

Man City demolish Watford

Manchester City powered to their record Premier League win as the champions scored five times in the first half of an incredible 8-0 thrashing of Watford, while Leicester enjoyed a VAR-assisted 2-1 victory over Tottenham yesterday. **P16**

OP-ED 8 Climate change deniers find their audience shrinking much faster

THE DAILY **tribune**



WORLD 5 More than 100 arrested in Paris
 CELEBS 14 Britney Spears, beau make rare red carpet appearance

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Qatar urged to stop rhetoric of hatred

The UAE called Doha to review its practices, activities and national laws in relevant to terrorism issues.



A delegation from the Al Ghufran tribe has taken their case to the 39th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.

92 recommendations have been placed before Qatar by the UPR team.

Dubai

The United Arab Emirates, UAE, has urged Qatar to stop programmes that promote hate rhetoric and incitement of hatred in its local media, saying the trend threatens the security of countries in the region, including Qatar itself.

While delivering the UAE statement before the forty-second regular session of the Human Rights Council held in Geneva to discuss the Universal Periodic Review, UPR, of Qatar,

Amira Al Amri of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, said the UAE had taken note of conclusions made by the UPR team of experts and urged Qatar once again to

pay proper attention and care to 92 recommendations, including those presented by the UAE, regarding unlawful practices by Qatar in harbouring and supporting terrorist groups.

Protests in Egypt
 Cairo

Hundreds protested in central Cairo and several other Egyptian cities late on Friday against President Abdel Fattah El Sisi, responding to an online call for a demonstration against government corruption, witnesses said.

Protests have become very rare in Egypt following a broad crackdown on dissent under El Sisi, who took power after the overthrow of the former Islamist president Mohammed Mursi in 2013 following mass protests against his rule.

'Saudi will respond'

Riyadh says Iran bears responsibility for Aramco attacks

The Kingdom says the weapons used in the attacks were Iranian-made.



Mr Al Jubeir

Jeddah

Saudi Arabia will take appropriate steps to respond to an attack on its oil facilities if, as expected, a Saudi investigation confirms that Iran is responsible, a senior official said yesterday, as Iran's top commander warned that any country that attacks the Islamic republic will become the "main battlefield".

The comments were the latest salvos in the diplomatic crisis between Tehran and Washington after attacks on Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure and US President Donald Trump's decision to send American troops to bolster the Kingdom's defences.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Adel Al Jubeir said the probe would prove that the September 14 strikes came from the north and that Iran bore responsibility, a charge Tehran denies.

"The Kingdom will take the appropriate measures based on the results of the investigation, to ensure its security and stability," Mr Al Jubeir told a news conference, declining to speculate about specific actions.

US to send more troops

US President Donald Trump has approved sending American troops to bolster Saudi Arabia's air and missile defences after the largest-ever attack on the Kingdom's oil facilities, which Washington has squarely blamed on Iran. The Pentagon said the deployment would involve a moderate number of troops - not numbering thousands - and would be primarily defensive in nature. It also detailed plans to expedite delivery of military equipment to both Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

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Southern Governor Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) President Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa discussed cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). He said that the Southern Governorate has a rich historical and civilisational heritage which reflects the deep-rooted national identity. He underlined keenness on highlighting the Governorate's historical and civilisational vestiges through cooperation with the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) and the restoration of archaeological sites to enhance its cultural and social standing. BACA president expressed readiness to step up cooperation and enhance joint work, commending the Southern Governor's keenness on promoting historical and archaeological sites.

● The Undersecretary for International Affairs pointed out the identical visions and positions of the two countries in combating terrorism.

● Dr Shaikh Abdullah added that the legal frameworks in the Kingdom to combat terrorism are based on many outstanding legislations and laws.

Buenos Aires

The Minister of Defence of the Republic of Argentina Oscar Raúl Aguad yesterday met in Buenos Aires with the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, who is currently on an official working visit to Argentina.

At the beginning of the meeting, the minister expressed delight over Dr Shaikh Abdullah's visit to his country, and fully appreciated the stances of the Kingdom of Bahrain as a responsible and influential country at the regional and international levels and its efforts in combating terrorism and cementing the pillars of security and stability in the region and Middle East.

He hailed the joint efforts to develop co-operation between the two countries, especially in the defence and security fields.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa stressed that the consolidation of cooperation with

the friendly Republic of Argentina towards the growth of closer partnership occupies an advanced position in the foreign policy of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

He pointed out Argentina's importance and sound positions vis-a-vis Arab issues, adding that he is fully convinced that despite the geographical distance between the two friendly countries, they are building a new bridge of friendship and cooperation today.

The Undersecretary for International Affairs pointed out the identical visions and positions of the two countries in combating terrorism in of all forms and call for concerted international efforts to ensure the safety of maritime and energy security and deter anyone who practises terrorism against ships and civilian facilities.

He reiterated the Kingdom of Bahrain's condemnation of the terrorist attack on two Aramco facilities in Saudi Arabia, and affirmed support to the sisterly Kingdom in whatever measures it takes to protect its facilities and defend its interests.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah touched on the decisive and effective



Dr Shaikh Abdulla with Oscar Raúl Aguad.

measures taken by the Kingdom of Bahrain to combat the threat of terrorism and its role in co-operating with partners to promote regional peace and stability, praising in this context the great role played by the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF).

Highlighting the Bahrain International Defence Exhibition and Conference (BIDEC) to be hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain, under royal patronage on 28-30 October, he welcomed Argentina participation in this unique international event.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa also stressed that the Kingdom of Bahrain, thanks to the reforms of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, has achieved remarkable success in safeguarding freedoms and sustainable development while upholding noble human values.

During this visit, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for International Affairs also met with the Secretary of Security for the Argentine Ministry of Security Eugenio Burzaco. During the meeting, Dr Shaikh

Argentina backs Bahrain in fight against terrorism

Foreign Ministry Undersecretary holds talks with Argentinian Defence Minister

“The Kingdom of Bahrain is the voice of stability, openness and progress in a volatile region and has made have notable successes in thwarting terrorism plans.”

DR SHAIKH ABDULLA

Abdullah pointed out the importance of strengthening co-operation in the field of security between the two friendly countries, especially that the enemy is cross-border, adding that terrorism has homeland and seeks to undermine the security of all communities.

“The Kingdom of Bahrain is the voice of stability, openness and progress in a volatile region and has made have notable successes in thwarting terrorism plans,” he said.

“It is adopting a comprehensive and realistic approach to confront extremism and terrorism and is exerting great efforts to combat terrorism and its funders, based on a strategy of

integrating dimensions, proactivity and effectiveness to eliminate this scourge, as there will no real development without sustainable security,” he explained.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah added that the legal frameworks in the Kingdom of Bahrain to combat terrorism are based on many outstanding legislation and laws: commitment to international obligations, preventing the financing of terrorism and active participation in the relevant international and regional arrangements.

“Bahrain is an oasis of security and a beacon of peace that embraces everyone and is proud of its national unity and civilised coexistence,” he said, referring to the success of the Ministry of Interior in establishing a sophisticated security system, based on the efficiency of the human element, law, rights and a noticeable community police role.

For his part, Eugenio Burzaco appreciated the efforts of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the fight against terrorism and in reinforcing regional peace, expressing his country's aspiration to enhance security co-operation with the Kingdom for the benefit of both sides.

Midway Supermarket set to open its tenth branch today

● Over 8,000 prizes are in the store for customers, who can take part in the ‘Scratch and Win’ contest.

TDT | Manama

Taking its total investment in the Kingdom to BD20 million, Midway Supermarket will today open its tenth outlet.

The 800-square metre outlet in Tubli has different sections for organic food, fruits, vegetables, meat and bakery items.

Midway Supermarket currently operates its outlets in Zallaq, Riffa, Hamala, Saar, Ma-

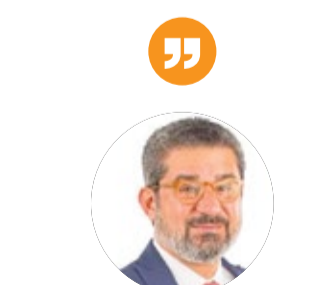


Midway Supermarket is one of the largest players in the local food market.

nama, Moda Mall, Muharraq, Arad and Diyar Al Muharraq. Over 8,000 prizes are in the

store for customers, who can take part in the ‘Scratch and Win’ contest.

In a statement issued to media, Khalid Al Amin, Chief Executive Officer of Midway Food



Our customer care policy takes care of their each and every need.

MR AL AMIN

Company, said: “Our company will continue to play a larger role in the local food market, which will, in turn, contribute

further towards the strengthening of the local economy.

“We are keen on investing in the local market. As of now, our investments in the Kingdom have reached over BD20 million.

“One of the major strengths of our company is that we offer great care to our customers. Our customer care policy takes care of their each and every need.

“For instance, if you see, at all our outlets there is not much distance between the place where shopping carts are kept and parking spaces for customers.

“This is important for us as we give great care to elderly shoppers as well as special-ly-abled customers.”

Bahrain 'backs Saudi'

Manama

Information Affairs Minister Ali Al Romaihi commended the pivotal role played by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its leadership, highlighting its deep-rooted religious and historical heritage.

He praised the Saudi King's enlightened and constructive role in promoting Islamic issues, fostering the culture of tolerance and moderation, taking honourable stances in support of poor and disaster-hit people, as well as bolstering security, peace and sustainable development in the regional and the world.

He extended deepest congratulations to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Defence Minister His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and the Saudi Government and people, on their country's 89th National Day, commemorating the unification and foundation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by late King Abdulaziz Al Saud.

In a statement to Saudi Press Agency (SPA), the minister said that Bahrain, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, stands united with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, backing its pivotal role to strengthen the GCC joint work, lead the Arab and Islamic nations, hailing deep-rooted historic and fraternal ties binding the two countries.

He underlined the solidarity of Bahrain, the Arab and Islamic nations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, backing all measures undertaken to maintain its security, stability and sovereignty, defend its borders and vital economic and oil facilities and protect the holy sites, ensure the safety of citizens and pilgrims and confront terrorist designs and criminal aggression and thwart all subversive attempts and combat terror and extremism.

The minister hailed the establishment of the Bahraini-Saudi Coordination last July, stressing its importance in consolidating complementary and strategic partnership in all political, economic, military, security and media fields, describing Riyadh as the biggest economic, trade and tourism partner.

Shura stresses Kingdom's initiatives 'to foster peace'

Bahrain, one of the first countries to ratify Paris Climate Agreement

● The Council noted that the Kingdom boasts a system of legislation and laws that protects the environment.

● House Speaker Fawziya Zainal paid tribute to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for turning Bahrain into a beacon of peace.



The Shura highlighted the Kingdom's initiatives to support peace across the world.

Manama

The Shura Council has expressed deep pride in the efforts being exerted by Bahrain, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, to support all endeavours aimed at promoting peace all over the world, through implementing international plans and goals that would achieve stability, progress and prosperity to countries and their peoples.

In a statement marking the International Day of Peace, observed around the world every September 21, and themed "Climate Action for Peace" this year, the Shura Council lauded the keenness of the government, led by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Salman Al Khalifa, and supported by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, to put forward plans and strategies aimed at consolidating the values and principles of peace, both at the local and international levels.

The Shura Council asserted that the Kingdom is making continuous efforts to support peace in various ways and through the implementation of national initiatives, and clear and ambitious programmes to keep pace with the challenges related to climate change, to be

able to honour its international obligations while meeting the mechanisms and requirements for mitigating climate change.

The Council pointed out that many institutions, as well as official and non-governmental bodies play a vital and important role in the development and implementation of awareness-raising and educational programmes related to climate change, adding that various groups and segments of society, especially school students, are involved in the successful implementation of these programmes.

The Council commended the continuous efforts, co-ordination and co-operation among various bodies and institutions, affirming that Bahrain was among the first countries to have ratified the Paris Climate Agreement in December 2016, in order to reaffirm its commitment to and participation with the world countries in implementing initiatives to reduce Implications of climate change.

It also stressed that the climate change issue requires more collective action at the local and international levels, and the adoption of advanced policies that are compatible with the growing problem of greenhouse gas emissions and its negative impact on the environment,

given the fact that climate change is directly related to promoting peace and ensuring a secure and safe future environment for the next generations.

The Council noted that the Kingdom boasts a system of legislation and laws that protects the environment, and supports the plans and strategies developed by the parties concerned with climate change and the environment, affirming its con-

tinuous efforts to update the national legislation related to the protection of the environment.

Separately, Council of Representatives Speaker Fawziya Zainal paid tribute to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for turning Bahrain into a beacon of peace, coexistence and tolerance between all religions, doctrines and sects and building a cohesive society.

She praised Bahrain's landmark strides, commending the

dedicated efforts exerted by the Government, chaired by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa.

She also paid tribute to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister for his support.

She hailed Bahrain's deep-rooted record of peaceful coexistence, cultural, religious and ethnic plurality, which was further consolidated through the pioneering reform process led by HM the King, hailing royal initiatives to foster peace, tolerance and coexistence, being a key pillar of national development.

She said that the legislative branch would co-operate with the Government to consolidate national achievements, implement international agreements and conventions in line with the global momentum aim to strengthen security and stability and achieve peace between peoples and societies.

“The legislative branch would co-operate with the Government to consolidate national achievements, implement international agreements and conventions.”

MS ZAINAL

'Clean-up mission' vow in Hamad Town

TDT | Manama

The residents of Hamad Town have expressed their dissatisfaction over unclean roads and streets as well as other civic issues.

This came as a team from the



The team inspected various locations in Hamad Town.

Northern Municipal council led by President Ahmed Kooheji carried out an inspection visit across the neighbourhoods of Hamad Town.

Residents urged the team to widen the roads, place waste containers at all neighbourhoods

apart from addressing accumulation of wastes in the area.

"These swamps are dangerous. It can lead to breeding of mosquitoes and insects. Food waste is attracting a lot of stray dogs into the area," said Mohamed Sayed, chairman of the Public Utilities Committee.

"Some people are throwing wastes on the road. They should be fined and all violations must be addressed."

The team also stressed the need to demolish dilapidated buildings in the area, which hosts expatriate labourers.

Mr Al Kooheji stressed that the people have a responsibility to preserve the area and its facilities and cleanliness, in order to reduce the costs of periodic maintenance.




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Major forum puts focus on oil projects in the Kingdom

71 ministers, 500 chief executives attend the world's largest gathering on energy industry

● The minister spoke at the first session about the most important oil projects implemented by the National Oil and Gas Authority (NOGA) in the Kingdom.

● The conference included 80 specialised technical sessions and more than 250 spokespersons from various international corporate leaders.



Shaikh Mohammed along with other ministers at the forum.

Abu Dhabi

Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Oil, participated in the 24th World Energy Conference, which was held in Abu Dhabi, under the patronage of HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates.

The participants 71 ministers and 500 chief executives, at the world's largest international gathering to meet the challenges and shape the future of the world's energy industry.

The minister expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation for the invitation of Suhail Al Mazroui, Minister of Energy of

the United Arab Emirates, to participate in this meeting between senior figures in the relevant decision-making.

He highly appreciated the tireless efforts made by the teams on organising this important event, noting that the world oil markets are witnessing growth and positive development despite concerns due to geopolitical impacts and trade economic tensions.

Pointing out that OPEC is committed in its hard work to achieve the overall goals to balance the global market.

The minister spoke at the first session about the most important oil projects implemented by the National Oil and Gas Authority (NOGA) in the Kingdom and the

5,000
participants from around the world attended the conference on future energy products.

implications of joint ventures between various specialised companies in this field.

He also discussed the future challenges and solutions that contribute to the growth of the economy and its positive development.

The minister stressed the co-operation among the oil producing and consuming countries and other stakeholders, and encouraging innovation and investment in human resources to achieve a high level of efficiency, benefiting from existing regional companies that possess global expertise, and the establishment of joint ventures.

In a related context, the minister appreciated the vision of Saudi Arabia, that has been transforming its energy sector to benefit its economy.

The minister, extended his congratulations to HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, on the occasion of his appointment as the new

Minister of Energy in Saudi Arabia for his experience and skills in this aspect, which is one of the most important contributors to the development of the oil sector in Saudi Arabia.

He wished Prince Abdulaziz a continued success in his new job and achieving the future aspirations to serve the future of this important sector. As well as, the Minister of Oil congratulated Yasser Bin Osman Al Rumayan on his appointment as the Chairman of Saudi Aramco, one of the largest oil companies, wishing him a continued success.

The conference included 80 specialised technical sessions and more than 250 spokespersons from various international corporate leaders, with more than 15,000 participants from around the world.

It reviewed a number of important topics: new visions of energy for prosperity, the concept of unmet business, an opportunity for change and overall prosperity, leadership of innovation: the role of governments in the future of energy, the path to prosperity and other related topics.

An exhibition in the presence of a number of officials and specialists was attended by 300 companies from 150 countries from different countries of the world, where it reviewed many products and information related to energy and the latest in modern technologies in this important field.

14 tenders awarded in August
Manama

Works Undersecretary at the Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry, Ahmed Abdulaziz Al Khayyat, said that the Tender Board had launched and awarded 14 tenders, worth BD 4,128,665, in August.

The tenders covered roads and sanitation projects, as well as those of construction and maintenance works, he added.

The Undersecretary pointed out that tenders for nine projects, worth BD 3,345,905, in the roads, sanitation, construction and maintenance fields had been awarded.

He also said that five tenders, with an estimated cost of BD 782,760, related mainly to the operation of the treated wastewater network and the maintenance of the residence of the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom at the United Nations in New York.

Mr Al Khayyat noted that a total of 54 purchase demands, costing BD 157,976, had been approved during the same month.

The Works Ministry had also received a number of rehabilitation applications from various sectors, five of which were approved and their licenses issued, four were rejected and three were canceled automatically, he indicated.

First private technical testing centre for vehicles opened

Manama

The General Directorate of Traffic and the National Motor Company have inaugurated the first technical examination centre for vehicles that would be operated by the private sector.

The step was part of plans to privatise this service, it is learnt.

The department would continue to carry the technical inspections for cars as usual.

The Director-General of Traffic, Brigadier Shaikh Abdulrahman bin Abdulwahab Al Khalifa highlighted plans to allocate such centres at different areas in the kingdom as part of the directives of Interior Minister to facilitate services for the public and ease the workloads on the directorate.

He revealed that the depart-



Brig Shaikh Abdulrahman at the opening ceremony.

ment inspects around 450,000 vehicles annually.

He said more centres would be opened after fulfilling the criteria would have traffic offices to handle disputes and supervise operations to ensure that only cars meeting the safety conditions are cleared to promote the safety of road

users.

Meanwhile, the Director of Licensing Affairs, Lt-Col Abdulrahman Al Muawda said technical examiners that would work for the private sector were enrolled in a 15-day training course to enable them to gain the required skills to carry their tasks.

Bahrain-based author launches latest novel

TDT | Manama

Bahrain-based, award-nominated author M G Darwish has launched his latest English novel titled "Fortier: The Long Night".

This is his third major novel to be published and made available in print and ebook formats through all major online retailers.

"This has been quite a journey. Being based in Bahrain fills me with pride and joy to effectively challenge the literary world and have my books be lined up and read by fans of great novels by great authors whom I admire," Mr Darwish said.

Mr Darwish is an award nominated author who writes dark, twisted and action-packed fiction.

He started his journey back in 2015 with his debut novel 'Dragon Tooth', and followed it up with 'Titanlord' in May



Mr Darwish



The cover of 'Fortier: The Long Night'.

of 2018.

"This is an entirely separate series and I know that the market is saturated with vampire and paranormal stories, but what I aimed to do through this, is reflect real vampire mythology that originated in Eastern Europe but mix it up with a few newer mythologies around the world.

"The story takes place in modern Texas, but has roots throughout history as Alfred, the main character reminisces about his past during the Fall of Carthage -an event that has dire consequences on the story.

"I wrote this because quite honestly, I was tired of the way vampires evolved in literature from deadly creatures on the night that offer terror to a less than scary portrayal of them in modern and recent works. One should never be excited to meet the supernatural."

Commerce Day marked



The Indian School Departments of Commerce and Humanities celebrated its Commerce Day 'NISHKA-2019' at its Isa Town Campus. Principal V R Palaniswamy declared NISHKA-2019 open by lighting the traditional lamp. The inaugural address was delivered by Vice-Principal (Senior Section) Anand Nair. Display Board Competition was conducted on the topic 'Waste Management and Society: Challenges and Possibilities' for Class 11 and 'Marketing Strategies from Past to Present' for Class 12. It provided a unique opportunity to students for team work, creative thinking and to develop artistic skills. 'Fashionista', another fantastic competitive event, exhibited students' creative skills by using traditional and modern apparels. Its objectives were to connect with the new generation, who are fashion conscious and to introduce the students to ethical fashion concepts. A quiz competition was conducted to test the subject and general knowledge of the participants.

WORLD
world

Morrison to unveil \$150 m support for Trump's Mars mission

China a threat to the world: Trump



Trump with Scott Morrison

The Guardian

Scott Morrison has used a visit to Nasa yesterday local time to unveil a \$150m investment in Australian businesses and new technology to support the American space agency launch expeditions to the moon and to Mars.

The Australian prime minister on his second day in the American capital visited Nasa, and also laid a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery. Morrison visited the graves of Australian military personnel and visit the tomb of The Un-

"We have a tremendous space programme. If you look at our facilities, they were virtually closed up. There was crabgrass growing on the runways and now they're vital.

"And you know, we're ... going to Mars. We're stopping at the moon. The moon is actually a launching pad. That's why we're stopping at the moon.

"I said, 'Hey, we've done the moon. That's not so exciting.' They said, 'No, sir. It's a launching pad for Mars.' So we'll be doing the moon. But we'll really be doing Mars. And we'll be - we're making tremendous progress".



I said, 'Hey, we've done the moon. That's not so exciting.' They said, 'No, sir. It's a launching pad for Mars.' So we'll be doing the moon. But we'll really be doing Mars. And we'll be - we're making tremendous progress

DONALD TRUMP

known Soldier.

Later in the day, the prime minister visited Bunker Labs and met entrepreneurs working with war veterans before attending a tree planting ceremony at the official residence of the Australian ambassador to Washington, Joe Hockey.

In a statement ahead of Saturday's programme, Morrison said the \$150m commitment over five years would see the Australian Space Agency "foster the new ideas and hi-tech skilled jobs that will make Australian businesses a partner of choice to fit out Nasa missions".

Asked on Friday in the Oval Office to outline how America and Australia could work together to develop the space program, Donald Trump claimed credit for reviving the sector. "We're doing a great program," the president said.

Morrison has been feted and challenged in equal measure during his opening stint in the American capital.

During his programme at the White House on Friday, Trump declared China was a threat to the world "in a sense" and raised the spectre of Australia joining a coalition of military action against Iran, before characterising Morrison as a "man of titanium".

The Australian prime minister dined with his American host in the Rose Garden at a state dinner on Friday night.

Morrison will leave Washington DC for Ohio today. Trump will accompany him to a new Australian-owned paper recycling mill in Ohio owned by the billionaire box maker Anthony Pratt, and later fly to Chicago before heading to the United Nations in New York next week.

Reactor at worst US nuclear accident site finally closed

New York

The last reactor at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania was finally shut down Friday.

The plant's first reactor -- which went online in September 1974 -- was shut down at noon local time (1600 GMT), according to the plant's owner Exelon, and the site will be dis-

mantled in the coming weeks.

On March 28, 1979, the second reactor experienced a cooling problem that -- coupled with a human error -- resulted in the partial melting of the reactor and the evacuation of 14,000 people. There were no casualties, but the incident led to the definitive closure of the reactor.

More than 100 arrested in Paris

AFP | Paris

Over a hundred demonstrators were arrested at yellow vest protests in Paris yesterday as about 7,500 police were deployed to quell any violence by the movement and its radical, anarchist "black blocs".

There were also fears that the demonstrators could try to infiltrate a march against climate change in the French capital.

The yellow vest movement erupted 10 months ago and blindsided President Emmanuel Macron, whom protesters accused of being out of touch with the needs of ordinary French people.

"What are we doing? We are assembling just to say that we can't make ends meet. (The protest) is not only against the president, it's against the system," said a woman protestor who did



Key yellow-vest figure Jerome Rodrigues has billed Saturday's protest as "a revelatory demonstration"

not give her name.

The weekly demonstrations -- yesterday was the 45th -- prompted Macron to loosen the state's purse strings to the tune of nearly 17 billion euros (\$18.8 billion) in wage boosts and tax cuts for low earners, but tapered off over the summer.

However, it remains to be seen

whether the movement will regain the momentum of the winter and early spring, when the protests often descended into violent clashes with security forces, especially in Paris.

By 1.00 pm (11 GMT) police had arrested 106 demonstrators, police headquarters said, adding that some had been found to

carry hammers or petrol canisters.

"We are being treated like criminals," said a woman, who identified herself as Brigitte.

The authorities had banned demonstrations in some areas of the city, including tourism hotspot Champs-Elysees, but some protesters violated the ban, leading to a tense standoff with police who used teargas and batons to scatter them.

Macron on Friday called for "calm", saying that while "it's good that people express themselves", they should not disrupt a climate protest and cultural events also due to go ahead on Saturday.

The number of police deployed for yesterday's rallies are on a par with the peak of the yellow vest protests in December and March.

Hong Kong police, protesters clash

Hong Kong

Riot police and protesters in Hong Kong fought brief skirmishes near the Chinese border yesterday, the latest clashes during huge pro-democracy protests that have battered the financial hub for more than three months.

Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets at small groups of hardcore activists who had built barricades in the outlying town of Tuen Mun, some of them lobbing bricks and at least one Molotov cocktail.

Multiple protesters were seen being arrested in the clashes,



Police detain a demonstrator during protests in Hong Kong's Tuen Mun district

which were less sustained than the intense battles of previous weekends.

The city has been convulsed by months of huge, sometimes violent rallies calling for greater democratic freedoms and police accountability.

The movement is the biggest challenge to China's rule since Hong Kong was handed back by Britain in 1997 and shows no sign of ending, with city leaders and Beijing taking a hard line.

Saturday's clashes were the 16th straight weekend of protests and skirmishes.



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			Day	Date	Time
1	Provision of Online Car Hire Partnership on gulfair.com	19-09-2029-ITC	Monday	21/10/2019	13:30

Interested suppliers who are able to provide the service/product specified above will be issued with tender documents, kindly send your contact information to Fax No. +973 17327999, or e mail it to Ammar.Hashem@gulfair.com attaching a copy of this notice and full contact details including e-mail address to receive a copy of tender documents.

Sealed offers should be addressed to the attention of Gulf Air Tender Office, 2nd Floor, Wing A, Muharraq, Kingdom of Bahrain not later than the closing date mentioned above, before 14:30 hours.

Ensure that the provisions of the general tender regulation No. (36) for the year 2002, and its executive regulation No. (37) for the year 2002, in addition to any other condition specified in the tender document are completed. Incomplete submittals will be rejected.

In addition, these conditions have to be considered:

1. Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate valid for the current year, related to the subject tender.
2. Fill the unit rate and total cost in the submission form which will be provided as part of the tender invitation.
3. Ensure that your company's seal stamp is on all the original documents and copies thereof, which form part of the offer.

This advertisement is considered to be a supplementary to the tender documents.

Important Note: All participants are invited to attend the opening of the tender at Gulf Air Tender Office, 2nd Floor, Wing A on the next day of the closing date.



AFP | Adis Ababa

Beat-up Beetles get new oomph!

When Robel Wolde bought a beat-up 1967 Volkswagen Beetle from a friend for 50,000 Ethiopian birr (about 1,540 euros, \$1,700), it marked the start of an extensive restoration he'd plotted for years.

The 25-year-old Ethiopian painter quickly went to work. He installed new grey leather seats, applied black stripes and decals along the orange-and-blue exterior and hired a metalworker to fit oversized headlights to the front bumper.

Two months and an additional \$1,000 later, Robel's vision was complete.

And with that, he joined the growing number of young Ethiopian drivers giving the Beetle -- which has long occupied a hallowed position in the nation's car culture -- a 21st-century upgrade.

Some of this restoration work is inspired by shows like the old MTV hit "Pimp My Ride" -- "pimped out", American slang for customised vehicles, has been adopted in Addis Ababa.

But love for the Beetle in Ethiopia goes back decades, and is rooted in both economics and nostalgia.

Volkswagen is hoping to capitalise on this goodwill. In January, it signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ethiopian government to set up a domestic auto industry, including an assembly plant.

Regardless of what comes of this project, Robel says the Beetle's popularity will endure.

Most of the time, Beetles are driven by old people," he said, leaning on the bonnet of his car near one of Addis' busier roundabouts.

"But when they are custom and pimped like this, they are a fashion statement for young people."

The 'car for everyone'

Initially developed in Nazi Germany as an instrument of propaganda, the origins of the Volkswagen Beetle "people's car" date back to 1938.

Beetles became a common sight in Addis Ababa under former emperor Haile Selassie, who ruled for more than four decades beginning in 1930.

In 1974, when the communist Derg regime removed him from power, Haile Selassie was famously forced to duck into a Beetle before being escorted away from his palace.

Decades later, Beetles remain ubiquitous, in part because exorbitant taxes make buying new cars impossible for many.

Yet it's clear that the cars also have sentimental value.

When the Ethiopian-American novelist Maaza Mengiste sees one, she says she is reminded of the pale blue Beetle

her grandfather drove -- the same car that took her to the airport when she left the country as a young girl not long after the Derg came to power.

"I associate that car with Ethiopia, with growing up there and all the happy memories I have," she told AFP.

Last year, Mengiste started posting pictures of Beetles on Twitter, using the hashtag #BeetleEthiopia.

Ever since, Ethiopians from a range of backgrounds have been posting photos of their own, sometimes offering equally personal memories.

"There was something about a Volkswagen that cut through social lines," Mengiste said.

"It was a car for everyone. You could be looking for some form of stability, and you would manage to buy a Volkswagen and that was your step into an upwardly mobile but not extravagant social class."

'I pimp all of it'

Like Mengiste, Kaleb Teshome, a 29-year-old mechanic, has been riding in Beetles all his life.

For decades, his family has owned a garage that specialises in fixing up the cars.

Now Kaleb works alongside his father at the garage, where

more than a dozen Beetles compete for space on a tiny dirt lot, with others lining the nearby road.

Many of the Beetles have been brought in for standard tune-ups.

But every few months, Kaleb is asked to do the kind of custom work worthy of "Pimp My Ride," a show he still watches online even though it was cancelled more than a decade ago.

"I've known the cars since my childhood. I know what they need," he said.

"It could be paint work. It could be big tyres. It could be a sound system. I pimp all of it."

One recent morning, he showed his own "pimped-out" Beetle, a shiny green-and-black 1972 model with massive tyres that would look more at home on a truck.

"When I drive it on the street," he said, "even people who drive luxurious cars say 'Wow.'"

'Part of history'

Whether "pimped-out" or not, the Beetles of Addis Ababa seem destined to become collectors' items.

In July, Volkswagen marked the end of the Beetle's around eight-decade run by launching a limited, 65-unit "Beetle Final Edition" at its factory in Puebla, Mexico.

For Robel, the painter, the news was further validation of the investment he'd made in his own car.

"If production of the Beetles has stopped, that means we have a treasure," he said.

"They will become part of history. That is their fate, so I think I am lucky. Even if I get a really good offer, I don't think I will sell."

Growing number of young Ethiopian drivers are giving the Beetle -- which has long occupied a hallowed position in the nation's car culture -- a 21st-century upgrade



Trump slams 'partisan' whistleblower



”
The reports show the president's willingness to abuse his power and abase our country

JOE BIDEN



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky -- a former comedian -- inherited an armed conflict against pro-Russian rebels that has killed nearly 13,000 in five years

● The identity of the whistleblower and the nature of the complaint have not been publicly revealed

Washington

US President Donald Trump on Friday vigorously rejected a whistleblower's claim of wrongdoing in a call with a foreign leader, amid reports he used the conversation to pressure Ukraine's president to investigate the son of Trump's Democratic rival Joe Biden.

The whistleblower's secret complaint has triggered a tense showdown between Congress, whose Democratic leaders are demanding to review the complaint, and the executive branch which has barred them from doing so.

It has also raised concerns Trump sought to strong-arm Ukraine into providing damaging information on the president's possible 2020 challenger, which would represent dangerous foreign meddling in the US election similar to the interference blamed on Russia in 2016, when Trump defeated Hillary Clinton.

According to a report by *The Washington Post*, which cited two unnamed former US officials, the complaint stemmed from Trump's communications with Ukraine, and a "promise" allegedly made by the president.

Trump slammed the story as "ridiculous" and attacked the "partisan whistleblower," even though he said he does not know the person's identity.

Trump insisted he had a "totally appropriate" conversation, without detailing with whom, or what was said, and suggested it was Biden and his son who should be investigated for their actions in Ukraine.

Biden shot back forcefully, demanding Trump immediately release the transcript of the call and saying the reports that Trump sought to coerce his Ukrainian counterpart, if true, amounted to "clear-cut corruption."

Suspicious have focused on a July 25 call between Trump and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky, a former comedian who was elected in May.

Trump's Democratic opponents have been probing that call in connection with allegations Trump and his personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani tried to pressure the Ukrainian administration.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported that Trump pressed Zelensky about eight times on

the call to investigate possible corruption involving Biden's son Hunter, who worked with a Ukrainian natural gas company.

When asked by reporters whether he discussed the Bidens with Zelensky, Trump said curtly: "It doesn't matter what I discuss." But he did not deny having done so.

Instead he urged media to "look into"

Biden's involvement in Ukraine, and his videotaped comments last year in which the former US vice president said the Obama administration would freeze \$1 billion in US loan guarantees unless Kiev did not fire its top prosecutor.

"Somebody ought to look into that," Trump said.

'Political favour?'

Biden, who according to most polls leads Trump in a head-to-head matchup, said the reports show the president's "willingness to abuse his power and abase our country."

"It means that he used the power and resources of the United States to pressure a sovereign nation -- a partner that is still under direct assault from Russia -- pushing Ukraine to subvert the rule of law in the express hope of extracting a political favor," Biden said in a statement.

Amid the swirling allegations,

Giuliani told *CNN* Thursday that "of course I did" ask Ukraine to investigate Biden.

Giuliani said he did not know whether Trump brought up Biden, but said he would have "every right" to do so.

Adding yet another layer to the controversy, congressional policymakers were concerned the Trump administration had been holding back military aid to Ukraine at the time. The aid was finally released last week.

Zelensky inherited an armed conflict against pro-Russian rebels that has killed nearly 13,000 in five years and caused serious economic difficulties.

Democratic lawmakers say a president conditioning foreign aid on providing dirt on a US election rival would amount to grounds for impeachment.

"The president can't use US aid as a weapon to serve his own political purposes," House Democrat Seth Moulton tweeted. "This is an impeachable offense if true." Clinton herself weighed in Friday with a sharp critique.

"The president asked a foreign power to help him win an election. Again," she tweeted.

The scandal has set Washington on edge, with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi saying the whistleblower complaint raises "grave, urgent concerns for our national security."

What we know

On August 12, an unknown whistleblower in the US intelligence community filed a complaint with Michael Atkinson, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (ICIG), regarding a matter of "urgent concern."

The identity of the whistleblower and the nature of the complaint have not been publicly revealed

After reviewing the complaint, Atkinson determined it was "credible" and forwarded it on August 26 to the acting Director of National Intelligence, Joseph Maguire, a Trump appointee.

The Democratic-led House Intelligence Committee is demanding that the whistleblower's complaint be turned over but Maguire has declined to share it. According to *The Washington Post*, the complaint concerned a "promise" Trump made in a recent phone call with a foreign leader.

Phone call

The phone call in question, according to US media reports, was a July 25 conver-

sation between Trump and Ukraine's newly elected President Volodymyr Zelensky.

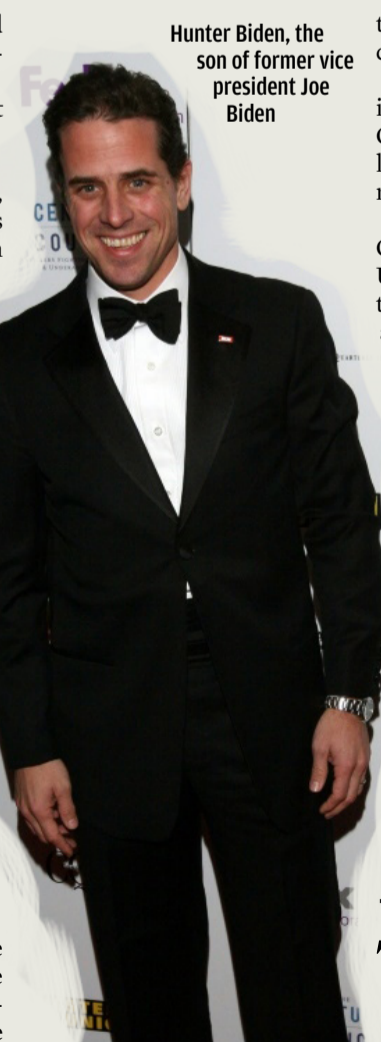
According to *The Wall Street Journal*, Trump repeatedly pressured Zelensky in the call to investigate Hunter Biden, the son of Joe Biden, Trump's main potential 2020 reelection rival.

Hunter Biden in 2014 joined the board of Burisma Holdings, a Ukrainian gas firm accused of corrupt practices, but he has not been personally accused of any wrongdoing.

The *Journal* said Trump urged Zelensky "about eight times" during the call to work with Rudy Giuliani, his personal attorney, on a probe into Hunter Biden.

At the time of the conversation, the United States was holding up \$250 million in military aid for Ukraine, but the *Journal* said Trump did not mention the assistance during the conversation.

Three committees in the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives have demanded that the White House



Hunter Biden, the son of former vice president Joe Biden

turn over a transcript of the call.

The committees claim it may include evidence of Trump and Giuliani's efforts to "improperly pressure" Ukraine to help his reelection bid.

They accused Trump and Giuliani of trying to coerce Ukraine, in exchange for military assistance, into conducting a "politically motivated" investigation into Hunter Biden.

"If the President is trying to pressure Ukraine into choosing between defending itself from Russian aggression without US assistance or leveraging its judicial system to serve the ends of the Trump campaign, this would represent a staggering abuse of power," the Democratic committee chairmen said.

The US military aid package for Ukraine, which is battling pro-Russian separatists, was finally approved by the White House last week.

Trump and Giuliani fight back

Trump for his part has insisted there was nothing untoward about the telephone call. "Virtually anytime I speak

on the phone to a foreign leader, I understand that there may be many people listening from various US agencies, not to mention those from the other country itself," he tweeted on Thursday.

"Knowing all of this, is anybody dumb enough to believe that I would say something inappropriate with a foreign leader while on such a potentially 'heavily populated' call," he said. "I would only do what is right anyway, and only do good for the USA!"

Speaking to reporters at the White House on Friday, Trump described the story as a "political hack job" and said former vice president Joe Biden is the one who should be investigated.

"It was a totally appropriate conversation," he said of the telephone call. "It was actually a beautiful conversation."

Trump claimed he didn't know the identity of the whistleblower but said he was a "partisan person."

Giuliani, the former mayor of New York, also took to Twitter to defend Trump.

"A President telling a President of a well known corrupt country he better investigate corruption that affects US is doing his job," he tweeted.



”
Virtually anytime I speak on the phone to a foreign leader, I understand that there may be many people listening from various US agencies, not to mention those from the other country itself. Knowing all of this, is anybody dumb enough to believe that I would say something inappropriate with a foreign leader while on such a potentially 'heavily populated' call. I would only do what is right anyway, and only do good for the USA!

DONALD TRUMP

Climate change deniers find their audience shrinking much faster

The United Nations General Assembly is one of the few places where doubters still have a platform

DAMIEN MCELROY .

The convening power of the United Nations around its annual general assembly, otherwise known as UNGA, is one of the great strengths of the global organisation.

The UN secretary general's yearly theme has the power to concentrate minds and affords a bully pulpit for a particular agenda.

This week has seen the world's attention turn to climate change. A summit opening at the UN headquarters in New York on Monday will focus on the climate crisis and follows protests by an estimated four million people, who pounded the streets of their cities on Friday in the name of a global climate strike. For a short window, climate change will enjoy priority over peace-building, conflict or migration.

That is not to say that none of these issues are not linked or won't be discussed. The nature of the climate crisis is that no factors stand in isolation.

It is appropriate that Antonio Guterres should have used this year's meeting to give primary focus to the environmental challenges faced by mankind. As the week progresses, world leaders will gather to give speeches from the marbled podium in front of the assembly.

The messages of the climate summit will be repeated and reinforced alongside perennial national priorities.

Sir David King, a former chief scientific adviser to the British government, raised eyebrows earlier



In a protest that started a movement, Greta skips school to sit outside of the Swedish parliament in Stockholm in order to raise awareness of climate change.

this month when he said he had been frightened by recent weather events. In particular, this summer's heatwave in Europe, the rate of loss of ice in Antarctica and the exceptionally slow progress of devastating Hurricane Dorian caused concern. These extreme events are occurring far earlier than the scientists in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change had ever

predicted. As such, the probability of people being affected by the consequences of climate change has grown much more likely.

"If you got on a plane with a one-in-100 chance of crashing, you would be appropriately scared," observed Sir David as he explained why we should all be alarmed by what is happening.

The intellectual argument over

climate change has been hotly contested than the As the UN summit opens, worth noting there are counter-demonstrations of anti-climate change planned.

What was once a fusillade of sceptical commentary has come the domain of a few

The doubters once roared popular but ropery arguments.

Dishonesty and denialism is a virus

GAVIN ESLER

Over the past few weeks, I have been travelling around the UK speaking to diverse groups about the future of Europe and the prospect of Brexit. Most of these public meetings are fun. Some are truly inspiring but a few are a puzzle. Conway Hall is a famous London landmark, historically a venue of civilised debate on ethical issues. I spoke there on the topic of "the normalisation of lies in public life". We all tell lies occasionally and we know it is wrong, yet sometimes we do it so as not to cause offence.

"Yes," we say, "I loved that shirt you gave me for my birthday." Or: "Yes, your new hairstyle suits you."

We are also often not truthful when purchasing something online when forced to tick a box showing we have read the terms and conditions. Have you ever read the terms and conditions? Me neither. I cannot ever remember reading thousands of words of T&C legalese.

At the Conway Hall meeting, when talking about lying in public life, I was asked a question by a woman who said she had voted for Brexit in the referendum of 2016. When someone says: "I voted for Brexit", I always ask which version of Brexit they voted for, since more than three years later, we still cannot agree what Brexit means.

"I voted for a 'clean Brexit'," the woman said confidently, explaining that meant "leaving the European Union with no deal on October 31".

Unfortunately nearly every part of that sentence is impossible.

The words "clean Brexit" only became fashionable after a book of that title was published in August last year - not when we voted two years earlier. Moreover, the words "clean Brexit" have no real meaning, rather like previous Brexit slogans of having deals called "Canada-plus", "Norway-plus" or "managed no deal". Once you add in the word "plus" or "managed" to any "deal", it can mean anything you want it to mean.

But the woman could not have voted as she now thinks she did for other reasons too. No deal was never an option on the 2016 Brexit referendum ballot paper. Prominent politicians wanting Brexit - Nigel Farage, Michael Gove and Boris Johnson - explicitly stated that Britain would leave the European Union with a deal and, so they claimed at the time, a very good deal because, as they put it, "we hold all the cards". Finally - and most obviously - in June 2016, no date was fixed for leaving the EU, so the woman could not possibly have voted to leave on October 31, 2019. That date was only fixed in March this year, and even now it might not happen.



Billboard by the anti-Brexit group called Led By Donkeys, showing a quote from British Prime Minister Boris Johnson promising a deal.

The puzzle is how a decent, articulate human being like this voter could so profoundly delude herself about easily verifiable facts. Perhaps it is a tiny example of a phenomenon known more grandly as "historical negationism". It means humans give accounts of the past by selectively (and sometimes deliberately) ignoring or denying troublesome facts which undermine their case.

Napoleon Bonaparte once

wryly observed that history "is a set of lies agreed upon". On the day I had the discussion in Conway Hall, British newspapers began running extracts of the autobiography of the prime minister who got us into the Brexit mess in the first place, David Cameron. His "factual" account of our recent history did not please either side in the Brexit debate.

The Brexit supporting tabloid newspaper The Sun called

it "Mills and Boon for Remain-ers," referring to a particularly soppy kind of fantasy love story. A newspaper in the Remain camp, the Guardian, excoriated Mr Cameron for a self-serving account pretending that the referendum mess for which he was responsible was really a "boon" for Britain if the Leavers' dastardly tactics hadn't stopped him from getting his message across to the great British public.

Mr Cameron's unconvincing tale for us in 2016. The EU was a concern to the British people largely through the political element with the Remain camp. He led a woeful vote and The t

Historians have long struggled to separate fact from fiction – but the truth is even harder to distinguish when politicians actively try to rewrite events as they unfold

1960

The Sudanese Republic is renamed Mali after the withdrawal of Senegal from the Mali Federation.

1965

The Indo-Pakistani War of 1965 between India and Pakistan over Kashmir, ends after the United Nations calls for a ceasefire.

1975

Sara Jane Moore tries to assassinate U.S. President Gerald Ford, but is foiled by the Secret Service.



1979

A bright flash, resembling the detonation of a nuclear weapon, is observed near the Prince Edward Islands. Its cause is never determined.



Climate awareness of climate change on 28 August 2018.

far more advance their case. One dubious counter-claim was that if a glass of juice and ice was filled to the brim, it would not spill over as the cubes melted. Extrapolate this to the planet and the argument was that the polar ice caps could melt but sea levels would barely change. A tranche of columnists found a lucrative niche in plugging these

UNGA will be one of the few places where the doubters retain a strong voice. Certain world leaders balk at the idea of restraining growth or imposing supposedly nanny state policies.

claims. In Britain the anti-climate change cause was promoted by controversialists such as Dominic Lawson, Matt Ridley and James Delingpole.

Not all the writers who share climate doubts are from the right. Piers Corbyn, the brother of the Trotskyite leader of the British Labour party, was a paid-up member of the gang.

A meteorologist, Mr Corbyn claimed to operate his own weather prediction service.

This was predicated on the assumption that the warming of the planet was part of the natural cycle – therefore it was neither man-made nor reversible by behavioural changes.

Denying the endangering of the planet provided a lucrative career path for writers with this outlook for the best part of two decades. The US media similarly afforded airtime to climate doubters.

If you asked these advocates now,

the majority would continue to adhere to their long-held views. There is a commonly held theory, for example, that global warming might be useful because the planet is entering a long-term cooling phase.

However, the appetite for such opinions is vanishing. The controversialists are finding their sometimes conspiracy-laden arguments have diminishing appeal.

A lot have moved onto other causes. The aforementioned names and others of their ilk are preoccupied with more homegrown issues, not least Brexit. Most are in favour of a blind leap into a brave new world of trade, and of ridiculing the array of experts throwing doubt on their arguments.

UNGA will be one of the few places where the doubters retain a strong voice. Certain world leaders balk at the idea of restraining growth or imposing supposedly nanny state policies to slow down the global rise in temperature.

Thus the climate summit is set to trigger rancour at the top table of international affairs in ways that it no longer does either in science or among the commentariat.

There is one sliver of hope as events kick off this week – that by airing differences on this and other topics, some of the wilder fringes of the argument ebb away.

At the UN, leaders have serious rebuilding to do on a whole range of issues. UN envoys to Libya and Yemen need real support and high-level backing this week. The plight of refugees must return to the spotlight. But first we must save the planet.

s infecting public life



in 2017.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has been repeatedly confronted with controversial past statements he has made and responded with his own historical revisionism.

ited. Sir Richard argued that “reputable and professional historians do not suppress parts of quotations from documents that go against their own case, but take them into account, and, if necessary, amend their own case accordingly”.

His words should resonate in our political debates of today. It’s not only historians who sometimes fail to “take into account” facts and documents which undermine their own views or prejudices. Politicians sometimes do the same. Tony Blair, otherwise a very successful prime minister, failed to take into account facts which suggested intelligence on weapons of mass destruction in Iraq was flawed. Most recently, US President Donald Trump defended his claims that a hurricane was predicted to strike Alabama. When he was corrected by climate experts, he refused to admit he had made a mistake and persisted in sticking to an account that was clearly not true, to the extent of brandishing a map in a White House briefing that had clearly been altered to back up his version. And British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has been repeatedly confronted with controversial past statements he has made and responded with his own historical revisionism. He has simply denied he made certain controversial remarks, when television footage clearly shows that is not true.

There will come a time when Britain’s current struggles with leaving the European Union will result in historical essays on Brexit and perhaps a learned book or two. But historians will find it difficult to agree on any set of “lies” or “truths” when they look back over current events in Britain. We cannot agree on “truth” right now. This disagreement about truth and lies, fact and fiction, extends from politicians at the very top of governments to ordinary people. European Union leaders and diplomats, who have given Mr Johnson until the end of the month to come up with a solution, have made clear they do not believe he has a plan for Brexit or is even actively seeking an agreement. Mr Johnson says he is energetically working for a deal with all sorts of inventive plans – although what these might be, we still do not know. Perhaps we will agree the Brexit “truth” or “lies” in the end, but this kind of dispute extends much further.

It is difficult enough for historians to agree in drawing objective conclusions about the past, without those who are engaged in creating history right now attempting to rewrite it, even as we are living it. Their dishonesty is like a virus infecting public life, right down to the woman in Conway Hall who, no doubt, genuinely believed what she was saying, even though it is demonstrably false.

Red alert against vaping



CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

We all know of the terrible effects of nicotine, the killer chemical in tobacco.

But did you know that e-cigarettes contain a far more damaging ingredient called tetrahydrocannabinol, the psychoactive component of cannabis?

Since the use of any psychosomatic drug is forbidden in Islamic tenets, my question is, why have we allowed so many Vape shops in Bahrain which sell e-cigarettes and their paraphernalia?

Why are our MPs, who make a noise about so many so-called ‘unIslamic’ activities, simply turning a blind eye to the ill-effects of vaping, health-wise and spiritually?

Recently, the Indian government announced a ban on the production, import and sale of electronic cigarettes, backing it with stiff jail terms and fines.

This is because e-cigarettes are sold online where there is no guarantee that the buyer is above 18 and young people are particularly vulnerable to the addiction risk and the consequent neurological damage that vaping causes.

It took the world centuries to acknowledge the dangers of tobacco use and we are desperately trying to repair the damage and also to contain the immense power of tobacco lobby groups globally.

People can turn a deaf ear to health warnings but the irresistible lure of looking glamorous and receiving a confidence boost is more difficult to ignore.

The money that they have at their disposal to counter all claims and to put out false and reassuring research is frightening. Every year, new groups are found to fuel tobacco sales and it is done by positioning cigarettes, cigars and even pipe tobacco as a style statement.

People can turn a deaf ear to health warnings but the irresistible lure of looking glamorous and receiving a confidence boost is more difficult to ignore.

The same story is being repeated with vaping. It is being projected to youth especially, as a style statement and the forbidden chemicals in it give it an edge of (mis) adventure.

In addition, the vaping industry is projecting it as a habit that helps to curb tobacco withdrawal symptoms when a person is trying to kick the smoking habit. Both are images that are false and misleading.

I urge MPs, Municipal Councillors and community leaders to come together and campaign for the banning of vaping.

For MPs – it is a duty to your country. For councillors and community leaders – it is your district and neighbourhood.

For all of us – it is our community, our youth, our children – Our Future. Let us save it from this scourge.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counter-terrorism)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Now that the Democrats and the Fake News Media have gone “bust” on every other of their Witch Hunt schemes, they are trying to start one just as ridiculous as the others, call it the Ukraine Witch Hunt, while at the same time trying to protect Sleepy Joe Biden. Will fail again!

@realDonaldTrump

02



“Animal Farm” comes to India!! Orwell should be pleased, since his “1984” got here already....

@ShashiTharoor

03



It’s our responsibility to work with vision, determination and wisdom to create a happier, more peaceful world. We need to take action, while respecting others and their needs, considering all 7 billion human beings alive today as belonging to one human family. #PeaceDayChallenge

@DalaiLama

04



I thank the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for conferring upon me the Global Goalkeepers Goals Award 2019. Over the last five years India has taken many efforts to improve cleanliness and sanitation, fulfilling Gandhi Ji’s dream of a Swachh Bharat.

@narendramodi

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

business

Aramco 'stronger than ever': CEO

Reuters | Riyadh

Saudi Aramco has emerged from attacks on its oil facilities "stronger than ever", Chief Executive Amin Nasser told employees in a message, adding that full oil production would resume by the end of this month.

The Sept. 14 attacks on the Abqaiq and Khurais plants, caused raging fires and significant damage that halved the crude output, by shutting down 5.7 million barrels per day of production.

"The fires that were intended to destroy Saudi Aramco had an unintended consequence: they galvanised 70,000 of us around a mission to rebound quickly and confidently, and Saudi Aramco has come out of this incident stronger than ever," Nasser said in the internal message, on the occasion of the Saudi national day, to be celebrated on Sept. 23. "Every second counts in moments like these, and had we not acted quickly to contain the fires and undertake rapid restoration efforts, the impact on the oil market and the global economy would have been far more devastating."

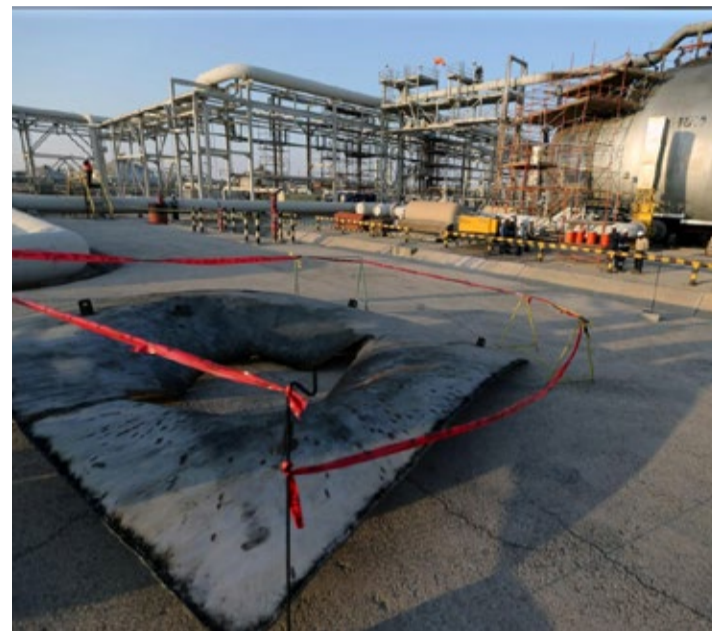
Six days after the assault, which hit at the heart of the Saudi energy industry, the state oil giant Aramco invited reporters on Friday to observe the damage and the repair efforts.

Thousands of employees and contractors have been pulled from other projects to work around the clock to bring pro-



“The fires that were intended to destroy Saudi Aramco had an unintended consequence: they galvanised 70,000 of us around a mission to rebound quickly and confidently, and Saudi Aramco has come out of this incident stronger than ever”

AMIN NASSER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



A metal part of a damaged tank is seen at the damaged site of Aramco facility in Abqaiq

duction back. Aramco is shipping equipment from the United States and Europe to rebuild the damaged facilities, Aramco officials told reporters.

Aramco already brought back part of the lost production and will return to pre-attacks level end of September, Nasser said.

"Not a single shipment to our international customers has been missed or cancelled as a result of the attacks, and we will continue to fulfil our mission of providing the energy the world needs," he said in the message. Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman said on Tuesday that Saudi Arabia had used its

reserves to maintain oil supply flows to customers abroad and inside the kingdom.

Yemen's Houthi group claimed responsibility for the attacks but a US official said they originated from southwestern Iran. Tehran, which support the Houthis, has denied any involvement in the attacks.

Saudi Arabia says 18 drones and three missiles were fired at Abqaiq, the world's largest oil processing facility, while the Khurais facility was hit by four missiles.

No casualties were reported at either site even though thousands of workers and contractors work and live in the area.

Aramco hires UBS, Deutsche as bookrunners

Reuters | London/Dubai

Saudi state oil company Aramco has hired UBS Group and Deutsche as bookrunners for its initial public offering, two sources familiar with the matter said, in a sign that the deal is moving ahead. Aramco has started informing banks about the bookrunners' roles, one of the sources said.

Aramco finalised nine banks for top roles as global coordinators in recent weeks. More banks are expected to

be named in junior roles, the sources said.

Aramco's planned meeting with analysts, ahead of the expected IPO in late November, is also scheduled for early next week, two other sources said. Aramco was not immediately available to comment.

Deutsche Bank declined to comment and UBS did not respond to a request for comment over the weekend.

Aramco's Riyadh listing is the first step toward an even-

tual sale of up to 5 per cent, sources have told, with another 1pc expected to be sold domestically next year, followed by an international listing.

Aramco had said the delay was due to its deal to acquire a 70pc stake in petrochemicals maker Saudi Basic Industries Corp. Although Crown Prince Mohammed put a \$2 trillion valuation on the company in early 2016, bankers and company insiders say Aramco's value is closer to \$1.5 trillion.

After 'Howdy Modi,' Trump and Modi could sign trade deal

● **Trump and Modi will meet today in Houston at an Indian-American rally dubbed "Howdy Modi!"**

● **India is likely to allow some US dairy imports**

Reuters | Washington/New Delhi

The United States and India are racing to negotiate a limited trade deal that US President Donald Trump and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi can sign at the United Nations General Assembly in New York at the end of September, people familiar with the talks said.

A deal between the world's most populous democracies would be a welcome victory for Trump, whose administration has made little headway negotiating an end to its prolonged trade war with China. Trump is also expected to sign a deal with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe next week that lowers Japanese farm tariffs.

The deal under discussion with India would lower some tariffs on US produce and restore preferential treatment for some Indian exports to the United States, the sources said.

Trump and Modi will meet



G7 summit in Biarritz (file)

today in Houston at an Indian-American rally dubbed "Howdy Modi!" in a 50,000-seat stadium -- a sign of their warming relations, which are contributing to expectations for a "mini-deal."

"There's a push to get something done with India, with an eye for UNGA," said a Washington-based source familiar with the discussions.

Trump has demanded better terms of trade from most of the top commercial partners of the United States, and blames previous deals for the loss of millions

of US manufacturing jobs.

US-India trade relations have been fraught. Trump has repeatedly complained about India's high tariff rates, including a 50 per cent tariff on Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

The United States has also taken issue with India's new investment rules on e-commerce that limit how companies like Amazon.com Inc and Walmart-backed Flipkart can do business in a rapidly growing online market set to touch \$200 billion by 2027.

"We've been talking to the

Americans, we have engaged them for many months now," Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said at a news conference this week. "My expectation is that some of the sharper edges, they would be addressed in some forms in the not too distant future."

Modi, like Trump, has used tariffs to try to boost investment in manufacturing, a key part of his "Make-In-India" campaign to attract foreign cash and create factory jobs for millions of youth entering the workforce.

Apple Inc supplier Foxconn

recently expanded production of iPhones in India to avoid a 20pc import tariff and diversify its supply chain from China.

Tariffs

The United States in June ended duty-free access for about \$5.7 billion worth of Indian exports under its Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) programme, including chemicals, plastics, leather and rubber goods, and auto parts. India was the largest beneficiary of the GSP, which was designed to help developing countries that dates from

the 1970s. India responded with higher retaliatory tariffs on 28 US products, including almonds, apples and walnuts.

Dairy, Nuts

The talks are focused on US demands that India reduce agricultural tariffs, including those for almonds, pork, dairy products, cherries, apples and other commodities, people familiar with the talks in both Washington and New Delhi said.

India is likely to allow some US dairy imports, the official said. Another Indian official said the United States was pushing India to remove high pricing barriers on imported US medical devices including cardiac stents.

In return, India wants the GSP restored for a few more years, as Modi struggles to boost exports dampened by sluggish global demand made worse by the US-China trade war. New Delhi also wants market access for some of its farm products such as grapes to export to the United States.

The United States is also seeking lower tariffs on high-end electronics products, one of the Indian officials said.

Both sides are discussing revising India's domestic content rules on ethanol to allow more imports of the US fuel additive, two US sources said.



India is the largest buyer of US almonds, paying \$543 million for more than half of US almond exports in 2018, according to the US Department of Agriculture. It is the second largest buyer of US apples

Gabon's lifeline for people, economy

The train is the brainchild of Gabon's former president, Omar Bongo, who ruled for 42 years until his death in 2009

Today, the "Bongo Train", as it is affectionately known, remains the country's sole railway line, linking 23 stations from the coastal capital Libreville to distant Franceville, the country's third most populous city.



Omar Bongo and former French president Francois Mitterrand on the Transgabonais in January 1983



French President Francois Mitterrand (L) and Gabon's President Omar Bongo inaugurate the second section of the Transgabonais railway in Franceville in January 1983



A road running parallel to the tracks is riddled with potholes

AFP | Franceville | Gabon

The sky turns from indigo to ebony as the tropical night falls, and the train patiently thrusts through the jungle towards its destination, still hundreds of kilometres (miles) away.

The trek has the hallmarks of one of the world's Great Forgotten Train Journeys -- a voyage through 648 kilometres (just over 400 miles) of lush equatorial forest.

The train is the brainchild of Gabon's former president, Omar Bongo, who ruled for 42 years until his death in 2009.

In the 1970s, he dreamed of linking the central African state's resource-rich interior to the Atlantic coast -- and he saw it through, despite being rebuffed by the World Bank, which refused to fund it on the grounds that it was not economically viable.

Today, the "Bongo Train", as it is affectionately known, remains the country's sole railway line, linking 23 stations from the coastal capital Libreville to distant Franceville, the country's third most populous city.

"The Transgabonais binds Gabonese society," declares Christian Antchouet Roux, the stationmaster at Franceville.

About 320,000 people take the train every year, a sign of its affordability for the average Gabonese.

Ticket prices depend on the time of year and class -- the train has a VIP carriage, as well as first and second classes.

Passengers travel only at nighttime but in air-conditioned comfort -- a rarity in the world's poorest continent -- and the blue and yellow compartments are modern.

One of them

is Miyha Koumba, a young student in Libreville who uses it to visit her family at the other end of the line.

"I take the train at least four times a year. I can visit my parents regularly," she said, arriving in Libreville at 7:00 am bleary-eyed, having departed Franceville at 5:30 pm the day before.

During the day, the train hauls manganese -- a key export after oil -- from the interior to the oceanside capital.

Critics and champions

Touting the train as a symbol of national unity and modernisation, Bongo doggedly pressed on with the plan, saying: "If we need to have a pact with the Devil, we'll do that."

Fortune smiled on Gabon's leader in 1973 when the OPEC cartel of oil producing nations raised prices dramatically, filling the country's coffers and enabling him to start construction with the additional help of Western aid, notably from former colonial ruler France.

Bongo flagged off the project -- the largest in Africa at the time -- on December 30, 1973.

It cost \$1.65 billion (more than 1.5 billion euros), and millions of trees were felled to cut the swathe through the jungle for the track, which is unelectrified.

In 1986, the last stretch was inaugurated in the presence of then French prime minister Jacques Chirac.

Critics of the project have long pointed to its cost, to its use as a political tool for Bongo, whose partisan stronghold was centred in the region where Franceville is located, and to French involvement.

"Since its creation, the Transgabonais has been closely linked to France and its interests," US law professor Douglas

Yates, author of "The Rentier State in Africa: Oil Rent Dependence & Neocolonialism in the Republic of Gabon", told AFP.

Its champions view it as a critical piece of infrastructure for Gabon's development.

There is a road running parallel to the tracks. But it is riddled with potholes, making the journey much longer, far less comfortable, and dangerous too.

Derailments and elephants

In a country which has been grappling with the effects of falling oil prices since 2014, the importance of manganese for the economy has ballooned.

"Without manganese, this train could not exist," said Gabonese economist Mays Mouissi.

According to an economic report by the Gabonese government, the ore accounts for a fourth of non-oil exports.

Although still volatile, a recent surge in manganese prices over the last couple of years has boosted the country's oil-dependent economy.

French mining group Eramet, which extracts 80 percent of Gabon's manganese, recently said that it wants to boost production by 60 per cent by 2023.

But more than 33 years after the first train started rolling, the line is facing problems.

There have been many derailments on a stretch built on unstable terrain and maintenance has been poor.

Train services have been further compromised by technical problems, while elephants wandering over the tracks have caused delays.

To keep the line going, a massive eight-year revamp was launched in 2015, costing an estimated 330 million euros.

More than half of the total will be financed by France together with, ironically, the World Bank.



A file picture of the January 18, 1983, inauguration of part of Trans-Gabon Railway

NBB lead partner for regional mentorship forum in Bahrain

Manama

National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) was announced yesterday as the Lead Partner for the upcoming "Human Capital Forum - Harnessing the Power of Mentorship" held in strategic partnership with Tamkeen in Bahrain on 25 November 2019.

The event will showcase the role mentorship plays in accelerating human capital development and realisation of the development goals of the GCC economies and companies across all sectors.

The forum will feature leading regional and international speakers and experts on mentorship.

Commenting, Dana Buheji, Chief Human Resources Officer at NBB, said, "We are delighted to lend our support alongside Tamkeen to supporting this important Forum aimed at bringing to light innovative methods and platforms for fostering talent development."

The forum is designed to highlight the vast benefits that mentorship can provide for all



Dana Buheji, Chief Human Resources Officer at NBB



Zahraa Taher, Managing Director of FinMark Communications

stakeholders and both emerging corporate leaders and entrepreneurs (i.e. start-ups and SMEs).

Zahraa Taher, Managing Director of FinMark Communications, the Forum's organiser, added, "Mentoring can play a critical role in the process of

accelerating professional and leadership development and we look forward to NBB's participation alongside other leading companies from across the region to highlight its benefits and to discuss how they can invest in and develop effective mentorship programmes."

Other partners of the Forum include Reach, the first non-profit mentoring programme dedicated to helping young female professionals in the Middle East.

Pediatric orthopaedic consultant revisits RBH

Manama

Dr Atul Bhaskar, FRCS Orth, FRCS, MCh. MS, DNB, a prominent Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon from India will revisit RBH from September 21 - 23, 2019.

Dr Bhaskar has more than 25 years of experience and will be available for consultations as well as diagnosis and treatment of the following conditions: congenital deformity, clubfoot and hip dislocation, limping, bow-legs and knock knees, fractures and infections in children in addition to fragile bone disease and short stature.

Dr Bhaskar had earned a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery in 1991 at Bombay University, India, and went on to earn a Master of Surgery in Orthopedics at the same university in 1994. He then pursued higher surgical training in the UK and obtained an FRCS (in General Surgery) from Glasgow in 1997. He then



Dr Atul Bhaskar

of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy.

To book an appointment with Dr Bhaskar, call 17246800 or book online on www.royalbahrainhospital.com. Also, download the Royal Bahrain Hospital Mobile App to book appointments and more on iOS and Android devices.

AUB first to introduce contactless payments on POS terminals

Manama

In a first, Ahli United bank yesterday announced introducing contactless payment services on POS terminals.

The newly launched Tap & Pay Service POS enables contactless transactions to pay easier and faster without entering a PIN using NFC technology.

Ahli United Bank said it is the first Bank in Bahrain to accept contactless Debit and Credit Cards on contactless-enabled POS machines.

It's enabled, the bank said, through the state-of-the-art Android POS devices that support international and domestic payment schemes and

FinTech payment options including mobile/smart device payments accepting payments using e-wallets.

AUB said it has introduced issuing contactless cards earlier this year allowing payments by touching the card to the terminal. "This means that there is no need to enter a PIN or sign for any purchase under BD20 both in Bahrain and outside Bahrain."

Suvrat Saigal, Deputy Group CEO-Retail Banking, AUB, said: "There is a growing demand for frictionless payments globally and we take a lot of pride in taking the lead to introduce the contactless POS in Bahrain as one of the leading acquirer and issuer of cards."

National Bank of Bahrain backs AlMabarrah AlKhalifia Foundation

Manama

AlMabarrah AlKhalifia received a grant from the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) as part of the Bank's efforts aimed at comprehensive development within the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Dana Abdulla Buheji, Chief Human Resources Officer at the National Bank of Bahrain, received Shaikha Lulwa bint Ahmed bin Mohamed AlKhalifa, Member of the Board of Trustees of AlMabarrah AlKhalifia Foundation, and Saba Yousef Seyadi, CEO of AlMabarrah AlKhalifia Foundation at the Bank's headquarters in Manama, where the cheque was delivered in the presence of Shafi Ahmed Al Mannai, NBB's Head of Compensation & Benefits.



AlMabarrah AlKhalifia officials receiving a grant from the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) officials

This support comes within the framework of the grants and donations program carried out by the National Bank of Bahrain since 1980.

Shaikha Lulwa bint Ahmed Al Khalifa, Member of the Board

of Trustees of AlMabarrah AlKhalifia Foundation, said: "We extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the National Bank of Bahrain for their renewed support, which will contribute towards the achieve-

ment of the Foundation's initiatives and programmes." AlMabarrah AlKhalifia Foundation is a non-profit foundation registered and licensed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Development.

Sophos names Batelco 'Top growth partner of the year'

The award recognizes Batelco's outstanding performance over the past year

Manama

Batelco has been recognised as the 'Top Growth Partner of the Year' at the 2019 Sophos Evolve Bahrain Partner Roadshow held at the Westin, City Centre Bahrain.

The award honours Batelco's outstanding performance over the past year, as well as the company's commitment and dedication to selling Sophos cybersecurity solutions.

Batelco was also recognised for having grown its security business considerably over a

short period, for having one of the largest trained pre-sales teams in the Kingdom alongside its certified implementation teams and for being one of the largest ISP's in Bahrain.

Harish Chib, vice president, Middle East & Africa at Sophos, said, "I am delighted Batelco has won the award for Sophos Top Growth Partner of the Year for Bahrain region. They have had a fantastic year and it's very well deserved."

Enterprise General Manager Abderrahmane Mounir from Batelco said, "Winning this award is a great accomplishment for us and we hope to continue strengthening our partnership with Sophos to be able to continuously provide customers with the latest solutions to best suit their needs."



Abderrahmane Mounir

China, US had 'constructive' trade talks in Washington: Xinhua

Reuters | Beijing

China and the United States had "constructive" discussions on trade in Washington, state news agency Xinhua said yesterday. The two countries

agreed to keep communicating on related issues, and discussed the details of the next round of trade talks in October, Xinhua said, without providing other details.

Labour deputy leader survives bid to oust him over Brexit

Reuters | London/Brighton

The deputy leader of the Labour Party survived an attempt to oust him over Brexit yesterday after party chief Jeremy Corbyn moved to defuse a row that threatened to overshadow the party's bid to show it was ready for power.

Holding its annual party conference just weeks before Prime Minister Boris Johnson has promised "do or die" to lead Britain out of the European Union, Labour was keen to set out its agenda for government rather than put its Brexit

divisions on display.

But a move by Corbyn ally Jon Lansman, founder of the left-wing grassroots movement Momentum, to propose a motion to abolish the deputy's post because of disloyalty over Brexit threatened to derail those plans.

The attempt only underlined the deep divisions in Britain's main opposition party over Brexit, rifts that have also fractured the governing Conservative Party and have cast doubt over when, how or whether Brexit will take place on Oct. 31.

show

RAMBO: LAST BLOOD (15+)(ACTION/CRIME/DRAMA)

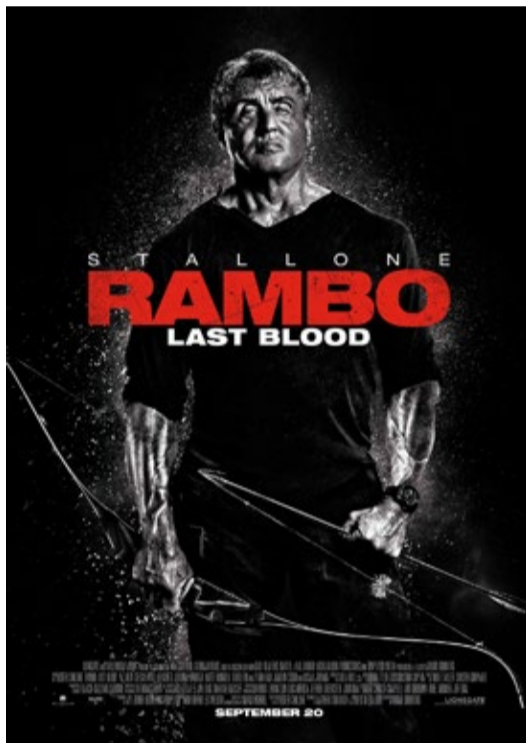
OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
 CITY CENTRE VIP (I): 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE (ATMOS) : 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (I): 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
 WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN
 SAAR: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + (11.30 PM THURS/FRI)

SYLVESTER STALLONE, PAZ VEGA, SERGIO PERIS-MENCHETA

AD ASTRA (PG-13)(DRAMA/THRILLER/SCI-FICTION)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.45 AM + 4.00 + 6.30 + 11.45 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM + (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX 2D) : 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 PM + 12.00 MN
 CITY CENTRE VIP (II): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN
 SAAR: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)

BRAD PITT, TOMMY LEE JONES, RUTH NEGGA

**AL-KANZ 2 (PG-15) ARABIC/DRAMA/ACTION/ROMANTIC)**

CITY CENTRE : 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 PM + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM

MOHAMED RAMADAN, HEND SABRY, MOHAMED SAAD

**PRASSTHANAM (PG-15)(HINDI/ACTION/DRAMA)**

OASIS JUFFAIR : 3.00 + 8.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 12.45 + 6.15 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 SAAR: 10.30 AM + 5.30 + (11.00 PM THURS/FRI)
 SANJAY S DUTT, JACKIE SHROFF, MANISHA KOIRALA
 THE ZOYA FACTOR (PG-13)(HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC)
 STARTING FROM THURSDAY 7.00 PM ONWARDS
 OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 3.30 + 9.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 SAAR: 2.45 + 8.15 PM

SONAM KAPOOR, DULQUER SALMAAN, SANJAY KAPOOR

PAL PAL DIL KI PAAS (PG-15)(HINDI)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.00 + 5.45 + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 11.30 AM + 5.15 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 2.45 + 8.30 PM

KARAN DEOL, KALLIRROI TZIAFETA, SAHHER BAMBBA

DIEGO MARADONA (PG-13)(DOCUMENTARY/BIOGRAPHY)

SEEF (II): 11.15 AM + 4.15 + 9.15 PM
 DIEGO ARMANDO MARADONA, CLAUDIA VILLAFANE, DIEGO MARADONA JR.
 NIKKA ZAILDAR 3 (PG-13) (PUNJABI/COMEDY)
 SEEF (II): 1.45 + 6.45 + 11.45 PM

AMY VIRK, WAMIQA GABBI, NIRMAL RISHI

ANGEL HAS FALLEN (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE : 10.30 AM + 11.30 AM + 1.00 + 2.00 + 3.30 + 4.30 + 6.00 + 7.00 + 8.30 + 9.30 + 11.00 PM + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN
 GERARD BUTLER, MORGAN FREEMAN, JADA PINKETT SMITH

DREAM GIRL (PG-15)(HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM

CITY CENTRE : 2.30 + 8.15 PM
 AYUSHMANN KHURRANA, NUSHRAT BHARUCHA, ABHISHEK BANERJEE

IT CHAPTER TWO (15+)(HORROR/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE : 12.30 + 4.00 + 7.30 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 2.30 + 8.30 PM
 SAAR: 1.15 + 7.45 PM

JAMES MCAVOY, JESSICA CHASTAIN, BILL HADER

FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW (PG-15)(ACTION)

CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.45 AM + 5.45 + 11.45 PM

DWAYNE JOHNSON, JASON STATHAM, IDRIS ELBA

DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD (PG)(ADVENTURE)

OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA) : 10.30 AM + 2.45 + 7.00 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.15 AM + 4.00 + 8.45 PM

ISABELA MONER, Q'ORIANKA KILCHER, BENICIO DEL TORO

KHAYAL MAATA (PG)(COMEDY/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE : 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM

AHMAD HELMY, MINNA SHALABI, HASSAN HOSNEY

THE LION KING (PG)(ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FAMILY)

CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 2.30 + 5.00 + 7.30 + 10.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 1.30 + 6.15 + 11.00 PM

DONALD GLOVER, SETH ROGEN, CHIWETEL EJIOFOR

THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE 2 (PG)(ANIMATION)

OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA): 12.45 + 5.00 + 9.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 4.30 + 9.00 PM

SUDEIKIS, JOSH GAD, AWKAFINA

47 METERS DOWN : UNCAGED (15+)

CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 4.00 + 8.00 PM + 12.00 MN

SOPHIE NÉLISSE, CORINNE FOX, BRIANNE TJU

READY OR NOT (18+)(THRILLER/ HORROR)

CITY CENTRE: 2.00 + 6.00 + 10.00 PM

SAMARA WEAVING, ADAM BRODY, MARK O'BRIEN (IX)

TOY STORY 4 (G)(ANIMATION)

CITY CENTRE: 2.15 + 6.45 + 11.15 PM

TOM HANKS, TIM ALLEN, JOAN CUSACK

ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD (18+)

CITY CENTRE : 11.30 AM + 5.30 + 11.30 PM

LEONARDO DICAPRIO, BRAD PITT, MARGOT ROBBIE

ALADDIN (PG)(ADVENTURE)

CITY CENTRE: 2.45 + 8.45 PM

WILL SMITH, NAOMI SCOTT, MENA MASSOUD

CHHICHHORE (PG-15)(HINDI/DRAMA/COMEDY)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 1.15 + 9.00 PM

SUSHANT SINGH RAJPUT, SHRADDHA KAPOOR, VARUN SHARMA

LOVE ACTION DRAMA (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

NIVIN PAULY, NAYANTHARA, AJU VARGHESE

KAAPPAAN (PG-15)(TAMIL)

STARTING FROM THURSDAY 10.30 PM ONWARDS

OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 10.45 AM + 2.00 + 5.15 + 8.30 + 11.45 PM

SEEF (I): 11.00 AM + 2.15 + 5.30 + 8.45 PM + 12.00 MN

WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 1.30 + 4.45 + 8.00 + 11.15 PM

SAAR: 11.30 AM + 4.30 + (11.00 PM THURS/FRI)

AL HAMRA: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)

MOHANLAL, SURYA, BOMAN IRANI, ARYA, SAYYESHAA SAIGAL, PRAKASH RAJ

BANDOBAST (PG-15)(TELUGU)

STARTING FROM THURSDAY 10.30 PM ONWARDS

SEEF (I): 12.00 + 5.45 + 11.30 PM

MOHANLAL, SURYA, BOMAN IRANI, ARYA, SAYYESHAA SAIGAL

PATTABHIRAMAN (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 1.15 + 6.30 PM

SEEF (I): 3.00 + 9.00 PM

JAYARAM, SHEELU ABRAHAM, ALI

FINALS (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)

OASIS JUFFAIR: 10.45 AM + 4.00 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM

SEEF (I): 3.15 + 9.00 PM

RAJEESHA VIJAYAN, SURAJ VENJARAMODU

VALMIKI (PG-15)(TELUGU)

STARTING FROM THURSDAY 10.30 PM ONWARDS

SEEF (I): 11.45 AM + 5.45 + 11.45 PM

POOJA HEGDE, VARUN TEJ, ATHARVA MURALI

MOVIE REVIEW

Ad Astra: Brad Pitt adds rocket fuel to stunning sci-fi epic

Sad astronaut searches for dad astronaut in this aching cosmic space race

● **Slow, gorgeous, and unnerving, the movie gives a distinctly modern answer to man's search for the divine**

● **Brad Pitt gives one of his best performances as a lonely, James Bond-like astronaut in 'Ad Astra'**

● **Ad Astra is a 2019 American science fiction adventure film produced, co-written and directed by James Gray**

Starring Brad Pitt, Tommy Lee Jones, Ruth Negga, Liv Tyler and Donald Sutherland, it follows an astronaut who goes into space in search of his lost father, whose experiment threatens the solar system.

The project was announced in early 2016, with Gray saying he wanted to feature "the most realistic depiction of space travel



Brad Pitt in 'Ad Astra'

that's been put in a movie". Pitt signed on to star in April 2017 and the rest of the cast joined later that year.

Ad Astra had its world pre-

miere at the Venice Film Festival on August 29, 2019, and is scheduled to be theatrically released in the United States on September 20, 2019 by Walt Disney Studios

Motion Pictures, under the 20th Century Fox banner. It received mostly positive reviews from critics, with universal praise for Pitt's performance.



Brad Pitt's performance is a series of onscreen solos, centred on the furious stillness of his face and its frozen evocation of volcanic passion and pressurized depths

On Rotten Tomatoes, the film holds an approval rating of 81% based on 179 reviews, with an average rating of 7.67/10. The website's critical consensus reads: "Ad Astra takes a visually thrilling journey through the vast reaches of space while charting an ambitious course for

the heart of the bond between parent and child."

On Metacritic, which uses a weighted average, the film has a score of 80 out of 100, based on 50 critics, indicating "generally favourable reviews".

David Ehrlich of IndieWire gave the film an "A", saying that "Ad Astra is one of the most ruminative, withdrawn, and curiously optimistic space epics this side of Solaris. It's also one of the best."

Similarly, Xan Brooks of The Guardian gave the film five out of five stars, called it a "superb space-opera" and praised Pitt's performance, writing: "Pitt embodies McBride with a series of deft gestures and a minimum of fuss. His performance is so understated it hardly looks like acting at all."

Variety's Owen Gleiberman praised Pitt's performance and wrote: "Gray proves beyond measure that he's got the chops to make a movie like this. He also has a vision, of sorts — one that's expressed, nearly inadvertently, in the metaphor of that space antenna."

celebs



Britney Spears and Sam Asghari

Beyonce shares unseen picture of her twins in birthday reflection post

Los Angeles

Musical powerhouse Beyonce, who recently celebrated her 38th birthday, shared some rare pictures of her twins which is just dripping love.

On Friday morning, American singer-songwriter shared a new collection of pictures on her website with the caption "YOUR B AT 37" from her life over the last year.

Out of all, one adorable picture of the pop-star holding her twins - daughter Rumi and son Sir- on Halloween last year, stole the heart of her fans.

The twins can be seen wearing matching colourful outfits for the snap, featuring straps in a green, yellow and red stripe pattern.

"Thank you from the depths of me for all my Birthday Loving," the singer addressed her fans in a handwritten note, above the pictures. "I had an incredible B-day! I'm grateful for every breath. I thank GOD for all of my Blessings, my wins, and my Losses. I thank GOD for All of you!"

"I would have posted earlier but I had work to do. I gotta job BAAAABY. Here is your B at 37," she continued, concluding with a hand-drawn heart and, "Love y'all."



Beyonce

Jennifer Lopez revives dress behind the invention of Google Images

Los Angeles

US singer Jennifer Lopez has revived her iconic green Versace dress that led to the invention of Google Images.

Lopez, 50, first wore the gown to the Grammy Awards in February 2000.

Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt later revealed there were so many searches for photos of the dress afterwards, it inspired them to create Google Images.

Footage of Lopez modelling the modern version of the dress at Versace's S/S 2020 show has been viewed more than two million times on social media.

Friday's show, at Milan Fashion Week, paid homage to both the original dress, and to Lopez.



Jennifer Lopez

Britney Spears, beau make rare red carpet appearance

Los Angeles

Singer Britney Spears recently made a rare red carpet appearance here to support her beau Sam Asghari.

The pop star attended the 2019 Daytime Beauty Awards in Los Angeles with trainer Asghari, who was honoured for Outstanding Achievement in Fitness.

She and Asghari posed for photos. Britney was later spotted being escorted back into her car, a source told "online.com".

The singer has mostly stayed out of the spotlight in last few months amid personal and legal turmoil involving her and her family. She last appeared at a red

carpet event in July, when she and Asghari attended the premiere of "Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood" here.

Recently, a hearing was held to discuss the status of her conservatorship. Her 67-year-old father, Jamie Spears, had mostly controlled her financial and medical affairs since her 2007 public meltdown. The case remains pending.

Earlier this month, her ex-husband Kevin Federline filed a criminal complaint and obtained a restraining order against Jamie, which bans him from contact with the former couple's two sons, after accusing him of getting physical with one of them.

'Such an incredible mentor': Paris Hilton mourns grandfather's death

Los Angeles

Reality TV star Paris Hilton, mourned the death of her grandfather William Barron Hilton who passed away on Thursday at the age of 91.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of my grandfather Barron Hilton," Paris, wrote Friday evening.

"I feel so grateful to have had such an incredible mentor," she continued.

"I always wanted to make him proud. The last conversation we had a few days ago, I told him how much of an impact he had on my life. His spirit, heart, and legacy will live on in me," she added.



Paris Hilton and William Barron Hilton

According to Page Six, in 2007, Barron reportedly left 95 per cent of his wealth to charity. At the time 'House of Hilton' author Jerry Oppenheimer, told The Post that Paris had been an "embarrassment" for the family.

'Gully Boy' is India's official entry to Oscars

Mumbai

Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar's "Gully Boy", starring Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt, has been chosen as India's official entry for the 92nd Academy Awards.

"#GullyBoy has been selected as India's official entry to the 92nd Oscar Awards.

#apnatime-aayega Thank you to the film federation and congratulations #Zoya @kagtireema @ritesh_sid @RanveerOfficial @aliaa08 @SiddhantChaturvD @kalkikanmani and cast, crew and hip hop crew," Farhan Akhtar, one of the film's producer, tweeted on Saturday.



Ranveer

Gwen was hit hard after her youngest son started KG class

Los Angeles

Singer Gwen Stefani felt "devastated" after her youngest son Apollo started going to Kindergarten.

"I got a baby in kindergarten



now and that was devastating. But he's so excited and he's doing so well. I got (two in) junior high. God gave me all three boys.. I've always been surrounded by boys," the Grammy winner told "Entertainment Tonight".

The singer and her ex-husband, Gavin Rossdale share Apollo and his older brothers, Zuma, 11, and Kingston, 13. After their 2015 split, Gwen went on to date singer Blake Shelton.

In June, a source told "usmagazine.com" about the country singer Shelton's bond with Gwen's sons. "He's extremely close with them," the insider revealed.

When Garner tried tongue twisters with numbed mouth

Los Angeles

Jennifer Garner has no problem laughing at herself as she shared a hilarious video of her trying to say out some tongue twisters after getting her mouth numbed during a dental procedure.

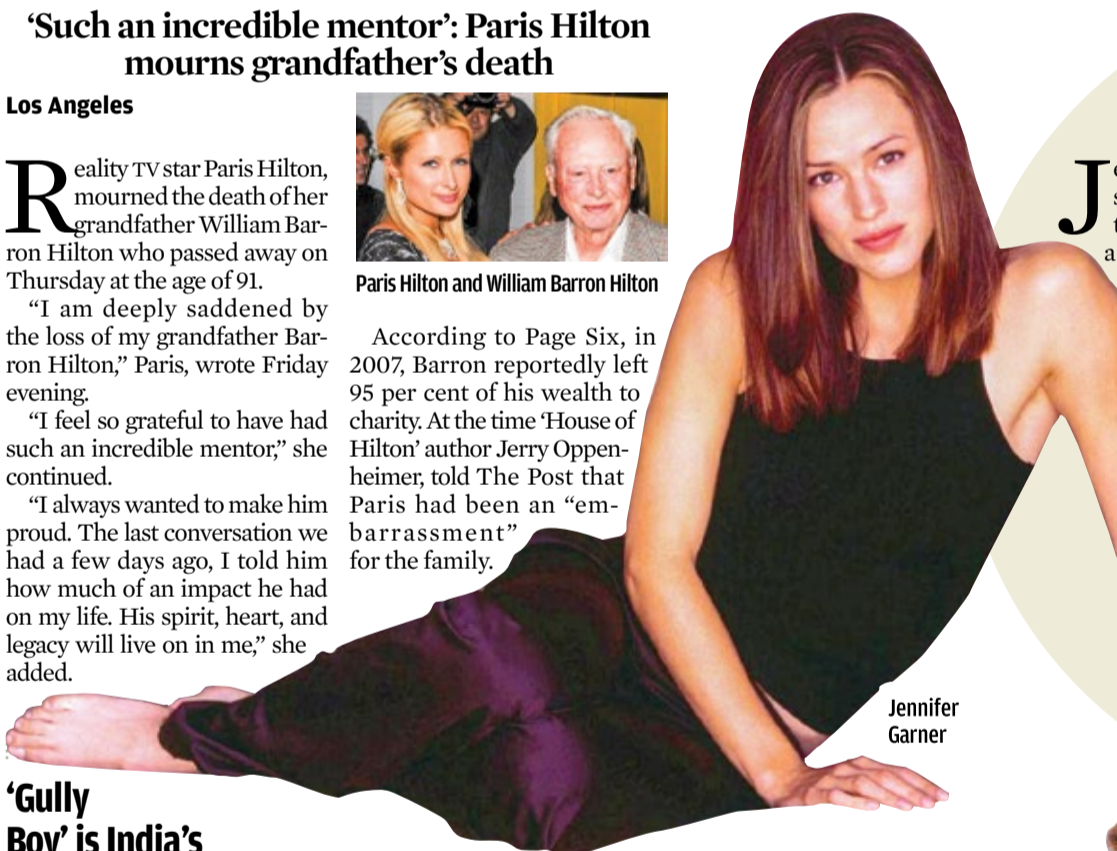
In the video she shared on Instagram on Thursday, Garner tries her best to spit out several tongue twisters but she can barely move her mouth because it was numbed during her recent visit to the dentist, reports people.com.

The "13 Going on 30" actress couldn't help but burst into laughter midway saying out a tongue twister and at one point held her hand up to her mouth before continuing. Once she finished her monologue, Garner said "Thank you" to the camera.

"It's just a small procedure, he said. Not even a cavity, he said... #numbnumb #sonumb #numbitynumb," she captioned the short clip.

This isn't the first time Garner has gotten silly on Instagram.

Back in June, the star poked fun at herself for the never-ending stream of random items in her purse.



Jennifer Garner

Anushka Sharma in Fortune India's list of Most Powerful Women

Mumbai

Actress Anushka Sharma has been named in the Fortune India's top 50 list of Most Powerful Women of 2019.

The actress, who ventured into Bollywood in 2008 with the film "Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi", is the youngest woman on the list and ranks at 39.

Fortune India wrote about the actress: "Sharma is not only the face of her clothing line Nush and several other brands such as Nivea, Elle 18, Myntra and Lavie, but also a producer. Clean Slate Films, which Sharma set up when she was 25, has produced three small-budget Hindi films-NH10, 'Phillauri', and 'Pari'.

"They made around Rs 40 crore each at the box office. Moving beyond Bollywood, Clean Slate Films has tied up with Netflix to produce a feature film titled 'Bulbul' and a web-series called 'Mai'. It is also developing and producing a web-series for Amazon Prime Video.



Anushka Sharma

Big B's dig at Sonakshi Sinha over 'KBC' gaffe



Amitabh Bachchan and Sonakshi Sinha

Mumbai

Megastar Amitabh Bachchan trolled actress Sonakshi Sinha for struggling to give the right answer to a question on the "Ramayan" during an episode of "Kaun Banega Crorepati", the popular quiz show he hosts.

Sonakshi was seen on the KBC hotseat with Rajasthani artisan Ruma Devi, facing show host Bachchan. He asks: "According to Ramayana, Hanuman fetched the Sanjeevani herb for whom?" Sonakshi is visibly confused and uses a lifeline.

Big B could not stop himself from questioning Sonakshi, daughter of actor Shatrughan Sinha.

"Aapke pitaji ka naam hai Shatrughan, aap jis ghar me rehti hain, uska naam hai Ramayan. Aapke jitne chacha hain, wo sab Ramayan se sambandhit hain, Aapko ye nahi pata ki Lakshman ke liye laaye they jadibooti? (Your father's name is Shatrughan and you home is called Ramayan. Your uncles are all connected to the Ramayan. How do you not know that jadibooti was brought for?)"

Sonakshi replied: "Mujhe laga tha, lekin main inke liye bahut nervous thi to chance nahi lena chahti thi (I had a hunch about the right answer, but I was nervous and did not want to take any chance)."

SPORTS
sports

Bahrain wins boxing championship

● Bahrain defeated Kuwait 5-4

● HH Shaikh Khalid praises the organisation level and the boxers' performances

TDT | Manama

Bahrain has won a friendly boxing championship after defeating Kuwait 5-4 with Bahraini fighter Abdullah Fadel being named the best boxer in the event.

Under the patronage of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, the Bahrain and Kuwait International Boxing Championship took place in Crown Plaza Hotel Conference Centre.

Organised by Bahrain Boxing Federation, the event was attended by HH Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, President of Bahrain Combat Sports Council, Mohammed Hassan Al



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa with Bahrain team

Nisf, Secretary-General of Bahrain Olympic Committee and many guests and boxing sport enthusiasts.

On this occasion, HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa said: "We launched our vision that aims at supporting boxing

sport and it includes forming a national team who is capable of competing at the international and continental levels as well



Fighters compete during the event

as achieving important accomplishments. We want to position Bahrain at the international boxing sport map."

He further added: "We have full confidence in Bahrain Combat Sports Council under the leadership of HH Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa to put in place the required mechanisms and plans to boost

the federations falling under its umbrella, especially the Boxing Federation."

Moreover, HH Shaikh Khalid praised the organisation level of the championship as well as the performances showcased during the event. He valued the efforts of Bahrain Boxing Federation and its president Ali Kazrooni and the staff members.

Riffa SC gets key away goal in draw at King Mohammed VI Champions Cup

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Premier League champions Riffa SC travelled to Morocco for the first knockout stage of the King Mohammed VI Cup, this season's edition of the Arab Champions Cup. They faced off against Olympic Safi and came out with a credible 1-1 draw.

It was a good result for Riffa SC, who scored an away goal, which could prove crucial in the second leg. Both teams will face off once again on October 1, this time with home-field advantage for the Bahraini outfit.

Riffa SC is now in control of the tie as a simple 0-0 draw will mean qualification to the last 16 of the Arab Champions Cup.

Whoever wins the game will be qualified, a 1-1 draw will get the match to overtime, while draws with two goals or more



Riffa SC players in action during the match

will favour Olympic Safi. In the first leg, the Moroccan team scored the first goal of the match, but were then caught off track as they scored an own goal which favored the Bahrain national champions.

The result keeps the team

with a good form since they started a key partnership with KHK MMA and BRAVE Combat Federation, set to empower Bahraini football around the world and bring more awareness to the booming football scene in the Kingdom.

Federer keeps Team Europe ahead in Laver Cup with win over Kyrgios

Reuters | Geneva

Roger Federer maintained this 100% Laver Cup record against Nick Kyrgios yesterday with a thrilling 6-7(5) 7-5 10-7 victory over the Australian to give Team Europe a 5-3 lead.

Playing in front of 17,000 fans in Geneva, home favourite Federer beat Kyrgios for the

third time in as many editions of the competition to take Europe closer to the 13-point victory target ahead of the night session that features Rafael Nadal.

"It was really close that first set so it was tough to lose," 20-times Grand Slam winner Federer said.

"The crowd could feel it, I

could feel it. I needed to get some energy going but you can't do that if you don't play any good shots and Nick was playing very well.

"I was just trying to stay focused. If you can turn the momentum, the crowd gets back into it and I need some earplugs next time, it was just phenomenal."

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Ferrari's Monegasque driver Charles Leclerc celebrates after the qualifying session

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc on pole for Singapore GP

AFP | Singapore

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc secured pole position for the Singapore Grand Prix yesterday as he looks to claim a stunning hat-trick of wins after triumphs in Belgium and Italy.

The 21-year-old will be joined on the front row by championship leader Lewis Hamilton in a Mercedes, with Leclerc's teammate Sebastian Vettel rounding out the top three, ahead of Red Bull's Max Verstappen and Valtteri Bottas.

Despite winning the last two races on power-friendly tracks, Ferrari had been given little chance of competing under the floodlights at the demanding 23-turn layout in Singapore.

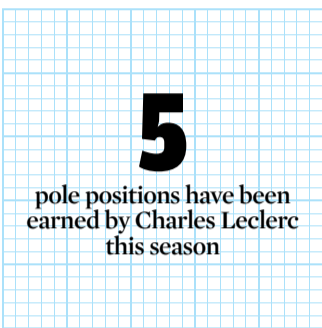
But Leclerc and Vettel tore up the script to gatecrash what was expected to be a Mercedes and Red Bull party.

"I'm extremely happy about today. It was a good lap but I lost it a few times," Leclerc said after completing a 1:36.217 second final lap.

"I have to thank the team. We brought some new bits that worked properly. I worked hard after a bad Friday and today it paid off," added Leclerc, who recorded his fifth pole position of the season.

Hamilton holds a 63-point lead over Bottas of Mercedes in the title race with seven rounds remaining.

The Briton said he would adopt an aggressive approach to Sunday's race in search of a ninth victory of the season, as he seeks a sixth world cham-



5 pole positions have been earned by Charles Leclerc this season

ampionship.

"I don't know where Ferrari picked up their pace but they did a great job," said Hamilton, who lapped in 1:36.408.

"I'm really happy to be on the front row with them. Tomorrow we can be aggressive."

Vettel has suffered an erratic season while his rookie teammate has shone for the Italian team. The German was quickest in the first half of the final part of qualifying until Leclerc and Hamilton edged past him.

"The final attempt should have been better but I was able to improve run by run. Maybe I peaked too early," Vettel said.

Red Bull's Alex Albon will start sixth on the grid, ahead of Carlos Sainz, Daniel Ricciardo, Nico Hulkenberg and Lando Norris.

Dense smog from forest fires in neighbouring Indonesia had floated over Singapore in the past week, sparking concerns the F1 could be affected.

Air quality hovered around "unhealthy" levels in parts of the city yesterday evening but only a light haze was visible and did not affect the race.

Man City demolish Watford

Manchester City hit eight past Watford as Bernardo Silva scores treble

● Leicester's fast start continues as James Maddison sinks Spurs with late stunner

AFP | Manchester

Manchester City powered to their record Premier League win as the champions scored five times in the first half of an incredible 8-0 thrashing of Watford, while Leicester enjoyed a VAR-assisted 2-1 victory over Tottenham yesterday.

Inspired by Bernardo Silva's hat-trick, Pep Guardiola's side ripped woeful Watford to pieces at the Etihad Stadium, eclipsing a 7-0 success against Norwich in 2013 which stood as their previous biggest top-flight win.

Although City fell one goal short of equalling the biggest Premier League margin of victory -- Manchester United's 9-0 demolition of Ipswich in 1995 -- their swaggering display was the perfect way to erase the bitter taste from last weekend's shock defeat at Norwich.

Second-placed City move to within two points of leaders Liverpool, who face Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Sunday.

City had crushed Watford 6-0 in last season's FA Cup final and, with injury-plagued left-back Benjamin Mendy making his first start since April, they picked up where they left off at Wembley with a goal inside the first minute at the Etihad Stadium.

Kevin De Bruyne played a superb ball in from the right, leaving David Silva with the simple task of poking home from close range for his first goal of the season.

The champions doubled their lead in the seventh minute after Watford keeper Ben Foster conceded a penalty with a foul on Riyadh Mahrez.

Sergio Aguero coolly slotted in the spot-kick for his eighth goal in six games this term, tak-



Bernardo Silva of Manchester City scores his team's fourth goal



"We're six games in, we are not getting carried away. We had a tough start but I'm so pleased with the players' focus

BRENDAN RODGERS

wasn't enough for City and Bernardo struck again with a close-range finish after another flowing move in the 48th minute.

Bernardo completed his first Premier League treble on the hour with a tap-in from De Bruyne's cross.

De Bruyne set City's new record mark in the Premier League when the Belgium midfielder scored the eighth in the 85th minute.

Leicester on the rise

At the King Power Stadium, Leicester proved their credentials to gatecrash the top four as they came from behind to beat Tottenham.

Harry's Kane's improvised 29th-minute opener as he stumbled before flicking home put Tottenham ahead.

However, the game swung Leicester's way after Tottenham defender Serge Aurier's goal midway through the second half was ruled out by the finest of margins for offside by VAR.

The hosts built on that lift immediately as Ricardo Pereira equalised before James Maddison struck the winner from long range five minutes from time.

"We're six games in, we are not getting carried away," said Leicester boss Brendan Rodg-

ers. "We had a tough start but I'm so pleased with the players' focus."

By contrast, Tottenham have now won just two of their first seven games of the season in all competitions and Mauricio Pochettino admitted the VAR controversy had played a role in their latest flop.

Pochettino bemoaned the momentum swing given to Leicester by the long stoppage in play prior to Aurier's strike being ruled out for an extremely marginal offside against Son Heung-min.

"The emotion of the game changed. The belief it gave to Leicester made things happen differently in the last 10 minutes," Pochettino said.

"I'm only going to say that we all accept that system in the game and now I am not going to complain."

Burnley beat Norwich 2-0 at Turf Moor, with New Zealand striker Chris Wood scoring in the 10th and 14th minutes.

Sheffield United piled pressure on Everton manager Marco Silva, whose side were booed off after a 2-0 defeat at Goodison Park, the damage done by Yerry Mina's 40th-minute own goal and Lys Mousset's 79th-minute strike.

Coutinho and Lewandowski fire Bayern top with Cologne rout

AFP | Munich

Philippe Coutinho's first Bayern Munich goal and a brace from Robert Lewandowski helped the German champions go top of the Bundesliga with a 4-0 thrashing of 10-man Cologne yesterday.

Poland star striker Lewandowski put Bayern ahead with just 150 seconds gone at the Allianz Arena after Joshua Kimmich split the Cologne defence before then doubling the hosts' lead with a header from a corner at the start of the season half to take his league tally to nine in five games.

Coutinho, on loan from Barcelona, claimed his first Bundesliga goal on the hour by converting a penalty at the second attempt, after Lewandowski gave the Brazilian the chance despite being on a hat-trick.

"It was a spontaneous de-



Robert Lewandowski and Philippe Coutinho celebrate during the match

cision, we didn't talk about it before the game," Lewandowski said of giving Coutinho the spot-kick.

"It was important for him here at the Allianz Arena, for the future and his confidence. He is a great player and we must all help him."

Kingsley Ehizibue had been

shown a straight red card just before the penalty for bringing down Coutinho in the area when he was one-on-one with Cologne stopper Timo Horn.

Coutinho capped a superb display by setting up Ivan Perisic to compound Cologne's misery by slotting Bayern's fourth on 73 minutes.

Zidane would quit Real Madrid without backing

AFP | Madrid

Zinedine Zidane believes he has the backing of Real Madrid but admits he would leave if he ever felt he had lost the club's support.

Zidane has come under scrutiny after enduring his worst ever defeat as Madrid coach on Wednesday, a 3-0 loss to Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League.

The result also followed an underwhelming start in La Liga, which has seen Madrid claim two wins and two draws from games against Celta Vigo, Real Valladolid, Villarreal and Levante.

After returning from Paris, Zidane gave his players the day off on Thursday, which surprised

those high up at the club, according to reports in the Spanish press.

Asked if he felt like his methods were being questioned, Zidane said in a press conference on Friday: "No, not at all, the opposite. I think the club helps us all to be strong and supports all the people that work here."

"If it's ever not like that it would probably be best to leave."

On his decision to give the players a day off, Zidane added: "It's not a question of whether they deserve it or not. We have to give them time off."

"They need time with their families, they have to be able to rest. We have seven games in 21 days. They need time away and I understand that."

Zinedine Zidane

England all-rounder Moeen takes break from tests

AFP | London

England all-rounder Moeen Ali has taken a break from test cricket after losing out on a central contract for the longest format for the 2019-20 season following a dismal summer.

The 32-year-old off-spinner and left-handed batsman lost his place in England's World Cup winning team before being dropped from the test side after the defeat in first Ashes test.

"It's just to get away from it a little bit. I feel like I want to enjoy my batting and this will give me a bit of a break," Moeen told ESPNcricinfo. "I want to spend some time with the family."

Ali has played 60 tests, 101 one-dayers and 25 Twenty20 internationals - scoring eight hundreds while taking 280 wickets across formats.