

A Beyoncé and Jay-Z music video helped the Louvre in Paris increase its visitors to a record 10.2 million in 2018.

P14

THE DAILY tribune



Alex Rodriguez shares heartfelt post for fiancée Jennifer Lopez

14

CELEBS

WORLD

5

Mueller clears Trump

e-appointments announced

Manama

The Nationality, Passport and Residence Affairs (NPRA) has announced that booking appointments for its services provided at the Muharraq Security Complex could be done through downloading the Skipilio application for free in the smart devices.

The app could facilitate and speed up services and enables people to choose appointments that are convenient for them.

The application offers the facility of rescheduling or cancelling appointments.

The Muharraq Security Complex provides services of the Passports Directorate and the Visa and Residency Directorate.

Inquiry into mosque massacres

Wellington

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern yesterday ordered an independent judicial inquiry into whether police and intelligence services could have prevented the Christchurch mosque attacks on March 15.

Ardern said a royal commission -- the most powerful judicial probe available under New Zealand law -- was needed to find out how a single gunman was able to kill 50 people in an attack that shocked the world.

"It is important that no stone is left unturned to get to how this act of terrorism occurred and how we could have stopped it," she told reporters.



02 Dog torturer's custody extended

03 New programme to employ 240 newly-graduated Bahraini docs

04 250 Health Ministry staff set to provide medical support at F1



Trump officially recognises Israeli sovereignty of Golan Heights

Washington

US President Donald Trump officially recognised Israel's sovereignty of the Golan Heights in Washington yesterday.

The document reverses more than a half-century of US policy as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited the White House.

Trump had previewed the move in a tweet last week, in which he said the US would take the step after 52 years of Israeli occupation of the strategic highlands on the border with Syria.

Israel captured the region

from Syria in 1967 but its sovereignty over the territory is not recognised by the international community. Reaction across the Middle East widely denounced Trump's decision, with the Syrian government calling Washington's recognition of Israeli claims over the territory an attack on its sovereignty.

"In a blatant attack on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria, the president of the US has recognised the annexation of the Syrian Golan," a foreign ministry source said, according to state news agency SANA.

"Trump does not have the



right and the legal authority to legitimise the occupation," the unnamed source said.

The President of the Arab Parliament, Dr Mishaal bin Fahm Al Salami, categorically rejected

Trump's decision, condemning it and saying it was "null and void" with "no legal effect," according to Saudi Press Agency.

Trump's statement "will not change the reality that (...) the Arab Golan Heights is Syrian land occupied by Israel by military force in 1967," said Abdul Latif Al Zayani, the GCC secretary general.

Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas said he condemned the move by the US.

After Trump's decision, Russia warned it would prompt a "new wave" of tensions in the Middle East region. Russia's foreign ministry spokeswoman

Maria Zakharova said the move "ignores all international procedures" and would "only aggravate the situation."

"Unfortunately, this could drive a new wave of tensions in the Middle East region," Zakharova said in a radio broadcast, according to Russian news agencies.

Russian Foreign Secretary Sergei Lavrov said the US decision leads to "a gross violation of international law, blocks the resolution of the Syrian crisis and aggravates the situation in all the Middle East," he said during a telephone call with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, according to his ministry.

Probe ordered

High-level committee to investigate into allegations of two girls selling drugs at school



HRH the Premier chairs the Cabinet.

● **HRH Premier orders formation of high-level committee headed by Deputy Premier.**

● **HRH the Premier gave instructions to find necessary solutions to the issue of medical graduates from Chinese universities.**

Manama

The Cabinet yesterday chaired by His Royal Highness Prime Minister

Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, has ordered a thorough probe into allegations of two girls selling drugs at a school in the Northern Governorate.

The Premier ordered the formation of a high-level committee, under the chairmanship of Deputy Premier, HH Shaikh Mohamed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, to investigate into allegations.

Comprising the Interior Minister, the Education Minister, the Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister, the Labour and Social Development Minister, the Parliament Affairs Minister and Health Minister as members, the panel shall investigate the irregularities that are inconsistent with the school

People are urged not to circulate false information that might be defamatory to any of those involved in the case.

INTERIOR MINISTRY

norms, determine facts and hold violators accountable to ensure the non-recurrence of similar regretful incidents in any school, the Cabinet said in a statement issued after the session.

The committee shall submit its final report and findings to HRH the Prime Minister, the statement

added.

Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry warned against circulating reports without verifying the truth since the case involved children.

"The department will keep the public informed with the updates and the latest information about the case. People are urged not to circulate false information that might be defamatory to any of those involved in the case," the ministry said.

Among other things, HRH the Premier gave directives to follow up on the situation of private sector companies which fail to pay the wages of their employees regularly or according to schedule.

The Ministry of Labour and So-

cial Development was requested to co-operate with the competent authorities to put forward a more effective mechanism that would ensure those companies' honouring of their commitments towards their workers.

HRH the Premier gave instructions to find necessary solutions to the issue of medical graduates from Chinese universities.

In this regard, the Prime Minister tasked the Supreme Council for the Development of Education and Training to propose the suitable solutions that would meet the situation of those graduates, in accordance with the standards set by the National Committee for the Evaluation of Academic Qualifications.

SPOT LIGHT

50 birds worth Dh20m killed by lightning bolt

Dubai

As many as 50 rare birds worth over Dh20 million were killed when a lightning bolt hit a farm in Al Dhafra area in Abu Dhabi, Al Bayan reported.

According to the farm's owner Khalfan bin Butti Al Qubaisi, the birds had won many trophies in competitions. They were priceless, he said.

One of the birds was a famous competition winner val-



The burned farm, and right, charred remains of the rare falcon chicks.



ued in excess of Dh10 million alone.

The strong lightning bolt burned the farm, including their nests, he added.

Initial reports said that 35 rare falcon chicks had been killed in the lightning strike.

"The thunderbolt was very strong and burned everything," he said.

"The bird nests and building became a pile of ashes and the birds were roasted in the painful incident."

Dog torturer's custody extended

● **Animal lovers and activists thanked security authorities for their swift action.**

TDT | Manama

A man who was arrested for torturing a dog in Bani Jamrah village, will remain in custody pending further

investigation, it was announced yesterday.

Northern Governorate Chief Prosecutor Mohammed Abdullah said yesterday that the case has been referred to the concerned court.

This came a day after the Northern Governorate Police General Director confirmed the arrest of the man, a few hours after he appeared in a footage, which showed him strangling and beating a dog on the rooftop



The cruel act is exclusive to the individual who committed it and doesn't reflect the values of Bahraini society.

MR AL FARAJ

of a building.

The man was also seen filming the dog while it howled in pain.

It is not yet known whether the dog survived the torture as the animal is shown motionless towards the end of the footage, which was, apparently, secretly filmed by an unknown individual.

Animal lovers and activists thanked security authorities for their swift action and demanded to impose tough punishment on

the perpetrator, who's reportedly a Bahraini, and on all animal abusers in general.

Chairman of Bahrain Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BSPCA) Mahmood Faraj condemned the incident in a statement and stressed that it's an act "exclusive to the individual who committed the crime and does not reflect the values of the general Bahraini society".

He added that "this individual

should be punished according to the full extent of the law".

BD1,000 fine

On her part, Animal Welfare and Environment Foundation Head and renowned animal welfare activist Shaikha Marwa bint Abdulrahman Al Khalifa called for adopting deterrent punishments to ensure that such incidents aren't repeated.

Shaikha Marwa suggested imposing a fine of no less than BD1,000 and jail terms of no less than one year against anyone found guilty of animal abuse.

She underlined the necessity of enacting laws that are deterrent to such acts that are forbidden by the teachings of the Islamic religion and the traditions of the Bahraini society.

She pleaded to Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa to personally interfere and look into this matter, which she said has been repeating lately.

Shaikha Marwa also warned that animal abusers are jeopardising the society and may turn into child abusers if not stopped.

Roommate killer's jail term reduced

TDT | Manama

An Indian man who stabbed his roommate to death last June has got his 10-year jail sentence reduced by the High Criminal Court of Appeals.

The 38-year-old defendant was sentenced by the criminal court to 10 years of imprisonment in January, after he was found guilty of killing his roommate and fellow national inside a labour camp in Salmabad on June 8, 2018.

The court ordered to reduce the sentence as the maximum punishment for committing an assault that led to death is seven years of imprisonment, while the criminal court previously ordered to jail him for 10 years because he was under the influence of alcohol.

The High Criminal Court of Appeals said the documents and reports of the case didn't clearly indicate, with evidence, whether or not the defendant was intoxicated.

The court files showed **Chinthu Das** that both men were under the influence of alcohol when a verbal dispute on the victim's jobless situation broke out between them.

The defendant told prosecutors that he had stabbed his friend twice in the back using a kitchen knife after he, the victim, slapped twice on the face.

The killer quickly escaped the labour camp in Salmabad and hid at an apartment in Manama.

However, he was arrested by the police from his hideout a few hours after the incident took place.

The crime scene investigation report showed that the victim's blood was alcohol intoxicated by 86.4 per cent when his body was examined on the site.

But no reports showed the alcohol intoxication levels in the defendant's blood. The victim's death was caused by a severe haemorrhage caused by deep stabbing to the lungs, according to the coroner's report.



Chinthu Das

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New programme to employ 240 newly-graduated Bahraini docs

HRH the Premier's directives to employ Bahraini doctors hailed

● **Supreme Council for Health (SCH) President Lieutenant-General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa hailed the move.**

● **Dr Shaikh Mohammed said the council spearheaded the national initiative after holding meetings with the Ministry of Health.**

Manama

Chairing the Cabinet session yesterday, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa launched a programme to employ 240 newly-graduate Bahraini doctors.

Under the scheme, which will be implemented over two years, beginning from 2019, the new graduates will be trained and rehabilitated by the Arabian Gulf

University to work in public or private hospitals or health centres, as well as to open their own clinics.

The Cabinet decided to amend the criteria and requirements of medical professions, whereby Bahraini holders of master's degrees in family medicine could open their own family medicine clinics.

The Supreme Council for Health, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) were requested to embark on implementing the programme launched by HRH Premier.

Supreme Council for Health (SCH) President Lieutenant-General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa hailed the move which, he said, reflects the Premier's keenness on employing Bahraini doctors.

He paid tribute to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HRH the Premier and Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy



HRH the Premier chairs the Cabinet session.



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The initiative reflects the National Health Plan (2016-2025), which focuses on training human resources in the field.

DR SHAIKH MOHAMMED

Premier, hailing their keenness on employing Bahraini health graduates, particularly doctors.

Dr Shaikh Mohammed said the council spearheaded the national initiative after holding meetings with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labor and Social Development, the Tamkeen Foundation and the governmental and private health institutions.

“The initiative reflects the National Health Plan (2016-2025) which focuses on training human resources in the field sector and attracting qualified doctors to work at hospitals and health educational institutions,” he said.

He said that the coordination team, which was set up by the Supreme Council for Health, discussed the initiative aimed to train medical graduates and integrate them into the labour market.

He extended thanks to the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and Labour Fund (Tamkeen), hailing the efforts of all parties to elaborate the

adequate mechanisms so as to employ medical graduates in the public and private sectors.

He pointed out that the National Health Insurance Scheme (Sehati) would open new horizons to develop health investments and create opportunities for Bahraini doctors and health professional graduates.

He stressed keenness on implementing the directives of the Government, chaired by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa to train and employ medical graduates, underlining co-operation with relevant authorities to give the priority in employment in the public and private sectors.

The directive follows reports of rising unemployment among newly-graduated Bahraini doctors and healthcare professionals. Many Bahraini doctors and nurses have been requesting the Ministry of Health to offer them employment.

Tribune had earlier carried reports on unemployment among Bahraini doctors and other healthcare professionals.

Representatives, Shura financial committees hold third meeting

Manama

Financial and Economic Committees of the Representatives and Shura councils yesterday held their third co-ordination meeting on the State budget draft law for the years 2019-2020.

The two sides agreed on the importance of controlling the operational expenses of ministries and government bodies to avoid extra burden on the state budget.

They highlighted to continue work to stabilise the public debt and financial sustainability by restructuring the state budget to balance

” **The Representatives have stressed maintaining the quality of public services, chiefly in education sector, health and housing.**

ALI ISHAQI

Chairman of the Representatives' committee, Ali Ishaqi, said the Representatives stressed maintaining the quality of public services, chiefly in education sector, health and housing. He added a joint meeting with the government would be held in the presence of Education and Housing ministers to learn about the operational budgets and plans of the ministries.

Chairman of the Shura's committee, Khalid Al Maskati, pointed out the importance of achieving the 2019-2020 state budget draft law to ensure pushing forward with service and development projects.

revenues with expenses by 2022 to harmonise with the government action plan to achieve the state financial balance.

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'Mom of the Year' honoured



Under the patronage of the Minister of Labour and Social Development, Jameel Humaidan, Al Hawaj Group, in co-operation with CrediMax, held a huge celebration on Sunday at the Four Seasons Hotel, to conclude 'I love you my mother' programme. It was attended by Minister of Health Faeqa Al Saleh, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Development Undersecretary Sabah Al Dosari, on behalf of the patron of the ceremony, along with envoys, journalists, media personalities and public figures. The welcome speech was delivered by Al Hawaj Chairman of the Board, Jawad Al Hawaj. The ceremony also honoured the 'Mother of the Year' Salwa Abdullah Qassem, winner of the Ideal Mother Competition, who also was awarded with another prize at Cairo University in Egypt by the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation. Royal Charity Organisation Secretary General Dr Mustafa Al Sayed, Bahrain Journalists Association President Ahdeya Ahmed, Al Hawaj Group General Manager Abdul Wahab Al Hawaj attended.

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SCW to further promote women entrepreneurship

Manama

Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW), has stressed the council's keenness to go ahead with the women's empowerment programmes, mainly in the economic field, to achieve family stability and improve people's welfare.

HRH Princess Sabeeka was speaking as she honoured at SCW headquarters, in Riffa, yesterday winners of the third edition of the Bahraini Female Entrepreneur Honour.

She underlined SCW's keenness to work within the nation-



HRH Princess Sabeeka with award winners.

al system framework to tap on Bahraini women's potentials and boost their capabilities to launch sustainable enterprises capable of creating job opportunities and catering to the local market.

She also praised contribution of the Bahraini female entrepreneurs to the national economy and their capability to launch pioneering, innovative and sustainable projects.

HRH Princess Sabeeka asserted that launching the award stems from a belief in the need to support and motivate young Bahraini females in entrepreneurship and honour their contribution to creating a supporting economic environment.

She lauded all the national efforts in supporting the initiative, pointing out the quality programmes carried out by the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) to promote women's participation in the labour market.

She also thanked the award's jury headed by SCW member Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa.

HRH Princess Sabeeka presented the award to Nahla Mahmood Al Mahmood, Amina Abdul Jabbar Al Abbasi, Ema Ismail Al Mansouri and Maisam Hassan Al Nasser.

Tamkeen announced, in co-operation with SCW, the launch of "Tamkeen" programme to support women's participation in the labour market.

The announcement was made at a joint press conference at SCW headquarters, in Riffa, in the presence of SCW Secretary General Hala Al Ansari and Tamkeen Chief Executive Dr Ibrahim Janahi.

250 Health Ministry staff set to provide medical support at F1

Health Ministry team at F1 will include medical and administrative personnel

TDT | Manama

Mohammed Zafran

More than 250 personnel from the Ministry of Health will provide medical support at Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix, it was revealed.

The Ministry of Health will take all the necessary measures to provide medical support for this year's F1, Minister of Health Faeqa Al Saleh assured.

The minister made the statement at a workshop held at Art Rotana in Amwaj Islands to discuss the developments in marshalling, emergency and medical support at F1.

She confirmed that the Health Ministry team at F1 would include medical as well as administrative personnel, adding that 15 ambulances will as well be provided for emergency services.

Meanwhile, the BIC announced yesterday that this



Ms Al Saleh with Health Ministry officials and dignitaries at the workshop.

15

ambulances will be kept ready by the Health Ministry for emergency services.

year's F1 Fanzone activities include F1 Esports, a Reaction Challenge, a Pitstop Challenge and a TV Challenge, plus an appearance by driver Bobble Heads.

"Each offers its own unique thrills, and they all add to the "limitless" fun and excitement this Thursday to Sunday at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East" in Sakhir.

"F1 Esports is where fans can race against 15 other competitors in the official Formula 1 video game.

"Battles are held throughout the day on the virtual Bahrain Grand Prix race track and the 10 quickest of each day get to go on an F1 Paddock tour with an accompanying guest of their choice," the BIC stated.

"The 'Pit-stop Challenge'

gives fans an insight into what it takes to be a part of a world-class pit crew.

"This activity gives three teams of six the chance to compete against each other in a knockout competition changing Pirelli tyres on a Formula 1 car.

"A contest for the top three teams are held daily, with an F1 Paddock tour awaiting the entire winning team. Formula 1 will bring a pitstop crew from one of the top flight's teams to do a pitstop demonstration for the fans, and even compete against some of them," the BIC pointed out.

"The F1 TV Challenge lets participants experience what life is like as a Formula 1 commentator. Those who take part can choose between three top moments from a Grand Prix and receive those clip to share on social media after activation. The clip with the most likes during the day will receive a prize from Formula 1."

The Ministry of Health will take all the necessary measures to provide medical support for this year's F1.

MS AL SALEH

F1 traffic plan unveiled

● A work team was formed at the King Fahad Causeway to facilitate the entry of cars and buses that arrive in Bahrain for the F1.

Manama

The Director-General of Traffic Colonel Shaikh Abdulrahman bin Abdulwahab Al Khalifa said that a comprehensive traffic plan for the Bahrain Grand Prix (Formula 1) had been formulated for the Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix, which will be held from March 28 to 31.

The plan is part of the directives of Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, to ensure traffic safety



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The plan is part of the directives of the Interior Minister to ensure traffic safety on the roads, especially those leading to the F1 venue.

COL SHAIKH ABDULRAHMAN

on the roads, especially those leading to the F1 venue.

He said that all procedures to implement the plan had been activated for the protection of all.

He highlighted the dedication of the department to work for the success of this international event that has succeeded in placing Bahrain on the map of the world sports.

The Director-General said that the traffic patrols had been equipped with the required devices and tools, while an office to deal with accidents would be allocated at the race site.

A work team was formed at the King Fahad Causeway to facilitate the entry of cars and buses that arrive in Bahrain for the F1.

Spreading smiles



An administrative delegation of Smile Initiative, an initiative of Bahrain Future Society for Youth which provides psychosocial support to children with cancer and their parents in the Kingdom, visited King Hussein Cancer Centre (KHCC) as part of initiative's ongoing efforts to develop its programmes based on best regional and international practices. Delegation toured Centre's paediatric cancer department that offer medical, psychological and social services for kids and teenagers below 18 years old. The head of delegation, Subah Al Zayani, Chairman of Bahrain Future Society for Youth, said that the main objective of their visit was to discuss co-operation and ways to improve Smile's supporting programmes including "Abjad", "Wish", "Improving home environment" along with other social awareness campaigns.

world

Mueller clears Trump

AFP | Washington, United States

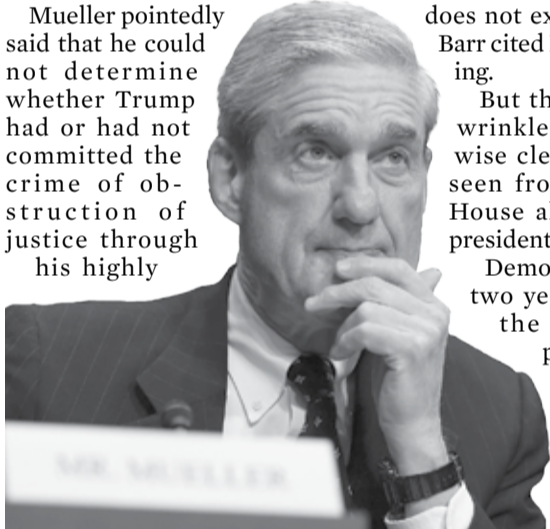
The White House was jubilant yesterday after the massive Russian collusion probe cleared President Donald Trump, freeing him to campaign for reelection -- and tell Americans that he was right all along.

"I think it's a day America's looked forward to for a long time. I think it's a great day for America," Trump's spokeswoman Sarah Sanders told CNN.

Trump has been under the cloud of potentially historic scandal for two years while special prosecutor Robert Mueller delved into allegations that his 2016 election campaign colluded with Russian agents trying to tilt the polls in his favor.

Late Sunday, Attorney General William Barr said in a brief summary of the just-finished report that Mueller had found "no collusion with Russia."

Mueller pointedly said that he could not determine whether Trump had or had not committed the crime of obstruction of justice through his highly



Former FBI Director Robert Mueller, special counsel on the Russian investigation

Trump warns of retaliation

Washington, United States

President Donald Trump said yesterday that Robert Mueller, head of the two-year probe into alleged collusion with Russia during the 2016 election campaign, acted honorably, but he also threatened retaliation against his foes.

"Yes he did," Trump said after Mueller -- whom he often bitterly criticized during the investigation -- declared there was no evidence of collusion by Trump or his campaign.

"Up to the attorney general. Wouldn't bother me at all," he

public opposition to the Russia probe, which he railed against as a "witch hunt."

"While this report does not conclude that the president committed a crime, it also does not exonerate him,"

Barr cited Mueller as saying.

But that was only a wrinkle on an otherwise clear horizon as seen from the White House ahead of 2020 presidential elections.

Democrats, who for two years have seen the Mueller report as fuel for

said at the White House.

But Trump blasted the investigation as "a false narrative, it was a terrible thing."

"We can never let this happen to another president again," he said. "Very few people I know could have handled it. We can never, ever let this happen to another president again."

Adding to suggestions that the White House would like to retaliate now that the damaging investigation is over, Trump said "there are people out there who have done very bad things, I would say treasonous things against our country."

potential impeachment, insist they will continue to use powerful congressional committees to probe further into Trump's business and political dealings with Russia.

Trump 'unchained'

"It was a complete and total exoneration," Trump said Sunday in brief comments from Florida, where he'd spent the weekend at his golf resort.

"It's a shame that the country had to go through this," he added with a note of anger. "This was an illegal takedown that failed."

Trump appears likely to maintain that line between declaring victory and seeking to call out his accusers -- and possibly to seek revenge.

"Hopefully somebody's go-

ing to be looking at the other side," he said, referring to investigating the origins of the probe against him.

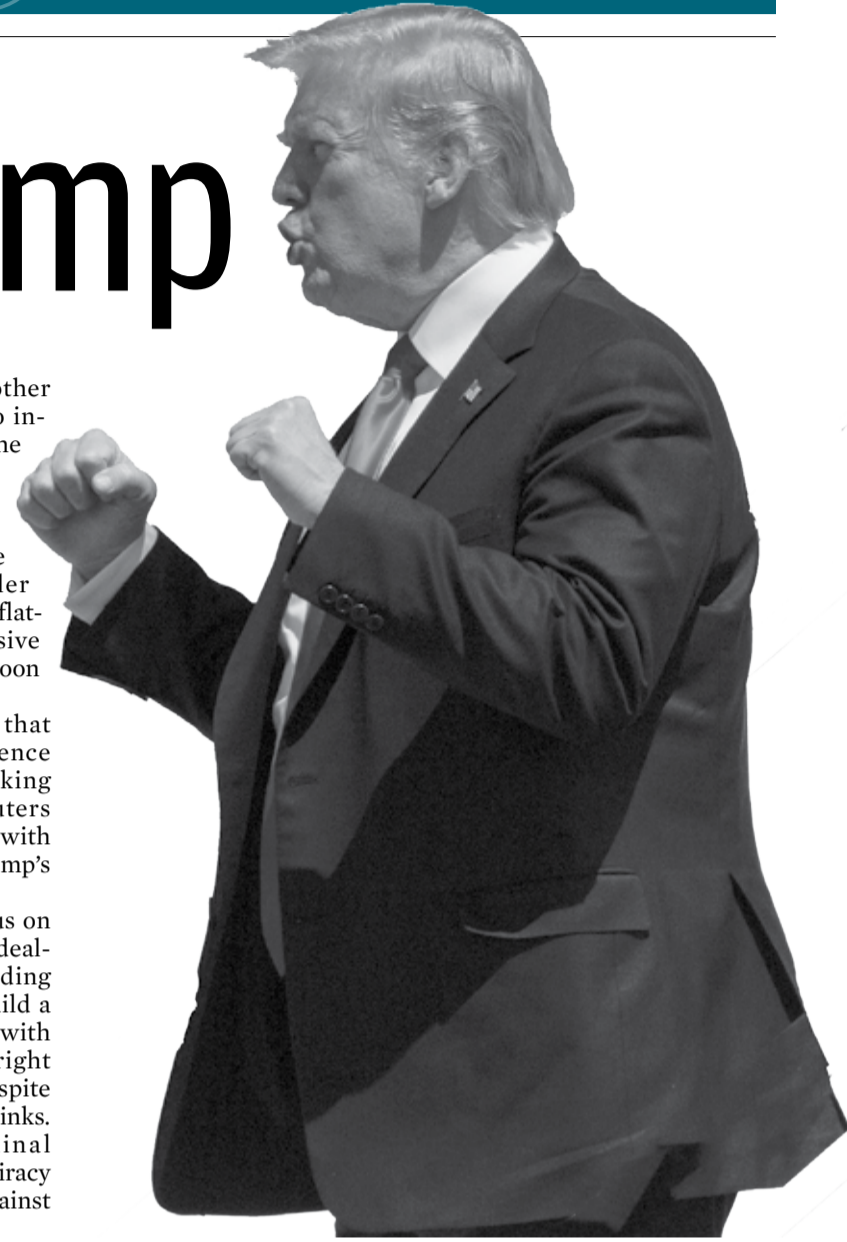
Tainted presidency

Despite the relief at the White House, the Mueller probe painted a deeply unflattering picture of the divisive and populist real-estate-tycoon turned politician.

The probe established that Russians did try to influence the 2016 election by hacking Democratic party computers and flooding social media with disinformation to harm Trump's rival Hillary Clinton.

It also brought new focus on Trump's hidden business dealings with Russians, including a long-running push to build a Trump tower in Moscow, with negotiations continuing right into his election year -- despite claims that he had no such links.

Mueller issued criminal charges ranging from conspiracy to lying to investigators against 34 individuals.



Former PM Thaksin says Thai election 'rigged'



Exiled former Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra

Hong Kong, China

Thailand's election was marred by "irregularities" and "rigged" to ensure the military retain their political grip on the kingdom, former premier Thaksin Shinawatra said in an interview yesterday.



If you look at the number of ballots and the number of voter turnout, the ballots much more exceed the number of voter turnout in many, many provinces

THAKSIN SHINAWATRA

"Everyone knows in Thailand, everyone international that observed the election in Thailand, knows that (there) is irregularities," he said in English. "What we call, we should call, rigged elections is there. It's not good for Thailand."

The 69-year-old tycoon was ousted in a 2006 coup and has since chosen self-exile in Du-

bai, but has remained a towering figure in Thailand's decade-long treadmill of protests and coups.

In the months running up to Sunday's vote Thaksin had remained tight-lipped.

But he hit out during an interview in Hong Kong yesterday, accusing the junta of stacking the deck in its favour ahead of the vote and using dirty tricks at the ballot box.

"Any game, if the rule and the referee is not fair, the result will not be respected," he said.

Asked whether he thought the vote was rigged he replied: "Definitely".

When pushed for evidence he listed reports of suspiciously high ballots cast for the pro-military party in key provinces as well as the large number of votes that were invalidated by election officials.

"If you look at the number of ballots and the number of voter turnout, the ballots much more exceed the number of voter turnout in many, many provinces," he said.

Final Dividends' Distribution Announcement

Following the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of Zain Bahrain held on March 25, 2019, we are pleased to inform you that the distribution of final cash dividends for the fiscal year 2018 (5 fils per share) will start from 4 April 2019.

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A Wonderful World

Body of Indian student killed in New Zealand attack returns home



The mother Razia (centre L) and brother Asif Ali (centre R) of Ansi Alibava, who was killed during the New Zealand mosque attacks, mourn over her body in Kodungallur in Trissur district in the Indian state of Kerala

AFP | Kochi, India

The body of an Indian student killed in the Christchurch mosque attacks was returned Monday to her grieving family in Kochi, where relatives remembered a bright young woman dedicated to her studies.

Masters student Ansi Alibava, 25, was among at least five Indians shot dead by a white supremacist in New Zealand on March 15 and her body was the first of two to be repatriated.

Her body arrived at an airport in Kochi in the southern Indian state of Kerala early on Monday where it was received by relatives and government officials.

It was then taken to her nearby hometown of Kodungallur and put on display -- her mother Razia and brother Asif Ali weeping over the coffin -- before a funeral.

"She hails from a poor family and her whole family counted on her. She was a girl who took up the challenge to succeed in life in all adverse circumstances," said K. I. Noushad, Alibava's uncle.

She was praying at the Al Noor Mosque in Christchurch with her husband, Abdul Nazer, when the Australian gunman opened fire on worshippers, killing 43.

Another seven were murdered at a separate mosque when the shooter later turned his weapon on Muslims there in the worst violence of its kind ever seen in New Zealand.

Some families have opted for burials in Christchurch itself, where a national remembrance service for the victims will be held on Friday, two weeks after the tragedy that shocked the world.

Alibava started supporting her family after her father died five years ago in

Saudi Arabia where he had been working. She took out thousands of dollars in loans to fund her studies in business agriculture at Christchurch's Lincoln University.

Alibava's cousin, P.H. Niyas, told AFP the dedicated student was soon to finish her studies.

"She had gone there last year, the course was due to finish by April. There was to be a six-month training (course) after which she was to return home by December," said Niyas.

Supermarket job

Alibava also worked part-time at a supermarket with Nazer, who she married two years ago.

On March 15, they went to the Al Noor Mosque and sat separately in the men and women's sections.

When gunfire broke out, Nazer managed to flee through an emergency exit but his wife did not make it.

When he returned to look for her, Nazer found his young wife motionless and face down, according to Indian media reports.

He was officially informed of her death 24 hours after the massacre.

Another Indian family who lost relatives in the attack opted for burial in Christchurch.

Father and son Asif Vora and Rameez Vora hailed from Gujarat, in western India, and were visiting family in New Zealand when they were killed.

The body of another victim also from Gujarat, Maheboob Khokhar, was expected to arrive late Monday at Ahmedabad airport. The body was due to be taken to a mosque for prayers and then to a burial ground.

Jordan's king cancels Romanian trip over Jerusalem row

Amman, Jordan

Jordan's King Abdullah II cancelled a visit yesterday to Romania after its prime minister vowed to move her country's embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, his office said.

The king "decided to cancel his visit to Romania which was due to begin yesterday in solidarity with Jerusalem" following the

announcement by Prime Minister Viorica Dancila, a royal court statement said.

Dancila's promise, made on Sunday at the annual conference of the pro-Israel lobby AIPAC in Washington, broke with the position of both the European Union and her own president.

"I, as prime minister of Romania, and the govern-

ment that I run, will move our embassy to Jerusalem," said Dancila.

Romania's centrist President Klaus Iohannis, who has opposed the embassy transfer as a breach of international law, criticized Dancila. "Because of the amateurism of the prime minister our relation with this region is damaged", Iohannis said yesterday during a meeting

with mayors from across Romania.

"Romania built a relation based on trust with the Arab world... Now the prime minister has managed to cripple it. And for what? For nothing", Iohannis said, adding that King Abdullah took Dancila's decision as a "personal affront".

Cyclone survivors face ticking bomb of disease



People queue to buy breads in Beira, Mozambique

AFP | Beira, Mozambique

The Red Cross warned yesterday that survivors of a powerful cyclone that pummeled southern Africa face "a ticking bomb" of disease even as aid workers reached those affected by the storm.

Cyclone Idai smashed into Mozambique's coast, unleashing hurricane-force wind and rain that flooded swathes of the poor country before battering eastern Zimbabwe -- killing 706 people across the two nations.

The head of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Elhadj As Sy said "we are sitting on a ticking bomb" as he called for renewed efforts to address the worsening health situation.

As logistical conditions improved and roads to affected communities have been reconnected, the full scale of the humanitarian crisis has been revealed for the first time since the storm struck on March 15.

More than two million people have been affected in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi where the storm started as a tropical depression causing flooding which killed 60 and displaced nearly a million people. Hundreds are still missing in Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

"The conditions for rescue are improving. Yesterday a road reopened which was really important to allow officials to work and rescue," Mozambique's Land Minister Celso Correa told reporters.

"Children looking for their parents" "We've got 30 missions flying today and some going by road so we can really deliver volume," said the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' Sebastian Rhodes Stampa. "We are packing food and shelter now -- they will go

out tomorrow both north and south".

Stampa stressed that efforts to rebuild infrastructure damaged in the cyclone were temporary and not lasting repairs.

"They are repairing for now," to allow aid through, he said.

Buzi, one of the worst hit towns located 30 kilometres (19 miles) southwest of Beira, became reachable by road on Monday -- for the first time since the storm hit.

"It will now be much faster to deliver aid," Stampa added.

In Buzi, survivor Joao Zacaria said that "one man who had 40 cows lost them all. Forty, can you imagine!"

Sy, who had just returned from the region, warned of a "high risk of water-borne diseases" like cholera and typhus -- as well as malaria, which is endemic in the region.

A procession of mourners carried the coffin containing the body of Tomas Joaquim Chimukme, who was killed by the cyclone, through saturated marshland outside of Beira on Monday.

Many of those attending wore open sandals in the water which was ankle-high.

The United Nations has warned that stagnant water in many areas, decomposing bodies and the lack of sanitation in overcrowded shelters in Mozambique could create breeding grounds for such diseases.

The government has already identified some suspected but unconfirmed cases of cholera, Sy said.

"That is the reason why I am raising the alarm. Many of these water-borne diseases are a great risk, but they are preventable," he added.

"The worst thing is the children crying and looking for their parents... It is heartbreaking," he said, adding that it remained unclear how many children may have been orphaned.

Medical services in the affected region were stretched even before the cyclone hit and according to aid group MSF, Beira hospital's operating theatre sustained serious damage. As many as 17 health centres have lost their roofs, it added in a statement.

The South African military have deployed several aircraft to the affected area and an EU-funded World Food Programme chopper is supporting rescue and recovery efforts.



People take part in the looting sacks of Chinese rice printed "China Aid" from a warehouse which is surrounded by water after cyclone hit in Beira, Mozambique

Boeing 787 diverted to New Caledonia with smoke from cockpit: official

Noumea, France

A United Airlines Boeing 787-900 jet was diverted to the French Pacific territory of New Caledonia on Monday after reports of smoke coming from the cockpit, a local official told AFP.

The US aircraft flying 256 passengers from Melbourne, Australia, to Los Angeles, touched down safely at La Tontouta airport in New Caledonia's capital Noumea.

"The passengers are disembarking calmly," said the official from the local Chamber of Commerce which runs the airport.

"It seems that there was some smoke

coming out of the cockpit."

An Ethiopian Airlines crash that killed 157 people on March 10 led to the global grounding of Boeing 737 MAX 8 planes.

It followed a Lion Air crash in Indonesia last October that left 189 dead, which raised major concerns about the safety certification of the 737 MAX 8 model.

The Nouvelles-Caledoniennes (Caledonian News) website reported that oxygen masks automatically dropped down in the cabin of the United Airlines plane.

The local RRB radio station said no one was hurt and all the passengers would spend the night in Noumea, 2,700 kilometres (1,650 miles) northeast of Melbourne.



BANGLADESH
INDEPENDENCE DAY
26 MARCH



THE DAILY **tribune**

Celebrating Independence

Patriotism fills the air as Bangladesh celebrates Independence Day



People's Republic of Bangladesh is set to celebrate the 49th Independence and National Day today vowing afresh to take the country towards prosperity with the Liberation War spirit.

On March 26, 1971, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman declared Bangladesh's independence and thus a new nation was born.

After the nine-month War of Liberation with the supreme sacrifices of three million people, Bangladesh achieved its cherished independence on December 16, 1971. The day is a public holiday.

Different sociocultural and political organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes on the occasion. National anthem 'Amar Sonar Bangla' will be sung simulta-

neously across the country and Bangladesh missions abroad. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will lead the nation in singing the national anthem at the main programme of 'Jatiya Shishu Kishore Samabesh', scheduled to be held at Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The President and the Prime Minister will place wreaths at the National Mausoleum at Savar in the morning.

The national flag will be hoisted atop government and private buildings while the government and semi-government buildings and other public places will be illuminated on the auspicious occasion.

National dailies will bring out special supplements while Bangladesh Betar, Bangladesh Television, private radio stations and television channels will air

“**Democracy and development complements each other. Jatiya Sangsad and the government have started the new journey after the eleventh parliamentary election. Collective initiative is necessary to implement the development ideas of the government and make the parliament meaningful.**”

PRESIDENT ABDUL HAMID

special programmes highlighting the significance of the day.

Special prayers will be offered at all mosques, temples, churches and other places of worship across the country seeking divine blessings for the eternal peace of the departed souls of Father of the Nation, four national leaders, martyrs of the War of Liberation and all other patriotic sons of the soil.

Improved diets will be served to the inmates of hospitals, jails, old homes and other public institutions to mark the day.

Different political parties as well as socio-cultural and professional organisations have drawn elaborate programmes to observe the

day in a befitting manner.

Meanwhile, President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have issued separate messages on the occasion.

In his message, the President said, “Democracy and development complements each other. Jatiya Sangsad and the government have started the new journey after the eleventh parliamentary election. Collective initiative is necessary to implement the development ideas of the government and make the parliament meaningful.”

He called upon all to work together imbued with the spirit of the Liberation War and democratic values to make the hard-earned independence more meaningful.

In her message, the Prime

Minister said, “The independence earned through supreme sacrifices of millions of people is the greatest achievement of the Bangalee nation. To ensure that this achievement remains meaningful, all have to know the history of our great Liberation War and retain the spirit of independence. The spirit of the Liberation War has to be passed on to generation to generations,” she said.

She called upon all to come up and uphold the development and democratic spree being imbued with the spirit of the freedom struggle. “Let's engage ourselves in the welfare of the country and the nation. Let's build a hunger-poverty-free and happy, prosperous Sonar Bangladesh as dreamt by Father of the Nation.”

A Day To Cherish

Today is 26th March, the Independence Day of Bangladesh. On the occasion of our great Independence and National Day, I extend my heartfelt greetings and warm felicitations to my fellow countrymen living at home and abroad.

On this historic day, I recall with profound respect the architect of our independence, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. I pay my deep homage to the martyrs and valiant sons of the soil, who made the supreme sacrifice in the war of liberation. I also recall with deep reverence our four National Leaders, valiant freedom-fighters, organizers, supporters, our foreign friends and people from all walks of life who made immense contributions to attain our right to self-determination and the war of liberation. The contributions of all would be written in golden letters in the history of our independence forever.

We have achieved our hard-earned independence through huge sacrifices. Bangabandhu always cherished a dream of building a happy and prosperous country along with achieving political emancipation. Immediately after the independence, he had taken all out steps in rebuilding the economy of the war-ravaged country. Keeping that in mind, the present Government has been rendering untiring efforts in materializing the dream of Bangabandhu. After long struggle Bangladesh is now moving towards development and prosperity. Besides, the overall development, the implementation of mega projects like Padma Bridge, Metro Rail and Nuclear Power Plant are going on. With the launching of Bangabandhu Satellite, we have cemented our place in the space. We are dreaming of a developed Bangladesh by the year 2041. Bangladesh is now being branded as a role model for outstanding success in



socio-economic development.

In pursuing our diplomatic objectives, the government has been con-

sistent in upholding the principle of “Friendship to all, malice towards none” as enunciated by Father of the Nation. Our achievement in international arena also commendable. Our expatriate Bangladeshis have also been making significant contributions to our national economy through sending their hard-earned remittances. Nevertheless, we have to go a long way for achieving the desired goals of independence. We must ensure good governance, social justice, transparency and accountability to make the development people oriented and sustainable.

Democracy and development complements each other. Jatiya Sangsad and the government have started the new journey after the eleventh parliamentary election. Collective initiative is necessary to implement the development ideas of the government and make the parliament meaningful. I hope that National Parliament

would be the centre of hopes and aspirations of the people. For this, the ruling party as well as the opposition would have to play constructive role. Present Government has set ‘Vision 2021’ and ‘Vision 2041’ respectively to materialize Bangabandhu’s dream of transforming Bangladesh into ‘Sonar Bangla’. Sincere and collective efforts are imperative to implement the programmes.

Imbued with the spirit of war of liberation and democratic values, let us work together irrespective of party affiliation to make our hard-earned independence more meaningful. Let this be the pledge on the Independence and National Day.

Khoda Hafez, May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Md. Adul Hamid
President
People's Republic
of Bangladesh



**BANGLADESH
INDEPENDENCE DAY
26 MARCH**



THE DAILY **tribune**

A day of earning self-identity

I convey my heartiest greetings and congratulations to my countrymen as well as all expatriate Bangalees on the occasion of the great Independence and National Day of Bangladesh.

The 26th March is the day of earning self-identity of our nation. It's the day of breaking the shackles of subjugation. On the eve of the Independence Day, I recall with deep gratitude the greatest Bangalee of all times, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, under whose undisputed leadership we earned our coveted independence. I pay my deep homage to the 3 million martyrs. I also pay my tributes to four national leaders who steered the War of Liberation in the absence of Bangabandhu. My homage goes to the valiant freedom fighters, including the wounded ones. I extend my sympathies to those who had lost their near

and dear ones, and were subjected to brutal torture during the war. I recall with gratitude our foreign friends who had extended their whole-hearted support and cooperation for the cause of our liberation.

The Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman formally proclaimed the independence of Bangladesh at the first hour of the 26th March 1971. Bangabandhu's proclamation was spread all over the country through telegrams, tele-printers and EPR wireless. The international media also had circulated Bangabandhu's proclamation of independence. Under the brave and dauntless leadership of Bangabandhu, we earned the ultimate victory on the 16th December 1971 after a 9-month bloody war.

The independence earned through supreme sacrifices of millions of people is the greatest achievement of Bangalee nation.



To ensure that this achievement remains meaningful, all have to know the history of our great liberation war and retain the spirit of independence. The spirit of the liberation war has to be passed on to generation to generations.

Being imbued with the spirit of the freedom struggle, the Awami League government has relentlessly been working to

develop the country. We have been accomplishing the unfinished work of the Father of the Nation. We have achieved expected developments in every sector during last 10 years. Bangladesh has become the 'Role Model' of socio-economic development in the world. Our government is maintaining 'zero tolerance' policy to tackle militancy, terrorism and

drug-menace. For the first time in the world, we have formulated a hundred year plan named 'Delta Plan 2100'. Bangladesh is one of the five top countries in the world in economic development. Ninety percent of development work is financed by our own resources. We have executed the verdict of the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman establishing the rule of law. The verdicts of the trials of the war criminals are also being executed. The trials of war criminals will be continued as per our pledges to the nation. Due to the continuation of the Awami League government, grassroot people are now getting the dividend of the development. Bangladesh is moving forward and it will continue. The next generation will get a prosperous Bangladesh.

The people made Bangladesh Awami League victorious in the

recent 11th parliamentary elections. We will fully honour the huge mandate that the people of our country have given us. We will turn Bangladesh into a middle income country by 2021 and a developed-prosperous one by 2041, InshaAllah.

Let us come and uphold the development and democratic spree being imbued with the spirit of the freedom struggle. Let us engage ourselves for the welfare of the country and nation. Let us build a hunger-poverty-free and happy-prosperous Sonar Bangladesh as dreamt by Father of the Nation. On the historic day, let this be our commitment.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

**Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister
People's Republic of
Bangladesh**

On the pathway to prosperity

On the occasion of 26th March- the great Independence and National day of Bangladesh, I extend my heartfelt greetings and warm felicitations to all Bangalees living both home and abroad.

On this great historic day, I may recall with profound reverence the greatest Bangalee of

all times, Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who proclaimed country's independence on March 26, 1971. Under his visionary leadership, we achieved our long cherished independence through a nine-month long armed struggle.

With deep respect, I recall the

supreme sacrifices made by our war heroes, the 3 million martyrs and the wounded freedom fighters. I also pay my profound gratitude to the people from all walks of life and especially the members of our Diaspora and the diplomatic front who, during and after our Liberation War, played a vital role in gain-

ing international recognition. I also acknowledge with deep gratitude the enormous contributions of our foreign friends in the emergence of independent Bangladesh.

The charismatic leadership of the Father of the Nation united the whole nation like a solid rock under one umbrella. Bangabandhu was not only the leader of the Bangalee but also a forerunner in realizing the rights of the oppressed and deprived people of the world. Bangabandhu, the great architect of our Liberation War dreamt of a happy, prosperous, exploitation free and equitable 'Sonar Bangla' (Bengal of Gold). His able successor, his daughter, Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina aims at becoming an upper middle income country by 2021 and developed country by 2041. She hopes to realize Bangabandhu's dream "Sonar Bangla", a prosperous, exploitation free, just and developed Bangladesh.

Now Bangladesh is on a pathway to prosperity. Currently, Bangladesh is marching forward with more than 7.86% GDP growth rate. The number of working women has increased from 6% to 38% in the workforce. Introduction of six months leave, maternity and lactating allowances, establishment of free community clinics are few critical interventions which have lowered maternal mortality by a 67% and infant death by 75%.

In the last ten years, the size of our national budget enlarged about five and half times. On one hand, while Bangladesh is now recognized as a 'Role Model of Development' on the other, it has been steadily achieving successes, earning many



have embarked on communication technology to a new height.

I Congratulate all Bangladeshi Diaspora in every corner of the world that are contributing to the escalation of the image of Bangladesh. I thank all the members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our Missions abroad who have been working with deep commitment to uphold our national interest across nations.

On this historic day of Independence, let us all vow to transform Bangladesh into a prosperous, technology based, developed Sonar Bangla.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu,
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

**Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP
Foreign Minister
People's Republic of
Bangladesh**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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& BEST WISHES**

GOVERNMENT OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH
AND
THE EMBASSY OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH
IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN
AND
ALL THE PEOPLE OF
MY BELOVED COUNTRY
ON THE OCCASION OF

**48th 26 MARCH
BANGLADESH
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international awards and accolades. As a consequence, the United Nations has recently announced Bangladesh's eligibility for graduation to the status of 'Developing Country' from 'Least Developed Country'. By successful launching of Bangabandhu-1 satellite- the first Bangladeshi geostationary communication satellite, we

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Warm Wishes on the Grand Occasion
Of Independence Day.**

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**BANGLADESH
INDEPENDENCE DAY
26 MARCH**

THE DAILY **tribune**

Let's build a better world

Today is 26 March, Our great Independence and National Day. This is the day of breaking shackles of subjugation; a day of reaching the enlightened world from the abyss of darkness. On this very day in 1971, the Bangalee nation started the War of Liberation.

On this very day, I pay profound reverence to the great hero of the war of independence, the architect of great independence, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who led his people from the front in various movements and struggles from 1952 Language Movement to the 1971 Liberation War to the greatest achievement of Bengali Nationalism-independent

Bangladesh. With profound love and respect, I recall the supreme sacrifices made by our war heroes, the 3 million martyrs and the wounded freedom fighters.

On this historic moment, I recall the contributions of the officials of the then Foreign Ministry who worked to build public opinion all over the world in response to the clarion call of Bangabandhu during liberation war.

Bangabandhu had a dream of bringing smile in the face of Bangalee people. He wanted to make them free from exploitation, hunger, poverty and subjugation. Daughter of our founding father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the current



Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina has been leading the development pursuit of Bangladesh. Recently, the people of Bangladesh fortified their support on her with huge public support on the Eleventh General Election. As a result of pragmatic initiatives commenced by the Awami League government, now Bangladesh has been transformed into a trade-dependent country from an aid-dependent one. Currently, Bangladesh is marching forward with US\$ 1,752 per capita income and more than 7.86% growth rate. As a result, Bangladesh has been recognised as a 'Role Model of Development'.

On this auspicious day, I thank all the members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our Missions abroad who have been working with sustained dedication and commitment in achieving our foreign policy objectives and promote national interest of Bangladesh on the world stage. Also my heartfelt felicitations go to the Bangladeshi Diaspora who has been contributing unceasingly for the development of our motherland by sending invaluable remittance and brightening the image of Bangladesh globally by practicing Bangla and Bengali culture abroad.

On this glorious day, being imbued with the spirit of our

great Liberation War and with a view to building Bangabandhu's dream of 'Sonar Bangla' (Golden Bengal), let us take a fresh vow to devote ourselves to work from our respective positions in advancing the ongoing development efforts of the present government to strengthen the hands of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and build a better world for our future generations.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu.
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Md. Shahriar Alam, MP
State Minister for Foreign Affairs
People's Republic of Bangladesh

Expanding horizons

On this day, in 1971, Bangladesh proclaimed her independence and through a nine-month bloody struggle, emerged as a sovereign nation on December 16.

This is a rare happy coincidence in the history of Bahrain and Bangladesh that these two brotherly nations came out on the world map as independent nations on the same day and in the same year, December 16, 1971.

This unique commonality has great symbolic importance and provides an extra thread further strengthening the special bond of friendship between our two countries.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1983, Bangladesh and Bahrain have enjoyed an excellent bilateral relationship based on our common values, shared perceptions and common customs and traditions.

Based on the strong foundation of friendship, we have continuously endeavoured to exploit the immense potentials for its further expansion in various sectors.

On this happy occasion of our Independence Day, I would like to convey my sincere greetings to the friendly and brotherly people of Bahrain and beloved Bangladeshi compatriots. We pray for the salvation of the departed souls of valiant freedom fighters who dedicated their lives for our freedom.

The father of our nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the martyrs, the freedom fighters - all dreamt of a prosperous country.

Bangladesh had been recognised as lower Middle Income country way back in 2015. Today, Bangladesh is the 43rd country of the world in terms of size of economy, and 32nd country in terms of purchasing power parity. Our GDP today is 300 billion dollars! According to IMF, Bangladesh will be within the TOP 20 economies by 2040!

Let me briefly share with you where Bangladesh leads globally today :

We are the 2nd largest Ready-Made Garments Exporter of the World, the 2nd Largest troop contributor to the UN Peace Keeping Operation, the 2nd largest Jute producer, the 3rd Fresh water FISH producer, the 3rd in Vegetable production, the 4th in the global Rice Production, the 7th largest producer of Natural gas in Asia, the 9th in the global production of TEA.

Today's Bangladesh takes pride in building the massive and game-changer 6.15 meter long PADMA BRIDGE of 1.2 billion dollars, completely from its own domestic resource! Today's Bangladesh joined as 57th country to the elite group of Satellite owned nations! Today's Bangladesh now expands her sphere from 'Shirt-making' to 'Ship-building' industries! You can imagine, today we export War ships!!! Today's Bangladesh exports medicines to 145 countries!

It is also a matter of pride that in Bangladesh, about 33.5 percent women work in productive



sector. Currently, the contribution of women workforce in our GDP growth is 34 percent. According to Gender Gap Index 2017 by World Economic Forum, Bangladesh stands the 47th out of 144 countries and the 1st in SAARC nations.

One major achievement in Bangladesh is the inclusion of backward and vulnerable section of the society in the economy. It may be noted that social protection system of Bangladesh accounts for 02% of our national budget.

At present 80% people of the country are covered by electricity facilities (including renewable energy). Government of Bangladesh has plan to ensure electricity for all by 2021.

With the help of modern healthcare and improved nutrition available in affordable cost, Bangladesh made remarkable progress in health sector. In the non-urban localities, 18,500 community clinics have been established to provide affordable health care that



With the help of modern healthcare and improved nutrition available in affordable cost, Bangladesh made remarkable progress in health sector. In the non-urban localities, 18,500 community clinics have been established to provide affordable health care that covers about 8000 people per clinic.

MAJOR GENERAL K.M. MOMINUR RAHMAN (RETD)

covers about 8000 people per clinic.

It is a pride of the nation that Bangladesh didn't have to compromise with its humane side in having all these development achievements. Bangladesh has provided temporary shelter to more than one million forcibly displaced Rohingya populations who fled their homeland Myanmar. Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has personally extended her hand in support to these helpless people when they started fleeing atrocities in the Rakhine State in 2017. We are continuing to provide them with shelter and basic services in coordination with the UN and other partners.

At the end recognize deeply and convey my sincere thanks and gratitude, on behalf of the

government and people of Bangladesh, to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Prime Minister His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa for extending their generous support and cooperation to me, to my mission and to our community.

Major General K.M. Mominur Rahman (retd)
Ambassador
People's Republic of Bangladesh

48th Anniversary of the Independence and National Day

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Bangladesh Government
and Community in
Bahrain A Very Happy
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**BANGLADESH
INDEPENDENCE DAY
26 MARCH**



THE DAILY **tribune**

World heritage sites in Bangladesh

Bangladesh has two significant religious sites as well as a biodiverse area that has been listed by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites. Two tourist destinations, the Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur and the Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat have been listed as cultural World Heritage Sites in Bangladesh. The Sundarbans is designated as a natural World Heritage Site in the country.

Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat

The Mosque City in Bargehat is located where the River Brahmaputra and Gangel meet. It was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1985. The city was founded by a Turkish-born Ulugh Khan Jahan in the 15th century and was built using bricks. Forbes categorizes the city as one out of the fifteen lost cities of the world. The city is a tourist destination, and some of its former structures include 360 mosques, mausoleums, roads, bridges and other public buildings constructed from baked bricks. However, the city was in ruins after the death of the founder Ulukh Khan. Bagerhat Museum located next to sixty pillar mosque contains pottery and ornamental bricks. The wall in the western part of the nine dome mosque faces Mecca, a religious pilgrim at the center of religion for Muslims.



View of the historic Shat Gombuj Mosque

Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur

This World Heritage Sites, inscribed in 1985 by UNESCO, is located in the southwest of the country and was built by Dharmapala Vikramshila between 770-810AD as a monastery. At the base, are sixty stone sculptures that testify to the belief system of Hinduism and it is the largest Buddhist monastery constructed at the time. It has unique features such as the outside walls decorated with ornamental terracotta, influenced by Hinduism, Jainism, and Buddhism art. The area is under the government protection and managed by the local office. The department of archaeology deals with the management and conservation aspects. The ruins play a significant cultural role since the statues recovered from the area are a constant reminder of the culture of the local people. The design was influenced by cultures as far as Indonesia.



Somapura Mahavihara

Sundarbans: The abode of the royal Bengal tigers

The Sundarbans is a mangrove forest, which is approximately 140,000 hectares on the delta of Ganges and Meghna rivers in Bengal Bay. It was inscribed in 1987 as a natural world heritage site by UNESCO. It has unique features such as mudflats and tidal waterways. The Sundarban is located to the southwest of Bangladesh and has been recognized internationally for having mangrove flora and fauna on both land and water. It has around 260 different species of birds, Bengal Tiger; the only family of cats that is almost instinct, and the famous Indian python.

The Sunderbans species attract tourists around the world. They come to carry out scientific research as well as observe the diverse species of both plants and animals. Conservation efforts are implemented to keep the Sundarbans safe from illegal hunting and other human activities like agriculture. The government has passed a law to protect the ecosystem and maintain the biodiversity. Although the tourism sector is affected by impassable roads, several measures including investment in infrastructure are underway. Although there are protection efforts, the topography of the region and the hostile terrain and the international border makes it difficult to monitor and control poaching and woodcutting of the mangrove trees. The Sundarban Tiger Reserve is also face numerous challenges in managing wandering Tigers, and reports of human-tiger conflicts are quite frequent.



A Bengal tiger in the Sundarbans

On this special day commemorating our Independence, let us all work together to transform our nation to the path of economic prosperity and happiness.

**HAPPY
INDEPENDENCE
DAY**

to all Citizens of Bangladesh



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BANGLADESH SCHOOL BAHRAIN

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Martyred Intellectuals Memorial is a memorial built in memory of the martyred intellectuals of the Bangladesh Liberation War. The memorial is located at Rayerbazar, Mohammadpur Thana in Dhaka. The memorial was designed by architect Farid U Ahmed and Jami Al Shafi. The initial proposal for a memorial at Rayer Bazar was brought forward by Projonmo 71 (organisation of the children of the martyrs of liberation war), who also laid a temporary foundation stone in 1991.



Shaheed Minar in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The monument in Dhaka established to commemorate those killed during the Bengali Language Movement demonstrations of 1952. The Language Movement was one of the formidable movements which has come up in the country of Bangladesh, thus the Central Shaheed Minar epitomises efforts to represent the spirit of Bangladeshi nationalism and also highlight the importance of the Bengali language in the social and cultural progress of the country. As a result, the Shaheed Minar has a very significant place in the social and cultural mechanism of Bangladesh.

BKIC approves 15pc cash dividend

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

The General Assembly of Bahrain Kuwait Insurance Company (BKIC) yesterday approved a cash dividend distribution of 15 per cent (BD 2,143,847) from the paid-up capital.

Shareholders approved the board's recommendation during an Annual General Meeting for the financial year 2018 held at the company's head office in Seef District.

"The recommendation to distribute a cash dividend of 15 per cent of the paid-up capital, excludes treasury shares," the board said noting that the company doubled its paid-up capital in 2018 through the distribution of 100pc bonus shares to increase its paid-up capital to BD 14.3 million.

The board further noted that the company's end of the year net profit attributable to the shareholders increased by 22pc, from BD2.6m in 2017 to BD3.2m in 2018.

The Return on Equity (ROE) recorded was 8.8pc compared to 7.5pc in 2017.

Earnings per share (EPS) at the end of the year 2018 stood at 22 fils (Paid up capital BD 14.3m) compared with 36 fils (Paid up Capital BD 7.2m) in 2017.

Stake in Takaful

Chairman Murad Ali Murad told shareholders that the company had an impressive performance and continues to maintain its leading position in the insurance market in Bahrain, despite economic challenges faced by the country, especially in the insurance industry last year.

The company, the Chairman said, had increased its stake in Takaful International through



Board members and top officials of Bahrain Kuwait Insurance Company during its Annual General Meeting held yesterday

“Since the markets in which we operate are small and limited in scope for organic growth, we believe that strategic investments like merger or acquisition will help us to maximise investment income and cost saving”

MURAD ALI MURAD
CHAIRMAN

subscription to the rights issue and by acquiring an additional stake to reach 81.94pc.

“Since the markets in which we operate are small and limited in scope for organic growth, we believe that strategic investments like merger or acquisition will help us to maximise investment income and cost saving,” Murad Ali Murad said.

On credit rating, Murad stated that the international rating agency A.M. Best has affirmed the credit rating of the company “A- with stable outlook” after reviewing the company's performance in 2018.

Ebrahim Alrayes – the CEO said that the company's technical profits for the year 2018 were good. He indicated that the company achieved underwriting profits of BD 1.9m during the year 2018, compared to BD 1.2m last year, recording an increase of 66pc. “The company also achieved a gross premium revenue of BD 81.6m, compared to BD 59.5m

in the previous year, recording a significant growth of 37pc. The investment net income increased by 26pc, from BD 1.6m in 2017 to BD 2m in the year 2018,” he said.

Alrayes mentioned that the net claims increased by 31pc from BD 18.5m in 2017 to BD 24.4m in 2018. Despite this increase, there was no change in loss ratio from the previous year which remained at 76.8pc at the end of the year. Also, based on the report of the external actuary, additional IBNR provisions amounting to BD 564,000 was made to strengthen the technical reserves which stood at BD 29.5m compared to BD 26.5m in the previous year.

On business development, Alrayes said that the company recruited an officer in the position of Assistant Chief Executive Officer for Support and Development to implement the state

of the art information technology and digital solutions within the company.

“gig go”

Alrayes added that among the most important projects that have been completed during the year 2018 was the launch of the application of “gig go” which is a smart and easy-to-use mobile application that enables customers to buy personal insurance products, renew policies and register their claims online using their mobile phones and other smart devices.

Cloud solution

Alrayes also mentioned that in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank of Bahrain, the company is gradually moving to the Cloud Solution using Amazon web services which will save cost on IT infrastructure.

EU fines Nike 12.4 mn euros over football merchandise

Brussels, Belgium

The EU's powerful competition authority yesterday imposed a 12.5 million euro (\$14 million) fine on US sports apparel giant Nike for restricting cross-border sales in Europe of jerseys and scarves of top football teams.

According to the European Commission, Nike imposed illegal licensing deals on merchandise from clubs such as FC Barcelona, Manchester United, Juventus, Inter Milan and AS Roma, as well as national federations including World Cup winners France.

“Today's decision makes sure that retailers and consumers can take full advantage of one of the main benefits of the Single Market,” European Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager said in a statement.

Nike obtained a 40 per cent reduction from an initial figure in return for its cooperation with the commission, which opened its investigation in June 2017 over practices that took place over 13 years.

BTEA takes part in Int'l handicrafts exhibition

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) participated in the 2nd International Handicrafts Exhibition, which was held under the patronage of the Minister of Information of Oman, Dr Abdul Moneim bin Mansour Al Hassani. The Exhibition was organised by the Public Authority for Craft Industries in the Sultanate of Oman between the 10th and 13th of March 2019.

Bahrain's pavilion attracted a large number of visitors, where a variety of handicraft products including leather crafting, artistic ceramics, and traditional wooden chests were showcased. Products at the pavilion demonstrated the development of Bahraini crafts in terms of aesthetics, quality, and innovation, and strongly pronounced a sense of national identity.

BCCI workshop on “Leading School Improvement”

TDT | Manama

The Education Committee of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) headed by Dr Waheeb Al Khaja and in cooperation with Quality House Consultancy is holding a workshop themed “Leading School Improvement” tomorrow from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in Al Majlis Hall of Bait Al Tijjar.

Chamber members and all interested in the subject are welcome to attend the workshop.

World stock markets slide on global growth fears



A trader works ahead of the closing bell on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)

London, United Kingdom

Stock markets slid yesterday, with Asia taking the heaviest hit, as investors took flight on mounting fears of a sharp global economic slowdown.

Investors shrugged off news that an investigation found no evidence of collusion between US President Donald Trump's election campaign and Russia.

Dealers have been spooked by growing evidence of a slowdown, after a broad-based rally since the start of the year that was built on hopes for China-US trade talks and a more dovish

Federal Reserve.

“Concerns over the health of the global economy heat up at a rapid pace,” said analyst Jameel Ahmad at traders FXTM.

In Europe key stock markets were lower, with London the weakest performer, while Wall Street also got off to a softer start. Eurozone losses were capped by the closely-watched Ifo index that showed recovering confidence among Germany's business leaders in March after six months of decline.

‘Miserable session’

Tokyo's main stocks index was

hammered 3.0 percent, while Hong Kong and Shanghai both dived two percent, as concerns festered also over a possible recession in the United States, dealers said.

“Despite a miserable session for Asia, European markets are managing to avoid heavy losses,” noted IG analyst Chris Beauchamp.

“The risk-off mood at the end of last week seemed dramatic, and was perhaps justified given the sudden shift in the economic outlook, but a better reading from the German Ifo index has provided

some reason for optimism,” he added.

US and European equities had tumbled Friday as the yield on 10-year Treasury bonds fell below those for three-month notes -- the first time this had happened since before the global financial crisis.

This so-called inverted yield curve shows investors are more willing to buy long-term debt -- usually considered higher risk -- as they consider the short-term outlook more risky.

“This development will psychologically encourage further anxiety and rocket fears that the global economy is heading for

another downturn, if recent economic releases across the globe have not already provided indications that the downturn has arrived,” added analyst Ahmad.

The yield curve is closely watched since it has inverted prior to recessions in recent decades.

The rush to the 10-year US bond market followed weak manufacturing data out of the US, eurozone giant Germany and France on Friday.

That came days after the Fed's announcement that it was unlikely to lift interest rates this year owing to unease about the US and global economy.

Key figures around 1540 GMT

London - FTSE 100:	▼ 0.7pc at 7,157.03 points
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	▼ 0.3 pc at 11,328.72
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 0.3 pc at 5,254.15
EURO STOXX 50:	▼ 0.3 pc at 3,295.77
New York - DOW:	▼ 0.4 pc at 25,402.91
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 3.0 pc at 20,977.11 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng:	▼ 2.0 pc at 28,523.35 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▼ 2.0 pc at 3,043.03 (close)
Pound/dollar:	▲ at \$1.32.25 from \$1.3209 on Friday
Euro/pound:	▼ at 85.55 pence from 85.59 pence
Euro/dollar:	▲ at \$1.1314 at \$1.1302
Dollar/yen:	▲ at 110.03 yen from 109.92 yen
Oil - Brent Crude:	▲ 5 cents at \$67.08 per barrel
Oil - West Texas Inter:	▼ 11 cents at \$58.92

Egypt hit by sell-off of blue chips

● 26 of 30 stocks on Egypt's index fall

● Union Properties jumps after direct deal

● Shuaa Capitals sees biggest intra-day gain since Dec 2014

Reuters

Egypt's index fell sharply yesterday, pulled down by its blue-chip shares, as Dubai rose 0.6pc.

The Egyptian blue-chip index dropped 1.2 per cent, with 26 of its 30 stocks declining. Egyptians were the net sellers of stocks during the session and non-Arab foreigners were the net buyers, according to data on the exchange website.

Egyptian Chemical Industries lost 5pc and Palm Hills Development declined 4.6pc. The former said it expects to post profit of 296.8 million Egyptian pounds (\$17.21 million) on sales of 3.63 billion Egyptian pounds for the full-year 2019-2020.

Qatar's index added 0.6pc



Traders on the floor of Saudi Stock market (file)

with most of its financial stocks gaining.

The Dubai index also rose 0.6pc, with its largest lender listed-developer Emaar Properties rising 2.1pc and its unit Emaar Malls adding 1.1pc.

Union Properties climbed 9.4pc after Dubai Financial Market (DFM) said that a direct

deal worth 60 million dirhams (\$16.34 million) was implemented on 155.5 million shares of Union Properties. DFM slid 1.7pc in active trade.

Shuaa Capital jumped 13.4pc - its biggest one gain since December 2014, after it said it was in talks with Abu Dhabi Financial Group on a potential merger.

The Saudi index gained 0.2pc, with Al Rajhi Bank rising 0.8pc and Banque Saudi Fransi increasing 1.1pc.

The Saudi market ended the previous week at its highest in almost four years after its inclusion in the FTSE Russell's emerging-market index.

Makkah Construction and

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.2pc	» 8,667 pts
ABU DHABI	▲ 0.5pc	» 5,118 pts
DUBAI	▲ 0.6pc	» 2,634 pts
QATAR	▲ 0.6pc	» 9,949 pts
EGYPT	▼ 1.2pc	» 14,671 pts
KUWAIT	▲ 0.4pc	» 5,943 pts
OMAN	■	» 4,128 pts
BAHRAIN	▼ 0.5pc	» 1,416 pts

Development Co rose 1.9pc after the developer reported a hike in its full-year net profit.

The Abu Dhabi index was up 0.5pc with its largest lender First Abu Dhabi Bank gaining 1.1pc.

Eshraq Properties rose 5pc after its board approved the cross listing of its shares on the Saudi's main Tadawul index.

But Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank slid 0.4pc. Al Hilal Bank has made about 160 people redundant ahead of a three-way merger with Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank and Union National Bank, sources familiar with the matter said. Union National inched up 0.4pc.

Turkey central bank vows to ensure stability after lira slide

Ankara, Turkey

Turkey's central bank yesterday vowed to use all the tools at its disposal to "maintain price stability" after a slide in the lira last week amid investor concerns over domestic monetary policy. The lira lost around 5.2 per cent in value against the greenback on Friday, its worst day since a currency crisis last year triggered by a US diplomatic spat and sanctions.

The bank said it "will use all monetary policy and liquidity management instruments to maintain price stability and support financial stability, if deemed necessary".

After the bank's statement yesterday, the lira pared back some of its losses. At 1255 GMT, the lira was 5.66 against the dollar, up nearly 1.8 percent on the day.

The bank suspended one-week repo auctions on Friday for an undefined period after markets reacted to an unexpected drop in the bank's foreign currency reserves.

Parliament support 'not sufficient' for third Brexit vote: May

London, United Kingdom

British Prime Minister Theresa May on Monday said there was "still not sufficient support" in parliament for her to bring her Brexit deal back to parliament for a third vote.

"As things stand there is still not sufficient support in the House to bring back the deal for a third meaningful vote," May told parliament, voicing hope that this could change later in the week.

"I continue to have discussions with colleagues from across the House to build support so we can bring the vote forward this week," she said.

May said the government would provide time to allow MPs to debate and vote on Brexit alternatives to find a plan that



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May listen as opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn speaks in the House of Commons in London

could command a majority in parliament.

But she warned it would be an "unwelcome precedent to set, which would overturn the balance of our democratic institutions."

"I am sceptical about such a process of indicative votes," she added.

"When we have tried this kind of thing in the past, it has produced contradictory outcomes or no outcomes at all."

US economists less optimistic, see slower growth: survey

Washington, United States

US economists are less optimistic about the outlook and sharply lowered their growth forecasts for this year, amid slowing global growth and continued trade frictions, according to a survey published yesterday.

And while the odds of a recession by 2020 remain low, they are rising, the National Association for Business Economics said in their quarterly report. The panel of 55 economists now believe "the US economy has reached an inflection point," said NABE President Kevin Swift.

The consensus forecast for real GDP growth was cut by three tenths from the December survey, to 2.4 percent after 2.9 percent expansion in 2018. The economy is expected

Panelists put the odds of a recession starting in 2019 at around 20 percent, and for 2020 at 35 percent, slightly higher than in Dec

to slow further in 2020, with growth of just 2 percent, the report said.

Three-quarters of respondents cut their GDP forecasts and believe the risks of to the economy are weighted to the downside.

"A majority of panelists sees external headwinds from trade policy and slower global growth as the primary downside risks to growth," NABE survey chair Gregory Daco said in a statement.

"Nonetheless, recession risks are still perceived to be low in the near term."

British Airways flight ends up in wrong city

London, United Kingdom

A British Airways plane flew by mistake from London to Edinburgh instead of Dusseldorf in Germany. Passengers only found out about the mishap when the pilot said the plane was coming in to land in Edinburgh, which is around 500 miles (800 kilometres) from Dusseldorf.

After the crew realised the mistake, the plane was refuelled and flown to Dusseldorf with a delay of more than three and a half hours.

"We are working with WDL Aviation, who operated this flight on behalf of British Airways, to establish why the incorrect flight plan was filed," a spokesman said.

EU completes no-deal Brexit preparations

Brussels, Belgium

The EU announced it has completed its preparations for Britain crashing out of the bloc without a divorce accord.

"As it is increasingly likely that the UK will leave the European Union without a deal on 12 April, the European Commission has today completed its 'no-deal' preparations," the commission, the bloc's executive arm, said. The statement, just days after Brussels agreed to postpone Brexit from its previous March 29 deadline, piled fresh pressure on Prime Minister Theresa May as she gathered her cabinet to discuss the way forward.

Thai festival returns to Gulf Hotel Bahrain

TDT | Manama

The Gulf Hotel Bahrain Convention & Spa has announced the return of the Thai Festival for the second consecutive year!

In collaboration with the Thai Embassy and Amazing Thailand, The Gulf Hotel will be hosting a 5-day festival from March 26th - 30th, which will feature cultural Thai performances in the evenings at the award-winning Royal Thai Restaurant at The Gulf Hotel.

To further compliment this cultural event, Chef Pam will prepare her award-winning Thai cuisine at Royal Thai Restaurant during the 4-day festival.

On March 30th, Chef Pam will also host a Master Class beginning at 10:30 am - 12 pm. She will showcase two recipes

and interact with participants as she demonstrates the cooking techniques.

"Royal Thai never fails to impress the discerning guests. Following the success of last year's festival, we have raised the bar this year by bringing in for the first time to Bahrain, Thailand's Celebrity Chef Pam," said Sunuj Deen, Food and Beverage Manager at The Gulf Hotel Bahrain Convention & Spa.

"The host and judge of the famous TV show, Top Chef Masters, will be serving her award-winning menus during her visit, and we are fortunate to have her visiting and the opportunity to taste her cuisine since guests face a long wait in Thailand to be able to do so", he added.

Chef Pam is Thailand's most recognised culinary personality

and has been the recipient of multiple culinary awards. At the age of 21, chef Pam became the youngest chef to be the winner of "ASIA YOUTH HOPE COOKING" contest in 2011 by Les Disciples d'Escoffier. In 2012, She was awarded as one of the "THE YOUNG WOMEN OF THE YEAR 2012" in Her World Magazine. Within the same year, returning to France, chef Pam was also the first runner up for a globally known contest with the title "YOUNG TALENT 2012", by Les Disciples d'Escoffier.

Royal Thai opened in 2002 and has since won numerous awards from publications such as Food and Travel, Time Out, Fact and the Thai Select Awards. Royal Thai is also officially listed on the website of the Thai Trade Ministry as one of the exceptional places to dine.

Chef Pam will prepare her award-winning Thai cuisine at Royal Thai Restaurant during the 4-day festival



show

OASIS JUFFAIR

- 1- US (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW**
 * LUPITA NYONG'O, ELISABETH MOSS, ANNA DIOP
 DAILY AT: 1.15 + 6.15 + 11.15 PM
 DAILY AT (VIP): 3.15 + 8.15 PM
- 2- KESARI (15+) (HINDI/ACTION/DRAMA) NEW**
 * AKSHAY KUMAR, PARINEETI CHOPRA, BHAGYASHREE
 DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 2.45 + 5.45 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM
- 3- FIVE FEET APART (PG-15) (DRAMA/ROMANTIC) NEW**
 * HALEY LU RICHARDSON, COLE SPROUSE, MOISES ARIAS
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 PM
- 4- HOTEL MUMBAI (18+) (CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DEV PATEL, ARMIE HAMMER, NAZANIN BONIADI
 DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM
- 5- MARD KO DARD NAHIN HOTA (PG-15) (HINDI/ACTION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * ABHIMANYU DASANI, GULSHAN DEVAIAH, RADHIKA MADAN
 DAILY AT: 2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM
- 6- MANOU THE SWIFT (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * WILLEM DAFOE, KATE WINSLET, ROB PAULSEN
 DAILY AT (KIDS CINEMA): 12.30 + 8.30 PM
- 7- ULAN (PG-15) (FILIPINO/DRAMA/THRILLER) NEW**
 * MARCO GUMABAO, ANGELI BAYANI, KYLIE VERZOSA
 DAILY AT: 12.00 + 4.30 + 9.00 PM
- 8- CAPTAIN MARVEL (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * BRIE LARSON, GEMMA CHAN, SAMUEL L. JACKSON
 DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 DAILY AT (3D): 2.00 + 6.30 + 11.00 PM
 DAILY AT (VIP): 12.45 + 5.45 + 10.45 PM
- 9- WONDER PARK (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * BRIANNA DENSKI, JENNIER GARNER, KEN HUDSON CAMPBELL
 DAILY AT (KIDS CINEMA): 10.30 AM + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 10.30 PM
- 10- BADLA (PG-15) (HINDI/THRILLER/CRIME) NEW**
 * AMITABH BACHCHAN, TAPSEE PANNU, TONY LUKE
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM
- 11- TOTAL DHAMAAL (PG-13) (HINDI/COMEDY/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * AJAY DEVGN, MADHURI DIXIT, ANIL KAPOOR
 DAILY AT: 3.15 + 8.45 PM
- 12- GULLY BOY (PG-15) (HINDI/DRAMA/MUSICAL) NEW**
 * ALIA BHAT, RANVEER SINGH, SIDDHANT CHATURVEDI
 DAILY AT: 2.00 + 8.00 PM
- 13- KUMBALANGI NIGHT (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) NEW**
 * SHANE NIGAM, SOUBIN SHAHIR, FAHADH FAASIL
 DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 5.00 + 11.00 PM
- 14- KODATHI SMAKSHAM BALAN VAKEEL (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) NEW**
 * DILEEP, MAMTA MOHANDAS, PRIYA ANAND
 DAILY AT: 12.15 + 5.45 + 11.15 PM
- 1- US (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW**
 * LUPITA NYONG'O, ELISABETH MOSS, ANNA DIOP
 DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN + (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)
- 2- KESARI (15+) (HINDI/ACTION/DRAMA) NEW**
 * AKSHAY KUMAR, PARINEETI CHOPRA, BHAGYASHREE
 DAILY AT (VIP I): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM

- 3- FIVE FEET APART (PG-15) (DRAMA/ROMANTIC) NEW**
 * HALEY LU RICHARDSON, COLE SPROUSE, MOISES ARIAS
 DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
- 4- HOTEL MUMBAI (18+) (CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DEV PATEL, ARMIE HAMMER, NAZANIN BONIADI
 DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM
- 5- MANOU THE SWIFT (PG) (HINDI/ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/DRAMA) NEW**
 * WILLEM DAFOE, KATE WINSLET, ROB PAULSEN
 DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 PM
- 6- DAMASCUS ALEPPO (PG-13) (ARABIC/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DOURAID LAHAM, SABAH JAZAIRI, SALMA MASRI
 DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
- 7- CAPTAIN MARVEL (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * BRIE LARSON, GEMMA CHAN, SAMUEL L. JACKSON
 DAILY AT (ATMOS): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 PM + 12.00 MN
 DAILY AT (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
 DAILY AT (IMAX 3D): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 DAILY AT (VIP II): 11.30 AM + 2.15 + 5.00 + 7.45 + 10.30 PM
- 8- WONDER PARK (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * BRIANNA DENSKI, JENNIER GARNER, KEN HUDSON CAMPBELL
 DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30 + 10.30 PM
 DAILY AT (ARABIC DUBBED): 11.30 AM + 3.30 + 7.30 + 11.30 PM
- 9- ESCAPE ROOM (PG-15) (THRILLER) NEW**
 * TAYLOR RUSSELL, LOGAN MILLER, DEBORAH ANN WOLL
 DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN
- 10- BADLA (PG-15) (HINDI/THRILLER/CRIME) NEW**
 * AMITABH BACHCHAN, TAPSEE PANNU, TONY LUKE
 DAILY AT: 12.15 + 4.45 + 9.15 PM
- 11- GRETA (15+) (THRILLER/CRIME) NEW**
 * CHLOE GRACE MORETZ, ISABELLE HUPPERT, MAIKA MONROE
 DAILY AT: 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN
- 12- COLD PURSUIT (15+) (ACTION/CRIME/DRAMA) NEW**
 * LIAM NEESON, EMMY ROSSUM, LAURA DERN
 DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
- 13- FIGHTING WITH MY FAMILY (15+) (DRAMA/COMEDY/BIOGRAPHY) NEW**
 * DWAYNE JOHNSON, FLORENCE PUGH, JACK LOWDEN
 DAILY AT: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
- 14- THE UPSIDE (PG-15) (COMEDY/DRAMA) NEW**
 * KEVIN HART, BRYAN CRANSTON, NICOLE KIDMAN
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM
- 15- NADI ELREGAL EL SERI (PG-15) (ARABIC/COMEDY) NEW**
 * KARIM ABDULAZIZ, GHADA ADEL, MAJDE ALKIDDAWI
 DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
- 16- GLASS (PG-15) (THRILLER) NEW**
 * JAMES MCAVOY, BRUCE WILLIS, SAMUEL L. JACKSON
 DAILY AT: 12.30 + 3.00 + 5.30 + 8.00 + 10.30 PM
- 17- HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: THE HIDDEN WORLD (PG) (ANIMATION/ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * CATE BLANCHETT, JONAH HILL, GERARD BUTLER
 DAILY AT: 1.30 + 5.30 + 9.30 PM
- 18- ALITA: BATTLE ANGEL (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/ROMANTIC) NEW**
 * ROSA SALAZAR, CHRISTOPH WALTZ, JENNIFER CONNELLY
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 4.00 + 9.15 PM



- 19- JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN (PG) (COMEDY/ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * ROWAN ATKINSON, OLGA KURYLENKO, EMMA THOMPSON
 DAILY AT: 2.45 + 7.15 + 11.45 PM
- 20- AQUAMAN (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * JASON MOMOA, AMBER HEARD, NICOLE KIDMAN
 DAILY AT: 1.15 + 6.30 + 11.45 PM

SEEF (II)

- 1- US (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW**
 * LUPITA NYONG'O, ELISABETH MOSS, ANNA DIOP
 DAILY AT: (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)
- 2- KESARI (15+) (HINDI/ACTION/DRAMA) NEW**
 * AKSHAY KUMAR, PARINEETI CHOPRA, BHAGYASHREE
 DAILY AT: (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)
- 3- FIVE FEET APART (PG-15) (DRAMA/ROMANTIC) NEW**
 * HALEY LU RICHARDSON, COLE SPROUSE, MOISES ARIAS
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- 7- DAMASCUS ALEPPO (PG-13) (ARABIC/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DOURAID LAHAM, SABAH JAZAIRI, SALMA MASRI
 DAILY AT: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
- 8- MIRAI (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DANIEL DAE KIM, REBECCA HALL, JOHN CHO
 DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM
- 9- THE BRAND NEW ADVENTURES OF ALADIN (PG-15) (ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * KEV ADAMS, JAMEL DEBBOUZE, VANESSA GUIDE
 DAILY AT: 2.15 + 6.45 + 11.15 PM
- 10- CAPTAIN MARVEL (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * BRIE LARSON, GEMMA CHAN, SAMUEL L. JACKSON
 DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 2.00 + 4.45 + 7.30 + 10.15 PM + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
- 11- WONDER PARK (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * BRIANNA DENSKI, JENNIER GARNER, KEN HUDSON CAMPBELL
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 PM

- 12- COLD PURSUIT (15+) (ACTION/CRIME/DRAMA) NEW**
 * LIAM NEESON, EMMY ROSSUM, LAURA DERN
 DAILY AT: 1.15 + 5.45 + 10.15 PM
- 13- THE UPSIDE (PG-15) (COMEDY/DRAMA) NEW**
 * KEVIN HART, BRYAN CRANSTON, NICOLE KIDMAN
 DAILY AT: 2.30 + 7.00 + 11.30 PM
- 14- CAPHARNAUM (18+) (ARABIC/DRAMA) NEW**
 * KAWTHAR AL HADDAD, NADINE LABAKY, FADI YOUSEF
 DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 4.15 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM
- 15- HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: THE HIDDEN WORLD (PG) (ANIMATION/ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * CATE BLANCHETT, JONAH HILL, GERARD BUTLER
 DAILY AT: 1.45 + 5.45 + 9.45 PM

SEEF (I)

- 1- US (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW**
 * LUPITA NYONG'O, ELISABETH MOSS, ANNA DIOP
 DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
- 2- KESARI (15+) (HINDI/ACTION/DRAMA) NEW**
 * AKSHAY KUMAR, PARINEETI CHOPRA, BHAGYASHREE
 DAILY AT: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + 12.00 MN
- 3- MARD KO DARD NAHIN HOTA (PG-15) (HINDI/ACTION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * ABHIMANYU DASANI, GULSHAN DEVAIAH, RADHIKA MADAN
 DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
- 4- ESCAPE ROOM (PG-15) (THRILLER) NEW**
 * TAYLOR RUSSELL, LOGAN MILLER, DEBORAH ANN WOLL
 DAILY AT: 2.00 + 6.30 + 11.00 PM
- 5- BADLA (PG-15) (HINDI/THRILLER/CRIME) NEW**
 * AMITABH BACHCHAN, TAPSEE PANNU, TONY LUKE
 DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
- 6- NADI ELREGAL EL SERI (PG-15) (ARABIC/COMEDY) NEW**
 * KARIM ABDULAZIZ, GHADA ADEL, MAJDE ALKIDDAWI
 DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 4.15 + 8.45 PM
- 7- TOTAL DHAMAAL (PG-13) (HINDI/COMEDY/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * AJAY DEVGN, MADHURI DIXIT, ANIL KAPOOR
 DAILY AT: 3.30 + 9.00 PM
- 8- KUMBALANGI NIGHT (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) NEW**
 * SHANE NIGAM, SOUBIN SHAHIR, FAHADH FAASIL
 DAILY AT: 12.30 + 6.00 + 11.30 PM

SAAR

- 1- US (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW**
 * LUPITA NYONG'O, ELISABETH MOSS, ANNA DIOP
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)
- 2- KESARI (15+) (HINDI/ACTION/DRAMA) NEW**
 * AKSHAY KUMAR, PARINEETI CHOPRA, BHAGYASHREE
 DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + (11.00 PM THURS/FRI)
- 3- FIVE FEET APART (PG-15) (DRAMA/ROMANTIC) NEW**
 * HALEY LU RICHARDSON, COLE SPROUSE, MOISES ARIAS
 DAILY AT: 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + (11.30 PM THURS/FRI)
- 4- HOTEL MUMBAI (18+) (CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DEV PATEL, ARMIE HAMMER, NAZANIN BONIADI
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 PM
- 5- CAPTAIN MARVEL (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * BRIE LARSON, GEMMA CHAN, SAMUEL L. JACKSON
 DAILY AT: 1.15 + 6.15 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)
- 6- WONDER PARK (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * BRIANNA DENSKI, JENNIER GARNER, KEN HUDSON CAMPBELL
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 PM

AL HAMRA

- 1- OTTAM (PG-15) (MALAYALAM) NEW**
 * NANDHU ANAND, ROSHAN ULLAS, ALENCIER
 DAILY AT: 6.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)
- 2- TO LET (PG-13) (TAMIL) NEW**
 * P SANTOSH SREERAM, SHEELA RAJKUMAR, AADHIRA APNDILAKSHMI
 DAILY AT: 12.00 NOON
- 3- KUMBALANGI NIGHT (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) NEW**
 * SHANE NIGAM, SOUBIN SHAHIR, FAHADH FAASIL
 DAILY AT: 3.00 + 9.00 PM

WADI AL SAIL

- 1- US (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER) NEW**
 * LUPITA NYONG'O, ELISABETH MOSS, ANNA DIOP
 DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
- 2- KESARI (15+) (HINDI/ACTION/DRAMA) NEW**
 * AKSHAY KUMAR, PARINEETI CHOPRA, BHAGYASHREE
 DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM
- 3- FIVE FEET APART (PG-15) (DRAMA/ROMANTIC) NEW**
 * HALEY LU RICHARDSON, COLE SPROUSE, MOISES ARIAS
 DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
- 4- HOTEL MUMBAI (18+) (CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DEV PATEL, ARMIE HAMMER, NAZANIN BONIADI
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
- 5- DAMASCUS ALEPPO (PG-13) (ARABIC/DRAMA) NEW**
 * DOURAID LAHAM, SABAH JAZAIRI, SALMA MASRI
 DAILY AT: 1.15 + 6.15 + 11.15 PM
- 6- CAPTAIN MARVEL (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW**
 * BRIE LARSON, GEMMA CHAN, SAMUEL L. JACKSON
 DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM
- 7- WONDER PARK (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW**
 * BRIANNA DENSKI, JENNIER GARNER, KEN HUDSON CAMPBELL
 DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 PM

MOVIE REVIEW

Kesari: An emotional war drama with solid action sequences

Akshay Kumar brings yet another tale of bravery to Bollywood

Kesari (transl. Saffron) is a 2019 Indian Hindi-language action-war film written and directed by Anurag Singh.

It was jointly produced by Karan Johar, Aruna Bhatia, Hiroo Yash Johar, Apoorva Mehra and Sunir Khetarpal under the banners of Dharma Productions, Cape of Good Films, Azure Entertainment and Zee Studios.

The film stars Akshay Kumar with Parineeti Chopra, Mir Sarwar, Vansh Bhardwaj, Jaspreet Singh, Vivek Saini and Vikram Kochhar in supporting roles.

It follows the events leading to the Battle of Saragarhi, a battle between 21 soldiers of the Sikh Regiment of the British Army and 6,000–10,000



Akshay Kumar in a still from Kesari

Afridi and Orakzai mountain tribesmen from Afghanistan in 1897.

Rachit Gupta of The Times

of India gave Kesari four stars out of five, praising its

“technical brilliance, intricate writing and thundering performances”.

Taran Adarsh gave it four stars and felt it “chronicles a significant chapter from history brilliantly... Nationalism, patriotism, heroism, scale and soul - Kesari has it all”.

Writing for Times Now, Gaurang Chauhan rated the film three and a half stars out of five and opined, “Kesari is not the best patriotic film or an action film to come out of Bollywood, but it surely is worth the time and money”.

Bollywood Hungama rated it four stars out of five, remarking, “On the whole, Kesari is a brave and inspirational tale of courage, with patriotism and the dramatic battle sequences being the USP of the film”.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RINJU EBENEZER s/o REGINOLD PETER holding Indian Passport No. **H 6174022** dated 15.09.2009 issued at KOZHIKODE having permanent residence at (full address in India) **PETER HOUSE KULAPPURAM P O VILAYANCODE CHERUTHAZHAM KANNUR KERALA 670501**. Presently residing at (full address in Bahrain) **FLAT - 8, BUILDING - 44, BLOCK. 526, BAHRAIN** will henceforth be known as (given name) **RINJU** (Surname) **EBENEZER**. Objection (s), if any, may be forwarded to Embassy of India, P.O. Box 26106, Adliya, Kingdom of Bahrain.

celebrity



Alex Rodriguez and Jennifer Lopez

Alex Rodriguez shares heartfelt post for fiancée Jennifer Lopez

Los Angeles

Seems like former New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez is completely smitten by his fiancée and singer-actor Jennifer Lopez.

Showing love and support for his lady and her upcoming film 'Hustlers', Rodriguez shared an adorable picture of himself with Lopez which features the two embracing each other.

Rodriguez praised Lopez's incredible work ethic and drive.

He wrote, "This beautiful woman starts shooting her movie tomorrow, 'Hustlers.' I won't play spoiler, but I can't wait until you all see how she transforms herself into a completely different character!! She's been working so hard

lately. I'm glad we were able to enjoy a quick little break before she dives into this new project. Love you baby and continue to shine, fly high and inspire all of us. @jlo #hustlers."

Lopez is soon going to start shooting for 'Hustlers', which also stars Cardi B, who is making her debut, Lili Reinhart, Constance Wu, Keke Palmer, Julia Stiles, and Mercedes Ruehl.

The couple got engaged on March 10 after dating for almost two years. The duo announced the happy news on their respective Instagram accounts by sharing matching photos of Lopez wearing her stunning diamond engagement ring as Rodriguez can be seen holding her hand in the picture.

He popped the big question while they were vacationing together in Baker's Bay, reported E! News.

Heartbreaking to see my dad die, says Idris Elba

Los Angeles

Actor Idris Elba says watching his father Winston die of lung cancer was heartbreaking.

In an interview to The Hollywood Reporter, the "Luther" actor opened about his father's illness and why did he get a tattoo of "one life" on his forearm, reported mirror.co.uk.

He said: "That's it. That's all we've got. I watched my dad die, and he and I had big plans. I never got to show him the fruits of my labour. We talked about things he could have if I made it, then he got sick."

This encouraged Elba to get "one life" tattooed on his arm, so that he doesn't forget to grab every opportunity thrown at him.



Idris Elba

Broadway legend Patti LuPone joins Ryan Murphy's 'Pose'

Los Angeles

"Pose" creator Ryan Murphy has announced that Broadway legend Patti LuPone is set to guest star in the upcoming second season of the FX drama.

Murphy also revealed that in season two, the series will jump from 1980s to 1990s.



Patti LuPone

AR Rahman to compose song for 'Avengers: Endgame'

Mumbai

Marvel's much anticipated upcoming film 'Avengers

According to Indian film critic and trade analyst Taran Adarsh, Rahman will be composing a song for Indian fans in three languages, Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu. The song will be released on April 1.

"#BreakingNews: AR Rahman joins Avengers: Endgame. The ace music composer will create an all-new song for Indian fans in three languages: Hindi, Tamil and Telugu. The song will be released on 1 April 2019," Adarsh tweeted.



AR Rahman

Beyoncé and Jay-Z help boost Louvre visitors in 2018

Los Angeles

A Beyoncé and Jay-Z music video helped the Louvre in Paris increase its visitors to a record 10.2 million in 2018.

The Louvre also credited the large increase in visitors to its Delacroix show - the museum's most popular exhibition on record.

An upswing in foreign visitors to the French capital was another contributory factor to the 26% rise in admissions.

Tate Modern was the most visited UK museum, according to The Art Newspaper.

The Thameside gallery knocked the British Museum off the top spot, a position it had held for the previous nine years.

London's Victoria and Albert museum also

reported a record year, with 3.9 million visitors.

Last year it dropped to sixth in the rankings, while UK museum and exhibition figures overall were 5% down from their highpoint in 2014.

Across the Atlantic, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York staged the two most popular exhibitions in the world in 2018.

Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination, a show that mixed religious artworks with haute couture, was seen by nearly 1.7 million people.

The second most popular exhibition in 2018, which attracted more than 700,000 visitors, was Michelangelo: Divine Draftsman and Designer.



Beyoncé and Jay-Z

Rock pioneer Scott Walker dies aged 76

Los Angeles

Influential singer-songwriter Scott Walker has died aged 76, his record label said on Monday, after a career that took him from 1960s pop icon to 21st-century avant-garde musician.

US-born Walker, who acquired British citizenship, was the lead singer of the 1960s band The Walker Brothers.

The baritone vocalist began his solo career in 1967 and was credited as an influence on top British acts over several decades including David Bowie and Pulp.



Scott Walker

"It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Scott Walker," his label 4AD said on Twitter.

"Scott was 76 years old and is survived by his daughter, Lee, his granddaughter, Emmi-Lee, and his partner, Beverly," it said.

Cult-horror writer Larry Cohen dead at 77

Los Angeles

Larry Cohen, the writer and director best known for his work in horror and films on exploitation of black people, including the cult classic "It's Alive", "Black Caesar", and "Hell Up in Harlem", has died. He was 77.

Cohen's friend, actor and publicist Shade Rupe, confirmed the news, which was announced in a post on Cohen's official Facebook page.

Rupe said Cohen died here on Saturday night surrounded by loved ones, reports variety.com.

"The entire King Cohen team mourns the loss of its star, hero and King, Larry Cohen.

His unparalleled talents were surpassed only by his giant heart. The impact he made on television and cinema will be felt forever, and our deepest condolences go out to his family, friends and fans," reads the post.



Larry Cohen

The Jonas Brothers tease fans with new music again

Los Angeles

Driving away your Monday blues, the Jonas Brothers, who recently reunited and surprised their fans by dropping a new song 'Sucker', have teased fans about an upcoming new music video.

Nick Jonas and Joe Jonas teased a new music video simply saying that they are "shooting something." While, the sibling duo didn't get into details, Nick posted a video on his Instagram story of him and Joe wearing matching outfits. The two donned navy blue sport coat and a white shirt with black trim.

"Stole my look," Nick said to the camera while shaking his head at his brother.

Nick also uploaded a photo of himself looking off into the distance and captioned it "shooting something."

The Jonas Brothers



Brigitte Nielsen might have another baby

Los Angeles

Singer Brigitte Nielsen, who is a mother of five children, says she would love to have another child in her life.

Speaking on Italian TV show "Non e la D'Urso", Nielsen opened about her husband Mattia's wish of having a baby boy in their life, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

She said: "I might have another baby."



Brigitte Nielsen

It would be the sixth. Never say never. My husband is pressuring me for another baby. He loves our little princess but he'd also like to have a baby boy.

"Both of us always knew we wanted to have a baby together, a girl or a boy, it was the same. But deep in my heart I was hoping it was a baby girl. I already have four boys, so yes I hoped for a little princess."

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SPORTS

sports

New-look Germany edge Dutch in Euro thriller

Joachim Low's side let 2-0 lead slip before Nico Schulz scored late winner

● **Belgium claim win over Cyprus**

● **Croatia slump to defeat**

AFP | Paris

Germany's Nico Schulz sealed a thrilling 3-2 win over the Netherlands in a see-saw Euro 2020 qualifier as Joachim Low's new-look line-up survived a severe test on Sunday.

Elsewhere, World Cup finalists Croatia stumbled to a 2-1 defeat in Hungary, and Eden Hazard celebrated a century of caps with the opening goal in Belgium's 2-0 win over Cyprus.

A revamped Germany raced into a 2-0 lead in Amsterdam with thrilling strikes from Leroy Sané and Serge Gnabry but the hosts struck back with a second half header from Matthijs De Ligt before Memphis Depay pounced for an equaliser on 63 minutes.

The four-time world champions were put under immense pressure from a Netherlands side seeking a winner but the visitors, who were booed by their own fans in a 1-1 friendly draw against Serbia last



Netherlands' defender Denzel Dumfries (front) vies with Germany's defender Nico Schulz

Wednesday, snatched victory in the 90th minute through 25-year-old Schulz. The Hoffenheim midfielder, who made his international in August, tapped home a loose ball after a tireless Sané had taken the defence with him on a run into the box.

The win comes after Low took an axe to Germany's squad ahead of the qualifying campaign in the aftermath of last year's calamitous World Cup elimination, when he told Bayern Munich trio Thomas Mu-

eller, Jerome Boateng and Mats Hummels they had no future in the national side.

Bayern stopper Manuel Neuer may also come under pressure for his place after De Ligt beat him with a flying header just after the restart. Neuer, 32, was also slow to react as Depay pounced for the equaliser.

Dutch 'keeper Jasper Cillessen was left with little chance after Gnabry ended his mazy run by outwitting Virgil Van Dijk before sending a rasping long-range

effort into the bottom corner in the early action.

Modric powerless

Chelsea star Hazard celebrated his 100th cap by scoring the opener in their 2-0 win over Cyprus in Group I with Michy Batshuayi grabbing the second as Real Madrid's Thibaut Courtois went largely untested in the Belgian goal.

Ballon d'Or winner Luka Modric was powerless to stop beaten World Cup finalists Cro-

atia from slipping to a 2-1 defeat to Hungary in Group E on Sunday as Mate Patkai notched a 76th minute winner in Budapest.

Croatia had struggled against Azerbaijan in their opening qualifier last Thursday before escaping with a 2-1 win, but they made the perfect start in the Hungarian capital when Ante Rebic put them ahead on 13 minutes.



Captain Eden Hazard marked his 100th cap for Belgium

But Hungary pulled level through Adam Szalai's fifth goal in as many games and with a quarter of an hour left, 31-year-old Patkai scored his first international goal to pull off a famous victory.

Scotland got back to winning ways with an uninspiring 2-0 win at perennial makeweights San Marino, following an embarrassing defeat at Kazakhstan in their opening qualifier.

Bayern Munich sign partnership with Singapore Sports Council

AFP | Berlin

Bayern Munich will found a sixth football school in Asia after agreeing a youth development partnership with the Singapore Sports Council (SportsG), the Bundesliga giants announced yesterday.

Former Bayern player Klaus Augenthaler was present at a signing ceremony at Singapore's Jurong East Stadium on Sunday, as the club pledged to "close future co-operation" with SportsG, the government agency in charge of sport.

The partnership will involve education programmes, coaching exchanges and participation in the international youth series, "FC Bayern Youth Cup", the club said in a statement.

"Football is becoming ever more popular in Singapore and we are proud to be able to work with SportsG," said Joerg Wacker, Bayern's Head of Internationalisation and Strategy.

"In the centre of this partnership are a wide-reaching exchange of expertise and our ongoing support of the development of youth football in Singapore."

SportsG CEO Lim Teck Yin said there was a lot to be learned from Bayern.

"Their expertise will definitely help to inspire upcoming talents, encourage more players to train seriously and I hope that we will see sustained and increased interest in the sport over the years," he said.



CBA 8 A side tournament for Division D winners Alpha Fire and runners up TISCA Stars with their trophies

Alba Red, Cric Bahrain advance to last four

TDI | Manama

Alba Red beat Colts Cricket Academy by a huge margin of 157 runs and stormed in to the Semi Finals of the CBA-Alba Under 12 cricket tournament on Friday at Alba ground.

Batted first Alba Red has scored a record total of 205 for the loss of 6 wickets in 20 overs. Alba opens Sarvesh Nirmal (40) and Sai Sarthak (28) have added 81 runs for the first wicket. Then Sarvesh Nirmal and Aryan Ashwin (31) continued their efforts and added 57 for second wicket.

Later Captain Romir Adhiya made a quick fire 34 not out in 17 balls to take his team to a record total of 205 runs in 20 overs. Bhavya Gupta was most successful bowler who took 2 wickets for 23 runs. In reply Colts Cricket Academy was bowled out for just 48 runs.

Arnav Nair (2 wickets for 8 runs), Tirthankar (2 wickets for 1 runs) and Abdullah (2 wickets for 2 runs) bowled well with an excellent piece of medium pace bowling to bundle Colts Academy for just 48 runs. With this win Alba Red has entered in to the last four of the tournament.

F2 driver line-up all set for season-opener in Bahrain

TDI | Manama

The 20-driver line-up for the 2019 FIA Formula 2 Championship is now complete and the field is ready to take Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) by storm this weekend for the opening round of their season, being held in support of the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2019.

The final additions to the roster of up-and-coming race stars were made in the past few days, and all 10 Formula 2 teams are ready to line up on the grid.

The season-opening meeting in Bahrain will have a 32-lap Feature Race covering 173.184 kilometres on Saturday and then the 23-lap Sprint Race over 124.476km will be held on Sunday.

Amongst the more prominent drivers competing in Formula 2 this year is Mick Schumacher, who is the son of seven-time Formula 1 World champion Michael Schumacher. He will be taking to the tarmac with Italian outfit Prema Racing, alongside Indonesian teammate Sean Galea.

It was also announced that 20-year-old Schumacher will be making his debut in a Formula 1 car in Bahrain at a young driv-



F2 cars in action at BIC

ers' test, to be held April 2 and 3 right after the Grand Prix.

A few other big names competing this Formula 2 season include Williams test and reserve driver Nicholas Latifi from Canada, who will race for French team DAMS alongside Brazilian Sergio Sette Camara; Renault test driver Jack Aitken from Great Britain, who competes for Spanish team Campos Racing with Frenchman Dorian Boccia; and former Formula 1 test driver Nikita Mazepin from Russia, who drives for French outfit ART Grand Prix

alongside Nyck De Vries from the Netherlands.

There is one lady driver on the grid this season, Colombian Tatiana Calderon, who races for British squad BWT Arden alongside Anthoine Hubert of France.

From the other teams, Carlin are set to race with Louis Deletraz from Switzerland and Nobuharu Matsushita of Japan; UNI-Virtuosi Racing from Great Britain will compete with Guanyu Zhou from China and Luca Ghiotto from Italy; and Sauber Junior Team by Charouz

from the Czech Republic with Callum Iott from Great Britain and Juan Manuel Correa from the US.

The grid is completed by MP Motorsport from the Netherlands with Jordan King from Great Britain and Dutch teammate Mahaveer Raghunathan; and Trident from Italy who will race with Giuliano Alesi of France and Ralph Boschung of Switzerland.

The new Formula 2 campaign is set to feature 12 meetings in all, each running in conjunction with a Formula 1 Grand Prix.

Djokovic downs Delbonis

● **Djokovic passes Delbonis test to reach Miami fourth round**

● **Simona Halep and Venus Williams advance in Miami**

AFP | Miami

Novak Djokovic remains on course for a record seventh Miami Open title, but the world number one admitted to a loss of focus in a 7-5, 4-6, 6-1 victory over spirited Federico Delbonis which booked his place in the last 16.

Djokovic is hoping to eclipse Andre Agassi's six ATP crowns in South Florida over the next week and although the 31-year-old endured some shaky moments at Hard Rock Stadium, he still possessed enough quality during the key moments to see off the battling Delbonis.

The Serbian, though, wasn't happy with letting a 5-2 advantage slip in the first set and became furious with himself as the second squirmed from his grasp.

He will need to tighten up his game if he is to reach next Sunday's final with Roberto Bautista Agut waiting in the fourth round after the Spaniard defeated Italian Fabio Fognini 6-4, 6-4.

"To be honest, I lost my focus," said Djokovic who smashed 36 winners compared to 24 from Delbonis. "I should have done



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a shot to Federico Delbonis of Argentina

better I think mentally than I have done at the end of the first two sets.

"I managed to really play well last couple games of first set, go up a break, put myself in front, then I played a couple of really bad service games. Credit to

Federico, he stepped in."

Djokovic had looked impressive in the second round win over Bernard Tomic and the Serbian continued his decent form by immediately imposing himself onto the Argentine. Djokovic moved 5-2 ahead but

after he missed a set point opportunity on the Delbonis serve, his game deserted him and suddenly, the South American had a spring in his step.

Delbonis had opportunities to steal ahead, yet calling on all his experience and mental resolve,

the Serbian was able to hold firm and take the opener.

The world number one was getting incredibly frustrated, he received a warning for racket abuse and was furious for allowing a 3-1 lead to slip in the second, yet credit to Delbonis who stayed calm and served out confidently to force a decider, something which looked beyond him midway through the opening set.

He couldn't keep the pressure on, however, and when Djokovic managed to get 3-1 ahead, this time there was no way back for the 28 year-old from Azul who rightly received an ovation from the center court crowd for his monumental efforts.

"I think last four games were terrific, so I ended up in a positive way," Djokovic added.

Defending champion John Isner blew Spain's Albert Ramos-Vinolas off court with serves touching 139 mph as the American sealed an ultimately comprehensive 7-5, 7-6 (8-6) win

to set up an intriguing match with Kyle Edmund in the last 16 after the British number one impressively saw off Canadian Milos Raonic 6-4 6-4.

In the women's draw, Simona Halep kept alive hopes of regaining the world number one ranking Sunday, beating Polona Herczeg 5-7, 7-6 (7/1), 6-2 to reach the last 16 where she will play Venus Williams.

Halep, 27, lost her place at the top of the rankings following Naomi Osaka's triumph at the Australian Open earlier this year.

But with the Japanese faltering here on Saturday, Halep can return to the position she last held at the end of 2018 if she lands the Miami Open for the first time.

"It's always tough against Venus," said the current world number three, who has beaten the American in their previous three encounters.

"I'm not going to say that it's going to be easier because I won the last matches against her. It's a big challenge for me."

Seven-time Grand Slam champion Williams, meanwhile, swept past Russian Daria Kasatkina 6-3, 6-1.

"Simona always plays flawless tennis against me, so I have to be ready for that," Williams said.

Elsewhere in women's action, American Sloane Stephens's title defense ended in a 6-3, 6-2 loss to Germany's Tatjana Maria.

It was another disappointing ending for Stephens, who fell in the third round at Indian Wells.

”
To be honest, I lost my focus. I should have done better I think mentally than I have done at the end of the first two sets

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

Zorc dismisses rumours linking Sancho to United

AFP | Berlin

Borussia Dortmund sporting director Michael Zorc has dismissed rumours that 19-year-old rising star Jadon Sancho is set for a move back to Manchester United.

English youngster Sancho has flourished since joining Dortmund from Manchester City two years ago, and

recently signed a contract extension which keeps him at the German club until 2022.

Yet Sancho, who picked up an assist in England's 5-0 thrashing of the Czech Republic on Friday, has been repeatedly linked with a return to the Premier League.

A recent report in The Sun alleged that Sancho's agent was in talks with Manchester United, but Dortmund boss Zorc dismissed the rumours as "irrelevant".

"I have no knowledge (of the talks), but it is also completely irrelevant," Zorc told Bild.

In a recent interview with the same newspaper, Zorc admitted that it would be hard for Dortmund to hold on to Sancho long-term, but insisted that the youngster would remain at Dortmund next season.

"I can't put a price tag around Jadon's neck but I can say that even the biggest clubs in the world struggle to afford him at the moment," said Zorc.

"Jadon will be playing at Borussia Dortmund next season. But it is obvious that the interest in him will keep growing, especially from English clubs. He will not end his career in Dortmund, that much is true."



Stuani strikes again as ruthless Uruguay win China Cup

Reuters | Shanghai, China

Stand-in forward Cristhian Stuani scored his third goal in two games as Uruguay taught Thailand a footballing lesson to win the China Cup with a 4-0 victory yesterday.

The 2018 World Cup quarter-finalists hardly missed the injured star striking duo of Luis Suarez and Edinson Cavani as they made it seven goals in two games.

Uruguay, comfortable 3-0 victors over Uzbekistan on Friday in the four-team tournament, profited from some poor Thailand defending in the Chinese city of Nanning.

Unmarked Inter Milan midfielder Matias Vecino headed



Uruguay's Gaston Pereiro in action

home after just six minutes -- Thai goalkeeper Siwarak Ted-sungnoen should have done better -- and it was 2-0 on 38 minutes when Gaston Pereiro

prodded in after the Thai defence went AWOL.

Stuani, starting because of the absence of PSG's Cavani and Barcelona's Suarez, made

126th
appearance was made by Diego Godin for Uruguay yesterday

it 3-0 just before the hour with a close-range bullet header from a corner. The Girona striker, who scored a brace against the Uzbeks, had hit the post just minutes earlier.

Substitute Maxi Gomez made it 4-0 two minutes from the end of normal time with goalkeeper Siwarak stranded out of position.

Cardiff to claim Emiliano Sala transfer 'null and void': report

AFP | London

Cardiff are set to tell FIFA that the £15 million (\$19.8m, 23m euros) deal they agreed to pay Nantes for Emiliano Sala became "null and void" after he died in a plane crash, a report said yesterday.

The 28-year-old Argentine forward was killed when the small plane carrying him came down in the Channel on January 21, two days after he completed his transfer from the French



Flowers are displayed in front of the portrait of Emiliano Sala at Beaujoire stadium in Nantes (file photo)

Ligue 1 side.

The Daily Telegraph said Sala signed a contract with Cardiff that was rejected by the Premier League and died before a revised one could be signed, adding that there is a dispute about whether he had agreed to sign a new deal.

According to the report, a source close to Cardiff said the agreement stipulated that Welsh and French football authorities had to confirm to both clubs

that Sala "has been registered as a Cardiff City FC player and that the player's International Transfer Certificate has been released".

The source said this had not happened before Sala died.

"The transfer agreement between Cardiff and Nantes was subject to several conditions," the source told the paper.

Nantes reportedly plan to dispute Cardiff's case, saying the club completed the paperwork.