

Beyoncé and Jay-Z help boost Louvre visitors in 2018

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

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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 Minis-

ter 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

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."

