

Disney admits Dark Side for 'Star Wars'

After the lackluster performance of the latest installment in the wildly popular "Star Wars" saga, Disney is tapping the brakes on the franchise -- an acknowledgment that there can be too much of a good thing.

P13

China, Russia warn US it is 'playing' with fire

THE DAILY tribune



Rohit, Jadeja star as India thrash B'desh

More than 126 die in Victoria ferry disaster

Respect UK in Brexit talks, May tells EU

London

UK Prime Minister Theresa May yesterday said the EU must treat the UK with more "respect" in Brexit negotiations.

In a statement at Downing Street she said for EU leaders to reject her plan with no alternative at this "late stage of negotiations" was "not acceptable".

She said talks had reached an "impasse" and could only be unblocked with "serious engagement" from the EU side.

Foreign minister heads to New York for UNGA 73

Manama

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa has affirmed the keenness of the Kingdom to actively participate in the meetings of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA 73).

This came as he headed to New York, accompanied by senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and state institutions, to participate in UNGA 73, to be held under the theme of "Making the United Nations relevant to all people: global leadership and shared responsibilities for peaceful,



Shaikh Khalid

equitable and sustainable societies".

The kingdom's participation is in line with its established policy of openness and cooperation with the world and the United Nations and in support of the international efforts seeking a more stable and prosperous world at all security, political and economic levels.

The UNGA 73 will address the most important issues and developments on the international arena and their repercussions and effects on all countries of the world.

Elaborating on UNGA 73, the minister said the meetings constitute an important opportunity to discuss means of intensifying international

cooperation and seeking sustainable solutions to the crises and problems facing the international community.

The meetings will also look into ways of formulating viable solutions to support the efforts of sustainable development and the establishment of international peace and security in response to peoples' expectations, he added.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs will deliver the speech of the Kingdom of Bahrain before UNGA 73 and hold meetings with several officials from brotherly and friendly countries as well as senior UN officials.

Palestinian killed by Israeli fire

Gaza City

A Palestinian was killed by Israeli fire in new clashes along the Gaza border yesterday, the health ministry in the Hamas-controlled territory said.

A spokesman for the ministry told AFP the man, whose identity was not yet known, was killed during protests east of Gaza City.

More than 100 other people were wounded, the spokesman said.

Palestinians have been demonstrating along the border for months now.

An act of aggression

Mirage, F-4 and Sukhoi-22 jets took part in a joint aerial military drill carried out by Iran

● Washington maintains a fleet in the Gulf that protects oil shipping routes.

● Iran attracted widespread international ridicule in August when it unveiled what it said was its first domestically designed and manufactured fighter jet.

Geneva

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards and army carried out a joint aerial military drill in the Gulf yesterday in what official media said indicated the "pounding reply" that awaited the country's enemies.

Tehran has suggested in recent weeks that it could take military action in the Gulf to block other countries' oil exports in retaliation for US sanc-



Russian-made MiG-29 fighter jets of the Iranian army fly past during a military parade to commemorate army day in Tehran.

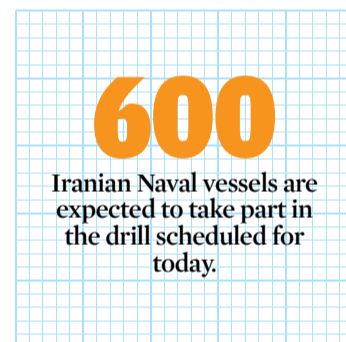
tions intended to halt its sales of crude.

Washington maintains a fleet in the Gulf that protects oil shipping routes.

"In addition to a show of strength, this ceremony is a message of peace and friendship for

friendly and neighboring countries," Colonel Yousef Safipour, the deputy commander of the army for public relations said, according to the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA).

"And if the enemies and arrogant powers have an eye on



the borders and land of Islamic Iran they will receive a pounding reply in the fraction of a second."

Mirage, F-4 and Sukhoi-22 jets took part in the exercise on Friday, according to IRNA.

The Islamic Republic has a large naval military drill, including approximately 600 naval vessels, planned on Saturday, IRNA reported.

Separately, a prominent Iranian cleric said yesterday that the time had come for Israel to say goodbye. He did not give any further information on what that could mean.

"Mr Netanyahu, you and your

intelligence services know well that the time to say goodbye has arrived and what position of strength the resistance of Hezbollah and the people of Gaza are in," Hassan Abu-Torabi Fard, the temporary Friday prayers leader in Tehran, said, according to Fars News.

However, experts were quick to cast doubt on whether Iran's air power presented any genuine threat.

"This is the second exercise involving the Iranian army and the IRGC regarding scenarios for the Strait of Hormuz," Dr Theodore Karasik, senior adviser with Gulf State Analytics in Washington and a leading security analyst, was quoted by Arab News.

Iran attracted widespread international ridicule in August when it unveiled what it said was its first domestically designed and manufactured fighter jet. The Kowsar was said to be a "fourth-generation" warplane with advanced avionics, radar and fire-control systems, to be used for short aerial support.

HISTORIC MILESTONE

First Saudi woman presents main news bulletin on Saudia TV

Jeddah

Weam Al Dakheel has become the first woman to anchor the main evening news bulletin on Saudi Arabia's main national TV station, media reported.

Al Dakheel presented the news alongside Omar Al Nashwan on Thursday on Saudia TV channel.

Saudis took to Twitter to celebrate her achievement and the new milestone for Saudi women.

Writer Rayan Al Jidani said: "Her performance was distinctive in terms of concentration, presence and clear articulation. I wish her more success in her career in media with the national channel @saudiatv."



Al Dakheel presents the news alongside Omar Al Nashwan on Thursday on Saudia TV channel.

Television broadcaster Wael Rafeeq this great development and quantum leap that the national television is un-

dergoing." "It is beautiful to see our national channel in this honorable image. I hope this level of dedication at work is maintained, and developments continue being executed," Twitter user @abukhaled2030 said.

Al Dakheel previously worked for CNBC Arabia and was an intern at Dar Al Hayat Newspaper.

Women have presented the news on other Saudi channels like Al Ekhbariya for several years.

Their increasing profile in Saudi Arabia's media comes amid the sweeping social reforms brought in by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, including the lifting of the ban on women drivers.



Throughout this process, I have treated the EU with nothing but respect.

MAY

European Council President Donald Tusk said a "compromise" was possible but the UK proposals had to be "reworked".

The two sides are trying to reach a deal by November so it can be ratified in time.

They want to avoid a hard border - physical infrastructure like cameras or guard posts - between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic but cannot agree on how.

Ms May says her plan for the UK and EU to share a "common rulebook" for goods, but not services, is the only credible way to avoid a hard border.



03 Four charged after man dies of heroin overdose

04 Cancer warning call over use of hair straightening products

05 Asian housemaid 'sold to prostitution ring for BD400'



Bahrain, a land of peace

Shura hails His Majesty's initiatives including the setting up of King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Co-existence

● The council emphasised that Bahrain boasts multiple national legislation and laws that affirm respect for human rights, emanating from the National Action Charter and the Constitution.

● The council affirmed that HM the King's Reform Project consolidated Bahrain's deep-rooted fundamentals as the best means to achieve development and prosperity.



Manama

The Shura Council has expressed its deep pride in the landmark achievements attained by the Kingdom in the fields of peace, co-existence and rapprochement among various religions and sects thanks to the sound visions and multiple initiatives launched by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

In a statement marking the International Day of Peace 2018, observed under the theme "The Right to Peace - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70", the Shura Council stressed that HM the King's wise visions and initiatives have entitled Bahrain to be the kingdom of peace and security, as well as a pioneering country in embodying the human values and the lofty principles of peaceful co-existence.

The council, in its statement, also lauded the plans and programmes implemented by the government, under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, for the aim of enhancing the kingdom's regional and international status in the fields of peace, co-existence and cooperation, and affirming its support for all efforts to promote peace and provide security for all peoples of the

world.

The council also hailed the initiatives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, in this regard.

"The Kingdom has been and will remain an oasis of peace, and recognises that peace is an essential pre-requisite for growth, progress and renaissance, and the compass towards the ad-

vancement of societies and countries," the council said.

It affirmed that HM the King's Reform Project consolidated Bahrain's deep-rooted fundamentals as the best means to achieve development and prosperity, based on the values of peaceful coexistence and rapprochement among different religions and sects.

The Shura Council stressed that HM the King's initiative to establish the "King Hamad Glob-

al Centre for Peaceful Co-existence" is a milestone, and a sound move that reflects the King's great interest in promoting the openness, co-existence and acceptance of the other, which are basic for reaching peace, and achieving sustainable development, noting that the Centre has become a source of pride of Bahrain, given its pivotal role in spreading the values and principles of peace worldwide.

The council emphasised that Bahrain boasts multiple national legislation and laws that affirm respect for human rights, emanating from the National Action Charter and the Constitution, and based on the principles of justice and equality, highlighting the kingdom's keenness to join human rights-related international conventions and agreements, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Shura Council stressed that the Kingdom, under the leadership of HM King Hamad is resolved to achieve sustainable development, optimise its national achievements and gains and re-affirm its keenness to assume its responsibilities towards the International Community in supporting the efforts to achieve peace, provide security and stability and carry on development and progress.



The Kingdom has been and will remain an oasis of peace, and recognises that peace is an essential pre-requisite for growth, progress and renaissance, and the compass towards the advancement of societies and countries.

SHURA COUNCIL

Gender balance culture 'key for development'

Moscow

The Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW), Hala Al Ansari, has highlighted the importance of exerting more international efforts to ensure that the development plans provide equal opportunities for women and men, which will contribute to the sustainability of economic growth and diversity for the sake of stable and prosperous communities.

While delivering the kingdom's statement during the main session of the Second Eurasian Women's Forum in St Petersburg, which was opened by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Al Ansari stressed the need for the world to step up its readiness to face the rapid and huge scientific and technological challenges and to maintain what has been achieved through the development of more measures that would allow women and men equal access to resources and opportunities, and ensure that women's contributions remain an important factor in the continuity of their countries' growth, and their communities' stability.

"Our societies have achieved a great deal in the field of women's advancement despite the differences and diversity of those achievements from on society to another. We have also been able, to a large extent, to spread the gender balance culture to be a social value that guides the national work map in our countries," she explained.

The SCW secretary-general highlighted the importance of the Forum in renewing interest in issues of top priority regarding women's equal participation



Ms Al Ansari speaks at the forum.

in development, affirming Bahrain's support for the Forum's goals of strengthening cooperation among women leaders for the sake of addressing urgent challenges and consolidating the existing atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding to achieve global human values that would preserve rights and protect freedoms in a way that would respect societies' specific features.

She expressed hope that the

Forum would come up with a clear vision about the nature of the expected roles in a world that is renewed by sciences and knowledge, and about ways to take advantage of constructive dialogue to invest in achievements and overcome challenges towards more global stability, peace and sustainable equitable development.

Ms Al Ansari underlined the kingdom's keenness to put forward comprehensive development policies that are consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030, as a global roadmap that takes into account women's equal participation.

Themed "Women for Global Security and Sustainable Development", the second Eurasian Women's Forum attracted about 2,000 delegates from more than 100 countries over the world.

Participants include women parliamentarians, representatives of the executive, international organisations, commercial communities, business, academia, social and charitable organisations, authorities of the international women's movement, and ambassadors of different countries, among others.



Themed "Women for Global Security and Sustainable Development", the second Eurasian Women's Forum attracted about 2,000 delegates from more than 100 countries over the world.

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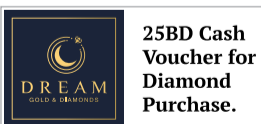
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Four charged after man dies of heroin overdose

The group including a 32-year-old woman was regularly consuming drugs at an apartment in Juffair

● The accused fled the apartment after realising that their friend had died. They also failed to report the incident to the police out of fear that they would be charged in the case, according to prosecutors.

● According to court files, one accused has already fled the Kingdom while two others are still at large.

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

Four Bahrainis including three men and a woman were charged in connection with the death of a man who lost his life allegedly after drug overdose.

The accused along with the victim is said to have been consuming drugs at an apartment in Juffair.

In the midst of a drug party, the victim collapsed after consuming excess heroin, according to court documents.

“Investigations revealed that the victim was taking part in drugs party with four others

including a 32-year-old Bahraini woman.”

The accused fled the apartment after realising that their friend had died. They also failed to report the incident to the police out of fear that they would be charged in the case, according to prosecutors.

Prosecutors said that the group was using the same needle to inject drugs while the victim’s mobile phone was with the woman after his death.

“He gave me the phone before his death,” the woman told prosecutors, confessing to be a member of the group



I live in Muharraq and I have been using drugs since early nineties. I have been addicted to hashish, heroin and other narcotics and I buy these drugs from a Pakistani man in Manama.

ACCUSED

which hosted the drugs party.

According to court files, one accused has already fled the Kingdom while two others are still at large.

“I live in Muharraq and I have been using drugs since early nineties. I have been addicted to hashish, heroin and other narcotics and I buy these drugs from a Pakistani man in Manama. We usually consume drugs in group at that apartment in Juffair. The deceased was with us, but we got nothing to do with his death,” another accused arrested told prosecutors.

The accused woman has also denied links to death.

Two drug addicts sentenced to one year

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

The Lower Criminal Court has sentenced two drug addicts to one year behind bars along with BD500 fine.

The duo was arrested by a police patrol after officers found them inside a car in an abnormal state.

“When we knocked the car’s window, it was clear that they were on drugs. We found them in possession of a medical injection as well as 16 narcotic pills,” a police officer told prosecutors.

“The first defendant told us that he was consuming drugs since 2013,” he added.

The defendants underwent saliva tests that showed that they consumed heroin and hashish.

Al Namal Group to contribute BD417,380 to Kerala Relief Fund



Dr Kurian hands over the cheque to Kerala Minister E P Jayarajan.

Bahrain-based businessman Dr Varghese Kurian has said that Al Namal-VKL Group will contribute eight crore rupees (nearly BD417,380) towards the relief works in the flood-hit Kerala. The company has contributed two crore rupees to the Kerala Chief Ministers Distress Relief Fund (CMDRF) and another six crore rupees will be earmarked for relief efforts spearheaded by the company. The company will contribute to the rebuilding of the houses in the villages of Chittar, Seethathodu in Pathanamthitta district. The company will also provide household equipment to 6,000 families hit by the floods in Ranni area in Kerala.

Bahrain residents gather ‘to rebuild Kerala’

● The ideas from the brainstorming session, which a number of experts, technocrats, engineers, businessmen and social activists attended, will be presented to the Kerala Chief Minister.

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

Several ideas as to how flood-hit Kerala can be rebuilt, which were brainstormed yesterday during a meeting held by concerned Bahrain residents, will soon be presented to the Kerala Chief Minister and to an Indian Ministerial committee.

The meeting was called by Dr Ravi Pillai, who is the Director of Norka Roots and Chairman of Standing Committee 1 - Loka Kerala Sabha Administration and Kerala Development Fund Creation. Several key members of the Indian community were present during the meeting which was held at Park Rejis Hotel yesterday. Organisers said that around 100 people attended.

The ideas from the brainstorming session, which a number of experts, technocrats, engineers, businessmen and social activists attended, will be presented to the Kerala Chief Minister as well as to an Indian Ministerial committee that is visiting the GCC next month, Bah-



The attendees at the event.



Dr Pillai speaking at the event.

rain Keraleeya Samajam president P V Radhakrishna Pillai told Tribune. “Kerala faced a devastating flood last month, something we have not seen in the last century. Indians across the globe are trying to help to rebuild Kerala. This meeting is primarily to discuss how to re-

5
crore Indian rupees was contributed by Indian businessman Dr Ravi Pillai to Kerala Chief Minister’s Relief Fund.

build Kerala and so experts, technocrats, engineers, businessmen and social activists were invited to this session to discuss how we can rebuild Kerala, how we can mobilize resources for rebuilding Kerala,” he said.

“Kerala has lost a lot, many of the bridges, infrastructure etc. This is a coming together to discuss how technology and resources can be mobilized to rebuild Kerala. There is an open appeal from the Chief Minister of Kerala to donate funds, so anyone can send money to the chief minister’s fund in their own capacity.

“We have very good examples here such as with Dr Ravi Pillai donating five crore rupees, many other as well has donated large amounts which is encouraging to see,” he added.

“A ministerial team will be on tour

As fellow citizens and well-wishers, it is our responsibility to come together and share thoughts and perspectives to help rehabilitate people and aid the government in its efforts.

DR PILLAI

across the Middle east including Bahrain to discuss with the people here about the rebuilding process,” he said. Ways in which Non-Resident Indians (NRI) and Bahrain residents can contribute to Kerala relief efforts were also discussed during the meeting.

“The natural calamity in Kerala has taken hundreds of lives and made thousands homeless, apart from massive damage to state infrastructure. It is a one of kind disaster that has struck God’s own country. As fellow citizens and well-wishers, it is our responsibility to come together and share thoughts and perspectives to help rehabilitate people and aid the government in its efforts,” said Dr Ravi Pillai

Receiving more than 256 per cent more than the usual rain fall in Kerala last month brought forth a calamity that took over 400 lives. Kerala is facing a major rebuild task as colossal infrastructure damage was inflicted by the floods. A ‘Level 3 Calamity’/“calamity of a severe nature” was declared by the Indian government in response to the floods.

Cancer warning call over use of hair straightening products

Most hair straightening products contain highly carcinogenic chemicals, say experts

● All treatments including Brazilian treatment, keratin, collagen and botox have its their own dangers since they contain carcinogenic substances, the doctor pointed out.

● Excess use of hair treatment and straightening products has also led to a rise in hair fall cases across the Kingdom, Dr Baaqi said.



Many global health organisations have been warning over the health risks caused by health straightening methods and products.

TDT | Manama

A medical expert has warned over the health hazards including cancer caused by Brazilian hair treatment, highlighting the alert calls made by many international health organisations.

Consultant Dermatologist and Training Head at the Dermatology Department at Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC), Dr

Mariam Baaqi said that common hair straightening products used in the Kingdom contain dangerous chemicals.

All treatments including Brazilian treatment, keratin, collagen and botox have its own dangers since they contain carcinogenic substances, she pointed out.

"There are no natural hairs straightening products in the

market as all of them contain chemicals that can adversely affect one's health in the longer run," Dr Baaqi said.

"The Brazilian and keratin hair treatments, which are commonly prescribed at local salons, are not at all considered as hair nutrition. They include substances that would destroy the hair completely in the long term.

"Women using these products

should immediately stop and work on fixing the damage it caused to their hair and scalp, by using special conditioners and oil-rich shampoos, in addition to avoiding hair dye and follow healthy diets."

"Women are always looking to improve their appearance to be more beautiful and attractive, so they often use hair care products that contain harmful substances,

especially formaldehyde.

"This dangerous substance is found in high percentages in the Brazilian or keratin treatments. It causes irritation and rashes. It can also the eyes, nose and throat.

”



Women are always looking to improve their appearance to be more beautiful and attractive, so they often use hair care products that contain harmful substances, especially formaldehyde.

DR BAAQI

"Women are advised to carefully read the contents of each product they use and ensure that it's produced by reliable manufacturers," Dr Baaqi explained.

When asked, Mariam Al Mulla, a ladies salon owner said that most of the women demand easy and fastest ways to beautify themselves. "Women often tend to hairdress, soften and nourish their hair by using keratin, protein or collagen treatments.

"We spare no efforts to satisfy our customers while making sure that these products conform to all standard requirements, so that the customer gets the best results."

Regarding the prices of hair straightening products, Ms Al Mulla confirmed that the price varies according to length, intensity and the level of hair damage suffered.

"Long hair may need a larger amount of treatment, unlike short hair. So we first examine hairs before recommending any product to a customer."

Excess use of hair treatment and straightening products has also led to a rise in hair fall cases across the Kingdom, Dr Baaqi added.

Events held to foster peace, harmony

TDT | Manama
Harpreet Kaur

A series of events organised by Bahrain4All in association with Peace One Day will end on September 21.

The events are being organised under the slogan 'Unity in Diversity'. A list of sports activities is also lined up as part of the activities.

Peace One Day is a non-profit organisation that strives to support the project to raise awareness of Peace Day and encourage all sectors of society in the region to stand together in the name of peace celebrated globally on September 21.

Speaking to Tribune, Nivedita Dhadhale, founder of Bahrain4All, said, "Peace One Day selected us as their partner based on our non-profit initiatives to promote unity in diversity in the Kingdom.

"We are very proud of this achieve-



A free medical check-up was held as part of the activities.

ment as it allows a window of opportunity to be globally recognized not just for our work but for the fact that we are able

to promote the harmony in the Kingdom. "Bahrain4All has a list of activities planned throughout the month of Sep-



Around 200 workers were served brunch following Friday prayers.

tember to spread the message of peace and harmony."

"We offered a free medical

”

We are very proud of this achievement as it allows a window of opportunity to be globally recognized not just for our work but for the fact that we are able to promote harmony in the Kingdom.

MS DHADPHALE

camp at Al Hilal Hospital, Adliya, which benefited over 150 people. We successfully organised sports activities for the students of The Pakistan School and hosted a brunch for 200 workers in Riffa following Friday prayers.

"A one-day cricket tournament was held in which 20 teams took part. Many other sports activities were also organised as part of the initiative."

Celebrating colours of life



With tens of people in attendance, the seminar organised by Indian Excellent Educational Centre on 'Mind Power and Life Management with Colours of Life' was a great success. The Seminar was conducted by Certified Mind Trainer and Life Coach, Crawford Wilson D'souza, a Motivational Speaker and Corporate Coach, who also authored "Life Management with Colours of Life". The workshop will continue today from 9am onwards at the Indian Excellent Educational Centre. To know more, contact 32332746.

Asian housemaid 'sold to prostitution ring for BD400'

● She was trapped by the ring after another maid seduced her to flee from her sponsor for a better employment opportunity.

● The woman was locked up inside the same flat and was forced to have sex with strangers until she escaped and contacted her sponsor who informed the entire episode to the police.

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

An Asian maid ran away from her sponsor for a better opportunity, but fell prey to a human trafficking and prostitution racket, the court heard. The victim was allegedly sold for an amount of BD400 to a prostitution ring, which forced her into having sex with strangers at a flat.

She was trapped by the ring after another maid seduced her to flee from her sponsor for a better employment opportunity, according to sources.

The victim was eventually saved by police officers.

"I arrived in Bahrain to work as a do-

”
The maid took me to a flat and she told me that she would return after finishing her work. However, I saw a big man there and he forced me to have sex with him.

VICTIM

mestic servant with a local family. But during my tenure, I got acquainted with another maid who was serving the same family.

"She told me that working on an hourly basis at different homes would pay me

better, therefore, I was lured into running away," the woman told prosecutors after she was rescued by police officers.

"The maid took me to a flat and she told me that she would return after finishing her work. However, I saw a big man there and he forced me to have sex with him. I rejected but he told me that he had bought me for BD400 from the woman and another man," she added.

The woman was locked up inside the same flat and was pushed to have sex with strangers until she escaped and contacted her sponsor who informed the entire episode to the police.

Two Asian men involved in the ring were caught and put on trial before the High Criminal Court.

Teacher forged papers for promotion

● The Arab teacher fled Bahrain after he discovered that he would be tried.

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

An Arab teacher, in his fifties, forged an education degree from a major Arab university in order to be promoted, the court heard.

The man, however, got exposed by the university itself after the competent authorities in the Kingdom established communications with it.

The Arab teacher is said to have been serving the Ministry of Education and he presented a Master's degree certificate to its human resources department, it is learnt.

Therefore, the Foreign Certificates Equivalency Department at the Ministry of Education contacted the university's officials in order to verify it. And it turned out that the certificate was falsified and it included forged stamps.

The Arab teacher fled Bahrain after he discovered that he would be tried.

He was charged with forgery and fraud and will face trial before the High Criminal Court.

Bahraini women 'excelling in all fields'



Hundred women personalities were honoured by the Forbes Middle East Magazine for their contribution to various sectors.

● The list features 100 female executives, businesswomen as well as top government officials. For the very first time, the annual list included successful expat female leaders who have scaled heights in their careers.

TDT | Manama
Thamer Tayfoor

The presence of four Bahraini women in this year's Forbes Middle East's Most Influential Women list reflects the high levels achieved by the Kingdom in empowering women, a leading businesswoman observed.

Bahrain Businesswomen Society President Ahlam Janahi told Tribune that Bahraini women continue to improve and excel in all fields, underlining the key role played by the Supreme Council for Women (SCW) to empower Bahraini women.

She thanked the Kingdom's leadership for the endless support offered towards empowering Bahraini women.

”
The region is undergoing a paradigm shift with women-led businesses dominating major sectors. Countries like the UAE and Saudi Arabia have showcased most gender diverse cabinets and the landscape is ever evolving.

MR AL OMIAN

The list features 100 female executives, businesswomen as well as top government officials. For the very first time, the annual list included successful expat female leaders who have scaled heights in their careers.

Y K Almoayyed and Sons Managing Director and Bahrain Business Women Society former president Mona Almoayyed came in the eighth place while Batelco's Deputy CEO Muna Al Hashemi, Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company CFO Suha Karzoon and Securi-

ties and Investment Company CEO Najla Al Shirawi came in 15th, 41st and 87th positions, respectively.

The list included women leaders from different fields, such as culture, education, transportation and economic development. It was also noticed that 29 women in the list hold leading positions in the banking sector, proving that women are leading this key sector in the region.

The list also included 50 female ministers from Middle Eastern countries. Amongst them is Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi, UAE Minister for Culture and Knowledge Development. Senior government officials in the list include Sarah Al Suhaimi, CEO of Tadawul and Lobna Helal, Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Egypt.

Sixteen non-Arab women working in Middle Eastern countries were included in the list for the first time.

Forbes Middle East Editor-in-Chief Khuloud Al Omiian commented: "The region is undergoing a paradigm shift with women-led businesses dominating major sectors. Countries like the UAE and Saudi Arabia have showcased most gender diverse cabinets and the landscape is ever evolving."

Smuggling drugs into jail: Plea verdict date set

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

Two brothers who smuggled drugs into prison will learn the fate of their appeals on October 28, 2018.

The duo was earlier sentenced to five years behind prison each for their crime.

One of them, aged 34, was already in prison serving a 10-year sentence for drug peddling and

is also standing trial for allegedly smuggling a kilo of hashish into Bahrain via the King Fahd Causeway. His 23-year-old brother was caught on camera trying to pass him methadone and amphetamine pills during a visit at Jau Prison. He had smuggled drugs into prison by keeping it in his mouth.

Both were convicted of drug smuggling by the High Criminal Court, which also fined them BD3,000 each.

IN LOVING MEMORY



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India cancels rare Pakistan meeting

New Delhi, India

India cancelled yesterday a rare meeting between its foreign minister and her Pakistani counterpart scheduled to have taken place on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, only a day after announcing it would take place.

The Indian foreign ministry blamed the "latest brutal killings of our security personnel by Pakistan-based entities and the recent release of a series of twenty postage stamps by Pakistan glorifying a terrorist and terrorism".

The statement did not specify which killings it was referring to, but earlier this week an Indian border guard in the disputed territory of Kashmir was killed and his body mutilated.

And on Friday three policemen were found dead after being abducted in Indian-administered Kashmir.

The meeting in New York between Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj and Pakistan's Shah Mehmood Qureshi was only confirmed on Thursday.

Qureshi told Pakistan's ARY TV channel that he was "surprised and disappointed".

"We had given a positive signal and India too had hinted about negotiations," he said.

"India has once again shown that it cares more about its own politics than regional peace and stability," he added.

Asked if Pakistan will approach India again for negotiations, he said: "No, we wanted negotiations in a dignified way."

At least 15 killed in Afghan bus crash

Herat, Afghanistan

At least 15 people were killed when a bus collided with a truck in western Afghanistan on Friday, officials said, in the second major traffic accident this month.

Another 30 were wounded in the early morning crash in Bakwa district of Farah province, provincial police spokesman Mohibullah Mohib said.

The bus had been travelling from Herat province to the southern province of Kandahar when the accident happened.

At least three women and two children were among the casualties, Nasir Mehri, spokesman for the Farah governor, told AFP.

The dead were all bus passengers, he added.

It was not clear how the crash happened but accidents involving long-distance passenger buses are fairly common in Afghanistan.

More than 126 die in Victoria ferry disaster

The MV Nyerere may have been carrying as many as 200 passengers -- double the ferry's capacity

● Passengers rushed to one side to disembark

● Rescue operations were suspended overnight

● The ageing ferry was also carrying cargo

● The cause of the accident was not immediately clear

AFP | Nairobi, Kenya

The death toll in a ferry capsized in Lake Victoria climbed to 126 on Friday, as Tanzanian rescue workers pressed on with the search to find scores more people feared drowned.

The MV Nyerere may have been carrying as many as 200 passengers -- double the ferry's capacity -- when it capsized close to the pier on Ukara Island on Thursday, according to re-



An image grab taken from a video by Tanzania's StarTV channel reportedly shows people removing bodies of victims

ports on state media.

Witnesses reached by AFP said the ferry sank when passengers rushed to one side to disembark as it approached the dock.

The death toll rose to 126 by mid-afternoon Friday, according to Tanzania's transport minister.

"We are sad to report there are 126 dead," Isack Kamwele told state television, adding that a further update would be provided at 6pm local time (1500 GMT).

Mwanza governor John Mongella had earlier said the number of survivors was 40, but it

was unclear whether any new survivors had been found since rescue operations resumed with police and army divers on Friday morning.

"Operations are continuing," he said.

Rescue operations were sus-

pending overnight Thursday and hopes are fading that more survivors might still be found.

State television cited witnesses reporting that more than 200 people had boarded the ferry at Bugolora, a town on the larger Ukerewe Island, where it was market day when locals said the vessel was usually packed with people and goods.

"I have not heard from either my father or my younger brother who were on the ferry. They had gone to the market in Bugolora to buy a school uniform and other supplies for the new school term," said Domina Maua, who was among those seeking information about loved ones.

Davita Ngenda, an elderly woman in Ukara, had already received bad news.

"My son is among the bodies recovered," she said, weeping. "He had gone with his wife but she has not been found yet. My God, what did I do to deserve this?"

Sebastian John, a teacher, said such tragedies had become part of life for those living on the lake.

Russia, Turkey agree on demilitarised zone in Idlib

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Russia and Turkey have agreed on borders of the demilitarised zone around Syria's Idlib, Russia's top diplomat said yesterday, part of a deal aimed to prevent a military assault on the last rebel enclave.

"Just yesterday or the day before, the militaries of Russia and Turkey agreed the concrete

frontiers of the demilitarised zone," Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said after talks with his Bosnian counterpart Igor Crnadak.

Moscow says the demilitarised zone would help stop attacks from Idlib on Syrian army positions and Russia's military bases in the region.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish counterpart

Recep Tayyip Erdogan agreed the establishment of the 15 to 20 kilometre (9.3-12 miles) zone on Monday after talks that lasted more than four hours.

Security in the zone will be overseen by Turkish contingents and Russian military police. The agreement will prevent military action against Idlib, Russia's defence minister said.

Three babies slashed at 'illegal' childcare center

Washington, United States

Three babies and two adults were slashed during an early-morning assault at a suspected illegal childcare center in New York City yesterday, police said.

A 52-year-old woman who works there as a "babysitter/worker" was arrested after assault which took place in the Queens neighborhood at around 3:30 am, a police

spokesman said.

The suspect attacked two baby girls and a baby boy, leaving one of the girls in serious condition, police said.

One of the adults hurt in the attack worked there, while the other was the father of one of the babies.

None of the victims' lives were in danger, police said.

Officers found the suspect in the basement of the center with self-inflicted cuts to her wrists.

Alcohol responsible for one in 20 deaths worldwide

Geneva, Switzerland

Alcohol kills three million people worldwide each year -- more than AIDS, violence and road accidents combined, the World Health Organization said Friday, adding that men are particularly at risk.

The UN health agency's latest report on alcohol and health pointed out that alcohol causes more than one in 20 deaths globally each year, including drink driving, alcohol-induced violence and abuse and a multitude of diseases and disorders.

Men account for more than three quarters of alcohol-related deaths, the nearly 500-page re-



A representative picture showing a motorist takes a breath alcohol test

port found. "Far too many people, their families and communities suffer the consequences of the harmful use of alcohol

through violence, injuries, mental health problems and diseases like cancer and stroke," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a statement.

"It's time to step up action to prevent this serious threat to the development of healthy societies," he added.

Drinking is linked to more than 200 health conditions, including liver cirrhosis and some cancers.

Alcohol abuse also makes people more susceptible to infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV and pneumonia, the report found.

The some three million alcohol-related deaths registered globally in 2016 -- the latest available statistics -- account for 5.3pc of all deaths that year. In comparison, HIV/AIDS was

responsible for 1.8 per cent of global deaths that year, road injuries for 2.5pc and violence for 0.8pc, the study showed.

The latest numbers are lower than those in WHO's last report on global alcohol consumption, published in 2014.

There are "some positive global trends", the agency said, pointing to shrinking prevalence of heavy episodic drinking and of alcohol-related deaths since 2010.

But it warned that "the overall burden of disease and injuries caused by the harmful use of alcohol is unacceptably high," especially in Europe and the Americas.

Most nations to miss UN target on chronic diseases

Cancers, heart and blood-vessel disease, diabetes, and chronic respiratory disease combined to kill 12.5 million people in 2016, researchers say

● Only 35 nations are on track to meet UN Sustainable Development Goal

● The United States ranked 53rd for men, and 44th for women

AFP | Paris, France

More than half of all countries will likely fail to hit the UN target of reducing premature deaths from a quartet of chronic diseases by a third before 2030, researchers said yesterday.

Cancers, heart and blood-vessel disease, diabetes, and chronic respiratory disease combined to kill 12.5 million people aged 30 to 70 worldwide in 2016, they reported in a major study.

"The bottom line is this: a set of commitments were made, and most countries are not going to meet them," lead author Majid Ezzati, a professor at Imperial School London's School of Public Health, said.

Only 35 nations are on track to meet UN Sustainable Development Goal 3.4 -- launched in 2015 -- for women, and even less for men, the study revealed.



Technicians are at work on September 21, 2018, at Sanofi Genzyme site in Lyon, southeastern France

"International donors and national governments are doing too little to reduce deaths from non-communicable diseases," Ezzati said.

The good news, he added, is that most countries are at least moving in the right direction.

But around 20 states -- 15 for women, 24 for men -- are either stagnating or backsliding.

That select group of failure includes only one wealthy nation: the United States.

A much-noted study last year in the American Journal of Public Health showed that the rise in premature deaths was especially sharp among white, rural Americans, described by the authors as gripped by an "epidemic of despair".

"It comes down to weak public health, weak health care system, high levels of inequality," Ezzati said.

Weak public health

Across all age groups, non-communicable diseases kill more than 40 million people a year worldwide, accounting for seven in ten deaths.

Of these, 17 million are classified as "premature," or before the age of 70.

"We are sleepwalking into a sick future because of severely inadequate progress on non-communicable diseases," said Katie Dain from the NCD Alliance.

The "NCD Countdown 2030" report, published in The Lancet ahead of next week's UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs in New York, "will assist in holding governments and donors accountable", she added.

Only four countries -- South Korea, Japan, Switzerland and Australia -- ranked among the top ten for lowest NCD mortality rates for both men and women.

Spain, Singapore, Portugal, Italy, Finland and France rounded out the good health podium for women.

For men, the other countries were Iceland, Sweden, Norway, Bahrain, Canada and New Zealand.

The United States ranked 53rd for men, and 44th for women, with Chinese men and women placed 80th and 76th, respectively.

China is not on track to meet the goal but its NCD rates are declining, even as levels of obesity and high blood pressure are on the rise, the study revealed.

Austrian student in jail on terror charges in Turkey

Ankara, Turkey | AFP

Austrian student and journalist to be kept in jail ahead of a trial on terror charges following his detention last week, his lawyer said yesterday.

Max Zirngast, who writes for the far-left German-language magazine Re:volt, was detained in Ankara on September 11 and formally arrested by the Ankara court late Thursday, his lawyer Tamer Dogan said. Zirngast, 29, was

charged with being a member of an extreme leftist terror organisation, Dogan added.

He had previously published articles on the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which has waged an insurgency inside Turkey since 1984.

The PKK is blacklisted as a terror group by Ankara and its Western allies. The Austrian has been in Turkey for three years and was a masters student at Middle East Technical University (ODTU) in the political sciences department.

Toll jumps to 29 in Philippine landslide

Manille, Philippines

The death toll from a landslide in the central Philippines has risen to 29, police said Friday, as rescuers frantically dug for survivors of the latest tragedy in the storm-hit nation.

Dozens were still missing as authorities probed whether a nearby rock quarry could have played a role in the massive hillside collapse Thursday that hit rural communities in Naga on the tourist island of Cebu.

The rescue effort came as the nation was still reeling from

Typhoon Mangkhut, whose toll hit 95 dead on Thursday, mostly from a massive landslide in the country's mountainous north.

Rescuers on Cebu have pulled 29 corpses from the debris, the Philippine National Police said, as people living in homes spared from the landslide were evacuated as a precaution.

Hundreds of police, firemen, and specialists using heavy equipment were looking for about 50 people, provincial disaster office spokesman Julius Regner said.

Authorities are not sure whether the limestone quarry

near the slide-hit area contributed to the disaster, but they have ordered a temporary 15-day halt to quarry operations around the country as a precaution.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu told a press conference the government will conduct a national review "to determine the safety of quarry operation areas, most especially the surrounding communities."

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

Japan space probe drops rovers towards asteroid

Tokyo, Japan

Japanese space probe Friday released a pair of exploring rovers towards an egg-shaped asteroid to collect mineral samples that may shed light on the origin of the solar system.

The "Hayabusa2" probe jet-tisoned the round, cookie tin-shaped robots toward the Ryugu asteroid, according to the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). If the mission is successful, the rovers will conduct the world's first moving, robotic observation of an asteroid surface.

Taking advantage of the asteroid's low gravity, they will jump around on the surface -- soaring



Researchers and employees work at a control room to operate the Hayabusa2 mission in Sagamihara

as high as 15 metres (49 feet) and staying in the air for as long as 15 minutes -- to survey the asteroid's physical features with cameras and sensors.

So far so good, but JAXA must wait for the Hayabusa2 probe to send data from the rovers to Earth in a day or two to assess whether the release has been a success, officials said.

"We are very much hopeful. We don't have confirmation yet, but we are very, very hopeful," Yuichi Tsuda, JAXA project manager, told reporters.

"I am looking forward to seeing pictures. I want to see images of space as seen from the surface of the asteroid," he said.

The cautious announcement came after a similar JAXA probe in 2005 released a rover which failed to reach its target asteroid.

Next month, Hayabusa2 will deploy an "impactor" that will explode above the asteroid, shooting a two-kilo (four-pound) copper object into the surface to blast a crater a few metres in diameter.

From this crater, the probe will collect "fresh" materials unexposed to millennia of wind and radiation, hoping for answers to some fundamental questions about life and the universe, including whether elements from space helped give rise to life on Earth.

India probes death of 12 endangered lions

New Delhi, India

Indian authorities yesterday ordered a probe into the deaths of a dozen endangered wild Asiatic lions, half of them cubs, over the last 10 days, officials said.

One lioness died after preying on a poisoned boar while eight others lions died of an infection in the lungs and liver.

Three cubs were killed in infighting while other three passed away in the course of treatment.

Gujarat officials have sent the lions' carcasses to a veterinary hospital for further analysis into the cause of infection.

"Primarily the deaths appear due to natural causes or some infection," Vijay Chaudhary, forest department official, told AFP.

Listed as critically endangered in 2000, wild Asiatic lions reside only in one Indian forest -- the Gir Sanctuary spread over 1,400 square kilometres (545 square miles) in the western state of Gujarat.

The lions, a major tourist attraction in the state, have been a target of poachers in the past.

Bishop arrested for rape of nun: report

Berlin, Germany

An Indian bishop accused by a nun of raping her was arrested yesterday, in a high-profile abuse case that had triggered angry protests by clergy over police inaction, Press Trust of India reported.

Bishop Franco Mulakkal was arrested on Friday evening, a day after Pope Francis relieved him from duty over the scandal, according to PTI who quoted local police official Vijay Sakhare.

The nun, who has not been named, first accused Mulakkal in late June of raping her 13 times between 2014 and 2016.

Pope Francis relieved Mulakkal from duty on Thursday and appointed another bishop in his stead.

Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang dead at 61

Hanoi, Vietnam

Vietnam's President Tran Dai Quang, a former police chief known as a tough politician and committed communist with little tolerance for dissent, died Friday at age 61 after a serious illness. His death is not likely to dramatically alter politics in a country where the powerful communist government oversees almost every facet of society -- although the death of a sitting leader is rare. Coverage on media was sombre Friday, with a Vietnam Television anchor in dark clothing announcing the news of the leader's death.

SOCIETY



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr. Abdulhussain Mirza received officials from Ernst & Young, led by Director of Consultancy Services Sulaiman Ajawi. The visitors presented an update on the internal audit work on the electricity and water sector and on corporate governance. Dr. Mirza praised their efforts and their long experience in their internal audit services to ensure proper administrative and financial performance and give guidance to implement a number of recommendations during the next phase.



A batch of 75 students has been admitted to enrol at the Royal Academy of Police (RAP) Ministry of Interior and other government departments," said RAP Commander.



Discover Islam organised "BEAT THE HEAT" initiative in which there was free distribution of water, fruits and caps at various places in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

2005
is the year in which the Royal University for Women was established.



The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) at the Royal University for Women (RUW) held its annual Student Orientation Programme for the academic year 2018/2019 in RUW campus in West Riffa. RUW Acting President Dr.



Tributes were paid to Francis Joseph, KCA Patron and Founder Member, who died in Kerala on 19th September 2018, at a condolence meeting and prayer held at KCA. Several dignitaries representing various clubs and associations were present at the function.

Society



P) and study for their Master' degrees. "The admitted students work with different sections and directorates affiliated with the

Indian classical dance Kathak was performed at ISKON temple on the occasion of Janmashtami, an annual Hindu festival that celebrates the birth of Krishna. The choreography was done by Kathak expert Aarti Kothari.



As a part of the Workers Welfare project of the Indian Ladies Association, dry ration was distributed to 60 workers at Key Constructions Labour camp in Adliya .



David Stewart welcomed the new students and wished them success in their Academic journey at RUW.



to pay their respect to the departed soul. They shared their unforgettable experiences with Mr. Francis Joseph and expressed their condolences to the family.



Mr Joseph, a long-time expat in the Kingdom, was conferred with the title of Chevalier by Pope John Paul II for his consistent services to the community

business

Google staff discussed ways to fight travel ban

Washington, United States

Google employees discussed how to counter President Donald Trump's 2017 travel ban by modifying search functions to help people contribute to immigration advocacy groups and contact lawmakers, the Wall Street Journal reported yesterday.

They began the email discussion two days after Trump signed the first version of his travel ban targeting people from seven mainly Muslim countries, the paper reported.

Staff discussed how to tweak search functions and work against "islamophobic, algorithmically biased results from search terms 'Islam', 'Muslim', 'Iran', etc.", the Journal reported.

They looked at similar measures for the search terms 'Mexico', 'Hispanic', 'Latino', etc."

An email from an employee of the Search Product Marketing division referred to brainstorming inside Google over how to respond to ban.

Trump's controversial measure was challenged in court and underwent several iterations before ultimately being upheld by the US Supreme Court.

The report is certain to anger Trump, who has accused Google of blocking conservative viewpoints in its search results.

Japan inflation edges up

Tokyo, Japan

Prices in Japan edged up modestly in August, according to government data yesterday, as the world's third-largest economy continues its years-long battle with deflation.

Inflation stood at 0.9 percent year-on-year in August, still far below the Bank of Japan's two-percent target, even though slightly higher than 0.8 percent in July and June and 0.7 percent in May.

The latest figure was in line with market consensus.

With fresh food and energy stripped out, prices rose by even less -- just 0.4 percent year-on-year in August, the internal affairs ministry said.

Japan has battled deflation for many years and the central bank's ultra-loose monetary policy appears to be having limited impact.

The Bank of Japan will not raise interest rates "for an extended period of time", its chief said after the latest rate-setting meeting, even as US and European peers tighten monetary policy.

Deflation is bad for the economy partly because the expectation of falling prices discourages spending and dampens growth.

China, Russia warn US it is 'playing' with fire

● Putin's spokesman accused Washington of playing unfairly

Moscow, Russia | AFP

Moscow and Beijing lashed out yesterday at Washington's new anti-Russian sanctions that also target China for the first time, warning the United States could face consequences.

President Vladimir Putin's spokesman accused Washington of playing unfairly and using new measures to squeeze Moscow out of the global arms market, after the United States slapped sanctions on China for buying Russian warplanes and missiles and threatened to target its other clients.

"This is unfair competition, dishonest competition, an attempt to use non-market methods that run counter to norms and principles of international trade to squeeze the main competitor of US makers out of the markets," said Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov. Peskov said



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DMITRY PESKOV
KREMLIN SPOKESMAN



We strongly urge the US to immediately correct their mistake and withdraw their so-called sanctions, otherwise the US will have to bear the consequences

GENG SHUANG
CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN

that "Washington's continued sanctions hysteresis" dealt a new blow to US-Russia ties but could not immediately say if Moscow would retaliate, or how.

On Thursday, Washington placed financial sanctions on the Equipment Development Department of the Chinese Defence Ministry, and its top administrator, for its recent purchase of Russian Sukhoi Su-35 fighter jets and S-400 surface-to-air missile systems.

It was the first time a third country has been punished under the CAATSA sanctions legislation for dealing with Russia, signalling Donald Trump's readiness to risk relations with other countries over Moscow.

Beijing warning

Beijing -- which is locked in a trade war with the United States -- urged Washington to withdraw sanctions or "bear the consequences".

"The US actions have seriously violated the basic principles of international relations and seriously damaged the relations between the two countries and the two militaries," said Chinese foreign ministry spokesman

Geng Shuang. "We strongly urge the US to immediately correct their mistake and withdraw their so-called sanctions, otherwise the US will have to bear the consequences."

United in their resentment of America's global influence, China and Russia have sought in recent years to tighten up their ties and this month conducted week-long joint military drills, Moscow's largest ever war games. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov warned that Russia would act to end its dependency on the US dollar.

"We will do everything to stop being dependent on the countries who behave towards their partners in this way," Lavrov said on a visit to Sarajevo.

His deputy, Sergei Ryabkov, earlier said Washington was rocking global stability and said sarcastically that placing sanctions on Russia has become Washington's favourite "pastime". "It would be good for them to remember there is such a concept as global stability which they are thoughtlessly undermining by whipping up tensions in Russian-American ties," said Ryabkov.

Bug in cake gives Ikea India embarrassment

Mumbai, India

Ikea's first store in India faced a fresh sticky problem after a customer said he found an insect emerging from chocolate cake served to his daughter at the outlet's 1,000-seater cafeteria. It is the second such embarrassment for the home retailer since the Hyderabad store opened in August, after

another customer said he found a caterpillar in his rice earlier this month. "I found an insect inside the chocolate cake which came out while my daughter was eating the cake at IKEA store today in Hyderabad," consumer Kishore tweeted with accompanying photos and a video.

An Ikea spokesman said in a statement that a fly was on the cake and that it "eventually flew

away" -- but the consumer said that the bug was "not a flying insect". Ikea said it was taking steps to avoid such incidents but refuted media reports of local authorities collecting samples of cakes or issuing fines.

Ikea is seeking to wow India's with its Nordic-cool furniture and fittings, as well as products and is aiming to open 25 outlets in India by 2025.

Coca-Cola, Walmart to cut plastic pollution in oceans

Montreal, Canada

Coca-Cola, Walmart and other big multinationals pledged yesterday to help reduce plastic pollution in the world's oceans in support of a campaign by five of the G7 industrialized nations.

Britain, Canada, France, Germany and Italy, along with the European Union, signed the Ocean Plastics Charter at a leaders' summit in Canada's Charlevoix region in June.

The United States and Japan abstained but non-G7 nations

Norway and Jamaica are also backing the plan to ensure 100 percent of plastics are recyclable by 2030.

On the second day of a G7 ministerial meeting in Canada's Atlantic port city of Halifax, Canadian Environment Minister Catherine McKenna announced "a new partnership with businesses" to reduce plastics waste.

Backers include Loblaws, Walmart, Nestle Canada, IKEA, Dow Chemicals, the Coca-Cola Company, BASF Canada and A&W Canada.

Singapore Airlines bans lion bones in cargo

Singapore, Singapore

Singapore Airlines said yesterday it has stopped accepting lion bones for cargo after the carrier was singled out in a report for transporting the animal parts from South Africa.

Campaigners have long called for a ban on the controversial trade in big cat bones, which are sought after for medicine and jewellery in Southeast Asia.

Singapore Airlines was the sole carrier importing lion bones from South Africa to Southeast Asia last year, according to a report released in July by the non-profit EMS Foundation and



Singapore Airlines says it has banned lion bones as cargo on its planes

animal rights group Ban Animal Trading.

At least 800 lion skeletons had been exported with the blessing

of the South African government in 2017, the report said, making it the world's largest exporter of lion bones.

The airline said it had stopped accepting lion bones as cargo, but did not say when the policy had come into effect.

"Singapore Airlines does not accept the carriage of lion bones as cargo following a review which took into account increasing concerns around the world," the company said in an email. EMS Foundation director Michele Pickover said her organisation had sent the report to the airline and "appealed to them to immediately stop its involvement in this terrible trade".

"I believe that once they were informed about what this trade entails they took the correct and

logical decision not to support it," she said.

South Africa has been sending lion bones to Southeast Asia since at least 2008 and it was likely that Singapore Airlines had been transporting them since that year, Pickover added.

Lion bones and other body parts are highly sought after in parts of Southeast Asia -- particularly Laos, Thailand and Vietnam -- for use in jewellery and for their supposed medicinal properties. In Vietnam, lion bone is cooked and turned into balm while claws and teeth were used as body ornaments, the report said.

Trade war hits eurozone growth: Markit survey

● **Data monitoring company IHS Markit warned that export growth was “evaporating” in the 19-country single currency bloc**

Brussels, Belgium

Growth in the eurozone economy lost steam in September as European factories saw diminished demand amid Brexit tremors and the effects of a multi-front Trump trade war, a key survey showed yesterday.

Data monitoring company IHS Markit warned that export

growth was “evaporating” in the 19-country single currency bloc, even though powerhouses Germany and France continued to outperform.

The purchasing managers’ index (PMI) by IHS Markit fell to 54.2 in September, which was lower than forecasts by analysts. A figure over 50 indicates the economy is expanding.

“A near stagnation of exports contributed to one of the worst months for the eurozone economy for almost two years,” said Chris Williamson, Chief Business Economist at IHS Markit.

“Trade wars, Brexit, waning global demand (notably in the auto industry)... and rising political uncertainty both within the Eurozone and further afield all fuelled the slowdown in busi-



Chris Williamson, Chief Business Economist at IHS Markit (Courtesy of BBC)

ness activity,” he said.

Markit said the slowdown was driven by the manufacturing sector as new export orders failed to grow for the first time since June 2013.

The “softening” in the PMI “adds to evidence that the region’s economy has lost some momentum after 2017’s very strong expansion,” said Jessica Hinds of Capital Economics.

Still, “as the index is still consistent with a decent pace of growth, the European Central Bank is unlikely to change its plans to normalise policy very gradually,” she added.

This referred to the crisis-fighting stimulus programme that the Frankfurt-based central bank is due to scale back until ending it outright in December.

The dimmer outlook lines up with the bleaker outlook of the ECB which slightly lowered its growth forecast for the eurozone for this year and 2019.

Amid the trade tensions as well as concerns about emerging markets, the bank now expects growth of 2.0 per cent in 2018 and 1.8pc in 2019.

Canada inflation 2.8pc in August

Ottawa, Canada | AFP

Canadians paid 2.8 per cent more for goods and services in August than a year earlier, with prices rising across the board, official data released yesterday showed. Inflation was only a tick higher than analysts had forecast, after the consumer price index soared to 3.0pc the previous month.

Statistics Canada said the price of gasoline -- the main contributor -- was up nearly 20pc year over year.

Water, electricity and other fuels, as well as travel tours and airline tickets, and passenger vehicles also cost more in the month, the government statistical agency said. But most prices rose at a slower pace than in July.

Economists expect the Bank of Canada to hike its key lending rate in October in order to temper inflation as the economy hovers at near capacity. But the central bank has wavered due to uncertainty over the future of a crucial continental trade pact with the United States and Mexico. The bank increased interest rates in July by 25 basis points, after a previous hike in January -- bringing rates to the highest level in a decade.

May says EU response to Brexit plan ‘unacceptable’

London, United Kingdom

British Prime Minister Theresa May said yesterday the European Union’s abrupt dismissal this week of her Brexit plan was unacceptable, as she conceded negotiations were “at an impasse”.

“It is not acceptable to simply reject the other side’s proposal without a detailed explanation and counter-proposals,” May said in a televised statement from Downing Street.

“We now need to hear from the EU what the real issues are and what their alternative is so that we can discuss them.”

“Until we do, we cannot make progress.”

European leaders refused to give ground to May at a summit in Salzburg on Thursday, warning that her proposals for future economic ties based on a UK-EU free-trade area only for goods would “not work”.

They also put on ice a special summit suggested for mid-November to seal a deal, saying it would only happen if there was real progress at the next EU gathering in October.

May said Friday that Britain would set out alternative plans dealing with the thorny issue



Britain’s Prime Minister Theresa May

“It is not acceptable to simply reject the other side’s proposal without a detailed explanation and counter-proposals”

THERESA MAY

of the Irish border, “that preserves the integrity of the UK”.

“In the meantime, we must and will continue the work of preparing ourselves for no deal”.

The British pound, already down Friday against the dollar and the euro, fell sharply following May’s comments.

€200 bn money laundering scandal

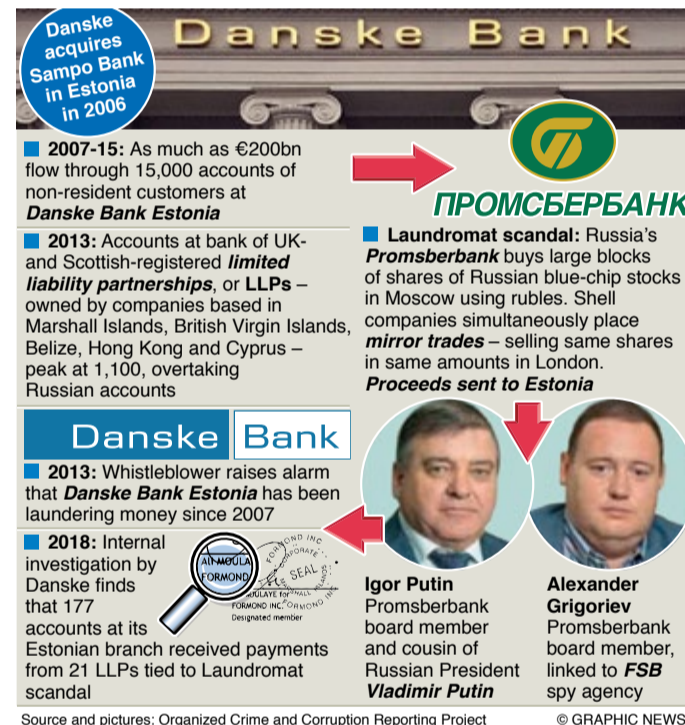
Shell companies, mostly registered in London, are being investigated over the laundering of €200 billion of Russian criminal funds through the Estonian branch of Denmark’s largest bank.

As long ago as 2013 a whistleblower warned the management of Danske Bank that family members of Russian President Vladimir Putin and Russia’s FSB spy agency were using its Estonian bank branch for money laundering, in the so-called Laundromat scandal.

The story, broken by Denmark’s Berlingske daily, claims the leaked internal report indicated that the Danske Bank leadership knew “of far more serious conditions than previously stated.”

Now, the UK’s National Crime Agency (NCA) has opened a criminal investigation into a London-registered company with links to the Danske Bank branch at the centre of a €200bn money-laundering scandal.

The NCA’s is investigating a limited liability partnership, or LLP believed to be Lantana Trade LLP. The owners of Lantana are suspected to be Russians with their identities hidden behind a series of for-



eign shell companies based in the Marshall Islands. Lantana is just one of 21 LLPs tied to the Laundromat scandal.

An internal investigation by Danske has found that as much as €200bn flowed through 15,000 non-resident customers’ accounts between 2007 and 2015. Of these, there were 1,100 British-based accounts at

Danske’s Estonian branch in 2013, more than Russian-owned accounts.

Danske Bank told The Associated Press it had carried out “a thorough investigation to get to the bottom of the events at that time in our Estonian branch,” adding it had no comments “until the investigation has (been) finalised.”

Tech sector prompts shakeup in S&P 500 indexes

New York, United States

The hot and rapidly changing tech sector has prompted the S&P 500 stock index to reshuffle its components, opening up more chances to invest in *Google, Netflix, Facebook* and other stars after yesterday’s trading session.

Facebook did not yet exist and flip phones were cutting edge in 1999 when the industry classification system was launched, but much has changed in tech, telecommunications and media.

The reorganization of the industry groupings, the biggest in the history of the system, affects three of the 11 sectors within the S&P 500.

A new “communication services” group has been created that will be bigger and more growth-oriented than the sleepy “telecommunication services” sector it is replacing.

The change will split some of the five “FAANG” behemoths associated with the stock market’s surge into different groups, allowing investors to have more exposure to the companies.

The shift comes only weeks after *Apple* and *Amazon* eclipsed \$1 trillion in market capitalization and shows again how technology companies are moving into ever-expanding economic terrain.

“The ways in which people communicate and seek information have transformed,” S&P

In all 24 companies in the S&P 500 are being shifted, with the top 15 having a total market capitalization of about \$2 trillion, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices.

Dow Jones Indices said.

“Integration between telecommunications, media, and internet companies in terms of both infrastructure and content have advanced the communication industry into a much broader field as evidenced by the convergence between telecom and

cable companies.”

The rejiggering of the groups will lead to a shifting of billions of dollars of shares in these companies, especially through exchange-traded funds that are linked to S&P sectors.

While analysts do not expect a pickup in volatility because the move was announced last year, further investment in technology is likely because there will now be two groups heavily weighted to the sector instead of one.

“Because some portfolio managers might have a restriction on how much they can go in, if they want more exposure on the technology, this will be one way to do it,” said Quincy Krosby, chief market strategist at Pru-

dential Financial.

The change will leave *Apple* as the only “FAANG” member in the “information technology” group.

Facebook and *Google* -- through its parent *Alphabet* -- were shifted to the new communication services group from information technology, while *Netflix*, another FAANG member, was moved into the new group from the consumer discretionary sector.

The fifth FAANG member, *Amazon*, will remain in the consumer discretionary group.

Other prominent companies moved into communication services include *Disney*, *Comcast*, *Twenty-First Century Fox*, *eBay*, *Twitter* and *CBS*.

S.Africa unveils raft of reforms to revive economy

Pretoria, South Africa

President Cyril Ramaphosa yesterday unveiled a raft of measures as part of an economic stimulus plan to boost investor confidence after South Africa entered a recession in the second quarter of this year.

The plan includes infrastructure investment and easing of visa requirements in a bid to create jobs in the lucrative tourism sector, which accounts for 10pc of the economy.

“The measures we are announcing give priority to those areas of economic activity that will have the greatest impact on youth, women as well as small businesses,” Ramaphosa said in his offices in the capital, Pretoria.

South Africa’s economy tipped into recession as it shrunk 0.7 per cent in the second quarter, dealing a blow to Ramaphosa who came to office in February.

He faces elections in 2019 and has been on a drive to attract foreign investment and tackle soaring unemployment, which currently stands at about 28pc.

His five-point plan centres around re-allocating 50 billion rand (\$3.5 billion) of public spending to kickstart economic activity and create jobs.

Priority investment areas include agriculture, small businesses in the townships and the rural areas.

“Our government has limited budget fiscal space to increase spending or borrowing, it is imperative that we make sure that the resources that we do have are used to the greatest effect,” he said.

SEBI relaxes foreign fund rules

Reuters | Mumbai

India's market regulator yesterday relaxed norms on foreign investments by Indians based abroad after concerns over stricter regulations rattled markets earlier this month.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) said it accepted the recommendations by a panel it had set up to review the rules for foreign portfolio investments.

The panel, headed by a former central bank deputy governor, had suggested, among other changes, that non-resident Indians be allowed to invest as foreign portfolio investors if a single holding is under 25 percent and group holding is under 50 per cent in a fund.

Moscow Exchange puts off US blue chip plan

Reuters | Moscow

The Moscow Exchange said yesterday it had put off plans to offer access to the 50 most liquid US shares due to a political standoff with the West.

The Moscow Exchange had planned to expand its range of trading tools by offering access to around 50 U.S. companies with the most popular and liquid shares in the third quarter.

"We will keep you posted on this project," Moscow Exchange Chief Executive Alexander Afanasyev said, explaining the delay was as a result of the risks of new penalties that other countries are considering imposing on Russia.

Opening the access to US stocks would require "gigantic efforts in explaining all the nuances to investors," said Sergei Shvetsov, first deputy governor at the central bank, speaking at the same conference with Afanasyev.

Online banking outages at Royal Bank of Scotland

Reuters

Royal Bank of Scotland apologised for outages that hit its online and mobile banking services on Friday, the latest in a string of such failings at British banks which have drawn criticism from customers and members of parliament.

RBS later on Friday said it had fixed the problems, which followed similar outages on Thursday that hit Barclays, the Co-operative Bank and fintech firm Cashplus.

MPs on Britain's Treasury Select Committee, in letters published on Friday, called on Barclays and RBS to explain what caused the problems and set out how they would compensate customers who suffered financial losses as a result.

Global markets breeze higher on growth outlook

● Asian equities enjoyed another day of strong buying to finish the week with a flourish.

London, United Kingdom | AFP

Global stock markets rose yesterday as optimism on the US economic outlook outweighed lingering trade war worries, dealers said.

European equities were all solidly higher, with London outshining its peers thanks to a slipping pound as Brexit talks appeared to be stalling.

Wall Street was higher out of the gate, building on the previous day's all-time pinnacles, with investors concluding that trade war concerns were overwhelmed as the world's biggest economy powers ahead.

"Investors continue to brush off the ongoing trade dispute between the US and China," said Craig Erlam, an analyst at Oanda.

A "lack of escalation" in trade spats combined with optimism on the American economy turned out to be a winning combination, added analysts at the Charles Schwab brokerage.

"Trade concerns remain contained, while the domestic economic front continues to paint



Traders work on the floor at the closing bell of the Dow Industrial Average at the New York Stock Exchange

a solid picture," they said. An unsuccessful Brexit summit in Salzburg, ending in "humiliation" for the British prime minister according to some, weighed on the pound from the start of business, but that in turn helped London's benchmark FTSE 100 index.

The British currency then weakened further after Prime Minister Theresa May said that Brexit talks were "at an impasse" and that the European Union's response to British plans was "not acceptable".

'Brave' to buy pound

It was a "brave" investor who dared to buy sterling after May's

comments, tweeted Viraj Patel, global macro strategist at ING.

"But (the) long game is one of greater upside than downside if a deal is ultimately reached," he said.

Oanda's Erlam, also in a tweet, said that May had said nothing beyond trying to "prove" she's playing hardball with the EU. Nothing, as ever, has changed".

Asian equities enjoyed another day of strong buying to finish the week with a flourish.

Shanghai surged 2.5pc after the Chinese government unveiled a stimulus packaged aimed at lifting domestic consumption. "For the moment Asian stocks have shrugged off

Key figures around 1335 GMT

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| London - FTSE 100: | ▲ 1.4pc at 7,469.70 points |
| Frankfurt - DAX 30: | ▲ 0.5pc at 12,389.91 |
| Paris - CAC 40: | ▲ 0.7pc at 5,487.20 |
| EURO STOXX 50: | ▲ 0.5pc at 3,421.36 |
| New York - Dow Jones: | ▲ 0.3pc at 26,724.84 |
| Tokyo - Nikkei 225: | ▲ 0.8pc at 23,869.93 (close) |
| Hong Kong - Hang Seng: | ▲ 1.7pc at 27,953.58 (close) |
| Shanghai - Composite: | ▲ 2.5pc at 2,797.48 (close) |
| Euro/dollar: | ▼ \$1.1737 from \$1.1777 at 2100 GMT |
| Pound/dollar: | ▼ \$1.3079 from \$1.3265 |
| Dollar/yen: | ▲ 112.71 yen from 112.49 yen |

trade war concerns with the focus shifting to China's new stimulus package which is expected to boost consumption and cut import tariffs from other countries," said City Index senior analyst Fiona Cincotta.

"Make no mistake, the US economy is running on all cylinders," said Stephen Innes, head of Asia-Pacific trade at Oanda.

"Robust growth, soaring employment and rising capital investments, suggesting the healthy US economy is more than just a short-term knock-on effect from the intravenous elixir of easy credit and fiscal glucose."

EM currencies bounce

The upbeat mood on trading floors was being felt across the

board, with embattled emerging market currencies seeing a recovery.

Those currencies -- beaten down in recent weeks by fears of contagion from crises in Turkey, South Africa and Argentina -- were also basking in the optimism as traders sought out higher-risk assets.

South Korea's won rose 0.4pc, while the Indonesian rupiah added 0.3pc and the Indian rupee was up 0.7pc, pulling it away from recent record lows. South Africa's rand and the Turkish lira jumped more than one pc.

China's yuan extended gains after Premier Li Keqiang said this week that Beijing would not devalue the unit to offset the impact of Donald Trump's import tariffs.

Oil rises on supply concerns

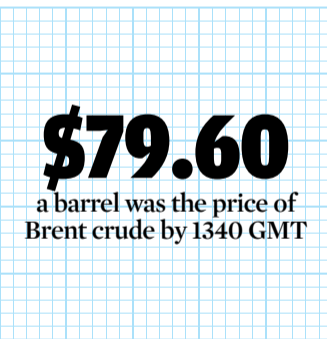
Reuters | London

Oil prices rose yesterday ahead of a meeting of OPEC and other large crude exporters that will focus on production increases as US sanctions restrict Iranian exports.

OPEC and its allies are scheduled to gather in Algeria on Sunday to discuss how to allocate higher supply to offset the shortage of Iranian supplies.

Brent crude oil was up 90 cents at \$79.60 a barrel by 1340 GMT. US light crude was up 65 cents at \$70.97.

Brent is close to four-year highs, trading just below \$80 a



barrel, as investors bet that the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries will be unable to compensate fully for the loss of oil from Iran, OPEC's third-biggest producer.

But the meeting on Sunday is unlikely to be able to change production policy. Such a move would require OPEC to hold what it calls an "extraordinary meeting", which is not on the agenda. US President Donald Trump increased pressure on OPEC on Thursday, calling on the organisation to "get prices down now!"

Jason Gammel, analyst at US bank Jefferies, said he expects Saudi Arabia to try to keep the oil market adequately supplied into 2019, "but at the cost of spare capacity", a key supply buffer to prevent oil price volatility.

Britain gets new warning

Reuters | Brussels

Britain will get a second warning from the European Commission over a 2.7 billion-euro (2.41 billion pounds) charge from an import scam the commission is trying to recover, a senior European Union official said.

The EU executive arm has already decided to send the warning but postponed announcing it to Monday, Sept. 24, to avoid interfering with an EU summit in Austria this week, the official said.

Britain will receive a new formal warning, the second

step in EU sanctions procedure, for not having recovered 2.7 billion euros in revenues lost in a scam involving Chinese imports into Europe. The EU warned London about this for the first time in March.

The procedure is meant to put pressure on the offending member states and could eventually end up in financial sanctions, although this has occurred only in rare cases.

The imports were declared at an artificially low value to reduce the level of customs duties raised, according to the Commission, with a resultant impact on the EU's budget.

Google defends Gmail data sharing

Reuters | Washington, San Francisco

Alphabet Inc's Google gave details about its policies for third-party Gmail add-ons but stopped short of fully addressing questions from US senators about developers who break its email-scanning rules.

Google said in a letter to US senators made public on Thursday that it relies on automated scans and reports from security researchers to monitor add-ons after launch, but did not respond to lawmakers' request to say how many have been caught violating the company's policies.

Senators may seek further clarity on Gmail's operations at a Commerce Committee hearing



Representative picture (Courtesy of Daily Express)

about privacy practices scheduled for Sept. 26 with officials from Google, Apple Inc, AT&T Inc and Twitter Inc.

Google did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Gmail users must give their consent to activate exten-

Google told senators it has suspended apps due to "a lack of transparency to users," without identifying violators or when enforcement actions took place.

sions, which can help them send emails on a time delay, get price-match rebates from retailers and remove unwanted mailing lists.

Under Google's policies, software firms that create these add-ons must inform users about how they collect and share Gmail data.

The lawmakers' inquiry came

after the *Wall Street Journal* reported in July that some add-on makers did not make clear to users that their employees could review Gmail messages and that their data could be shared with additional parties.

Software experts said in March that auditing of apps that interact with Gmail, Facebook and other services is lax.

To be sure, sharing with a fourth party is essential to the functioning of some add-ons. For instance, a trip-planning app may scan a user's email for upcoming flight details and then use the data to query an airline for updated departure information. Gmail, used by 1.4bn, is not the only Google service drawing questions about oversight.

SHOW

Disney admits Dark Side for 'Star Wars'

Los Angeles, United States

After the lackluster performance of the latest installment in the wildly popular "Star Wars" saga, Disney is tapping the brakes on the franchise -- an acknowledgment that there can be too much of a good thing.

In an interview published Thursday, CEO Bob Iger told The Hollywood Reporter that Disney plans to slow down the "Star Wars" release schedule, admitting that it had been a mistake to shuttle a new film into theaters every year.

"I made the timing decision, and as I look back, I think the mistake that I made -- I take the blame -- was a little too much, too fast," Iger said.

"You can expect some slowdown, but that doesn't mean we're not going to make films."

Disney -- which paid \$4 billion for Lucasfilm in 2012 -- had promised a new "Star Wars" movie every year after the hotly-anticipated 2015 release of "The Force Awakens": news they believed would delight fans around the world.

After all, "The Force Awakens" picked up 30 years after the events of 1983's "Return of the Jedi" and came a decade after the previous "Star Wars" movie of any kind.

But Disney, whose initial plan was to alternate releases between chapters in the main series launched in the late 1970s and one-off films expanding the "Star Wars" universe, seems to have learned that anticipation is part of the equation.

Earlier this year, the standalone "Solo:



CEO Bob Iger

A Star Wars Story" earned \$400 million worldwide -- a stellar result for most movies, but a mediocre return for a "Star Wars" film, leading many industry observers to speculate about franchise fatigue.

In contrast, "Star Wars: The Last Jedi," which was released just six months before in late 2017, earned more than \$1.3 billion worldwide.

The next film -- "Episode IX," announced as the last installment in the main Skywalker saga, and directed by JJ Abrams -- is due for release in December 2019.

Indiana Jones hat fetches \$500,000

London, United Kingdom

Indiana Jones's signature fedora fetched more than half a million dollars at a blockbuster London auction of rare memorabilia from some of the most iconic movies of the past 40 years.

But the star attraction -- the sleek jacket worn by the loveable Star Wars scoundrel Han Solo in "The Empire Strikes Back" -- failed to clear the £500,000 (\$665,000, 563,000 euros) reserve and went unsold.

Organisers said they had "a number of post-auction enquires" about the space-travelling jacket and were hoping to strike a deal in the coming days.

More than 600 costumes and props from much-adored films and television series went under the hammer on the banks of the River Thames.

The memorabilia seller Prop Store has held the annual event since 2014 and



A scene from the movie Indiana Jones

expected to collect a record £3.5 million.

That figure might not be initially met with the jacket setback.

Organisers were hoping it would get up to a £1 million. The auction was halted with bids at £450,000 -- just short of the minimum price set by the undisclosed seller.

JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN

(PG) (COMEDY/ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW

⊗ ROWAN ATKINSON, OLGA KURYLENKO, EMMA THOMPSON

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

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

(1.00 AM THURS./FRI.)

CITY CENTER VIP (11): 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30 + 10.30 PM +

(12.30 MN. THURS./FRI.)

CITY CENTER VIP (1): 11.45 AM + 1.45 + 3.45 + 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM.

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

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

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

BATTI GUL METER CHALU

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE NUN

(18+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW

⊗ TAISSA FARMIGA, DEMIAN BICHER, BONNIE AARONS

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

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

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

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

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

THE MEG

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER)

⊗ JASON STATHAM, RUBY ROSE, BINGBING LI

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

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

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

EL BADLAH

(PG-13) (ARABIC/COMEDY)

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

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

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

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

THE PREDATOR

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

⊗ BOYD HOLBROOK, TREVANTE RHODES, JACOB TREMBLAY

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

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

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

PEPPERMINT

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

⊗ JENNIFER GARNER, RICHARD CABRAL, JOHN GALLAGHER JR.

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

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

A SIMPLE FAVOR

(15+) (THRILLER/CRIME/DRAMA)

⊗ ANNA KENDRICK, BLAKE LIVELY, HENRY GOLDING

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

SAAR DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM

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

ALPHA

(PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA)

⊗ KODI SMIT-MCPHEE, JOHANNES HAUKEUR JOHANNESON

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

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE FALLOUT

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

⊗ TOM CRUISE, HENRY CAVILL, VING RHAMES

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

THE EQUALIZER- 2

(15+) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER)

⊗ DENZEL WASHINGTON, PEDRO PASCAL, ASHTON SANDERS

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

HOTELTRANSYLVANIA 3: SUMMER

(PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/DRAMA)

⊗ ADAM SANDLER, ANDY SAMBERG, FRAN DRESCHER

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

REPRISAL

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

⊗ BRUCE WILLIS, FRANK GRILLO, JOHNATHON SCHAECH

CINECO (20) DAILY AT: 9.15 + 11.15 PM

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN

(PG) (FAMILY/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)

⊗ EWAN MCGREGOR, HAYLEY ATWELL, BRONTE CARMICHAEL

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

SKYSCRAPER

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

⊗ DWAYNE JOHNSON, NEVE CAMPBELL, PABLO SCHREIBER

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

MILE 22

(15+) (ACTION/THRILLER)

⊗ MARK WAHLBERG, LAUREN COHAN, IKO UWAIIS

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

WILDLING

(15+) (THRILLER/HORROR) NEW

⊗ LIV TYLER, BRAD DOURIF, BEL POWLEY

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

ANIMAL WORLD

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

⊗ DONGYU ZHOU, MICHAEL DOUGLAS, YIFENG LI

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

ELIZABETH HARVEST

(18+) (THRILLER) NEW

⊗ ABBEY LEE, CARLA GUGINO, CIAR 'N HINDS

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

THE YELLOW BIRDS

(15+) (DRAMA/WAR) NEW

⊗ TONI COLLETTE, JENNIFER ANISTON, ALDEN EHRENREICH

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

MONSTERS BUSTERS

(PG) (ADVENTURE/FAMILY) NEW

⊗ MATTHEW KOSTO, AUGGIE PULLIAM, AUSTIN ST. JOHN

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

FARKISH

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

⊗ WAEL ALA, KARIM AL HUSSAINI, ABDULLATIF AL SHAMI

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

PADAYOTTAM

(MALAYALAM) NEW

⊗ BIJU MENON, ANU SITHARA, RAVI SINGH

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

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

SAAMY 2

(TAMIL) NEW

⊗ VIKRAM, TRISHA KRISHNAN, KEERTHI SURESH

FROM FRIDAY 21ST

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

FROM FRIDAY 21ST

AL HAMRA

DAILY AT: 3.00 + 9.00 PM

KINAVALLY

(MALAYALAM) NEW

⊗ SOWMYA MENON, HAREESH PERUMANNA, SURABHI SANTHOSH

AL HAMRA DAILY AT: 12.00 NOON

Chris Evans to star in Apple series

“A vengers: Infinity War” Astar Chris Evans has signed on to play the lead in Apple miniseries “Defending Jacob”.

The thriller series, to be directed by “The Imitation Game” helmer Morten Tyldum, is based on the nov-

el of the same name by William Landay, reported Variety. The 37-year-old actor will play Andy Barber, a district attorney who finds that his teenage son is a suspect in the case of a murdered 14-year-old boy he is investigating. This is Evans' first ma-

ajor television role since 2000's “The Opposite of Sex” miniseries. Mark Bomback, the scribe of “War for the Planet of the Apes”, has created and written the eight-episode series. He will also executive produce and serve as the showrunner.



Saif Ali Khan in Sacred Games in character as Sartaj Singh

Netflix renews Sacred Games

The Hindu

Sacred Games, Netflix's first original Indian show, has been renewed for a second season. Based on author Vikram Chandra's best-selling novel, season two of the show, set in Mumbai's underbelly, will feature more of the characters we

fell in love with.

The second season picks up from Sartaj Singh (Saif Ali Khan) pursuing his relentless battle of saving the city and Ganesh Gaitonde (Nawazuddin Siddiqui) facing bigger challenges to retain his position as the legendary kingpin of Mumbai.

The intriguing Guruji (Pankaj Tripathi), introduced in season one as Gaitonde's 'third father,' plays a pivotal role in unfolding a chain of events that shape the next season -- which is scheduled to film in India and locations overseas this fall.

Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap will continue directing Ganesh

Gaitonde's track, while Neeraj Ghaywan (of Masaan fame) will take over Sartaj Singh's plot. Vikramaditya Motwane and Varun Grover will continue their roles of being the showrunner and the lead writer respectively, according to a statement from the entertainment service.

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JAVAMOTORSBH

SPORTS
sports**Wiggins abandons Olympic rowing bid**

London, United Kingdom

Five-time Olympic champion cyclist Bradley Wiggins has abandoned plans to bid to row for Britain at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

The 2012 Tour de France winner retired from cycling in December 2016 and flirted with the idea of rowing competitively, taking part in last December's British Rowing Indoor Championships. The 38-year-old told his eponymous Eurosport show: "I'm still training most days with it, but I've decided I'm not going to the Olympics because I've got too much other stuff to do."

"I need to give myself a break. I haven't got time to train three times a day. To the level I want to do it to, it's a full-time job in itself. There's too much going on."

Wiggins previously floated the possibility of going to a sixth Olympics in Tokyo, when he will be 40, as a rower, although his lack of experience and the timeframe meant that was always a challenging prospect. He won a fifth Olympic gold in the men's team pursuit at Rio 2016 after returning to the track from the road.

Osaka advances to semis

Tokyo, Japan

Japan's Naomi Osaka exuded a major champion's aura yesterday as she dispatched Barbora Strycova 6-3, 6-4 to reach the Pan Pacific Open semi-finals, despite being nowhere near her best.

The third seed, who stunned Serena Williams to capture the US Open title earlier this month, failed to hit the same heights she did on that historic night in New York.

But she still had too much firepower for Strycova in Tokyo, advancing to face Italy's Camila Giorgi in the last four.

Eighth seed Strycova had little answer to her opponent's venomous hitting and the world number seven bagged the first set with a sledgehammer forehand that almost tore the racquet from the Czech's hand.

The 20-year-old Osaka, contesting her first tournament since becoming Japan's first Grand Slam singles winner, never looked back against a player 12 years her senior, with another forehand rocket bringing up a first match point.

Strycova saved that one but moments later, Osaka fired a bruising serve into the body to extend her current winning



Naomi Osaka of Japan

streak to nine matches.

"It would mean a lot to win this tournament," said Osaka, who reached the Tokyo final in 2016.

"It definitely is on my mind," added Japan's latest sporting celebrity, who has a Japanese mother, a Haitian father and was raised in the United States.

“My serve will be there when I’m in danger. That’s how I saved a lot of break points at the US Open and I’m not trying to do anything different

NAOMI OSAKA

“But tomorrow is going to be a hard match. I’ve never played (Giorgi) before but I know she’s a very difficult player to play against.”

Giorgi, who knocked out top seed and defending champion Caroline Wozniacki on Thursday, was leading former world number one Victoria Azarenka 5-3 when the Belarusian retired with stomach pains.

Service gremlins

“I’m looking forward to it,” shrugged Osaka, backing herself

to fix the gremlins that plagued her serve against Strycova.

“My serve will be there when I’m in danger. That’s how I saved a lot of break points at the US Open and I’m not trying to do anything different.”

Earlier, fourth seed Karolina Pliskova saved two match points before the former women’s top-ranked player ended American qualifier Alison Riske’s run with a 6-1, 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/4) victory.

The Czech, who smashed a racquet in disgust after squandering multiple chances at 5-5 in the deciding set, completed a “lucky win” with a sliced backhand that Riske wafted into the net after two hours, 40 minutes.

“It was an important win for me,” said Pliskova after reaching her first Tokyo semi-final.

“I’m just happy to be able to fight back -- she was a little bit better than me, but you need a bit of luck in tennis.”

Pliskova faces Croatia’s Donna Vekic in the last four after she upset second seed Caroline Garcia 6-3, 6-4.

Garcia blew an early break to allow Vekic to take the opening set and the Frenchwoman suffered a carbon-copy letdown in the second, the Croatian ending her misery with a backhand winner.

Sergio Aguero extends contract

London, United Kingdom

Manchester City’s record goalscorer Sergio Aguero extended his stay with the Premier League champions yesterday, signing a one-year contract extension.

The 30-year-old Argentina international -- who broke the record last season and whose tally stands at 204 -- put pen to paper on a deal that will see him through to the end of the 2021 season and postpones his stated desire to finish his career with Independiente back in his homeland.

“I am happy for this additional year,” said Aguero in a club statement.

“My idea was being here for 10 years. I’ve been here for seven years, it’s going to be 10 when the contract expires.

“This was the main reason I signed. I’m very happy because they have treated me very well since the first day I got here.”

City manager Pep Guardiola -- who has left Aguero out at times in the past two years with young Brazilian Gabriel Jesus getting the nod -- said he had not needed to change the striker’s mind about delaying his return to Argentina.

“I didn’t convince him, he decided himself,” said Guardiola at his Friday press conference.

“So I say thanks for the trust he has shown in us, like Vincent Kompany and David Silva.”

Guardiola, though, believes that Aguero -- who earns a reported £220,000 (\$288,000) a week -- staying 10 years at the same club will be a thing of the past.

“Before it was easier to find players to stay their whole career in the same club,” said Guardiola.

“They want to live new experiences, and it’s not bad if they want to discover new languages and learn other cultures.

“It happened with Sergio: Argenti-



Manchester City's Argentinian striker Sergio Aguero

na, then Madrid and then here. He’s an important player for the club, not just for the team.”

Txiki Begiristain, Manchester City’s director of football, said Aguero retained his status as one of the club’s most pivotal players.

Lukaku hunts golden boot as United gather momentum

Manchester, United Kingdom

Romelu Lukaku will look at Manchester United’s next three Premier League games as a good opportunity to strengthen his prospects of being this season’s top scorer in the competition.

Wolves visit Old Trafford on Saturday, before a trip to West Ham and a home fixture against Newcastle, by which time Lukaku could be the clear leader in the race for the Golden Boot.

Lukaku goes into this weekend with four Premier League goals, one behind Chelsea’s Eden Hazard at the top of the standings, but has not had an entirely smooth start.

The Belgium striker has scored in each of United’s past two league matches, with both goals in a 2-0 win at Burnley on September 2 and another in last weekend’s 2-1 victory at Watford.

Yet he continues to face accusations that he is a ‘flat-track bully’ because of his disappointing record against the rest of England’s big six teams.

Of the 20 Premier League goals Lukaku has scored for United since arriving from Everton in July 2017, only one has come against the teams who made up last season’s final top six -- when Chelsea were defeated at Old Trafford in February.

Perhaps, then, a run of fixtures against opponents lower down the table will offer a chance to bolster his goal total.

He may also be helped by the fact Liverpool’s Mohamed Salah and Tottenham’s Harry Kane have not, so far, reached the high standards they set last season, while Sergio Aguero, who has three league goals to date, is likely to be rotated with Gabriel Jesus at



Manchester United's Belgian striker Romelu Lukaku

Manchester City. “You always compete every year against Aguero and Kane, and Salah this year. You always think about (the Golden Boot), being a striker,” Lukaku said.

“But then, while I want to score as much as I can, I want to win championships. That’s why I signed for Manchester United.”

Last season, Lukaku was the sixth-highest scorer in the Premier League with 16 goals, half the total that Salah achieved to win the Golden Boot.

The victory at Watford was followed on Wednesday by a 3-0 defeat of Swiss side Young Boys in the Champions League, and Mourinho’s recent grumbles about a lack of adequate close-season transfer market activity have quietened.

A consistent goalscoring run from Lukaku over the next fortnight will further improve both the mood and the league position; costly defeats by Brighton and Tottenham during August mean that United go into the weekend lying eighth, six points behind leaders Chelsea. If Lukaku can keep on scoring regularly beyond that -- with a league trip to pace-setters Chelsea to come later in October -- then he may have a genuine chance of winning the league titles he craves.

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Fisher cards first 59 in European Tour history

Vilamoura, Portuga

Unheralded Englishman Oliver Fisher fired the first round of 59 in the European Tour’s 46-year history on a remarkable second day of the Portugal Masters on Friday.

The 30-year-old tapped in for par on the final hole to complete an astonishing 12-under-par round featuring 10 birdies and an eagle, after his long birdie putt for a 58 grazed the edge of the hole.

Joshua promises to find a way against Povetkin

London, United Kingdom

Anthony Joshua has admitted to feeling under "tons of pressure" ahead of his latest world heavyweight title defence against Russia's Alexander Povetkin at London's Wembley Stadium today.

Joshua, the 2012 Olympic champion, will be fighting in front of his home London crowd as he looks to extend his unbeaten professional record to 22 consecutive wins when he puts his International Boxing Federation, World Boxing Association and World Boxing Organisation titles on the line.

The fight sees Joshua returning to the scene of arguably his greatest triumph, an 11th-round stoppage of former champion Wladimir Klitschko last year.

But he will be under particular pressure to deliver this time around. Many boxing fans had hoped this weekend would see Joshua up against World Boxing Council heavyweight champion Deontay Wilder.

Negotiations with the American's camp have proved fruitless, although whether that's the fault of Joshua's promoter Eddie Hearn, Wilder's management or some combination of both - the often protracted nature of talks before a 'mega fight' actually takes place makes it difficult to say.

That Britain's Tyson Fury, himself a former world heavyweight champion, is set to meet Wilder in Las Vegas in Novem-



Britain's Anthony Joshua (L) stares at his challenger Russia's Alexander Povetkin during a joint press conference at Wembley stadium in London

ber, as he continues his comeback to the ring is a reminder that Joshua is not the 'only show in town', either domestically or

internationally.

Joshua's last fight saw the 28-year-old taken the distance for the first time in his profes-

Joshua heavier than Povetkin

London, United Kingdom

Britain's world heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua will be over a stone heavier than his veteran Russian opponent Alexander Povetkin when he defends his title at Wembley on Saturday.

Joshua -- whose International Boxing Federation, World Boxing Association and World Boxing Organisation titles will be on the line -- weighed in on Friday at 17 stone 8 pounds (111.5 kilogrammes), whilst 39-year-old Povetkin tipped the scales at 15st 12lbs.

sional career, but he secured a unanimous decision over New Zealand's Joseph Parker in Cardiff in March.

'Fire in my belly'

"There's loads of pressure; tons of pressure," Joshua told a Wembley news conference on Thursday. "That's the reality.

"You're calm and collected but underneath it all it's the reality. We both know what we are in for. It's the same with every fight.

"What more can I do than give my best? I'll go out there and find a way to win."

Joshua added: "I know I have a lot of fire in my belly; that's just as important as skills.

"Skills and technique apart, we both have a big heart and can dig deep. We both showed that against Klitschko (who beat Povetkin on points).

"The one who's toughest will come out victorious."

A crowd of some 80,000 is expected at Wembley and Joshua said: "Coming back is a blessing

-- it's time to put on a performance.

"This is not new to me, this feels like home."

The night Joshua outpointed Parker at Cardiff's Principality Stadium, Povetkin demonstrated his considerable punching power on the undercard, with a fearsome fifth-round knockout of Britain's David Price.

Povetkin, like Joshua, is a former Olympic champion, having won gold at Athens in 2004.

The only blot on his 35-fight professional record is the 2013 defeat by Klitschko.

He will be giving away several inches in height and reach against Joshua, but Povetkin is convinced he is now a stronger fighter than the one beaten by Klitschko.

"Joshua is one of the strongest in the division," said Povetkin. "Anthony is a very strong fighter but I am just as strong.

"When I fought Klitschko I was much weaker and in worse shape than I am now."

Nadeem dreams of India cap

New Delhi, India

Indian spinner Shahbaz Nadeem yesterday said destiny will decide his dream of playing for the country after breaking a two-decade old List-A bowling record with figures of 8-10 in a domestic game in Chennai.

Nadeem, 29, helped his state side Jharkhand register a big win over Rajasthan with his 10 overs of wily left-arm spin that included a hat-trick on Thursday in the Vijay Hazare Trophy, India's top domestic one-day competition.

"Performances like these are a step towards achieving my dream of playing for my country India," Nadeem told AFP by phone from Chennai.

"But to tell you frankly I have deliberately stopped thinking about this (India call up) because the more you think about it the more frustrated you become and it starts affecting your performance.

"I believe if you continue performing consistently then one day selectors will take note and you will get your chance," said Nadeem, who is also a regular with Indian Premier League side Delhi Daredevils.

He added: "My job is to keep performing at the domestic circuit and leave the rest to God. If it's destined it will happen."

Fenati suspended for pulling rival's brake

Paris, France

Disgraced Italian Moto2 rider Romano Fenati, who grabbed a rival's brake lever during the San Marino Grand Prix earlier this month, had his licence suspended until the end of the year by the International Motorcycling Federation on Friday.

The 22-year-old had already said he was retiring from the sport after being sacked by his Marinelli Snipers team and the Forward Racing team he was due to join next year.

Fenati was called to the FIM headquarters in Switzerland on Tuesday.

"A new FIM licence for the 2019 season may be granted to him subject to the conditions laid down in the FIM Regulations," the sport's governing body said in a statement.

Fenati's moment of madness, when he caused Stefano Manzi to temporarily lose his balance before regaining control of his bike, caused widespread condemnation.

"The FIM representatives... reminded Mr Fenati of the profound influence high-level athletes can have on fans and young people and urged him to be mindful of his responsibility to set a positive example in future," the statement added.

Fenati, who was originally suspended for two weeks by Marinelli Snipers before being fired, had apologised to "the world of sport" the following day.

Liverpool eye history against Southampton

Liverpool, United Kingdom

Liverpool look to maintain their impressive start to the new season in a potentially historic meeting against Southampton, with Jurgen Klopp's players benefitting from their relatively quiet summer of international football.

Only four clubs in Premier League history - Newcastle in 1994, Manchester City two seasons ago and the Chelsea sides of 2005 and 2009 - have opened a campaign with six consecutive victories.

Now, Reds boss Klopp can add his current Liverpool side to that list with a victory over Southampton at Anfield on Saturday.

A win would also mark the first time since 1990-91 that Liverpool have opened the league season with seven consecutive victories.

Liverpool's impressive start to the season, which has also included the thrilling midweek home Champions League victory over Paris Saint-Germain, can be traced to a number of factors.

But the fact that a only small number of Klopp's key players made it through to the latter stages of the Russia World Cup is, possibly, one of the main reasons for such a strong opening to the season.

Just five Liverpool players were involved in the quarter-finals of the World Cup, behind

Chelsea, Tottenham and the two Manchester clubs with reigning champions City having had 11 of their stars reach the last eight.

Tottenham, whom Liverpool beat impressively 2-1 in London last week, had nine of their key personnel reach that stage of the World Cup, while Klopp has seen the likes of Andy Robertson, Virgil Van Dijk, James Milner and Georginio Wijnaldum make major contributions for his side having missed out on Russia completely.

Klopp also appears to have managed those players who did play an extended role in Russia extremely well.

Fitness levels

Club captain Jordan Henderson, who reached the semi-finals with England, has started just one league game but played a crucial role against PSG in midweek and explained the logic behind Klopp's management style.

"The lads have worked so hard in pre-season and I can see the benefits already in how fit they are, the rhythm they have got from playing games," said Henderson.

"You can see that in the performances, they are winning games. So it's normal for me that I'm not playing, I can accept it.

"Obviously, it's a lot easier when you've had longer in pre-season and more games to play before the season starts



Liverpool's Brazilian midfielder Fabinho (L) and Liverpool's German manager Jurgen Klopp

then of course it is a lot easier to get in your rhythm straight away, your fitness levels will be

higher.

"When you are coming back from a World Cup when you

have had time off, you come back in and you have still got to get back up to speed straight away.

"I've used this period to try and refresh my body, refresh my mind because last season was long.

"Especially with the World Cup, it was enjoyable and ended with the disappointment but it was a long season and this is going to be another long season hopefully with a lot of games so I'm using this period to be as ready as possible."

Klopp's policy has also been aided by a busy summer transfer window in which he has added depth to his squad in key positions.

In the win over PSG, the Liverpool manager was able to start Daniel Sturridge ahead of Roberto Firmino and bring new signing Xherdan Shaqiri off the bench, to replace Mohamed Salah, with the game in the balance at 2-2.

Now, Liverpool fans dreaming of a first league title in 29 years, will hope the players who were involved deep into the World Cup - including Croatian defender Dejan Lovren who is currently injured - will soon be back to peak form.

Firmino, who came off the bench to net the winner against PSG despite suffering with an eye injury sustained against Tottenham, is likely to be fit to start against Southampton.

Rohit, Jadeja star as India thrash B'desh

India Today | Dubai

India made little work of Bangladesh's meagre total of 173, as strong performances from skipper Rohit Sharma and the returning Ravindra Jadeja helped India beat Bangladesh by 7 wickets in their Super Four match of the Asia Cup in Dubai yesterday.

Shikhar Dhawan gave India the perfect start as he raced away to a 47-ball 40, before his opening partner anchored the chase with his 36 ODI fifty at the Dubai International Stadium.

Attacking from the start, Dhawan proved too hot to handle for the Bangladeshi pacers, but was trapped by the wily Shakib Al Hasan in front of the stumps.

Rohit though continued the good work, first partnering with Ambati Rayudu (13) and then MS Dhoni.

Dhoni was promoted up the batting order to much applause and even though the former World Cup-winning captain started timidly, he grew in confidence as the innings progressed.

But the star of the Indian chase was undoubtedly the India skipper, as he blasted the Bangladeshi bowlers all around the park. He finished his innings on an unbeaten 83, including 5 fours and 3 sixes.



Indian cricketer Ravindra Jadeja

But India's win was set up by Ravindra Jadeja's four-wicket haul, which helped India dis-

miss Bangladesh for 173. The all-rounder, playing his first ODI since July 2017, broke

ASIA CUP SCOREBOARD

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Bangladesh | |
| Total: (all out; 49.1 overs) | 173 |
| India: | |
| R. Sharma not out | 83 |
| S. Dhawan lbw b Shakib | 40 |
| A. Rayudu c Rahim b Rubel | 13 |
| M. Dhoni c Mithun b Mortaza | 33 |
| D. Karthik not out | 1 |
| Extras: (lb1, nb2, w1) | 4 |
| Total: (for three wkts; 36.2 overs) | 174 |

Result: India win by seven wickets

the backbone of Bangladesh batting with his accurate left-arm spin and ended with impressive figures of four for 29 in 10 overs.

Bangladesh batsmen faltered again, having come a cropper in the run chase against Afghanistan on Thursday night. The seasoned pace duo of Bhuvneshwar Kumar (3/32) and Jasprit Bumrah (3/37) too made life tough for the opposition.

The saving grace for Bangladesh was the 66-run stand for the eighth wicket between Mehidy Hasan Miraz (42 off 50) and captain Mashrafe Mortaza (26 off 32) before the team was all out in 49.1 overs.

Bangladesh, who lost to Af-

ghanistan less than 24 hours ago and had to take the 90-minute journey from Abu Dhabi to Dubai, paid the price for reckless batting.

They lost their openers Liton Das (7) and Nazmul Hossain Shanto (7) by the sixth over.

From 15 for two, the experienced pairing of Shakib Al Hasan (21) and Mushfuqir Rahim had a task of rebuilding the innings but the former fell to a loose shot off Jadeja. The star Bangladesh all-rounder, having hit Jadeja for two boundaries in the 10th over, went for another one but his sweep went straight into the hands of Shikhar Dhawan at square leg.

Shahidi, Asghar lift Afghanistan to 257-6

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Hashmatullah Shahidi missed out on a maiden hundred by a mere three runs but still steered Afghanistan to a challenging 257-6 against Pakistan in the Asia Cup at Abu Dhabi yesterday. Shahidi hit three consecutive boundaries in the final over off Usman Shinwari, but failed to get to three figures off the last delivery after Afghanistan won the toss and batted in the Super Four clash.

Shahidi finished with a brilliantly-paced 118-ball 97 not out, and added 94 for the fourth wicket with his skipper Asghar Afghan, who smashed five sixes and two fours in his 56-ball 67.

But it was Shahidi who held one end against Pakistan's bowling in an innings which featured seven boundaries after left-arm spinner Mohammad Nawaz (3-57) had put the brakes on Afghanistan's early progress. Shahidi had added 63 for the third wicket with Rahmat Shah who scored a measured 36. The total is an improvement by Afghanistan after scoring 249 and 255 in their previous two wins against Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Pakistani fielders dropped four catches -- three off debutant paceman Shaheen Shah Afridi who finished with 2-38. **At the time of closing Pakistan was 183/3.**

Simon finally beats Gasquet



Gilles Simon

Metz, France

Gilles Simon finally managed to beat his fellow Frenchman Richard Gasquet at the ninth attempt with a 7-6 (7/4), 6-2, victory in the Metz quarter-finals yesterday.

Aside from Gasquet winning every one of their eight previous encounters Simon arrived in Metz out of sorts, with only a US Open first round win since reaching the last 16 at Wimbledon in July.

The two-time Metz winner was more aggressive in the first set and broke to lead 4-2,

but was unable to do the same when serving for the set at 5-4.

In the tie-break, Gasquet, ranked 25th, took the first two points but Simon fought back to clinch the set in 59 minutes.

He then rolled through the second set without too many problems and will face 107th ranked Moldovan Radu Albot in the last four.

"It is very, very hard to win against a player you have never beaten, but I started well," said Simon, ranked 39th in the world.

"The tie-break in the first set was stressful but after that I played very well."

Stan Wawrinka dethrones Dzumhur

Saint Petersburg, Russia

Stan Wawrinka beat last year's St Petersburg champion Damir Dzumhur in straight sets to reach the semifinals yesterday.

The 33-year-old Swiss wild card beat the Bosnian, who was seeded sixth, 6-3, 6-4 in one hour and 11 minutes to level their head-to-head record at one all.

"The level of my play was good today and the win makes me feel positive," Wawrinka said.

In the last four, Wawrinka will face Slovak Martin Klizan, the 2012 champion, who battled back from a set down to beat seventh-seeded Denis Shapovalov of Canada 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.

"I expect an interesting match with Klizan in the semis," Wawrinka said. "We've played a couple of times in the past and it was always really tough."

Wawrinka, the former world number three who is down at 88 after struggling to find his best form following two operations on his left knee, looked nervous at the start dropping his serve early in the opening set.

He responded by breaking back twice to take the opener in 32 minutes.

In the second, Wawrinka broke early and experienced few troubles.

Earlier on Friday, fifth seed-



In the last four, Stan Wawrinka will face Slovak Martin Klizan



The level of my play was good today and the win makes me feel positive

WAWRINKA

ed Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut saw off Italian third seed Marco Cecchinato of Italy 7-6 (7/0), 6-3 in the pair's first ever meeting.

In the semis, the 26-year-old Bautista Agut will face the winner of the match between Austria's French Open runner-up Dominic Thiem, the top seed, and the local crowd favourite Daniil Medvedev, who is seeded eighth.

Federer mulling clay court return

Chicago, United States

World number two Roger Federer says he is mulling a return to the European clay-court season in 2019 following a two-year absence.

Federer, speaking to ESPN on the sidelines of this weekend's Laver Cup, has skipped the clay-court segment of the season since 2017 in order to conserve energy for Wimbledon and hard-court seasons.

However the 37-year-old revealed he is rethinking his scheduling for next season, and may yet play on clay.

"The clay-court season is under review," Federer told ESPN. "It's not off the table. I will know by the end of the year."

Three ATP Masters events are held on clay as well as several smaller tournaments in the build up to the French Open.

Federer said if he does opt to play the clay-court season it will require a significant tweak of his training regime.

"I would like to make up my mind ahead of time so I can plan my buildup, my fitness schedule, even the way I would approach my December practice sessions," Federer said. "It could benefit the clay-court season."