

Najma make strong start in Asian clubs handball

Bahrain champions defeat Mes Kerman of Iran 3-25 in opening Group B match at 24th Asian Men's Club League Handball Championship in Hyderabad, India | P12

WORLD 6 EU to grant Ukraine candidate status in 'signal to Moscow'



Brad pitt says he's on 'last leg' of acting career 10 CELEBS

BUSINESS 5 Bahrain, Japan to boost trade ties

HM King hails 'outstanding valour' of BDF members

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander, yesterday hailed the outstanding valour and courage displayed by the Bahrain Defence Force in all tasks entrusted to them.

"BDF task force members are always up to the responsibility and merit trust and appreciation," said HM King during a visit yesterday to the General Command of Bahrain Defence Force (BDF).

His Majesty was welcomed upon arrival by the Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa visiting the Command of Bahrain Defence Force



Khalifa, National Security Advisor, Royal Guard Commander Major General HH Shaikh

Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Royal Guard Special Force Commander Lieutenant Colonel HH

Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of Defence Lieutenant-General Abdullah

bin Hassan Al Nuaimi and senior officers.

His Majesty King Hamad bin

Isa Al Khalifa lauded the success achieved in the previous training season and the imminent start of preparations for the next training season according to advanced plans to continue boosting competencies and capabilities.

The Supreme Commander praised the steady advances in the practical and theoretical training of the BDF and congratulated the graduates, from Bahrain and other countries, of the 14th joint command and staff course at the BDF.

HM King Hamad wished the valiant affiliates of the BDF success in their various positions in Bahrain and abroad.

Abu Dhabi, Dubai named most liveable in MENA

TDT | agencies

Abu Dhabi and Dubai are named the most liveable cities in the Middle East and North Africa for the fifth year in a row,

The list, compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit's global survey, ranked 173 cities on stability, culture and environment, education and infrastructure, and health care.

Abu Dhabi pipped Dubai to the post of best city in which to live in the Middle East, with the two ranked 77th and 79th, respectively.

Melbourne scores highly in all of the EIU's criteria and achieves perfect scores in the areas of healthcare, education and infrastructure. The EIU's Liveability Ranking assesses living conditions in 140 cities around the world. (See page 9)

Citizens focus of development: HRH Prince Salman

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's vision, which puts the development of citizens at its core, lays the path for Team Bahrain, said His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

In this regard, HRH highlighted the importance of cooperation between the executive and legislative authorities and hailed it as a model for teamwork and Kingdom's continued development.

HRH Prince Salman was meeting Fawzia bint Abdullah Zain-



His Royal Highness Prince Salman with Speaker Zainal and minister Shaikh Salman

al, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in the presence of Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, the Minister of Finance

and National Economy, at Gudaibiya Palace.

Expressing thanks and appreciation to the executive and leg-

islative council members, HRH Prince Salman praised them for their fruitful cooperation throughout the fifth legislative

term.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman also praised the pivotal role of the house of Representatives in strengthening Bahrain's ties with countries around the world. Zainal stressed the value of joint efforts in achieving the Kingdom's comprehensive development goals, led by His Majesty the King.

HRH Prince Salman, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, said he is looking forward to achieving everything that contributes to the development and advancement of the Kingdom and its citizens.

Bahrain aims a big jump in cloud, FDI

EDB in talks for insurance cloud computing, FDI deals with US, China and UAE

● Aims to grow non-oil GDP by 5% this year

● Also in talks with sugar refinery, consultancy firms

TDT | agencies

Bahrain is in advanced talks for investment deals with cloud computing companies from the United States, China and the United Arab Emirates.

A Reuters report quoting a Bahrain Economic Development Board executive said the

"We're willing to compete for big projects. We think our value proposition stands on its own two feet, and we are also looking for synergistic opportunities between the countries. We have very strong momentum and traction, a very diversified pipeline"

ALI ALMUDAIFA, CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER OF BAHRAIN'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD



move forms part of the country's bid to diversify its oil-based economy.

Cloud computing and foreign direct investment are key planks of Bahrain's economic recovery programme that aims to grow non-oil gross domestic

product by 5% this year and includes \$30 billion in strategic projects.

Bahrain, which since 2018 has hosted a large AWS centre - the first in the Middle East, has introduced a "data embassy law", the first of its kind in the region.

It allows countries to store data in the country but under their jurisdiction, Ali AlMudaifa, chief investment officer of Bahrain's Economic Development Board, said.

(Continued on page 5)

Iran replaces chief of Guards' intelligence unit - state TV

Reuters

Iran has dismissed chief of the Revolutionary Guards' intelligence unit, Hossein Taeb, Iranian state TV said yesterday, after a series of high-profile incidents Tehran has blamed on Israel.

Iranian state media did not give a reason but state TV said Taeb would become an adviser to the Guards' Commander-in-Chief Hossein Salami. Taeb will be replaced by Mohammad Kazemi, previously head of the Guards' Intelligence Protection unit.

Taeb, a mid-ranking cleric and a member of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's inner circle, was accused by some Israeli media of being behind an alleged Iranian plot to kill or abduct Iranian vacationing in Turkey. Israel raised its Istanbul travel advisory to the highest alert level on June 13.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED
9976097

ACTIVE CASES
13396

DEATHS
1492

DISCHARGED
598498

NEW CASES
1754

CRITICAL
5

220 fils (includes VAT)



HM King receives BDF Hajj delegation



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Leader, has praised the services and care offered to pilgrims by Saudi Arabia under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence. HM the King was receiving Colonel, religious guide, Ali Yousef Al Buainain, head of the BDF Hajj delegation, and a number of officials in the delegation that will soon leave for Makkah. HM King Hamad praised the contributions of the BDF in all noble and humanitarian fields and the provision of the best services to its members. HM the King extended his best wishes to all pilgrims from Bahrain and all other countries

HM King names Kamal Ahmed EWA President

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued a Decree (29) of 2022 yesterday, appointing Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed as President of the Electricity and Water Affairs Authority, while retaining his previous rank.

The Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs shall implement this Decree, which takes immediate effect.

Separately, HM King issued Royal Decree (28) of 2022, amending some provisions of Decree (39) of 2020 on restructuring the Electricity and Water Affairs Authority (EWA). According to the Decree,

the phrase “President of the Electricity and Water Affairs Authority” shall replace the phrase “the Chief Executive Officer of the Electricity and Water Affairs Authority, with the rank of undersecretary”, mentioned in the introduction of Article (1) of Decree (39) of 2020.

It also stipulates that the phrase “Vice-President of the Electricity and Water Affairs Authority” shall replace the phrase “Deputy Chief Executive Officer” whenever it appears in Decree (39) of 2020.

The Decree takes immediate effect and will be published in the Official Gazette.



Government Executive Committee

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, chairs the 428th meeting of the Government Executive Committee. The meeting reviewed measures taken following the 2020-2021 NAO report, LMRA procedures and a proposal to develop and organise the issuance of commercial activities



Health Minister, Dr. Jalila bint Al-Sayed Jawad Hassan, has affirmed the depth of long-standing Bahraini-Saudi relations and highlighted the advanced level of the ongoing cooperation and coordination in the health sector. The minister was speaking while meeting Saudi Health Minister, Fahad bin Abdulrahman Al-Jalajel, on the sidelines of the sixth meeting of the GCC Ministerial Committee for Food Safety, held yesterday. The two sides discussed areas of joint cooperation and topics related to emerging diseases, non-communicable diseases, genetic blood diseases, advanced treatment aspects and the genome project. The minister also visited the “Seha Virtual Hospital” and the Command and Control Centre of Saudi Arabia.

Interior Minister honours Bahrain Police Team for winning Pace Sticking Championship

TDT | Manama

Bahrain police team, who took top honours for the best international competitor at this year’s All Arms Pace Sticking Competition held at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, were honoured yesterday by Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.



The competition held at British Royal College (Sandhurst) witnessed the participation of 20 teams.

Policeman Fathi Naji emerged as the best solo participant for the second year in a row.

During the award ceremony, President of the Judging Panel, Captain Rob Beckett of the Coldstream Guards, said, “I think collectively as a judging panel, we

have seen one team today that, we’ve never seen anything like before. They (Bahrain Police) have been absolutely unbelievable; the teamwork, the style, the speed, just everything was perfect, and we couldn’t pick any holes in it.”

Receiving the team members, Interior Ministry congratulated them, hailing their performance, determination and work team

spirit. He also hailed the role of the academy in training the team and wished them further success in the upcoming competitions.

The Chief of Public Security, Lt-General Tariq Al Hassan and the Commander of the Royal Academy of Police, Brigadier Fawaz Al Hassan, were present.

97.3% students pass secondary-school exams

● Pass percentage of secondary school is 97.3%

● In technical and vocational education, success is 87.9% and for Intermediate students, it’s 98.34%

TDT | Manama

The pass percentage and performance of secondary school students for the academic year 2022-2022 have reached 97.3%, said the



Minister, Dr Majid Al Nuami

Minister of Education, Dr Majid Al Nuami.

The pass percentage of technical and vocational students is 87.9%, and Intermediate students 98.34%.

The minister congratulated the students, their parents and

teachers for the high success rate and praised their efforts throughout the academic year.

The number of students who scored more than 95% at the secondary-school level is 2,977 (2154 girls and 823 boys).

In Technical and Vocational education, 56 students scored more than 95% in their exams.

The current academic year, the minister said, witnessed concerted modernisation efforts to provide education in exceptional health conditions, powered by King Hamad Schools of the Future Project and Digital Empowerment Project.

“Education Ministry portal witnessed more than 134 million

visits by students, parents and teachers since the beginning of the pandemic in 2019,” the minister revealed.

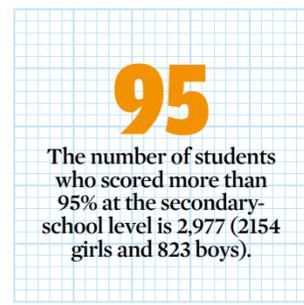
18 new schools

He revealed that the next school year will feature the development of school curricula and professional development programmes, as well as the construction of 18 new schools and 24 academic buildings, in addition to the maintenance of a number of schools.

The minister also pointed out that many activities aimed at promoting the values of tolerance, respect and human rights, as well as supporting gifted stu-

dents will be implemented during the next school year.

He also revealed that private education teachers will be involved in the professional development programmes through the Bahrain Teachers’ College.



Dr. Al-Nuaimi indicated that the Education Ministry’s restructuring had made nurseries and kindergartens one stage, followed by subsequent educational stages, noting that work is currently underway with UNESCO and international expert houses to develop care services in this field.

Regarding higher education, the minister indicated that the Board of Trustees of the Higher Education Council is keen on implementing strategies aimed at supporting academic programmes and encouraging investments so that the Kingdom becomes an attractive centre for higher education.



Qawali Night



Pakistani Women’s Association (PWA) hosted a Qawali Night on Wednesday at Ramee Grand Hotel and Spa in Seef. The legendary duo from Pakistan, Ustad Fareed Ayaz and Abu Mohammed along with their talented team members enthralled over 300 Qawali enthusiasts with a stunning performance. Pakistan Ambassador Mohammad Ayub along with many other dignitaries was present on the occasion. According to organisers, the event was a big success as it not only brought the community together but also raised funds for the education scholarships. Above, from left: Altaf Azeem (President Al Saqafa), Muhammad Ayub, Ambassador of Pakistan, Mrs Asifa Ayub, President PWA, Shahmeen Islam, VP PWA Ammara Omar and Mrs Tahira Saleem (CWA-Pakistan Embassy).

'Dance project failure led to suicide, murder'

Kerala Police probing into the incident; suicide note accuses wife, friends of cheating the victim

"The couple came to the Kingdom about five years ago with an aim to set up an institute offering lessons in Indian classical dance forms. Here, they found a business partner with whom they started the project. Over the past few years, the relationship strained between them and the dance teacher gradually opted to stay away from her husband, putting him in great mental distress"

● The man committed suicide after posing pictures of his wife, a Bahrain resident and her friends on social media

● Prakash mentions that his wife's activities led him to take this drastic step

● Police say the tone of the letter suggests Prakash was close to the dance teacher's daughter from her first marriage

TDT | Manama
Staff Reporter

The husband of a Bahrain resident, who committed suicide while simultaneously killing his 11-year-old son, took the extreme step after suffering huge losses in a dance institute project in Bahrain, according to sources.

It is learnt that he had invested thousands of Bahraini dinars in the project, which did not reap any profits. "The relationship with his wife, who is a dance teacher, soured during the past few years, mainly owing to the project failure."

"The couple came to the Kingdom about five years ago with an aim to set up an institute offering lessons in Indian classical dance forms. Here, they found a business partner with whom they started the project," a source told *The Daily Tribune*.



Prakash Devarajan and son Sivadev

Speaking to the media, Prakash's brother said Kerala Police and Bahrain Police should carry out a joint probe to find out the true role of the accused behind the deaths of his brother and son.

"Over the past few years, the relationship strained between them and the dance teacher would gradually opt to stay away from her husband, putting him in great mental distress," the source added.

In a tragic incident on Tuesday, Prakash Devarajan, 48, took his son in a car before ramming it into a tanker lorry simultaneously committing suicide and murdering the couple's son Sivadev. They belonged to the Thiruvananthapuram district in the South Indian state of Kerala.

The man committed suicide after posing pictures of his



The mangled remains of the car at the accident site

wife, a Bahrain resident and her friends on social media, claiming

to be responsible for the deaths. According to news sources,

the car collided with the tanker lorry carrying diesel. It is learnt that Prakash and his wife were at loggerheads over the latter's alleged relationships with other Bahrain and UAE residents.

Prakash wanted his wife to return from Bahrain, but, sources say, she did not listen to it, leading to the tragic incident.

In his suicide note, Prakash mentions that his wife's activities led him to take this drastic step. Prakash also posted his suicide note on Facebook, holding his wife and friends responsible for the deaths. The pics of the accused were also posted on the social media platform.

Indian media reported that the local police were unwilling to reveal the contents of the suicide note. "The couple were not on good terms. The preliminary probe gathered by the police suggests that theirs was a second marriage," a local newspaper reported.

"Though the letter accuses the Bahrain resident of doing things that had led him to such an extreme step, the police say the tone of the letter suggests Prakash was close to the dance teacher's daughter from her first marriage. He even asks her forgiveness."

The boy who died was the couple's son.

Speaking to the media, Prakash's brother said Kerala Police and Bahrain Police should carry out a joint probe to find out the true role of the accused behind the deaths of his brother and son.

Viral video: Police arrest woman for indecent acts

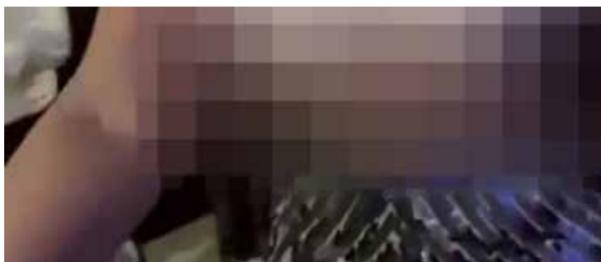
TDT | Manama

Police have arrested a woman, a Gulf national, and another person for allegedly committing indecent acts in public.

The suspects landed in police custody after a video clip of their acts went viral on social media platforms.

The head of the Capital Governorate Prosecution said the Public Prosecution had completed an investigation into the incident and has referred two suspects to the Lower Criminal Court.

The Public Prosecution has charged them with committing indecent acts and mis-



Screen grab of a clip that went viral on social media

ing social media platforms for exploitation.

Capital Governorate prosecution head said they opened an investigation soon after receiving a report on the clip.

The woman confessed during interrogation that she herself

published the video clip.

Police said they also took into custody the person who sold the clothes the accused was wearing in the video.

The accused is now in pre-trial detention pending further investigation.

Setting parked car on fire in Riffa lands a man in police custody

TDT | Manama

Police yesterday announced the arrest of a man accused of setting fire to a parked car in the Riffa area.

The fire also caused damage to three other cars parked adjacent to the vehicle set on fire.

Civil Defence forces who reached the scene immediately brought the fire under control.

There are no reports of injury. The head of the Southern Governorate Prosecution said they opened an investigation soon after receiving a report of the incident from the Southern Governorate Police Directorate.

The public Prosecution had secured the crime scene and collected evidence demanding



further investigation.

Police started probing the incident and examined CCTV footage from nearby houses to check what had happened.

In the footage, a man was seen approaching the car parked and seen pouring something into the car and then the car was set

on fire. During interrogation, the suspect confessed to his crime and admitted the accusation against him.

The Public Prosecution ordered the pre-trial detention of the accused pending investigation.

An investigation is ongoing.

Refusing children's vaccination lands parents in the dock

TDT | Manama

Denying vaccination to their children has landed some parents in the dock in the Kingdom.

The Public Prosecution, in a statement, said the parents are facing trial for failing to adhere to rules regarding the National Vaccination Campaign.

The actions followed, the statement said, after several attempts to correct the violating parents through local health clinics.

The public Prosecution said they summoned parents to warn them of the gravity of the situation and the consequence of their actions.

"However, they didn't make

any effort, except for two parents who took their children for vaccination," the statement explained.

The statement also warned 'strong' actions against violators, calling on parents to adhere to the programme for the safety of their children and avoid legal actions.

The Prosecution states that

children in Kingdom receive vaccination through the national vaccination campaign against diseases, including Tuberculosis, Hepatitis, Poliomyelitis, Chickenpox, combined tetralogy of Meningitis, Measles, Mumps, Tetanus, and Whooping cough.

HM King amends Law on Associations, Social and Cultural Clubs

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday ratified and promulgated Law 30/2022 amending provisions of Law 21/1989 on Associations, Social and Cul-

tural Clubs, Special Committees working in the Field of Youth and Sports, and Private Foundations. The move follows an approval of the law by the Shura and Representatives Councils.

Arbitrary dismissal: Court allows fashion designer BD11,000 compensation

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Labour Court has ordered a fashion store owner to pay a fashion designer BD11,000 in compensation for dismissing him arbitrarily from work.

The Court ordered the store owner to pay the plaintiff BD2,204 and 100 fils for payments from May to the 8th of October 2021, and a 6% interest on the delayed wage payment from the date on which the wage is due.

The interest percentage, the Court said, will increase by 1% for each month of delay, the Court ruled.

The Court also ordered the

fashion store owner to pay the plaintiff BD450 as a notification allowance, BD8,100 dinars as compensation for contract termination, and BD248, 700 fils as an annual leave allowance and a legal interest of 1% annually from the contract date.

Lawyer Muhammad Al-Taranga said his client joined the job as a fashion designer for a monthly wage of BD450 on the 7th of March 2021.

Ruling in favour of the plaintiff, the Court said the fashion store owner terminated the contract on the 9th of October 2021 without citing any reason, which makes the plaintiff deserve compensation.

Court confirms 5 year jail for drug peddler

TDT | Manama

An Asian man charged with peddling drugs in the Kingdom will now spend five years of his life in a Bahrain jail, with the Court of Cassation yesterday rejecting his appeal against the verdict.

The Court also confirmed a BD3,000 fine slapped on him and his deportation after serving his prison term.

Police said they arrested the man red-handed while selling drugs, which he later confessed received through dead mail.

Court files say police arrested the suspect by executing a sting



During interrogation, the suspect said that he was getting drugs through dead mail.

operation with an undercover agent.

The agent, posing as a buyer, got in touch with the suspect and offered to buy shabu worth BD1,500.

The suspect agreed to the deal and promised delivery in

the Manama area, while cops in plain clothes put the area under close surveillance.

Unsuspecting the trap, the suspect, an Asian national, came in a car and informed the undercover agent about the drugs.

The officer found that the suspect had kept the drug inside cigarette packs.

Soon, the cops swooped down on the suspect and took him into custody.

During interrogation, he said that he was getting drugs through dead mail.

The public Prosecution had charged the suspect with peddling drugs.



Dead mail is something that is undeliverable because of faulty or illegible address and is unreturnable to the sender or that is unclaimed after a certain period of time. Such mail must be sent to the dead-letter branch in the case of first-class mail or to the dead parcel-post branch for disposal.

Alba Chairman leads delegation at 25th Arab-German Business Forum 2022

TDT | Manama

"Five decades and counting, Bahrain has forged closed ties with Germany in the fields of trade and investment, and Alba is a great tangible example of this," stated Aluminium Bahrain (Alba)'s Chairman of the Board of Directors, Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa during his Keynote Speech at the Gala Dinner of the 25th Arab-German Business Forum that is being held in Berlin from 21 to 23 June 2022.

Adding further, Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa said: "We look forward to welcoming German companies to set-up manufacturing units and businesses at the recently announced Aluminium Downstream Park, which represents a dynamic part of the Economic Recovery Plan put in motion in October 2021 by the Government of Bahrain and led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Bahrain. Alba will play a key role in the development of the planned Aluminium Downstream Park and look forward to being the supplier of choice for all Aluminium manufacturing and recycling projects."

The Arab-German Business Forum comprises panel discussions and roundtables with the



participation of high-level delegates and speakers who focus on creating opportunities and growth within key sectors of the Arab economies as well as Germany.

Alba's Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali participated in the Panel Discussion on 'Sustainability and Waste Management: Major Challenges and Excellent Opportunities' during which he gave insights on Alba's fully-fledged ESG Roadmap, which is in line with Bahrain's commitment to achieve 'Net Zero Emissions' by 2060.

During his participation in

the Panel discussion on 'Mobility and Logistics: Smart Solutions as a Key to a Sustainable Development?', Alba's Chief Marketing Officer Khalid A. Latif stated, "Alba has always been ahead of the curve when it comes to producing and delivering Aluminium responsibly and sustainably. Our recent credentials including ASI Performance Certification give the Company a competitive edge as we seek to embark on new markets in Germany and Europe."

On the side-line of the Arab-German Business Forum

2022, the Chairman of the Board Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa presented Alba's 50th Anniversary Coin to Abdulla Abdullatif Al-Shaikh Abdulla, the Ambassador of Bahrain to Germany, as well as to Abdulaziz Al Mikhlafi, the Secretary-General Ghorfa Arab-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Alba's Director Marketing Boris Santosi and Director Investor Relations, Insurance & Corporate Secretary Eline Hilal were also part of the delegation attending the 25th Arab-German Business Forum.

Deputy PM urges faster pace for infrastructure projects



TDT | Manama

Bahrain is keen to move forward with infrastructure projects at a faster pace, said Deputy Prime Minister and Infrastructure Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

The government, Shaikh Khalid said, intends to provide high-quality and efficient services to meet citizens' aspirations and enhance Kingdom's readiness for further investments.

"A major objective is to be able to keep pace with the demands of comprehensive and sustainable development," he said during a meeting with ministers.

"This has a special significance with the urban expansion thanks to the new housing cities and the private sector's readiness to invest in the real estate and industrial development sector," Shaikh Khalid added.

Present at the meeting were the Municipality and Agriculture Minister Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Mohammed bin Thamer Al Kaabi, Works Minister Ibrahim bin Hassan Al Hawaj, Electricity and Water Minister Yasser bin Ibrahim Humaidan, and Housing and Urban Planning Minister Amina bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi.

Shaikh Khalid said the next phase of government action demands intensifying coordination and integration be-

tween ministries and government service agencies and working within a team spirit to implement the visions of HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister to boost services to higher standards.

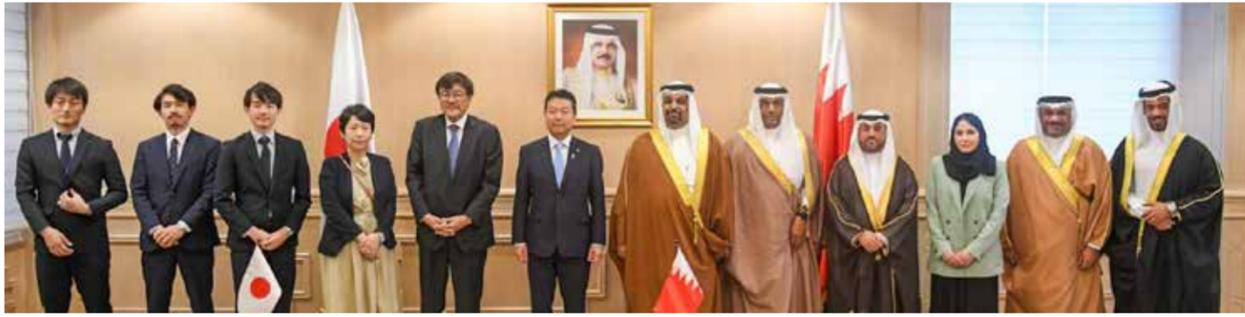
Shaikh Khalid directed the ministers to finalise the government commitments in its 2019-2022 action plan.

He called for prioritising infrastructure projects to integrate them into future policies and initiatives that shape the aspirations of the Government Action Plan.

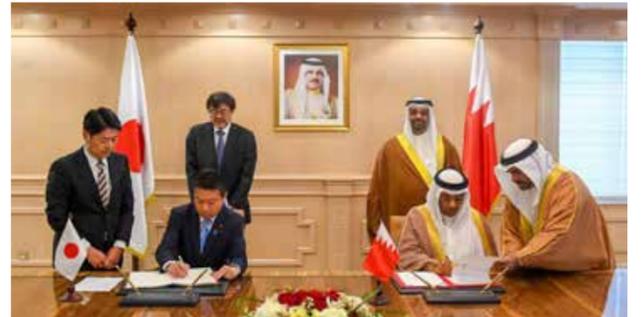
The review of the projects will be in the workshops ordered by HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and turned into a road map for the priorities of the Ministerial Committee for Developmental Projects and Infrastructure.



Bahrain, Japan to boost trade ties



Finance Minister Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa with Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Honda Taro and other officials



TD | Manama

Bahrain and Japan signed an agreement yesterday to encourage and protect investment as both the Kingdoms celebrate the 50th

anniversary of diplomatic relations.

The agreement aims to provide an appropriate investment environment to enhance activities by investors in Bahrain and Japan, encourage investment between the two countries, and

highlight Bahrain as an attractive investment destination for Japanese companies.

The deal came as Finance and National Economy Minister Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa held talks with Parliamentary Vice-Minister for

Foreign Affairs of Japan Honda Taro, who is in the Kingdom on an official visit.

Shaikh Salman stressed the importance of the agreement consolidating economic and investment cooperation between Bahrain and

Japan.

The minister stressed Bahrain's keenness to boost cooperation with Japan in various fields, especially concerning the economy and investments.

The minister highlighted Bah-

rain's development and growth at all levels, thanks to the attention accorded by HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the keenness and follow-up of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Bahrain in talks with sugar refinery, consultancy and UK insurance firms

(Continued from page 1)

E DB is also in talks for a sugar refinery, management consultancy and UK insurance firms to set up shop in the kingdom. It is also in talks for FDI deals with Israel, which are expected to be announced "soon", he said.

The plans come as Saudi Arabia and the UAE are also banking on technology to diversify their oil-dependent economies.

Saudi Aramco Development Co, a subsidiary of oil behemoth Aramco, has teamed up with Google Cloud to offer cloud services to customers in Saudi Arabia. The UAE is opening three Amazon Web Services (AWS) centres this year.

BIG PROJECTS



Bahrain aims to achieve fiscal balance by 2024, a target delayed by two years due to the pandemic.

The medium-term fiscal plan is tied to a 2018 \$10 billion aid

package from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

"We're willing to compete for big projects," AlMudaifa said. "We think our value proposition stands on its own two feet, and

we are also looking for synergistic opportunities between the countries."

"We have very strong momentum and traction, a very diversified pipeline," he said.

The recovery programme includes plans for the tourism, logistics, industrial, telecom and oil and gas sectors.

E DB alone aims to attract \$1 billion in FDI and create around 4,500 jobs this year after drawing \$893 million in 2021 and creating 4,861 jobs.

Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Kuwait comprise roughly half of Bahrain's aggregate FDI stock, AlMudaifa said, adding he expected Gulf FDI to Bahrain to increase further. Saudi Arabia's powerful Public Investment Fund has said it would invest \$5 billion in Bahrain.

"A lot of these big strategic development projects, in due time and incrementally and gradually, will be open for private sector investment," AlMudaifa said.

OPEC+ to stick to oil supply rise plan

Reuters | London

OPEC and allied producing countries including Russia will likely stick to a plan for accelerated oil output increases in August, sources said, hoping to ease surging oil prices and inflation pressure as US President Joe Biden plans to visit Saudi Arabia and the Middle East.

At its last meeting on June 2, the group known as OPEC+ agreed to boost output by 648,000 barrels per day (bpd) in July - or 0.7% of global demand - and by the same amount in August, up from the initial plan to add 432,000 bpd a month over three months until September.

OPEC+ holds its next meeting on June 30, when it will most likely focus on August output policies.

Oil prices dive \$2/barrel on fear Fed rate hikes will hurt demand

Reuters | New York

Oil prices fell by more than \$2 a barrel yesterday in volatile trading as investors weighed the risk that rising US interest rates could trigger a recession and cut demand for fuel. Brent crude futures fell 2.26 cents, or 2%, to \$109.48 by 1:04 p.m. ET (1704 GMT). U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were down \$2.48, or 2.3%, at \$103.71.

US Federal Reserve chief Jerome Powell said the central bank's focus on curbing inflation was "unconditional" and the labour market was unsustainably strong, comments that stoked fears of more rate hikes.

Investors have been trying to assess whether inflation-fighting central banks could push the world economy into recession as they raise interest rates. "Recession fears have their grip on markets, but the mood swing is rather one of ebbing optimism than swelling pessimism," said Julius Baer analyst Norbert Rucker.

Investors were also concerned that high gasoline prices

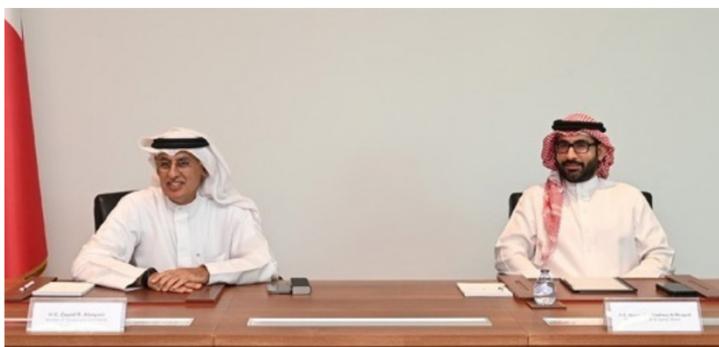
had hit a ceiling and demand destruction would soon set in, said Robert Yawger, director of energy futures at Mizuho in New York.

The most recent estimates by the American Petroleum Institute, according to market sources, showed U.S. crude and gasoline inventories rising last week, which also weighed on prices, Yawger said.

Official weekly estimates for US oil inventories were scheduled to be released on Thursday but technical problems will delay those figures until next week, the US Energy Information Administration said.

Russia continues to find alternative customers for its oil, with China and India among the biggest buyers now as Western countries have sanctioned Moscow's over the invasion of Ukraine.

China's crude oil imports from Russia in May were up 55% from a year earlier and at record highs. India is providing safety certification for dozens of ships managed by a subsidiary of Russian shipping group Sovcomflot.



Minister of Industry and Commerce, Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani, yesterday chaired the 14th meeting of the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Development Board, in the presence of Minister of Youth and Sport Affairs, Ayman bin Tawfiq Al Moayed, SMEs Development Board members, Ministry of Industry and Commerce Undersecretary Imen Ahmed Al Doseri and Assistant Undersecretary for Industrial Development Dr Khalid Fahad Al Alawi. The council hailed access of the Tender Board to its membership, in line with a resolution by the Economic Development Board of Directors. SMEs Director, Shaikha Abdullah Al Fadhel, gave a presentation that included a review of the performance indicators of the council's plan and an analysis of variables within the periodic follow-up work. The council also reviewed development achievements and initiatives being carried out within the framework of the council's strategic plan.

BENEFIT solutions mulled for judicial transactions, services

TD | Manama

Developing electronic payment for judicial transactions and services in the justice sector using BENEFIT was the focus of a top-level discussion held yesterday.

The talks were between Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Muawda, BENEFIT Chief Executive Officer Abdulwahid Janahi and representatives.

The aim is to facilitate the procedures for paying for transactions for Ministry services, including due deposits, the im-



Minister holding talks

plementation of verdicts or fees related to lawsuits.

Al Muawda stressed the min-

istry's keenness to benefit from the applications of digital and innovative solutions to ensure

higher standards as part of the drive to develop the technical infrastructure.

News in brief

Myanmar's Suu Kyi moved to solitary confinement in prison



Ousted Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi has been moved from house arrest to solitary confinement in a prison compound in the military-built capital Naypyidaw, a junta spokesman said yesterday. "In accordance with criminal laws... (Aung San Suu Kyi) has been kept in solitary confinement in prison" since Wednesday, Zaw Min Tun said in a statement. Suu Kyi had on Wednesday been "transferred to prison", a source with knowledge of the case said.

Strikes crippled Britain's rail network yesterday as union bosses, train operating firms and the government faced off over demands that workers' pay increases keep pace with surging inflation.

Strikes cripple Britain's railways, unions warn of more to come



A spike in the cost of food and fuel is pushing many household budgets to the brink and is driving trade unions to demand higher pay increases for their members. The government has urged wage restraint to avoid an inflationary spiral. Unions formed picket lines around rail stations for the second day this week and warned of more industrial action unless a deal can be reached to improve pay and avoid redundancies.

India to support crisis-hit Sri Lanka's economic recovery

India's top diplomat held talks with Sri Lanka's president and prime minister

Indian Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra, accompanied by other Indian officials, held talks with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe on providing further financial assistance to the country, the president's office said in a statement.

Eight medical personnel are to stand trial accused of criminal negligence in the death of legendary Argentinian footballer Diego Maradona.

Medical staff to face trial for Maradona's death



A judge has ordered a culpable homicide trial after a medical panel found Maradona's treatment was rife with "deficiencies and irregularities". Maradona died in November 2020 of a heart attack in Buenos Aires, aged 60. He had been recovering at home from surgery on a brain blood clot earlier that month.

UK's Johnson defends migrant deal on Rwanda visit

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson defended his controversial migrant deal



with Rwanda on a visit to the country yesterday, telling critics to "keep an open mind". On the first day of a trip to Kigali -- which is hosting a Commonwealth summit this week -- he also heaped praise on Rwandan President Paul Kagame and the achievements of the east African country, despite widespread concerns about its human rights record. Johnson told reporters: "The critics need to keep an open mind about the policy."

COVID-19: Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	Total deaths
1 USA	88,451,152	1,039,802
2 India	43,347,597	524,941
3 Brazil	31,894,505	669,612
4 France	30,434,451	149,268
5 Germany	27,573,585	140,560
6 UK	22,558,085	179,783
7 Russia	18,409,651	380,711
8 S. Korea	18,305,783	24,488
9 Italy	18,071,634	167,967
10 Turkey	15,085,742	98,996
11 Spain	12,613,634	107,604
12 Vietnam	10,740,595	43,084
13 Argentina	9,341,492	129,016
14 Japan	9,191,098	31,077

Global tally
547,070,211

Deaths
6,346,455

Recovered:
522,486,420

New cases
+498,541

New deaths
+830

Middle East

Figures as of closing

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	515,645		24,613		442,182	48,850
Saudi Arabia	789,296	+1,002	9,195	+1	770,077	10,024
UAE	933,688	+1,621	2,309		914,192	17,187
Kuwait	640,857		2,555		633,803	4,499
Oman	389,758		4,260		384,669	829
Qatar	378,176	+694	678		372,939	4,559

EU to grant Ukraine candidate status in 'signal to Moscow'

Ukraine takes step toward EU membership as Russian forces tighten vise on Donbas cities

Zelenskiy urges West to speed up heavy weapons deliveries

Reuters | Kyiv

Ukraine is set to be accepted as a candidate to join the European Union yesterday, a move that boosts the country's morale as Russian assaults wear down the defenders of two cities in the eastern Donbas region.

Although the approval of the Kyiv government's application by EU leaders meeting in Brussels is just the start of what will be a years-long process, it marks a huge geopolitical shift and will anger Russia as it struggles to impose its will on Ukraine.

The expected green light "is a signal to Moscow that Ukraine, and also other countries from the former Soviet Union, cannot belong to the Russian spheres of influence," Ukraine's ambassador to the EU, Vsevolod Chentsov, told Reuters.

Friday will mark four months since Russian President Vladimir Putin sent troops across the border in what he calls a "special military operation" partly necessitated by Western encroachment into what Russia considers its sphere of influence.

The conflict, which the West sees as an unjustified war of aggression by Russia, has killed thousands, displaced millions and destroyed cities as well as having ramifications across much of the world as food and energy exports have been curtailed.

Russia has focused its campaign on southern and eastern Ukraine after its advance on the capital Kyiv



Ukrainians living in Belgium protest outside the European Council building

in the early stages of the conflict was thwarted by Ukrainian resistance.

The war of attrition in the Donbas - Ukraine's industrial heartland - is most critical in the twin cities of Sievierodonetsk and Lysychansk, which sit on opposite sides of the Siverskyi Donets River in Luhansk province.

The battle there is "entering a sort of fearsome climax", said Oleksiy Arestovych, an adviser to Zelenskiy.

Hot summer

Russian forces were trying to encircle Ukrainian troops defending Lysychansk, senior Ukrainian defence official Oleksiy Gromov said in a briefing yesterday.

Luhansk Governor Serhiy Gaidai said separately that all Lysychansk was within reach of Russian fire and the Ukrainian troops there might retreat to new positions to avoid being trapped.

"We must free our land and achieve victory more quickly, a lot more quickly"

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKIY

Mykolaiv with high-precision weapons, Russia's defence minister said yesterday.

A river port and ship-belt just off the Black Sea has been a bastion against Russian efforts to push West toward the main port city of Odesa.

President Volodymyr Zelenskiy urged his country's allies to speed up shipments of heavy weapons to match Russia on the battlefield.

"We must free our land quickly, but more quickly," he said in a video message early yesterday.

Later, Ukrainian defence officials said HIMARS multiple rocket launchers had arrived from the United States. With a range of 490 km, the systems can challenge Russian artillery batteries that threaten Ukrainian cities from a distance.

"Summer will be hot for the occupiers. And the last of them," Defence Minister Reznikov tweeted.

Shield for the EU

As well as Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia are also seeking to join the EU in what would be an ambitious expansion since the end of the Cold War.

Russia has long opposed EU links between Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia.

Rescuers scramble to reach Afghan quake survivors as floodwaters rise

The 5.9 magnitude quake destroyed thousands of buildings and left rescue teams scrambling through rubble for survivors

AFP | Kabul

Desperate rescuers battled against the clock and heavy rain yesterday to reach cut-off areas in eastern Afghanistan after a powerful earthquake killed at least 1,000 people and left thousands more homeless.

Wednesday's 5.9-magnitude quake struck hardest in the rugged east, downing mobile phone towers and power lines while triggering rock and mudslides which blocked mountain roads.

"Getting information from the ground is very difficult because of bad networks," Mohammad Amin Huzaifa, head of information for badly hit Paktika province, said yesterday, adding there was no



People search rubble for survivors in Spera

immediate update to the death toll.

"The area has been affected by floods because of heavy rains last night... it is also difficult to access the affected sites."

The disaster poses a huge logistical challenge for Afghanistan's new Taliban government, which has isolated itself from much of the world by introducing hard-line Islamist rule that subjugates women and girls.

The aid-dependent country saw the bulk of its foreign assistance cut off in the wake of the

Taliban takeover last August, and even before the earthquake the United Nations warned of a humanitarian crisis that threatened the entire population.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the global agency has "fully mobilised" to help, deploying health teams and supplies of medicine, food, trauma kits and emergency shelter to the quake zone.

'Like a tsunami'

Afghan government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid tweeted yesterday that aid flights had landed from Qatar and Iran, while Paktika had sent trucks carrying tents, medical supplies and food across the land border.

"Getting information from the ground is very difficult because of bad networks. The area has been affected by floods because of heavy rains last night... it is also difficult to access the affected sites"

MOHAMMAD AMIN HUZAIFA, HEAD OF INFORMATION FOR PAKTIKA PROVINCE

The earthquake struck areas that were already suffering the effects of heavy rain, causing rock-falls and mudslides that wiped out hamlets perched precariously on mountain slopes.

The UN humanitarian coordinator for Afghanistan, Ramiz Alakbarov, told reporters nearly 2,000 homes were likely destroyed -- a huge number in an area of 100,000 people.

1497

John Cabot claims Eastern Canada for England (believes he has found Asia in Nova Scotia)

1509

Henry VIII is crowned King of England in Westminster Abbey, London

1793

1st republican constitution in France adopted



1901

1st exhibition by Pablo Picasso aged 19, opens in Paris

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Today marks four months since Russian President Vladimir Putin sent troops across the border in what he calls a "special military operation"

mer Soviet republic, and Western groupings like the European Union and the NATO military alliance.

Diplomats say it will take Ukraine a decade or more to meet the criteria for joining the EU. But EU leaders say the bloc must make a gesture that recognises Ukraine's sacrifice.

Ukraine's move to join the EU ranks runs alongside applications by Sweden and Finland to enter NATO in the wake of the Russian invasion - indications that the Kremlin's military actions have backfired in its geopolitical aims.

Anna Melenchuk, a 29-year-old Ukrainian living in Brussels, was among a small crowd of her compatriots rallying outside the building where the EU leaders were meeting.

"It's a very symbolic move on the side of the European Union...it's not only the war against Ukraine, Russia waged this war also against Europe," she told Reuters.

"Ukrainians today are a shield to the European Union, we are protecting Europe from the Russian aggression, so it's so, so important to see this solidarity in action."

Lebanon's Mikati named PM, urges action to secure IMF deal



Najib Mikati arrives at the presidential palace in Baabda

Reuters | Beirut

Lebanon's Najib Mikati was named prime minister yesterday, urging fractious politicians to set aside differences to secure an IMF deal which he said was the only chance to save the country from financial collapse.

Facing a politically difficult path to agreeing on a new cabinet, the billionaire tycoon who led three previous governments said Lebanon did not have time for "drowning in conditions and demands" of rival groups over ministerial posts.

"We are facing the challenge of either complete collapse or gradual salvation," said Mikati, referring to the IMF deal that promises \$3 billion of support, contingent on reforms that have long been put off by Lebanon's political elite.

Now in its third year, the financial meltdown has sunk the currency by more than 90%, spread poverty, paralysed the financial system and frozen depositors out of their savings, in Lebanon's most destabilising crisis since the 1975-90 civil war.

Donor states want Lebanon to enact reforms to address root causes of the crisis, including decades of state waste and corruption, before aid is released. read more

Drug users need science-based treatment, not punishment



ANTONIO GUTERRES

This year's International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking shines a spotlight on the impact of drug challenges in health and humanitarian crises.

Conflicts, climate disasters, forced displacement and grinding poverty create fertile ground for drug abuse — with COVID-19 making a bad situation even worse. At the same time, people living through humanitarian emergencies are far less likely to have access to the care and treatment they need and deserve.

Meanwhile, criminals are profiting from people's misery, with cocaine production at record highs, and a five-fold increase in seizures of methamphetamines and a near-quadrupling of amphetamine seizures over the last decade.

On this International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, we renew our commitment to ending this scourge and supporting those who fall victim to it.

This includes non-discriminatory policy solutions centred around people, health and human rights, underpinned by strengthened international cooperation to curb the illicit drug trade and hold accountable those who profit from human misery.

We must also strengthen science-based treatment and support services for drug users, and treat them as victims who need treatment rather than punishment, discrimination and stigma — including treatment for those living with infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS and hepatitis.

We cannot allow the world's drug problem to further shadow the lives of the tens of millions of people living through humanitarian crises.

On this important day, let us commit to lifting this shadow once and for all, and giving this issue the attention and action it deserves.

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

On this International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, we renew our commitment to ending this scourge and supporting those who fall victim to it



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



The world is facing the highest number of violent conflicts since 1945. Prevention is more vital than ever. We must address the root causes of conflict, protect vulnerable communities, strengthen social cohesion & invest in peace-building.

@antonioguterres

02



This is a decisive moment for the EU. I am confident that today we will grant candidate status to Ukraine and to Moldova. And express a clear and strong European perspective for Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova. #EURO

@CharlesMichel

03



I'm doing everything in my power to combat the effects of Putin's Price Hike with historic oil production.

@POTUS

04



Touched by @sbasirajrasikh's and @soniamugabo's #mental-health stories and bravery. Thanks for sharing the challenges you faced and major kudos for finding the strength to overcome them. Together, let's ensure the world is listening and acting for mental health care for all. #CHOGM2022

@DrTedros

Foreign aid arrives

area where the average household size is more than 20 people.

"Seven in one room, five in the other room, four in another, and three in another have been killed in my family," Bibi Hava told AFP from a hospital bed in the Paktika capital.

"I can't talk any more, my heart is getting weak."

Hospital director Mohammad Yahya Wiar said they were doing their best to treat everyone.

"Our country is poor and lacks resources," he told AFP. "This is a humanitarian crisis. It is like a tsunami."

Footage released by the Taliban showed people in one village digging a long trench to bury the dead, who by Islamic tradition must be laid to rest facing Mecca.

Even before the Taliban takeover, Afghanistan's emergency response teams were stretched to deal with the natural disasters that frequently strike the country.

But with only a handful of airworthy planes and helicopters left since they returned to power, any immediate response to the latest catastrophe is further limited.

Wildfire in southwest Turkey rages on, dashing hopes it was contained

Reuters | Istanbul

Firefighters battled a wildfire in southwestern Turkey from land and air yesterday, as hopes that the blazes were contained fizzled after they spread again due to high temperatures and windy conditions a day earlier.

Scenes of burning woodland near the Aegean coastal resort of Marmaris sparked fears of a repeat of last year's fires that devastated tens of thousands of hectares (acres) across the region.

Reuters footage showed smoke billowing from hills and police water cannon vehicles helping firefighters as the blaze spread through the woodlands in the sparsely populated area.

Forestry Minister Vahit Kirisci said he was hopeful that there would be positive developments regarding the fire by yesterday evening.

He said humidity was higher yesterday compared to a day earlier and that it was less windy, which he said would help efforts.



A firefighting aircraft drops water on a wildfire near Marmaris, a town in Mugla province, Turkey

But the Mugla municipality said the wind was expected to pick up pace in the afternoon and that 2,881 hectares (7,119 acres) of land were damaged so far, according to unofficial figures.

Yesterday, 45 helicopters and 12 planes were tackling the fire and dropping water on the flames after pausing overnight.

Kirisci said 274 people were evacuated as a precaution and that some 2,600 people were working to contain the fire.

He had said on Wednesday morning that the fire was contained but it later spread, fanned by strong winds and hot weather.

The cause of the fire, which began around 8 p.m. (1700 GMT) on Tuesday is not clear.

Human-induced climate change is making heat waves more likely and more severe, scientists say.

Last summer's wildfires, most of which were also near Marmaris, were the most intense

45
helicopters and 12 planes were tackling the fire and dropping water on the flames after pausing overnight

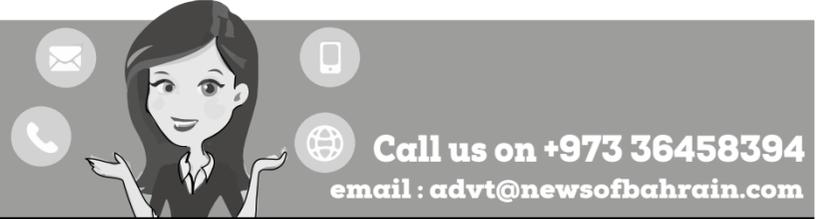
in Turkey on record, a European Union atmosphere monitor said last year, adding that the Mediterranean had become a wildfire hot spot.

President Tayyip Erdogan's government was criticised for being unprepared to fight the fires last year, especially due to a lack of planes and helicopters. It responded by saying the wildfires were the worst in Turkey's history.

Kemal Kilicdaroglu, head of the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP), said on Wednesday the government was "incompetent" and had not prepared for the fires since last year.

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

Classifieds



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TECHNICAL ENGINEERING & MARKETING SERVICE has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725300 or hrmanager@BASREC.COM.BH

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GULF HOTELS GROUP - GULF HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713000 or hussain.abbas@gulfothelbahrain.com

Sayed Kadhem aldurazi & sons B.S.c. close has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17624116 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

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Hassani Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39633212 or TARIQ@HASSANI.COM.BH

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DIPLOMAT AUTO ELECTRICAL REPAIR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717775 or SARCOM.SALAH@LIVE.COM

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UNITED CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300313 or UCHEMTECH@BATELCO.COM.BH

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AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

HAMEEDA MOHAMED ABDULRAZAQ MOHAMED has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456969 or BUZAAL1970@GMAIL.COM

SARAB CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17622406 or sarabcon@gmail.com

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TOOR STYLE AND TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33737287 or SAMMYALI82@HOTMAIL.COM

A. A. K CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291853 or aak5862@yahoo.com

INDEX GENERAL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17879666 or INDEXCARGO.BAH@GMAIL.COM

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MOJA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244026 or MZH75@HOTMAIL.COM

MECHANICAL CONTRACTING & SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or mscsc@mcswwll.com

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSWLL.COM

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ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or AMEER@ALMOAYYEDCG.COM

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ALFA mart mobile has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33134858 or AGHANI1984@GMAIL.COM

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ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or AMEER@ALMOAYYEDCG.COM

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TRUST ELECTROMECHANICAL SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L. (TEMCO) has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17735142 or HAIDER@TEMCO-BH.COM

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Arabian Gulf Electro Mechanical Services W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37767097 or RAJESH@ARABIANGULF-EMS.COM

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Leo Metal Cladding Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ALUMINIUM TECHNICIAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39441385 or info@leometalcladding.com

CHICAGO STEEL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEMICAL PROCESSORS & RELATED WORKERS /, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620710 or CHISCONT@BATELCO.COM.BH

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CHOCOMELT has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36843013 or KHALID@AHOLDING.COM.BH

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Classifieds



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email: advt@newsfbahrain.com

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MECHANICAL CONTRACTING & SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **LABOURER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or mcsc@mcscwll.com

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **FOREMAN**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or HR@RAMSIS.COM.BH

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **SUPERVISOR**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or HR@RAMSIS.COM.BH

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **CLEANER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or AMEER@ALMOAYYEDCG.COM

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **CLEANER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or AMEER@ALMOAYYEDCG.COM

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Raed ali contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33748881 or RAEDALI74@GMAIL.COM

SMALCO CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33040002 or smalco.bh@hotmail.com

SEA BIRD MECHANICAL AND MARINE CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **EMPLOYEE(OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY)**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17273133 or SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH

Sabar Ayoob Reasturant And Grills has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34147691 or AYESHEH_ALI@YAHOO.COM

MOJA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244026 or MZH75@HOTMAIL.COM

Bahrain Duty Free Co. W.L.L has a vacancy

for the occupation of **RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17728738 or MANAL@BDUTYFREE.COM

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TASHYED HOSPITALITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **WAITER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM

ALSAYEGH JEWELLERY FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of **JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL)**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36727776 or info@alsayeghfactory.com

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White Box Services has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36721996 or ahmedyousif2219@gmail.com

Bawba al madina al monawrah upholstery has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39289343 or RASHIDAHMED3314@GMAIL.COM

SSP Bahrain W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **CLEANER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66338803 or tomas@ssp.bahrain.com

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ALMAJARAH GOLDSMITH W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **APPRAISER(JEWELLERY)**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17214324 or VISHALSAGAR1983@GMAIL.COM

668 cafe has a vacancy for the occupation of **WAITER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33113352 or 668.BHR@GMAIL.COM

Charcoal Gourmet Burger Snack W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of **FOOD SERVICE WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001720 or GOURMETBURGERBAH@GMAIL.COM

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, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17162041 or ABDULRQEEB2006@YAHOO.COM

Skyscrapers Cleaning & Maintenance Company w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34089625 or vijayanmm1954@gmail.com

LANATECH CO.W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **COMPUTER SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39295064 or INFOBH@LANAINFOTECH.COM

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EVER WIN CONTRACTING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39471786 or FATIMAJ720@GMAIL.COM

AMROK INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **DRIVER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66644700 or JOBANBHINDER91@GMAIL.COM

Aburi restaurant wll has a vacancy for the occupation of **WAITER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382838 or MOHAMED.ZUBAIR@BHOLDRESTAURANTS.COM

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MUHAMMAD ZUBAIR INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35933065 or MUHMADZUBIR844@GMAIL.COM

VIOLET AUTO POLISHING has a vacancy for the occupation of **MECHANICAL ENGINEER(CARS)**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37778877 or VIOLET_BAH@HOTMAIL.COM

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MECHANICAL CONTRACTING & SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **FITTER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or mcsc@mcscwll.com

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HASAN ALI MANSOOR ALI has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33209258 or bahraininfosys@gmail.com

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PIERRE HAYAT SALON & SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of **BEAUTICIAN**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39249000 or PIERRE082@HOTMAIL.COM

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BU HAMDAN BUILDING COMPLETION, FINISHING AND DECOR has a vacancy for the occupation of **WORKER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33305789 or ISMAIL.BIN.MASHAL@GMAIL.COM

Vienna returns as world's 'most liveable city'

Reuters | London

The Austrian capital Vienna has made a comeback as the world's most liveable city, according to an annual report from the Economist published yesterday.

The Ukrainian capital Kyiv was not included this year after Russia invaded the country in late February, while Russian cities Moscow and St Petersburg fell in the rankings over "censorship" and the impact of Western sanctions.

Vienna snatched the top spot from Auckland, which tumbled down to 34th place due to coronavirus pandemic restrictions, according to the report by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

"Vienna, which slipped to 12th place in our rankings in early 2021 as its museums and restaurants were closed, has since rebounded to first place, the position it held in 2018 and 2019," it said.

"Stability and good infrastructure are the city's main charms for its inhabitants, supported by good healthcare and plenty of opportunities for culture and entertainment."

Europe boasted six out of the top ten cities.

The Austrian capital was fol-



A general view shows people attending the opening of the Wiener Festwochen festival titled "Last Night on Earth" at Rathausplatz Square in Vienna (file photo)



lowed by the Danish capital Copenhagen and Switzerland's Zurich. Fellow Swiss city Geneva came sixth, Germany's Frankfurt seventh, and the Netherlands' Amsterdam ninth.

Canada also did well.

Calgary came in joint third position, followed by Vancouver in fifth place and Toronto in eighth.

Japan's Osaka and Australia's Melbourne shared the tenth place.

France's capital Paris came 19th, 23 places up from last year. The Belgian capital Brussels was 24th, just behind Canada's Montreal.

The United Kingdom's capital London was the world's 33rd most liveable city, while Spain's Barcelona and Madrid came 35th and 43rd respectively.

Italy's Milan ranked number 49, the US city of New York 51, and China's Beijing came 71st.

China heatwaves drive up power demand to record levels, southern floods swamp cities

AFP | Beijing

Heatwaves in northern and central China drove up electricity demand to record levels as millions switched on air conditioners to escape the sweltering conditions, while floodwaters in the south submerged villages and trapped city residents.

On Wednesday, China's meteorological administration issued orange alert warnings for high temperatures in regions across the provinces of Shandong, Henan and Hebei.

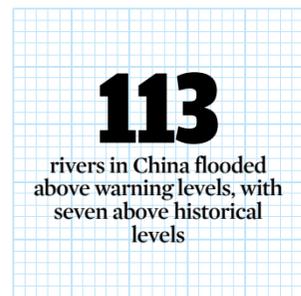
Several cities in Shandong, China's second-most populous province, have issued "red alert" high temperature warnings, which have pushed up demand for air-conditioning among the region's more than 100 million people.

Temperatures in the regions were expected to hit above 40 Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) this week, according to the state weather forecaster.

The maximum electricity load at Shandong's grid hit 92.94 million kilowatts on Tuesday, passing the 2020 peak of 90.22 million kilowatts, setting a new record, state television said on Wednesday.



Rescue workers evacuate flood-affected residents from Xinli village



Loads in adjacent Henan province reached a peak of 71.08 million kilowatts on Monday, exceeding the previous day's record of 65.34 million kilowatts, according to state media.

Premier Li Keqiang, visiting a thermal power company in the northern province of Hebei, said China must increase coal

production capacity to "resolutely prevent power outages", according to a state media summary published late on Tuesday.

Parts of Hebei, Henan and Shandong have faced drought-like conditions throughout June, as high temperatures arrived earlier this summer than in previous years.

As heatwaves baked northern and central China, heavy rain has been falling in seven provinces in the south, including Guangdong, the country's most populous.

On Wednesday, 113 rivers in China flooded above warning levels, with seven above historical levels, state television quoted the water resources ministry as saying.

celebs

Brad Pitt says he's on 'last leg' of acting career

ANI | Washington

Hollywood actor Brad Pitt has said that he is on the 'last leg' of his film career.

According to Variety, the 58-year-old actor is not seeking a career resurgence. Pitt feels like his long career in movies is coming to an end soon.

"I consider myself on my last leg this last semester or trimester. What is this section gonna be? And how do I wanna design that?" said the 'Troy' actor while giving an interview with the GQ magazine.

Director Quentin Tarantino, known for his super-hit film 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood' starring Pitt has admitted that if Pitt's final stages in his career actually arrive, then the Hollywood film industry would be losing 'one of the last remaining big-screen movie stars', reported



Brad Pitt

Variety.

Showering praises for the Oscar-winning actor, Tarantino said, "It's just a different breed of man. And frankly, I don't think you can describe exactly what that is because it's like describing star shine. I noticed it when we were doing 'Inglourious Basterds'..."

Just his presence in the four walls of the frame created that impression."

Brad Pitt bagged the Oscars for his performance in the year 2020, for his film 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood'.

Currently, he is will be starring in David Leitch's 'Bullet Train' and Damien Chazelle's 'Babylon' opposite

”
I consider myself on my last leg this last semester or trimester. What is this section gonna be? And how do I wanna design that?

BRAD PITT

Margot Robbie, reported Variety.

Both the films are set to release this year. While 'Bullet Train' is slated to release in the theatres on August 5, 'Babylon' would hit the screens on December 25.

Pitt is also quite busy with his Plan B production company. Films that are under his production include, Andrew Dominik's 'Blonde' where actor Ana de Armas will feature as the legendary actor and singer Marilyn Monroe. Pitt's production house would also be releasing director Sarah Polley's drama movie, 'Women Talking', based upon the novel of the same name, written by Miriam Toews. Rooney Mara and Frances McDormand will be the main leads of the film.

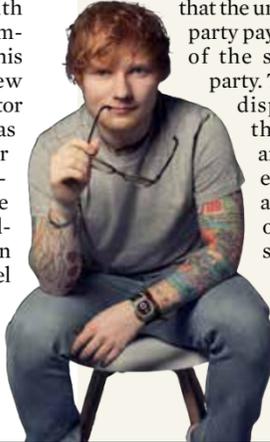
Ed Sheeran gets second victory in copyright trial with awards of USD 1.1 million in costs

ANI | Washington

Ed Sheeran has secured another victory in his recent copyright trial after a British judge awarded the singer over USD 1.1 million in costs, a sum representing approximately 90 per cent of Sheeran's legal bill.

As per Variety, Judge Antony Zararoli while explaining his decision to award Sheeran such substantial costs, wrote in his judgment: "The starting point is to identify the winners and losers in the action because the general rule is that the unsuccessful party pays the costs of the successful party. There is no dispute as to this; Sheeran undoubtedly won and won on every substantial point."

In April, Judge Zararoli ruled



Ed Sheeran

that Sheeran did not plagiarize a 2015 song called 'Oh Why' by Sami Chokri in his hit song 'Shape of You.'

Sheeran co-wrote 'Shape of You' with Snow Patrol singer Johnny McDaid and producer Steve Mac (using his legal name of Steven McCutcheon during the trial), who co-wrote the storyline.

Chokri's legal team, through a publicity campaign and common friends including SBTV founder Jamal Edwards, had argued that Sheeran had the opportunity to listen to and plagiarize Chokri's track. However, in the judgement, Mr Zararoli said, "I do not accept this. Mr Chokri is undoubtedly a serious and talented songwriter and while his management were unsurprisingly trying to create some hype around the release of the Solace EP, it had limited success. In my judgment, the possibility that these attempts might have led to it coming to Mr Sheeran's attention - either because someone he was associated with playing it to him or because he found it himself - is at best speculative."

Rowan Atkinson explains main purpose of a joke

ANI | Washington

British actor and comedian Rowan Atkinson defended the act of comedy, sharing that the main purpose of a joke is 'to offend' or have the 'potential to offend'.

Taking a stand against 'cancel culture', which is the practice of engaging in mass cancelling to show disapproval of something, Atkinson in an interview with the Irish Times said that the motto of comedy is to make someone or something 'look ridiculous', reported Variety.

"It does seem to me that the job of comedy is to offend or have the potential to offend, and it cannot be drained of that potential. Every joke has a victim. That's the definition of a joke. Someone or something or an idea is made to look ridiculous," said the 'Mr Bean' actor.

When being questioned whether comedy should only be meant for those in power to bring them down, Atkinson had a befitting reply.

"I think you've got to be very, very careful about saying what you're allowed to make jokes about. What if there's someone extremely smug, arrogant, aggressive, and self-satisfied, who happens to be below in society? They're not all in houses of parliament or in monarchies," said the actor-comedian.

According to Atkinson the 'smug and self-satisfied people' belonging to the lower strata of the society also 'deserve to be pulled up', reported Variety.

"There are lots of extremely smug and self-satisfied people in what would be deemed lower down in society, who also deserve to be pulled up. In a proper free society, you should be allowed to make jokes about absolutely anything," added the 67-year-old.

He concluded by saying that not all jokes are meant for everyone.



Rowan Atkinson

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Chris Evans would love to reprise his Fantastic Four superhero role

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Chris Evans admits reprising his role as Johnny Storm in 'Fantastic Four' would be an "easier sell" than playing Captain America again.

The 41-year-old actor played the Human Torch aka Johnny Storm in 2005's 'Fantastic Four', and its sequel 'Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer', and he would love to make a comeback as he doesn't believe the character has had his "day" yet.

He told MTV News: "God, wouldn't that be great? Wouldn't that be great?"

"No, no one's ever come to me about that. I mean, I don't exactly look the same anymore. That was 15, almost 20 years ago. Oh my God, I'm old. But I really love that character,

but I think... aren't they doing something now with 'Fantastic Four'?"

The 'Lightyear' star starred as Captain America in a whole host of Marvel Cinematic Universe films, including 2011's 'Captain America: The First Avenger', 2014's 'Captain America: The Winter Soldier', and 2016's 'Captain America: Civil War', as well as several 'Avengers' ensemble movies, the last being 2019's 'Avengers: Endgame'.

He added: "I would love it. That would actually be an easier sell to me than coming back as

Cap. You know what I mean? Cap is so precious to me. And you know, I almost don't wanna disrupt what a beautiful experience that was. But Johnny Storm, I feel like he didn't really get his day. That was before Marvel really found its footing. So, I loved that role and, you know, who knows."

Last year, Chris shot down a rumour he was set to return as Captain America.

He simply responded: "News to me."

Chris also previously shared his excitement to have the "freedom" to pursue other parts.



SUDOKU

3		1		5	9	2		
	8		3				7	9
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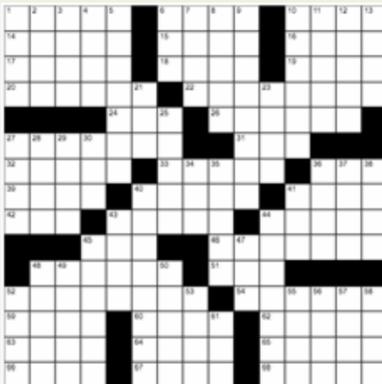
Yesterday's solution

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

How to play

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

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Jargon; 6- Aggregate; 10- Hamlet, for one; 14- Pertaining to Benedict XVI; 15- Earthen pot; 16- Specialty; 17- Actor Davis; 18- Derrick; 19- Tidy, without fault; 20- 1994 Denis Leary comedy; 22- Small pincers; 24- Cone maker; 26- Slowpokes; 27- Quarrel; 31- Energy unit; 32- Drive back; 33- Gather together; 36- Skye cap; 39- I smell...; 40- Agitates; 41- Spanish surrealist; 42- Asian holiday; 43- Icon; 44- Men; 45- little teapot...; 46- Bright red color; 48- Potentate; 51- Slugger Williams; 52- Pittiable; 54- Borrowed; 59- sapiens; 60- Supermodel Sastre; 62- Keep an... the ground; 63- Western writer Wister; 64- Centrepiece of the human face; 65- Spirited horse; 66- Actress Heche; 67- Clench; 68- Clogs, e.g.;

Down

1- Predicament; 2- Lid attachment; 3- Semicircular recess; 4- Depilatory brand; 5- Merry; 6- Crowd; 7- Tons; 8- Reduces speed; 9- Monotony; 10- Gdansk; 11- Staggering; 12- Approaches; 13- Chow; 21- In shape; 23- Hearing organs; 25- Gaucho's rope; 27- Fiddlesticks; 28- Able was...; 29- Petty quarrel; 30- Domesticated animal; 34- Russian fighter; 35- Give it...; 36- Like some orders; 37- "Hard..." (sailor's yell); 38- Atomizer output; 40- Wonderful; 41- es Salaam; 43- Apple product; 44- Insanity; 45- Chant; 47- Corporate VIP; 48- Destroy by immersion; 49- Red Sea land; 50- Choir member; 52- Rider's command; 53- He played Ricky; 55- Narrow strip of wood; 56- Nabisco cookie; 57- To... (perfectly); 58- Agrees tacitly; 61- Equinox mo.;

Yesterday's solution

S	T	A	G	E	S	L	O	P	R	A	D	S
D	E	L	X	E	E	M	U	A	P	I	A	
S	E	I	N	E	R	S	I	P	D	R	A	G
L	E	G	I	T	X	E	S	A	L	L	A	
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A	C	R	E	A	G	E	A	A	A	A	S	A
R	E	T	E	L	S	B	L	T	N	O	N	
N	E	H	N	O	S	A	T	H	E	A	R	T
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S	A	L	E	S	M	A	N	S	H	I	P	
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P	I	T	A	R	S	M	I	S	E	R	S	

Exhibition matches 'perfect' preparation for Nadal ahead of Slam

Rafael Nadal beat Stan Wawrinka at the exhibition match in Hurlingham Club

● Nadal says good to get the feel of the surface again

Reuters | London

Rafael Nadal played his first grasscourt match in three years on Wednesday and the Spaniard says a couple of exhibition games at the Hurlingham Club is the perfect preparation for Wimbledon, where he will bid for a third straight Grand Slam this season.

Nadal won the Australian and French Opens back-to-back for the first time and a win at Wimbledon, where the main draw kicks off on Monday, will take him a step closer to becoming the first man to win all four ma-



Rafael Nadal in action during the exhibition match in London

jors in the same year since Rod Laver in 1969.

The Spaniard, who had not played a competitive match on grass since his 2019 semi-final

loss at Wimbledon to Roger Federer, beat Stan Wawrinka 6-2 6-3 on Wednesday and said it was good to get the feel of the surface again.

”

It has been a while without playing on grass. Since 2019 I haven't been able to play on grass through the tough moments we went through with the pandemic and last year I got injured

RAFAEL NADAL

“It has been a while without playing on grass,” he told reporters. “Since 2019 I haven't been able to play on grass through the tough moments we went through with the pandemic and last year I got injured.

“I am older now - I can't manage to play so many matches. For



Nadal, who holds a men's record 22 Grand Slam titles, has struggled with a chronic foot injury over the last year and had pain-killing injections prior to each match at Roland Garros

me it is perfect to play a couple of matches here before Wimbledon starts. That helps me to feel at least some competition before

Wimbledon.”

Nadal, who holds a men's record 22 Grand Slam titles, has struggled with a chronic foot injury over the last year and had pain-killing injections prior to each match at Roland Garros.

The 36-year-old underwent radio frequency treatment after his French Open victory and said the pain had subsided.

“I don't know how he is feeling, it looks like normal Rafa,” said three-time major champion Wawrinka. “He has been saying he is feeling better and if he is playing he is ready to play his best and to win.”

Novak Djokovic, who has won Wimbledon the last three times, also played at London's Hurlingham Club on Wednesday, defeating Canada's world number nine Felix Auger-Aliassime 6-2 6-1.

Loew tips Goetze for Germany recall after Frankfurt move

AFP | Berlin

World Cup winner Mario Goetze has been tipped for a Germany recall by former national team coach Joachim Loew after returning to the Bundesliga by signing for Champions League side Eintracht Frankfurt.

Goetze completed his transfer from Dutch Eredivisie runners-up PSV Eindhoven by signing a three-year contract.

“I'm really looking forward to playing for Eintracht Frankfurt,” said Goetze, who scored an extra-time winner in Germany's victory over Argentina in the 2014 World Cup final.

“The club has developed incredibly and embarked on an exciting, ambitious path which I am glad to be a part of.”

Frankfurt have qualified for the Champions League for the first time since losing the 1960 European Cup final to Real Madrid after winning the Europa League last season.

Sporting director Markus Kroschke said Goetze turned



Joachim Loew (R) head coach of Germany instructs Mario Goetze (L) during a match (file photo)

down “numerous offers” in order to join Frankfurt.

“We have lacked a type of player like him so far,” said Kroschke.

Loew, who brought Goetze on as a substitute in the World Cup final, is backing the midfielder to stake a claim for an international recall despite last playing for Germany in 2017.

“He has all the qualities for it,” Loew, who stepped down as coach after Euro 2020, told Sky.

“He will play in the Champions League again, will be the

focus here in the Bundesliga and will want to put himself forward for a World Cup place.”

Goetze rebuilt his confidence during his two-year spell at PSV after struggling for form at Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund.

As a fresh-faced teenager in the 2010/11 season, Goetze helped Dortmund win the first of back-to-back Bundesliga titles.

At the time, German legend Franz Beckenbauer described Goetze as “impossible to stop”



Loew, who brought Goetze on as a substitute in the World Cup final, is backing the midfielder to stake a claim for an international recall despite last playing for Germany in 2017

and likened him to Lionel Messi. Bayern signed Goetze in 2013 by triggering a release clause in his Dortmund contract for 37 million euros (\$39 million).

Yet Goetze never nailed down a first-team place under Pep Guardiola at Bayern, leaving in 2016 to return to Dortmund, where a metabolic disorder sidelined him in early 2017, after which he struggled to regain form.

US swimmer Alvarez saved from drowning by coach



Anita Alvarez of the US receives medical attention during the women's solo free final in Budapest

Reuters | Budapest

American artistic swimmer Anita Alvarez was in danger of drowning after losing consciousness in the pool at the world championships in Budapest on Wednesday before being rescued by her coach Andrea Fuentes.

Spaniard Fuentes, a four-time Olympic medalist in synchronised swimming, jumped into the pool after she saw Alvarez sink to the bottom at the end of her solo free final routine.

She was given medical attention beside the pool before being taken away on a stretcher.

It was the second time Fuentes has had to rescue Alvarez after she leapt into the pool during an Olympic qualification event last year and pulled her to safety along with the American's swim partner Lindi Schroeder.

“Anita is much better, she is already at her best. It was a good scare, to be honest,” Fuentes told Spanish newspaper Marca on Wednesday.

“I jumped into the water again because I saw that no one, no lifeguard, was jumping in. I got a little scared because she wasn't breathing, but now she's fine. She has to rest.”

India's Pujara credits Sussex stint for regaining form

AFP | London

India batsman Cheteshwar Pujara said his spell in English county cricket with Sussex has enabled him to regain top form ahead of next week's rescheduled fifth Test against England.

Pujara was dropped from India's Test squad for the home series against Sri Lanka in March after a poor run with the bat during the preceding South Africa tour.

But the 34-year-old has made four hundreds -- including two double centuries -- in amassing 720 runs in just eight County Championship innings.

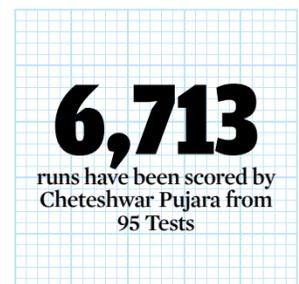
“Once I had the first big knock against Derby... my concentration, rhythm everything started



Cheteshwar Pujara reacts during a match (file photo)

falling into place,” Pujara said in an interview published by India's cricket board on Wednesday.

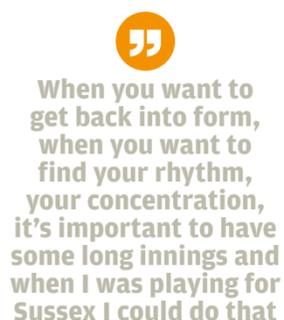
“When you want to get back into form, when you want to find your rhythm, your concentration, it's important to have some long innings



and when I was playing for Sussex I could do that,” he added.

“I was finding my footwork, my backlift, everything was coming along well. After that I made sure I enjoyed the game.”

India start a four-day practice match against Leicestershire yesterday ahead of the Test at Edgbaston in Birmingham,



When you want to get back into form, when you want to find your rhythm, your concentration, it's important to have some long innings and when I was playing for Sussex I could do that

CHETESHWAR PUJARA

which begins on July 1.

It is the rescheduled fifth and final match of the 2021 series, originally meant to have been played at Old Trafford in Manchester last September before being postponed due to a coronavirus scare.

Top-scorer Nkunku extends with RB Leipzig until 2026

AFP | Berlin

RB Leipzig have extended the contract of their top-scoring France forward Christopher Nkunku until 2026, it was announced yesterday.

The 24-year-old was in stellar form last season, banging in 35 goals, including 20 in the



Christopher Nkunku

Bundesliga, plus 19 assists in 50 matches in all competitions.

Kyrgios poised for major breakthrough at Wimbledon: Evert



Nick Kyrgios
Reuters | London

Nick Kyrgios could finally be ready to deliver on the promise he has flashed throughout his turbulent career when he brings his powerful game to the grass courts of Wimbledon next week, tennis great Chris Evert said.

While the hugely talented Australian often bamboozles opponents with an array of incredible shots, his antics on the court and run-ins with umpires have often dominated the headlines and he has yet to win a Grand Slam singles title.

Evert, who last month finished chemotherapy for stage one ovarian cancer, said she has been impressed by what she has seen from the 27-year-old.

"I've been watching him a lot since I've been bedridden with COVID," Evert told reporters on a video call on Wednesday.

Najma make strong start in Asian clubs handball

Bahrain champions defeat Mes Kerman of Iran 31-25 in opening Group B match at 24th Asian Men's Club League Handball Championship in Hyderabad, India

● Ali Eid leads all Najma scorers with eight goals while Mahdi Saad adds seven

● Najma goalkeeper Mohammed Abdulhussain has eight saves in game

TDT | Manama

Bahrain champions Al Najma enjoyed a winning start yesterday to their gold medal bid at the 24th Asian Men's Club League Handball Championship, defeating Mes Kerman of Iran 31-25 at GMC Balayogi Indoor Stadium in Hyderabad, India.

The game was their first in Group B of the competition's first round, where they will also face Al Kuwait of Kuwait and Al Wakra of Qatar.

The Bahrainis enjoyed a 14-10 lead at the end of the first half and maintained their strong showing over the concluding 30 minutes.

In yesterday's other Group B game, Kuwait outclassed Wakra 33-22.



Al Najma's Ali Eid looks to score in their match yesterday against Mes Kerman

In Group A, Al Qadsia of Kuwait beat hosts T-Sports of India 37-24 while Al Arabi of Qatar defeated Al Noor of Saudi Arabia 29-24. Both games were played on

Al Najma return to the court tomorrow when they take on Al Kuwait of Kuwait, and then play their final group game against Al Wakra of Qatar on Monday

Wednesday night on the tournament's first day.

Today, Noor faces off with Qadsia while T-Sports play Arabi.

In Najma's win yesterday, Ali Eid finished as the Bahrainis' top scorer with eight goals. Mahdi Saad added seven, while Bilal Askani and Fadhul Ahmed each scored four.

Mohammed Habib Naser and Oliver Nyokas had two goals apiece, while Mohammed Mirza, Bakary Diallo, Komail Mahfoodh, and Hasan Al Fardan finished with a goal each.

Najma goalkeeper Mohammed Abdulhussain had eight saves in the game while Hamad Shamlan had four.

The Asian clubs league championship is scheduled to continue until June 30.

Najma return to the court tomorrow when they take on Kuwait, and then play

their final group game against Wakra on Monday.

The top two teams from both groups move on to the semi-finals on June 29, while the next two play in the consolation round for their final classification.

The concluding placement fixtures as well as the bronze and gold medal games are scheduled to be played on June 30.

Najma have won the tournament title once in the past, in the 2017 edition which was also held in Hyderabad. They also claimed the silver medals in 2015 and the bronze in 2001.

In the previous edition of the competition last year, Najma placed fourth after losing in the bronze medal game to Arabi by a single goal.

Aside from being an Asian championship, the competition also acts as a qualifying event for the International Handball Federation (IHF) Men's Super Globe. Only the champions will book a ticket to the event, which is contested between champion clubs from continental confederations.

Najma participated just once in the 2018 edition. This year's Men's Super Globe is scheduled for October in Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain rise four places on FIFA World Ranking

● Bahrainis move up to 85th on latest edition of global classification for senior men's national football teams

● New ranking is Bahrain's best in over a decade—with their previous top classification being 60th in 2010

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's senior men's national football team rose four places on the latest edition of the FIFA World Ranking.

The new classification was released yesterday by global football's governing body.

The Bahrainis are now ranked 85th in the world after improving to 1,289.25 ranking points,



Bahrain's national football team

up 26.70 points from their previous total of 1,262.55.

The nationals' new ranking is their best since 2010, when their top classification for that year was 60th. Bahrain have been ranked as low as 133rd since, in 2017.

The Bahrainis are 12th

amongst all national teams in the Asian Football Confederation, where Iran are top in 23rd in the world followed by Japan in 24th, South Korea in 28th and Australia in 39th.

Amongst all the GCC teams, Bahrain are fifth. Qatar are the best-ranked side in 49th, while

Saudi Arabia are 53rd, the UAE 69th and Oman 75th.

Brazil are the top-ranked team in the world, followed by Belgium, Argentina, France and England in the top five. The leading 10 nations are rounded out by Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal and Denmark.

Fifteen-year-old Ayah sets new national record at swimming worlds



Bahrain's Ayah Bin Rajab gives a thumbs-up after her national record yesterday

● Ayah Bin Rajab clocks a mark of 30.69 seconds for new Bahraini best in women's 50 metres butterfly at the 19th FINA World Championships 2022

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's up-and-coming swimmer Ayah Bin Rajab yesterday set a new national record in the women's 50 metres butterfly at the 19th FINA World Championships 2022, being held in Budapest, Hungary.

The 15-year-old posted a time of 30.69 seconds in the second of seven heats in the event's opening stage. She finished third overall amongst

the race's eight competing athletes.

Ayah had a reaction time of 0.67 seconds, and was just 01.69s behind winner Mikaili Charlemagne of Saint Lucia, who finished first in 29.00s. Enkhkhuslen Batbayar of Mongolia was the runner-up in 29.08s.

Only the top 16 swimmers from all the heats advanced to the semi-finals. Yufei Zhang of China was the leading qualifier with a time of 25.39s, while Katherine Savard of Canada was the last to make it through in 26.47s.

Bahrain's participation at the global competition continues. There are three other national team swimmers taking part, including Omar Al Rowaila, Saud Ghali and Noor Taha. The young nationals are being guided in Budapest by national team head coach Alex Karpalev.

Serena Williams' comeback cut short by Jabeur injury

AFP | London

Serena Williams' return to tennis action has been cut short after doubles partner Ons Jabeur withdrew from the Eastbourne tournament because of a knee injury.

The WTA event had seen tennis great Williams, 40, play her first two competitive matches since she limped out of last year's Wimbledon in tears with a hamstring problem.

The American and Tunisian partner



Serena Williams and Ons Jabeur during a match

Jabeur made it through to the semi-finals with a narrow last 16 win over Maria Bouzkova and Sara Sorribes Tormo, before a more convincing quarter-final victory in straight sets against Shuko Aoyama and Chan Hao-ching.

Williams will now focus on Wimbledon where she has accepted a wild card into the women's singles in a bid to win a record-equalling 24th Grand Slam title.

She will find out who she faces in the first round when the draw is made on Friday.