

Bahrain e-passport wins prestigious iF Design Award 2024
 TDT | Manama

Bahrain's e-passport has won the iF Design Award 2024 for the communication and publishing category in Germany.

Established in 1953, the award is among the oldest and most prestigious global design awards. It receives more than 11,000 entries annually from all over the world, and the winning of the e-passport is considered a significant milestone to add to the Kingdom's design and creativity records.

Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, The Interior Ministry Undersecretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRO), expressed gratitude for the high level of appreciation that is considered an international honouring to the kingdom under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

He hailed the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to implement NPRO services development initiatives.

Bapco operations to contain oil tank leak nearing completion
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Bapco Refining Company has confirmed that the operations to address the leakage in one of its Naphtha tanks in the Sitra area are nearing completion.

Bapco Refining, in collaboration with the relevant authorities, is working to manage the situation following safety and security protocols.

Oudours emitted during such incidents can fluctuate due to weather conditions, particularly influenced by the direction of the wind, and may persist for several days, a Bapco Refining statement said.

Bapco Refining commended the efforts of the national cadres who co-operated professionally in controlling the leak, emphasising that emergency teams are ready to deal with any emergency if necessary.

The leak was caused by a limited technical defect resulting from the weather conditions and heavy rainfall in Bahrain last week.

Stern warning

Israel threatens action 'in the coming days' against Hamas as bodies found at Gaza hospital

AFP | Jerusalem

Gaza's civil defence said yesterday dozens of bodies had been found buried at a hospital complex previously raided by Israel, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to ramp up military pressure on Hamas.

Netanyahu, who threatened action "in the coming days" without elaborating, has repeatedly said the Israeli army will launch a ground assault on Rafah despite international concern for civilians who have taken refuge in the southern Gaza city.

The premier's latest remarks came a day after US lawmakers approved \$13 billion in new military aid to close ally Israel, even as global criticism mounts over the dire humanitarian crisis in the besieged Gaza Strip.

The Palestinian group Hamas, whose October 7 attack triggered the Gaza war, said the US aid was a "green light" for Israel to "continue the brutal aggression against our people".

Gaza's civil defence agency



A Palestinian man wait for news of his daughter as rescue workers search for survivors under the rubble of a building hit in an overnight Israeli bombing in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip. (AFP)

said its teams had discovered 50 bodies since Saturday buried in the courtyard of the Nasser Medical Complex in Gaza's main southern city of Khan Yunis.

Israel's military said it was checking the reports.

Painful blows

Netanyahu, in a video state-

ment on the eve of the Jewish holiday of Passover, said Israel "will deliver additional and painful blows" to Hamas.

"In the coming days we will

increase the military and political pressure on Hamas because this is the only way to free our hostages," he said.

Israel estimates 129 captives remain in Gaza after the October 7 Hamas attack, including 34 who the military says are dead.

The army has said at least some of the hostages are held in Rafah, which has so far been spared an Israeli invasion and where most of Gaza's 2.4 million people have sought shelter.

Next steps

Israeli military spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said in a televised statement that "the chief of staff has approved the next steps for the war," without offering details.

"On Passover, it will be 200 days of captivity for the hostages... We will fight until you return home to us," he said.

Earlier this week, the G7 group of developed economies said that it opposed a "full-scale military operation" in Rafah, fearing "catastrophic consequences" for civilians.

Israeli troops kill three Palestinians in West Bank

AFP | Hebron

Israeli forces shot dead two Palestinian teenagers and a woman in separate incidents in the occupied West Bank yesterday, the Palestinian health ministry said.

The army confirmed it had "neutralised" three attackers.

Yesterday's incidents, after numerous deaths during an Israeli raid further north in the Palestinian territory, added to a two-year surge of violence in the

West Bank that has accelerated since the war in Gaza began on October 7.

The Palestinian health ministry in Ramallah said the deaths of the two Palestinian teenagers were "caused by occupation (Israeli army) bullets".

It identified them as Muhammad Majid Musa Jabareen, 19, and Musa Mahmud Musa Jabareen, 18.

The official Palestinian news agency Wafa reported that the

incident occurred at the entrance to Beit Einun village near the city of Hebron.

Quoting two Palestinian security sources, Wafa reported that the men succumbed to their wounds after being fired on.

Hot day, cool splash



A boy dives in a lake to cool himself on a hot day in Dhaka. (AFP)

Strategic territorial shift

Russia claims advances near Ukrainian battleground town

AFP | Kyiv

Russia said yesterday its forces had gained territory near the key battleground town of Chasiv Yar in east Ukraine, highlighting the pressure facing Kyiv as it gears up to receive \$61 billion in new US aid.

Ukraine, meanwhile, reported renewed Russian strikes against its civilians.

After months of partisan fighting, the United States House of Representatives finally approved the major package in a vote Saturday, giving a morale boost to Ukrainian forces on the defensive.

It still needs to be approved by the US Senate before US President Joe Biden can give

it the final green light.

"This is good news," 34-year-old Ukrainian soldier Dmytro told AFP from the northeast Kharkiv region. "We are now catastrophically short of ammunition. If there is help, everything will be fine."

Russia said yesterday it had taken control of Bogdanivka, a small frontline village less than three kilometres (two miles) northeast of Chasiv Yar.

"Units of the southern grouping of troops have completely liberated the settlement of Bogdanivka," Moscow's defence ministry said.

Chasiv Yar, which had a pre-war population of about 13,000, has been largely destroyed by fighting and most of its residents have fled.

Celebrating Bahraini innovation

Export Bahrain announces winners for Bahrain's Creative Business Cup 2024

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Export Bahrain and the Creative Business Network organized the first edition of the Bahrain Creative Business Cup 2024, in the presence of His Excellency Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce and Chairman of Export Bahrain, in collaboration with Bahrain Development Bank and The Collective Hub.

The event orchestrated by Export Bahrain, marked a pivotal moment in championing the growth and global reach of Bahrain's vibrant industries and culture.

This event is a strategic initiative to bolster Bahrain's standing on a global scale, encouraging startups to refine their offerings to meet and exceed internationally recognized standards.

By spotlighting Bahraini startups, the event supports to facilitate their inclusion in a global community of startup experts and mentors, fostering invaluable connections that transcend borders.

It aimed to catalyze the Bahraini economy, forging pathways to develop projects in collaboration with leading investors, corporations, accelerators, and startups worldwide.



H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro with the winners

Moreover, the event is a cradle for innovation, nurturing collaboration between large global corporations and startups to address specific innovation needs, thereby empowering the creative business concepts and competitiveness of Bahrain-based entrepreneurs.

The Creative Business Cup has set the stage for Bahraini startups to not only participate in the global market but to thrive and influence it profoundly.

The event provided an unparalleled platform for five local talents from within the Creative Industry, Sustainable Development, and Social Impact sectors to showcase their skills and compete to take on the opportunity

to qualify for the global finals.

Panel discussions

Alongside the competition, several panel discussions and award ceremonies in recognition of the participants efforts were held as part of the events activities to promote entrepreneurial spirit within the kingdom.

The startups presented before a judging panel that consisted of a number of esteemed regional and local judges, including Mr. Omar Al-Shabaan, CEO of The Garage KSA, Mr. Suhail Al-gosaibi, Chairman of Tenmou, Mr. Safa Sharif, Co-founder of WSI Consulting, Mr. Sam Yearseley, Head of Venture Building Spring Studios and Ms. Marwa



Aleskafi, Director of Programs and Partnership Development at Tamkeen.

After a careful evaluation session by the jury, Mr. Mohammed Abdellaal from Silent Power stood out to be awarded for the first place, qualifying them the honor of becoming the Kingdom of Bahrain representative at the CBC global finals in Copenhagen, Denmark, June 2024.

Significant achievement

Mr. Mohammed Abdellaal expressed their joy at this significant achievement, remarking, "We at Silent Power are honored to have been recognized for our innovation and efforts and we are grateful to have had the chance to participate in such an event, we look forward to competing in the global edition of the Creative Business Cup and anticipate more opportunities such as the Creative Business Cup in the future."

His Excellency Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce and

Chairman of Export Bahrain, praised the distinguished efforts and ingenuity of all the participants and congratulated Silent Power for their distinction.

He continued to state: "We are proud to have such talented entrepreneurs and forward thinkers in the nation. Events such as the Creative Business Cup have proven crucial in creating the space for innovation and showcasing the entrepreneurial spirit of Bahrain."

Nurturing startups

Mrs. Dalal Al Qais CEO of Bahrain Development Bank Group, stating, "Supporting events such as national edition of Creative Business Cup isn't just about nurturing startups; it's about cultivating a thriving ecosystem that fuels innovation, fosters entrepreneurship, advancing the Kingdom's economy towards sustainable growth."

Mr. Nawaf AlKoheji, CEO of Tenmou and The Collective Hub, congratulated the winners and praised the initiative, stat-



ing, "It was an honor to be a part of the first national edition of the Creative Business Cup, which has created an indispensable opportunity for the talented entrepreneurs in the Kingdom to showcase their ability both regionally and internationally. We look forward to more future collaborations in creating an environment that encourages the creativity and ingenuity that will propel the Kingdom of Bahrain as a regional hub for entrepreneurship."



IMF report affirms Bahrain's sustainable economic growth

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MP Dr. Maryam Al-Dhaen underscored the significance of the Kingdom of Bahrain's position at the forefront of the International Monetary Fund's growth forecasts for 2024 among Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

Dr. Al-Dhaen emphasised that this achievement serves as a crucial indicator of Bahrain's commitment to bolstering sustainable growth and economic diversification.

She highlighted the Kingdom's dedication to implementing robust policies and initiatives aimed at fostering long-term economic stability and development.

Al-Dhaen said that the Kingdom succeeded in supporting and stimulating the financial sector, which is one of the sectors that contribute most to the



Dr. Maryam Al-Dhaen

gross domestic product, which contributed to achieving further development and growth.

She highlighted the goals of the comprehensive development process led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the continuous follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

According to the report issued by the IMF in April 2024, which came under the title "Global Economic Prospects," the Kingdom of Bahrain was

alone in recording an expected increase in the growth rate during the year 2024.

She pointed out that the report expected the growth rate in the gross domestic product to reach 3.6%, and that growth has not declined or decreased, compared to previous years.

Al-Dhaen expressed her satisfaction with what was stated in the report regarding the performance of the global economy and overcoming economic recessions, which paves the way for a more stable economic situation.

She noted that at the level of the rest of the countries, the report expected the global gross domestic product to grow by 3.2% for the years 2024 and 2025, in addition to expecting a decrease in the level of Global underlying inflation will rise to 2.8% by the end of 2024, from 4% last year to 2.4% in 2025.

ANTENATAL PACKAGES

1 st Trimester	BD 80	} Consultation (12) Ultrasound (7) Lab Tests (25)
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MATERNITY PACKAGES

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Sitra schools go digital

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The Ministry of Education has announced a temporary shift to online learning for schools in the Sitra area and surrounding regions, effective from today until Thursday, April 25.

This decision follows reports of unusual odors in several schools within the area.

“The Ministry has been working closely with the Supreme Council for Environment, which has dispatched teams to investigate the source of the odors. As a precautionary measure, and to ensure the safety of students and staff, the Ministry has decided to temporarily suspend in-person classes and transition to online learning via the digital platform,” the Ministry explained in a statement published on its official Instagram account.

The Ministry of Education

has emphasised its commitment to the health and safety of all students and staff.

“The decision to shift to online learning is a precautionary measure to ensure the well-being of everyone involved while the investigation into the source of the odors is ongoing. The Ministry will continue to work closely with the relevant authorities and provide updates as they become available,” the statement concluded.



The following educational institutions will be affected by the temporary shift:

Government Schools:

- * Sitra Secondary Girls School
- * Sitra Intermediate Girls School
- * Sitra Primary Girls School
- * Sitra Primary Boys School
- * Gharnata Primary Girls School
- * Qadisiyah Primary Girls School
- * Al Yarmook Primary Boys School
- * Awali Intermediate Boys School
- * Al Imam Ali Primary Intermediate Boys
- * Al Monthir bin Sawa Al Tamimi Primary Boys School
- * Um Al Qura Primary Intermediate Girls School
- * Nuwaidrat Primary Girls School
- * Al Jazeera Primary Boys School
- * Al Nabih Saleh Primary Girls School
- * Ibn Al Nafees Primary Boys School

Private Schools:

- * Al Noor International School
- * Alia National School

Higher Education Institutions:

- * University of Applied Sciences

Early Childhood Education Institutions:

- * Abjad Hawaz Kindergarten
- * Al Batool Kindergarten
- * Al Jawaher Kindergarten
- * Childrengarten Kindergarten
- * Al Rehab Kindergarten
- * Al Zahra Kindergarten
- * Al Shomos Kindergarten
- * Al Sadeq Kindergarten
- * Al Qamar Kindergarten
- * Mahd Al Azhar Kindergarten
- * Al Nebras Kindergarten
- * Al Noor Kindergarten

NSA Bahrain visits Alia for Early Intervention

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In support of Autism Awareness Month, Sailors assigned to Naval Support Activity (NSA) Bahrain visited the Alia Autism Centers - Alia for Early Intervention in coordination with the Bahrain Society for Children with Behavioral & Communication Difficulties in A'ali, Bahrain, April 21.

The visit created direct interactions between Sailors and students on the spectrum with various social activities that included cooking classes, physical training and music amongst other activities. The center faculty educated the Sailors about other treatments and methods by joining the students in classes that included occupational therapy, cognitive behavior therapy and applied behavioral analysis.

“It was a really nice experience,” said Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Ema Pulido, one of the Sailors visiting Alia Autism Centers. “It felt good giving to all these kids and hanging out with them. It’s a memory I’ll

hold forever in my heart.”

The initiative to visit the Alia Autism Centers is part of NSA Bahrain’s commitment to foster Sailor engagement and reinforce social responsibility through support of the society’s mission - to foster understanding and acceptance for individuals with Autism in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Dr. Shaikha Rania Al Khalifa, director, Alia for Early Intervention and Alia Rehabilitation Center, was appreciative of this visit and expressed her gratitude. “Community events such as this one align perfectly with our mission to further enhance the student’s interactive abilities and spread Autism awareness across cultures,” said Dr. Shaikha Khalifa. “We are thankful to the U.S. Navy for their support and look forward to future opportunities.”

The community relations event was the second collaboration with Bahrain Society for Children with Behavioral & Communication Difficulties this year. NSA Bahrain hosted Dr. Stephen Shore.

Roadmap to relief

Works Minister H.E. Ebrahim Al Hawaj unveils strategic traffic solution blueprint

TDT | Manama

The Minister of Works, His Excellency Ebrahim Al Hawaj, has responded to concerns raised by Shura Council member Bassam Albinmohamed regarding traffic congestion in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Al Hawaj outlined the Ministry of Works’ thorough strategy and financial commitment to tackle this significant issue.

The Ministry’s extensive traffic studies have informed a strategic road network blueprint, reflecting the present traffic milieu and forecasting future expansion.

These studies have catalysed pivotal road enhancements, with the objective of upgrading road conditions, streamlining traffic flow, curtailing travel durations, and augmenting the overall mobility of Bahrain’s citizens, residents, and visitors alike.

These enhancements are pivotal to the strategic objective of fortifying infrastructure, enticing foreign investment, and fostering economic proliferation.

Moreover, the Ministry has initiated measures to alleviate congestion, drawing on insights from analytical reports.

A principal focus has been the augmentation of the capacity of key highways and junctions, including the erection of multi-tiered intersections to decongest traffic.

A salient project is the transformation of roundabouts in Manama, into intersections regulated by traffic signals. This initiative, endorsed by traffic analyses, has bolstered the main road capacity by 40% and diminished waiting time at intersections by 30%.



The Ministry of Works plans to upgrade road conditions, streamline traffic flow, curtail travel durations, and augment the overall mobility of Bahrain’s citizens, residents, and visitors alike.

The Ministry has consummated projects that expand and refine the public road network to mitigate congestion. Chief among these is the enhancement of Al Fateh Highway – a critical undertaking – and the widening of Al Janabiya Highway to accommodate three lanes in each direction. Not only has this expansion reduced travel time but also increased capacity and safety.

The enlargement of the upper Aljasra intersection has effectively doubled traffic capacity, thereby easing congestion in the vicinity.

Dual carriageway

Continuing these efforts, the Ministry has revamped the Raya Highway beyond its juncture with the Arad Highway, converting it into a dual carriageway to facilitate movement and access in parallel with the construction in progress to erect an overpass for left turns from Al Janabiya

Highway towards Shaikh Isa bin Salman Highway.

This enhancement is projected to refine the Jasra intersection and boost its capacity to handle 57,000 vehicles daily, in harmony with the region’s latest urban developments. These initiatives underscore the Ministry’s unwavering commitment to combating traffic congestion through strategic foresight and infrastructural evolution.

In a further display of proactive planning, the Ministry has embarked on a four-phase urgent solution endeavour, encompassing 48 projects designed to ease traffic congestion across various roads and intersections.

These projects are tailored to enhance the road network in tandem with ongoing development and the burgeoning number of vehicles. The first phase included 12 projects, followed by 15 in the second, 10 in the third, and 11 in the fourth phase.



H.E. Ebrahim Al Hawaj



MP Bassam Albinmohamed

Intelligent solutions

Additionally, the Ministry has deployed intelligent solutions to ease congestion, such as the Scoot adaptive traffic control system, which has achieved a 20% reduction in waiting times. Smart parking meters have been installed on most commercial streets, significantly improving parking management.

Furthermore, the Ministry has judiciously redirected certain roads to single-lane traffic based on statistical analyses, optimising traffic flow and diminishing congestion.

In conclusion, the Ministry underscores that the investment in road expansion and maintenance projects has been substantial, with expenditures totalling BD20 million in 2018 and nearly BD33.7 million in 2023, reflecting a steadfast commitment to infrastructure and the well-being of Bahrain’s citizens.

Shura Council adopts ‘fee cap’ to address rising cost of domestic workers importation

TDT | Manama

After thorough deliberations, the Shura Council adopted an amendment aimed at regulating the costs associated with hiring domestic workers in private residences during yesterday’s session.

Garnering overwhelming support, the amendment passed with 29 votes in favour, none against, and 2 abstentions.

This legislative change directly addresses the escalating expenses of recruitment and management, effectively filling a gap in the existing law that previously lacked a cap on fees for employing domestic workers.

Subsequently, the approved amendments mandate the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) to establish binding maximum fees for domestic worker recruitment agencies. These caps, which were arrived at after deliberations with relevant entities, will be based on clear criteria tailored to each nationality.

Recruitment agencies will be prohibited from exceeding these stipulated caps, thereby



MP Ali AlHaddad



MP Dr. Jihad AlFadhel



MP Jamal Fakhro

ensuring fairness for families, resilience for workers, and integrity for businesses. Furthermore, the amendments aim to eliminate any undue personal gains by strictly prohibiting charges beyond the official fees.

The rise in fees for importing domestic workers is imputed in part to contractual agreements between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the countries that provide these workers, compounded by the lack of direct relations with some of the countries that export these workers.

Concerns

In light of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ stated intention to expand the circle of nations from which Bahrain will im-

port domestic workers, council member Dr. Jihad AlFadhel raised concerns about potential security issues and the vast differences in values that might arise from such expansion.

Additionally, council member Ali AlHaddad reminded the council of the substantial loss incurred by Bahraini citizens due to domestic housemaids ceasing work unannounced, with estimates exceeding BD57 million.

Council member Jamal Fakhro noted that “The matter of importation costs is two-faceted and should not be conflated: one aspect involves the agreements between our government and the exporting countries, and the other con-

cerns the fees determined by service-providing offices.”

Fakhro argued that following the implementation of these regulations, there might be queries as to why the service of importing domestic workers is specifically targeted, while other services like auditing and accounting face less regulation.

Reinforcing the LMRA’s stance, Fakhro remarked, “Setting service prices is not congruent with our national ethos; we may enforce customs duties and taxes, but we usually refrain from dictating fixed prices for specific services.”

Chief Legal Consultant Nawfal Ghorbal said the legislation is a necessary response to the problem.

HM King, HRH Prince Salman appoint key ministry officials

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued Decree (32) of 2024, appointing an assistant undersecretary in the Ministry of Works, based on a proposal of the Minister of Works, and following the approval of the Cabinet. Ahmed Sami Jawad Al Tajer shall be

appointed as Assistant Undersecretary for Roads at the Ministry of Works.

HM King Hamad issued Decree (36) of 2024, appointing Faisal Ahmed Mohamed Saleh Abdullah as an assistant undersecretary at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

His Majesty issued Decree (34) of 2024, appointing Khalil

Yaqoub Al Khayyat, Rashed Abdullatif Al Zayani, Dr. Mohamed Ali Behzad, and Ahmed Ibrahim Al Qurainees as ambassadors at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

HM the King issued Decree (35) of 2024, appointing general directors at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, based on a proposal of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

HM King Hamad issued Decree (38) of 2024 restructuring the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA), based on a proposal of the Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs.

His Majesty issued Decree (37) of 2024, amending Article (I) of Decree (22) of 2022 organising the Ministry of Electricity and Water Affairs, based on a

proposal of the Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs.

The following shall be appointed: Salman Hassan Al Jalahma as Chief of Americas Affairs; Saeed Abdulkhaliq Saeed as Chief of Coordination and Follow-up; Maryam Adel Al Mannai as Chief of Communications; Rana Mohammed Hassan as Director of Information Systems;

Hatem Abdelhameed Sharif as Chief of Organisations; Muneera Nofal Al Doseri as Chief of Asian and Pacific Affairs; Hasan Ebrahim Saleh as Director of Training and Languages; Ahmed Mohammed Alhidi as Director of Studies and Evaluation; and Al-Yazeya Abdulrahman Abdulmalek as Director of Academic Affairs.

Bright ideas, brighter future

New paradigm for health and healthcare in Bahrain unveiled at C3 Summit Davos

Zahra Ayaz

TDT | Manama

The C3 Summit Davos of healthcare organised by American Mission Hospital held at the Diplomat Radisson Blu witnessed a dynamic discussion yesterday on a new paradigm for health and healthcare in Bahrain.

Eminent panelists, including key figures such as Dr. Mariam A Jalahma, Dr. Samya Ali Bahram, Dr. Ejlal Faisal Al-Alawi, and Professor Dr. Sameer Ootom, shed light on innovative approaches to revolutionize the nation's healthcare landscape.

Dr. Mariam A Jalahma shared a success story from the pandemic, stating, "This time, the case in Bahrain was different. From the beginning, His Highness the Crown Prince and the Prime Minister realised that this was not a simple pandemic that the Ministry of Health could manage alone. All ministries worked as a cohesive team, including the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Work, the Ministry of Trade, and the Ministry of Health.

Communication and collaboration

"We established a vital communication hub where data was

collected, statistics were generated, accidents were reported, and patients were managed. Effective communication and collaboration were key during this crisis."

Dr. Samya Ali Bahram highlighted the upcoming health insurance system in Bahrain, saying, "In 2018, work was initiated to unify the electronic medical records across all health sectors, including both private and governmental institutions. This will strengthen the relations between all health sectors and foster the exchange of trade and expertise.

"Strong communication and the exchange of knowledge with esteemed institutions such as Salmaniya Medical Complex, King Hamad Hospital, BDF Hospital, and American Mission Hospital are helping us keep our staff updated and address evolving healthcare needs."

Preparedness to new level

Dr. Ejlal Faisal Al-Alawi emphasised the lessons learned from the pandemic, stating, "We have taken our preparedness to a new level in various aspects. We realised the need to invest in the healthcare system, whether it be governmental or private, by enhancing infrastructure, increasing ICU units, expanding lab capacity, and providing training in public health and



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DR. MARIAM A JALAHMA



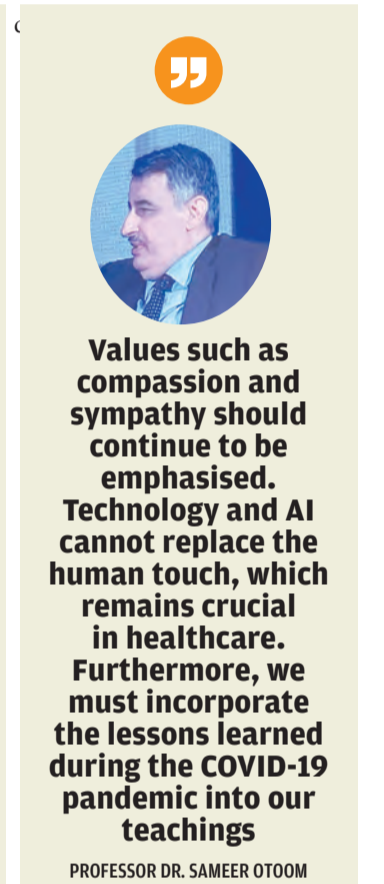
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DR. SAMYA ALI BAHRAM



We have taken our preparedness to a new level in various aspects. We realised the need to invest in the healthcare system, whether it be governmental or private, by enhancing infrastructure, increasing ICU units, expanding lab capacity, and providing training in public health and other sectors

DR. EJLAL FAISAL AL-ALAWI



Values such as compassion and sympathy should continue to be emphasised. Technology and AI cannot replace the human touch, which remains crucial in healthcare. Furthermore, we must incorporate the lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic into our teachings

PROFESSOR DR. SAMEER OOTOM

and communication sectors have also witnessed significant improvements."

Professor Dr. Sameer Ootom discussed the future management of healthcare challenges, particularly in relation to medical education. He stated, "In our medical schools, we need

provide undergraduates with critical thinking skills and soft skills. Graduates should possess leadership qualities and teamwork abilities. The focus should not only be on knowledge, skills, and attitude but also on teaching leadership skills and fostering effective communication among

Compassion and sympathy In addition, he said: "Values such as compassion and sympathy should continue to be emphasised. Technology and AI cannot replace the human touch, which remains crucial in healthcare. Furthermore, we must incorporate the lessons learned

into our teachings." The nation's unified approach, emphasis on collaboration, and investments in infrastructure and education are poised to shape a new paradigm for health and healthcare, ensuring a brighter future for Bahraini citizens.

Manama Entrepreneurship Week kicks off

Ashen Tharaka

TDT | Manama

The Ninth Edition of Manama Entrepreneurship Week (MEW) inaugurated yesterday at the Gulf Convention Center, co-organized by the Labour Fund, Tamkeen, and over 20 other institutions.

The opening ceremony welcomed dignitaries including Minister of Industry and Commerce, H.E. Abdulla Adel Fakhro, and Minister of Sustainable Development, Chief Executive of the Bahrain Economic Development Board, H.E. Noor bint Ali Al Khulaif. Both ministers emphasized the government's commitment to fostering entrepreneurship across various sectors, aligning with Bahrain's Vision 2030 goals.

MEW 2024, themed "Smart Cities and Entrepreneurship," runs until April 25th. Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, Governor of the Capital Governorate, highlighted

the event's role in connecting entrepreneurs, investors, and young minds to share expertise and build partnerships.

This year's theme focuses on the crucial role entrepreneurs play in transforming cities into smart and sustainable environments through innovative technologies and collaboration with government entities, the Governor explained to the Daily Tribune. A significant development at MEW 2024 was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between a global women leaders network PLAYBOOK and the Bahrain Businesswomen's Society, in collaboration with the Capital Governorate.

The week will be full of a variety of seminars and workshops conducted in partnership with prominent organizations like Kuwait Finance House, BMMI, and the University of Bahrain. Participants can expect discussions on smart city solutions and how entrepreneurs can drive positive change in urban environments.



MOU signing between PLAYBOOK, Bahrain Businesswomen's Society and Capital Governorate



Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa



Tamkeen CEO Maha Mofeez, left, with MP Maryam Al Dhaen, third from left, at the event.



Ministers discuss shaping Bahrain's Sustainable Future

BisB, AL-NAMAL CONTRACTING & TRADING CO. partner for exclusive Al Rayyan Villa offers

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) has signed a partnership agreement with Al Namal Contracting and Trading to provide exclusive financing offers for customers looking to purchase a property at "Al Rayyan Villas" in Jannusan which was invested and developed by AL NAMALAL. This initiative underscores the Bank's efforts to deliver exceptional real estate offers that meet the needs of beneficiaries under Mazaya and Tas'heel social housing schemes.

This collaboration follows a



Dr Varghese Kurian, Chairman and Managing Director of Al Namal Group



Fatema Alalawi, Chief Retail Banking Officer at BisB

series of partnerships recently conducted by BisB alongside a number of real estate developers with the aim of supporting the government's directives for the national housing programme.

As part of the agreement, the Bank will extend competitive prices to potential buyers of "Al Rayyan villas", as well as offer them free fire insurance. Upon purchasing one of the villas in the project, customers will also receive BD500 provided by Al Namal Real Estate in cash or as a gift voucher.

Fatema Alalawi, Chief Retail Banking Officer at BisB, said:

"In line with the Kingdom's Economic Vision that positions the private sector as a key driver of economic growth and development, the Bank strives to contribute to the housing program by supporting Mazaya and Tas'heel beneficiaries in finding suitable housing options with competitive prices and exclusive benefits. This has motivated us to strengthen our partnerships with the real estate sector and create agreements, like our agreement with Al Namal, through which we hope to provide customers with facilitated financing solutions and additional features."

Al Rayyan combines tradition and modernity with its various designs set across 237 villas equipped with the latest innovations and technologies. The project offers 11 villa types, providing customers with the opportunity to pick a villa that aligns with their personal budget and family lifestyle. Each villa comprises of 3 to 4 bedrooms, in addition to an outdoor area in the front and back, alongside breathtaking views with close proximity to the beach.

The project's nearby services and facilities serve to meet the needs of all Bahraini families.

Beyon Money joins hands with Medical.BH

Up to 5% Unlimited Cashback when using Beyon Money Card to Pay Selected Medical.BH providers

TDT | Manama

Beyon Money, part of the Beyon Group, has announced a partnership with Medical.BH to benefit its customers who book and pay for health services using a Beyon Money card, with up to 5% unlimited cashback. Beyon Money Classic Card users will receive 3% cashback while Platinum Card users will receive 5% unlimited cashback.

The partnership deal was signed by Beyon Money CEO Roberto Mancone and Medical.BH Managing Director Ali Al-Halwachi, during a meeting held at the Beyon Campus, Hamala, Bahrain.

The Beyon Money cashback deal is currently available with a growing number of Medical.BH's providers including:-



The deal signing

- Global Dermatology Medical Centre
- La Clinique Dental
- Brite Smile Dental Centre
- Dr. Khulood Al Darazi
- Dental House
- Derma House Medical Centre
- New Life Centre for Rehabilitation

- Al Malaki Specialist Hospital
- Al Ghareeb Medical Centre
- Manual Physiotherapy Centre
- Aethetica Dental Center
- AlFardan Dental Centre
- Dr Amina AlTamimi Medical Center

Beyon Money CEO Roberto Mancone said, "The new partnership is in line with Beyon Money's commitment to elevate its customers' experience while using their Beyon Money cards for their daily spending, by adding enhanced benefits and rewards in collaboration with a variety of providers to make the Beyon Money Card their first choice."

Medical.BH Managing Direc-

tor Ali AlHalwachi said, "Users of both Beyon Money and Medical.bh apps will benefit from lucrative unlimited cashback offers with participating medical firms."

To avail of the cashback benefits available with the selected list of Medical.BH providers, customers should use their Beyon Money cards when booking or paying for their medical services through Medical.BH app and website with the selected partners.

New customers are invited to download the Beyon Money App today to start enjoying an extensive range of benefits, including special offers, cashback deals, the lowest remittance rates in Bahrain and opportunities to save and earn with Beyon Money's Flexi Invest.

Bahrain All Share Index marks 2,016.94 points

TDT | Manama

Bahrain All Share Index has closed at 2,016.94 points, marking a decrease of 4.51 points below the previous closing.

This decrease was due to the drop in the Communication Services Sector, Financial Sector, Industrial Sector and Material Sector.

Bahrain Islamic Index has closed at 764.34 points, marking a decrease of 3.08 points below the previous closing.

Results indicated that 43 equity transactions took place with a volume of 469,717 worth BD 94,573.

Investors traded mainly in the Financial Sector, representing 66.75% of the total value of securities traded.

Fifth World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum to focus on innovation and sustainable growth

TDT | Manama

The upcoming 5th edition of the World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum (WEIF), themed "Achieving the SDGs through Fostering Innovation and Economic Growth," is scheduled to take place from May 14th to 16th this year. The Bahrain Chamber, in a press conference held at its headquarters yesterday, announced that the event will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

During the conference, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Abdulla Fakhro, underscored Bahrain's commitment to sustainable growth and its utilization of innovative solutions to address global challenges, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

He emphasized Bahrain's historical prowess in innovation and urged entrepreneurs and businesses to capitalize on the opportunities presented by the conference.

Likewise, Sameer Nass, Chair-



The press conference held yesterday

man of the Bahrain Chamber, affirmed that the Forum epitomizes the leadership's dedication to entrepreneurship and investment, noting the supportive environment and programs established for sustainable development, which have positioned Bahrain as an innovation leader. He highlighted the Chamber's collaborative efforts with the government to foster entrepreneurship and economic diversification.

The 5th edition of the forum will cover various topics aimed

at nurturing entrepreneurship and innovation across sectors. These include forging partnerships for Arab and African entrepreneurs, establishing conducive ecosystems for business innovation, and advocating sustainable practices such as financial inclusion and green technology. Additionally, it will examine the role of educational and research institutions in driving innovation, as well as empowering individuals with disabilities to achieve economic autonomy.

Briefs about the Forum were also provided by Sonia Janahi, a board member of the Bahrain Chamber, Dr. Khaled Hanafi, Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers, Ambassador Ali bin Ebrahim Al-Malki, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Affairs of the Arab League, and Dr. Hashim Hussein, Head of the Regional Office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) for Investment and Technology in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Israel holds Palestinian economy captive, say analysts

Jerusalem, Undefined

The Gaza war is speeding up Israel's "annexation" of the Palestinian economy, say analysts, who argue it has been hobbled for decades by agreements that followed the Oslo peace accords.

While the Israel-Hamas war raging since October 7 has devastated swathes of Gaza, it has also hit the public finances and wider economy of the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Israel is tightening the noose on the Palestinian Authority, which rules parts of the West Bank, by withholding tax revenues it collects on its behalf, economist Adel Samara told AFP.

Palestinian livelihoods have also been hurt by bans on labourers crossing into Israel, and by a sharp downturn in tourism in the violence-plagued territory, including a quiet Christmas season in Bethlehem.

Samara said that "technically speaking, there is no Palestinian economy under Israeli occupation -- our economy has been effectively annexed by Israel's". The Palestinian

economy is largely governed by the 1994 Paris Protocol, which granted sole control over the territories' borders to Israel, and with it the right to collect import duties and value-added tax for the Palestinian Authority.

Israel has repeatedly leveraged this power to deprive the authority of much-needed revenues. But the Gaza war has further tightened Israel's grip, Samara said, with the bulk of customs duties withheld since Gaza's rulers Hamas sparked the war with their October 7 attack on Israel.

"Without these funds, the Palestinian Authority struggles to pay the salaries of its civil servants and its running costs," said Taher al-Labadi, a researcher at the French Institute for the Near East.

In February, Norway reportedly transferred to the Palestinian Authority about \$115 million from Israel following a deal to release some of the frozen taxes.

Almost all Palestinian workers have also been forbidden from entering Israel for work, driving up unemployment across the territories.

QUOTE OF THE DAY
DO NOT JUDGE ME BY MY SUCCESS, JUDGE ME BY HOW MANY TIMES I FELL DOWN AND GOT BACK UP AGAIN.
NELSON MANDELA

TODAY IN HISTORY

1500

Pedro Álvares Cabral is the first European to discover Brazil, landing near Monte Pascoal, claims it for Portugal



1915

First military use of poison gas occurs when Germany uses chlorine gas against the Allies at Ypres in World War I

1993

Holocaust Memorial Museum dedicated in Washington, D.C.

1994

7,000 Tutsi slaughtered by Hutus in the stadium at Kibuye, Rwanda

News in brief

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi will travel to Islamabad today to meet his Pakistani counterpart Asif Ali Zardari, Pakistan's foreign minister said, as the two countries seek to mend ties following deadly cross-border attacks this year. Raisi will be accompanied by "a high-level delegation comprising the foreign minister... as well as a large business delegation," the foreign ministry said in a statement yesterday. Raisi will also visit Lahore and Karachi to meet provincial leaders, according to the statement. Pakistan is counting on a joint gas project with Iran to solve a long-running power crisis that has sapped its economic growth.



Iran president to visit Pakistan, boost ties: Islamabad

Ukraine said yesterday its navy had struck a salvage ship belonging to Russia's Black Sea fleet on the annexed Crimean peninsula, putting it out of service. It did not say where the attack took place, but social media footage purportedly filmed in the Crimean port of Sevastopol showed a ship in flames. "Today, the Ukrainian Navy hit the Russian salvage ship 'Kommuna' in temporarily occupied Crimea," Ukraine's defence ministry said. The Russian navy used the ship for deep-sea work, including raising submarines and sunken cargo, and was one of the oldest in service, Ukraine said. Ukrainian navy spokesman Dmytro Pletenchuk said the damage caused by the attack was unclear but that the ship was "no longer capable of performing its tasks".

Hundreds protested yesterday against the US troop presence in military-ruled Niger where a delegation from Washington is expected within days to arrange an orderly withdrawal. The United States had on Friday agreed to withdraw its more than 1,000 soldiers from the African nation where Washington built a \$100 million base to fly a fleet of drones. The demonstration in the northern desert town of Agadez, home to a US air base, was called by a group of 24 civil society associations that have backed the regime since last year's coup. "This is Agadez, not Washington. US army go home," read a big banner held up by protesters. Issouf Emoude, who fronts the M62 Movement in the town, told AFP: "Our message is clear: American soldiers pack your bags and go home". He had also organised demonstrations demanding the departure of French forces which pulled out last year. Niger has long been a linchpin in the US and French strategy to combat jihadists in West Africa.

Hundreds in Niger tell US troops to go home

Landslide win for pro-China leader's party in Maldives vote



Hundreds in Niger tell US troops to go home

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

1,300 people evacuated as NATO bomb removed from Serbian city



An unexploded bomb from the 1999 NATO bombing at a construction site in Nis, southern Serbia

Nis, Serbia

Experts yesterday removed a bomb left over in a southern Serbian city from the 1999 NATO bombing of the country, prompting the evacuation of more than a thousand residents, officials said.

The 1,000-kilo (2,200-pound) bomb was successfully removed from a construction site in the neighbourhood of Nis, an interior ministry official said.

"It is being transported to a safe location where it will be destroyed," official Luka Causic told reporters.

Before the removal of the bomb, 1,300 residents of the area where it was found were evacuated for their safety, he added.

Police, firefighters and medical teams were present to ensure it was transported safely.

The MK-84 bomb has an explosive charge of 430 kilograms, Causic said.

NATO's bombing of Serbia began on March 24, 1999, without the approval of the UN Security Council, and lasted 78 days.

It aimed to end Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic's bloody crackdown on ethnic Albanian separatists in Kosovo.

One of the bloodiest incidents during the campaign struck in Nis on May 7, 1999. More than a dozen people were killed when NATO planes dropped cluster bombs on a crowded central outdoor market. The incident was later described as a "blunder".

The city was bombed again on May 12 that year with cluster bombs, leading to the deaths of 11 civilians.

Gaza officials, Hamas say 50 bodies exhumed at hospital

Israel's military said it was checking the reports

AFP | Jerusalem, undefined

Gaza's civil defence said yesterday health workers had uncovered at least 50 bodies of people killed and buried by Israeli forces at a hospital in the southern city of Khan Yunis.

Israel's military said it was checking the reports. In a statement to AFP, the civil defence agency said the remains were discovered in the courtyard of Nasser Medical Complex.

"Inside the Nasser Medical complex there are mass graves dug by the Israeli occupation... we were shocked by the presence of bodies of 50 martyrs in one of the pits yesterday," Mahmud Bassal, spokesman for the civil defence agency, told AFP.

"We are continuing the search operation today and are waiting for all graves to be exhumed in order to give a final number of martyrs."

He alleged some of those killed had been tortured. "There were no clothes on



Palestinians react after the body of a relative was found buried by Israeli forces in Nasser hospital compound in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip

some bodies, which certainly indicates (the victims) faced torture and abuse," Bassal said.

Intense fighting raged in mid-February in the area of the hospital, and Israeli tanks and armoured vehicles surrounded it on March 26.

In a separate statement on Sunday, Hamas condemned what it said was a "mass grave of those executed in cold blood and buried with military bulldozers in the hospital's courtyard".

It said more than 50 bodies had been recovered there. Several of the bodies wrapped in white shrouds were later collected by relatives, said an AFP photographer who reported that civil defence workers were seen exhuming bodies from the courtyard on Sunday.

Hospitals in Gaza have not been spared in the Israeli assault, with the military accusing Hamas of using the facilities as command centres and to hold hostages abducted in the October 7 attack.

The World Health Organisation said on April 6 that the Palestinian territory's largest hospital, Al-Shifa in Gaza City, had been reduced to ashes by an Israeli siege last month, leaving an "empty shell" containing many bodies.

US hints at sanctioning Israeli unit over alleged abuses

AFP | Washington, United States

The United States appears close to sanctioning an Israeli military unit over alleged human rights violations in the West Bank, a move the Israeli prime minister angrily denounced as "the height of absurdity."

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken hinted at such steps when asked by a reporter in Italy about reports that his department had recommended cuts in military aid to an Israeli unit involved in violent incidents in the West Bank.

The allegations precede the deadly October 7 attacks by Hamas on southern Israel. Blinken, without providing details, said his department was conducting investigations under a law that prohibits sending military aid to foreign security units that violate human rights

with impunity. He then added: "I think it's fair to say that you'll see results very soon. I've made determinations; you can expect to see them in the days ahead."

In late 2022 the State Department directed embassy staff in Israel to investigate alleged abuses in the West Bank by the army's ultra-Orthodox Netzah Yehuda battalion.

That included a January 2022 incident which a 78-year-old Palestinian American died of a heart attack after being detained.

Although the allegations precede the Hamas attacks and Israel's retaliatory war in Gaza, the suggestion of any sanctions against Israeli forces drew an angry response from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"In recent weeks, I have been working against the imposition of sanctions on Israeli citizens, including in my conversations

with senior American government officials," he posted late Saturday on social media platform X.

The Axios website, citing three US sources with knowledge of the matter, reported Saturday that Blinken was expected to announce sanctions against the battalion "within days."

It said the sanctions would ban the unit from receiving any US military aid or training. An earlier report from ProPublica said a special State Department panel had recommended in December that Blinken disqualify several military and police units serving in the West Bank from receiving any US aid. The latest developments came even as the US House of Representatives on Saturday overwhelmingly approved a bill to provide \$26 billion in new emergency aid to Israel.

WHO staff who gained access to the devastated facility described horrifying scenes of bodies only partly buried, their limbs sticking out, and the stench of decomposition.

Israel is engaged in a sweeping military assault against Hamas in Gaza after they launched an attack on southern Israeli communities on October 7.

The unprecedented assault resulted in the deaths of 1,170 people, Israelis and foreigners, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures.

Some 250 people were abducted to Gaza during the attack, of whom 129 remain captive, including 34 the Israeli military says are dead.

BETTER YOU KNOW
Israel's retaliatory offensive has so far killed 34,097 people in Gaza, mostly women and children, according to the Hamas-run territory's health ministry.

Climate protesters wrap Swedish parliament in giant red scarf

AFP | Stockholm, Sweden

Several hundred women surrounded Sweden's parliament with a giant knitted red scarf on Sunday to protest political inaction over global warming, an AFP journalist observed.

Responding to a call from the Mothers Rebellion movement, the women marched around the Riksdag with the scarf made of 3,000 smaller scarves, urging politicians to honour a commitment to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (34.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels.

"I am here for my child Dinalo and for all the kids. I am angry and sad that politicians in Sweden are acting against the climate," Katarina Utne, 41, a mother of a four-year-old



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg (3rd L) and a group of fellow activists block the main entrances of the Swedish Parliament during a protest due to the lack of action from the Swedish authorities

and human resources coach, told AFP.

The women unfurled their scarves and marched for several hundred metres, singing and holding placards calling to "save the climate for the children's future".

UN pushes justice for Sri Lanka's Easter victims

AFP | Colombo, Sri Lanka

The United Nations on Sunday urged Sri Lanka to bridge its "accountability deficit" and ensure justice as the country commemorated the 279 victims of its worst-ever attack against civilians five years ago.

The UN's top envoy to the country, Marc-Andre Franche, told a remembrance service in Colombo that there should be a "thorough and transparent investigation" to uncover those behind the Easter carnage in 2019. Islamist bombers hit three churches and three hotels in the island's deadliest suicide attack aimed at civilians, but grieving families say they are still waiting for justice.

Among the dead were 45 foreigners, including tourists visiting the island a decade after the end

of a brutal ethnic conflict that had claimed more than 100,000 lives since 1972.

"Sri Lanka suffers from a continuing accountability deficit, be it for alleged war crimes, more recent human rights violations, corruption or abuse of power, which must be addressed if the country is to move forward," Franche said.

He noted that victims were still seeking justice despite the country's Supreme Court holding the then president Maithripala Sirisena and his top officials responsible for failing to prevent the attack.

"Delivering justice for victims of these attacks should be part of addressing the systemic challenge," Franche said. He said the UN Human Rights office has also called on Colombo to publish the complete findings of previous inquiries.

Sierra Leone authorities destroy \$200,000 worth of drugs

AFP | Freetown, Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone authorities on Saturday burned \$200,000 worth of narcotic drugs and chemicals used to manufacture the synthetic drug kush, two weeks after drug abuse was declared a national emergency.

Several law enforcement agencies were present at the Sierra Leone Police Training Academy in the capital, Freetown, as a small crowd gathered around the billowing fire and rising smoke.

Kush -- a mixture of chemical substances with similar effects to cannabis -- has been prevalent in the West African country for several years.

"We are destroying confiscated narcotics, tramadol and chemicals used for the manufacturing of kush... to avoid the likelihood of (them) going back to the community," said Mohamed Aliou, head of a police transnational organised crime unit, during a short ceremony to mark the burning of the drugs. They also burned cannabis and cocaine, according to the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency.



Members of the Sierra Leone National Drugs Enforcement Agency pile up narcotics kush, drugs and chemicals in Freetown

"Our country is in a state of drug confusion and we must eradicate it to protect the future generation," said Joseph Lahai, director of the police's crime services.

"We are waging a war against kush to save the youths of Sierra Leone from dying of drug addiction," said the agency's Executive Director Andrew Jaia KaiKai.

Landslides injure 6 as southern China braces for 'once a century' floods

AFP | Beijing, China

Landslides in southern China injured at least six people and trapped others, state media reported Sunday, as the region braced for severe floods "seen around once a century".

Torrential downpours across swathes of Guangdong province since Thursday have swollen rivers in the Pearl River Delta and triggered deluges in mountainous areas.

State broadcaster CCTV said Sunday that rains had sparked landslides affecting six villages in the northern Guangdong town of Jiangwan, "causing people to become trapped".

Photographs published by CCTV showed waterfront homes destroyed by a wall of brown mud, and people in fluorescent-coloured ponchos sheltering in a soaked public sports court.

No deaths were immediately reported and the total number of trapped people was not specified.

But CCTV said six people who were "trapped and injured" in the landslides had been airlifted to the nearby city of Shaoguan.

Emergency workers were racing to restore communications of the stricken area "as soon as possible", CCTV said.

It added that more than 80 rescuers were working "through the day and night" to assist people in the disaster zone. The Pearl River Delta is China's manufacturing heartland and one of the country's most densely populated regions.

LEGAL VIEWPOINT

Director's and officer's legal duty of loyalty & good faith

AWARSAMA@WARSAMALC.COM

DR. ABDELGADIR WARSAMA GHALIB



TOP 4 TWEETS 01



Plastics know no border. Every living being & every part of the planet are harmed by plastics & their production. To #BeatPlasticPollution, we need a strong #PlasticsTreaty that upholds human rights & addresses the full life cycle of plastics.

@antoniogeturres

02

I'm urging all governors to pardon prior state offenses of simple possession of marijuana. No one should be in a federal prison solely due to the possession of marijuana, and no one should be in a local jail or state prison for that reason, either.

@JoeBiden

03

Warm wishes to all civil servants on Civil Services Day. Their commitment and hard work in serving our nation are deeply appreciated. They play a pivotal role in furthering governance and public welfare. They are also at the forefront of implementing policies, overcoming

@narendramodi

04

We are continuing to work with our American partners at all levels to ensure that the Ukraine aid package is passed by the US Senate on time.

@ZelenskyyUA

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

Directors and officers must, all through, act in the best interests of the company. They breach their duty if they try to profit personally at the expense of the company. This is what is called "Self-Dealing" for self-gain. In such instances, directors and officers are not prohibited, in all cases, from entering into transactions with the company.

At one time, it was held that such deals were voidable by the company but today the majority of courts treat such deals "voidable" only if unfair to the company. However, before a director enters a contract with the company, he should make a full disclosure of his interest. This requires that the director or officer disclose all material facts of the transaction, including his interest in it.

After full disclosure, the disinterested members of the board or the shareholders themselves must approve the transaction. However, such approval does not automatically relieve the self-dealing director or officer from liability to the company. The initial burden of proving the fairness of the transaction lies with the self-dealing director or officer. After proper approval by the board of directors or shareholders, the burden of establishing unfairness merely shifts to the company.

Directors and officers may not usurp what is called "a corporate opportunity". Such usurpation occurs when a business opportunity comes to them in their official capacities and the opportunity is within the company's normal scope of business. There are three elements to be met before directors or officers may be found to have usurped a corporate opportunity. 1st, the opportunity must have come to them in their corporate capacity. 2nd, the opportunity must be related to the corporate business and lastly the corporation/company must have been able to take advantage of the opportunity.

Directors and officers may not usurp what is called "a corporate opportunity"

Even when these three requirements are met, the director may still avoid liability if he can show that the company waived its rights to the opportunity. Thus, if the director offered the opportunity with full disclosure of all material terms and a disinterested majority of the board rejected the transaction, the director may take it.

In instances, where shareholders complain that they have been unfairly treated by the directors, there are some suits from shareholders claiming a "freeze-out" by receiving cash rather than receiving stocks in the new company. Sometimes, the shareholders claim "oppression", this happens when some shareholders are not receiving dividends. Usually, minority shareholders win such suits only where the acts of directors have clearly been in bad faith or have clearly abused the discretion given the directors by the law.

Also, when directors and officers buy or sell the company's stock, they may be in violation of their fiduciary duties of "insider information". Any disclosure of the confidential information they have acquired through their position with the company might have a profound effect on the value of the company's securities. Yet current judicial trends point toward a greater duty to disclose all material information to the buyers and sellers of stock. As a result, the federal securities laws prohibit insiders, those with confidential material information concerning the company, from buying or selling its stock.

A director who assents to any of the actions of the board of directors may be held liable if the board has failed to abide by its duties to the company. Any director who attends a board meeting is held to have assented to the board's actions unless he specifically dissents. Legally, a director will not have dissented unless he refuses to vote for the proposed course of action and makes this dissent clear to the other board members by having it appear in the minutes or by giving a written notice of dissent to the chairman or secretary immediately following the meeting.

To sum up, all directors & officers in companies, are required to solely act for the interest of the company and to refrain from personal gains at the cost of the company. There are legal, ethical & professional boundaries to be fully observed and strictly followed. Please, be up to standard and give an excellent model for yourself and others.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

CELEBS

celebs

Taylor Swift is a fan of Emily Blunt and Ryan Gosling's All Too Well cover

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Taylor Swift has given Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt's cover of 'All Too Well' her seal of approval.

The 34-year-old singer was delighted to see the stars rework her 2012 track to say goodbye to their respective blockbuster movies 'Barbie' and 'Oppenheimer' on 'Saturday Night Live' over the weekend and she joked she may even "accidentally" sing their version herself on her upcoming 'Eras' gig.

She wrote on X, formerly Twitter: "All Too Well (Ryan and Emily's Version) !!! Watch me accidentally catch myself singing this version on tour. This monologue is EVERYTHING [heart hand and hand clapping emojis] (sic)"

The musical moment happened when guest host Ryan explained he had gone "too deep" with his 'Barbie' alter ego Ken so they "had to break up" and while he initially didn't want to discuss the subject, he ultimately felt the best idea was to sing about his feelings.



Emily Blunt and Ryan Gosling

He said: "I'm not gonna make any jokes about Ken because it's not funny. Ken and I, we had to break up. We went too deep, and it's over. So I'm not gonna talk about him,

"You know, when you play a character that hard, that long, just letting go feels like a breakup and for processing a breakup, there's really only one thing that can help: the music of

the great Taylor Swift."

Ryan then donned his character's sunglasses and white fur coat as he sat at a piano and began to sing: "I shredded Venice Beach is true / My clothes were tight / But something about that spandex felt so right / I left my rollerblades in that big pink house / But I still got that fur coat and I'll wear that right now."

"If I said that I was doing fine, you know I'd be lying / 'Cause I was just Ken and now I'm just Ryan."

The 43-year-old star's 'Fall Guy' co-star then appeared to tell Ryan to snap out of it.

She moaned: "We had a whole 'Fall Guy' monologue planned with a bunch of stunts, it was gonna be epic.

Emily told Ryan to move on, but he told her: "But Emily, you were in Oppenheimer last summer... don't you ever miss it?"

The British actress then joined in with her own 'Oppenheimer' - themed 'All Too Well' verse.

Taylor Swift

Chris Pratt injured shooting new movie

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

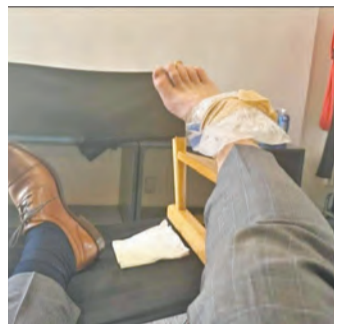
Chris Pratt has injured his ankle shooting his new movie.

The 44-year-old actor began filming 'Mercy' - in which he plays a detective out to prove his innocence after being accused of a violent crime - earlier this week but on Thursday (18.04.24), he was forced to rest after an attempt to do one of his own stunts went wrong.

Chris took to Instagram to share two photos, one of which showed him with his legs up on a chair and his right foot wrapped in ice, while the second showed his swollen ankle and a small cut.

He captioned the post: "Mercy filming day 4. I have such a great stunt team! AND I sometimes try to get in there and do some of my own stuff. Today, daddy caught a metal post to the ankle. Should be interesting moving forward."

The 'Guardians of the Galaxy' star - who has 11-year-old son Jack with first wife Anna Faris and daughters Lyla, three, and Eloise, 23 months, with spouse Katherine Schwarzenegger - previously spoke of how much he enjoys getting involved in action scenes because of his past as a "great football player", though for him, nothing compares to the buzz he got from being out on the field.



A photo shared by Chris Pratt of his injured ankle

The actor told Vanity Fair magazine: "I was a great football player. "I was a fullback and an inside linebacker. I never had the speed to play college. But I loved it. I don't think anything will ever take its place. The competition, the team.

Joey King: I've had to grow up a little bit faster

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Joey King feels she had to "grow up a little bit faster".

The 24-year-old actress first found fame as a child, starring in her first commercial at the age of four, and Joey now believes that she's been forced to mature at an accelerated speed.

During an appearance on the 'Armchair Expert' podcast, Joey explained: "I've been in a world in which I've been exposed to adulthood. I had a mortgage by the time I was 14.

"Responsibility makes you grow up a little bit faster."

Joey didn't actually have any pushback "at all" from family and friends over her decision to marry Steven Piet.

The actress - who tied the knot in 2023 - said: "My family and everyone in my life, they adore Steven. He's the easiest person to love. They were so stoked."

But Joey feels she's in a no-win situation with some of her critics.

She shared: "It's either, 'You're too young,' 'You're too old,' 'How long have you been dating each other?' or, 'You don't know each other that well,' 'You've been together too long - where's the ring?'"

Joey hasn't enjoyed hearing some of the life advice that's come her way over recent months.

The 'Kissing Booth' star said: "People love to give you unsolicited advice about marriage. The minute we got married, people were like, 'Oh, buckle up. Marriage is hard.' And we're sitting here like, 'Wonderful. Thank you for telling us newlyweds that. We love to hear it.'"

Joey also observed that some of her family members have tied the knot at an even younger age.



Jessica Chastain's movie character inspired baby names

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Jessica Chastain's 'Interstellar' character has inspired lots of baby names.

The 47-year-old actress played Murphy 'Murph' Cooper in the Christopher Nolan-directed sci-fi movie, and Jessica has met lots of parents who have named their children after the fictional character.

The Hollywood star told PEOPLE: "I've had a lot of people just yell, 'Murph' at me. 'Murph'. I get a lot of that, and I'm like, 'Yes, physics.'"

Jessica explained that she's met many parents who have taken inspiration from the movie.

Jessica Chastain

The actress said: "[There have] been a lot of couples who have told me they've named their children, their daughters Murph after 'Interstellar'. So I was like, 'Well, maybe this means it'll be a boon to science.'"

Jessica also hopes that her daughter, Guiletta, will develop a love of science one day.

The movie star - who welcomed Guiletta via a surrogate in 2018 - said: "I mean, that's all I'm wanting. I mean, a physicist, a theoretical physicist. My daughter, yes. Let's go!"

"I wish when I was young I could see how glamorous science could be."

I'm more confident than ever, says Jessica Simpson

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Jessica Simpson felt more confident after having children.

The 43-year-old star - who has Maxwell, 12, Ace, 11, and Birdie, six, with Eric Johnson - has revealed that she now feels more confident than she did in her 20s.

Jessica told PEOPLE: "It wasn't until I became a mother that I learned to celebrate what a woman's body can do.

"I am more confident now after three kids than I was at 25!"

The blonde beauty launched The Jessica Simpson Collection in 2005, and she's taken inspiration from various places - including from her own kids - for her own fashion line over the years.

It's either, 'You're too young,' 'You're too old,' 'How long have you been dating each other?' or, 'You don't know each other that well,' 'You've been together too long - where's the ring?'

JOEY KING

SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

How to play

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

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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Across

1- Vipers; 5- Swerves; 10- Receptacle for holy water; 14- Festive; 15- Tree-lined walk; 16- Butter substitute; 17- Without a job; 19- Baltic feeder; 20- Wide open; 21- Portable lamp; 23- Fond du lac; 25- Wisconsin; 25- Home and Olin; 26- Fencing sword; 29- Ardent; 31- Male deer; 35- Precious stone; 36- Fail to mention; 37- Polar cover; 38- Fugitive; 40- Power plug transformer; 41- Sound system; 42- Large jug or pitcher; 43- Cheer for Manolete; 44- It's human; 45- Boxer Oscar; 46- Hoya; 46- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland; 47- Stand used by painters; 49- Pasture; 51- Locks; 54- Sailing; 58- Mickey's creator; 59- Suppression of information; 63- To (perfectly); 64- Tendency; 65- Actress Skye; 66- Highly ranked competitor in sporting events; 67- Rose; 68- Denials;

Down

1- Water; Sp.; 2- Squealed; 3- "Not guilty," e.g.; 4- Specimen; 5- Kilmer of "The Saint"; 6- "Hold On Tight" band; 7- Tarzan portrayer Ron; 8- Staggered; 9- Family car; 10- The sound of somebody walking; 11- Like some shoppes; 12- At no time, poetically; 13- Ripped; 18- Pod occupant; 22- Winston Cup org.; 24- Brief appearance; 25- Ignited; 26- Discharge; 27- Green pasta sauce; 28- Toastmaster; 30- Compete; 32- Thesplan; 33- Some Celts; 34- Binge; 36- Musical dramas; 37- Perfect, something to aspire to; 39- Apprehended; 40- Hole-boring tool; 42- Lamprey; 45- Barren place; 46- Dines at home; 48- Religious offshoots; 50- Musical gift; 51- "The night before Christmas..."; 52- Appraise, charge per unit; 53- Waiting for the Robert...; 55- Drive away; 56- Mozart's "Kleine Nachtmusik"; 57- Mimics; 60- Opposite of paleo; 61- "Cat; 62- Eccentric;

Yesterday's solution

O	R	T	S	S	S	A	R	A	N
P	E	R	E	I	N	A	L	A	N
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N	I	P	S	A	T	E	L	S	L
T	O	T	S	L	E	E	R	L	A
P	A	R	A	L	L	E	L	E	S
I	L	A	V	E	L	I	S	E	D
L	A	C	R	E	N	T	A	E	T
E	M	E	R	Y	S	E	E	P	I
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Classifieds



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email : advt@newsfbahrain.com

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Messi double keeps Miami on top in MLS

AFP | Miami

Lionel Messi scored twice and created another for Sergio Busquets as Inter Miami beat Nashville 3-1 on Saturday to maintain top spot in Major League Soccer's Eastern Conference.

Miami suffered an early setback when their defender Franco Negri deflected a corner from Daniel Lovitz into his own net in just the second minute of the game at Chase Stadium.

Gerardo Martino's team have now failed to keep a clean sheet in each of their last 11 games and it could have been worse when three minutes later Josh Bauer blasted a shot against the bar.

But Messi soon had Miami on level terms -- the Argentine set free by a clever flick from Diego Gomez saw a shot parried out by Nashville keeper Elliot Panico, but after Luis Suarez directed the loose ball back to him Messi slotted home to make it 1-1 in the 11th minute.

Two minutes later, Messi took advantage of some sloppy play from Nashville but his low right-foot shot came out off the post.

Everything Miami was creating was coming through Messi, who flashed a snapshot wide before moments later whipping in a cross for a Gomez header which was saved by Panico's feet.

Six minutes before the interval, Messi's former Barcelona team-mate Busquets found the net for the first time in MLS, meeting the World Cup winner's corner with a fine glancing header at the near post.

But there was a blow for the



Inter Miami's Argentine forward #10 Lionel Messi (C) fights for the ball with Nashville's midfielder #54 Sean Davis (2nd L)

“Regardless of how fortunate their goal was, we didn't start well in the first few minutes. They were more focused, more intense, they handled the ball better, they pressed

GERARDO MARTINO

home side just before the break when Paraguay international Gomez was stretched off with an ankle injury, the latest in a series of injuries for Miami.

His replacement, Brazilian born youngster Leonardo Afonso, had the ball in the net but his effort was ruled out for offside.

Nashville came out strongly after the break but despite dominating possession for the opening 20 minutes of the half, they had little to show for their efforts other than a

couple of off-target long-range efforts from German Hany Mukhtar.

Nine minutes from the end, Miami were able to put the game to bed when Afonso was ruled to have been brought down inside the box by Bauer and Messi slotted home the penalty.

The goal was Messi's ninth goal in as many games in all competitions this season for Miami.

Martino was unhappy with the way his team had started so slowly.

“Regardless of how fortunate their goal was, we didn't start well in the first few minutes. They were more focused, more intense, they handled the ball better, they pressed,” he said.

“There are a lot of things we need to correct, but I'd like to do it with the full squad. We have seven or eight players out which is a lot in a league as strict as MLS with the roster and budget issues,” he said.

Thrilling encounters mark day 5 of Ritz-Carlton Bahrain Inter-Hotel Charity Cricket Tournament

TDI | Manama

The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain Inter-Hotel Charity Cricket Tournament continued its exciting journey on Day 5, with five captivating matches played on April 20.

The day witnessed nail-biting finishes, brilliant individual performances, and closely contested encounters.

In the first match, Marriott Executive Apartments & Residence Inn secured a hard-fought five-wicket victory over Intercontinental Regency. Kalaivasan Selvaraj from Marriott & Residence Inn was adjudged the Man of the Match for his outstanding all-round display.

The second encounter saw Lagoona Beach Resort A dominate Wyndham Grand, registering a comprehensive 53-run win. Mohammed Younis of Lagoona Beach Resort was awarded the Man of the Match for his match-winning contribution.

The third match was a thrilling affair, with Address Beach Resort edging out Lagoona Resort B by a narrow margin of two runs. Amir Khan from Address Beach Resort was named the Man of the Match for his crucial role in his team's victory.

In the fourth match, Downtown Rotana emerged victorious against Swiss Belhotel Seef, securing a 53-run win. Zeeshan Arif of Downtown Rotana was adjudged the Man of the Match for his exceptional performance.

The final match of the day witnessed Domain Bahrain outclassing Westin Bahrain by



Kalaivasan Selvaraj (Marriott & Residence Inn) receive "Man of the Match" certificate from Sameer Mohamed Kunju (Front Office Manager, Marriott Executive Apartments)



Mohammed Younis (Lagoona Beach Resort) receiving "Man of the Match" certificate from Awais Rafiq (Financial Controller, The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain)

48 runs. Sanoop Mohan from performer and claimed the Man of the Match award.

Kolkata beat Bengaluru by one run in IPL as Kohli fumes at dismissal

Kolkata Knight Riders clinches victory by one run despite late heroics from Royal Challengers Bengaluru batsmen

● **KKR posts a formidable total of 222-6 after being put into bat**

● **Drama unfolds as Virat Kohli disputes his dismissal over a full-toss**

AFP | Kolkata

Kolkata Knight Riders survived a late charge by Royal Challengers Bengaluru batsmen to win by one run in an IPL thriller after Virat Kohli's angry outburst at his dismissal yesterday.

Bengaluru conceded 222-6 after electing to field first at Kolkata's Eden Gardens with Phil Salt smashing 48 off 14 balls and skipper Shreyas Iyer hitting 50.

Needing 21 to win in the final over by Mitchell Starc, Bengaluru's number 10 Karn Sharma hit



Mohammed Siraj reacts after his dismissal as KKR players celebrate

the Australian left-arm quick for three sixes before being caught and bowled.

Wicketkeeper Salt then ran out Lockie Ferguson on the last ball despite a wide throw by the fielder as Bengaluru were bowled out for 221.

Bengaluru slipped early in

their chase when Kohli, who made a seven-ball 18, fell caught and bowled off Harshit Rana.

But the former India captain looked confident the high full-toss was above his waist as the umpires checked for a no-ball.

TV umpire Michael Gough declared it out after technology

Scorecard

Kolkata Knight Riders 222 for 6 (Shreyas 50, Salt 48, Green 2-35) **beat Royal Challengers Bengaluru 221** (Jacks 55, Patidar 52, Russell 3-25) by one run

suggested the trajectory of the ball dipped below the waist of the batsman, who returned furious after exchanging words with the on-field officials.

"It was crazy. Rules are rules, Virat and myself in that space thought the ball was higher than his waist," skipper Faf du Plessis, who was with Kohli at the other end when the drama unfolded, said.

"You always find one team happy and the other not so with such decisions."

The drama did not help Bengaluru in their chase as the bottom-placed side in the 10-team table slumped to their seventh

It was crazy. Rules are rules, Virat and myself in that space thought the ball was higher than his waist. You always find one team happy and the other not so with such decisions

FAF DU PLESSIS

loss in eight matches.

Earlier Kolkata started strongly with Salt's explosive knock as the England wicketkeeper-batsman smashed seven fours and three sixes.

Fast bowlers Yash Dayal and Cameron Green took two wickets each to dent Kolkata's top and middle-order but Iyer kept calm to raise his fifty in 35 balls. He fell after a 40-run stand with

Rinku Singh, who hit 24.

Andre Russell, who made 27 off 10 balls and Ramandeep Singh, who hit 24 off nine, finished with a flourish in an unbeaten stand of 43.

Russell then turned up with his pace bowling as he took three wickets and fellow West Indian Sunil Narine took two to dent the chase.

England batsman Will Jacks, who made 55, and Rajat Patidar, who hit 52, attempted to set up the chase in a 102-run third-wicket stand, which was broken by Russell.

Russell took down both the batsmen in one over and mystery spinner Narine came up with another double blow in one over including Green and Mahipal Lomror.

Dinesh Karthik with his 18-ball 25 and Sharma with 20 off seven balls tried their best to chase down the target but Kolkata held their nerve.

Liverpool bounce back to keep title bid alive

AFP | London

Liverpool got back on track after their week from hell as a 3-1 win at Fulham keep their Premier League title bid alive, while Nottingham Forest launched an astonishing rant at the officiating in their 2-0 defeat against Everton yesterday.

Jürgen Klopp's side crashed out of the Europa League quarter-finals against Atalanta on Thursday after suffering a damaging Premier League defeat at home to Crystal Palace last weekend.

The Reds' hopes of giving Klopp a glorious farewell were dwindling but they climbed back into the title race with much-needed first win in three league games.

Liverpool are now in second place, behind leaders Arsenal on goal difference and one point ahead of third placed Manchester City, who have a game in hand on their two title rivals.

Next for Liverpool is the Merseyside derby at Everton on



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah (R) vies with Fulham's Antonee Robinson (C)

Wednesday, while Arsenal host Chelsea on Tuesday and City travel to Brighton on Thursday.

Klopp responded to signs of fatigue from his team in recent weeks by dropping Mohamed Salah to the bench among five changes.

And Liverpool took the hint with a more cohesive display by the banks of the River Thames in west London.

Trent Alexander-Arnold put Liverpool ahead in the 32nd minute with a superb free-kick that flashed into the top corner.

Fulham defender Timothy Castagne levelled from close-range after Liverpool failed to clear in first half stoppage-time.

Ryan Gravenberch restored Liverpool's advantage in the 53rd minute with a swerving blast from the edge of the area

for his first Premier League goal.

Diogo Jota wrapped up the points in the 72nd minute, drilling a clinical low finish into the far corner.

Everton took a giant stride towards extending their 70-year stay in the English top-flight in a highly controversial victory over Forest.

Idrissa Gueye and Dwight McNeil scored the goals that took the Toffees five points clear of the relegation zone. Forest remain just one point above the bottom three and were left dismayed at being denied three strong penalty appeals.

The club's official account on social media platform X called into question the Premier League's integrity by claiming the VAR official is a fan of relegation rivals Luton.

"We warned the PGMOL (referees' governing body) that the VAR is a Luton fan before the game but they didn't change him," Forest said in a statement said.

Chapman-inspired New Zealand shock Pakistan in third T20I



New Zealand's Mark Chapman (L) celebrates a boundary with Dean Foxcroft

AFP | Rawalpindi

Mark Chapman hit a robust half century to help an under-strength New Zealand to a shock seven-wicket victory over Pakistan in the third Twenty20 international in Rawalpindi yesterday.

The 29-year-old left hander smashed a 42-ball 87 to anchor New Zealand's chase of 179-run target in 18.2 overs against the much vaunted Pakistan bowling attack, silencing a packed 16,000 holiday crowd.

Shadab Khan (41) and Babar Azam (37) were the main contributors in Pakistan's 178-4 after the hosts were sent in to bat by New Zealand.

Tim Robinson hit 28 off 19 balls and Tim Seifert 21 off 16 to set the tone for New Zealand's chase.

New Zealand were strongly-placed at 53-2 in the sixth over before Chapman and Dean Foxcroft (31) took over, adding a solid 117-run in a third wicket partnership to square the five-match series at 1-1.

Pakistan won the second game by seven wickets while the first match was washed out after just two balls — both

were also in Rawalpindi.

Chapman, whose only T20I hundred came at the same venue last year, clobbered four sixes and nine fours in his eighth half century in the format. He was ably supported by Foxcroft.

Pakistan skipper Azam brought spearhead Shaheen Shah Afridi on in the 15th over with 61 to defend, but Chapman cracked two fours. He then smashed two sixes and two more fours off Naseem Shah's next over to bring the target down to 21 of 24 balls.

Fast bowler Abbas Afridi, 2-27, dismissed Foxcroft, but by then New Zealand were just nine away from victory. Chapman and Jimmy Neesham (six not out) reached the target with ten balls to spare.

Earlier Shadab hit two sixes and four fours while Azam hit four fours and a six.

Opener Saim Ayub scored a 22-ball 32 and Muhammad Irfan Khan chipped in with a 20-ball 30 not out as Pakistan added 54 in the last five overs.

Gujarat's all-round performance guide them to 3-wicket win over Punjab

ANI | Mullanpur

Gujarat Titans (GT) all-round performance guided them to a three-wicket victory over Punjab Kings (PBKS) in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh International Cricket Stadium in Mullanpur, Chandigarh yesterday.

Chasing a mere total of 143 runs, GT openers Shubman Gill and Wriddhiman Saha started off the innings positively. Saha and Gill put 25 runs to the board when the former was dismissed after scoring just 13 runs.

After Saha's dismissal, Sai Sudarshan came out to bat along with Gill. Both batters put on a partnership of 41 runs before



Rahul Tewatia of Gujarat Titans plays a shot

Gill was dismissed in the 10th over after scoring 35 runs in 29 balls with the help of five boundaries when the team score was 66.

After Gill's dismissal, David Miller came out to bat in the middle along with Sudarshan. Miller was dismissed after scoring just four runs when the team

Scorecard

Gujarat Titans 146 for 7 (Tewatia 36*, Gill 35, Harshal 3-15) **beat Punjab Kings 142** (Prabhsimran 35, Brar 29, Sai Kishore 4-33) by three wickets

score was 77 and then the side lost the wicket of Sudarshan at the score of 97 after scoring 31 runs with the help of three boundaries.

After the four wickets, Azmatullah Omarzai and Rahul Tewatia were on the crease. Omarzai was dismissed in the 16th over when the team score was 103. The Afghanistan all-rounder was able to score just 13 runs before going back.

Verstappen wins Chinese Grand Prix to increase title grip

Red Bull driver extends championship lead with Shanghai masterclass

● Norris claims second place

● Perez finishes third after safety car setbacks

● Leclerc and Sainz disappoint in fourth and fifth

AFP | Shanghai

Max Verstappen rounded off a dominant weekend with victory in the first Chinese Grand Prix for five years yesterday to extend his world championship lead, a day after romping to sprint victory. The three-time world champion was again in a league of his own as Formula One returned to the Shanghai International Circuit for the first time since 2019. He finished 13.7 seconds ahead of Lando Norris with Red Bull teammate Sergio Perez third, a

China's first Formula One driver, Zhou Guanyu, made his home grand prix debut, drawing immense support from the crowd and exiting the cockpit in tears to an ovation

further six seconds back. It looked odds-on that Red Bull would repeat their one-two in Japan a fortnight ago until two safety cars in quick succession mid-race.

After multiple pit stops Perez emerged behind McLaren's Norris and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc.

Verstappen was only denied a maximum 34 points for the weekend when Fernando Alonso pipped him to the fastest lap after a late tyre change.

It was another masterful display from Verstappen, who was winning his fourth grand prix out of five in 2024 and the



Max Verstappen celebrates after winning

58th of his career as he marches towards a fourth consecutive world title.

'It felt amazing'

"It felt amazing. The whole weekend we were incredibly quick," said Verstappen.

"We survived the restarts well and the car was basically on rails and I could do whatever I wanted with it."

He increased his lead over Perez at the top of the world championship to 25 points, with Red Bull now 44 points clear of Ferrari in the constructors' fight.

"Those kind of weekends are amazing to feel and to achieve what we did this weekend is fantastic," added Verstappen, who won for the first time in China.

Norris was delighted to finish second, his best result in 2024,

It felt amazing. The whole weekend we were incredibly quick. We survived the restarts well and the car was basically on rails and I could do whatever I wanted with it

MAX VERSTAPPEN

having started from fourth on the grid.

"Things came alive today. I don't know why, it was not the race I was expecting, but just got comfortable," said the Englishman.

The consistent Perez finished on the podium for the fourth time in five rounds this season but said the safety car denied him a place.

"It really cost us quite a bit. Fighting like that, the life of the tyre goes off dramatically," said Perez.

"But at least we got onto the

podium. But it would have been good to be one and two. We were definitely lacking some pace."

The Ferrari pair of Leclerc and Carlos Sainz were only fourth and fifth after a disappointing weekend where they had hoped to be closer to Red Bull.

"I think it was the best we could have done," said Leclerc, who started from sixth on the grid.

Sainz, the only driver other than Verstappen to win a race this season, said: "It was a tough race, we had an issue at the start going wide. Then we had to stop very early and I had to nurse the tyres home."

George Russell came sixth for Mercedes with Alonso finishing seventh after a spectacular late charge through the field from 12th after a final tyre stop 13 laps from the end.

"It was important to score some points and a bonus to get the fastest lap too," said Alonso. "We didn't have any more hard tyres available, so that's why we made a switch to the soft."

Ruud defeats Tsitsipas to win 'biggest title' in Barcelona

AFP | Barcelona

World number six Casper Ruud defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas 7-5, 6-3 to win the Barcelona Open yesterday, the biggest title of his career.

The Norwegian earned revenge after his defeat by the Greek world number seven in the Monte Carlo Masters final last weekend.

Ruud, a three-time Grand Slam runner-up, had won 10 titles at 250 level with the 500-ranked clay-court event in Barcelona his 11th career triumph.



Casper Ruud celebrates his win

"For me it means a lot, this is my biggest title that I ever won in my career, it's some-

thing I've chased for a long time already," Ruud told Teledeporte.

"I've never won a 500 before or a 1000, I've been to a few finals but always came up a little bit short.

"I didn't start great during the match but luckily I was able to come back in and play really well in the end of the first and the second set."

The 25-year-old leads the tour with 29 wins this year but had lost in three finals before wrapping up his first title of 2024 when Tsitsipas, who lacked his usual spark, went long.

Rybakina beats Kostyuk to win Stuttgart Open



Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina holds her trophy as she jumps in front of her prize, a Porsche Taycan 4S Sport Turismo car

AFP | Stuttgart

Kazakh fourth seed Elena Rybakina defeated Ukrainian Marta Kostyuk in straight sets to win the WTA event in Stuttgart yesterday.

2022 Wimbledon champion Rybakina beat Kostyuk 6-2, 6-2 in one hour nine minutes, ending the 21-year-old Ukrainian's giant-killing run at the tournament.

The world number four broke Kostyuk twice in the first set and twice in the second, fighting off three break points from the world number 27 to lift her eighth career title.

Rybakina now holds a 2-1 record against Kostyuk.

"I want to congratulate Marta for a great tournament. You're playing really well and hopefully we play many more

finals," Rybakina said.

"The crowd, guys, it was an unbelievable week. It was nice to play every match here and fight. Your energy gives a lot during these tough matches."

The title is her third of 2024, having already won in Brisbane and Abu Dhabi and it is the first time she has won three WTA titles in one year.

Yesterday's victory was also the 24-year-old's third title win on clay in her career.

Rybakina needed to overcome world number one Iga Swiatek in Saturday's semi-final.

Rybakina took three hours to overcome the four-time grand slam winner and shattering her 10-match winning streak at the tournament, which included capturing the last two titles.

Man Utd edge Coventry on penalties to set up Man City FA Cup final

AFP | London

Manchester United survived an astonishing collapse to beat Coventry on penalties in an FA Cup classic yesterday, setting up a second straight final against Manchester City.

Erik ten Hag's men won the shootout at Wembley 4-2, with Rasmus Hojlund scoring the decisive spot kick after the teams were level at 3-3 after extra-time.

The game perfectly encapsulated a chaotic season for Ten Hag's men, who are well off the pace in the Premier League.

There was no hint of what was to come when United coasted into a 3-0 lead against their second-tier opponents in the London sunshine, with goals from Scott McTominay, Harry Maguire and Bruno Fernandes.

But they have made a habit of tossing away leads in recent weeks and the match against Coventry proved no different.

Second-half strikes from Ellis



Manchester United forward Rasmus Hojlund scores the winning penalty

Simms and Callum O'Hare gave the 1987 FA Cup winners hope and Haji Wright levelled from the penalty spot in the 95th minute, capping a scarcely credible comeback.

Coventry fans taunted Ten Hag with chants of "you're getting sacked in the morning" as belief infused the massed ranks of supporters clad in blue.

A gripping period of extra

time followed, with both teams hitting the woodwork, before United held their nerve to win the shootout.

"We put ourselves in a difficult position and should have killed it earlier but we didn't," said United captain Fernandes. "We have to do so much better."

Robins factor

Coventry manager Mark Rob-

ins famously played a key part in United's FA Cup final win in 1990, a victory that launched two decades of success under Alex Ferguson.

But his team's push to reach the Championship play-offs has faded in recent weeks and they travelled to Wembley as underdogs despite United's stuttering season.

United, 12-time winners of the competition, settled early and took the lead in the 23rd minute after a fine move down the right.

Alejandro Garnacho fed the overlapping Diogo Dalot, whose cross went under the hands of the diving Bradley Collins and was tapped in by McTominay from close range.

Marcus Rashford forced a fine save from Collins late in the first half but United doubled their lead from the resulting corner, with Maguire heading home from Fernandes's cross.