer a transformed customer experience

HASSAN JARRAR



simplify money matters for our customers' securely, and it will streamline internal operations while providing them with data-backed intelligence, allowing us to deliver an exceptional level of service, which was ultimately the determining criteria in our selection of the winning participant."

Chief Executive Officer of BisB, Hassan Jarrar, said, "The BisB Innovation Challenge and tech-focused Fintech Competitions of this nature are imperative for innovation in this day and age, especially considering the upcoming challenges facing the financial industry, both in the wake of COVID-19 and in order to effectively bridge the existing gap we have in the market when it comes to innovative Fintech solutions."

Bahrain (CBB); deliberated to make an initial selection of ten applicants, which were subsequently narrowed down to five that presented in a demo day on 18 January 2021.

Panel judge Wesam Baqer, Chief Corporate & Institution-

al Banking of BisB reiterated the support of the winning FinTech, stating, "We are confident that the Credit Scoring solution will bring a level of innovation to the banking industry that is both convenient and safe. The sought solution will ultimately

Stocks welcome Yellen's call to 'act big' on virus spending

Reuters | London

World shares gained yesterday on bets of hefty US spending after US Treasury Secretary nominee Janet Yellen urged lawmakers to "act big" to save the economy and worry about debt later. Oil rose and the dollar slipped in response.

At her confirmation hearing on Tuesday, Yellen said the benefits of a big stimulus package to counter the coronavirus pandemic were greater than the expenses of a higher debt burden.

Pandemic relief would take priority over tax increases, she said, calling for corporations and the wealthy - both winners from Republican tax cuts in 2017 - to "pay their fair share".

Investors in European equities welcomed the comments, with the Euro STOXX 600 climb-



An electric board showing Nikkei index

ing 0.5%, gathering steam in morning trading. Indexes in Frankfurt and Paris were up 0.5% and 0.2% respectively, though London shares were flat.

Luxury stocks gave the biggest boost, with Richemont quarterly sales climbing 5%, led by strong growth at its jewellery

brands in Asia and the Middle East.

The buoyant mood mirrored that in Asia, where MSCI's Asia-Pacific index outside Japan rose 1% to its highest ever. Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 1.1% to near its 2019 peak. Australian shares hit a record high.

On Wall Street, Nasdaq futures gained 0.8%, as Netflix jumped 12% after the close on strong growth in subscribers and projections it will no longer need to raise debt. S&P 500 futures were also up 0.4%.

Defensive dollar

The dollar slipped for a third straight session after Yellen's comments, losing ground from a one-month high.

Against a basket of currencies, it was last down 0.1% at 90.285, having climbed 1.2% from a three-year nadir hit two

weeks ago.

Positioning data showed investors are overwhelmingly short on the dollar, betting budget and current account deficits will weigh on the greenback.

Gold climbs

Safe-haven gold climbed 0.6% to \$1,850 per ounce.

The euro lost a sliver of ground to trade at \$1.2116, and off Monday's month-and-a-half low. It drew support from an investor sentiment survey that beat forecasts and the Italian government's surviving a confidence vote.

Oil prices rose on hopes that Biden's proposed stimulus will lift economic output.

US crude futures added 0.7% to \$53.65 a barrel. International benchmark Brent futures rose 0.5% to \$56.37 per barrel.

Jack Ma makes first public appearance in three months

Alibaba's Hong Kong-listed shares jumped to finish 8.5% higher on the news

Reuters | Shanghai

Alibaba Group founder Jack Ma made his first public appearance since October yesterday when he spoke to a group of teachers by video, easing concern about his unusual absence from the limelight and sending shares in the e-commerce giant surging.

Speculation over Ma's whereabouts has swirled in the wake of news this month that he was replaced in the final episode of a reality TV show he had been a judge on, and amid a regulatory clampdown by Beijing on his sprawling business empire.

The billionaire, who com-

mands a cult-like reverence in China, had not appeared in public since Oct. 24, when he blasted China's regulatory system in a speech at a Shanghai forum. That set him on a collision course with officials and led to the suspension of a blockbuster \$37 billion IPO for Alibaba's financial affiliate Ant Group.

Until then Ma often appeared in public, speaking at conferences and other events, though less frequently than in 2019 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Alibaba and his charitable foundation both confirmed Ma, a former English teacher, participated in an online ceremony for rural teachers organised by the foundation on Wednesday. They declined to provide further comment.

In the 50-second video, Ma, wearing a navy pullover, spoke from a room with grey walls, a large painting and floral arrangements. It was not clear where the room was.

Alibaba's Hong Kong-listed shares jumped to finish 8.5% higher on the news, which was first reported by Tianmu News, a media outlet backed by the

government of Zhejiang, the province where Alibaba's headquarters are based.

The video also contained footage, dated Jan. 10, of Ma visiting with colleagues a school in Tonglu county, part of Hangzhou city, the capital of Zhejiang.

"Jack Ma's reappearance has given investors peace of mind after a lot of rumours, allowing them to pile into the stock which had been a laggard in the market," said Steven Leung, sales director at brokerage

UOB Kay Hian in Hong Kong.

The stock has erased losses suffered after Alibaba became the target of an antitrust inves-

tigation launched last month by Chinese authorities, but remains some 11% below levels prior to the cancellation of the Ant IPO.

The topic "Jack Ma makes his first public appearance" and his video address to the teachers soon began trending on China's Twitter-like Weibo, triggering heavy discussion.

Although Ma has stepped down from corporate positions and earnings calls, he retains significant influence over Alibaba and Ant and promotes them globally at business and

political events.

He also continues to mentor management talent in the "Alibaba Partnership", a

35-member group of company managers.

The company plans to raise at least \$5 billion through the sale of a U.S. dollar-denominated bond this month.

Alibaba Group founder Jack Ma



QUOTE OF THE DAY

GO CONFIDENTLY IN THE DIRECTION OF YOUR DREAMS! LIVE THE LIFE YOU'VE IMAGINED
HENRY DAVID THOREAU

News in brief

◆ **The UK coronavirus strain has spread to at least 60 countries, the World Health Organization reported yesterday, after US President-elect Joe Biden led a moving tribute to American victims.** Covid-19 has claimed more than two million lives globally since it was first detected in the Chinese city of Wuhan more than a year ago, while the total number of reported cases is edging towards 100 million, according to an AFP tally. The arrival of mass inoculation drives in the United States, Europe and Asia had brought hope that the end of the epidemic was in sight.



WHO says UK strain in over 60 countries

◆ **US President Donald Trump on Tuesday ordered a halt to removal of certain Venezuelans** from the United States for 18 months, citing conditions in the South American country. "The deteriorative condition within Venezuela, which presents an ongoing national security threat to the

Trump orders 18-month halt to removal of Venezuelans from the U.S



safety and well-being of the American people, warrants the deferral of the removal of Venezuelan nationals who are present in the

United States," Trump, on the eve of leaving the White House, said in a memo to secretaries of state and homeland security.

◆ **Iranian President Hassan Rouhani urged the incoming US administration yesterday to return to a 2015 nuclear agreement and lift sanctions on Tehran, while welcoming the end of "tyrant" President Donald Trump's era.** "The ball is in the US court now. If Washington returns to Iran's 2015 nuclear deal, we will also fully respect our commitments under the pact," Rouhani said in a televised cabinet meeting. "Today, we expect the incoming U.S. administration to return to the rule of law and commit themselves, and if they can, in the next four years, to remove all the black spots of the previous four years," he said.

Iran's Rouhani says "ball in US court" over nuclear dispute

◆ **Villagers from Kamala Harris's ancestral home in southern India made offerings of fruit, lit firecrackers and prepared hundreds of snacks in celebration of her swearing-in Wednesday as US vice president.** Thulasendrapuram, where Harris's grandfather was born, has been in party mode since November when Joe Biden and Harris won the American presidential election. Jubilant locals laid out hundreds of

India villagers celebrate Kamala Harris



Chakkali -- a popular south Indian spiral snack -- shaping some to spell out "Kamala Harris", while bowls of sweets were passed around. Harris is already a trailblazer as California's first Black attorney general and the first woman of South Asian heritage elected to the US Senate.

COVID-19 Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	Total deaths	Global tally
1 USA	24,830,045	412,109	96,852,173
2 India	10,606,215	152,802	
3 Brazil	8,575,742	211,511	
4 Russia	3,633,952	67,220	2,072,061
5 UK	3,505,754	93,290	
6 France	2,938,333	71,342	Recovered: 69,468,143
7 Italy	2,400,598	83,157	
8 Turkey	2,399,781	24,328	New cases: +242,536
9 Spain	2,370,742	54,173	
10 Germany	2,079,322	49,667	New deaths: +7,755
11 Colombia	1,939,071	49,402	
12 Argentina	1,819,569	46,066	
13 Mexico	1,668,396	142,832	
14 Poland	1,450,747	34,141	

Middle East

Figures as of closing

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	158,174		8,696		124,094	25,384
Saudi Arabia	365,563	+238	6,338	+3	357,177	2,048
UAE	263,729	+3,506	762	+6	235,421	27,546
Kuwait	159,264	+442	951	+1	152,420	5,893
Oman	132,317	+171	1,516		124,579	6,222
Qatar	148,000	+271	248		144,350	3,402

Trump reportedly considers forming his own party

Huff post

President Donald Trump is reportedly considering the launch of his own political party after leaving office yesterday, *The Wall Street Journal* reported.



The newspaper said it's not clear how serious he is about competing with the GOP under his own banner, but that he's already picked out a name: The Patriot Party.

The potential for a new party comes as Trump grows unhappy with Republican leaders, who he feels abandoned him after his supporters assaulted the Capitol on Jan. 6 when Congress met to certify the 2020 election results.

Even Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), a longtime supporter of the president, condemned Trump over the attack.

"They were provoked by the president and other powerful people and they tried to use fear and violence to stop a specific proceeding of the first branch of the federal government which they did not like," McConnell said on Tuesday.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), one of Trump's top supporters in Congress, joined the GOP's failed attempt to block the election results. However, Trump is reportedly angry with McCarthy for saying "the president bears responsibility" for the deadly assault on the Capitol and for offering a censure resolution instead of impeachment.

Trump is particularly angry at the 10 Republican members in the House who crossed party lines to vote in favor of impeachment.

Starting his own political party would be the ultimate revenge against Republicans as it would largely siphon voters from the GOP. Yet the move could also backfire by splitting the vote and giving Democratic candidates an advantage.

At least two dead after blast brings down building in central Madrid

Reuters | Madrid

At least two people died and several were injured when a building in a central Madrid belonging to the Catholic Church collapsed yesterday after an explosion, Mayor Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida told reporters.



Initial investigations suggested that the blast in Calle de Toledo, a street leading out from the city centre, had been caused by a gas leak, he said. Smoke billowed out of the

collapsed building and rescue workers evacuated elderly people from a nearby nursing home.

A Church official said one church volunteer was missing.

With a na... pressure b...

● **Biden will sign 15 executive actions undoing policies put in place by outgoing President Donald Trump and making his first moves on the pandemic and climate change**

● **The actions include a mask mandate on federal property and for federal employees**

● **Biden will also begin the process of re-entering the Paris climate accord**

● **Will revoke the presidential permit granted to the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline**

Reuters | Washington

During his presidential campaign, Joe Biden vowed to fight for the soul of America. As he formally assumed office as the next US president yesterday, Biden now faces the steep task of repairing a nation's soul in battered and desperate



Joe Biden President Harris, Vice

Donald Trump pardons rappers

Reuters | Washington

Rappers Lil Wayne and Kodak Black were among the beneficiaries of Donald Trump's wave of pardons in his last day in office yesterday, befitting a president who made his name in New York's tabloids and on reality TV.



Elliott Broidy



Lil Wayne



Kodak Black



Alice Marie Johnson



Anthony Levins

While the more than 140 people granted clemency included former aide Steve Bannon and major Republican Party fundraiser Elliott Broidy, Trump also used his wide ranging powers to clear people with little apparent ties to his administration.

Five-time Grammy Award winner Lil Wayne, whose legal name is Dwayne Carter Jr., appeared to support Trump on the campaign trail ahead of Trump's reelection

bid when Carter said he backed Trump's criminal justice reform program and economic plan for African Americans.

Carter, whose 2016 single "No Problem" won the Best Rap Performance Grammy, pleaded guilty last month to illegally possessing a loaded, gold-plated handgun when his chartered jet

landed in Miami in December 2019. He faced a sentence of up to 10 years in prison.

Black, 23, who was born Bill Kahan Kapri, is in federal prison for making a false statement to buy a firearm, and released the album "Bill Israel" from behind bars. Black pleaded guilty in August 2019, and three months lat-

er was sentenced to three years and 10 months in prison. He was seeking compassionate release and his commutation was supported by religious leaders, other rappers and athletes.

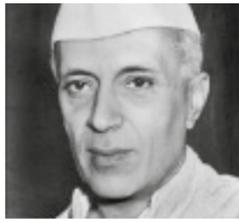
Despite speculation, the list did not include the subject of the Netflix series "Tiger King", Joe Exotic, who is serving a 22-

1793

Louis XVI of France is executed by the guillotine in Paris, following his conviction for high treason

1952

Jawaharlal Nehru's Congress party wins general election in India



1968

The Battle of Khe Sanh - one of the most publicized and controversial battles of the Vietnam War - begins at the Khe Sanh Air Base

2008

Black Monday in worldwide stock markets. FTSE 100 had its biggest ever one-day points fall, European stocks closed with their worst result since 9/11, and Asian stocks drop as much as 15%.

ation in crisis, Builds on Biden

With that, Biden is under significant pressure to turn his pledges of unity and competence into results - and swiftly.

"He has to stay focused on vaccine distribution and solving the 'last mile' problem," said Joe Trippi, a veteran Democratic strategist. "Failure is not an option. Losing that focus is not an option."

Biden wants Congress to move quickly. His team believes the most effective way to lower the political temperature is through results, not rhetoric - specifically, passage of the \$1.9 trillion virus relief package that Biden has proposed as a first step in stabilizing the economy, opening schools and ramping up vaccinations nationwide.

The public wants to see a functional government deliver, a Biden adviser said, adding that plenty of Trump voters have been hurt by the pandemic.

"There is a path out of this darkness," another Biden adviser said, "but we will need support from Congress."

Unlike other newly elected presidents,

Biden will have no crowds to rally him. Instead, he will be sworn in with historic Washington resembling an armed camp, the streets deserted due to the twin dangers of civil unrest and COVID-19.

Douglas Brinkley, a presidential historian at Rice University, likened Biden's inauguration to Abraham Lincoln's in 1861, when the United States was on the brink of the Civil War and the new president faced assassination threats.

"The smell of violence was in the air," Brinkley said.

The nation is not on that kind of precipice, Brinkley added. But the Capitol siege will cloud the early days of Biden's presidency. After being impeached by the US House of Representatives on a charge of inciting the Jan. 6 assault on the Capitol, Trump faces a Senate trial that threatens to derail Biden's agenda from the very start and delay confirmation votes for his executive branch nominees.

Stand and deliver

Biden enters the White House with more of a tailwind than Trump enjoyed. He has the approval of a little more than half the country - 53%, according to Reuters/Ipsos polling, while Trump came into office four years ago at 46%.

Biden's willingness to work with Congress "is a departure from where we have been the last four years, and I think it would go a long way toward helping people catch their breath," said Mo Elleithee, executive director of the Georgetown University Institute for Politics and Public Service, which conducted its own poll on civility in government. Trump, a neophyte as a politician, stood at odds with the legislative process, often refusing to lay out his own priorities to harness the power of government to achieve his policy goals.

Biden, conversely, spent 35 years as a senator from Delaware before serving eight years as Barack Obama's vice president.

Yet Biden will have to contend with narrow Democratic majorities in the House and Senate, which will leave him little maneuvering room.

In the House, Speaker Nancy Pelosi will be pressured by progressives in her caucus to keep the relief package as far-ranging as possible. The relationship between Biden and the Senate Republican leader, Mitch McConnell, will be tested early. McConnell has an incentive to work with Biden on virus relief, said Doug Heye, a former official at the Republican National Committee.

Kremlin says would welcome Biden's efforts to extend New START arms control treaty

Reuters | Moscow



The Kremlin said yesterday it remained committed to extending the New START nuclear arms control treaty with the United States and would welcome efforts promised by the administration of US President-elect Joe Biden to reach agreement.

The New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) accord, which was signed in 2010 and expires in February, limits the numbers of strategic nuclear warheads, missiles and bombers that Russia and the United States can deploy.

"Russia and its president are in favour of preserving this agreement," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on a conference call. "If our American colleagues will in fact demonstrate a political will to preserve this pact by extending it, this can only be welcomed."

Narendra Modi



My warmest congratulations to @JoeBiden on his assumption of office as President of the United States of America.

I look forward to working with him to strengthen India-US strategic partnership. Congratulations to @KamalaHarris on being sworn-in as @VP. It is a historic occasion. Looking forward to interacting with her to make India-USA relations more robust. The India-USA partnership is beneficial for our planet.

The India-US partnership is based on shared values. We have a substantial and multifaceted bilateral agenda, growing economic engagement and vibrant people to people linkages. Committed to working with President @JoeBiden to take the India-US partnership to even greater heights.

British PM Boris Johnson, Speaking in Parliament



"I look forward to working with him (Biden), and with his new administration, strengthening the partnership between our countries and working on our shared priorities: from tackling climate change, building back better from the pandemic and strengthening our transatlantic security."

Ursula von der Leyen



The United States is back. And Europe stands ready. To reconnect with an old and trusted partner, to breathe new life into our cherished alliance. I look forward to working together with @JoeBiden

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, in a video statement



"Today is a good day for democracy. In the United States of America, it has faced tremendous challenges - and endured. Despite the attempts to tear at America's institutional fabric, election workers and governors, the judiciary and Congress, have proven strong. I am greatly relieved that, today, Joe Biden is being sworn in as president and will be moving into the White House. I know many people in Germany share this feeling."

Greta Thunberg

He seems like a very happy old man looking forward to a bright and wonderful future. So nice to see!



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



It's a new day in America.

@JoeBiden

02



A new chapter begins today. Tune in now for #Inauguration2021 as @JoeBiden

and I are sworn in to office and set our nation on a new path forward.

@KamalaHarris

03



Joe Biden will inherit from Trump: The worst economy since the Great Depression, the worst public health crisis in 100 years, massive wealth inequality, the existential threat of climate change, a racist immigration system. These unprecedented crises demand unprecedented action.

@BernieSanders

04



Congratulations to my friend, President @JoeBiden! This is your time.

@BarackObama

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

Lil Wayne, Kodak Black



Lil Wayne and Steve Bannon

pardon in August 2017, his first year in office, had issued 70 in total before Wednesday, many of which have been given to people who are friendly with his administration.

Trump's pardons have also included some people tied to celebrities, including Alice Marie Johnson, a woman convicted on drug charges whose case was championed by reality television star Kim Kardashian West.

In 2019, Trump sought to intervene when A\$AP Rocky was detained in Sweden after a brawl in downtown Stockholm. The rapper, whose legal name is Rakim Mayers, and two members of his entourage were charged with assault causing bodily harm.

Mayers said he had acted in self-defense after his bodyguard was attacked and was released

from custody in August.

Trump also said he had given a full pardon to a former Google engineer sentenced for stealing a trade secret on self-driving cars months before he briefly headed Uber Technologies Inc's rival unit. Anthony Levandowski, 40, was sentenced in August to 18 months in prison after pleading guilty in March. He was not in custody but a judge had said he could enter custody once the COVID-19 pandemic subsided.

The White House said Levandowski had "paid a significant price for his actions and plans to devote his talents to advance the public good." Levandowski transferred more than 14,000 Google files, including development schedules and product designs, to his personal laptop before he left, and while negotiating a new role with Uber.

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

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ELEGANTE NURSERY has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39600762 or DANA.MUDDAFAR@GMAIL.COM

Seven Energy W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or hr@seven-energy.com

MAGNUM ENTERPRISE R O CO. S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832244 or admin_pers@alkhalidiagroup.com

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

ALNOOR SERVICES FOR SHIPING CO. - Simple Commandite has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17675456 or ALNOOR.02@hotmail.com

NASSER SAEED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPE-FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312220 or AHCGLOBLE@BATELCO.COM.BH

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

ECOSPAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17403535 or INFO@ECOSPANS.COM

Seven Energy W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or hr@seven-energy.com

Weone Contracting Co W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33131480 or KASHIF_DAUD@YAHOO.COM

Kotta villa contracting w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37305030 or ALMUSAFERINFO@GMAIL.COM

SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

HAIDER WOODEN WORK FACTORY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17305665 or info@haiderwood.com

BAHRAIN FOUNDATION CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826430 or a.sharan@bfccwll.com

AL BAREAM ELEGANT NURSERY has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39600762 or DANA.MUDDAFAR@GMAIL.COM

EGG N CREAM RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39003390 or HBAQER75@YAHOO.COM

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

Athena Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17213575 or RAGHADP@HOTMAIL.COM

Saleh Al Abdullah Al Muhanna & Partners Trading & Contracting Co has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77090866 or INFO@SMCOCONTRACTING.COM

NASSER SAEED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312220 or AHCGLOBLE@BATELCO.COM.BH

M I CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17009161 or M.I.75@HOTMAIL.COM

Athena Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17213575 or RAGHADP@HOTMAIL.COM

SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or AMEER@ALMOAYYEDCG.COM

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or BASMAHO@BATELCO.COM.BH

vacancy for the occupation of MASONASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

SALON DAR ALLORD BEAUTY CENTER PARTNERSHIP has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17005513 or EBTEHAJ9901@GMAIL.COM

DO OR DYE SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35145454 or WALEED660@GMAIL.COM

ARADOUS CONTRACTING AND MAINTENANCE CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 69991130 or hderazi@aradouscm.com

Amazon Web Services Bahrain S.P.C. Owned by Amazon Europe Core S.a.r.l has a vacancy for the occupation of BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17204600 or BASSEM@3CSBAHRAIN.COM

M I CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17009161 or M.I.75@HOTMAIL.COM

6 pence Consulting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13600014 or hhasan@6-pence.com

M I CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17009161 or M.I.75@HOTMAIL.COM

KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH

ALNOAIMI AUTO CARE- BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32111142 or ALNOAIMIBADERH85@GMAIL.COM

SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

HAJEEN HOUSE BUILING INSTALLATION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33610210 or hajen.const@gmail.com

Huawei technologies Bahrain s.p.c. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17568708 or MOHAMMED.ALDERAZI@HUAWAI.COM

G P S INTERNATIONAL DENTAL COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33180666 or dt.rasheed@gmail.com

M I CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17009161 or M.I.75@HOTMAIL.COM

AL MANARTAIN COMPANY AND ALI ALSHEAB GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CIVIL ENGINEER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17590097 or ALSHAAB@BATELCO.COM.BH

Horse and Hound Feed & Supply W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001761 or FOUAD@HORSEANDHOUNDBH.COM

S.ALI HUSSAIN SHARAF ALI / LAALE SHABAAAN 10476 has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39892052 or SAYD3531@GMAIL.COM

HAJEEN HOUSE BUILING INSTALLATION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33610210 or hajen.const@gmail.com

FAME CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33223153 or FAME_CONSTRUCTION@HOTMAIL.COM

Mexico cleaning and maintenance services has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39773788 or mexicocleaning@gmail.com

ARAB POULTRY & LIVE- STOCK CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39629333 or arabpouli@hotmail.com

SARONA BEUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36666421 or NASHABAA@BATELCO.COM.BH

AMIR BADER STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39605558 or ABT_BH@HOTMAIL.COM

MATRIKO TRADING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39868706 or JAWAD_DAWOD@HOTMAIL.COM

, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35582922 or H2222158@GMAIL.COM

MOMS TEA CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17270480 or KITEDOCUMENTS@GMAIL.COM

RESIDENCE CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36669934 or RESIDENCECONTRACTING@HOTMAIL.COM

InTouch Integrated Chiropractic Rehabilitation Center S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33174458 or amy.bowzaylo@intouchclinic.com

Charcoal Gourmet Burger Snack has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020031 or PRINCEBURGER@GMAIL.COM

SIYANA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES & SIAM SCAFFOLDS has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552722 or SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALRUKN ALAALI CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39136913 or mohd_kd2@hotmail.com

Charcoal Gourmet Burger Snack W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001720 or GOURMETBURGERBAH@GMAIL.COM

ALTAIB HAIRDRESSER has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17272065 or BASSEM99@BATELCO.COM.BH

Gulf Researcher S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of ANALYST RESEARCH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33055660 or MAHMOODSALEH@GMAIL.COM

SHADOW PALACE LADIES SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36481188 or SHAHBAZPALACE@GMAIL.COM

GOLD DUST CLEANING SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66727555 or GOLDDUST.BH@GMAIL.COM

SIYANA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES & SIAM SCAFFOLDS has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552722 or SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALANDALUS AUTO ELECTRICAL REPAIRS WORKSH has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN(VEHICLES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713638 or thaleth-el3eed@hotmail.com

BAHRAIN MAINTENANCE & DIVING SERVICES CO has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700731 or info@bmds.com

PRESTIEGE VIDEO AND STUDIO has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39448833 or MALTAHMAZI011@GMAIL.COM

ABDULLA ALHAJARI CONTRACTING & TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17591070 or NEZAR78@HOTMAIL.COM

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of GARDENER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR(EXCAVATION MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

Saleh Al Abdullah Al Muhanna & Partners Trading & Contracting Co has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77090866 or INFO@SMCOCONTRACTING.COM

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

Saleh Al Abdullah Al Muhanna & Partners Trading & Contracting Co has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@GMAIL.COM

Alif building materials has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33391015 or ALAYYAH62@YAHOO.COM

ELEVEN GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32123332 or speedone708@gmail.com

qualified applicants can contact 32123332 or speedone708@gmail.com

Saleh Al Abdullah Al Muhanna & Partners Trading & Contracting Co has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77090866 or INFO@SMCOCONTRACTING.COM

Areena Contractor Group Co. S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FORKLIFT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or ALANSARI@AREENAGROUP.COM

Saleh Abdulla Kameshki & Sons B.S.C (c) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250627 or admin01@kameshki.com

Saleh Al Abdullah Al Muhanna & Partners Trading & Contracting Co has a vacancy for the occupation of BLACKSMITH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77090866 or INFO@SMCOCONTRACTING.COM

Sayed Kadhem Aldurazi & Sons B.S.C. close has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR(EXCAVATION MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

Saleh Abdulla Kameshki & Sons B.S.C (c) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250627 or admin01@kameshki.com

AIN RASSTAN SWEE WATER has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39136913 or LAYLAMUSAMEH@GMAIL.COM

VICTORIA TOUCH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77089192 or VICTORIATOUCHCONTRACTINGCO@GMAIL.COM

Saleh Al Abdullah Al Muhanna & Partners Trading & Contracting Co has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77090866 or INFO@SMCOCONTRACTING.COM

Saleh Abdulla Kameshki & Sons B.S.C (c) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250627 or admin01@kameshki.com

Areena Contractor Group Co. S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FORKLIFT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or ALANSARI@AREENAGROUP.COM

Saleh Abdulla Kameshki & Sons B.S.C (c) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250627 or admin01@kameshki.com

Areena Contractor Group Co. S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FORKLIFT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or ALANSARI@AREENAGROUP.COM

Saleh

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

CERAMICA DELMON CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17608208 or md.delman@GMAIL.COM

MOHAMMED EBRAHIM SALIM ALBOAINAIN / ALWADHEHE 8235 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17773367 or ebrahimhamed609@gmail.com

Grip Fitness Center W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35555070 or AALWARDIPT@GMAIL.COM

Nawader textiles has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888841 or CAPTAIN.ALI08@GMAIL.COM

Bin daheem for heavy machinery trading S P C has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR(EXCAVATION MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001494 or LOADEREXCAVATION@HOTMAIL.COM

Empire Contracting Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38026346 or ABINVE@GMAIL.COM

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

Seven Energy W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or hr@seven-energy.com

SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR (FORKLIFT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

Blue k Beauty Parlour W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39763636 or bluekay.bh@GMAIL.COM

BANGKOK INTERNATIONAL RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17740666 or RIYASBANGKOK@YAHOO.COM

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

ATLAS ALUMINUM S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of DRAFTSMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39979729 or sayed.atlasaluminum@gmail.com

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

GENETECH SERVICES Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13691113 or YASEENSABT@HOTMAIL.COM

EXPRESS BROASTED LAND has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39335393 or ASIAFAKHROO@GMAIL.COM

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

AL MUTANABI AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of GENERAL MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39699269 or ESHEHABI@HOTMAIL.COM

Desert Landscape Co S P C has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32352004 or AHMAD.JUMA@DESERTGROUP.AE

AL- NAWAISEEB ABAYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33994476 or KHALID111@GMAIL.COM

QUALITY WIRE PRODUCTS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17874000 or Admin@qualitywire.com.bh

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

TWO SEAS ELCTRO MECHANICAL SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17540777 or SHB.ALKHALIFA@GMAIL.COM

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

Fluffy Pets W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of GROOM, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38869888 or JBAQER12@GMAIL.COM

ALAMTHAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77005523 or ABDALIO15@GMAIL.COM

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33270382 or SBARBOZA@SECURITYSOLUTIONS.ME

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

Waad market has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39857572 or HIND.ALTHAWADI@GMAIL.COM

FAME CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33223153 or FAME_CONSTRUCTION@HOTMAIL.COM

Al enma house for security services W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36574740 or admin@enmabh.com

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

YOUSIF KHALIL ALMOAYYED AND SONS has a vacancy for the occupation of PROJECT LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17211211 or AQEEL@ALMOAYYED.COM.BH

PINE WOOD FURNITURE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39964163 or PINEWOODBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

GOLDEN STAR FOR MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66653666 or ALKAMAL@LIVE.COM

AL BADYAH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402477 or MOHD@AL-MAHD.COM

Al enma house for security services W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36574740 or admin@enmabh.com

SIAM WARA TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224445 or JAFFAR.SABBA@HOTMAIL.COM

DELMON ABAYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR(HAND AND MACHINE).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39795151 or 39795151BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

LEAVES WEDDING WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17777090 or all@LEAVESBAHRAIN.COM

Star Lion Contracting Services has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36606011 or STARLIONSERVICE@GMAIL.COM

ALNAIREH CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39611160 or alhadibh66@gmail.com

Burj Mushraf Contracting Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33346825 or ABDULLAHMASOODK@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. S.P.C. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

SEPCOIII Bahrain Construction Company S.P.C. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact DUXIAOMING@SEPCO3.COM

SEPCOIII Bahrain Construction Company S.P.C. has a vacancy for the occupation of

WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact DUXIAOMING@SEPCO3.COM

ALYAMAMA HOUSE FOR CLEANING CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345569 or alyamama@batelco.com.bh

ALYAMAMA HOUSE FOR CLEANING CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345569 or alyamama@batelco.com.bh

LAMYCY TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33903084 or KHALI62YOUSIF@GMAIL.COM

Desi House Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33197678 or MOHAMMEDSAYEED@OUTLOOK.COM

MONALISA ADVERTISING DISING & MARKTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37102424 or BATUTAB5@YAHOO.COM

Sayed Kadhem aldurazi & sons B.S.c. close has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

MISTER MACHINE B.S.C c has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOVEL OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17705050 or TAHAABDULLA@MISTER-MACHINE.COM

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

MISTER MACHINE B.S.C c has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOVEL OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17705050 or TAHAABDULLA@MISTER-MACHINE.COM

LIFE CONNECTIONS CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39079094 or ADMIN@LIFCON.NET

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

Desert Landscape Co S P C has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32352004 or AHMAD.JUMA@DESERTGROUP.AE

MISTER MACHINE B.S.C c has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOVEL OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17705050 or TAHAABDULLA@MISTER-MACHINE.COM

Mohin Interior Decoration co. S.P.C Owned by mohin golam mostaf has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33939324 or mrdmohin339393@GMAIL.COM

Burj Mushraf Contracting Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33346825 or ABDULLAHMASOODK@GMAIL.COM

Red Mist Trading has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39629988 or BIRELARTME.BH@GMAIL.COM

Al danachi building materials has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17411490 or SAEEEDAMEED01@GMAIL.COM

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

Arabian International Contracting Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39677780 or AWALSERV@BATELCO.COM.BH

Burj Mushraf Contracting Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33346825 or ABDULLAHMASOODK@GMAIL.COM

UBHANALLA JEWELLERY FACTORY COMPANY (PARVES AKHTAR & PARTNER has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212029 or NADEEMPERVAIZ75@GMAIL.COM

TRANS GULF CAR RENTAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17230815 or CEO@EATCORP.COM

DERATY AL BAHRAIN TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244305 or MOH_GOLOM@YAHOO.COM

Advanced Lighting Solutions co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TEAM LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39887610 or NASSER@HUDALIGHTING.COM

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

AL DISTOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENTS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39833499 or FADHEELAJAAFAR123@GMAIL.COM

SANTY EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (OPERATIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17401013 or SANTEC.GLOVRS@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD SAGHIR CARGO HANDLING CO S.P.C Owned by MUHAMMAD SAGHIR has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33742114 or MSG.SPCBH@GMAIL.COM

MRE & Associates W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PROJECT LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17595971 or MALYAQOQB@GULFCOMMERCIALSOLUTIONS.COM

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO S.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of BLACKSMITH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

HAI ALDOSARI SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILE ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17691054 or ALHADIKH@YAHOO.COM

Saleh Al Abdullah Al Muhanna & Partners Trading & Contracting Co has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77090866 or INFO@SMCOCONTRACTING.COM

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CELEBS celebs

Carey Mulligan had fun with violent scenes in 'Promising Young Woman'

IAN S | London

Actress Carey Mulligan says she enjoyed performing violent scenes in her new film, *Promising Young Woman*.

"It was quite fun. It's funny, I said to someone the other day - when we were shooting 'Drive', I always wanted to get out of the elevator and be in a scene," she said.

"I think there was a scene originally at some point in 'Drive' where there was a shootout - I think in the basement - and I was there. And then it got cut, and we didn't shoot it. So yeah, it was nice to get to - well, it's always fun to smash up a car with a tire iron if there's no consequences," she added, according to a contactmusic.com report.

The actress admitted that she

It was quite fun. It's funny, I said to someone the other day - when we were shooting 'Drive', I always wanted to get out of the elevator and be in a scene

CAREY MULLIGAN

was disappointed she was only able to perform a scene where she smashes the car just three times.

"It really was. I remember being disappointed because we only got to do it three times, because we had three sets of tail lights. I was like, 'Come on, let's do another one!' And (director) Emerald (Fennell) was like, 'No, no, calm down, buddy,'" she shared.

The film also stars Bo Burnham, Alison Brie and Adam Brody.

Dua Lipa clears out pregnancy rumours

ANI | Washington

American singer and songwriter Dua Lipa sparked speculation regarding pregnancy after she shared a post with a baby bottle, angel and sparkle emojis. But later during an appearance on *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, the singer cleared out the pregnancy rumours. According to E! News, the 25-year-old singer during the Monday (local time) episode of *Jimmy Kimmel Live* recalled how a recent Instagram post had sparked pregnancy rumours about her.

While appearing on the show Dua reiterated "I am not pregnant. Not pregnant."

It all started last week when Lipa posted side-by-side photos of her modelling a green ensemble and captioned the snapshots with a series of emojis. It was these small symbols, rather than her outfit of the day, that got the netizens talking.

While the "Don't Start Now" star quickly deleted the caption on Instagram, she forgot to remove it from her Twitter.

As per E! News, in addition to shutting down the rumours, she talked about her recent Grammy nominations and the time she interviewed Gwen Stefani while filling in for Kimmel as a host. As fans may recall, Lipa accidentally referred to Blake Shelton as Stefani's husband during the chat. But just a few months later, the country music singer proposed to the No Doubt artist.

Dua Lipa

Emma Roberts on being pregnant during Covid pandemic

IAN S | Los Angeles

Actress Emma Roberts says her close friends helped her through her pregnancy during the Covid pandemic.

"I feel so lucky because literally four of my close girlfriends were pregnant or have had a baby that year," Roberts said.

"So, I have had such a nice support group of other women that either were ahead of me in their pregnancy or on their second baby so I felt so lucky that I had people to text at all hours of the day and night. I. It's been so nice to have other women to talk to that are going through that. If I was the only one pregnant during this pandemic in isolation, then I would have felt even more isolated," she said, in an episode of "The Drew Barrymore Show".

Last year in December, Roberts gave birth to a baby boy, the first child for Roberts and her boyfriend Garrett Hedlund.

Earlier this month, Roberts shared the first photo of her baby.

"Thank you 2020 for getting one thing right," she wrote on Instagram, alongside a photo of herself holding her baby boy.

Roberts also revealed her son's full name. "Our bright light Rhodes Robert Hedlund," she wrote in the caption.

Emma Roberts

Jessica Alba: Always had imposter syndrome

IAN S | Los Angeles

Actress Jessica Alba has admitted that she suffered from imposter syndrome when she moved on from acting career and embarked on an entrepreneurial journey.

"I've always had this imposter syndrome thing - and I always felt like I didn't deserve to be here," Alba revealed while talking

about building her business on #StraightTalk, reports people.com.

Impostor syndrome refers to the belief that one is not as competent as others perceive one to be.

"I always felt like it was God, and luck and magic that had got me here. But I think

BETTER YOU KNOW

Impostor syndrome refers to the belief that one is not as competent as others perceive one to be

being with my (producer Cash Warren) over these years, he let me know, 'Hey, it's all the

hard work you've always put in. You deserve to be here as much as anyone else.' And over time I guess I've sort of let that sink in and marinate," she added.

Alba founded The Honest Company in 2012. The lifestyle brand became a leader in the natural baby category and clean products. She expanded the brand with the launch of Honest Beauty in 2015.

The actress credits her husband Cash Warren for helping her gain self-confidence.



Jessica Alba

Paloma Faith rushed to hospital with painful stomach cramps

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Paloma Faith was rushed to hospital with painful stomach cramps.

The 'Only Love Can Hurt Like This' hitmaker - who is expecting her second child - has revealed she was sent to the Maternal Fetal Assessment Unit (MFAU) to get checked out after experiencing abdominal pain and

she hopes this doesn't mean her baby's coming early.

Updating her fans on Instagram, she shared: "We were in the MFAU last night because I had some abdominal cramps... bloody praying this one doesn't come early like the last! (sic)"

Meanwhile, the 39-year-old singer recently vowed to not "step outside" her house again until she's given birth

amid the coronavirus pandemic as she is anxious about catching the virus.

Taking to her Instagram account, she wrote: "My anxiety is through the roof... Some people I knew approached me in the park yesterday as I was taking my little one for a walk for some exercise and I felt like I was going to break down into tears begging them not to come near as I scram-

bled to put both our masks on. They were so kind and empathetic and kept away but I vowed that would be the last time I step outside my house again until the baby is born. I couldn't help thinking about all the effort that goes into trying to conceive a child through IVF.

Paloma Faith



SUDOKU

1			9					
2		9						5
	4		7					6
	5		3			1		
	6	3	1		4	5	2	
		4			5		6	
		5			8		7	
	2					3		8
				3				5

Yesterday's solution

3	6	5	9	7	1	2	8	4
9	2	1	5	8	4	3	7	6
8	7	4	3	2	6	9	1	5
5	3	7	2	4	9	8	6	1
4	1	8	8	3	7	5	9	2
2	8	9	6	1	5	7	4	3
6	4	8	7	5	2	1	3	9
1	5	3	4	9	8	6	2	7
7	9	2	1	6	3	4	5	8

How to play
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD

Across

1- Pineapple fiber; 6- Aristotle, to Alexander the Great; 11- Light touch; 14- Head cold; 15- Declaim; 16- ...roll; 17- Chop into small pieces; 18- Vain; 20- To the point; 21- Hard to find; 23- Farm layers; 24- Ire; 26- Unacknowledged; 28- More bohemian; 30- So far; 31- Falls short; 32- War horse; 33- Sis's sib; 36- Split apart; 37- Reconnoiter; 38- Long time; 39- Form of poem, often used to praise something; 40- Skin of the upper part of the head; 41- Common person of ancient Rome; 42- Total; 43- Makes rhapsodic; 44- Assign; 47- Hiding place; 48- Light purple; 49- Like pie?; 50- Takes too much; 53- Capital of Kentucky; 56- Embankment; 58- Hi-... monitor; 59- Deadly virus; 60- Parades; 61- Nav. officer; 62- Grow to maturity; 63- Melodies;

Down

1- "The Joy of Cooking" author Rombauer; 2- Pack and send; 3- Hesitant; 4- Director Jean-... Godard; 5- Appears; 6- Start of a saying on forgiveness; 7- Advocate forcefully; 8- Chinese "way"; 9- Polo Grounds legend; 10- Ruled; 11- Emblem; 12- Biscotto flavoring; 13- Walked back and forth; 19- Show to a table; 22- ...Lingus; 25- Egypt's river; 26- Deplete; 27- Russian no; 28- Bushy hairstyle; 29- Sudden assault; 30- Coral island; 32- Fish covering; 33- German composer; 34- Choir attire; 35- Singles; 37- Strike breaker; 38- Exclamation to express sorrow; 40- Giggle; 41- Short drama; 42- Ayatollah's land; 43- French connections; 44- Actress Woodard; 45- Seductively beautiful woman; 46- Category; 47- The devil; 49- Della's creator; 51- Sand hill by the sea; 52- Cong. meeting; 54- U.S. law enforcement agency; 55- Alley ...; 57- Web address ending;

Yesterday's solution

A	N	O	A	H	A	E	O	N	S	N	O	R	A		
N	O	A	H	L	Y	R	I	C	A	M	E	N			
O	S	L	O	P	E	E	T	E	S	I	N	N			
N	E	A	R	M	I	S	S	N	E	S	T	E	A		
T	I	N		T	A	R	A								
S	T	E	E	L	E		A	R	G	U	I	N	G		
T	R	U	N	K		F	O	C	I		C	O	E		
E	A	R		P	O	L	I	O		I	F	A			
A	D	O		E	R	A	T			S	A	N	E	R	
D	E	S	S	E	R	T				S	E	D	G	E	S
				O	K	I	E			P	R	O			
C	A	N	C	E	L		A	P	I	A	R	I	S	T	
A	L	E	C		O	I	L	E	R		N	A	P	E	
T	I	R	E			U	L	T	R	A		E	G	O	S
O	D	O	R			S	E	O	U	L		D	O	T	S

Sokratis adds to Arsenal clearout



Sokratis Papastathopoulos (L) in action during a match (file photo)

AFP | London

Arsenal announced yesterday they had reached an agreement with defender Sokratis Papastathopoulos to cancel the final six months of his contract at the Emirates.

Sokratis, 32, last played for the Gunners in March and had not been included in Mikel Arteta's Premier League squad this season.

"Working closely with Sokratis and his team, we have decided to cancel his contract by mutual consent," Arsenal said in a statement.

"This gives Papa the freedom to negotiate a contract with a new club and return to action as soon as possible."

Sokratis joined from Borussia Dortmund in July 2018 as one of former Arsenal boss Unai Emery's first signings.

He made 69 appearances for the club and was part of August's FA Cup-winning side.

His departure is the latest move from Arteta and technical director Edu to streamline a bloated squad during the January transfer window.

69 appearances were made by Sokratis Papastathopoulos who joined from Borussia Dortmund in July 2018

"On behalf of Mikel, our coaches, players and everyone at the club, I would like to thank Papa for his contribution to the club," said Edu.

"He has been an important part of our group and has been a model professional throughout. The negotiations to end his contract have been collaborative and we wish Papa and his family well for the future."

William Saliba and Sead Kolasinac have been moved out on loan deals to Nice and Schalke respectively.

Mesut Ozil's seven-and-a-half year stay is also set to come to an end as the German international has arrived in Turkey to complete a move to Fenerbahce.

Rana Singh looking for India vs Pakistan clashes

New BRAVE CF signing Rana Rudra Pratap Singh wants to prove the superiority of India over Pakistan

● Rana Singh is in pursuit for a bout against Pakistan's Mehmosh Raza

TDT | Manama

Undefeated, fearless, and ambitious. These words can accurately describe BRAVE CF's new signing Rana Rudra Pratap Singh. He has been making a lot of noise since signing with the fastest-growing MMA promotion in the world, saying that ultimately he wants to win BRAVE CF's world Bantamweight title. But, his first goal is set: to prove the superiority of India over Pakistan in the sport.

Rana has been relentless in his pursuit for a bout against Pakistan's Mehmosh Raza. One of the top fighters from Pakistan, Mehmosh poses a great level of threat to Rana. However, the undefeated fighter is not afraid to seek a challenge. It all started with a quick and simple call out from Rana. However, it was met with a brash response from Mehmosh who called the newcomer a "tea seller". Tempers have only continued to flare with both parties engaging in verbal warfare.

"Mehmosh is first in line, the



Rana Rudra Pratap Singh

remaining Pakistanis can join the line and I will beat them one by one. I want them all" Rana declared upon his signing and in the days after he created a rivalry with several fighters from Pakistan on BRAVE CF's roster.

He hinted that he is interested in fighting Shoaib Yousaf, another man with a Pakistani heritage - "The Assassin" seemed interested in the idea, but has since dismissed Singh's challenge. Rana himself has since

"Mehmosh is first in line, the remaining Pakistanis can join the line and I will beat them one by one. I want them all"

RANA RUDRA PRATAP SINGH

made it clear that it was Mehmosh that he wants to fight

first.

Interestingly, it was Mehmosh who first called for an India vs Pakistan showdown all the way back at BRAVE CF 17, during his record-breaking debut against Arben Escayo, in his home country. A few years later, Raza might get his wish, should BRAVE CF decide to go ahead with the much-anticipated India vs Pakistan showdown - fans from both camps have started their campaigns to make the fight happen.

'Gravity' eager to reclaim ONE flyweight world title

TDT | Manila

Team Lakay stalwart and Filipino martial arts veteran Geje "Gravity" Eustaquio is determined to take back the ONE flyweight world title.

The 31-year-old Eustaquio has conquered the mixed martial arts arena, reaching the pinnacle of the sport when he captured the ONE Flyweight World Championship in June of 2018 after defeating Brazilian rival, Adriano Moraes.

But as the former world champion embarks on his journey back to the top of the flyweight division, he dreams of adding yet another feather in his cap, and one day compete among the world's best strikers in ONE Super Series.

Eustaquio said he is focused a hundred percent on his mixed martial arts career, but wouldn't mind stepping into the ring against legends should he be called upon.

"It would be a privilege for me to compete in ONE Super Series among legends, but right now, I'm just focused on my MMA career and looking to get back on track. It's been a rough couple of years, but I still consider myself among the top in my division," said Eustaquio.

"My mind is still on the flyweight title, and that's what I'm working towards. But yes definitely, I want to test my striking against the best in the world."

And like many athletes around the world whose plans were hampered by the coro-



Eustaquio is armed with vast experience

"My wish is for Danny to take the title this year. He has a good chance at earning another shot at the belt. The kid is seriously talented and very strong"

GEJE "GRAVITY" EUSTAQUIO

navirus pandemic, Eustaquio is making the most out of free time to refine his craft.

"I want to develop my wrestling and my accuracy," he said.

But while the "Gravity" is hellbent on reclaiming the ONE flyweight world title, he won't stand in the way of his fellow Team Lakay star Danny Kingad's shot at glory.

In fact, Eustaquio is more than willing to step aside and

let Kingad get his due.

"My wish is for Danny to take the title this year. He has a good chance at earning another shot at the belt," said Eustaquio. "The kid is seriously talented and very strong."

The 25-year-old Kingad is currently the No. 2 ranked flyweight behind former UFC flyweight champion Demetrious Johnson and reigning ONE flyweight king Adriano Moraes. Kingad holds a 14-2 record with two of his losses coming at the hands of Moraes in 2017 and Johnson in 2019.

But Eustaquio is convinced Kingad is not the same fighter he once was.

"He's consistently growing. He's not the same fighter who fought Adriano and DJ (Johnson) the first time. Danny is a difficult matchup for anyone at this point," said Eustaquio, who has fought Moraes thrice.

Djokovic hits back at criticism over Australian Open quarantine stance

Reuters | Melbourne

World number one Novak Djokovic yesterday hit back at criticism of his letter to Australian Open chief Craig Tiley in which he suggested easing of quarantine restrictions, saying his good intentions were "misconstrued".

As many as 72 players are confined to their hotel rooms for 14 days and unable to train for the Feb. 8-21 Australian Open after passengers on three charter flights carrying them to Melbourne tested positive for the novel coronavirus.

Djokovic reportedly asked for reduced isolation periods and having players in hard quarantine moved to "private houses with tennis courts", drawing a backlash from Australians.

Tiley confirmed they were suggestions and not demands.

"My good intentions for my fellow competitors in Melbourne have been misconstrued as being selfish, difficult and ungrateful," the Serbian, who is isolating in Adelaide along with other top players, said in a lengthy statement.

"This couldn't be farther from the truth.

"... at times when I see the aftermath of things, I do tend to ask myself if I should just sit back and enjoy my benefits instead of paying attention to other people's struggles."



Novak Djokovic

Tennis coach Daniel Vallverdu told Reuters that players in hard quarantine should get preferential treatment from organisers such as prime practice times and matches scheduled in the cooler hours of the day.

Djokovic, who last year quit as the ATP Players Council chief to launch a breakaway players body, won a record eighth Australian Open title in Melbourne in 2020.

Former Australian Davis Cup player Sam Groth accused Djokovic's letter as a "selfish political move" while Nick Kyrgios called the Serbian a "tool".

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PSG's Pochettino guarded over Messi move



Lionel Messi and Mauricio Pochettino during a match

AFP | Paris

Paris Saint-Germain coach Mauricio Pochettino played his cards close to his chest when tackled on Spanish radio over a potential move for Lionel Messi.

Pochettino's fellow Argentine is out of contract with Barcelona at the end of the season, prompting speculation of being reunited with former Barca teammate Neymar at PSG.

"Everyone dreams of having the best players with him," Pochettino told Cadena Ser late on Tuesday.

"I have huge respect for the players I have in my team but I must also have respect for players in other teams," the former Tottenham boss, who replaced Thomas Tuchel at the Parc des Princes at the start of this month, added. Despite playing coy Pochettino highlighted the "very strong" bonds that existed between the two of them, "like love for Newell Old Boys", one of the clubs in Rosario in their homeland.

Muharraq battle past Ahli in thriller

Victors take down defending champs in low-scoring affair for league-leading ninth win in 2020/2021 Zain Bahrain Basketball League

● **Muharraq squander 16-point lead before closing the game strong to thwart Ahli fightback**

● **Mansour Kasse scores 39 points, grabs 21 rebounds to lead Samaheej past Al Ettihad**

TDT | Manama

Muharraq edged past defending champions Ahli 77-71 last night in a battle between heavyweights in the 2020/2021 Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

Muharraq were in control for much of the contest and led by as many as 16 in the second quarter, but Ahli roared back and even gained the advantage midway through the final canto.

Muharraq, however, were able to deliver the decisive baskets down the stretch. Mohammed Bualay banked in a three-pointer to give the victors a 75-68 lead with 24 seconds to play. And after Ali Aqeel replied with his own triple on the other end for Ahli, Bader Abdulla Malabes iced the result with two pressure-packed free-throws and just 11 seconds on the game clock.



Muharraq forward Mohammed Kuwayed goes for a lay-up in traffic against Ahli last night

Muharraq came away with their league-leading ninth win in 10 contests as they stayed atop the standings, while Ahli suffered their second defeat to go with seven wins.

Muharraq enjoyed a balanced attack in the low-scoring affair.



Mohammed Bualay had missed 10 straight three-point attempts last night before making his decisive basket from beyond the arc with 24 seconds to go

Bualay was their leading scorer with 12 points. He had previously missed 10 attempts from beyond the arc before hitting his crucial triple with less than a half-minute to go.

Mohammed Juma'a chipped in with 11, while Malabes and Ali Shukrallah finished with 10 points apiece, with Shukrallah also taking down 13 rebounds. Mohammed Kuwayed and Serbian Aleksandar Mitrovic contributed nine points each in the win.

American Robert Upshaw spearheaded Ahli with 32 points and 14 rebounds. He and skipper Mohammed Qurban played the full 40 minutes. Qurban finished with eight assists but just four

markers.

Ahmed Aldurazi, who was facing his long-time team for the first time since moving to Ahli in the off-season, had 15 as Ahli's only other player in double figures. Ahli took to the hardwood without their dynamic backcourt tandem of Maitham Jameel and Hesham Sarhan.

In yesterday's other game, Samaheej defeated Al Ettihad 90-77.

Samaheej made a game-changing run early in the fourth quarter that extended their three-point lead to double digits.

They had their biggest lead at 15 right before the final buzzer as they improved to a 4-6 win-loss record.

Senegalese professional Mansour Kasse had a monster effort of 39 points, 21 rebounds and five assists for Samaheej, while Basel Adel added 21. Ahmed Fateel contributed nine points but dished out 12 assists.

American Marcel Jones had 26 points and 28 rebounds to pace Ettihad, who fell to a 3-6 mark. Ahmed Ghanim chipped in with 16 points, eight rebounds and seven assists in the loss.

League action continues tonight with Al Najma facing Nuwaidrat at 5.30pm, followed at 7.45pm by Bahrain Club playing bottom club Sitra.

Sigfusson: 'Learn from mistakes'

TDT | Manama

Bahrain head coach Halldor Johann Sigfusson is hoping that the national team learn from their mistakes as they head into the main round of the 27th IHF World Men's Handball Championship, being held in Egypt.

The Bahrainis won 34-27 against DR Congo on Tuesday to put them through to the competition's next phase, which they begin today against Croatia.

Following that victory, though, Sigfusson believed that there is still plenty of room for improvement, despite the big result.

"It wasn't an easy match at all," said the Icelandic tactician, who led Bahrain past the preliminary round of the world championship for the first time in four appearances.

"DR Congo have a player of superior physical stature that can't be countered. We lost focus in part of the first period and we had to calm down a little to secure the win.

"I think our fast breaks weren't as good as they should be and we have to improve in the next round. What's more important than the win is learning from our mistakes."

Bahrain and Croatia are in Group II of the main round, along with Qatar and Japan, as well as defending world champions Denmark and Argentina, who also advanced from the Bahrainis' pool in the preliminaries.



Bahrain coach Halldor Johann Sigfusson watches from the bench as his team warms up for their match against Congo

Bahrain will no longer face the Danes and the Argentinians, as their results from the previous stage will carry over.

Following their match today, Bahrain take on Qatar on Saturday and then Japan on Monday.

Bahrain need to finish in the top two in Group II to make it through to the quarter-finals, but they are already assured of their best-ever finish in the world championship.

Main round groups

(Top two teams in each advance to quarter-finals)

Group I: Hungary, Spain, Germany, Poland, Brazil, Uruguay

Group II: Denmark, Croatia, Qatar, Argentina, Japan, Bahrain

Group III: Portugal, France, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Algeria

Group IV: Sweden, Russian Handball Federation, Egypt, Slovenia, Belarus, North Macedonia

Shakib stars in Bangladesh win over Windies

AFP | Dhaka

Shakib Al Hasan claimed four wickets for eight runs in his international comeback to set up an easy six-wicket victory for Bangladesh over West Indies in the first one-day international in Dhaka yesterday.

Debutant pacer Hasan Mahmud also impressed with the ball, picking up 3-28 as the hosts bowled out the weakened tourists for 122 before racing to 125-4 in 33.5 overs.

Skipper Tamim Iqbal top-scored with 44 off 69 while all-rounder Shakib played his part with the bat, hitting 19.

Left-arm spinner Akeal Hossain took 3-26 to give the home batsmen some trouble but his effort was not enough to defend the visitors' meagre total.

Mushfiqur Rahim and Mahmudullah Riyad were unbeaten on 19 and nine runs respectively to complete the win, helping Bangladesh take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

Opting to bowl first, Bangladesh earlier wrapped up the West Indies innings in 32.2 overs.

"No complaints, we bowled extremely well. Not just the spinners, but the pacers as well," said Tamim at the prize-giving ceremony.

West Indies captain Jason Mohammed said he was disappointed with his side's performance.

"It wasn't easy to start on, but we didn't have enough guys getting partnerships and those



West Indies' Alzarri Joseph (L) is clean bowled off Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan

who got starts didn't carry on," he said.

Mustafizur Rahman, who claimed 2-20, seized the early momentum for Bangladesh, trapping Sunil Ambris in front for seven in the second over.

He removed Joshua Da Silva for nine after a rain break that halted play for nearly an hour.

Playing his first international after a one-year suspension, Shakib's left-arm spin immedi-

ately put pressure on the West Indies.

He bowled Andre McCarthy for 12 before West Indies' stand-in captain Jason Mohammed was stumped off his bowling for 17.

Nkrumah Bonner went for a duck leg before wicket in Shakib's next over to leave the West Indies struggling at 56-5. Kyle Mayers hit 40 off 56 balls and added 59 runs with Rovman Powell (28) for the seventh wicket to bring some respectability to the visitors' score.

Hasan's pace removed Powell and Raymon Reifer with successive deliveries to end the resistance.

Off-spinner Mehidy Hasan dismissed Mayers as the West Indies lost their last five wickets for seven runs.

44

runs were scored by Bangladesh skipper Tamim Iqbal off 69 balls to become the top scorer