



Jada Pinkett Smith calls marriage 'a golden cage'

14 CELEBS

WORLD

5

Brazil bus hijacker shot dead by police

## Italy PM quits

Rome

Italy's Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte has resigned following a blistering attack on coalition partner Matteo Salvini.

Mr Conte said Mr Salvini had been "irresponsible" in creating a new political crisis for Italy for "personal and party interests".

Mr Salvini, the leader of the nationalist League party, had tabled a no-confidence motion against Mr Conte.

He also said he could no longer work with his coalition partners Five Star.

The League and the anti-establishment Five Star Movement formed a coalition to govern just 14 months ago with Mr Conte as an independent as prime minister.

Italian President Sergio Mattarella accepted the resignation of Mr Conte and is due to begin consulting party leaders on Wednesday.

Mr Mattarella has asked Mr Conte to remain in office while the discussions continue.

## Two injured in explosion

TDT | Manama

Two people were injured in an explosion caused by a gas leak at a coffee shop in Bu Ashairah yesterday, the Interior Ministry said in its Twitter handle.

Civil Defence personnel rushed to the scene and doused the fire, the ministry added.

"Two workers were injured and referred to hospital and minor damage was reported at the explosion site."



02 LuLu 'Back To School' drive

Bahrainis faced 'more' accidents at worksites compared to expats

04 Trio accused of murder over financial dispute

210 fils (includes VAT)



6 084010 110021 >



The visit is a milestone in Bahraini-Indian relations.

YUSUFFALI MA, CHAIRMAN AND MD, LULU GROUP



There is a lot of scope for improving trade ties between two nations.

KHALID AL ZAYANI, HONORARY CHAIRMAN, AL ZAYANI INVESTMENTS



The visit will deepen already existing bilateral ties.

DR R B SHETTY, FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN, UAE EXCHANGE

- Modi has reoriented Indian foreign policy
- New Delhi is now a power to reckon with
- India's ties with Bahrain at all time high



Bahrain can effectively learn from India's higher education success.

SHAIKH KHALID BIN MOHAMMED AL KHALIFA, UCB CHAIRMAN



We can expect trade ties between the Kingdom and India to flourish.

NAIF SHEROUI, DIRECTOR, HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES, NPPA



Both nations can further enhance ties in different spheres including science and education.

CAPT MAHMOOD AL MAHMUD, FORMER LAWMAKER



India-Bahrain ties have bore many fruits. It will grow further.

MAHMOOD AL NAMLY, CHAIRMAN, MANAMA TRADITIONAL MARKET

# Modi's Midas touch



The first visit by an Indian PM will surely boost the bilateral relations between two countries.

HAMEED REHMA, ASST UNDERSECRETARY, COMMERCE MINISTRY



We look forward to continuing strong ties between BRAVE CF and India.

MOHAMMED SHAHID, PRESIDENT, BRAVE COMBAT FEDERATION



We need to learn from India's success in the technological sector.

AKBAR JAFFARI, PROMINENT ECONOMIST



It's time to acknowledge efforts of Indian community towards Bahrain's growth.

AHDEYA AHMED, PRESIDENT OF BAHRAIN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION



TDT | Manama

Trade is expected to top the agenda as the Kingdom is all set to welcome Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday.

Many trade agreements are expected to be signed between the Kingdom and India on the sidelines of the visit.

After taking over, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has earnestly made efforts to reorient India's foreign policy and chart out a new path.

According to foreign policy experts, there was a conscious move by his government to enforce

a paradigmatic shift in India's foreign policy priorities moving from ideological considerations to pragmatic thinking in consonance with the massive changes in the world politics and order.

Modi's efforts towards reorientation of foreign policy include portrayal of India as a strong, confident, competitive and secure country and enter the 'big league' as a 'rule maker' and no more remain a mere 'rule-follower'.

Modi's pragmatic, focused and action oriented foreign policy have achieved significant results, making India a power to reckon with.

India has now good relations

with the US and Russia, the UK and Saudi Arabia.

India, being the largest democracy, is today looked upon as a 'global power' who can assume the leadership role and transform international relations for better.

During his visit, the Indian Prime Minister will hold talks with His Majesty, HRH the Premier, HRH the Crown Prince and other senior government officials.

Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha told media yesterday that preparations are in full swing to organise one of the largest gatherings of the Indian diaspora in the Kingdom.

See Page 4



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Supreme Commander, visited the Royal Bahrain Naval Force. Upon arrival, His Majesty was received by Lieutenant General Abdullah Bin Hassan Al Nuaimi, Minister for Defence Affairs, General Dhiyab Bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, Chief-of-Staff, as well as the Commander of the Royal Bahrain Naval Force and a number of senior officers. Also present were Ambassador Justin Hicks Siberell, Ambassador of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Vice Admiral James Malloy, Commander of the US Naval Forces Central Command and Commander of the US Fifth Fleet, and Commodore Dean Basset, United Kingdom Maritime Component Commander and Deputy Commander of the Combined Maritime Forces.



His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa the Prime Minister affirmed Bahrain's strong solidarity with the Sudan and supporting its security and stability to achieve the aspirations of its brotherly people in growth and progress. HRH the Premier welcomed the signing of the constitutional declaration document, hoping such step would contribute in consolidating peace, reconciliation, security and stability in the Arab country to position itself on the path of development and revitalisation to fulfil the aspirations of its people in the bright and prosperous future. HRH the Premier received the Sudanese Ambassador to Bahrain, Ibrahim Mohammed El Hassan, and discussed with him the strong fraternal ties and ways of boosting them in various fields, as well as latest developments in the Sudan.



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister yesterday received the Ambassador of the Republic of Sudan to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Ibrahim Mohammed Al Hassan Ahmed, at Gudaibiya Palace. During the meeting, HRH the Crown Prince highlighted the strength of bilateral ties between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of Sudan, noting the importance of further enhancing co-operation between the two countries on all levels.

## LuLu presents 50 popular 'Back to School' character accessories

TDT | Manama

**C**hildren across Bahrain will have fun choosing at LuLu Hypermarket from 50 great 'character' school bags to make their new academic year interesting.

Superheroes Captain Marvel, Spiderman, Bat Man, Superman fantasy characters Aladdin and Blaze and The Monster, as well super car themes and the Avengers and fun character themes like Angry Birds, Despicable Me, Kung Fu Panda etc. will find instant approval with boys while girls will find a wide choice in Barbie, Dora The Explorer, Lalaloopsy, Frozen, Mary Poppins, Minnie Mouse, Princess, Shimmer and Shine etc.

There are also many character themes with universal appeal for girls and boys, such as Lion King, Aladdin, Paw Patrol etc.

"Each year these character school bags and packs - we offer even value packs of themes school books and stationery to-



There are many character themed accessories with universal appeal for girls and boys at LuLu Hypermarkets.

gether - are top of the popularity charts for our young shoppers preparing for school," said a LuLu Hypermarket spokesman.

"We think it is like taking a friend to school for them and we always stock up on the best characters - this year we have 30 special character bags for boys and 20 for girls and also many that both will find appealing."

The hypermarket also

stocks a great line of over 100 cool and rugged teenage schoolbags, branded bags from American Tourister, Delsey, Cross, Skybags, Wild Craft, Wagon R, etc.

Get set for the new school term with the best buys from LuLu Hypermarket in all the eight locations: Dana Mall, Riffa, Hidd, Muharraq, Ramli Mall, Juffair, Galleria Mall in Zinj and Atrium Mall in Sar, the retailer said in a statement issued.



Southern Governor His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al-Khalifa yesterday chaired the first meeting of the coordination committee for 2019, in the presence of officials representing government bodies. He commended edict 11 of 2019, which was issued by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, restructuring the coordination council. He paid tribute to HRH the Premier, hailing his keenness on providing all forms of support and meeting the needs of citizens countrywide.



Foreign Affairs Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, received a copy of credentials of the Ambassador-Designate of Sri Lanka to Bahrain Pradeepa Saram. The minister noted the Kingdom's keenness to develop its friendly relations with Sri Lanka in all levels for the benefit of both countries and people, wishing the ambassador success in carrying out her diplomatic duties. The ambassador hailed the strong bilateral relations linking the two countries, wishing Bahrain further progress and prosperity.

# Bahrainis faced 'more' accidents at worksites compared to expats

221 cases of worksite accidents were recorded last year

● Over a thousand people were injured in worksite accidents last year.

● Bahrain is on the right track when it comes to curbing the number of serious worksite accidents.

**TDT | Manama**  
**Mohammed Zafran**

Bahrainis have faced more worksite accidents than non-Bahrainis during the second quarter of this year, according to a latest statistics.

Statistics issued by the General Organisation for Social Insurance (GOSI) revealed that in the second quarter of 2019 the primary victims of worksite accidents were Bahrainis.

The report, which compiled data from both private and public sectors showed that a total of 583 cases of worksite injuries



The Labour Ministry has been putting in best efforts to reduce worksite accidents.

were reported in the second quarter of the year.

Of the total, 321 accidents were faced by Bahrainis while non-Bahrainis met with 262

worksite accidents.

The private sector saw the vast majority of the accidents at 470, while the public sector only had 113 cases.

The injuries from various accidents were caused through slipping and falling, carrying heavy objects, cuts by sharp objects, cuts by mechanical issues

**30**  
per cent was the reduction in fatal worksite accidents last year when compared to previous year.

and sharp objects piercing into the body.

Over a thousand people were injured in worksite accidents last year.

The statistics revealed by the Social Insurance Organisation (SIO) says 1,037 people were injured in worksite accidents, which includes 613 Bahrainis and 424 expatriates.

In the public sector last year, 221 cases of worksite accidents were recorded, 198 involved Bahrainis while expatriates were the victims in 23 accidents.

However, Bahrain is on the right track when it comes to curbing the number of serious

worksite accidents as the number of accidents that led to serious injuries or fatalities has reduced by more than 30 per cent in recent years, the SIO observed.

The reduction has been partly attributed to the rigorous awareness campaigns done by the Labour Ministry to bring awareness about the need to follow safety procedures when performing hazardous work.

This year has seen a few fatal worksite accidents. In June, a man was run over by a truck as he was working.

The deceased was identified as Indian national Raju, who was in his late 30s. He worked as a mason with a construction firm.

Another construction worker who died last month in a worksite accident was a Bangladeshi national.

According to sources, he fell to his death from the 11th floor of a building in Juffair. The victim was later identified as 29 years old Sahadot who hailed from Pabna district in Bangladesh.

## Bahrain-Singapore relations 'on track'

**Singapore**

The Senior Minister of State of the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman, yesterday held talks with the Foreign Ministry Undersecretary for International Affairs, Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, on the sidelines of his official visit to the Republic of Singapore.

The meeting discussed means of advancing bilateral relations and enhancing co-operation. The two sides also exchanged views on the current regional and international developments.

The Undersecretary for International Affairs stressed the Kingdom's keenness to consolidate relations with the friendly Republic of Singapore to reach a comprehensive and effective partnership.

He also added that a pivotal factor in the success of the two countries in terms of pioneering development and achieving a prosperity is through investing in people and qualifying national cadres, affirming that both countries share a common destiny.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah pointed out how Asia occupies an advanced position in the Kingdom of Bahrain's foreign policy.

He also referred in this regard



Dr Mohamad receives Dr Shaikh Abdullah.

to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's vision, which was presented to the GCC in 2009, to enhance Asian-Gulf relations in order to achieve mutual benefits.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah highlighted how the past three decades have witnessed outstanding development when it comes to maintaining a distinguished and close friendship between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of Singapore, following the official visits made by the two countries and the signing of co-operation agreements and advancing fields of renewable energy, entrepreneurship, banking, tourism various exhibitions, youth and sports and the pro-

vision of quality education and training.

He also showcased the potential to elevate opportunities between both countries in linking investments and technologies to foreign markets in the Gulf and Southeast Asia and motivating the private sector in the field of digital economy.

The Undersecretary also reviewed the Kingdom's distinguished achievements, in light of the comprehensive reform approach led by His Majesty the King, as well as the Kingdom's success in establishing the rule of law and institutions and maintaining stability and sustainable development.

## More Bahrain residents offer help to Kerala flood victims

**TDT | Manama**  
**Pradeep Puravankara**

More Bahrain residents have come forward to help the victims of a disastrous flood that hit the Indian state of Kerala.

Tribune yesterday reported about Indian national Jiji George, a resident of the Kingdom, who donated a plot, which she purchased only a month ago, to the flood victims in her village.

At least 121 people have died in flood-hit Kerala according to a state-wide calamity report issued by the government in the second spell of south-western monsoon rains since August 8, this year.

Over 40 people have been injured in flood-related incidents



Mr Skaria with his family members

while over 21 people are believed to be missing in the state after heavy flooding.

As many as 1,789 houses have been completely damaged due to flooding and over 26,000 people have taken refuge in relief camps.

Joining the humanitarian cause from the Kingdom was Basheer Vaniyakode, who donated his 1.2 acre land in Thrissur district to the flood victims.

Social media were all in praise for Mr Basheer, who owns Al Nusra restaurant in Hoora.

Subair Kannur, a social worker and member of Pravasi Commission, has decided to donate 15 cents of land located in Kannur district to help the flood victims.

He said he will hand over the ownership documents of the land to Kerala Chief Minister



Mr Basheer



Mr Subair

Pinarayi Vijayan.

Roy Skaria, former secretary of St Mary's Indian Orthodox Cathedral, will donate his 40 cents of land located in Malappuram district, for the cause.

Mr Skaria is the managing director of SGS Bahrain, one of the

world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company.

He has been active in the social circles of Bahrain. Mr Skaria has also been taking part in the relief efforts following floods in his district.

## 'A key milestone in Bahraini-Indian relations'

TDT | Manama

Prominent businessmen in the Kingdom have welcomed the visit of

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Kingdom. They said the visit will have a positive impact on the economies of both nations. Trade is expected

to top the agenda as the Kingdom is all set to welcome Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. During his visit, the Indian Prime Minister will hold talks

with His Majesty, HRH the Premier, HRH the Crown Prince and other senior government officials.

Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar

Sinha told media yesterday that preparations are in full swing to organise one of the largest gatherings of the Indian diaspora in the Kingdom.

In a message to Tribune, Yusuffali MA, Chairman and Managing Director, LuLu Group said: "The state visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Kingdom of Bahrain is the first by an Indian Prime Minister. As such, this is a milestone in Bahraini-Indian relations. It shows the deepening ties between both nations and underscores the significance of Bahrain in India's West Asia policy."

"For the nearly 400,000 Indian diaspora on the Kingdom of Bahrain, which has contributed so richly to the growth of modern Bahrain, this is a crowning moment, and an honour and celebration of ties between India and this most harmonious, peaceful, prosperous and tolerant countries in the world."

"Bahrain and India are re-casting their millennia-old relations and besides a vibrant trade platform. I believe that the growth of India-Bahrain bilateral trade for the year 2018-19 has touched USD1.282 billion, registering an increase of almost 30 per cent over the previous year and India has become the fifth largest trading partner of Bahrain."

"As of March 2018, India's total capital investment into Bahrain has been estimated at approximately US\$ 1.69 billion. Of this, we at the Lulu Group are particularly proud of our growing contribution of nearly US\$300 million in the Kingdom."



Mr Yusuffali

Explaining further, Mr Yusuffali said: "As India is marching towards its ambitious goal of becoming a five trillion economy, the Kingdom of Bahrain too will undoubtedly play a key role in this thanks to already existing trade ties, close proximity, large Indian diaspora and above all the personal and warm friendship between great leadership of both nations."

**India is one of the top economies of the world. It is a fast growing and a stable economy. We hope the visit by the prime minister will be a great success.**

MR AL ZAYANI

Khalid Rashid Al Zayani, BCCI Board member and Honorary Chairman of Al Zayani Investments, said the relationship between India and Bahrain is so old and valued.

"India is one of the top economies of the world. It is a fast growing and a stable economy. We hope the visit by the prime minister will

### Excellent ties

Echoing a similar view, Dr B R Shetty, Founder and Chairman of NMC Healthcare, Finablr, BRS Ventures and Neopharma, said: "India has excellent ties with the entire GCC region. India is now being led by a visionary leader like Shri Narendra Modi. I am confident that our already existing relations of trade, brotherhood and culture is only going to be deepened. We can positively look forward to prosperous times ahead."



Dr Shetty

be a great success."

University College of Bahrain Founder and Chairman Shaikh Khalid bin Mohamed Al Khalifa said the relation between the Kingdom and India goes beyond hundreds of years.

"Indian community in Bahrain has contributed to Bahrain's economy and still plays a vital role as a

major work force. India is one of the largest importers of Arabian oil and thus a strategic business partner.

"Education system in India has a history of 5000 years. The quality of Indian manpower is an evidence for their quality of education. Indian higher education system can play a big role in the coming days in the Kingdom of Bahrain."

## Green technology meet



The Arabian Gulf University participated in two top level meetings organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Technology Centre for Development in the Jordanian capital Amman. The meetings aimed to discuss the methods of utilising green technology and the investment required to implement the twelfth goal of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which targets "Sustainable Consumption and Productivity".

# Trio accused of murder over financial dispute

## Three Asians face trial before High Criminal Court

TDT | Manama

Three Asians allegedly murdered another Asian by hitting him with rocks and hammer following a financial dispute, it was revealed.

The trio are said to have lured their victim to a remote area, where they pounced on him and ended his life before robbing his money and mobile phone.

They were later arrested after investigations confirmed their in-

volvement in the case.

It was said that the victim had received BD1,000 and BD1,500 from two of the accused to bring them to the Kingdom and get them work permits valid for two years each.

However, the duo found out that their work visas were for only one year each.

Angered over the fraud, the duo along with a third friend, a co-defendant in the crime, planned to

**I didn't know that they wanted to kill him. I was asked to call him and lure him to a deserted place in Dain.**

THIRD DEFENDANT

man denied he was aware of their intention to murder the victim.

He revealed to prosecutors that he was asked to participate in attacking the victim and that he didn't have any issues with the victim.

"I didn't know that they wanted to kill him. I was asked to call him and lure him to a deserted place in Dain that night."

"I told him I had some work in the area and I needed him to come to discuss them with me," the third defendant told prosecutors.

When the victim arrived, the third defendant spoke with him, while the other two were watching closely the conversation.

And they later pounced on him, beating him with rocks and a hammer until he died.

"I crashed his head with a rock. We later stole his mobile phone and cash and we fled," he added.

The trio have been charged with premeditated murder. They are standing trial before the High Criminal Court.

## Asian jailed for attacking police officer

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court sentenced an Asian man to three years behind bars for attacking a police officer with a plank.

The defendant is said to have been on the wanted list of the police for committing an unstated offence.

The victim and another police officer were assigned to search for wanted men and he detected the defendant.

"We ordered him to present his CPR and he gave it to us without causing any problems. As soon as he knew that he was wanted, he resisted and then picked up a plank and he hit my arms," the victim told prosecutors.

"My colleague tried to arrest him, but he fled," he added.

The report of the doctor who examined the victim revealed that he suffered torn muscles and wounds in his left and right arms.

The defendant is yet to be caught and he was sentenced in absentia. He was ordered to be deported once he completes his jail time.

## Nine men formed cell to fund terrorism

TDT | Manama

Nine Bahraini men formed a cell to collect money purposely to fund terrorist groups, the High Criminal Court heard.

The defendants landed in the police net after investigations uncovered that the first defendant was a member of a dissolved society that was raising funds and later distributing them to terrorists.

And he was helped by some of his co-suspects. The first defendant was arrested in a secret operation and he revealed he gave BD30-BD60 to the family of the fourth defendant and BD300 to the family of the ninth defendant, both

of whom were wanted in connection with security cases.

The second defendant confirmed to prosecutors that he was wanted to serve 11 year's imprisonment and he requested money from the first defendant.

# WORLD

# world

# Brazil bus hijacker shot dead by police

● Around 31 people had remained on the bus throughout the terrifying ordeal

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

A gunman holding a bus-load of passengers hostage in Rio de Janeiro yesterday was shot dead by police, officials said, ending the hours-long hijacking.

Dozens of people were trapped on the bus after it was commandeered by the gunman on a heavily transited bridge connecting Rio with the neighbouring city of Niteroi.

At least six people -- four women and two men -- were freed.

Around 31 people had remained on the bus throughout the terrifying ordeal.

Heavily armed police including military and snipers had surrounded the bus as they negotiated with the gunman, who G1 news reported had been armed with a gun, a tazer and gasoline.

"This is the police that we want to see," a military police spokesman told local media.

"It was necessary for the sniper to neutralise (the hijacker) and save people on the bus."

"He (hijacker) died at the scene."

None of the hostages were injured, police said.

A live broadcast of the situation showed several ambulances parked near the bus, receiving hostages as they were released.

The gunman reportedly boarded the Rio-bound bus at



Aerial footage on the Rio-Niteroi Bridge, where armed police surrounded a hijacked passenger bus in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (Still Image from RECORD TV video)



Drivers wait for the traffic to be reopened near the area where a gunman holding a bus



Police officers stand guard near the area

5:30 am (0830 GMT) and began threatening passengers.

Around four hours later a sniper shot dead the hijacker.

Several lanes of traffic on the busy Rio-Niteroi bridge spanning Guanabara Bay were paralyzed during the hostage situation.

Commuters stopped on the bridge could be seen standing outside their cars and taking photos with their smartphones.

Rio state Governor Wilson Witzel tweeted that he was following the situation and was in direct contact with the military police commander.

"The absolute priority is the protection of hostages," Witzel said.

The gunman -- a young man wearing a white T-shirt and dark-colored trousers -- poked his head out of the bus at one point, showing his face, G1 reported.

The identity of the hijacker has not been released.

It is not clear if he made any demands or what his motivation was for taking the hostages.

Police special forces had negotiated with the hijacker.

"We ask the population to stay calm. Our police are at the scene," military police tweeted.

This is not the first time a gunman has hijacked a public transit bus in Rio.

In 2000, a gunman stormed a passenger bus in a fashionable neighborhood of the city. The hours long hijacking of bus 174 was later turned into an award-winning documentary.

The hijacker and one hostage were killed.

**Toll from attack on Burkina military base rises to 24**

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

The death toll from an attack Monday on a military base in northern Burkina Faso rose to 24, the military said, in an unprecedented blow to the army in its campaign against jihadist insurgents.

Seven people were wounded and five others missing, armed forces headquarters said in a statement Tuesday.

The previous toll from the attack, at Koutougou in Soum province near the border with Mali, had been given late Monday as "more than a dozen".

An "extraordinary meeting of the defence council" was underway at the presidential palace in the capital Ouagadougou, a security source told AFP.

The country's main opposition party, the Union for Progress and Change (UPC), said the government appointed by President Roch Marc Christian Kabore had "completely failed".

## Donald Trump becomes grandfather for 10th time

New York, United States

US President Donald Trump has become a grandfather for the 10th time after his son Eric's wife Lara gave birth to a girl.

"@LaraLeaTrump and I are excited to welcome Carolina Dorothy Trump into the world. We love you already!" the president's son tweeted minutes before Monday midnight.

It is the couple's second child -- their first, Eric Luke Trump, turns two years old in September. The 73-year-old president has five children from three different women.

His two oldest children, Donald Jr. and Ivanka, have respectively five and three children.

Eric Trump, 35, is the president's third child. He is a senior executive at The Trump Organization along with his brother Donald Jr.

Lara Trump, 36, a former journalist, is involved in animal welfare and along with her husband manages the Eric Trump Foundation, which finances hospitals for children.

She is also a senior official on the Trump 2020 re-election campaign, and is often on TV defending the president's policies.



US President Donald Trump, First Lady Melania Trump, their son Barron, and the parents of First Lady Melania Trump Amalija Knavs (back L) and Viktor Knavs (back R) return to the White House after two weeks spent at Trump's golf club in New Jersey in Washington, DC.

# India's Moon probe enters lunar orbit

Rover – Pragyan



**Chandrayaan 2's Rover is a 6-wheeled robotic vehicle named Pragyan, which translates to 'wisdom' in Sanskrit. It can travel up to 500 m (0.00-a-km) and leverages solar energy for its functioning. It can only communicate with the Lander**

Orbiter



**At the time of launch, the Chandrayaan 2 Orbiter will be capable of communicating with Indian Deep Space Network (IDSN) at Byalalu as well as the Vikram Lander. The mission life of the Orbiter is one year and it will be placed in a 100X100 km lunar polar orbit.**

Lander – Vikram



**The Lander of Chandrayaan 2 is named Vikram after Dr Vikram A Sarabhai, the Father of the Indian Space Programme. It is designed to function for one lunar day, which is equivalent to about 14 Earth days. Vikram has the capability to communicate with IDSN at Byalalu near Bangalore, as well as with the Orbiter and Rover. The Lander is designed to execute a soft landing on the lunar surface.**

- **The craft completed its Lunar Orbit Insertion as planned**

India is seeking to become just the fourth nation after Russia, the United States and China to land a spacecraft on the Moon.

If the rest of the mission goes to plan, the Indian probe will land on the lunar South Pole on September 7.

To enter the final orbit over the lunar poles, Chandrayaan 2 will undergo four more similar manoeuvres, with the next scheduled for Wednesday.

ISRO chief K. Sivan said the manoeuvre was a key milestone for the mission, adding he was hoping for a perfect landing next month.

"On September 7, the lander will land on the moon. Whatever is humanly possible, has been done by us," Sivan told reporters.

Tuesday's insertion was one of the trickiest operations in the mission because if the satellite had approached the Moon at a higher velocity it would have bounced off and got lost in deep space.

And had it approached at a slow velocity, the Moon's gravity would have pulled it in, causing a crash.

#### Heart-stopping moments

"The approach velocity had to be just right and the altitude over the moon precise. Even a small error would have killed the mission. Our heartbeats increased... for 30 minutes, our hearts almost stopped

KAILASAVADIVOO SIVAN  
CHAIRMAN OF THE INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)

most stopped."

Chandrayaan 2, or Moon Chariot 2, lifted off from India's spaceport at Sriharikota in southern Andhra Pradesh state on July 22.

The spacecraft used in the mission comprises an orbiter, a lander and a rover almost entirely designed and made in India.

The orbiter has a mission life of a year and will take images of the lunar surface.

ISRO says the mission will help

Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Kailasavadivoo Sivan holds up a model of the Chandrayaan 2 spacecraft during a press conference at the ISRO headquarters in Bangalore

scientists to better understand the origin and evolution of the Moon by conducting detailed topographical studies, mineral analyses and a host of other experiments.

About \$140 million was spent on preparations for the probe's mission -- a much smaller price tag compared to similar operations by other countries.

It was launched on India's

most powerful rocket, the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) MkIII.

The lift-off was successful in its second attempt, a week after it was aborted just under an hour from its launch due to a technical glitch.

India's first lunar mission in 2008 -- Chandrayaan-1 -- did not land on the Moon, but carried out a search for water using

radar.

A soft landing on the Moon would be a huge leap forward in India's space programme, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi determined to launch a manned mission into space by 2022.

India also has ambitions to land a probe on Mars. In 2014, India became only the fourth nation to put a satellite into orbit around the Red Planet.

## New planet discovered in orbit of young Milky Way star

Paris, France

A second planet has been discovered circling Beta Pictoris, a fledgling star in our own galaxy offering astronomers a rare glimpse of a planetary system in the making, according to a study published Monday.

"We are talking about a giant planet about 3,000 times more massive than Earth, situated 2.7 times further from its star than the Earth is from the Sun," said Anne-Marie Lagrange, an astronomer at France's National Centre for Scientific Research and lead author of a study in *Nature Astronomy*.

The new planet, b Pictoris c,



We are talking about a giant planet about 3,000 times more massive than Earth, situated 2.7 times further from its star than the Earth is from the Sun

ANNE-MARIE LAGRANGE  
AN ASTRONOMER

completes its orbit roughly every 1,200 days. Like its big sister

b Pictoris b, discovered by Lagrange and her team in 2009, it is a gassy giant.

Visible with the naked eye, Beta Pictoris -- with a mass nearly twice that of the Sun -- is a newborn by comparison: only 23 million years old.

The Sun is more than 4.5 billion years old.

It is also relatively nearby, just over 63 light years, and surrounded by a disk of stellar dust.

This swirling halo of debris and gas was the first such configuration to be captured in image, making Beta Pictoris a celebrity star in the 1980s.

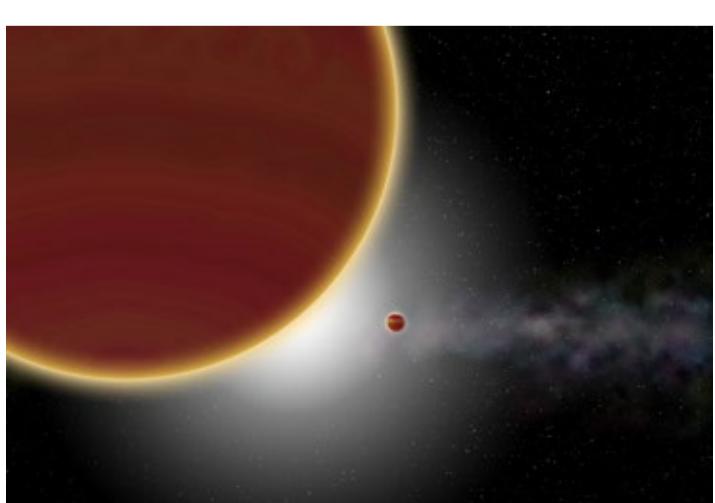
"To better understand the ear-

ly stage of formation and evolution, this is probably the best planetary system we know of," Lagrange told AFP.

Observations show that the two planets are still taking shape.

B Pictoris c was discovered by analysing 10-years worth of high-resolution data obtained with instruments at the La Silla Observatory in northern Chile, run by the intergovernmental European Southern Observatory.

In 2014, scientists said b Pictoris b spins at a breakneck speed of some 25 kilometres per second (90,000 kph or 56,000 miles per hour).



An artist's view of the system b Pictoris

## Power down on Greek island after chopper crash



Representative picture (Courtesy of NDTV)

**Athens, Greece**

The Greek island of Poros was without electricity yesterday after a private helicopter crashed through power cables and into the sea, a local official said.

"There was a great flash and the helicopter's fuel exploded," deputy Poros mayor Yiorgos Koutouzis told state TV ERT.

"It hit power cables around a hundred metres from the sea, the island is now without electricity," he said.

Coastguard spokesman Nikos Lagadianos said there

were believed to be three people on board -- a Greek pilot and two foreign passengers.

The helicopter fell shortly after takeoff from Galata, the nearest coastal village on the mainland facing Poros, 170 kilometres (105 miles) southwest of Athens.

The coastguard said search crews, including six of its vessels, divers and a rescue helicopter, had found the wreckage and were searching for survivors.

Poros is a small picturesque island off the eastern coast of the Peloponnese that is popular with holidaymakers.

## US Navy 'ready' for Venezuela mission: top commander

**Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

The US Navy is ready to "do what needs to be done" on Venezuela, a top commander said Monday, as America ramps up pressure on the crisis-wracked country.

US Southern Command chief Admiral Craig Faller made the remarks in Rio de Janeiro as the United States kicked off its annual UNITAS maritime exercise involving nine Latin American countries as well as the UK, Portugal and Japan.

"I won't speak to details of

what we're planning and what we're doing, but we remain ready to implement policy decisions and we remain on the balls of our feet," Faller told reporters.

"The United States Navy is the most powerful navy in the world. If a policy decision is made to deploy the navy, I'm convinced that we'll be able to do what needs to be done."

His remarks came just weeks after President Donald Trump said he was considering a "blockade or quarantine" of the Latin American country.

## 13 Chinese tourists killed as bus plunges into ravine in Laos

**Bangkok, Thailand**

At least 13 Chinese tourists were killed and dozens injured when their bus skidded off the road and plunged 30 metres into a ravine in Laos, a police officer said yesterday.

The bus was carrying more than 40 Chinese nationals heading towards the tourist town of Luang Prabang when the accident occurred late on Monday.

"At this moment, 13 bodies have been recovered... while two are still missing," police officer Xaiyaphon Chitavong said, blaming brake failure for the accident.

He added that 31 people were receiving medical treatment.

Chinese state media showed photos of rescuers wading through ankle-deep floodwaters.

Traffic accidents in Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Myanmar are common, with safety regulations often flouted and law enforcement low.

The monsoon season from June to October also drenches rural roads with heavy rains creating slippery conditions.

Tourism to communist-run Laos has grown in recent



Rescuers work near the accident site where a tour bus carrying Chinese tourists crashed near the northern town of Luang Prabang, Laos

years, and visitors from China increased by 13 percent in the first half of 2019 compared to the year before, according to the state-backed Vientiane Times.

# Turkey warns Syria 'not to play with fire'

**Ankara, Turkey**

Turkey warned Damascus yesterday "not to play with fire" a day after a Turkish military convoy was cut off by an air strike in northwest Syria.

"The regime should not play with fire... As we have previously said, we will do whatever is necessary to ensure the security of our soldiers and observation posts," Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu told reporters in Ankara.

But he added, "we hope it does not reach that point".

The Turkish military convoy of around 50 armoured vehicles had entered the Idlib province on Monday heading towards the key town of Khan Sheikhun, where Russian-supported regime forces are fighting to retake the area from jihadists and rebels.

The Turkish defence ministry said that an air strike hit, killing three civilians and wounding 12.

But the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based monitor, said a Russian air strike hit a rebel vehicle leading the convoy just outside the town of Maaret al-Noman, 15 kilometres (nine miles) north of Khan Sheikhun.

The strike killed a Turkish-backed fighter from the Faylaq al-Sham group and two



Smoke billows during pro-regime bombardments in the area of Maaret Hitat in Syria's northern Idlib province

**The regime should not play with fire... As we have previously said, we will do whatever is necessary to ensure the security of our soldiers and observation posts**

FOREIGN MINISTER MEVLUT CAVUSOGLU PRIME MINISTER

other opposition fighters, the Observatory said.

The convoy angered Damascus, who accused Ankara of

providing support to "terrorists".

Cavusoglu said the convoy's "duty was to ensure the safety of a Turkish observation post", adding that Ankara had "no intention to move our ninth observation post".

The post is one of 12 in Idlib, the last bastion of jihadist forces, established as part of a Russia-Turkey buffer zone deal to prevent a large-scale offensive in the region.

Despite this agreement, the Syrian regime and Russia have increased their attacks in Idlib since late April.

Turkish officials were in talks over the incident with their Russian counterparts, Cavusoglu said.

## Duterte to visit Beijing Manila, Philippines

President Rodrigo Duterte will visit Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping next week to raise their conflicting claims to the South China Sea, as the Filipino leader faces pressure at home to confront Beijing.

While Duterte has embraced China and had largely set aside a once-tense standoff over the resource-rich waterway, a series of confrontations have stoked domestic discontent.

Duterte heads to China on August 28 and is due to return to the Philippines on September 2, his spokesman, Salvador Panelo, told journalists yesterday.

## US missile test will trigger a new 'arms race': Beijing

**Beijing, China**

China warned yesterday that the testing of a medium-range cruise missile by the US would start a new "arms race", after a launch off the coast of California.

"This measure from the US will trigger a new round of an arms race, leading to an escalation of military confrontation, which will have a serious negative impact on the international and regional security situation," said Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang.

Geng said that the US should "let go of its Cold War mentality" and "do more things that are conducive to... international and regional peace and tranquility."

The missile was launched from the US Navy-controlled San Nicolas Island off the coast of California.

## Five held in France for urging attacks on G7 police

**Paris, France**

French authorities arrested five people accused of encouraging attacks on a hotel slated to accommodate police during this weekend's G7 summit in Biarritz, a source close to the inquiry said yesterday.

The arrests occurred on Monday morning, just days ahead of the summit chaired by French President Emmanuel Macron who will from Saturday host the likes of Donald Trump, Angela Merkel and Boris Johnson in the glitzy resort in southwestern France.

Several of the suspects are young members of radical anti-capitalist groups known as "black blocs" which played a major role in violent street protests that rocked Paris and other French cities over the last months.

The investigation was triggered after a woman living in the area posted a message online pinpointing a hotel where gendarmes policing the summit will stay.

## Epstein put assets in trust two days before suicide: report



\$300 million as well as a fixed income of more than \$14 million.

Epstein also listed six luxury properties, including in New York, Florida and Paris and more than \$18 million in "aviation assets, automobiles and boats," the Post added.

The document did not name any listed beneficiaries. Bloomberg News reported that the move could make it more difficult for Epstein's alleged victims to sue his estate.

Several women have filed lawsuits seeking damages for sexual abuse.

Epstein was accused of trafficking girls as young as 14 for sex. He denied the charges but faced up to 45 years in jail if found guilty.

The Post's report came as The New York Times released new details about Epstein's final days in Manhattan's high-security Metropolitan Correctional Center.

Citing sources, the newspaper said he hated his vermin-infested cell so much that he paid for lawyers to meet him for up to 12 hours a day in a different room.

He rarely washed and slept on the floor instead of his bed, they said.

The US Justice Department and the FBI are investigating how one of America's most high-profile prisoners was able to kill himself just weeks after an apparent earlier suicide attempt.



**Epstein was convicted in 2008 in a Florida state court of paying young girls for sexual massages at his Palm Beach mansion.**

**He served just 13 months in jail over the Florida charges under a plea deal struck by the then-federal prosecutor in the state, Alex Acosta, who was forced to resign as US labor secretary over the issue**

# UKIP's anti-Islamic voices are becoming more intense

*There might be a new leader at the helm but with Richard Braine, it is the same old message with a different voice*

HA HELLYER

**I**t seems tempting to ignore the election of Richard Braine, the new leader of the UK Independence Party. After all, its former leader Nigel Farage moved on to found the Brexit Party and much of Ukip's support seems to have migrated there with him.

But it would be a mistake to disregard Ukip. Its strongest impact was never in the parliamentary seats it failed to get, either in the House of Commons or the European Parliament. Rather, it made its mark by moving the conversation dangerously further to the right than was previously acceptable. Take, for example, the first controversy to emerge involving Mr Braine.

Footage of a hustings for the leadership race showed him complaining some British towns and cities were effectively no-go areas for non-Muslims and calling for it to be a crime to hand out copies of the Quran under laws connected to violence.

Such virulent anti-Muslim sentiment underpins Ukip and has only become more intense over the years, despite claims that it wants to distance itself from the anti-Islamic views that shaped the leadership of Mr Braine's predecessor, Gerard Batten. Mr Farage quit the party over the

issue of Islamophobia and Mr Batten's links to far-right activist Tommy Robinson. The footage of Mr Braine seems to indicate it's a different face at the helm but the same message.

For a party that is arguably on the far-right of British politics, Ukip enjoys an outsized presence in terms of press coverage. The boisterous antics of the likes of Mr Farage boosted his popularity and was handsomely rewarded by a disproportionate amount of airtime on television, a radio show on a mainstream network and a platform with various media outlets.

But as oxygen has been given to such right-wing views in so much of the mainstream media, such voices and their radical views have become normalised.

Ukip began as a Eurosceptic party and leaving the EU was the issue that defined its purpose. It never found a critical mass to vote for it as a party – but it did manage to get a critical mass to take up its one issue. As a result, the Brexit referendum of 2016 happened. The turmoil that has unfolded since is significantly down to mainstream political parties not taking seriously how to provide leadership in an age where Ukip-style populist policies can make a difference.

Mr Farage has now moved on



Newly appointed Ukip leader Richard Braine.

## Plant-based food could trigger a cultural shift

RASHMEE ROSHAN LALL

**T**he battle over foods without meat is getting pretty brawny. Last week the non-profit American Civil Liberties Union asked the US state of Arkansas to stop enforcement of a law that bars words such as "burger" and "steak" for plant-based products that contain no animal meat.

And the Centre for Consumer Freedom, a US group that lobbies on behalf of the fast food, meat and tobacco industries, placed prominent ads in American newspapers hinting that the chemicals added to imitation-meat burgers and sausages made them less healthy than the real thing.

All this took place in the week that a plant-based "egg" made from mung bean protein, canola oil, onion puree and turmeric, was welcomed onto the shelves of one of America's largest national grocery retailers.

Right around the same time, Goldsmiths, University of London, banned the sale of beef in campus food outlets as part of its bid to tackle climate change.

And earlier this month Burger King introduced the Impossible Whopper, featuring a meatless patty designed to taste, feel and even "bleed" like actual red meat, in more than 7,000 outlets in the US.

According to some estimates, the plant-based food market will be worth as much as \$140 billion in 10 years. Interestingly, the target is not the committed vegan or even the vegetarian but an entirely different group of consumers – the flexitarians.

They shift at random between



Customers at Bareburger in Dubai try its meat-free options.

omnivorous and vegetarian diets but seem to want to eat less meat and dairy, as long as the food on their plate tastes just as good.

Flexitarians appear to value the health implications of plant-based alternatives to meat, fish and eggs. They also prize the virtuous feeling of having done their bit for the planet by reducing the environmental impact of their food choices.

This is hardly surprising. Ear-

lier this month a report written by more than 100 scientists for the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), warned that rising temperatures are putting the world's food supply at risk and the West's high consumption of meat and dairy produce is partly to blame.

This is down to rearing livestock, which means the inevitable production of methane, a greenhouse gas contributing to global

warming, as well as deforestation to expand pastures.

The IPCC report reiterated, but far more starkly, something we already knew. An earlier finding from the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said that raising livestock uses about 70 per cent of all agricultural land, yet represents 18 per cent of calorie intake worldwide.

It stands to reason, then, that

vegans and even flexitarians require much less land than raising meat. And overfishing is increasingly seen as a reason to turn to plant-based seafood.

Even so, all the environmental, ethical and health-related arguments in the world cannot guarantee that plant-based foods will significantly change entrenched patterns of consumption.

Meat, for instance, has continued to be consumed in rising

2000

**Tiger Woods**, American professional golfer, wins the 82nd PGA Championship and becomes the first golfer since Ben Hogan in 1953 to win three majors in a calendar year.



2013

Hundreds of people are reported killed by chemical attacks in the **Ghouta region** of Syria.

2016

The closing ceremony of the **2016 Summer Olympics** in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, takes place.

2017

A **solar eclipse** traverses the continental United States.



Ukip began as a Eurosceptic party and leaving the EU was the issue that defined its purpose. It never found a critical mass to vote for it as a party.

within its ranks and about it. Since the Brexit referendum took place, it is the issue that has energised the remaining Ukip base like no other. Robinson, currently serving nine months in prison, was until recently serving as a political adviser to Mr Batten. Others, including Ukip candidates Mark Meechan and Carl Benjamin and Paul Joseph Watson, have been accused of racist, threatening language. Mr Watson founded the far-right conspiracy website Infowars which is known for promoting absurd conspiracy theories; he himself declared "Islam control" was needed rather than gun control.

to another political force, one which yielded considerably more success in the recent European elections. But the Brexit Party could never have done so if Ukip had not existed in the first place. Ukip continues to tap into a minority of the British public's sentiments – an unruly minority that seeks division in order to promote its agenda.

That agenda is increasingly not about leaving the EU, an issue that has been taken up by the Brexit Party, large parts of the Conservative party, and even significant parts of the Labour party. Ukip might deny it is an anti-Islamic party - but the issue of Islamophobia is increasingly shaping conversations both

Ukip is currently polling badly in the UK. But with anti-Muslim bigotry across Europe on the rise, history reminds us that insignificance at the ballot box doesn't mean irrelevance elsewhere.



TOP  
**4**  
TWEETS

**01**



Congratulations to @Cisro scientists on successful insertion of #Chandrayaan2 into the Lunar Orbit. The smooth entry of Chandrayaan2 Moon's orbit is yet another significant achievement for our scientists. Looking forward to the landing of 'Pragyaan' on the moon next month.

@rajnathsingh

**02**



Prime Minister @NarendraModi had a telephone conversation today with @POTUS H.E. Mr. Donald Trump. Their thirty-minute conversation covered bilateral and regional matters and was marked by the warmth and cordiality which characterises the relations between the two leaders.

@PMOIndia

**03**



Spoke to my two good friends, Prime Minister Modi of India, and Prime Minister Khan of Pakistan, regarding Trade, Strategic Partnerships and, most importantly, for India and Pakistan to work towards reducing tensions in Kashmir. A tough situation, but good conversations!

@realDonaldTrump

**04**



Why this sudden obsession with Rajiv Gandhi, @officeofssbadal? Could be because you're jealous of him? After all, he became Prime Minister at the age of 40 and you haven't even become Chief Minister at 57! That could explain your manic delusions vis-a-vis Rajiv.

@capt\_amarinder

## in consumption



According to some estimates, the plant-based food market will be worth as much as \$140 billion in 10 years.

So what is in prospect for all the new plant-based alternatives to meat, fish and eggs? Will they be the flavour of the month, the year, or of the next few years, but fail to push a larger cultural shift in consumption?

All that is certain is that the battle has commenced – and the meat industry is unwilling to cede ground easily. It has an entrenched advantage – not just habits of consumption but the fact that in several American states and in France, there are laws that restrict the word "meat" to animal products.

The US livestock lobby also challenges plant-based food manufacturers' right to use descriptions such as sausage and bacon for products that do not contain meat from slaughtered animals.

Right now, the fight is largely being waged around the art and science of food labelling. But the real struggle is changing tastes for good and cultivating an appetite for what we eat based on how it was produced and what it does to us and the planet.

quantities – rising nearly fivefold since the 1960s, from 70 million tonnes a year globally to more than 330 million tonnes in 2017. As countries get richer, they tend to eat more meat, which is why the average Chinese person now consumes nearly three times more than in the early 1970s. The FAO says meat consumption in the richest nations has continued to rise by 0.7 per cent a year since 1991.

### CIVILIAN'S TRIBUNE

## End cruelty towards animals



Animal farming is also a source of pollution.

I was shocked to read the killing of cows by a group of anti-social elements following a dispute with local MP.

The authorities should take right steps to bring these culprits to justice.

The frequent finding of dead turtles on the beaches of Bahrain is also an alarming matter.

Having been a vegan from the past three years now, I am a firm believer and outspoken activist for animal rights. There is

overwhelming evidence about animal abuse and cruelty in industrial farms. We have a distorted view of food ethics.

We forget that the packaged meat we buy at the supermarket was once a living being, slaughtered for our enjoyment.

We are shocked by the slaughter of dogs for human consumption in certain parts of Asia, yet we find it is acceptable for calves, chicks, and piglets to be slaughtered for food. Animal farming is also a source of

pollution as it produces half of the world's methane – a greenhouse gas contributing to climate change.

The only way we can truly become better people is by striving to minimise our negative impact on the world – and animals should factor into the equation.

It is our responsibility to reassess our beliefs and change our habits, the future of our planet depends on it.

**Swathi Naidu**

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

# business

## Ebdaa Bank opens Saar Branch

TDT | Manama

**E**bdaa Bank for microfinance, Bahrain announced opening its fourth branch in Saar, while also unveiling plans to open more branches in Muharraq and Sitra.

The new branch in Delmon gate Mall, the bank said, serves Budaiya's villages and is staffed with experienced professionals to meet micro-credit customers' needs.

Dr Khaled Walid Al-Ghzawi, CEO of Ebdaa Bank, confirmed that the new branch is part of Bank's expansion plan in the Kingdom that includes the opening of more branches in Muharraq and Sitra the coming period.

Al-Ghzawi said: "Despite the economic challenges, we are confident in the ability of the Bahraini economy to achieve sustainable growth and the importance of microfinance in supporting this growth through the provision of soft



Dr Khaled Walid Al-Ghzawi, CEO of Ebdaa Bank with Saar Branch employees

loans without guarantees for startups and increasing the contribution of these projects to GDP."

"The bank has been able to

serve 14,000 customers over the past ten years, which have received loans worth more than 13 million dinars. While the number of borrowers currently

2849 of Bahraini micro-entrepreneurs, they received loans amounting to a total value of about three million dinars," Dr Al-Ghzawi said.

## NBB launches financial restructuring division

**Names Bruce Wade named as Chief Executive**

TDT | Manama

**N**ational Bank of Bahrain (NBB) yesterday announced launching a new Financial Restructuring Business as part of its ongoing diversification efforts.

Heading the new division as Chief Executive – Financial Restructuring is Bruce Wade, who will fulfil a need for specialised financial restructuring advice for companies in Bahrain and the GCC markets with a primary focus on corporate clients and selective Commercial Banking clients. He will act as an independent advisor to companies facing challenges as well as for companies where NBB is a cred-

itor.

Wade joined NBB in 2014 as Chief Risk Officer bringing in more than 35 years of banking experience including roles at Citibank, Bank of Tokyo Group, Saudi Hollandi Bank, and Riyad Bank. Currently, he serves as the Chairman of the Risk Management Committee at the Bahrain Association of Banks.

Commenting, Jean-Christophe Durand, CEO of NBB, said, "We are pleased to launch our new Financial Restructuring Division. With the right expertise and advice, we believe we can play an important role in supporting efforts by companies to restructure."



Bruce Wade, Chief Executive - Financial Restructuring

Wade, added, "I'm delighted to take up this new role and now extend the provision of financial restructuring services to existing corporate and commercial clients of the Bank and others in the market requiring expert advice on how to restructure."

"There are numerous factors impacting companies today both in Bahrain and across the GCC and our new division will focus on helping them to navigate the current environment with the aim of putting their companies back on the path to growth and giving them the ability to resume making positive contributions to the local and regional markets."

## Hassan Jarrar named best banking CEO



Hassan Jarrar, the Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB)

TDT | Manama

plify their lives.

"I am truly honoured to have been won this award. This is a recognition of all the effort and hard work of the entire BisB team, so this award goes to them. I am merely an ambassador," stated Jarrar.

The IFM award recognises exceptional individuals and institutions that have achieved high standards of innovation and have contributed to raising the bar across a variety of fields, including Business & Finance, Real Estate, Telecom, and Oil & Gas.

In April 2018, Hassan Jarrar was named Top CEO for 2018 and was selected amidst 100 CEOs from the region's publicly listed companies, at an event organized by TRENDS magazine and INSEAD, the leading international business school.

## Ebrahim K. Kanoo welcomes Engineering Excellence award winners

TDT | Manama

**E**brahim K. Kanoo has welcomed the winners of the 2019 Ebrahim K. Kanoo Award for Engineering Excellence at its corporate office in Manama.

Created in partnership with the University of Bahrain's College of Engineering, the award named Ahmed Jaffer Saleh, Hamed Mohammed Radhi and Yaser Marzooq Al Boni as the winners for their graduation project on water desalination process using solar energy.

The students met with Ebrahim K. Kanoo Managing Director Talal Kanoo, who said, "I look forward to seeing great things from the winners and wish them continued success."

Dr Omar Alabbasi, Assistant Professor at the Mechanical Engineering Department, praised Ebrahim K. Kanoo's role in growing local talent and their commitment to the university.



Winners of the 2019 Ebrahim K. Kanoo Award for Engineering Excellence during a visit to Ebrahim K. Kanoo corporate office in Manama

# EU rejects demand to scrap Irish backstop

● The clash comes as Johnson prepares to travel to Berlin and Paris

● Brussels insists that the backstop is essential to preserve the integrity of European trade

● Johnson wrote to EU that Britain could not accept what he called the “anti-democratic” backstop

**Brussels, Belgium**

The EU yesterday rejected British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's demand to scrap the Irish border backstop plan to achieve a Brexit deal, saying he had offered no workable alternative.

Johnson wrote to EU Council President Donald Tusk on Monday to insist that Britain could not accept what he called the “anti-democratic” backstop, a mechanism to avoid border checks between EU-member Ireland and British-ruled Northern Ireland.

Since taking office last month, Johnson has been adamant Britain will leave the European Union on October 31 come what may and has stepped up preparations for a chaotic “no deal” departure that would cause major economic disruption.



A demonstrator, dressed as a clown and wearing a mask of Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson, protests outside the gates to Downing Street on Whitehall in London

But the European Commission, the EU executive which has led Brexit negotiations with London, dismissed the proposal in Johnson's letter that the backstop could be replaced with a “commitment” to find “alternative arrangements.”

“The letter does not provide a legal operational solution to prevent the return of a hard border on the island of Ireland,” commission spokeswoman Natasha Bertaud told reporters.

“It does not set out what any alternative arrangements could be, and in fact it recognises there

is no guarantee that such arrangements will be in place by the end of the transitional period.”

The clash comes as Johnson prepares to travel to Berlin and Paris, where he hopes to convince German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron to give ground in the search for a Brexit deal.

Telephone talks of nearly an hour on Monday evening with Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar failed to yield any obvious breakthrough, with Varadkar's

office issuing a statement afterwards insisting the withdrawal agreement containing the backstop cannot be changed.

Johnson's diplomatic offensive continues at a G7 summit in the French town of Biarritz at the weekend, where Johnson hopes to show off his warm relations with US President Donald Trump as a signal of post-Brexit Britain's global ambitions.

## Gored by Tusk

Brussels insists that the backstop -- which would keep the UK in EU customs arrangements



**Those against the backstop and not proposing realistic alternatives in fact support reestablishing a border. Even if they do not admit it**

DONALD TUSK  
EU COUNCIL PRESIDENT

to prevent a hard border on the island of Ireland -- is essential to preserve the integrity of European trade and to avoid risking a return of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland.

Tusk took to Twitter on Tuesday to give a robust response to the hard line struck by Johnson's government in recent weeks.

“The backstop is an insurance to avoid a hard border on the island of Ireland unless and until an alternative is found,” Tusk wrote.

“Those against the backstop

and not proposing realistic alternatives in fact support reestablishing a border. Even if they do not admit it.”

Critics say the backstop -- part of the Brexit divorce deal struck between the EU and Johnson's predecessor Theresa May which British MPs have rejected three times -- would keep Britain tied to EU rules potentially indefinitely.

But the EU and Ireland say that British offers to find “alternative arrangements” are too vague and give no solid legal guarantees, amounting to little more than an invitation to trust London.

Brussels has repeatedly said it will not reopen or renegotiate the near 600-page withdrawal agreement but is willing to tweak the accompanying “political declaration” on future EU-UK ties.

So far the UK has not requested any meetings, commission spokeswoman Bertaud said -- which suggests London is pinning hopes for progress on the one-on-one meetings with Merkel on Wednesday and Macron on Thursday.

With both sides appearing intransigent, fears are growing that Britain will crash out without a deal, and leaked government contingency plans have laid bare the dire impact such an outcome would have.

The report published in the Sunday Times warned of food, fuel and medicine shortages, chaos at ports and even possible civil unrest.

## Italy PM says to resign as crisis comes to a head

**Rome, Italy**

Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte said yesterday he would resign, lashing out at far-right Interior Minister Matteo Salvini for pursuing his own interests by pulling the plug on the government coalition.

“I'm ending this government experience here... I will go to the president of the republic (Sergio Mattarella) to inform him of my resignation”, after a Senate debate, Conte said after an almost hour-long speech to the chamber.

“It is irresponsible to initiate a government crisis,” Conte said after Salvini began his efforts to bring down the government in the hope of snap elections he hoped would make him premier.



Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte (L) speaks with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Development, Labour and Social Policies, Luigi Di Maio (R) after delivering a speech at the Italian Senate, in Rome

“It shows personal and party interests,” Conte said of the end of the alliance between the anti-migrant League and the anti-establishment Five Star Movement.

Conte was speaking following a week of fallout from Sal-

vini's decision to back out of the alliance on August 8, plunging the eurozone's third-largest economy into political turmoil.

After Conte announced his intention to resign, Salvini hit back saying: “Thank you, finally, I would do it all again.”

## Sony buying studio behind hit ‘Spider-Man’ video game

**San Francisco, United States**

Sony Interactive Entertainment on Monday announced a deal to buy Insomniac Games, the studio behind hot-selling “Spider-Man” and “Ratchet & Clank” video games.

Sony did not disclose financial terms of the acquisition that will add Insomniac to its stable of studios making games exclusively for the Japanese consumer electronics giant's PlayStation consoles.

Insomniac Games is one of the most highly-acclaimed development studios in the industry and their legacy of best-in-class storytelling and gameplay is unparalleled,”

Sony Interactive Entertainment Worldwide Studios chief Shawn Layden said in a statement.

The take-over will need regulatory approval.

California-based Insomniac



Sony did not disclose financial terms of the acquisition

was founded some 25 years ago and fielded successful video games including “Ratchet & Clank,” “Spyro the Dragon,” and “Resistance.”

The studio worked with Sony interactive and Marvel Games on “Spider-Man,” which has sold more than 13.2 million copies worldwide, according to Sony.

Sony is out to add Insomniac to its stable of studios as it prepares a new generation PlayStation.

## Seoul to fine Volkswagen over ‘illicit’ emissions devices

**Seoul, South Korea**

South Korea said yesterday it would issue fines and file criminal complaints against Volkswagen and its luxury arm, Porsche, for installing “illicit devices” that helped multiple diesel vehicles cheat pollution standards.

The environment ministry said over 10,000 vehicles sold in South Korea by Volkswagen and Porsche from May 2015 to January 2018 were fitted with the devices, resulting in 10 times more nitrogen oxide emissions than standard levels.

The certifications for eight models -- including Audi A6, Volkswagen Touareg and Porsche Cayenne -- will be revoked and the carmakers will face an estimated fine of 11.5 billion won (US\$9.5 million), the ministry said.

“We plan to continue responding firmly to manipulation of gas emissions in future,” a ministry official told reporters.

Audi, which is also owned by Volkswagen, said in a statement that it “takes note of the announcement... and will take the necessary measures to minimise inconvenience to the customers” once the South Korean environment ministry has approved the recall plan for the models concerned.



Al Baraka Islamic Bank (AIB - Bahrain) has named Fawzeya Abdulla Salem as the winner of the Grand Prize of BD 10,000 and Abdulla Abdulla Naser Alhamzai as the winner of the One Year Salary of BD 555 Per Month of the alBarakat Investment Account Monthly Draw for August 2019. The remaining 80 winners in the August 2019 Raffle Draw won themselves cash awards which were split between 20 winners of BD 500 each and 60 winners of BD 300 each

## Huawei dismisses new suspension of ‘unjust’ US ban

**Beijing, China**

Huawei yesterday dismissed Washington's three-month delay to a ban on US firms selling to the Chinese tech giant and said the decision would not change the fact it had been “treated unjustly”.

The US Commerce Department effectively suspended for a second time tough rules

stopping the sale of components and services to the telecoms titan and a prohibition on buying equipment from it.

However, it also said it would add 46 more companies to its list of Huawei subsidiaries and affiliates that would be covered by the ban if it is implemented in full -- taking the total on the list to more than 100.

# Global rally lifts most of Gulf markets

● Abu Dhabi's Julphar plunges after recalling drug

● Arabian Centres gains on first-quarter profit surge

● Orascom Development increases on higher Q2 profit

● Emaar Misr drops on lawsuit by businessman

Reuters

**M**ost Middle Eastern stock markets closed higher yesterday, reflecting market optimism that US-China trade tensions could ease and stimulus measures by major economies to counter a possible global economic slowdown.

The United States said it would extend a reprieve that permits China's Huawei Technologies to buy components from US companies, signalling a slight softening of the trade conflict between the world's two largest economies.

China's new lending reference rate was set slightly lower yesterday, while Germany's right-left coalition government has said it would be prepared to ditch its balanced budget rule



Saudi stock market (Courtesy of Emerging Market views)

and take on new debt to counter a possible recession.

In Saudi Arabia, the index extended gains from the previous session to close 0.3 per cent higher in a boost mainly from financial stocks. Samba Financial Group rose 2.8pc while Riyad Bank added 1.9pc.

Arabian Centres jumped as

much as 4.3pc before closing 0.3pc up. The mall operator reported a 180.4pc increase in its first-quarter profit to 227 million riyals (\$60.53 million), citing lower impairment loss and finance cost.

Saudi Telecom added a further 0.7pc to its gain on Monday after saying it was working to termi-

nate a broadcasting agreement with General Sport Authority and the Saudi Arabian Football Federation, citing a lack of commercial feasibility for the agreement.

In Abu Dhabi, the index increased 0.8pc after two days of losses. First Abu Dhabi Bank gained 0.7pc while Emirates

Telecommunication Group was up 1.2pc.

But Abu Dhabi's only listed pharmaceutical firm, Gulf Pharmaceutical Industries (Julphar), plunged 9.8pc after recalling a single batch of its Laxocodyl suppository over a labelling error.

Egypt's blue-chip index also

## Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.3pc at 8,590 pts
ABU DHABI	▲ 0.8pc to 5,069 pts
DUBAI	▼ 0.1pc to 2,789 pts
QATAR	▲ 0.9pc to 9,895 pts
EGYPT	▲ 0.8pc to 14,428 pts
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.4pc at 1,535 pts
OMAN	▲ 0.5pc to 3,890 pts
KUWAIT	▲ 0.6pc to 6,643 pts

rose 0.8pc as most companies traded higher. Alexandria Mineral Oils surged 8.7pc, while Orascom Development gained 2.7pc after posting a higher second-quarter profit.

But Emaar Misr dropped 1.2pc after an Egyptian businessman filed a lawsuit against the developer claiming part of the land at the Marassi project.

Back in the Gulf, Dubai's index, closed roughly flat as losses in the telecom sector outweighed the gains of real estate stocks. Emirates Integrated Telecommunications dropped 1.6pc.

Qatar's index rose 0.9pc for the third straight day with the Gulf's largest lender, Qatar National Bank increasing 2pc and Industries Qatar adding 1.7pc.

Qatar's index, down 3.6pc in the year-to-date, has steadied since the central bank on Thursday said Qatari economic growth would accelerate over the next two years amid expectations of stable oil prices and continued strong exports.

# Stock markets gloomy on Italian crisis

London, United Kingdom

European stock markets turned lower yesterday as political crisis in Italy weighed on sentiment, while a recovery in US stocks was cut short after two days of gains.

European markets had started higher, lifted by hopes for central bank and government stimulus measures, and for easing tensions in the China-US trade war.

Trading floors have been on edge for weeks owing to a number of concerns including the trade war, Brexit, a global economic slowdown and tensions in the Middle East.

Equities still got a positive start to the week, with Germany reportedly planning government support to avert a recession in Europe's biggest economy and central banks elsewhere looking to ease monetary policy.

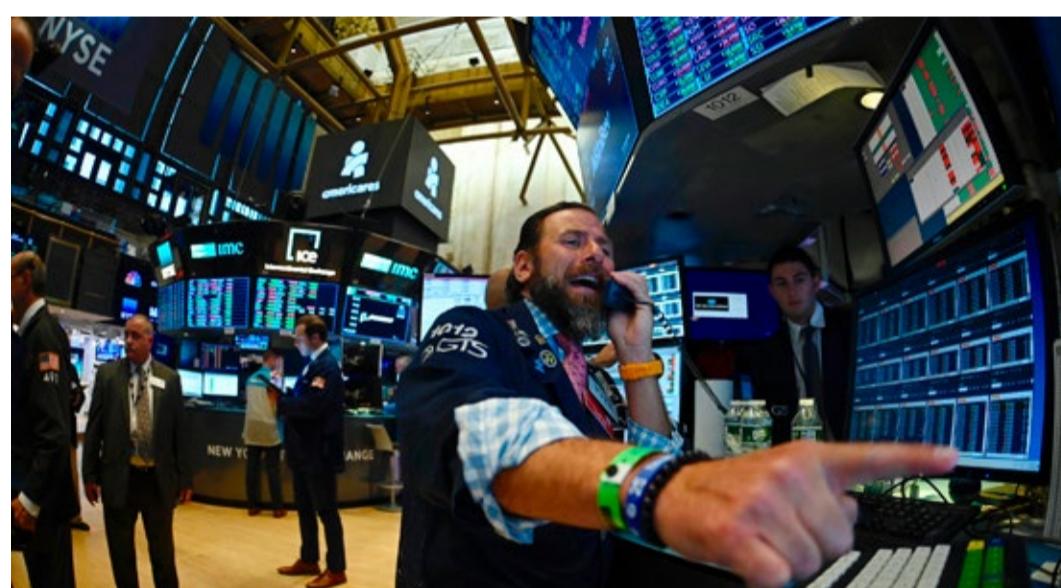
But yesterday investors worried mostly about Italy, where a political crisis was set to come to a head with speculation that Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte will resign after far-right Interior Minister Matteo Salvini withdrew his support from the dysfunctional coalition government.

## 'Centre of attention'

Italy is "the centre of attention", said Tangi Le Liboux at Paris-based brokerage Aurel BGC.

Investors mostly fear a revival of a EU-Rome spat over deficits, which could weigh on eurozone cohesion, analyst said.

US stocks reacted mostly to global bond yields coming back



Traders work after the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)

## Key figures around 1330 GMT

London - FTSE 100:	▼ 0.3 pc at 7,170.10 points
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	▼ 0.4 pc at 11,674.08
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 0.3 pc at 5,355.30
EURO STOXX 50:	▼ 0.3 pc at 3,357.96
New York - Dow:	▼ 0.1 pc to 26,114.49
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▲ 0.6 pc at 20,677.22 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng:	▼ 0.2 pc at 26,231.54 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▼ 0.1 pc at 2,880.00 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▼ at \$1.1074 from \$1.1078 at 2015 GMT
Pound/dollar:	▼ at \$1.2094 from \$1.2134
Euro/pound:	▲ at 91.57 pence from 91.30 pence
Dollar/yen:	▼ at 106.24 yen from 106.66 yen
Brent North Sea crude:	▲ 1 cent at \$59.75 per barrel
West Texas Intermediate:	■ at \$56.14 per barrel

under pressure, suggesting markets are again focusing on the

chances of a worldwide economic downturn, said analysts

Jackson Hole this week. The financial markets could be setting themselves up for an ugly correction into the week's end."

The White House's decision to delay again by 90 days a ban on US firms doing business with Huawei was taken as a conciliatory move towards China and provided hope.

## 'Deaf ears'

The announcement followed comments from Donald Trump and key advisers expressing optimism over the talks, with top-level negotiations between the economic titans lined up for next month.

The news was tempered, however, by the Commerce Department adding 46 companies to its list of Huawei subsidiaries and affiliates that would be covered by the ban if it is implemented in full, taking the total on the list to more than 100.

Among the key events this week is a speech by Federal Reserve boss Jerome Powell at the annual Jackson Hole symposium of central bankers in Wyoming.

## 'Blissfully'

The Fed policy board "did not unanimously agree to the last 0.25 percent cut," said Jeffrey Halley, senior market analyst for Asia-Pacific at OANDA.

"US economic data continues to perform blissfully, implying the economy is doing just fine," he said.

"Against that backdrop, I struggle to see why... Powell would hit the panic button at

the latest effort from Boris Johnson's demand to scrap the Irish border backstop plan to achieve a Brexit deal.

"The latest effort from Boris

Facebook launches tool to let users control data flow

Paris, France

Facebook, under pressure to ramp up privacy rules across its platform, said yesterday it was rolling out a tool allowing users to control data that it receives from other apps and websites about their online activity.

The new tool is to give clients access to their so-called "off-Facebook activity" -- fed back to Facebook with the aim of targeting advertisements -- and give them the option of deleting it.

"Off-Facebook Activity lets you see a summary of the apps and websites that send us information about your activity, and clear this information from your account if you want to," it said in a statement.

"This is another way to give people more transparency and control on Facebook," it said.

Currently, commercial websites visited by a customer who also has a Facebook account may send Facebook details of that visit, prompting the social network to show that person ads related to any product they may have searched for.

With the new Facebook tool, users will be able to see a summary of information that other apps and websites have sent Facebook through business tools such as Facebook Pixel or Facebook Login.

# CAMPUS

## AGU gifted students complete medical research programme in Oxford Royale Academy

TDT | Manama

The first batch of outstanding and gifted students in the College of Medicine and Medical Sciences at the Arabian Gulf University (AGU) have successfully completed the International Medical Research Programme in Oxford Royale Academy, the UK.

The vocational programme featured workshops and discussions on various types of medical researches, and it also included lectures on clinical examinations of different organs of the body and the discussion of different medical scenarios that simulate real situations they may face in the future.



AGU's students in Oxford Royale Academy

The programme also included debates on ethical cases as well as the rules governing the medical practices and discussions on the medical rules at the global level.

During the activity, AGU students were granted the opportunity to learn about the health-care systems that are currently in place in several countries around the world in order to benefit from the advantages each system has.

They were also given field visits to the main medical laboratories and medical training centres in Oxford city.

The enrollees to the programme from AGU included Saif Al Deen Al Jodar, Abyen Al Yamani, Isa Al Hadi and Zainab Matrook, all of whom hailed the experience they enjoyed during their participation in the programme, expressing their wish to have it for another time.

## AUBH hosts open house at new Riffa campus



Visitors during AUBH open house

TDT | Manama

The American University of Bahrain (AUBH) hosted its first open house event at its new Riffa campus.

The event was open to the public with the aim of providing students, parents, and the community an appreciation of American-style education and experience first-hand the architectural beauty of the campus as it prepares for its opening in September 2019.

The event took place on Saturday the 17th of August from

3-7 p.m. where students and parents were taken on a tour of the campus and attended micro-sessions taught by regular faculty members.

They were given the opportunity to participate in the multi-cultural environment, personalized mentorship, and active campus life that AUBH will offer.

The event also included a number of fun-filled activities such as games and competitions, including a virtual reality experience, Pictionary and more. Parents had the opportunity to

express their concerns and ask questions in regularly-scheduled Parent Workshops. The event also included on-going entertainment, free American-style food, a picture booth, and a station to customize free AUBH t-shirts.

Founding President of AUBH, Dr. Saxton expressed her enthusiasm, stating, "The event was a huge success and we were very happy with the turnout. This was our first chance to welcome the community, potential students, and our inaugural students on campus. It will provide

them a glimpse of what AUBH stands for and what it represents."

"Our beautiful state-of-the-art campus was designed to foster interaction and collaboration among students, faculty, and the community. The architects, planners, and now our faculty have accomplished just that," she added.

During the event, attendees also got the opportunity to win giveaways. Additionally, three scholarships were awarded to students at the event-closing raffle.

## FinTech series hosts workshop for interns



Participants and organisers of the workshop during a photocall

TDT | Manama

The FinTech series, in partnership with Andra Public Relations and the Capital Club, hosted a specialised FinTech Workshop for Al Salam Bank's 13th batch of summer interns.

The 3-hour workshop included four speakers from various organizations to highlight certain elements within the Bahrain FinTech Landscape. Speakers included Tareq Noor; Senior Executive, Financial Services at the Bahrain Economic Development Board, Shanthini Raja;

CEO of Rsquare, Dylan Miles; Chief Architect at Innervate Technology Solutions Ltd. and Ameera Mohammed; Senior Analyst at Bahrain FinTech Bay.

The workshop included 26 young Bahraini university students and Al Salam's Manage-

ment team from the Human Resources department.

The Bahraini students are part of Al Salam's 13th annual summer internship program, a training and development initiative designed to shape the future leaders of Bahrain's banking industry.

several activities for children viz. personality development classes, vegetable carving, cookery class, glass painting, dance, music, art & craft, best of arts from waste, GK class, speech craft, magic show, excursion to play areas of Ramli Mall and swimming pool/beach at Bahrain Sailors Club Zallaq. The children participated in various competitions such as drawing, colouring, pencil drawing, story writing, etc.

The Summer Camp activities were coordinated by Babu Varghese, Juliet Thomas, Prasad Mathew, Maggie Varghese, Meghna Febin, Jisha Vinu, Jean Rose Joyal, Rachana Biju with the help of volunteers Manu Ajith, Nehal Zonice, Allan Stanley, Madhav, Niya Zonice, Clair Elizabeth Thomas, Carol Maria Thomas, Sanjay Shiju, Merin Saji, Sarga Sudhakarana, Keziah Babu and Christina Babu.

Mementos were distributed to the convener, coordinators and volunteers. Prizes to the winners of various competitions and certificates were also given.

## KCA summer camp concludes



Participants during a dance performance

TDT | Manama

The Kerala Catholic Association (KCA) Summer Camp concluded with a Grand Finale at KCA VKL Auditorium, Segaya. More than 300 people attended the event.

Several mesmerizing entertainment and cultural programs by the summer camp children were there during the program. On the occasion, KCA General Secretary Varghese Joseph welcomed the gathering. President Sevi Mathunny, Chief Guest Asian School Vice Principal Maria Thadeus Waltin and Summer Camp Convener Babu Varghese addressed the gathering.

Core Working Group Chairman Varghese Karakkal, Vice President Nithyan Thomas, Coordinator - Christo Joseph, Executive Committee members, other officials, KCA members, parents and children were present during the event.

Around 90 children from the age group of 4 to 14 have participated in this camp which started on July 1.

The camp was filled with

## Thinksmart announces graduates of ITIL foundation training



Graduates of the course during a photocall

TDT | Manama

ThinkSmart for Development and Training, an official PEOPLECERT Accredited Training Organization, has conducted another batch of ITIL Foundation Training.

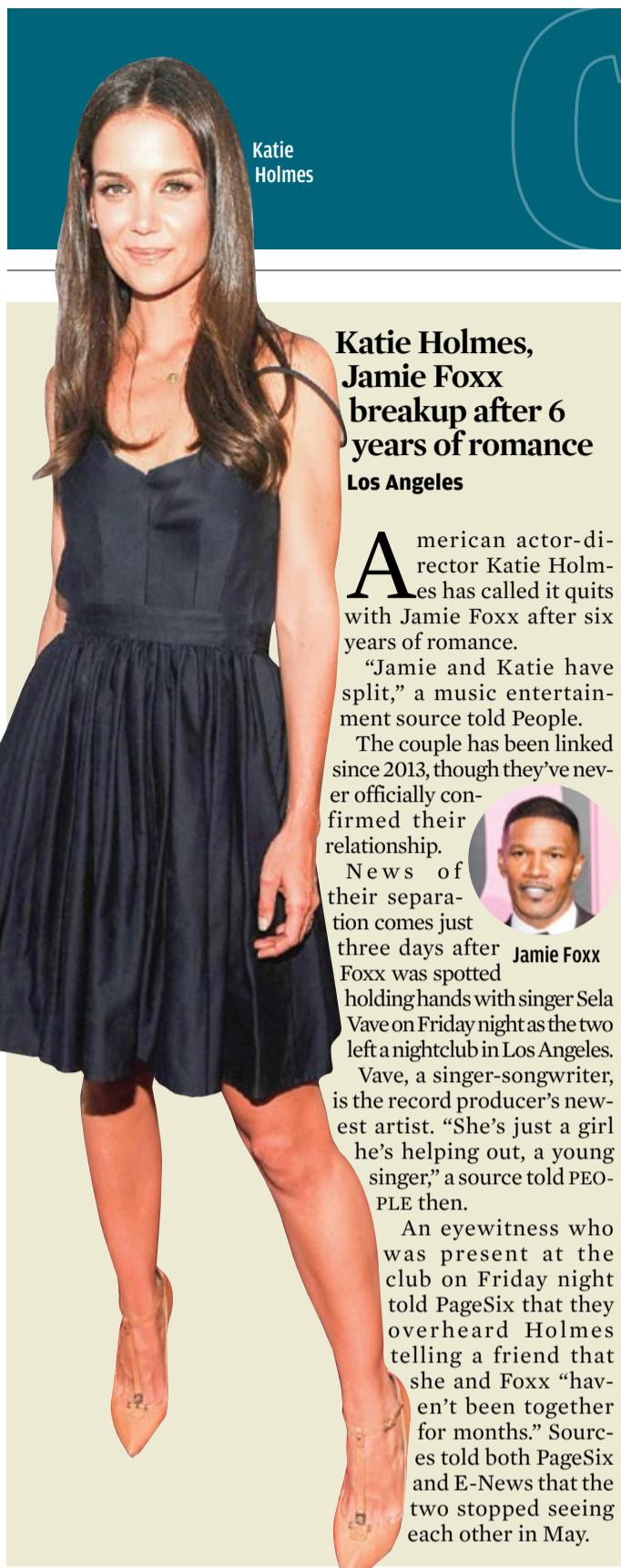
As a PEOPLECERT partner, ThinkSmart offers its customers ITIL Trainings of the highest quality standards, best of the Trainers and through a simple and quick examination administration.

ThinkSmart's CEO, Ahmed ALHujairy said in a statement "With this training, ThinkSmart is strengthening its commitment towards world standard quality trainings to people

of Bahrain and are happy to help you evaluate your IT Service Management needs and offer you trainings and additional services or products that will further add value to your business and help you grow."

ITIL Foundation is suitable for individuals who require a basic understanding of the ITIL framework and how it may be used to enhance the quality of IT service management within an organization.

The certification also applies to IT professionals who work within an organization that has adopted ITIL and so need to be aware of and contribute to the overall service improvement programme.



Katie Holmes

## Katie Holmes, Jamie Foxx breakup after 6 years of romance Los Angeles

American actor-director Katie Holmes has called it quits with Jamie Foxx after six years of romance.

"Jamie and Katie have split," a music entertainment source told People.

The couple has been linked since 2013, though they've never officially confirmed their relationship.

News of their separation comes just three days after Jamie Foxx was spotted holding hands with singer Sela Vave on Friday night as the two left a nightclub in Los Angeles.

Vave, a singer-songwriter, is the record producer's newest artist. "She's just a girl he's helping out, a young singer," a source told PEOPLE then.

An eyewitness who was present at the club on Friday night told PageSix that they overheard Holmes telling a friend that she and Foxx "haven't been together for months." Sources told both PageSix and E! News that the two stopped seeing each other in May.



## Carrie Underwood, Dolly Parton, Reba McEntire to host 2019 CMA Awards

### Los Angeles

American singer-songwriter Carrie Underwood is all set to host the 2019 CMA Awards but unlike the past 11 years, singer Brad Paisley won't join her on stage. Instead, Underwood is getting a little help from music icons and guest hosts Dolly Parton and Reba McEntire.

The Country Music Association announced the details of the upcoming award ceremony on Monday, reported E! News.

The 53rd annual show, termed as country music's biggest night, will pay special tribute to the genre's beloved female artists

and the trailblazing trio of Underwood, Parton, and McEntire is, indeed, the perfect fit to preside over the star-studded evening.

Together, the three stars have nabbed 124 CMA nominations and 22 wins, with 11 of those trophies coming from the coveted Female Vocalist of the Year category. Not to mention, Parton and McEntire are also Country Music Hall of Fame members.

It's safe to say that they are one powerful group and we are in for one wild night of music.

"It's an incredible honour to welcome Carrie, Reba and Dolly



to the CMA Awards stage this year," CMA Chief Executive Officer Sarah Trahern shared in a statement.

"In addition to awarding the year's best and brightest in the genre, the 53rd Annual CMA Awards will celebrate the legacy of women within Country Music, and we couldn't think of a more dynamic group of women to host the show," Trahern added.

So, mark your calendars as the nominations for the hotly anticipated show will be announced on the American TV show 'Good Morning America' on August 28.

## Tom Felton gives guitar lessons to 'quick learner' Emma Watson Los Angeles

Harry Potter' stars Emma Watson and Tom Felton reunited to strum a beautiful piece of music together!

Felton on Monday shared an adorable capture of him with Watson who seems to be trying her hands at the guitar. Watson sported a casual look wearing a two-piece pink-white striped night suit while Felton wore a red vest with check pants.

"Quick learner," Felton captioned the picture.

Fans were quick to notice their comfort level and flooded the comments' section with monikers "Dramione" and "Felton".

Their musical rendezvous even echoed on Twitter with fans going gaga over their reunion. One of the users tweeted, "Emma Watson and Tom Felton reunited again and nothing makes me happier, BUONIORNISSIMO."

However, people might go speculating about the two, but they are just friends according to Entertainment Tonight, cited by Page six.



Emma Watson

## Mike Johnson addresses romance rumours with Demi Lovato

### Los Angeles

The 'Bachelor' star Mike Johnson made a revelation about the romance rumours with singer Demi Lovato.



the later they still have to connect.

"We have not connected and we have not exchanged any freaky texts at all," a smiling Johnson told People TV's Reality Check on Monday.

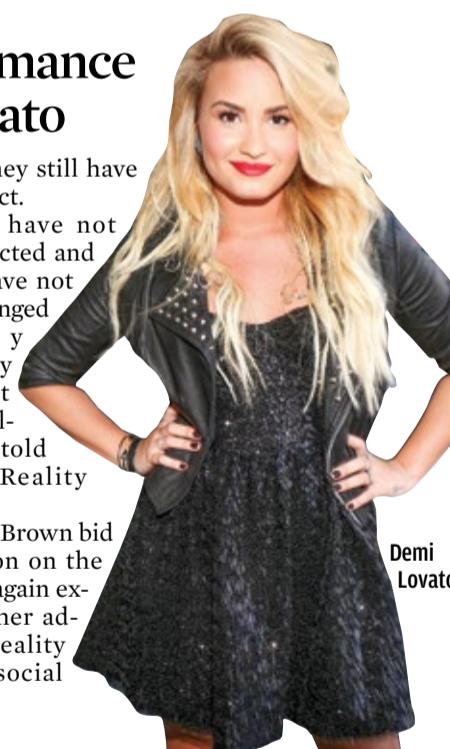
Last month, after Brown bid goodbye to Johnson on the show, Lovato once again excitedly expressed her admiration for the reality TV contestant on social media.

Although the singer had been vocal about her feelings and interest in Johnson, according to

Johnson, Lovato called Johnson out as her pick as she watched an episode of the ABC reality show. "He should win," she could be heard shouting in an Instagram Story.

According to People, early in Hannah Brown's season of 'The Bachelor', Lovato called Johnson out as her pick as she watched an episode of the ABC reality show. "He should win," she could be heard shouting in an Instagram Story.

Although the singer had been vocal about her feelings and interest in Johnson, according to



Demi Lovato

## Mystery awaits Kristen Stewart in 'Underwater' trailer

### Los Angeles

Kristen Stewart comes out as a fighter as a mystery awaits her in the recently released trailer of her forthcoming film 'Underwater'.

The first trailer of the film which dropped on Monday features Stewart as one of the members of a stranded submarine crew.

It begins with an intense yet engrossing music with a radio message, "You are now 5,000 miles from land and you are descending seven miles to the bottom of the ocean."

Not only is the crew dealing with a water-filled submarine, but an unknown underwater creature which is trying to grab on any individual it sees. The two-minute eighteen-second long trailer shows Stewart in an all new avatar with a butch cut hairstyle.

The movie follows the story of an underwater researchers' crew who must scramble to safety following an earthquake which devastates their subterranean laboratory.

With William Eubank in the director's chair, the upcoming feature stars T.J. Miller, Vincent Cassel and John Gallagher Jr. along with Stewart. The film will come as the 'Twilight' actor's next big release after her outing in 'Charlie's Angels' which is hitting the theatres this year on November 15.



Kristen Stewart

## Jada Pinkett Smith calls marriage 'a golden cage'

### Los Angeles

Jada Pinkett Smith recently got candid about her relationship with husband and actor Will Smith and also disclosed the struggles in their life as a couple.

According to People, the couple, who started dating in 1995 and married in 1997, are often seen talking about their relationship especially on Pinkett Smith's hit Facebook Watch show 'Red Table Talk', where Smith as a guest sat down for an eye-opening talk with his wife.

In a new interview with The Guardian and as reported by People, the 47-year-old host

shed light on why they chose a public platform to disclose intimate details with the public.

"I knew that I was not built for conventional marriage," Pinkett Smith said.

"Even the word 'wife': it's a golden cage, swallow the key. Even before I was married, I was like, 'That'll kill me.' And it damn near did! So why wouldn't you share what you've been through, when you see that other people are out there, trying to figure this crap out? We decided to make it public because it's part of the healing. I feel like if we don't have real understanding about it, I don't know if interpersonal relationships are possible," she said.

**AQUA COOL®**  
Ultra Pure Bottled Drinking Water

35 YEARS

Easy & Secure  
Online Ordering of your  
favourite Aqua Cool Products

Download the  
AQUA COOL App Now

Jalal Ionics Co. W.L.L. is  
ISO 22000 : 2005 certified

Free Home Delivery  
Call Us Now-1787 5098  
www.aquacool.bh

Jalal Ionics Co. W.L.L.  
P.O. Box 1770, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain  
C.R. No. 14986, Public Health Registration No. 18/006



# SPORTS

## sports

# Man United held by Wolves

Paul Pogba missed a second-half penalty for United, who were denied victory by a spectacular equaliser from Ruben Neves

**United miss the chance to go to the top of the Premier League table despite first-half brilliance**

AFP | Wolverhampton

**M**anchester United were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw against Wolves after Paul Pogba's penalty was saved by Rui Patricio at Molineux on Monday.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side took the lead through Anthony Martial's second Premier League goal of the season in the first half.

Ruben Neves hit a brilliant equaliser for Wolves after the interval before France star Pogba was denied by Patricio.

It was a curious decision for Pogba to take the spot-kick as Marcus Rashford had scored a penalty in last weekend's 4-0 victory over Chelsea and also memorably netted the Champions League last-16 winner from the spot against Paris Saint Germain last term.

Pogba has now missed four Premier League penalties since the start of last season.

United would have gone top of the table with a win, but instead they were left to reflect on an



Wolves' Rui Patricio saves Paul Pogba's penalty

inconsistent performance that underlined why Solskjaer still has a lot of work to do to turn his team into title contenders.

While there were moments of promise in attack and defence, United didn't take their chances and crumbled too easily when they came under pressure in their second game of the season.

At an average of 24 years and 173 days, Solskjaer had picked United's youngest Premier League starting line-up since the final day of the 2016-17 campaign.

Daniel James made his maiden start for United after the close-season signing from Swansea scored his first goal as a substitute against Chelsea.

There was no place in the matchday squad for Chile forward Alexis Sanchez, who has been linked with Inter Milan.

Solskjaer has described James as United's 'x-factor', but the 21-year-old didn't win any friends when he was booked for diving in a failed attempt to win a free-kick from referee Jon Moss.

United threatened for the first time when another of their young guns Rashford spun past Ryan Bennett on the left side of the Wolves area and crossed towards Martial, who did not make enough contact as the ball flashed past him.

It was a warning Wolves failed to heed as United took the lead with an incisive raid in the 27th minute.

### Revitalised Wolves

Breaking inside from left, Luke Shaw found Jesse Lingard who



**At an average of 24 years and 173 days, Solskjaer had picked United's youngest Premier League starting line-up since the final day of the 2016-17 campaign**

Bennett's misplaced pass and eased past Willy Boly, only to tred on the ball when he seemed certain to score.

Well marshalled by Harry Maguire, United denied Wolves a single shot on target in the first half.

But Wolves were revitalised after the interval by the introduction of the speedy Adama Traore.

Suddenly, Maguire and company did not look so solid and Raul Jimenez glanced a free-kick against the far post with United keeper David De Gea rooted.

Wolves' pressure paid off in the 55th minute when a short corner was worked to Neves on the edge of the area and the Portugal midfieler curled a sublime strike into the top corner.

Neves's eye-catching effort survived a VAR review for offside in the build-up and he celebrated his 10th goal from outside the area since joining Wolves.

United had a golden chance to reclaim the lead when Martial found Pogba in the Wolves area and the France midfieler was clipped by Conor Coady.

Pogba and Rashford appeared to discuss who should take the spot-kick.

Whoever made the final call, it proved a bad move as Pogba's powerful drive was superbly pushed away by Patricio.

moved the ball onto Rashford.

Rashford slipped a perfectly-weighted pass to Martial in the Wolves area and the French forward blasted a superb strike into the roof of the net without breaking stride.

Solskjaer had called for Martial to be more clinical and, his message received loud and clear, the Norwegian clapped approvingly on the touchline.

Martial's goal took him to 50 for United in all competitions since his move from Monaco in 2015.

Martial should have doubled United's lead on the stroke of half-time when he pounced on

## Dembele adds to Barcelona's injury woes

AFP | Barcelona

**Ousmane Dembele**, Barcelona's French international striker, will miss five weeks after suffering a hamstring injury, the club said on Monday.

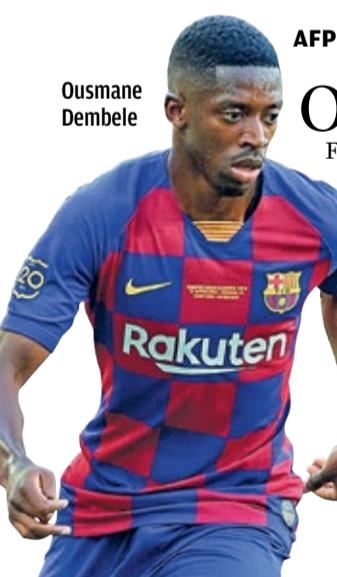
The club said in a statement that tests showed a fibrillary lesion in the left thigh femoral biceps."

If Dembele is out for that long, he could miss five matches in La Liga as well as France's Euro 2020 qualifiers against Albania on September 7 and Andorra on September 20. He suffered a similar problem in May at the end of an injury-ravaged first season in Barcelona.

He is the latest casualty in a depleted Barcelona strike force. Lionel Messi missed the Liga opener in Bilbao on Friday, which Barcelona lost 1-0, with a calf problem.

Uruguayan star Luis Suarez limped off after 37 minutes in Bilbao, also with a calf problem, and is expected to be absent for a month.

Barcelona have loaned attacking midfielder Philippe Coutinho to Bayern Munich but are reportedly in negotiations to buy Neymar back from Paris Saint-Germain.



## Stephens splits with coach Groeneveld

Reuters | New York

**A**merican Sloane Stephens has parted ways with her coach Sven Groeneveld less than a week before the US Open gets underway, the former champion has said.

Stephens, who only teamed up with Dutchman Groeneveld in May, has not announced a replacement ahead of the year's final Grand Slam, which begins on Monday.

"After much thought, Sven Groeneveld and I have decided



Sloane Stephens serves against Yulia Putintseva during (file photo)

to go our separate ways," 2017 champion Stephens said in a tweet.

"Change is never easy, but I'm so appreciative of our time together. Onward!"

Groeneveld, who has previously coached former world number ones Ana Ivanovic and Maria Sharapova, thanked Stephens for their time together.

"I wish you a strong @usopen, you have all it takes, I believe in you!" he wrote on Twitter.

## Chelsea's Zouma recalls 'long journey' back to starting lineup

Reuters | London

**C**helsea defender Kurt Zouma says his return to the club's starting lineup is the culmination of a three-year struggle when he was seriously injured and then sent out on loan to two Premier League clubs.

Zouma, who suffered a knee injury in 2016 that sidelined him for nine months, was loaned to Stoke City and Everton in the last two seasons before new Chelsea manager Frank Lampard made him a part of his first team plans.

"It has been a very, very long journey," Zouma told reporters. "I don't want to talk about that now, because that is the past

but I fought very hard.

"People don't know, people don't see but I was in the shadow, working hard to get back because I had a very bad injury. I was off for one year (away from the first team) but people forgot that."

"But I always believed in myself. My family was always there behind me and now I'm back here. I'm very happy to play here, I just want to keep going."

Zouma has started the club's first three games of the season and although he was below-par in a 4-0 loss in the opener at Manchester United, Lampard has shown faith in the 24-year-old Frenchman as the London side looks for its first win.

"That's what I wanted," Zouma added.

"I'm in a big club and everyone wants to play. The competition is very hard and there are a lot of talented players, so when you train you have to do it right."

"There are players who came back, like me, and other players, the younger guys who came in. Now we are starting to understand each other. We just need to be more clinical and get the wins."



Kurt Zouma

**People don't know, people don't see but I was in the shadow, working hard to get back because I had a very bad injury. I was off for one year (away from the first team) but people forget that**

KURT ZOUMA

**'Frightening' Archer won't let-up against Australia says Stokes**

AFP | London

England's Ben Stokes has told Australia to expect more bouncers from Jofra Archer in the remainder of the Ashes.

"It's part of the game and a big part of Jofra's game, being aggressive, not letting batsmen settle," said Stokes.

World Cup-winning fast bowler Archer produced a hostile and compelling display on debut as the rain-affected second Test ended in a draw at Lord's on Sunday.

Not only did he take five wickets, he repeatedly unsettled Australia with a short-pitched balls. The 92mph bouncer that hit Steve Smith on the neck forced the star batsman to miss the last day with concussion.

"When someone takes a nasty blow no bowler is going to say I'm not going to bowl that again because I don't want to hit them again," Stokes, a lively seam bowler, added.

## Serena to return to Auckland for Aussie Open warm-up

AFP | Wellington

Serena Williams announced yesterday she will warm-up for January's Australian Open at the Auckland Classic, a tournament that has mixed memories for the American superstar.

Williams slumped to a shock second-round loss in her only previous appearance in New Zealand in 2017, lashing out at windy conditions she described as some of the "least favourite" she had ever experienced.

But she went on to win the Australian Open later that month, claiming the most recent of her 23 majors to pass Steffi Graf's Open-era benchmark of 22.

Serena Williams

# Sandgren downs Murray

Andy Murray falls to Tennys Sandgren in Winston-Salem Open first round

● Lee Duck-hee becomes first deaf player to win an ATP main draw match

AFP | Washington

Andy Murray on Monday fell in the first round of the ATP Winston-Salem Open, where the three-time Grand Slam champion was giving his surgically repaired hip just its second test in singles.

Britain's Murray, who feared in January that his hip trouble would end his career, accepted a wild card into this week's tournament in North Carolina after falling in his singles comeback in Cincinnati last week.

He again showed glimpses of his once-dominant self, but was inconsistent in a 7-6 (10-8), 7-5 loss to 73rd-ranked American Tennys Sandgren in a match lasting 2 hours and 10 minutes.

"Some things were a bit better today I think," Murray said. "I was hitting the ball a bit cleaner than I did maybe in Cincinnati... I feel like I moved fairly well to some drop shots, which maybe last week I wasn't running to."

"So there's some good things in there but also some stuff I would like to do better."

Andy Murray, of Great Britain, returns to Tennys Sandgren, of the United States

Murray did not even reach the court until after 10 pm, thanks to a lengthy rain delay that pushed back his start time by more than three hours.

Sandgren gutted out a tough service hold in an opening game that went to deuce nine times, saving one break point as they went to the first-set decider without a break of serve.

The American needed four set points -- and saved one -- in taking the tiebreaker.

A deflated Murray was quickly down 3-0 with two breaks of

serve in the second.

He clawed one back, and broke again when Sandgren coughed up two double faults while serving for the match at 5-4.

But Sandgren broke Murray again in the next game and then took full advantage of his second chance, capping the match with a forehand winner on his first match point.

"Physically, (I'm) OK considering -- no pain, no discomfort. Just a little bit more tired than usual," Murray said.

### Landmark for Lee

Having said in Cincinnati he would discontinue doubles to focus on returning to peak singles form, Murray said he might consider playing an ATP Challenger Tour event before heading to Asia, where he is entered in September's Zhuhai Championships and the China Open.

"Maybe I need to play a level down to get some matches and build my game up a little bit before I start playing on the tour again," he said.



Andy Murray is still searching for his first singles win since hip surgery

In other action on a day when rain wreaked havoc on the schedule, South Korean Lee Duck-hee became the first deaf player to win an ATP Tour match, beating Switzerland's Henri Laaksonen 7-6 (7/4), 6-1.

"My message for people who are hearing impaired is to not be discouraged. If you try hard, you can do anything," said Lee, who will next face third-seeded Hubert Hurkacz of Poland.

Lee was two points from victory when thunderstorms swept through.

When he and Laaksonen returned some five hours later, Lee quickly polished off a win he admitted he hadn't been expecting.

"I thought that I was just going to do my best and try to stay focused," Lee said. "But I came out a winner."



## New Zealand better acclimatised after Galle loss: Southee

Reuters | Colombo

New Zealand's loss in the first test against Sri Lanka had been a lot closer than the six-wicket defeat suggested and the side had learned a lot about how best to play in local conditions, according to pace bowler Tim Southee.

New Zealand's only warm-up game was badly affected by torrential rain and the Black Caps went into the match in Galle a little underdone.

Despite that, Southee felt his side had been

competitive throughout and it was really only a century stand between captain Dimuth Karunaratne (122) and Lahiru Thirimanne (64) as they chased 268 for victory that separated the two sides.

"We played some good cricket throughout the five days but Sri Lanka were just better in the back end of the game," said Southee, who was confirmed yesterday as the captain for the Twenty20 series following the second test in Colombo.

"We showed glimpses throughout and the guys learned a lot from playing in these con-

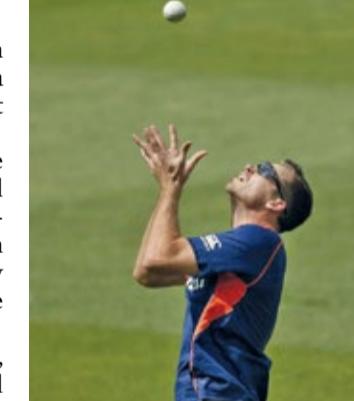
ditions.

"Hopefully we can put in the hard work and turn out a performance over the next test match."

Southee and his fellow pace bowler Trent Boult, who will miss the three-match T20 series along with regular captain Kane Williamson, were barely used on an unresponsive Galle pitch.

The spin trio of Ajaz Patel, Will Somerville and Mitchell Santner combined for 128 of the 179 overs bowled by New Zealand in the match.

Southee bowled just seven



Tim Southee takes a catch during nets overs in the first innings and 12 in the second.

"It's a tough one because you know that you're only going to get a short spell, so you walk a fine line of not trying too much and trying to keep it tight but still trying to take a wicket," the 30-year-old added.

"I guess we're doing more of a support role for the spinners who are more attacking in these conditions."

New Zealand's top-six batsmen failed to truly fire in the first test with only Ross Taylor, who scored 86 in the first innings, and wicketkeeper BJ Watling (77 in the second), posting substantial scores.

## Maguire calls for social media clampdown over Pogba racist abuse

AFP | London

Manchester United defender Harry Maguire called on social media giants Twitter and Instagram to be more pro-active to stop "pathetic trolls" after teammate Paul Pogba became the latest player to suffer racist abuse online.

Pogba was targeted after his penalty was saved in United's 1-1 draw at Wolves on Monday just days after Chelsea striker Tammy Abraham suffered similar abuse.

"Disgusting. Social media need to do something about it," Maguire, the world's most expensive defender after an £80 million (\$97 million) move from Leicester earlier this month, posted on Twitter.

"Every account that is opened should be verified by a passport/

driving licence. Stop these pathetic trolls making numerous accounts to abuse people. @Twitter @Instagram."

United said they were "disgusted" by the abuse and "utterly condemn" it.

"The individuals who expressed these views do not represent the values of our great club and it is encouraging to see the vast majority of our fans condemn this on social media also," the club said in a statement.

"Manchester United has zero tolerance of any form of racism or discrimination and a long-standing commitment to campaigning against it through our #AllRedAllEqual initiative.

"We will work to identify the few involved in these incidents and take the strongest course of action available to us. We also encourage social media companies to take action in these

cases."

Many commentators argued that Pogba should have let Marcus Rashford take the vital penalty at Molineux after the England international scored from the spot against Chelsea on the opening weekend of the season.

However, Rashford also showed his public support for Pogba.

"Manchester United is a family. @paulpogba is a huge part of that family. You attack him you attack us all..." said Rashford.

As well as Abraham, Championship side Reading's Yakou Meite have suffered similar abuse in the past week.

Anti-discrimination charity "Kick It Out" published a report in July that stated incidents of racist abuse increased by 43 percent last season.

"The number of posts such as these since the start of the sea-

son further highlights how discriminatory abuse online is out of control," the body said yesterday.

"Without immediate and the strongest possible action these cowardly acts will continue to grow."

Abraham missed the final penalty in a shootout as Chelsea lost to Liverpool in the UEFA Super Cup last Wednesday. The posts aimed at him were described as "abhorrent" by Chelsea and manager Frank Lampard said he was "disgusted".

Lampard also called for

social media sites to do more to prevent players being abused while Abraham has said he wants to "silence the haters" with his performances on the pitch.

Chelsea banned a supporter for life in July for racially abusing Manchester City's Raheem Sterling last season.

Five others were excluded for periods of between one and two years for abusive language.

Ivor y Coast international Meite



Disgusting. Social media need to do something about it. Every account that is opened should be verified by a passport/driving licence. Stop these pathetic trolls making numerous accounts to abuse people. @Twitter @Instagram

HARRY MAGUIRE



missed a penalty in time added on for Reading on Sunday against Cardiff but his side had the match already wrapped up at 3-0.