

Johnny Depp reveals on trembling life

Actor Johnny Depp, whose life has been marred by several problems and issues including legal troubles, financial woes and a tumultuous, shrouded personal life, says there was a point when he was as low as he could have gotten. **P16**

THE DAILY tribune



Late show saves Brazil

20 SPORTS

SPORTS 18

Germany expects turnaround

Saudi women ready to take driver's seat
Riyadh

After more than 60 years spent stuck in the passenger seat, the kingdom's 15.1 million women can finally take control of the steering wheel when the ban on female drivers is lifted. As women in Saudi Arabia are poised to start driving from tomorrow, many women have already secured their drivers' licences. Accountancy firm PwC predicts that the number of women on Saudi Arabia's roads will swell to three million by 2020. Thousands of women have signed up for driving lessons as new female-only programmes have sprung up.

Prince William to visit Israel
Morocco

Prince William will embark on the first official visit to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. But even with more than 120 Palestinians killed in protests in Gaza during recent weeks and controversy still surrounding the opening of the US embassy in Jerusalem, the second-in-line to the throne is not expected to talk politics.

Shaikh Nasser triumphs in Ripon Racecourse

London

HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, was crowned winner of Ripon Racecourse in London - one of the most prestigious horse races in the world.

HH Shaikh Nasser's triumph came after his horse Semoum secured first place in the race, posting an incredible time of 1:11 minutes. Steering Semoum was jockey Jack Mitchell, while his trainer was George Peckham.

"This new victory for the Bahraini horse racing sport is the fruitful outcome of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's interest and support, as well as keenness to directly sponsor the

"This will not be the end. We will move forward with our plans to attain more golden accomplishments for the Kingdom of Bahrain across the globe."

SHAIKH NASSER

sport that represents history. "Horse sport in the Kingdom is on the right track thanks to the direct attention and follow-up by HM the King, who is the main supporter of sports in general and horse sport in particular in the Kingdom of Bahrain," Shaikh Nasser said after Semoum's victory.

"We were aware of the great importance of this race because



Shaikh Nasser has been a major supporter of horse sports in the Kingdom.

winning it will have a positive impact on the sports in Bahrain and it will confirm the Kingdom's pioneer position in the globe in this area.

"It will also put Bahrain under the limelight in the field of sports. For these reasons, we doubled our efforts to realise our dream of securing a positive

result in Ripon," Shaikh Nasser added.

Shaikh Nasser pointed out that winning this race wasn't easy and it came after making many sacrifices, stating that: "This will not be the end. We will move forward with our plans to attain more golden accomplishments for the Kingdom of Bahrain across the globe."



Ripon Race is one of the most prestigious horse races in the world.

A criminal regime

US secretary of State raps Tehran for squandering people's wealth for proxy wars outside Iran.

Pompeo had earlier said that the US was aware of reports that Iran plans to increase its uranium enrichment capacity and Washington will not allow Iran to develop a nuclear weapon.

Iran's corrupt regime has enriched the IRGC, Hezbollah and Hamas and squandered the country's wealth on foreign proxy wars while Iranian families struggle, Pompeo said.



More than 80 per cent of people live under poverty in Iran.

ism while Iranians are hungry and in need."

The tweet also stated that "5,000 Iranians were arrested during protests in January; 30 women were put in prison for protesting against wearing the veil; in addition to the imprisonment of Sufis and environmental activists. The regime also arrested 430 farmers in Isfahan Province."

Pompeo added that "Iranians deserve respect for their human rights."

In another tweet, Pompeo publishes a photo of Major Gen. Qasem Soleimani, the commander of the Revolutionary Guards Quds Brigade, with a comment saying "Iran's corrupt regime has enriched the IRGC, Hezbollah and Hamas and squandered the country's wealth on foreign proxy wars while Iranian families struggle."

Pompeo had earlier said that the US was aware of reports that Iran plans to increase its uranium enrichment capacity and Washington will not allow Iran to develop a nuclear weapon.

London

The US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has attacked the Iranian government, calling it a criminal

regime that suppresses its people.

In a tweet on his Twitter account Pompeo said the "Tehran regime is criminal

and suppresses its citizens and does not respect their rights."

This regime, he added, "funds terror-

JUST FOR FUN

Man pretends to be Morocco premier to get restaurant chair

While the identity of Ihab's father remains unknown, he's definitely not Saadeddine Othmani, the Prime Minister of Morocco.

Moscow

A man has pulled off a casual con in a busy Russian restaurant after

tricking the staff into thinking he was the Prime Minister of Morocco in order to secure a reservation.

On Wednesday, Ihab shared their father's tale on Twitter.

"My dad wanted to make a reservation at a restaurant and they told him that they were completely booked. Minutes later he called back claiming to be the Prime Minister of Morocco.

"We got the best table in the place and the chef asked him to sign a plate and take a pic



The man poses with a chef at the restaurant.

with him."

Ihab took a video of their dad signing the plate. The Russian chef can be seen grinning and shaking hands with Ihab's father as another chef takes a photo.

While the identity of Ihab's father remains unknown, he's definitely not Saadeddine Othmani, the Prime Minister of Morocco since 2017.

Saadeddine Othmani, a 61-year old career politician was appointed to the post last March.

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03 Every day jam

04 Plans on to boost coastal tourism

06 Light up your taste buds with mahyawa!



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Regional security 'is top priority'

● **HRH the Crown Prince praised the joint commitment by Bahrain and the United States to further strengthen bilateral ties across various areas.**

Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday met the Commander of the United States Central Command (USCENTCOM), General Joseph L Votel, at Riffa Palace.

During the meeting, HRH the Crown Prince highlighted the Kingdom's commitment to further support and strengthen regional security by working with international allies to address



HRH the Crown Prince with General Joseph L Votel

shared threats and challenges.

HRH the Crown Prince emphasised the important role played by the United States in preserving regional security, noting in particular the US' respect for the internal affairs of sovereign nations.

HRH the Crown Prince praised the joint commitment by Bahrain and the United States to further strengthen bilateral ties across various areas, in particular the longstanding defence and security relationship which has been instrumental to the fight against terrorism.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review a number of regional and international issues of common interest.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, also attended the meeting.

Old glory shines again

Revamp work completed at the Dilmun Burial Mounds

● **Given the richness of these burial mounds, containing artifacts that reflect the lifestyle of Dilmunians, they were considered as a unique and exceptional historical data record, and were consequently registered on UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List.**

Manama

The "Dilmun Burial Mounds" Hall at the Bahrain National Museum will re-open on Tuesday following the completion of five-year renovation works.

The new-look hall features a general idea of what the inside of Dilmun burials looked like and updated information according to the latest archaeological excavations and discoveries.

Visitors will learn all these items and data through cutting-edge audio-visual technology used in museums worldwide.

Dilmun burial mounds were found across the north and central regions of the country. The civilisation of Dilmun left behind on the main island the heaviest concentration of prehistoric burial grounds anywhere on earth, some 80,000 mounds, which were excavated and studied by many archaeological expedition missions, estimating its history back to 2250-1700 BC.

Given the richness of these burial mounds, containing artifacts that reflect the lifestyle of Dilmunians, they were considered as a unique and exceptional historical data record, and were consequently registered on UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List.

In her comments, President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa extended thanks to the sponsors of hall renovation project, stressing that culture is the best means to preserve Bahrain's human heritage.

She added that the hall was re-designed according to cutting-edge world museum exhibitions techniques, expressing delight that the new hall's re-opening will coincide with the 42nd session of the World



A team of Baca officials review work at the Dilmun Burial Mounds Hall.



The hall was re-designed according to cutting-edge world museum exhibitions techniques. I thank all those who contributed towards this project.

SHAIKHA MAI

Heritage Committee, whose members will visit the Bahrain National Museum and the new-look hall.

The hall's renovation project is sponsored by Bahrain Cinema company, Al Muharraq Mall, Al Seef Property, Ritaj, Bahrain Credit and United Ahli Bank.

A number of artists have also contributed to the project, such as Shaikh

Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Bahrain Arts Society Honorary President, Abdul Rahim Sharif, Balqees Fakhro, Abbas Al Musawi, Ali Al Mahmeed, Shaikha Hala bint Mohammad Al Khalifa, Shaikha Marwa Rachid Al Khalifa, Shaikha Hanan Bint Hassan Al Khalifa, Omar Al Rachid, Zuhair Al Saeed, Mayasa Al Suwaidi, Adel Al Abbasi, and Ali Hussein Mirza.

Initiatives for autistic patients stressed

Manama

Labour and Social Development Minister Jamil Humaidan yesterday received Northern Governor Ali bin Al Shaikh Abdul Hussain Al Asfoor and President of Bahrain Autism Society Zakariya Sayed Hashim.

They reviewed a proposal to organise a summer camp for autistic people in July as part of the summer youth camp that is organised by the Northern Governorate every year.

The programme aims to develop the intellectual and physical skills of autistic people and boost their capability to integrate the community apart from



Mr Humaidan receives Mr Al Asfoor and Mr Hashim

direct guidance through playing and learning.

The Labour and Social Development

Minister praised cooperation between the Northern Governorate and Bahrain Autism Society, lauding the society's

role in promoting the principles of community partnership and implementing programmes aimed at people

with autism.

He stressed the ministry's readiness to provide all needed support to ensure success of the camp in attaining set up goals.

The Northern Governor and Bahrain Autism Society President hailed the ministry's efforts to optimise its services for all social components, including mainly autistic patients and needy people.

They also underlined the importance of maintaining cooperation with the government and non-government institutions in order to promote the humanitarian and social role of this category of people.

BIG STORY

big story



Long tailbacks are a common scene in Al Daih.

Every day jam!

Daih villagers face huge tailbacks every day; hope authorities will offer respite some day



Only the luckiest gets a chance to park car on time in Daih.

● Villagers are demanding a third entrance. According to them, one of the main causes for traffic jams is the single intersection for all the three villages.

● When asked, Majdi Al Nasheet, member of Capital Secretariat Council, said the secretariat has been open to the demands of Al Daih residents and plans are being devised to address their issues including notorious traffic jams.

TDT|Manama

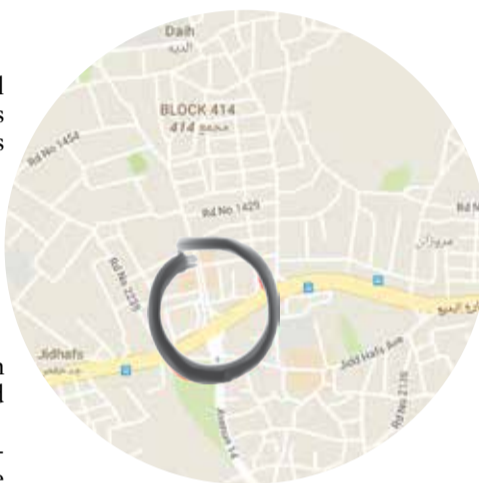
Daih in Persian means small and as the name indicates it's a small village. Ironically, this small village faces one of the biggest traffic jams in the Kingdom.

The villagers here are upset and many say they prefer to sit at home rather than getting stuck on roads for longer periods.

There are two main entrances to the village. The first one on the intersection with Sanabis and Jidhafs villages and the second one near Bahrain Mall.

Villagers are demanding a third entrance. According to them, one of the main causes for traffic jams is the single intersection for all the three villages.

A wedding hall located near to the Bahrain Mall only compounds the problem. Speaking to Tribune, Abdulla Mo-



Single intersection is cited by the villagers as one of the main causes behind tailbacks.

hamed, a villager said, "We prefer to stay home when wedding parties are held

at the hall. Otherwise we will have to spend hours on road until we get back home."

He said the traffic jams are a pain to the villagers, urging the authorities to find an immediate solution.

Lack of parking space is another issue faced by villagers. They say fights and quarrels over parking issues are quite common here.

Abdalmohsin Al Qassab, another villager, said the street was built "ages ago based on old methods of construction and old designs".

"There are no parking spaces at all here. Most of us walk between 15 and 20 minutes after parking our cars. Elderly people are the main victims."

Al Qassab said the saddest part are the fights between neighbours over car parking. "Neighbours, and sometimes even friends turn into foes over car park-

ing issues. This needs to be addressed or the village will lose its cohesion."

Villagers say the authorities have been turning a blind eye to their demands. Um Ali, also a Daih villager said, "We don't have a proper playground here, no good parks and other amenities enjoyed by other villagers. We alert authorities very often about the issues that we face. But our repeated pleas only fall on deaf ears."

When asked, Majdi Al Nasheet, member of Capital Secretariat Council, said the secretariat has been open to the demands of Al Daih residents and plans are being devised to address their issues including notorious traffic jams.

"We hold follow-up meetings between secretariat officials and Al Daih villagers. Many issues have been solved, while there are many remaining. We are in our full efforts to solve all existing problems in the village."


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Plans on to boost coastal tourism



Bahrain has huge potential for coastal tourism.

BTEA to lease out coastal plots to investors to set up resorts, restaurants and marine-related projects

● Through the introduction of investment opportunities, the authority seeks to increase the contribution of tourism to GDP, develop a unique tourism product and experience that distinguishes Bahrain from its competitors.

● The authority affirms that Bahrain has huge potential for investments in tourism projects, based on its strategic location, access to the rest of the Middle East, the strong infrastructure, encouraging business environment and a stable economic and tourism system.

TDT|Manama
Abbas Al Mughanni

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) plans to lease out four coastal plots ranging between 8,100 and 11,400 square metres to investors with an aim to rake in millions of dinars, while exploring coastal tourism potentials.

It has been learnt that tenders have been issued in this regard. The authority has called on investors to place bids for these plots on Bahrain Bay and each investor can bid for one out of the four plots.

The plots will be leased out for a period of 10 years and investors can set up tourism projects including hotels, restaurants and other marine related businesses.

The authority said that the deadline for the submission of bids falls on June 27 and tender documents can be purchased electronically through the system of electronic tenders issued by the Tender Board.

The authority affirmed that Bahrain has huge potential for investments in tourism projects, based on its strategic location, access to the rest of the Middle East, the strong infrastructure, encouraging business environment and a stable economic and tourism system.

The country also has the expertise and knowledge of understanding the needs of foreign investments in order to cater to them.

Through the introduction of investment opportunities, the authority seeks to increase the contribution of tourism to GDP, develop a unique tourism product and experience that distinguishes Bahrain from its competitors.

It also aims to ensure a sustainable tourism development based on sound infrastructure, social and cultural practices, while improving the support structure for exhibitions and conferences.

Welcoming the move, economic researcher Dr Ahmed Al Yosha said it would create lots of jobs for Bahrainis.

“There is a strong competition in the Gulf. Bahrain needs more initiatives and should take

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There is a strong competition in the Gulf. Bahrain needs more initiatives and should take advanced steps to maintain its competitive position in the tourism sector.

DR AL YOSHA

advanced steps to maintain its competitive position in the tourism sector. Competition among Gulf states has also evolved.

“In the past Saudi Arabia did not compete with the Gulf countries, but today Saudi Arabia has taken new reform steps in the tourism sector and this would mean it can have a huge share of the tourism sector and can compete very strongly with other GCC countries.”

He said during Eid Al Fitr holidays, the biggest concerts and shows were organised in Saudi Arabia, attracting a large number of tourists.

“This has had a big impact on its tourism market in the Gulf. Dubai has responded by reducing rates at some hotels from AED1,750 to as low as AED650.”

“We, in Bahrain, will be greatly affected by the developments taking place in Saudi Arabia and therefore the tourism authority must provide more initiatives to maintain the competitive position of the Kingdom.”

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Brothers jailed for selling drugs

● The officer contacted the brothers, who promised to offer him shabu for BD220.

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Two brothers have been jailed for five years each and fined BD3,000 for selling drugs and attacking police officers.

The defendants are convicted of using and selling shabu (methamphetamine).

Court details say, after receiving a tip-off, the police assigned an undercover officer to arrest

the suspects. The officer contacted the brothers, who promised to offer him shabu for BD220.

“I agreed to meet the officer in Jurdab, where I sold him drugs,” the first defendant told prosecutors.

A team of officers from the anti-drugs squad followed him to his apartment.

They raided the apartment and arrested the two siblings for possessing and selling drugs.

Police sources say the duo, attacked officers, in their bid to resist arrest. “Some officers were injured in the attack,” the sources added.

According to court files, the convicted duo were trading in various types of drugs. “They were subjected to blood tests, which revealed they were using various kinds of drugs.”

Cinema ticket prices rise 16pc

TDT|Manama

The prices of cinema tickets in the Kingdom have gone up by 16 per cent.

An ordinary cinema ticket cost BD3.5 now against the earlier price of BD3.

Last hike was in 2008, when the price of tick-

ets were raised 20pc from BD2.5 to BD3. The revised prices had become effective at Bahrain City Centre theatres since the beginning of this year.

Earlier, Bahrain Cineco had highlighted the need for a ticket price rise, citing pressure from the part of movie distributors, whose profits are merely generated from ticket sales.

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Lawmakers welcome King's 'pensions rethink' directive

New Pension Law was rapped by MPs for going against the interests of citizens



HM the King



His Majesty will not issue any order that isn't in the interest of the public as he is concerned about their welfare.

JIHAD AL FADHEL



His Majesty is the protector of people's rights and his directives is a reflection of his concern towards them.

JAMEELA AL SALMAN



His Majesty has always considered protecting people's rights. We are thankful to His Majesty for the directive.

DALAL AL ZAYED

● **MPs had unanimously voted against the amendments that would give the government authority absolute right to alter pension laws.**

● **Shura Council approved the bill last week; MPs say implementing the bill could lead to lack of accountability.**

TDI|Manama

MPs and members of the Shura Council have welcomed the directive issued by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to the government to reconsider the proposed pension laws in cooperation with the legislative branch.

They expressed their gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty for his initiative which aims at preserving citizens' rights and providing them with financial stability through their pension rights.

They added that His Majesty's wisdom has always aimed at looking after his people's interests and the directive to reconsider the proposed pension law is a reflection of His Majesty's concern towards improving the services provided to pensioners.

His Majesty earlier this week directed the government to reconsider the two bills of pension



House of Representatives had unanimously rejected the bill.

and retirement laws in cooperation with the parliament, taking into consideration all views and remarks expressed during discussions at the Shura and Representatives Councils as well as views expressed by citizens, columnists and journalists across various media.

His Majesty also emphasised the importance of benefiting from the values of Bahrain's democratic experience based on consultation and consensus on various national issues, calling for cooperation between the legislative and executive branches, allowing more opportunity to finalise the consultations regarding both laws without haste.

His Majesty also directed to reconsider the development of the pensions system in Bahrain in future to ensure preservation of citizens' rights, secure financial stability of pension funds through the enhancement of areas of investment to boost the diversification of sources of income that reflect in the improvement of standards of services provided to pensioners in future.

The parliament's First Deputy Speaker Ali Al Aradi praised the royal directive. He said

that common man's issues have been His Majesty's top priority, which he has always dealt with wisdom.

"The royal umbrella has always protected the gains of this nation and has listened to the voices of the people through their elected representatives and we are confident that we all continue to

progress under HM's wide leadership."

Al Aradi stressed that the royal directive places great responsibility on the executive authority, as well as the deputies, to exert utmost efforts that is worthy of the royal trust and fulfills the aspirations of His Majesty's vision to make the Bahraini citizen the

priority of this country.

Second deputy speaker of the Shura Council, Jamila Salman, welcomed the royal directive. "His Majesty the King is the protector of people's rights and his directives is a reflection of his concern towards all the issue that have impact on each and every Bahraini citizen."

Head of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee at the Shura Council Dalal Al Zayed also expressed gratitude towards His Majesty.

"The members of the legislative authority, whether voted for or against the proposed law all agreed that HM the King will be the guarantor of the law, as HM will always, mainly consider the public interest and protecting people's rights."

Head of the Advisory Committee of the Shura Council, Dr Jihad Al Fadhel, praised the decision of His Majesty the King for the government to re-examine the new proposed retirement law.

"His Majesty is keen to preserve the citizen's gains and rights and this has always been His Majesty's priority. His Majesty will not issue any order that isn't in the interest of the public, whether it is related to the pensioners or the general public."

MP Ghazi Al Rahma expressed his thanks and gratitude to His Majesty the King for issuing the directive to the government.

"His Majesty wants to achieve the aspirations of citizens and his directives is the strongest reflection of that."

Al Rahma stressed that His Majesty has always adopted the route of consensus and consultation, based on a firmly established approach in our pioneering democratic experience.

MP Mohammed Al Maarafi said this noble action reaffirms His Majesty's approach towards the reform process and that the people of this country will always remain to be a priority.

"We convey to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa the sincere thanks and gratitude for his guidance to re-examine the retirement law in cooperation and coordination with the legislative authority."



While MPs rejected the bill, Shura favoured the bill with many claiming that the bill was for people's betterment.

Light up your taste buds with mahyawa!

The fermented fish sauce is nothing less than a sensation across the Arabian Gulf



● Sources say mahyawa can cure many diseases including asthma and joint pains. A study recently revealed that mahyawa contains phosphorus and calcium in addition to many vitamins, which are useful in reducing the effects of many physical disorders.

TDT|Manama
Thamer Tayfoor

Loved by men and women, young and old, mahyawa is a variety gulf dish that will tantalise your taste buds.

Popular across Gulf countries and across the Arabian coast of Iran, mahyawa is a coastal dish made using matoot – a small fish used as bait to catch big fish.

Fatima Janahi describes herself a “mahyawa addict”. “Matoot, being too small to eat, is dried and grinded before mixing with spices. Then its mixed with water, mustard and oil.”

She said the dish became popular also because of its nutritious qualities. “In coastal areas, people consume more fish than meat to obtain protein. And I think that could be one of the reasons behind mahyawa becoming a favourite dish.”

After mixing it with lemon and mustard oil, mahyawa could be used as a sauce, and many make sandwiches with the dish as it makes a right combination with bread.

“Methods of preparing mahyawa differ from one place to another,” Fatima said, adding that cumin, flour, rose water, lemon and coriander are extra ingredients when the dish is prepared in the Kingdom.

A few hate mahyawa because of the ‘not so attractive smell’ of the mixture. “My neighbour, on way to Baghdad years before, was thoroughly searched by border guards who thought mahyawa was some rare kind of wine or poison because of its smell.”

“My neighbour explained that it was a ‘fish juice’ after they opened it and smelled it. They threw it into trash, angry over the foul smell that had spread



Some legend say that an Arab physician named Ibn Sina, who lived in Basra, Iraq, near the Arabian Gulf, invented this special dish, which has medicinal values too.

Some legend say that an Arab physician named Ibn Sina, who lived in Basra, Iraq, near the Arabian Gulf, invented this special dish, which has medicinal values too.

Sources say mahyawa can cure many diseases including asthma and joint pains. A study recently revealed that mahyawa contains phosphorus and calcium in addition to many vitamins, which are useful in reducing the effects of many physical disorders.

Mahyawa contains high proportions of fish oil, which has the ability to relieve the pain caused by rheumatism as well as coarseness of the joints.

It protects the body from poisonous attacks including mercury poisoning. A great dish for the heart, it is believed that deaths caused by heart attacks are less among those who frequently consume mahyawa.

in the inspection room.”

Fatima said that people who lived off sea in the Gulf countries are not familiar with this dish.



”
In coastal areas, people consume more fish than meat to obtain protein. And I think that could be one of the reasons behind mahyawa becoming a favourite dish.

FATIMA

TDT|Manama
Abbas Al Mughanni

Government bonds have emerged one of the best preferred long-term options for investors in the Kingdom.

The day-to-day sales volume of these bonds are lesser as investors keep them for a longer period. They say the expected annual returns are somewhere in the neighborhood of 5 per cent. The total value of government bonds

Government bonds offer safe haven for investors

● The economist further said that investors often by government bonds not for trading purposes, but to park a part of their money in low-risk activities.



”
The government bonds are safe and secure. By purchasing government bonds, you are lending money to the government, which is always capable of paying off debts with its currency.

MR AL A'ALI

stand at BD1.6 billion, according to Bahrain Stock Exchange.

Investor Mohammed Ali said he doesn't have any plans to sell government bonds. “I get almost 5pc every year. If I put my money at any of these commercial banks, all I get is 2pc. Therefore I think it's a wise choice to hold on to government bonds.”

Moreover, the investors feel the bonds are safer as the government is the guarantor.

“The government bonds are safe and secure. By purchasing government bonds, you are lending money to the government, which is always capable of paying off debts with its currency.”

Economist Hassan Al A'ali said the government bonds have reasonably good yields, which is making it a preferred option among investors.

“The US is raising the price of bonds and it will have its impact in the Kingdom too as our currency is pegged to US dollar.

“The rise in interest rates on fixed-income bonds is an advantage to investors. The US interest rate hike has led to a decline in gold prices and now these bonds offer a good investment option,” he added.

The economist further said that investors often by government bonds not for trading purposes, but to park a part of their money in low-risk activities.

business

Japan could end Iran oil loading from October

Tokyo

Japanese oil refiners may have to stop loading Iranian crude oil from Oct. 1 if Japan's government does not secure an exemption from US sanctions, the president of the Petroleum Association of Japan (PAJ) said. If payments to Iran cannot continue after a 180-day "wind-down period" ending on Nov. 4, it is possible that Japanese buyers will have to make their last order for Iranian oil in August for September-loading cargoes.

IMF urges Lebanon to make fiscal adjustment

Beirut

Lebanon requires "an immediate and substantial" fiscal adjustment to improve the sustainability of public debt that stood at more than 150pc of GDP at end 2017, the IMF executive board said. Lebanon's debt to GDP ratio is one of the highest in the world. "Directors stressed that fiscal adjustment is essential, which will require strong and sustained commitment," the statement said.

US spending bill would halt Turkey's purchase of F-35s

Washington

A US Senate committee passed a spending bill on Thursday including a provision to block Turkey's purchase of Lockheed Martin F-35 Joint Strike Fighter jets unless it drops a plan to buy S-400 missile defense systems from Russia.

The measure is an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act.

OPEC says 1m barrels per day

Oil production will be increased starting next month dismissing the objections raised by Iran

● The real increase will be around 770,000 bpd, according to OPEC member Iraq

● The United States, China and India had urged Vienna-based OPEC to release more supply

AFP/ Reuters | Vienna

OPEC members have agreed on a combined increase in crude oil output of one million barrels per day, the oil minister of the cartel's kingpin Saudi Arabia said yesterday.

"I am pleased that at the end of the day we reconciled around the one million figure that we have been talking about," said Khaled al-Faleh after a meeting of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Support for the increase, which had been proposed by Saudi Arabia against objections from Iran, was unanimous, he said.

Saudi Arabia, backed by non-member Russia, has argued that it is time to raise production in order to meet growing demand and appease major



I am pleased that at the end of the day we reconciled around the one million figure that we have been talking about

KHALED AL-FALEH
SAUDI OIL MINISTER



As a group we can meet the 100 percent compliance. As individual countries, it is challenging

SUHAIL BIN MOHAMMED AL-MAZROUI
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES ENERGY MINISTER



We are going to have a compromise with Saudi Arabia and the (United Arab) Emirates, to manage the market and not to have a difficulty, not to make a difficulty, for Iran

BIJAN ZANGANEH
IRAN OIL MINISTER

Prices rose sharply

Reuters | London

Oil prices rose sharply yesterday as OPEC agreed a modest increase in output to compensate for losses in production at a time of rising global demand.

Benchmark Brent crude jumped \$2.29 a barrel, or 3.1 per cent, to a high of \$75.34 before slipping to around \$74.60 by 1345 GMT. US light crude was \$1.90 higher at \$67.44.

The group agreed OPEC and its allies led by Russia should increase production by about 1 million barrels per day (bpd), or 1 pc of global supply, OPEC sources said.

The real increase will be smaller because several countries that recently underproduced oil will struggle to return to full quotas, while other producers may not be able to fill the gap.

The deal looked to be broadly in line with expectations.

Analysts had expected OPEC to announce a real increase in production of 500,000 to 600,000 barrels per day (bpd), which would help ease tightness in the oil market without creating a glut.

Be careful says Iraqi oil ministry to producers

Reuters | Baghdad

OPEC oil producers should be careful before altering its deal on production levels so output does not exceed market needs, which would lead to lower prices, Iraqi's

oil ministry said yesterday.

Any change would mean higher output exceeding demand "leading to lower oil prices and damaging producers' economies," the ministry said in a statement.

consumer countries like the United States, India and China.

"I think it will contribute significantly to meet the extra demand that we see coming in the second half," the Saudi minister said.

The 24 nations in the supply-cut pact, known as OPEC+, agreed in late 2016 to trim production by 1.8 million barrels a day but they have actually been keeping some 2.8 million barrels per day off the market.

India looks to revive rupee payment system for Iran oil

Reuters | New Delhi

India is looking to revive a rupee trade mechanism to settle part of its oil payments to Iran, fearing foreign channels to pay Tehran might choke under pressure from US sanctions, two government sources said.

During a previous round of sanctions, India devised a barter-like scheme acceptable to Washington to allow it to make some oil payments to Tehran in rupees through a small state bank. Iran used the funds to im-

port goods from India.

"We are looking at reviving rupee mechanism ... we have to prepare ourselves," one of the sources said, adding that the current payment mechanism might not work from November.

A commerce ministry official said India's central bank had yet to decide on moving back to the rupee payment mechanism.

In May, US President Donald Trump withdrew from a 2015 nuclear accord with Iran and ordered the reimposition of US sanctions. Some US sanctions

take effect from Aug. 6 while those, notably affecting the oil sector, will be effective from Nov. 4.

Refiners in India currently use State Bank of India and Germany-based Europaisch-Iranische Handelsbank AG (EIH) to buy Iranian oil in euros, according to IOC and other companies.

SBI, India's top banker, has written to the Indian refiners and the government to say it would not be able to handle oil payments to Iran from Nov 4, an official at SBI said.

New Delhi hopes to open Iran's Chabahar port by 2019

New Delhi

India is trying to make Chabahar Port in Iran operational by 2019, the government said in a statement on Friday, despite a threat of renewed US sanctions against Tehran.

The Indian-backed Chaba-

har port complex in Iran is being developed as part of a new transportation corridor for land-locked Afghanistan that could potentially open the way for millions of dollars in trade and cut its dependence on Pakistan, its sometimes-hostile neighbour.

Elon Musk's Tesla to close a dozen solar facilities in nine states

Tesla has been burning through cash as it tries to hit a target of producing 5,000 Model 3 electric sedans per week

Reuters | Los Angeles/San Francisco

Electric car maker Tesla Inc's move last week to cut 9 percent of its workforce will sharply downsize the residential solar business it bought two years ago in a controversial \$2.6 billion deal, according to three internal company documents and seven current and former Tesla solar employees.

The latest cuts to the division that was once SolarCity - a sales and installation company founded by two cousins of Tesla CEO Elon Musk - include closing about a dozen installation facil-

ities, according to internal company documents, and ending a retail partnership with Home Depot Inc that the current and former employees said generated about half of its sales.

About 60 installation facilities remain open, according to an internal company list reviewed by Reuters. An internal company email named 14 facilities slated for closure, but the other list included only 13 of those locations.

The company said that cuts to its overall energy team - including batteries to store power - were in line with the broader 9 percent staff cut. The operational closures, which have not



Tesla faces investor pressure to turn a profit without having to tap Wall Street

been previously reported, raise new questions about the viability of cash-strapped Tesla's solar business and Musk's rationale for a merger he once called a "no



Elon Musk, Chairman of SolarCity and CEO of Tesla Motors (file)

brainer" - but some investors have panned as a bailout of an affiliated firm at the expense of Tesla shareholders. Before the merger, Musk had served as

chairman of SolarCity's board of directors.

The installation offices that the internal email said were targeted for closure were located

in California, Maryland, New Jersey, Texas, New York, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Arizona and Delaware.

The company also fired dozens of solar customer service staffers at call centers in Nevada and Utah, according to the former Tesla employees, some of whom were terminated in last week's cuts. Those employees spoke on condition of anonymity.

"It's been a difficult few days - no one can deny this," a Tesla manager wrote in a separate internal email, sent to customer service employees shortly after the cuts were announced.

Airbus warns could leave UK if no Brexit deal

London | United Kingdom

Aviation giant Airbus has warned it could pull out of Britain if it leaves the European Union without a deal, upping the pressure Friday on Prime Minister Theresa May to make progress in Brexit negotiations with Brussels.

The European group, which directly employs nearly 15,000 people, warned that crashing out of the bloc would be “catastrophic” and force it to consider its investments.

Libya's NOC confirms LNA control of oil ports

Vienna

The head of Libya's National Oil Corporation (NOC) confirmed yesterday that Khalifa Haftar's Libyan National Army (LNA) had regained control of the key oil ports of Ras Lanuf and Es Sider, and said he hoped operations would resume in the “next couple of days”.

NOC Chairman Mustafa Sanalla said Libya had been losing 450,000 barrels per day (bpd) of production after clashes between the LNA and rival factions closed the two terminals.

Sri Lanka's port aims \$500m investments

Colombo

Sri Lanka's southern Hambantota Port is aiming to attract investments worth \$500 million as plans are afoot to set up port related industries inside the port as well as general operation expansion, Ports Minister Mahinda Samarasingha said on Friday.

China Merchant Port Holdings (CM Port) and state-owned Sri Lanka Ports Authority in July last year signed an agreement to manage and run the operations of the Hambantota Port, Xinhua news agency reported.

GM to build new SUV in Mexico

New York | United States

General Motors confirmed Friday that it will produce a new sport-utility model in Mexico, despite President Donald Trump's efforts to pressure US companies to add manufacturing at home.

The new version of the Chevrolet Blazer, a revival of an old brand name, will be built in Mexico and exported to the US, said GM spokesman Patrick Morrissey.

Morrissey said GM makes decisions on where vehicles will be made “years in advance.”

GM said the car would be available in early 2019.

EU fires revenge shots at Harley, Bourbon & Levi's

EU Trade Commissioner said this week that the 28-nation bloc was “left with no other choice

● Tariffs took effect on Thursday midnight

● Cigarettes, cranberries, cranberry juice, orange juice, sweetcorn and peanut butter are among the other products targeted

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

The European Union slapped revenge tariffs on iconic US products including bourbon, jeans and motorcycles yesterday in its opening salvo in a trade war with President Donald Trump.

The tariffs, which took effect at midnight (Thursday) according to the EU's official journal, will further fuel jitters on world stock markets that are already alarmed by trade tensions between the US and China. Customs



A production line at Harley-Davidson factory (Courtesy Harley-Davidson)

agents across Europe's colossal market of 500 million people will now impose the duty, hiking prices on US-made products in supermarkets and across factory floors.

“These measures are the logical consequence of the US decision,” French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said.

Brussels imposed the raft of duties on US products worth 2.8 billion euros (\$3.3 billion) in a tit-for-tat response to Trump's decision to slap stiff tariffs on European steel and aluminium exports. EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom said this week that the 28-nation bloc was “left with no other choice”

Peanut butter, orange juice...

European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker spelled out in March that the bloc would target “Harley-Davidson, bourbon and Levi's jeans”.

Cigarettes, cranberries, cranberry juice, orange juice, sweetcorn and peanut butter are among the other products targeted.

“If we chose products like Harley Davidson, peanut butter and bourbon, it's because



Representative picture

there are alternatives on the market. We don't want to do anything that would harm consumers,” he said on Thursday.

but to impose tariffs of its own after the “unilateral and unjustified decision of the US.”

Together with US tariffs against Mexico and Canada, the trade battles have raised the spectre of a global trade war, spooking financial markets.

“We have a trade war -- and it's an escalating trade war,”

SEB chief economist Robert Bergqvist said in an interview.

John Ferguson, director of global forecasting at the Economist Intelligence Unit agreed.

“Mr Trump has now opened up two fronts of this conflict and both have the potential to escalate out of control,” Ferguson said.

China, Nepal agree to build Tibet-Kathmandu rail link

● The new rail route will link Nepal's capital with the Gyirong trading port in the Tibetan city of Xigaze

Beijing, China | AFP

China and Nepal have agreed to build a railway connecting Tibet with Kathmandu, among a raft of deals signed during the Nepali prime minister's visit to Beijing, reports said Friday.

Nepal is seeking closer ties and much-needed energy and infrastructure investment from China, which has flexed greater economic and diplomatic muscle in its Himalayan neighbour in recent years.

Beijing's growing presence has raised hackles in Nepal's traditional ally India.

The two countries signed more than 10 “cooperative documents” on Thursday during Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli's trip to China, according to the China Daily.



Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli's China visit has boosted the Nepal-China bilateral relations

The new rail route will link Nepal's capital with the Gyirong trading port in the Tibetan city of Xigaze, according to the China Daily, citing a Chinese vice foreign minister.

Indian media said the two sides signed eight agreements worth \$2.4 billion on Wednesday, with Chinese investors



A railway line was put in operation in 2014, linking Tibet's provincial capital Lhasa with Xigaze.



Representative picture

ploughing money into developing hydroelectricity, water resources, cement factories, fruit cultivation and farming.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang told Oli on Thursday he hoped that the two countries would begin negotiations on a free trade agreement “as early as possible”, according to the official Xinhua news agency.

YouTube offers new ways to earn money

San Francisco | United States

YouTube, often criticized for not compensating creators well enough, will allow them to set up paid channel memberships, the company said on Thursday.

Currently the vast majority of revenue at the Google-owned service comes from advertising and that will remain a focus, said Neal Mohan, YouTube's chief products officer.

“But we also want to think beyond ads. Creators should have as many ways and opportunities to make money as possible,” he said.



Representative picture



YouTube says it has more than 1.9 billion users but the figure only counts those who log in via their accounts

Viewers will pay \$4.99 a month for channel memberships giving them access to exclusive content including livestreams, extra videos or shout-outs on channels with more than 100,000 subscribers. Creators will also be able to sell merchandise like shirts or phone cases directly on their channels, the company said.

European Union says to extend Russia sanctions

Reuters | Brussels

European Union leaders will next week extend until the end of January economic sanctions against Russia over its intervention in Ukraine, diplomats and officials said.

The curbs on Russia's energy, defence and financial sectors have been prolonged every six months since first being slapped mid-2014 after Moscow annexed the peninsula of Crimea from Kiev and backed rebels fighting government troops in east Ukraine.

EU leaders meeting in Brussels on June 28-29 will agree another six-month extension of the curbs on doing business with Russia currently in place until the end of July.

Moscow vows to never return Crimea and the east Ukraine conflict has killed more than 10,000 people and turned into a frozen confrontation, with low-intensity, sporadic fighting still taking place regularly.

G7 used to be held as G8 but Russia was kicked out in 2014 over Crimea.

Oil prices slash Oman budget gap by nearly three-quarters

Government revenues rose 17.2 per cent to 1.13 billion rials as net oil revenue shot up 24.3pc

● Oman's original 2018 budget plan projected spending of 12.5 billion rials this year

● Brent oil price averaged \$6748 a barrel in January-February

Reuters | Dubai

Oman's state budget deficit shrank by nearly three-quarters in the first two months of this year as a rise in oil prices boosted export revenues sharply, official figures released this week showed.

The country has one of the weakest financial positions among the wealthy Gulf oil exporting states, so the data may reassure investors -- although



Sultan Qaboos of Oman (AFP)

the figures also revealed Oman is making little progress in expanding non-oil revenues, leaving it vulnerable to any downturn in oil prices.

The government's deficit in January-February fell to 268.3 million rials (\$697m) from 997.8m rials a year earlier, the

\$697
million was the country's deficit in January-February period

Oman originally planned to introduce a 5pc value-added tax this year but has delayed that until at least 2019, partly because of concern about the negative impact on consumer spending.

state statistics agency said, resuming publication of the budget data after suspending it for six months. It did not give reasons for the suspension or for its decision to resume publication. Provisional and incomplete figures released by the central bank several weeks ago showed a fiscal deficit of 610.6m rials in the first two months.

Government revenues rose 17.2 per cent to 1.13 billion rials as net oil revenue shot up

24.3pc to 749.2m rials, the statistics agency said. The Brent oil price averaged \$6748 a barrel in January-February this year, up from \$55.72 a year earlier.

But the budget figures showed non-oil sources of revenue were sluggish, with income from corporate tax, customs duties and miscellaneous other revenues all shrinking.

The deficit's plunge during January-February was also due to spending restraint by the government. Including expenditures under settlement, or funds that had been allocated but not yet disbursed, spending dropped to 1.40bn rials from 2.0bn rials, partly because of lower investment spending.

Oman's original 2018 budget plan projected spending of 12.5bn rials this year, revenues of 9.5bn rials and a deficit of 3.0bn rials, and assumed an average oil price of \$50 per barrel.

IMDB investigator is the new central bank chief

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | AFP

A Malaysian official who probed the IMDB mega-scandal which helped topple the corruption-plagued former regime has been appointed as the new central bank governor, the government said Friday.

Nor Shamsiah Mohamad Yunus is returning to Bank Negara Malaysia to take up the top job almost two years



Nor Shamsiah Mohamad Yunus

after leaving her post as deputy governor, a spokesman for the prime minister told AFP.

Muhammad Ibrahim quit as bank chief this month after claims emerged that the institution helped Najib Razak's regime by purchasing government land in a bid to cover debts racked up by sovereign wealth fund IMDB. The bank has insisted there was nothing untoward in the deal.



Shamsiah's five-year term will run from July 1

LIM GUAN ENG
FINANCE MINISTER

ADNOC to sign deal for stake in Indian refinery

Reuters | New Delhi

Abu Dhabi National Oil Co (ADNOC) will sign an agreement with Saudi Aramco and Indian companies on Monday for an up to 25 per cent stake in a planned \$44 billion refinery and petrochemical project in India, a government source said.

Major oil producers are targeting Asia, where fuel demand is growing, as a stable outlet for their oil.

India, the world's third biggest oil importer and consumer, aims to expand its refining capacity by 77 per cent to 8.8 million barrel per day (bpd) by 2030.

"The deal will be signed on Monday," said a government source.



Logos of ADNOC are seen at Gastech, the world's biggest expo for the gas

Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) plans to invest \$45 billion over the next five years to expand its refining and petrochemicals operations.

Saudi Aramco in April signed a deal with Indian state refiners for a 50 per cent stake in the planned 1.2 million barrels per



Indian Oil Corp, the country's top refiner, owns 25 percent stake in the project, while Hindustan Petroleum Corp. and Bharat Petroleum Corp have 12.5 percent stake each

day project to be built on the country's west coast.

Aramco had said in April it may introduce a strategic partner to share its 50 percent stake.

World markets shrug off opening salvos in trade war

London, United Kingdom

World stock market rose yesterday, seemingly unworried by a global trade war that got underway when Brussels slapped retaliatory tariffs on the United States.

Shares in European car manufacturers, however, slid after US President Donald Trump threatened new tariffs on the sector.

Oil prices continued to rise after the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries said its members agreed on an output increase of one million barrels per day that Saudi Arabia had put forward at a key meeting in Vienna.

European stocks all closed solidly higher and Wall Street also had a strong morning as markets sought to claw back some of the week's losses seen on trade war fears.

Gains in energy sector stocks,



Representative picture (Courtesy of Financial Express)

inspired by surging oil, pushed the Dow Jones higher, traders reported, and was also behind much of London's closing gains.

Stocks were "looking to pare a weekly loss that has come courtesy of escalated global trade tensions, monetary policy uncertainty and European political turmoil," analysts at the Charles Schwab brokerage said.

Skidding car shares

As European Union tariffs on key US goods -- including jeans, bourbon and motorcycles -- came into effect, there were fears China and the US will carry through with their own threats, locking the world's three biggest economies in a potentially destructive face-off.

Key Figures

London - FTSE 100	▲ 1.7 pc at 7,682.27 points (close)
Frankfurt - DAX 30	▲ 0.5 pc at 12,579.72 (close)
Paris - CAC 40	▲ 1.3 pc at 5,387.38 (close)
EURO STOXX 50	▲ 1.1 pc at 3,441.60
New York - Dow Jones	▲ 0.7 pc at 24,628.26
Tokyo - Nikkei 225	▼ 30,725.15 0.8 pc at 22,516.83 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng	▲ 0.2 pc at 29,338.70 (close)
Shanghai - Composite	▲ 0.5 pct at 2,889.76 (close)

The EU move was in retaliation to US President Donald Trump's decision to hit steel and aluminium imports from the bloc, as part of his "America First" protectionist policy that seeks to close big trade gaps with major world powers.

Trump then threatened Friday to impose a 20 percent tariff on cars imported from the EU, prompting carmaker shares to skid. Fiat Chrysler shares lost more than three percent

in Milan in an immediate reaction. In Germany BMW was down around two percent while Daimler and Volkswagen both dropped by more than one percent. Shares in French carmakers Renault -- which does not sell cars in the US -- and Peugeot were also weaker, but only marginally.

Washington and Beijing have meanwhile traded tit-for-tat threats on hundreds of billions of dollars worth of goods.

Singer Akon launches own cryptocurrency

IANIS | Cannes

Singer Akon is launching his own "AKoin" cryptocurrency in an effort to grow crypto-based apps in Africa to bring economic power back to the continent.

Akon, who is of Senegalese descent and has spent years running 'Lighting Africa' -- a project aimed at bringing solar power to African nations -- presented his plan for the digital cash currency at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity, reports billboard.com.

With the cryptocurrency in place, Akon Crypto City -- a futuristic town being developed in 2,000 acres in Senegal -- would come to life. The city, gifted to Akon by President of Senegal Macky Sall would run entirely on AKoin and be within five minutes of a new international airport.

Intel CEO resigns over relationship with staff

New York, United States

Intel chief executive Brian Krzanich has resigned over a "past consensual relationship" with an employee that violated a company non-fraternization policy, the technology company announced Thursday.

"Given the expectation that all employees will respect Intel's values and adhere to the company's code of conduct, the board has accepted Mr. Krzanich's resignation," the company said.

A spokesman for the company, a leader in data storage, declined to provide additional details about the employee involved, citing privacy concerns.

Chief Financial Officer Bob Swan will serve as interim chief executive while the company searches for a replacement.

Largest US banks would survive recession: US Fed

Washington

The largest US banks are "strongly capitalized" and would survive a severe global economic recession, the Federal Reserve announced Thursday.

So-called stress testing by the central bank showed that in the event of pronounced economic troubles -- in which unemployment shot up to 10 per cent, GDP shrank and financial conditions worsened -- the nation's 35 biggest financial institutions would still be able to lend to households and businesses, according to the Fed. However, certain changes in December's sweeping tax overhaul and a harsher hypothetical scenario led to much steeper projected losses than were calculated last year.

SOCIETY



Bahrain Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (BCICAI), celebrated the 4th International Day of Yoga at Crowne Plaza. Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha was the chief guest. Yoga expert Rudresh Kumar Singh led the yoga session. A Uday Shanbhag and BCICAI members and their families.



The Indian Embassy in Bahrain in association with the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs celebrated the 4th International Day of Yoga at Isa Sports City Hall with various programmes highlighting the Yoga's holistic approach to health and well-being. The



The new executive committee of TASCA Toastmasters club was elected: Following are the office bearers: Paneer Selvam - President; Kannan Kathiresan - Vice President (Education); Kumara Guru - Vice President (Membership); Jothi Basu - Vice President (Public Relations); Gobi Doss - Secretary; Guhanathan - Treasurer; Hari Prakash - Sergeant-at-Arms.

Following are the new executive committee members: Hariharan - Vice President (Membership); Hariharan - Vice President (Membership); Hariharan - Vice President (Membership).



The Bahrain Indian School (BIS) celebrated International Yoga Day with children from Kindergarten till Grade VIII participating in the special sessions conducted by Yoga teacher Vijayalakshmi Harish. The benefits and importance of yoga was reiterated by Principal Saji Jacob.



The Indian School celebrated International Yoga Day at its campus in Isa Town

Society



bove the Ambassador with Chairperson



Bahrain Chapter Institute of Chartered Accountants (BCICAI) Chairperson Uday Shanbhag met Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha and briefed him about the various activities and events being organised by BCICAI. He also shared details about the maiden Overseas Campus Placement organized by ICAI.



In the quarterfinals of the Carrefour Ramadan Cricket Blitz at the Indian Club premises, Jawahar Gulf Jai Karnatka defeated Target CC by 15 runs. Batting first Jawahar Jai Karnatka scored 47 runs. In reply Target CC could only manage 32 runs.



programme was attended by Health Minister Faega Al Saleh and Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha alongwith the Embassy officials.



Indian embassies across the world organised events marking International Yoga Day.



Members of TASC A Gavels Club: Sarvesh - President ; Isha Rani - Vice President (Education); Diksha - Vice President (Public Relations); Resan -Secretary; Suriya - Treasurer; Niranjana - Sergeant- at- Arms.



The Dazzlers Gavel Club, Bahrain Installation ceremony of club officers was held at Park Regis: From Left: Counselor Nikitha Krishnadas, President-Leah Lukose, Vice President Education- Nandana Chandrasekhar, Vice President Membership- Ishani Anoop, Vice president Public Relations- Pranav Ranjith, Secretary- Gouri Bindu, Treasurer- Siva Krishnan, Sergeant at Arms- Manav Prasanth, and Toastmaster Diviya Ramesh.



Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam(BKS) held Ananda Bazar yesterday at its premises in Segaya with lots of cultural programmes and folk song by Rekha Satheesh. BKS President PV Radhakrishna Pillai and General Secretary MP Raghu inaugurated the programme.

1947 is the year in which Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam was founded.

WORLD
world**Spain court bails sexual abuse gang**

AFP | Madrid

Protests were planned across Spain yesterday, after a court ordered the release on bail of five men sentenced to nine years in prison for sexually abusing a young woman at Pamplona's bull-running festival.

The men, who called themselves "The Pack" in a WhatsApp messaging group, had been accused of raping a woman, then 18, on July 7, 2016, at the start of the week-long San Fermin festival, which draws tens of thousands of visitors.

Turkey detains 14 IS suspects 'planning election attack'

Ankara

Turkish authorities yesterday detained in Ankara 14 suspected members of the Islamic State (IS) group accused of planning an attack on elections this weekend, the state-run Anadolu news agency said.

The 14, all foreign nationals, were detained in simultaneous morning raids on their residences in the capital, the news agency said.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan will seek a new mandate as well as a parliamentary majority for his ruling party in Sunday's polls.

Prince William on historic trip to Israel and West

AFP | Jerusalem

Prince William will next week become the first member of Britain's royal family ever to pay an official visit to both Israel and the Palestinian territories.

Britain governed the region under a League of Nations mandate for almost three decades until Israel's independence 70 years ago, and is still blamed by both sides for sowing the seeds of a conflict.

Indonesians face daunting task to recover bodies from ferry sunk

Reuters | Tigras

Indonesian teams searching a lake for a sunken ferry in the hope of recovering nearly 200 bodies trapped inside have to contend with dangerous currents and cold, murky water far deeper than any scuba diver can ever go.

The over-loaded ferry "Sinar Bangun" sank in bad weather in Lake Toba.

IS attacker gets death penalty

Cleric Aman Abdurrahman found guilty of ordering the terror attack that killed four in Jakarta

AFP | Jakarta

A radical Indonesian cleric was sentenced to death yesterday for masterminding a 2016 Islamic State terror attack that saw a suicide bomber blow himself up at a Starbucks cafe.

Aman Abdurrahman was found guilty of ordering the attack that killed four in Jakarta, as heavily armed police guarded his sentencing at court in the capital.

It was the first attack claimed by the international terror network in Southeast Asia.

"(The defendant) has been proven to have committed a criminal act of terrorism," said judge Akhmad Jaini, who also cited Abdurrahman's involvement in other deadly plots.

"He will be sentenced to death."

Abdurrahman -- who was already in jail on a separate terror conviction -- gestured to his



An Indonesian anti-terror police officer (L) escorts Aman Abdurrahman (C) into a South Jakarta court as he arrives for sentencing yesterday

legal team and briefly kissed the floor, as machine gun-toting guards stood nearby.

His lawyer, Asludin Hatjani, said the ruling was "unfair", citing a lack of evidence connecting Abdurrahman to the attack, which he was accused of

organising from inside prison.

Executions are carried out by firing squad in the world's biggest Muslim-majority country, which has long struggled with Islamist militancy.

In 2002, bombings at the resort island of Bali killed over 200

in Indonesia's worst-ever terror attack. Three militants involved in the Bali bombing have since been executed.

The assault in the capital two years ago saw security forces battle radicals near the cafe where a suicide bomber det-



The defendant has been proven to have committed a criminal act of terrorism
JUDGE AKHMAD JAINI

onated his explosives.

Spiritual leader

Considered the de facto head of IS supporters in Indonesia, Abdurrahman, 46, is also the spiritual leader of local extremist network Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD).

JAD was involved in the 2016 Jakarta attack and a wave of suicide bombings last month in Indonesia's second-biggest city Surabaya, according to authorities. Two families -- including girls aged nine and 12 -- blew themselves up at churches and a police station, killing 13.

FBI reunited 'wrong baby' with couple!

● Paul disappeared from a Chicago hospital in 1964

DailyMail | Chicago

A man's quest to find his biological parents unearthed disturbing secrets about the family he says left him abandoned in a shopping centre before he was given to another couple.

Paul Fronczak grew up in Chicago with his parents, Dora and Chester Fronczak, and his brother, Dave Fronczak. When Paul was 10 he stumbled upon old newspaper clippings and learned a disturbing secret: he had been kidnapped as a baby.

Dora and Chester told Paul that in 1964 when he was one day old he was snatched from a Chicago hospital. The couple said they were reunited with



Paul Fronczak

him two years later when police in New Jersey found a two-year-old boy who resembled their son abandoned in a shopping centre.

Because of the lack of DNA and there only being one picture of Paul from when he was born, there was no way for Dora and Chester to know for sure if the toddler found alone in a shop-



The real Paul Fronczak (pictured in this 1964 photo when he was one-day-old) was snatched from a hospital in Chicago

ping centre was actually their son. Paul, now a 54-year-old father-of-one, told The Sun that because he resembled the missing baby his parents took him in and tried to move on from the abduction.



The kidnapping, which happened 54 years ago, was a big story at the time

"There were no accurate DNA tests back then, so there's nothing the Fronczaks could have done to be 100 per cent certain that the boy they were given was their actual son Paul," he said.

Paul, however, said he always had doubts Dora and Chester were his biological parents and in 2012 he approached them about his suspicions.

Signs that may help detect mass shooters

Washington

The FBI says it has identified a series of behavioural signs that may flag a person as a potential mass shooter, and allow police to ward off killing sprees.

Mass shooters are mostly white men suffering from various stress factors, a belief that they are victims of some injustice and who pick targets that they are familiar with, the FBI report said.

Officers studied 63 shootings that resulted in at least one death that were committed between 2000 and 2013, and which allowed FBI behavioural experts to determine how the shooter acted in the run-up to the killing. The report challenges a widely held belief that shooters are suffering from a mental illness or extreme social isolation.

Saudi Arabia to end ban on women behind wheel

AFP | Riyadh

Saudi Arabia will allow women to get behind the wheel for the first time in decades tomorrow.

Here are some key facts about



a Saudi woman practices driving in Riyadh

the historic move, seen as the most striking in a series of reforms.

How the reform happened

In September 2017, King Salman issued a decree declaring

an end to the decades-long ban from June 2018.

A handful of driving schools for women were subsequently permitted to open in cities such as Riyadh and Jeddah.

Earlier this month, the kingdom began issuing its first driving licences to women in decades, with a handful of women swapping their foreign licences for Saudi ones after undergoing a practical test.

How many women will drive?

Some six million women -- or 65 percent of the female driving-age population -- are expected to apply for a licence once the

ban is lifted, according to the London-based consulting firm Facts Global Energy.

But such a high number may not be immediately attainable, some analysts say. Some three million women in Saudi Arabia could receive licences and actively begin driving by 2020, according to consultancy firm PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Eligibility

In addition to cars, women will be allowed to drive motorbikes, vans and trucks.

Women with licences from Gulf countries will be required to convert them to Saudi licenc-

65

percent of the female driving-age population are expected to apply for a licence once the ban is lifted

es, according to the kingdom's traffic department. Those with international driving licences would be able to drive in the kingdom for up to a year.

Former guerilla sworn in as East Timor leader

AFP | Dili

East Timor swore in a new government led by former guerilla fighter Taur Matan Ruak yesterday.

Ruak heads the second government in less than a year in the half-island nation that won independence in 2002 after a brutal 24-year occupation by Indonesia. Born Jose Maria Vasconcelos but universally known by his nom de guerre Taur Matan Ruak -- which means "two sharp eyes" -- Ruak was a commander in the East Timorese resistance before becoming chief of the nation's army.

US confirms 25th diplomat hit by Cuba illness

AFP | Washington

The United States said that another diplomat has fallen sick in Cuba with the symptoms of a mystery illness that has hit two dozen of his or her colleagues.

"This is the first medically confirmed case in Havana since August 2017. The number of Americans now affected is now 25," State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said.

At least one US official has also been hit by the same symptoms in China, as the mystery deepens over the cause of what may have been some kind of attack.

French police bust major drug ring

AFP | Marseille

French police said yesterday that they had smashed a major drug trafficking ring in the southern city of Marseille, a key hub in the trans-Mediterranean cannabis and cocaine trade where several people are killed each year in turf wars.

Eight people were taken into custody following raid in the notorious Castellane housing estate, regional police chief Eric Arella said at a press conference.

Powerful 6.1-magnitude quake strikes Vanuatu

AFP | Sydney

A powerful 6.1-magnitude earthquake hit Vanuatu Friday, US seismologists said, but there were no immediate reports of damage and no tsunami warning issued. The quake struck at a depth of 21 kilometers (13 miles) some 30 kilometers west of the Pacific nation's capital Port Vila, the US Geological Survey said. USGS said there was low likelihood of casualties and damage although it added that recent earthquakes in the area had caused landslides.

'I really don't care'

Melania jacket with the words "I really don't care, do you?" stuns the internet on her migrant visit

AFP | Washington

Melania Trump surprised the world by visiting child migrants on the US-Mexico border Thursday -- but it was her choice of clothing for the trip that stunned the internet: a jacket emblazoned with the words "I really don't care, do you?"

A tone-deaf sartorial decision -- or a hidden message from the first lady? And if so, to whom?

The images of Melania Trump sporting the olive green khaki jacket as she boarded a flight to Texas -- which immediately went viral -- surfaced as the White House struggles to calm international anger over the practice of splitting migrant children from their parents.

Asked about the military-style jacket with large white brush-style lettering -- apparently sold for \$39 at Zara, according to the Daily Mail which first spotted the odd choice of outfit -- the first lady's spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said "there was no hidden message."

"It's a jacket," Grisham said. "After today's important visit to Texas, I hope the media isn't going to choose to focus on her wardrobe."

"#SheCares #ItsJustAJacket" Grisham tweeted later on, as speculation swirled online.

But the president's take on the jacket told a decidedly different story: "I

Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump
"I REALLY DON'T CARE, DO U?" written on the back of Melania's jacket, refers to the Fake News Media. Melania has learned how dishonest they are, and she truly no longer cares!
5:51 PM - 23 Jun 2018

The tweet

"I REALLY DON'T CARE, DO U?" written on the back of Melania's jacket, refers to the Fake News Media," Donald Trump tweeted shortly after his wife's return.

"Melania has learned how dishonest they are, and she truly no longer cares!"

When she arrived in McAllen, Texas the first lady had changed out of the controversial garment into a cream button-up safari-style jacket.

But upon returning to the White House she sported the jacket once more, despite stifling heat and humidity in the Washington region.

Melania Trump's unannounced trip to a youth shelter for migrants and a Border Patrol processing center came one day after President Donald Trump made a sudden decision to end the practice of splitting immigrant families that has left more than 2,300 minors separated from their parents or guardians.

Images and recordings of distressed children held in enclosures akin to cages have sparked global fury.



US First Lady Melania Trump departs Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland

Heartbreaking plight of a Syrian girl using sardine tin can legs



Eight year-old Maya Mohammad Ali Merhi walks using prosthetic legs made by her father from tin cans

● Maya Ali Merhi and her father were both born with no lower limbs

Dailymail | Idlib

Heartbreaking footage shows a little girl using makeshift prosthetic legs made from tin cans at a displacement camp in Syria.

Eight-year-old Maya Ali Merhi and her father were both born without lower limbs, a condition called congenital amputation, the cause of which is unknown.

Unable to afford real prosthetics, Maya's father was able to make a pair out of tin cans filled with cotton and pieces of cloth for his daughter at the camp for displaced refugees in the Syrian province of Idlib.

In the footage, forelorn Maya can be seen by her father's side as he explains how he made the pair of tin legs for his daughter.

"I mounted some plastic on two tins of sardines with which she can go to school with.

'My heart suffers when I see her

crawling in front of friends, while they play and run.'

Mohammed, who also needs prosthetics said: 'It's hard but those are better than nothing.'

The family fled Aleppo because of the fighting and to 'flee bombings' and were placed at the camp in Idlib, the last major territory in rebel hands.

Idlib is being held by Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, a jihadi group that Russia and the Syrian government regard as a target in an area where civilians and fighters continue to pour in as part of evacuation deals in other parts of the country.

Mohammed says that he can at least find solace in the fact that his family can live a quiet life at the camp but has a dream that he and his daughter will be able to walk again.

According to Syria Appeal, 13.1 million people across Syria are in urgent need of humanitarian aid, including more than five million children.

Three million people are living in besieged areas and displacement camps without access to humanitarian aid and the total number of displaced Syrians has risen to 11.5 million.

16 EU leaders to attend migrant crisis talks

● Leaders of Italy and Greece will also be involved

AFP | Brussels

Some 16 EU leaders have now signalled their interest in joining a migrant crisis summit in Brussels Sunday aimed at finding a solution to who deals with asylum seekers.

European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker called the meeting amid fresh divisions in Europe over who should process the migrants first, with Italy and Greece who have taken in the bulk of the arrivals saying that their EU peers must to more to share the burden.

"We started initially with a group of eight," European Commission spokesman Alexander Winterstein said.

"We stand now at 16 countries having signalled their interest to



Jean Claude Juncker

join this informal meeting."

Winterstein said the additional eight are Belgium, the Netherlands, Croatia, Slovenia,

Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Luxembourg.

Officials said earlier this week that German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, and Maltese Prime Minister Joseph Muscat have all confirmed their attendance.

European sources also said the leaders of frontline states Italy and Greece will also be involved, as well as Austria and Bulgaria, who are the incoming

and outgoing holders of the EU's rotating six-month presidency.

The leaders of Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia -- the four countries that refuse migrants -- said Thursday they would not attend the meeting.

Winterstein said the meeting was open to all but nobody was obliged to attend.

He added no decisions will be taken, nor a press conference held but leaders would be free to comment as they leave.

WORLD
features

Argentina fans still dreaming of glory

The realisation that the 3-0 thumping by Croatia had left the mighty two-time winners on the verge of a humiliating exit, left some of their fans in tears



Argentina's fans stand past a flag depicting Argentina's forward Lionel Messi

AFP | Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

It was the morning after the night before for Argentinian fans in Nizhny Novgorod yesterday and the recriminations from the devastating Croatia defeat just hours earlier were well underway.

The realisation that the 3-0 thumping by Croatia -- complete with comedy first goal -- had left the mighty two-time winners on the verge of a humiliating exit, left some of their fans in tears.

On Friday, many remained stunned by what had happened.

"We can't sleep, we can't talk, we can't do anything," said Sebastian, a 34-year-old lawyer who had travelled to Russia from Rosario.

"We've never seen anything like last night."

The team, he said, had shown no "huevos", using the Spanish slang for testicles.

Susi, a grandmother from Buenos Aires who spent an eye-watering \$40,000 taking her son and grandson to Russia, said the result was so bad it could have implications for Argentina's president, Mauricio Macri, as he battles economic problems at home.

"If Argentina loses, it can become a social problem," she said.

The defeat was arguably the most shocking result of the tournament so far.

A team thought among the favourites for the World Cup, with superstar Lionel Messi as captain, were not expected to struggle through the first stage. They certainly weren't expected to play so badly.

The result was Argentina's worst at a World Cup since being dismantled by Johan Cruyff's "Total Football" Dutch side 4-0 on a thundery night in West Germany back in 1974.

Nor were Argentina meant to rely on the results of Iceland or Nigeria just to remain in Russia.

With one point from two games, their fans were desperate for Nigeria to beat Iceland in Friday's game to retain hope of qualifying for the knockout stage.

"Today, all my country is Nigerian," joked Nicolas, 41, a



Argentina national team reached top of the FIFA World Rankings for the first time in March 2007

company owner from Buenos Aires. Fans of the "Albiceleste" could be spotted all around Nizhny yesterday.

Some were walking round town in kit, others with "Lio" shaved into their hair, and those draped in the country's flag, like Santiago, a student from the south of Argentina, as he prepared to head to Saint Petersburg for Argentina's crucial final Group D match on June 26.

Who was to blame? The embattled coach Jorge Sampaoli or the curiously listless players who have failed to produce, including the great Messi?

"I believe that the coach is not sure what he wants, or he is unable to pass this onto the players," said Santiago.

"But they also have to play, after all they are professionals."

Down, but not out

Despair though had turned to hope in the cold light of day, or at least the first signs that all was not lost.

Cousins Juan and Valentino from Cordoba were about to embark on a 20-hour journey by train and plane via Moscow, Rome, Madrid and Buenos Aires to go home.

Their Russian odyssey was over but maybe not their team's. Valentino complained that the Argentinian public and media put too much pressure on the side.

"The people think that the only way is to win the World Cup, they don't consider it a probability to lose," said Valentino, a 19-year-old student.

Iceland and Nigeria fans soak up history in Russia's Volgograd

AFP | Volgograd

Iceland and Nigeria fans soaked up the "awe-inspiring" history of Volgograd yesterday as they explored the World Cup city that was annihilated during World War II.

Nazi Germany's advance into Russia began exactly 77 years ago, on June 22, 1941, and was halted in the city, then known as Stalingrad, in February 1943.

The Battle of Stalingrad is among the bloodiest in history.

It raged for almost six months and when it was over the city was in ruins and around two million Nazi and Soviet soldiers and civilians had lost their lives.

"It's real history," Iceland fan Heidar Gudjonsson said as he



'The Mother of Calls' statue measures 52 meters high and the sword in the hand of the statue measures about 33 meters

of a woman with sword raised.

"It's shocking and this monument is something else, it's extremely dramatic. It's awe-inspiring and it really has an influence on you," added Gudjonsson.

The memorial complex to the battle is set on a hill overlooking the new 45,500-seat Volgograd Arena and includes the towering 85-metre statue known as "The Motherland Calls", and a hall where an eternal flame to the city's fallen burns. "The World War II history here is one of the most important parts of the 20th century in Europe so it was definitely a factor in our coming here," he added.

"We extended our stay here for two nights when we realised it was Stalingrad," said another Iceland fan, Finnur Einarsson,



Supporters of the Nigerian national football team pose with Russian fans while visiting the Mamayev Kurgan World War Two memorial complex in Volgograd yesterday

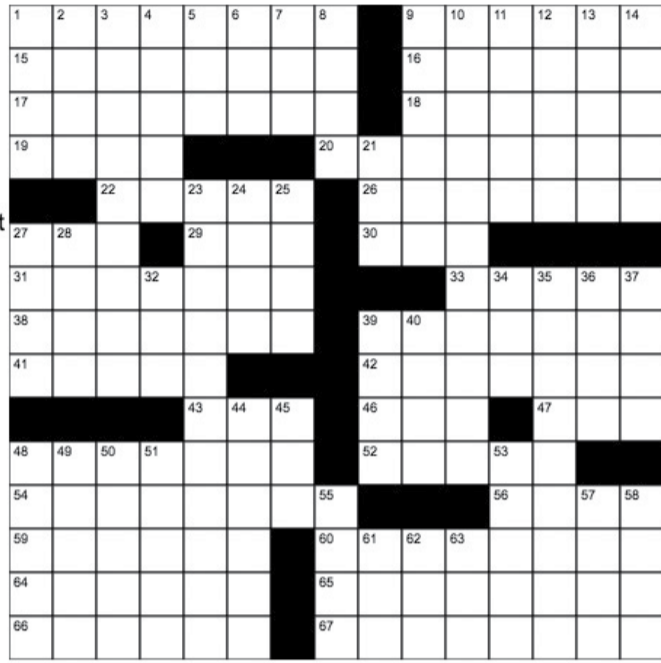
describing the lure of the city's historical sites. "It's overwhelming that five, six times the population of our country died in this one city in just six months. You just can't really fathom how much that is. "The plan was to come yesterday and just be here game day. But we got excited because we will probably never see Volgograd again, so having enough time to see the museum and the sights and everything was definitely worth it."

Nigeria's supporters were also climbing the 200 steps to the Stalingrad memorial complex in the heat and were similarly overwhelmed by the sense of history.

"We heard this was the place that the Second World War happened," said one fan named Suleman.

entertainment

CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



certain; 65- Revolver; 66- Like some gas; 67- Land along the sea;

Down

1- ___ Lama Ding Dong; 2- Freudian topics; 3- Very small painting; 4- Make up; 5- Forty winks; 6- DDE's bailiwick; 7- Cambodia's Lon ___; 8- ___ Little Tenderness; 9- Connoption; 10- Until we see each other again; 11- View; 12- Rhino relative; 13- Prepares for publication or release; 14- Color anew; 21- Rx watchdog; 23- Raising of silkworms; 24- ___ epic scale; 25- Ashen; 27- Against; 28- Film unit; 32- Song syllable; 34- Are you a man ___ mouse?; 35- Not to be omitted; 36- Civil disturbance; 37- Gulf War missile; 39- Eastern nanny; 40- Injectable diazepam, in military lingo; 44- Drunk; 45- Orch. section; 48- Trivial objection; 49- Express a viewpoint; 50- The brainy bunch; 51- Arrogant; 53- Law of Moses; 55- Hearing organs; 57- Cabinet dept.; 58- French 101 infinitive; 61- Nectar collector; 62- Clean air org.; 63- Hi-___;

Across

1- Left behind; 9- Small wheel; 15- Mixing device; 16- Area with coin-operated games; 17- Board game; 18- Apprehensive; 19- Z ___ zebra; 20- Natural liking for; 22- Greek fabulist; 26- Varied; 27- Guggenheim display; 29- Bambi's aunt; 30- Dug in; 31- Not aligned; 33- Portals; 38- Casserole dish; 39- Sour in taste; 41- Pertaining to the small intestine; 42- Carrion-eating stork; 43- Battleship letters; 46- Mandela's org.; 47- Old Ford; 48- Conspiracy; 52- Port-au-Prince is its capital; 54- An opening; 56- Arch type; 59- Containing wine; 60- Abnormal; 64- Make

BEETLE BAILEY



WORD OF THE DAY

Notorious

Definition:

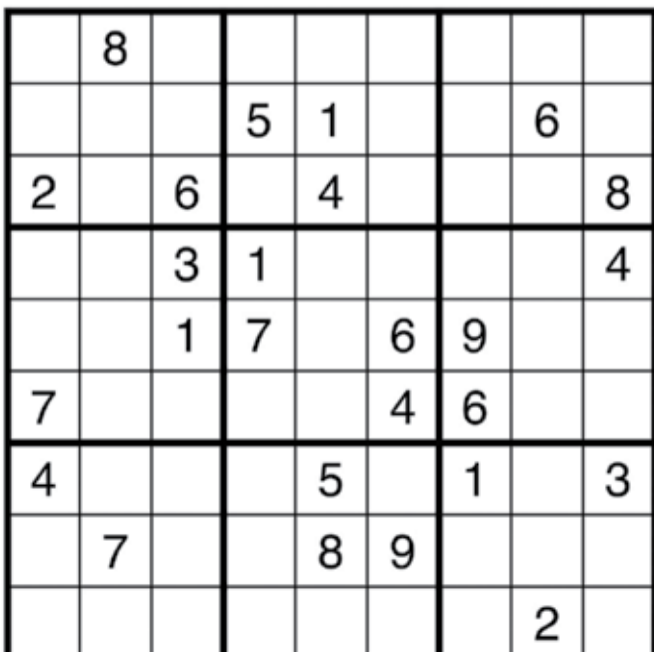
1: generally known and talked of; especially
2: widely and unfavourably known

Did You Know?

Notorious was adopted into English in the 16th century from Medieval Latin notorius, itself from Late Latin's noun notorium, meaning "information" or "indictment." Notorium, in turn, derives from the Latin verb noscere, meaning "to come to know." Although notorious can be a synonym of

famous, meaning simply "widely known," it long ago developed the additional implication of someone or something unpleasant or undesirable. The Book of Common Prayer of 1549 includes one of the first known uses of the unfavourable meaning in print, referring to "notorious synners."

SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



How to play

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

YOUR STAR TODAY



Aries

Don't be surprised if you run into a few emotional roadblocks today. People could be quite stubborn and difficult to deal with. You may exacerbate the situation by trying to get a rise out of someone with your boisterous attitude and dramatic flair. If your efforts don't yield positive results, back off.



Taurus

The planets align to make this a great day for you. You should find that your mood is excellent and your mind focused. Romance will thrive in the nice, stabilizing atmosphere, and you should feel free to take centre stage.



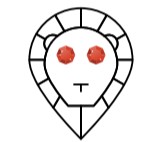
Gemini

Try to bring things down to reality today. This is a good day to consolidate and organize. When it comes to matters of love and romance, try not to be so fickle. You may be giving someone the run-around just to test his or her devotion. This is an important time for you.



Cancer

Your sensitivity will be greatly appreciated today, and you'll find that there is a great grounding force that will help balance your extreme emotions. Try not to be too stubborn, especially with things having to do with love and beauty. A fixed attitude will most likely run into a great deal of opposition.



Leo

The general atmosphere of the day may seem too slow and stodgy for your tastes. Try not to get bogged down in details. Try not to worry too much. You may find that it's difficult to get any enthusiasm out of people today. You might just want to sit back and take it easy. This is a good day to plan and reorganize.



Virgo

This is a terrific day for you. You'll notice a sense of well-being that makes you feel secure that all your hard work is finally starting to pay off. It's as if you've reached a comfortable ledge in your trek up the mountain. This is a good resting spot that will let you catch your breath for a moment.



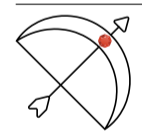
Libra

Try not to be too fixed in your attitude today. Realize that you may have to give a little in order to work comfortably with the people around you. It's important that you be slow and reserved in your moves, especially in matters of the heart. Be open and receptive.



Scorpio

There's a loving tenderness in the air that you'll find very comforting. Ground your sensitive emotions and make room for love to enter the picture. It could be that you're feeling indecisive when it comes to matters of love and romance.



Sagittarius

You may need to slow down a bit after the hectic pace of the last couple of days. It's essential that you take a more reserved and sensitive approach, especially with matters having to do with the heart. Try to ground and centre yourself.



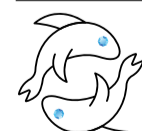
Capricorn

You should notice a boost of energy today, and your self-confidence should be revitalized. In matters of love and romance, everything is running smoothly. Your emotions are stable and grounded. Love and harmony are in the air. Take this opportunity to move toward the object of your desire with certainty and affection. Romance is in the cards for you tonight.



Aquarius

Take it easy today, and work to digest some of the input you've received over the past couple of days. This is a day to contemplate and plan. With matters of the heart, you may find that a sensitive, grounded approach works best. This isn't always your favourite mode of operation, but it's one that will provide you with the balance to counteract your usual frenzied pace.



Pisces

Anything having to do with love and romance is likely to go well today if you play your cards right. See what you can do to ground your fluctuating emotions. Try your best to bring them into balance. Take a practical approach and slow down. Joining with groups of people will be extremely rewarding. Come out of your shell and show your sensitive side to the world. It will be greatly appreciated.

show

Johnny Depp reveals on trembling life

IAN S | Los Angeles

Actor Johnny Depp, whose life has been marred by several problems and issues including legal troubles, financial woes and a tumultuous, shrouded personal life, says there was a point when he was as low as he could have gotten.

"I was as low as I believe I could have gotten. The next step was, 'You're going to arrive somewhere with your eyes open and you are going to leave with your eyes closed'. I couldn't take the pain every day," Johnny Depp told rollingstone.com, recalling his emotional state in the midst of his failed marriage and his simulta-



Johnny Depp

neously collapsing financial situation. Depp had a highly publicised divorce from actress Amber Heard, which was finalised in August 2016, following a legal battle. After Heard's allegations of spousal abuse, which Depp has vehemently denied -- his legal troubles continued to spiral.

LaBeouf, David Ayer to join forces for 'Tax Collector'



Shia LaBeouf

ANI | London

Hollywood actor Shia LaBeouf is all set to reunite with filmmaker David Ayer for upcoming crime thriller 'Tax Collector'. According to reports, the 'Transformers' actor previously teamed up with the director for 2014 World War-II drama 'Fury'

David Ayer will start shooting in Los Angeles, the report further said. Previously, LaBeouf was seen in tennis drama 'Borg vs. McEnroe' and recently completed shooting 'Honey Boy'.

Milly Shapiro's real life incident in horror film

IAN S | Los Angeles

Actress Milly Shapiro had to recreate a moment from her life for horror film "Hereditary".

"The thing that I was most worried about was the allergic reaction scene. But I actually had that type of an allergic reaction before because I'm highly allergic to red ants," Shapiro said in a statement.

"I was, like, five or six, so I had an experience with it, which I thought was absolutely hilarious, that I was going to have to act that. But I was really nervous because I thought that I would get it wrong. I was just worried.

"Everyone was really great with helping me through it and Ari Aster and I worked together to get the perfect breathing and action for it. I was really nervous for that," she added.

Milly Shapiro



The thing that I was most worried about was the allergic reaction scene

MILLY SHAPIRO

Heist films are like superhero movies

IAN S | New York

Actress-rapper Awkwafina says heist films are like superhero movies.

"In a way heist films are like superhero movies. The audacity of pulling off a heist is something that no ordinary person would ever do," Awkwafina said in a statement.

"With heist movies, the line between good and bad becomes subject to interpretation. The 'Ocean's 8' women are criminals, but at the same time they are doing this for a reason," she added.

A sequel to Steven Soderbergh's 'Ocean's' trilogy,



Awkwafina



Awkwafina released her first album in 2014 called Yellow Ranger

'Ocean's 8' stars Sandra Bullock as ringleader Debbie Ocean, the sister of George Clooney's character Danny. After getting out of jail, she recruits seven women.

ABRAHAMINTE SANTHATHIKAL

(MALAYALAM/CRIME/THRILLER) MAMMOOTTY, KANIKA, TARUSHI

DANA CINEMA 10:45,13:15,15:45,18:15,20:45,23:15

SEEF (I) 11:15 AM + 2:15 + 5:15 + 8:15 + 11:15 PM

AL HAMRA 3:00 + 9:00 PM + (12:00 MN FRI) ON THURSDAY 21ST: 12:00 + 3:00 + 6:00 + 9:00 PM + 12:00 MN

ABLA TAMTAM

(ARABIC / COMEDY) YASMIN ABDULAZIZ, HAMDY AL-MERGHANY, BAYOUMI FOUAD

DANA CINEMA 10:45,13:00,15:15,17:30,19:45,22:00,00:15

CINECO (20) 12:00 + 2:00 + 4:00 + 6:00 + 8:00 + 10:00 PM + 12:00 MN

SEEF (II) 11:30 AM + 1:30 + 3:30 + 5:30 + 7:30 + 9:30 + 11:30 PM + (1:00 AM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL 11:45 AM + 1:45 + 3:45 + 5:45 + 7:45 + 9:45 + 11:45 PM

LAILAT HANA WA SROUR

(ARABIC/THRILLER/COMEDY) MOHAMED EMAM YASMINE SABRI FAROUK EL FESHAWI

DANA CINEMA 11:00,13:00,15:00,17:00,19:00,21:00,23:00

CINECO (20) 12:00 + 2:15 + 4:30 + 6:45 + 9:00 + 11:15 PM

SEEF (II) 12:30 + 2:45 + 5:00 + 7:15 + 9:30 + 11:45 PM

WADI AL SAIL 10:30 AM + 2:45 + 7:00 + 11:15 PM

MAYA THE BEE: THE HONEY GAMES

(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) COCO JACK GILLIES, BENSON JACK ANTHONY, RICHARD ROXBURGH

DANA CINEMA 10:45,12:30,14:15,16:00,17:45,19:30,21:15,23:00

CINECO (20) 11:00 AM + 1:00 + 3:00 PM

SEEF (I) 10:30 AM + 12:30 + 2:30 PM

JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM - 2D

(ACTION/ADVENTURE/SCI-FI) CHRIS PRATT, BRYCE DALLAS HOWARD, JEFF GOLDBLUM

DANA CINEMA 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30

CINECO (20) (IMAX 3D): 6:00 + 8:45 + 11:30 PM DAILY AT (ATMOS): 10:30 AM + 1:00 + 3:45 + 6:30 + 9:15 PM + 12:00 MN DAILY AT: 10:30 AM + 1:00 + 3:45 + 6:30 + 9:15 PM + 12:00 MN DAILY AT (VIP I): 12:00 + 2:45 + 5:30 + 8:15 + 11:00

SEEF (II) (3D): 11:15 AM + 1:45 + 4:15 + 6:45 + 9:15 + 11:45

SEEF (I) 12:15 + 2:45 + 5:15 + 7:45 + 10:15 PM + (12:45 MN THURS/FRI)

SAAR 11:00 AM + 1:30 + 4:00 + 6:30 + 9:00 + 11:30 PM

WADI AL SAIL 10:45 AM + 1:15 + 3:45 + 6:15 + 8:45 + 11:15

RACE 3

(HINDI / ACTION / THRILLER) ANIL KAPOOR, SALMAN KHAN, JACQUELINE FERNANDEZ

DANA CINEMA 11:00, 14:00, 17:00, 20:00, 23:00

DANA CINEMA 10:45, 13:45, 16:45, 19:45, 22:45

CINECO (20) 11:00 AM + 11:30 AM + 2:15 + 2:45 + 5:30 + 6:00 + 8:45 + 9:15 PM + 12:00 MN + (12:30 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 11:00 AM + 2:00 + 5:00 + 8:00 + 11:00 PM

SAAR 11:00 AM + 2:00 + 5:00 + 8:00 + 11:00 PM

WADI AL SAIL 11:30 AM + 2:30 + 5:30 + 8:30 + 11:30 PM

MARY SHELLEY

(BIOGRAPHY / DRAMA / ROMANCE) ELLE FANNING, MAISIE WILLIAMS, BEN HARDY

DANA CINEMA 11:00, 13:15, 15:30, 17:45, 20:00, 22:15, 00:30

SEEF (II) 6:30 + 9:00 + 11:30 PM

TIK TIK TIK

(TAMIL / ACTION / SCI-FI / THRILLER) NIVETHA PETHURAJ, JAYAM RAVI, AARON AZIZ

DANA CINEMA 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30

AL HAMRA 22ND: 12:00 NOON + 6:00 PM

INCREDIBLES 2: 2D

(ANIMATION/ACTION/ADVENTURE) SAMUEL L. JACKSON, CATHERINE KEENER, SOPHIA BUSH

DANA CINEMA 10:45,13:00,15:15,17:30,19:45,22:00,00:15

CINECO (20) 11:00 AM + 1:30 + 4:00 + 6:30 + 9:00 + 11:30 PM DAILY AT (IMAX 2D): 10:30 AM + 1:00 + 3:30 PM DAILY AT (3D): 10:30 AM + 1:00 + 3:30 + 6:00 + 8:30 + 11:00 PM

SEEF (II) 11:15 AM + 1:45 + 4:15 + 6:45 + 9:15 + 11:45 PM

SAAR 10:30 AM + 1:00 + 3:30 + 6:00 + 8:30 + 11:00 PM

WADI AL SAIL 10:45 AM + 1:15 + 3:45 + 6:15 + 8:45 + 11:15

BEIRUT

(HIGH WIRE ACT) (15+) (THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW ROSAMUND PIKE, JON HAMM, MARK PELLEGRINO

CINECO (20) 11:45 AM + 2:00 + 4:15 + 6:30 + 8:45 + 11:00

SEEF (II) 10:30 AM + 12:45 + 3:00 + 5:15 + 7:30 + 9:45 PM + 12:00 MN

HEREDITARY

(18+) (THRILLER/HORROR) TONI COLLETTE, GABRIEL BYRNE, ALEX WOLFF

CINECO (20) 12:30 + 2:45 + 5:00 + 7:15 + 9:30 + 11:45 PM

SEEF (II) 12:00 + 2:15 + 4:30 + 6:45 + 9:00 + 11:15 PM

SAAR 10:45 AM + 3:00 + 7:15 + 11:30 PM

WADI AL SAIL 12:30 + 2:45 + 5:00 + 7:15 + 9:30 + 11:45 PM

DEADPOOL 2

(15+) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) RYAN REYNOLDS, JOSH BROLIN, MORENA BACCARIN

CINECO (20) 11:30 AM + 2:00 + 4:30 + 7:00 + 9:30 PM + 12:00 MN + (1:00 AM THURS/FRI) DAILY AT (VIP II): 10:30 AM + 1:00 + 3:30 + 6:00 + 8:30 + 11:00 PM

SEEF (II) 11:15 AM + 1:45 + 4:15 + 6:45 + 9:15 + 11:45 PM

ADRIFF

(PG-15) (DRAMA/ROMANTIC) SHAILENE WOODLEY, SAM CLAFLIN, JEFFREY THOMAS

CINECO (20) 11:15 AM + 1:15 + 3:15 + 5:15 + 7:15 + 9:15 + 11:15

SEEF (II) 11:30 AM + 1:30 + 3:30 + 5:30 + 7:30 + 9:30 + 11:30

SAAR 1:00 + 5:15 + 9:30

WADI AL SAIL 12:45 + 5:00 + 9:15 PM

10-HOTEL ARTEMIS

(15+) (ACTION/CRIME) JODIE FOSTER, STERLING K. BROWN, SOFIA BOUTELLA

CINECO (20) 11:00 AM + 1:00 + 3:00 + 5:00 + 7:00 + 9:00 + 11:00 PM

SEEF (II) 7:00 + 9:00 + 11:00 PM

RAMPAGE

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER/SCI-FICTION) DWAYNE JOHNSON, JEFFREY DEAN MORGAN, WILL YUN LEE

CINECO (20) 12:15 + 2:30 + 4:45 + 7:00 + 9:15 + 11:30 PM

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

(PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) KAREN GILLAN, ROBERT DOWNEY JR., TOM HOLLAND

CINECO (20) 11:30 AM + 2:30 + 5:30 + 8:30 + 11:30 PM

LIFE OF THE PARTY

(15+) (COMEDY) MELISSA MCCARTHY, GILLIAN JACOBS, JULIE BOWEN

CINECO (20) 5:00 + 7:15 + 9:30 + 11:45 PM

THE LITTLE WITCH

(PG) (COMEDY/DRAMA/FAMILY) KAROLINE HERFURTH, AXEL PRAHL, LUIS VORBACH

SEEF (II) 10:30 AM + 12:30 + 2:30 + 4:30 PM

SHOW DOGS

(PG-13) (ADVENTURE/COMEDY) WILL ARNETT, CHRIS "LUDACRIS" BRIDGES, NATASHA LYONNE

SEEF (II) 11:00 AM + 1:00 + 3:00 + 5:00 PM

PETER RABBIT

(PG) (ADVENTURE/COMEDY/FAMILY) ROSE BYRNE, DOMHNALL GLEESON, SAM NEILL

SEEF (I) 12:00 + 2:00 + 4:00 + 6:00 PM

A QUIET PLACE

(15+) (THRILLER/HORROR/DRAMA) EMILY BLUNT, JOHN KRASINSKI, NOAH JUPE

SEEF (I) 8:00 + 10:00 PM + 12:00 MN

VEERE DI WEDDING

(15+) (HINDI/COMEDY/DRAMA) KAREENA KAPOOR, SONAM KAPOOR, SWARA BHASKAR

SEEF (I) 4:30 + 7:00 + 9:30 PM + 12:00 MN

Anderson gets in sculpting mode for 'Isle Of Dogs'

IAN S | Los Angeles

Director Wes Anderson says he created 500 clay dog puppets to bring a touch of reality to his film "Isle of Dogs".

"We wanted to put on screen dogs that look somewhat familiar to us but have heightened qualities beyond reality," Anderson said in a statement.

Anderson, who has written and produced the film as well, began sculpting clay dog puppets based on his observations and analysis.

He worked closely with Andy Gent, the head of the puppets department. Instead of simply sketching ideas,



Wes Anderson

they used clay to sculpt sample dogs.

With more than 70 artists on the puppet team, a total of 1,000 clay puppets were created out of which 500 puppets were humans and 500 were dogs.

SPORTS
sports

Federer soars into semis



Federer struggles but tops

● **Federer defeats Ebden to reach semi-finals in Halle**

Reuters | Halle, Germany

World number one Roger Federer was tested once again in Halle but did enough to overpower Australian Matthew Ebden 7-6(2) 7-5 in the quarter-finals yesterday.

Nine-time Halle champion Federer, who saved two match points to beat Benoit Paire in the second round, edged a tense opening set against 60th ranked Ebden in the tiebreak

with a backhand winner.

Ebden was leading 5-3 in the second set against the 36-year-old before the Swiss fought back to secure four consecutive games to set-up a semi-final against American Denis Kudla. Federer extended his grasscourt streak to 19, which includes the Stuttgart title and last year's triumphs at Wimbledon and Halle.

Qualifier Kudla, ranked 109th in the world, eased past Japan's Yuichi Sugita 6-2 7-5 earlier in the day.

Kudla progressed to only his 2nd semi at ATP tour-level when he roared back from a 2-5 deficit in the 2nd set and saved a set point in the process.

Hami sets the pace

● **Hamilton heads Bottas in Mercedes one-two in opening practice**

Reuters | Le Castellet, France

Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton was fastest for Mercedes in the first French Grand Prix practice in a decade yesterday with the session halted after Swedish driver Marcus Ericsson suffered a fiery crash.

Hamilton, a point behind Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel after seven races, complained about his car's handling over the radio but still put in a best time of one minute 32.231 seconds.

His Finnish team mate Valtteri Bottas, also with a new Mercedes engine in his car, was second fastest in 1:32.371 as France made its return to the



Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton during practice

F1 calendar for the first time since 2008.

The 90 minute session was red-flagged with a minute remaining when Ericsson lost control at the Beausset corner, spun and hit the barriers hard, with the Sauber car then catching fire.

The Swede worryingly remained in the car, with flames licking the airbox, be-

fore marshals arrived with an extinguisher and he clambered out from underneath the halo head-protection system.

Video images later showed extensive scorching to the rear of the car.

Australian Daniel Ricciardo, winner of two races this season and still mulling his future options, was third fastest for Red

Bull in 1:32.527.

Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen was fourth on the timesheets with Vettel fifth.

Romain Grosjean, in the Haas, was the highest-placed French driver in sixth place and ahead of Dutch 20-year-old Max Verstappen.

Frenchman Pierre Gasly was eighth for Honda-powered Toro Rosso.

French GP: Mercedes brings new engine, but won't say which one

Reuters | Le Castellet, France

Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton and other drivers using Mercedes power units started French Grand Prix practice with new engines yesterday but the German manufacturer kept a lid on the details.

The latest specification engine had been due for introduction in Canada two weekends ago but that was postponed at short notice due to concerns about a "quality issue".

That left four times world champion Hamilton, now a point behind Ferrari's Sebas-

tian Vettel after seven races, at a disadvantage to rivals who had engine upgrades for the race in Montreal.

With drivers allowed only three engines a season before penalties are applied, Hamilton and Finnish team mate Valtteri Bottas were always going to get

fresh ones having completed the lifespan of the ones they started the season with.

The question was whether it would be the planned upgrade or the same specification as the previous one, which would mean being locked into that for the next seven races.

Murray takes wildcard into Eastbourne

Reuters | London

Andy Murray will play at next week's Eastbourne grasscourt championships in a bid to prove his fitness for Wimbledon.

The Briton returned to action at Queen's Club this week after almost a year away with a hip injury but lost in the first round of the Fever-Tree championships to Nick Kyrgios.

"I'm looking forward to getting some more time on the grass courts at Eastbourne this week," the three-times Grand Slam champion, who had surgery in January, said in a statement.

"I played Davis Cup there in 2006 and I know the courts and facilities there are excellent. It was good to get back to competition at Queen's this week, and I'm hoping to building on that next week at Devonshire Park."

After defeat by Kyrgios, Murray cast doubt on his fitness for Wimbledon, saying he was unsure whether he would have been able to play a best-of-five-set match. He did impress, however, pushing the Australian to 3 sets and he will look to further test his movement and gain some match sharpness at the ATP 250 event on the south coast.

Roy ton powers England into 4-0 lead over Australia



England's Joe Root is bowled by Australia's Ashton Agar (not pictured) as Tim Paine looks on

Reuters | London

England's rampant one-day side powered to a fourth straight win over Australia, following up their world record rampage at Trent Bridge with a commanding six-wicket victory at Chester-le-Street on Thursday led by centurion Jason Roy.

Roy cracked his second century of the series, a brilliant 101 off 83 balls, to pave the way for England to make easy meat of Australia's 310-8, which had also featured hundreds for Aaron Finch and Shaun Marsh.

After piling up a world record total

of 481 from a 50-over international at Trent Bridge on Tuesday and inflicting Australia's heaviest-ever defeat, England again outplayed the visitors, pulling off their second-highest ever ODI run chase.

It gave England's hugely talented, big-hitting side a 4-0 lead in the series with the chance of an unprecedented whitewash in Sunday's fifth and final match at Old Trafford.

After the Trent Bridge humiliation, Australia seemed determined to rebound strongly and when their captain Tim Paine won the toss and opted to bat, opener Finch's 100 off 106 balls and a 92-ball 101 from Marsh promised much.

Dazzling Kyrgios beats Lopez to set up Cilic clash at Queen's club

Reuters | London

Australian maverick Nick Kyrgios blazed past Feliciano Lopez with a barrage of aces to reach the semi-finals of the ATP 500 Fever-Tree championships at Queen's Club yesterday.

The 23-year-old was in dazzling form as he claimed a 7-6(5) 7-6(3) victory against the defending champion to set up a clash with top seed Marin Cilic who breezed past Sam Querrey.

Kyrgios has his detractors, and his volatile temperament has frequently landed him in hot water with the game's authorities.

But on his day, when his mind does not wander and he lets his racket do the talking, there are few players who can electrify a tennis court quite like him.



Australia's Nick Kyrgios

He finished off Lopez with his 32nd ace yesterday, matching the total he landed against Briton's Kyle Edmund on Thursday, having also served 18 against Andy Murray on Tuesday.

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Belgium face tough test

Reuters | Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

Belgium's credentials as a genuine outside bet for World Cup success face a tougher examination against Tunisia today after a relatively sedate opening against Panama.

Roberto Martinez's star-studded squad emerged as 3-0 winners in their opening Group G game in Sochi on Monday but will likely find Tunisia a far more robust and defensively astute opponent when they meet at the Spartak Stadium in Moscow.

It will mean the creative acumen of captain Eden Hazard and Kevin De Bruyne will be vital if Belgium are to move closer to the second round and effectively end Tunisia's tournament.

Both Premier League stand-outs took a while to get going in Monday's match but their obvious ability eventually made the requisite impact. De Bruyne set up the second goal for Romelu Lukaku with a characteristically innovative pass and the Manchester City midfielder said on Wednesday he saw that as his primary task at the tournament.

Tunisia have a well-earned reputation in African football for their ability to close down matches through a combination of bloody-minded defence, time-wasting tactics and gamesmanship.



NEUER



Belgium

Nickname | Red Devils

HAZARD

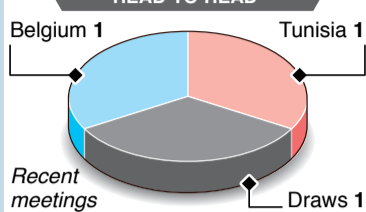


Dedryck Boyata will keep his place in defence as neither Vincent Kompany nor Thomas Vermaelen are ready to play for Belgium. Overall few changes, if any, are expected from the side that beat Panama 3-0 in their first group match of the 2018 World Cup

3 FIFA rank 21

BEL 3-0 PAN Match 1 TUN 1-2 ENG

HEAD-TO-HEAD



Recent meetings
2014 Belgium 1-0 Tunisia
2002 Tunisia 1-1 Belgium

WORLD CUP RECORD

15	Wins	1
9	Draws	4
18	Losses	8
1.31	Goals for*	0.69
1.57	Goals against*	1.4

Fact box

- » Belgium started their World Cup campaign with a comfortable 3-0 win over Panama.
- » Tunisia lost 2-1 to England but the scoreline could have been a lot worse had England Belgium are clear favourites to win today and should make it two wins from two without much difficulty.

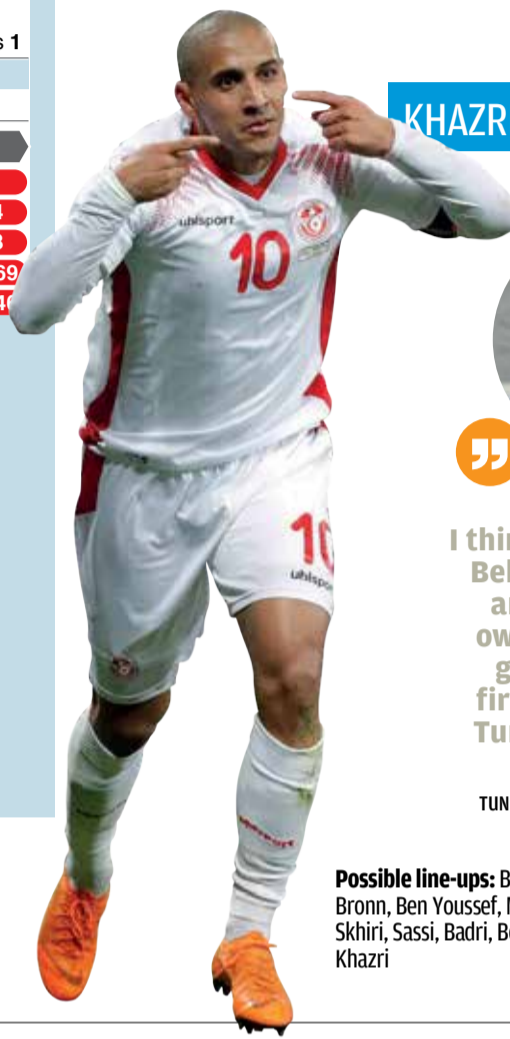
Possible line-ups: Courtois, Alderweireld, Boyata, Vertonghen, Meunier, Carrasco, Witsel, De Bruyne, Hazard, Mertens, Lukaku



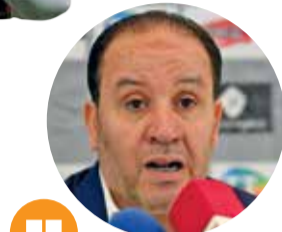
Tunisia

Nickname | The Eagles of Carthage

Mouez Hassen suffered a shoulder injury in the first half of Tunisia's 2-1 defeat to England and is unlikely to feature again this World Cup. Farouk Ben Mustapha will start in goal as a result



KHAZRI



”

I think we will have Belgium's respect and we have our own ambitions of getting past the first round which Tunisia has never done before

TUNISIA COACH NABIL MAALOUL

Possible line-ups: Ben Mustapha, Bronn, Ben Youssef, Menah, Maaloul, Skhiri, Sassi, Badri, Ben Youssef, Sliiti, Khazri

Germany expects turnaround

AFP | Sochi

World Cup holders Germany face enormous pressure ahead of their second group match against Sweden, dubbed an "early final", with Joachim Loew's team knowing

defeat today would effectively end their campaign.

The pre-tournament talk in Germany focused much on the bid to become the first team for 56 years to retain the FIFA World Cup.

But after a shock 1-0 defeat to

Mexico, the four-time winners must beat the Swedes in Sochi to be sure of staying in the tournament.

Suddenly, the sweet taste of their victory in Rio de Janeiro four years ago seems like a long time ago.

An atrocious first-half display

against Mexico stunned fans in football-mad Germany, who have grown used to regular success.

The World Cup winners, accustomed to easy questions from their press and the backing of adoring fans, have been stung by a swarm of criticism.



Germany

Nickname | The Team

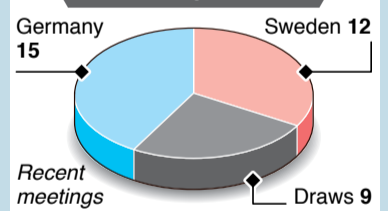
Mesut Ozil was fit to start the 1-0 loss to Mexico, but may drop out of the side here, with Marco Reus in line to start. Ilkay Gundogan could also come in for Sami Khedira in the middle the park, while Jonas Hector is set to start at Marvin Plattenhardt's expense at left-back

Possible line-ups: Neuer, Kimmich, Boateng, Hummels, Plattenhardt, Goretzka, Kroos, Muller, Ozil, Reus, Werner

1 FIFA rank 24

GER 0-1 MEX Match 1 SWE 1-0 KOR

HEAD-TO-HEAD



Recent meetings
2013 Sweden 3-5 Germany
2012 Germany 4-4 Sweden

WORLD CUP RECORD

66	Wins	17
20	Draws	13
21	Losses	17
2.09	Goals for*	1.60
1.14	Goals against*	1.47



Sweden

Nickname | The Blue and Yellows

Victor Lindelof missed the 1-0 win over South Korea through illness, but is set to come in for Pontus Jansson at the back. Sweden head coach Janne Andersson may resist wholesale changes here

Possible line-ups: Olsen, Lustig, Jansson, Granqvist, Augustinsson, Claesson, Larsson, Ekdal, Forsberg, Toivonen, Berg



BERG

Son under pressure

AFP | Saint Petersburg

South Korea's Son Heung-min is bearing the weight of expectation at the World Cup just as heavily as Mohamed Salah, Cristiano Ronaldo and Harry Kane.

Even Lionel Messi, whose bid to add a World Cup to his career collection has become something of a communal objective for football, enjoys the support of a star-studded Argentinian side, from Angel Di Maria to

Javier Mascherano to Sergio Aguero.

For Son and South Korea, the pressure is shared in the kind of unequal measure that perhaps only Salah would know with Egypt, before his own tournament was hampered by injury.

South Korea are teetering on the brink too, after a 1-0 defeat by Sweden left them needing at least a draw, and probably a win, against Mexico today to keep any hopes

of progressing from Group F alive.

Son blamed himself for the opening loss.

Responsibility is one take, pressure another.

Son is a star in his home country, to the extent he has to wear a disguise when he leaves the house and Korean journalists are employed in London, where they wait to speak to the forward after every Tottenham fixture in the Premier League.



South Korea

Nickname | Asian Tigers

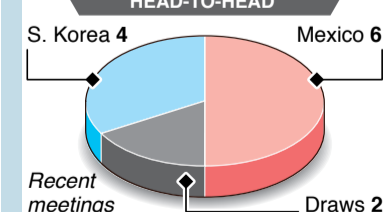
Park Joo-Ho is expected to miss out for South Korea today after sustaining an injury in the first half of their World Cup opener against Sweden. Kim Min-Woo should deputise at left-back.

Possible line-ups: Cho, Y. Lee, Jang, Y. Kim, M. Kim, Ki, J. Lee, Koo, Hwang, Son, S. Kim

57 FIFA rank 15

KOR 0-1 SWE Match 1 MEX 1-0 GER

HEAD-TO-HEAD



Recent meetings
2014 Mexico 4-0 South Korea
2006 Mexico 0-1 South Korea

WORLD CUP RECORD

5	Wins	15
9	Draws	14
18	Losses	25
0.97	Goals for*	1.07
2.13	Goals against*	1.70



Mexico

Nickname | El Tri

Mexico have no reason to make any changes from the side that shocked reigning world champions Germany in their World Cup opener.

Miguel Layun played in an advanced position down the right flank against Germany and Juan Carlos Osorio might be tempted to start a natural forward against South Korea.

Possible line-ups: Ochoa, Salcedo, Ayala, Moreno, Gallardo, Herrera, Guardado, Layun, Vela, Lozano, Hernandez

Super Eagles bounce back

Gylfi Sigurdsson missed penalty, awarded after on-field VAR review

AFP | Volgograd, Russia

Ahmed Musa struck twice to become the first Nigerian to score at two World Cups yesterday as the Super Eagles secured a crucial 2-0 win over Iceland, who missed a penalty.

The African side will secure a spot in the knockout stage if they beat Argentina on Tuesday in Group D's final round of fixtures.

A draw would be enough to eliminate the Argentines but would leave Nigeria's fate hanging on the outcome of Iceland's game against Croatia.

Musa, who came into the starting line-up in place of Alex Iwobi, announced himself with two of the goals of the tournament so far.

Musa's sweetly struck half-volley fired Nigeria into the lead just after half-time before he added a second with 15 minutes to go to make Group D game safe.



Ahmed Musa celebrates scoring his first goal for Nigeria against Iceland in their World Cup Group D match at the Volgograd Arena

NIGERIA 2 0 ICELAND

49' 75' Musa

Iceland got a lifeline in the 82nd minute with a VAR-awarded penalty but Gylfi Sigurdsson blazed over the bar.

With Croatia heading the group on six points Nigeria knew a second defeat would mean elimination and Iceland started brightest after coach Heimur Hallgrímsson changed to a 4-4-2 from the 4-5-1 he had used in the 1-1 draw with Argentina.

Alfred Finnbogason, who scored the equaliser against Argentina as a lone striker, was joined up front by Jon Bodvarsson and the pair quickly made an impact.

Captain Aron Gunnarsson launched a long throw into the box and, after Bodvarsson had made a nuisance of himself, a push gave Iceland a free-kick just outside the area.



Iceland's Alfred Finnbogason misses a chance to score

Unstoppable half-volley

Gylfi Sigurdsson struck it smoothly round the wall but 19-year-old goalkeeper Francis Uzoho was able to make the save high to his right.

Nigeria, with captain John Obi Mikel sitting deeper in midfield than against Croatia, slowly worked their way into the game with Victor Moses a constant threat on the right flank.

The pace inevitably dropped with the temperature still a stifling 31 Celsius at the 6:00 pm (1500 GMT) local time kickoff.

The match became a stalemate until 10 minutes before half-time when Iceland came close to opening the scoring but Leon Balogun's glancing header just did enough to thwart Gylfi Sigurdsson and Birgir Bjarnason lurking at the back post.

Shaqiri's late strike completes Swiss comeback

AFP | Kaliningrad, Russia

Last-minute Xherdan Shaqiri breakaway goal handed Switzerland victory yesterday as they came from behind to defeat Serbia 2-1 in Kaliningrad.

The win puts Switzerland in pole position to make it out of a tough Group E that contains five-times winners Brazil but they were pushed all the way by the Serbs.

It was a sweet victory for Shaqiri and fellow Swiss goalscorer Granit Xhaka, who along with team-mate Valon Behrami were booed relentlessly by Serbia's fans throughout.

Shaqiri, Xhaka and Behrami trace their roots to Kosovo, a former province of Serbia, a fact which had stoked tensions before the match. Both Shaqiri and Xhaka pointedly celebrated their goals by making an eagle gesture with their hands,



Granit Xhaka is the only player whose surname begins with an X to score at a World Cup



Switzerland's forward Xherdan Shaqiri (C) runs with the ball

SERBIA 1 2 SWITZERLAND

5' Mitrovic Xhaka 52' Shaqiri 90'

Switzerland, who came to Russia ranked ahead of the likes of France and Spain, felt their way into the game as the first-half progressed.

On the half-hour mark, Steven Zuber cleverly teed up Blerim Dzemaili but the Hoffenheim man got his feet in a muddle and Vladimir Stojkovic was able to parry away. But it was Serbia, who beat Costa Rica 1-0 in their Group E opener, who nearly went in two up.

Nemanja Matic missed a glorious chance to double the lead just before the break when Tadic's in-swinging corner found him unmarked at the back post but the Manchester United midfielder couldn't sort his feet out.

viewed as a symbol of defiance. Serbia raced out of the blocks, funnelling possession to Southampton winger Dusan Tadic on the right flank, who troubled Switzerland with his crossing all match.

An Aleksandar Mitrovic header forced a smart save from Swiss keeper Yann Sommer after four

minutes. Seconds later, Tadic took the ball past left-back Ricardo Rodriguez, cut back on his favoured left foot and delivered a majestic cross that Mitrovic duly buried with his head.

In a frenetic first half, Switzerland had more of the ball but were sloppy with it, giving away possession in advanced

positions and sending Serbia on the break.

Lazio's highly rated Sergej Milinkovic-Savic fizzed a right-footed shot narrowly wide of Sommer's right post on 15 minutes, and Mitrovic almost scored with a spectacular bicycle kick that went the same way minutes later.

Egypt to file complaint against referee

Reuters | Moscow, Russia

Egypt will formally protest to FIFA about the performance of Paraguay referee Enrique Caceres whose decisions they feel prejudiced the outcome of their World Cup game against hosts Russia in St Petersburg on Tuesday.

"We want an investigation into the performance of the whole refereeing team," Egyptian Football Association president Hany Abo Rida told Reuters yesterday.

'Blame me, not team': Sampaoli

Reuters | Nizhny Novgorod

Argentina's despondent coach Jorge Sampaoli took the blame for Thursday's shambolic 3-0 World Cup defeat by Croatia as he tried to deflect the criticism from a terrible goalkeeping mistake and a poor performance by Lionel Messi.

"It's not the boss's partial responsibility, it's his total responsibility," said Sampaoli, after presiding over Argentina's heaviest defeat in the World Cup group stage since 1958.

Argentina deny reports players want Sampaoli out

AFP | Moscow

Argentina denied reports yesterday that players want coach Jorge Sampaoli sacked before their final World Cup group game against Nigeria after a humbling 3-0 defeat by Croatia.

"It's absolutely false," read a statement from an Argentine team official.

"All that has been said about a players' meeting or anything else, it is all false," the source added.

Following Thursday's match, there were reports in media of a rift between Argentina players and the coaching staff.

WORLD CUP PREDICT AND WIN

Yesterday's lucky winner is Duncan Deverel. Winner will be contacted



THE DAILY **tribune**
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Late show saves Brazil

● **Stoppage-time strikes from Coutinho and Neymar seal victory**

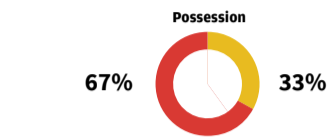
● **Costa Rica go crashing out after brave defensive performance**

Reuters | St Petersburg

Late strikes by Philippe Coutinho and Neymar gave Brazil their first win of the World Cup in thrilling fashion against Costa Rica in St Petersburg yesterday and sent the Central Americans crashing out of the tournament.

BRAZIL 2 0 COSTA RICA

90+1' Philippe Coutinho
90+7' Neymar



23	Shots	4
9	On target	0
11	Fouls	11

The clock had ticked past 90 minutes, and the five-times champions looked to be edging to a second disappointing draw, when Marcelo floated the ball in from the left and substitute Roberto Firmino headed across to Gabriel Jesus.

Jesus's first touch took the ball away from the defender and into the path of Coutinho who raced in to poke past goalkeeper Keylor Navas from six metres out for his second goal of the tournament.

The result leaves Brazil with four points from two games after they drew 1-1 with Switzerland in their opening match, and they provisionally rise above Serbia to top Group E.

Serbia play the Swiss later yesterday, while Costa Rica are out of the tournament with defeats in both games so far.

Neymar added the second with



Brazil's forward Philippe Coutinho (2nd-R) shoots to score during the Russia 2018 World Cup Group E football match between Brazil and Costa Rica at the Saint Petersburg Stadium in Saint Petersburg

practically the last kick of the match, volleying home following a quick counter-attack as Costa Rica pushed for an equaliser.

Time and again they hurled themselves at the Costa Rican goal only to be repelled until their opponent's resistance finally broke.

Neymar, overcome by emotion on the whistle, covered his face with his hands as tears streamed down his cheeks.

That was an apt reflection of how tense the match had been, with Costa Rica's flat-back five keeping Neymar on the periphery, as Johan Venegas and Cristian Gamboa man-marked him out of the game.

"We had a plan, strategy, idea to control the opponent with and without ball," Costa Rica coach Oscar Ramirez said.

“The first half was difficult. But in the second half, we couldn't have done any more. If we have suffered in these first two games, it is simply because this is a World Cup



BRAZIL COACH TITE

“We deserved the win. The ball came free and Gabriel shielded it well and I managed to score. The most important thing was winning

PHILIPPE COUTINHO

Today's match

Group G
Belgium vs Tunisia (3:00 PM)
Group F
S. Korea vs Mexico (6:00 PM)
Germany vs Sweden (9:00 PM)

Point Table

GROUP A	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Russia	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Uruguay	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
Egypt	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Saudi	2	0	0	1	0	6	0

GROUP B	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Portugal	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Spain	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Iran	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Morocco	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

GROUP C	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
France	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Denmark	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Australia	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Peru	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

GROUP D	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Croatia	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Nigeria	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Iceland	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Argentina	2	0	1	1	1	4	1

GROUP E	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Brazil	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Switzerland	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Serbia	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Costa Rica	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

GROUP F	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Mexico	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Sweden	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Germany	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
S. Korea	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

GROUP G	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Belgium	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
England	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Tunisia	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Panama	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP H	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Japan	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Senegal	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Colombia	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Poland	1	0	0	1	1	2	0

Neymar can't take sole responsibility: coach

Reuters | St Petersburg

Brazil coach Tite warned his country not to heap too much responsibility on Neymar's slight shoulders after the forward was seen crying after their 2-0 World Cup win over Costa Rica yesterday.

Brazil scored twice in stoppage time to move top of Group E but Neymar, who got involved in discussions with the referee and was awarded a penalty that was rescinded by the VAR, looked emotionally frail throughout, often gesticulating and falling down when tackled.

Tite said his tears could be down to the huge pressure of leading the five-times world champions.

"The joy, the satisfaction,

and the pride of representing the Brazilian national team is a lot," Tite told reporters after the match.

"He has the responsibility, the joy, the pressure and the courage to show it. We each show it in our own way."

"He was three-and-a-half months out (with injury) and he played the full match," Tite added, referring to the foot injury that kept the Paris St Germain player on the sidelines between February and June.

"He is a human being, he needs time to reach his high standards again but before that there is a team that needs to be strong and not dependent on him. Is he going to be back to his best? Yes, he is going to be back to his best."

VAR denies Neymar penalty

Independent | St Petersburg

There was more VAR drama at the World Cup as the Video Assistant Referee system (VAR) denied Brazil a penalty in their match against Costa Rica.

With the scores level and 13

minutes left, Neymar dribbled into the box before checking back on to his right foot in an effort to get a shot away. As he turned, his marker Giancarlo Gonzalez seemed to place his hand on Neymar's stomach, briefly, before the Paris

Saint-Germain forward tumbled back to the floor.

The Dutch referee Bjorn Kuipers initially awarded a penalty but was alerted to check the replay by VAR, and after reviewing the incident on a screen, overturned his decision.



Neymar claims for a penalty as he goes down after the slightest of touches from Giancarlo Gonzalez