

Boyle to direct next Bond film with Craig

Oscar-winning director Danny Boyle is to reunite with his "Trainspotting" actor Daniel Craig for the 25th Bond film. Boyle will also reunite with "Train-spotting" writer John Hodge, who is creating an original screenplay. **P17**



For Barrymore, dark circles are a problem 17 SHOW

NEWS OF BAHRAIN 5 5,000 expats deported in past three years

Summit could be on June 12: Trump

Washington DC

US President Donald Trump said yesterday that he remains open to holding a summit with North Korea's Kim Jong Un on June 12. The President said lines of communication had opened between the two countries after officials said Thursday that the North Koreans had become unresponsive, leading to the planned summit's cancellation. "We're going to see what happens. We're talking to them now. It was a very nice statement they put out," Trump said on the South Lawn before departing in his helicopter for the US Naval Academy in Maryland. "We'll see what happens. It could even be the 12th. We're talking to them now," he said. "They very much want to do it. We'd like to do it."



De Silva quits tour after dad shot dead

Colombo

The father of Sri Lankan cricket all-rounder Dhananjaya de Silva was shot dead by unidentified gunmen on the eve of the national team's departure to the West Indies yesterday, police said. The player's father, Ranjan, a local politician, was gunned down in Ratmalana, a suburb of the capital Colombo, close to midnight on Thursday, police said. An investigation is underway but no arrests have been made. Cricket officials said 26-year-old De Silva withdrew from the tour that involves three Test matches. However, there was no official word from the cricket board on who will replace De Silva.

Mumtalakat CEO honoured by Russian President

Moscow

Mahmood Al Kooheji, Chief Executive of Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company, the kingdom's sovereign wealth fund, was granted the Friendship Medal by Russian President Vladimir Putin to become the first Bahraini to receive the distinguished award. The honour was bestowed in an award distribution ceremony held at Konstantinovsky Palace on the sidelines of the St Petersburg International Economic Forum.



Mr Al Kooheji receives the medal from President Putin.

The Friendship Medal is a Russian award created per a presidential decree number 442 on March 3, 1994 to honour

very important persons who contributed to boosting relations and co-operation with Russia and the Russian people. A total of 350 personalities received the medal since its inception.

The award was conferred on Mr Al Kooheji for his efforts to bolster partnership between Mumtalakat Holding Company and the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) which was launched in 2014. Al Kooheji took part in SPIEF, held from May 24 to 26. He spoke in a dialogue entitled "Banking Activities and Funding in Nascent Markets".



St Petersburg International Economic Forum is an annual event casting light on business. It is considered as a global platform to discuss main economic issues facing Russia, nascent markets and the world.

Mekunu mayhem

Five killed, 40 missing as category one cyclone rips through Yemeni island of Socotra

Salalah Port has been evacuated and will remain closed for the next 72 hours. While maximum wave height has been predicted to go as high as 12 meters with expected rising sea level.

The dead were four Yemenis and one Indian national, residents and medical sources said, while the missing included Yemenis, Indians and Sudanese.

Dubai

Oman's popular tourist destination Salalah could be pounded by winds reaching up to 167 kilometers per hour if Cyclone Mekunu continues on its current path, according to weather experts.

Five people were killed and at least 40 missing on the Yemeni island of Socotra



Men walk on a road flooded after heavy rain and strong winds caused damage in Hadibu on Thursday as Cyclone Mekunu pounded the Yemeni island of Socotra. The powerful storm remained on path to strike Oman.

yesterday as the cyclone pummelled the area before making its way to the Arabian Peninsula's southern coast.

The dead were four Yemenis and one Indian national, residents and medical sources said, while the missing included Yemenis, Indians and Sudanese.

Among those missing were three local sailors lost when their ship capsized off the coast of the island.

Yemen declared a state of emergency on Thursday for Socotra, which lies between southern Yemen and the Horn of Africa and is renowned for its unique

animal and plant life.

Meanwhile, Oman's Public Authority for Civil Aviation (PACA) issued a statement yesterday stating that the cyclone was around 150km away from the southern city of Salalah. They also urged people to take "strict precautions" and to stay away from the coast.

Strong gale winds and heavy rainfall are expected to hit the coastal areas of Dhofar, the statement read, with warnings of flooding.

Salalah Port has been evacuated and will remain closed for the next 72 hours. While maximum wave height has been predicted to go as high as 12 meters with expected rising sea level.

Director of Meteorology at the UAE weather center, Mohamad Al Ebri, was quoted by Arab News that the cyclone is expected to reach the southern coast of Oman within the next 12 hours, however it is possible that by then the cyclone category would have gone down to level one again.

Authorities announced that Salalah International Airport will remain closed for an additional 24 hours due to the severe weather conditions caused by the cyclone.

REVERSE KICK

Ronaldinho to, not to, marry two women at same time

Rio De Janeiro

Yesterday was a special day for Brazilian footballer Ronaldinho fans. While many reports said the Brazilian ace could tie the knot

in August with his two 'fiancées' Priscilla Coelho and Beatriz Souza at a same function, his personal secretary dismissed them as "rubbish".

Ronaldinho is said to have given engagement rings to both women and the ceremony was claimed to be set for their £5 million home in Rio, said The Sun.

Ronaldinho, who is claimed to be "adept at polygamy", started dating Beatriz in 2016 but continued his relationship with Priscilla, which began several years ear-



Ronaldinho with Priscilla Coelho, left, and Beatriz Souza, centre

lier. The women reportedly receive an "allowance" of around £1,500 from the footballer to spend as they wish.

And it is claimed he always gives the two the exact same

presents, including recently buying them matching perfume during a trip abroad together.

Bigamy is illegal in Brazil where prison sentences of up to six years can be given. However

the weddings were not expected to be officially registered.

The former footballer is claimed to have met Ms Souza in 2016 when he was already dating Ms Coelho, but carried on seeing both.

He has never publicly confirmed the relationship but in March, during a trip to Japan, he posted images to his Instagram of himself with both women.

1500

British pounds is what Ronaldinho gives his girlfriends in monthly allowances



03 30,000 and growing!

04 Rising to the top

06 Petrol price hike case adjourned



Traders fear fruit shortage over 'red light on imports from India'

The virus, which is released through bats' saliva, urine and excreta, typically spreads due to bats consuming fruits on trees

● **The Indian Commerce Ministry has said it is monitoring the outbreak and will assess if the virus will bear implications for the country's fruit exports.**

TDT|Manama

Traders at the Central Market fear a possible shortage of fruits and vegetables as according to them the Customs Department is refusing to give a clearance for consignments from India following Nipah outbreak.

"I think we are definitely heading for a shortage. The demand for fruits and vegetables has been high since it is Ramadan. I hope the epidemic will be controlled and the exports would resume soon," said a trader, who doesn't want to be identified.

The outbreak of Nipah virus, which has resulted in the death of ten people



A view of the Central Market

in Kerala, has already affected India's fruit exports, according to Indian Commerce Ministry.

The virus, which is released through bats' saliva, urine and excreta, typically spreads due to bats consuming fruits

on trees.

Specifically, it is the Greater Indian Fruit Bat, found abundantly across

South Asia, which carries the Nipah virus.

The Indian Commerce Ministry has said it is monitoring the outbreak and will assess if the virus will bear implications for the country's fruit exports.

"We are keeping an eye on the developments. If the situation persists, we may have to ask our agencies to do a formal assessment of whether this will hurt India's export potential," an Indian newspaper quoted a commerce ministry official as saying.

Since these bats feed on any fruit they can find, there's a risk of exports of many fruits getting affected.

The deaths in Kerala is the third instance in India's history of a Nipah virus outbreak, the first two times being in West Bengal's Siliguri in 2001 and Nadia in 2007.

This time around, the outbreak has been detected in the Southern state, where the first victims were three members of a family in Kozhikode, followed by a nurse who took care of the infected.



The government, led by HRH the Prime Minister, has allocated great importance to the elderly through its programmes and plans, as reflected in the efforts of the Labour and Social Development Ministry.

MR BU HAZZA

'Elderly's welfare a top priority for government'

● **HRH Premier's vision in forming the committee proves the desire of the government to cooperate with official institutions and civil society organisations in order to achieve the ultimate goal of serving the elderly in the kingdom, Bu Hazza said in a statement yesterday.**

Manama

Good Word Society's Chairman, Hassan Mohammed Bu Hazza, has expressed pride in the precious trust conferred on him by His

Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa through appointing him as member of the National Committee for the Elderly.

Bu Hazza asserted that Bahrain is among the first Arab countries in which an elderly committee has been established, which, he said, reflects the interest of the kingdom and the government in such an age group.

HRH Premier's vision in forming the committee proves the desire of the government to cooperate with official institutions and civil society organisations in order to achieve the ultimate goal of serving the elderly in the kingdom, Bu Hazza said in a statement yesterday.

He added that the new session of the National Committee for the Elderly will continue its programmes and

projects aimed at serving the elderly, noting that the committee will build on the achievements of the previous session, step up co-operation with the relevant sides and find new sources to finance its programmes and activities.

The government, led by HRH the Prime Minister, has allocated great importance to the elderly through its programmes and plans, as reflected in the efforts of the Labour and Social Development Ministry, he said.

Bu Hazza also highlighted the keenness of the Labour and Social Development Minister, Jameel Humaidan, to activate the National Strategy for the Elderly and its executive plan, raise public awareness on the issues of the elderly and organising conferences and workshops in this regard.

CBSE to declare Class XII results today

TDT|Manama

The Central Board of Secondary Examination (CBSE) will declare its Senior School Certificate Examination (Class XII) on May 26, said a statement issued by the board yesterday.

"As per previous years, this year also the CBSE is hosting its results on net with the technical support of National Informatics Centre (NIC), and the results can be checked on www.results.nic.in, www.cbseresults.nic.in and www.cbse.nic.in," it said.

The schools will automatically get their entire schools results on email id's already registered with the board, the statement added.

The board which began going digital since last year with regard to its results also provides digital mark sheets at <https://digilocker.gov.in>.

"Students can also view their results on UMANG mobile application which is available for android, iOS and windows based smart phone," the statement said.

Need to boost skill training stressed

● **Dr Al Nuaimi stressed strenuous efforts to develop the technical and vocational streams, as part of the national project to upgrade education and training and meet Bahrain's development needs.**

Manama

Deputy Premier Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Survey and Land Registration Bureau President Shaikh Salman bin Abdulla Al Khalifa and members of the Royal Family visited the Ramadan majlis, which was hosted by Education Minister Dr Majid Al Nuaimi marking the advent of the holy month.

Ministers, ambassadors, Shura Council members, senior officials, businessmen, academic figures, media



Shaikh Khalid with Dr Al Nuaimi and other officials at the Majlis.

personalities and citizens were also in attendance.

Dr Al Nuaimi stressed strenuous efforts to develop the technical and vocational streams, as part of the national project to upgrade education and training and meet Bahrain's development needs.

He said that new industrial specialties had been introduced during the 2017-2018 school year, citing particularly computer technology, electronics, and electricity, announcing plans to expand the scheme to include other high schools across Bahrain.

He underlined the ministry-led efforts to encourage intermediate school students to join the technical and vocational specialties. These sustained efforts have paid off as the number of students who enrolled in the technical education rose 5,161 during the current school year, while 755 others chose commercial studies.

big story

University of Bahrain hardly has the infrastructure to support the rapidly increasing strength, say students



An aerial view of the university.

30,000 and growing!

● It's overcrowding everywhere, be it parking lots, queues for registration, graduation hall, restrooms and cafeterias.

It was learnt that as many as 7,503 high school graduates applied for 44 undergraduate programmes in the year 2017.

TDT|Manama
Thamer Tayfour

Wembley in England is one of the biggest stadiums in the world with a total capacity of 90,000 and if all University of Bahrain (UoB) students are taken there to watch a football match they would fill one third of seats. Yes, the total number of students at UoB has reached a whopping 30,000, first time since its founding in the year 1984 and the students here say they are “suffocating” with the existing infrastructure hardly supporting the huge number.

According to them, it's overcrowding everywhere, be it parking lots, queues for registration, graduation hall, restrooms and cafeterias.

Student Salman Hamad finds delay in graduation as one of the main reasons behind this overcrowding.

“Students suffer from overcrowding well before choosing a specialisation. Many students often fail to get their first or even second choice of specialisation, forcing them to enroll for other subjects before getting transferred to the specialisations they want. This naturally leads to a delay in their graduation,” he explained.

He said “battling the crowd” is one of the toughest things at the university. “I live in Muharraq. There is always a huge traffic congestion while trying to enter the university premises through the eastern gate. It's very difficult to find a parking place and one can't even think of parking the car faraway and walking at least a kilometer to reach classes especially during the summer.”

Student Salah Emad conducted a survey on Twitter in which he sought the opinion of students over taking a public bus to the university against private car to beat traffic congestion and parking issues. About 1,300 took part and 53 per cent of them agreed on boarding a public bus to reach the university.

Student Salah Emad feels it's high time the university changes its admission system.

“As the number of students applying for programmes is quite large, it is difficult for many of them to find the right specialisation. The system allows only 25 or 30 students in each section, and this leads to delayed graduation by one or two semesters.

“During the registration time, we even find it difficult to choose convenient timings. Sometimes it is very difficult to get back to the university after three hours for a single session. I live close to the university and have no problem with timings. Thank God I am not living in Muharraq or Manama.”

Fawaz Ahmed is a student at the Fac-



University	Strength
Harvard	20,324
Cambridge	21,656
Oxford	23,195
Karachi	28,500
JNU, India	7,304
Peking	32,777

” Many students often fail to get their first or even second choice of specialisation, forcing them to enroll for other subjects.

SALMAN HAMAD

” The system allows only 25 or 30 students in each section, and this leads to delayed graduation by one or two semesters.

SALAH EMAD

” My brother tells me that when he was here in 2008, the number of students in the arts college was only 1,000. As of now, the number is more than 4,000.

FAWAZ AHMED



Parking space crisis haunts every student at the university.



Students walk through one of the corridors of the university.

Rising to the top



A child suffering from Down's syndrome receives a prize at an event organised by the Centre

Project on way to help more patients suffering from Down's syndrome take up jobs in various sectors



Children suffering from Down's syndrome take part in a event.

● Down's syndrome continues to be the most common chromosomal disorder with the number of patients rising every year.

● The new programme sets a probationary period of one year to assure that the rights of both employers and employees are guaranteed.

TDI|Manama
Supriya Reginald

Efforts are on to involve people with Down's syndrome in the local job market, according to the director of the Centre for Down Syndrome Care Dr Mohammed Abdul Karim Mannai.

Statistics provided by the Centre reveals nearly 1,500 people, of different ages, in Bahrain, suffer from Down's syndrome.

A new milestone project aimed at involving them in the banking sector, supermarkets and salons is on the way. People with Down's syndrome have proven their capability to undertake other jobs rather than just being in the field of agriculture, painting and simple jobs, he asserted.

The new programme sets a probationary period of one year to assure that the rights of both employers and employees are guaranteed and to give people with Down's syndrome the chance to prove what they are capable of performing at their new workplaces.

Also known as Trisomy 21, Down's syndrome is a genetic disorder caused by the presence of all or part of the third copy of chromosome 21 whereas typical individuals have two copies. Physical growth delays, characteristic facial features, and mild to moderate intellectual disability are associated with Down's syndrome.

Down's syndrome continues to be the

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In the past, they were associated with jobs such as gardening, now we are aiming at the likes of banks, saloons, and supermarket and so on. We have proof that they can handle these jobs well, they have proven effective in the US and other countries, we aren't any different.

DR MANNAI

most common chromosomal disorder with the number of patients rising every year. "Over 1,500 individuals with Down's syndrome live in Bahrain and out of them around 400 are registered with our society," Dr Mannai said. "For reasons unknown, the remaining individuals haven't approached us yet," he added.

With patients ranging from the age of one to 56, the society plays a dual role in supporting those with Down's syndrome. "We have different services and tasks for the community; we hold workshops, help train family members as well as members of the society on how to deal with those with Down's syndrome. Within the walls of our society, we conduct lectures twice a week on Monday and Thursday to train specialised including teachers

from the Ministry of Education," said Dr Mannai.

"Activities for the students include speech therapy and for our younger students we provide early intervention," he added.

Established in 1998, the Bahrain Down syndrome Society, first of its kind in the GCC, caters to the social and developmental needs of those with Down's syndrome through educational and physical activities. Their efforts have been supported prominently by the Government while private sector also offers some help and support.

"We receive a huge financial support from the government, nearly 80 per cent, the remaining 20pc comes from the private sector. We have a wonderful relationship with the private sector," said Dr Mannai. "On an annual basis our funds add up to BD180, 000," he revealed.

The society currently has all hands on deck with their new milestone project dedicated to paving a salient path for those with Down's syndrome with regard to their career.

"In the past, they were associated with jobs such as gardening, now we are aiming at the likes of banks, saloons, and supermarket and so on. We have proof that they can handle these jobs well, they have proven effective in the US and other countries, we aren't any different," stated Dr Mannai.

The new programme states that if a company has an agreement with the society to employ one of their students, the employee will not be handed to the company unless the company is satisfied with their work, a one-year contract will be honoured to give them an opportunity to prove themselves at the job.

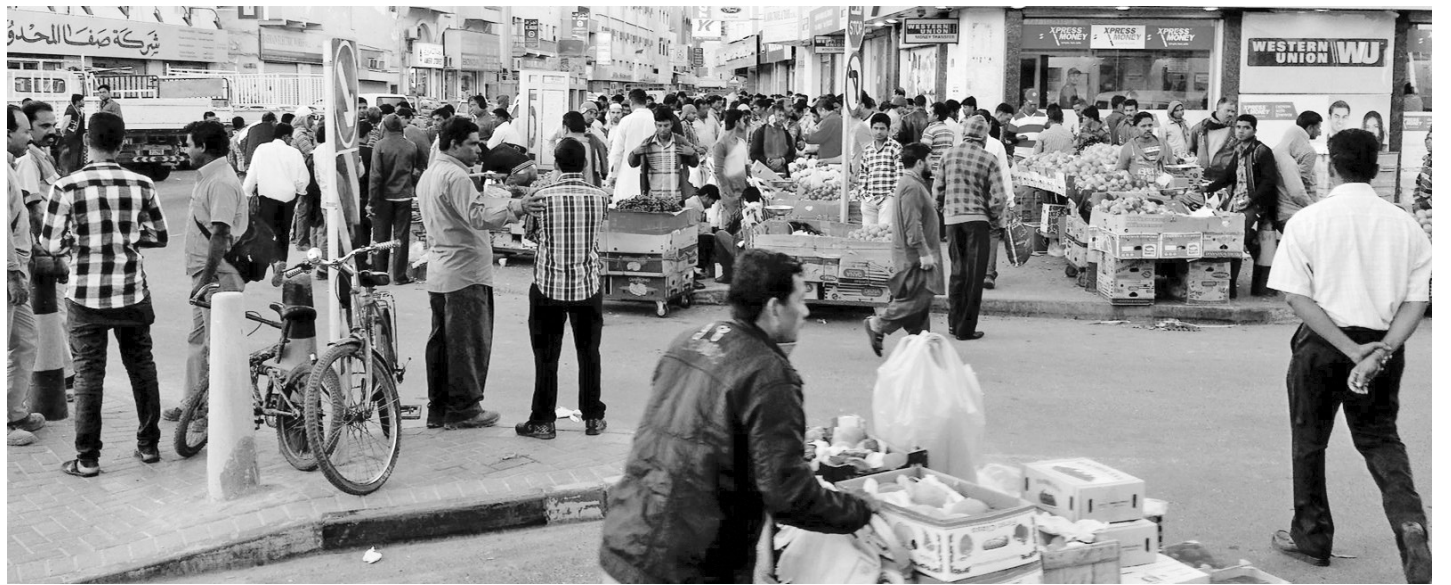
"Our society is trying to integrate these individuals in schools and we have succeeded. Yet we require the Ministry of Education to take more action with regard to this situation," said Dr Mannai.

"The integration is not simple, it is a huge method that requires facilities and budget. The ministry is doing its best but we need more," he added.



5,000 expats deported in past three years

Parliament will vote this week on a bill that shows more leniency towards convicted expats by scrapping compulsory deportation as a penalty



LMRA warned that the bill may encourage some expats to violate the law.

Picture Credit Bijou Haridas

● **LMRA rejected the bill and warned that “it may encourage some foreign workers to violate the law”.**

● **The bill has the support of Interior Ministry and both parliamentary committees.**

TDT|Manama
Muhannad Mansour

More than 5,000 expatriates were deported from Bahrain in the past three years for violating the Kingdom's labour laws, it was recently revealed.

According to the latest statistics released by the Supreme Judicial Council, 5,294 expats were sentenced to deportation after they were convicted in various cases related to the violation of the work titles mentioned in their residency permits between the years 2015-2018.

The figures showed that 16 expatriates were deported between January 1 and March 13 this year. It was also proved that 1,022 were deported in 2017, while the highest number recorded was 2,724, the total number of expats convicted and deported in 2015.

This was unfolded within the reply of the Supreme Judicial Council to queries of the Services Committee in the Council of Representatives, which is planned to vote this week on a bill that shows more leniency towards convicted expats by scrapping compulsory deportation as a penalty.

Submitted by MP Mohammed Al Maarifi last January, the bill aims to amend a clause in Act 19 of the year 2006 with regard to the regulation of the labour market.

The proposed amendment scraps the existing text in the law which stipulates compulsory deportation of foreign workers found guilty of “engaging in any work in the Kingdom without a work permit issued in accordance with the provisions of this act”.

“In the event of conviction, the court shall order the deportation of the for-

ign worker from the Kingdom and the prohibition of his re-entry either permanently or for a temporary period of not less than three years,” reads the clause in the existing law.

The proposed amendment suggests fining convicts BD100 and granting judges the jurisdiction to deport the convicts in accordance with their offence, instead of mandatorily deporting them as per the instructions of the current law.

According to Al Maarifi, the bill would achieve social justice that's instructed by the Kingdom's constitution, considering the humanitarian circum-

stances of some of the convicted expats requiring that they're not deported from the country and granting the Judiciary Authority discretionary power whether to deport the convict or not.

The committee received the proposed law and thoroughly discussed it with the related establishments, including the Supreme Judicial Council, Interior Ministry and Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), in addition to the Legislative and Legal Affairs and Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committees in the council.

LMRA rejected the bill and warned that “it may encourage some foreign workers to violate the law”. The authority also added that “if the bill is implemented, it would weaken the legal tools utilised by the Kingdom to combat the irregular employment issue”.

The bill was supported by Interior Ministry and both parliamentary committees. However, the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee advised to maintain the existing text which stipulates the prevention of deported expats from re-entering the

Kingdom for at least three years.

After discussing the matter for almost five months with the related authorities, Services Committee members decided to approve the bill, which will be voted on this Tuesday during the regular weekly meeting of the Council of Representatives, in the presence of representatives of the government.



The bill would achieve social justice that's instructed by the Kingdom's constitution, considering the humanitarian circumstances of some of the convicted expats.

MR AL MAARIFI

Inmates may be barred from funerals of second degree relatives

● **Based on a proposal submitted by a number of MPs, it was referred to the committee by the government last October in a form of a proposed law for studying.**

● **The committee reviewed the bill with several authorities, including the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR), which also disapproved it.**

TDT|Manama
Muhannad Mansour

Aparliamentary committee rejected permitting prisoners to attend the funerals of their relatives of the second degree, Tribune has learnt.

This follows the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee in the Council of Representatives recently rejecting a bill to amend the existing Law 18 of the year 2014 of the reform and rehabilitation establishment.



The bill is related to religious, social and cultural rehabilitation of inmates. Based on a proposal submitted by a number of MPs, it was referred to the committee by the government last October in a form of a proposed law for studying.

According to the MPs who submitted the proposal, it would achieve the necessary social care and insurance for inmates by allowing them to attend the burial ceremony and funeral of their

second degree relatives.

The Committee's Legal Adviser Dr Ahmed Al Badri justified the committee's rejection in a written statement saying, “The bill doesn't introduce any new procedures, as all the mentioned amendments already exist in Law 18 of the year 2014 of the reform and rehabilitation establishment.”

The committee reviewed the bill with several



The bill doesn't introduce any new procedures, as all the mentioned amendments already exist in Law 18 of the year 2014 of the reform and rehabilitation establishment.

DR AL BADRI

authorities, including the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR), which also disapproved it. “NIHR supports what the view of the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission, stating that the instructions mentioned in the bill are mentioned in the existing law,” the institution stated.

However, the council's final call will be made during the upcoming weekly meeting on Tuesday, as the committee is scheduled to submit a report, requesting the MPs to reject the bill. Representatives of Interior Ministry are expected to be present during the session.

Petrol price hike case adjourned

A group of lawyers term the increase ‘unconstitutional’

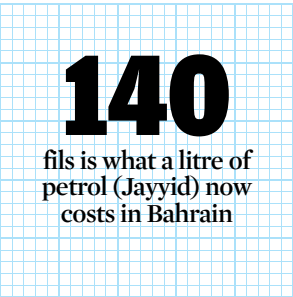


● The plaintiffs urged the Court also to suspend the decision to increase the fuel prices until the final verdict issued on their case.

● Their complaint was initially dismissed by the High Administrative Court which ruled there was no wrongdoing by the Ministry of Oil and Gas in putting the decision into effect.

TDT|Manama

The High Administrative Appeals Court adjourned the case lodged by several Bahraini lawyers against the decision to increase fuel prices until September 16 for the closing arguments to be delivered by the state lawyer. Petrol prices in Bahrain were increased in January 2018. Jayyid (91-octane) is now sold for 140fils/litre against the earlier price of 125fils/litre, while the Mumtaz (octane-95) is sold now sold for 200fils/litre up from the previous price of



160fils/litre. The lawyers who filed the complaint had argued that this move was illegitimate and unconstitutional because it wasn't publicised in the official gazette before being implemented as per Law 52 of the year 2006. Their complaint was initially dismissed by the High Administrative Court which ruled there was no wrongdoing by the Ministry of Oil and Gas in putting the decision into effect. The plaintiffs urged the Court also to suspend the decision to increase the fuel prices until the final verdict issued on their case.

Warning over spending hours before TV sets

● Many people sit in front of television sets for long hours during Ramadan without knowing what health issues it could lead to.

● Those who wear contact lenses and use computers and other digital devices intensively, often have eye irritation, which requires giving the eye a break by wearing special glasses.

TDT|Manama

Watching television, using computers or smartphones for longer hours could cause permanent damage to eyes, warns ophthalmology consultant Dr Ibtisam Al Alawi. “If you are feeling dryness in eyes, blurred vision or fatigue, it's important to give rest to your eyes,” she said. “Many people sit in front of television sets for long hours during Ramadan without knowing what health issues it could lead to. “Put your screen slightly down from the eye level, along with taking regular breaks using the 20-20-20 method which is every 20 minutes, turn your eyes away to look at an object at least 20 feet away for at least 20 seconds.” Dr Al Alawi suggests using

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Put your screen slightly down from the eye level, along with taking regular breaks using the 20-20-20 method which is every 20 minutes, turn your eyes away to look at an object at least 20 feet away for at least 20 seconds.

DR AL ALAWI

synthetic tears to moisten the eyes as and when they turn dry. “Consider using a humidifier that emits water spray and if you have a much brighter screen than the room's light, it may cause eye fatigue, so it is necessary to adjust room's lighting and try to increase the contrast on the screen to reduce eye strain.” “Those who wear contact lenses and use computers and other digital devices intensively, often have eye irritation, which requires giving the eye a break by wearing special glasses.”

Delivery boys, heavy drivers to receive first aid training

● Under the supervision of trained professionals, the course will take place in tents situated in highly populated areas of the country.

TDT|Manama
Supriya Reginald

The Bahrain Red Crescent Society intends to set up a special project to train delivery boys and drivers of heavy vehicles in Bahrain on first aid skills to enable them to provide assistance to themselves and victims of accidents in the streets, revealed its secretary-general Dr Fawzi Amin. Under the guidance of Bahrain Red Crescent Society, the project is the first of its kind in the region and will include a short and intensive training programme covering the basics of first aid focused on fractures, burns and wound healing. “There are individuals, such as delivery bikers, heavy vehicle drivers and fishermen, who are at high risk. These groups of people are more vulnerable to injuries. Yet, they cannot afford to take this course due to busy schedules. So instead of them coming to us, we decided to go to them,” said Dr Amin. Under the supervision of trained professionals, the course will take place in tents situated in highly populated areas of the country. Training in less populated areas will follow upon covering areas with a high number of delivery services. “We decided to put together a concentrated and practical course, where we focus on dealing with common injuries during an accident such as fractures, burns and bleeding.” “A certification valid for two years will be given at the end of the course, this training will not only make a difference in their life but also help others,” he added.



Two trucks carrying hundreds of toys were donated to Syrian child refugees at Za'atari camp in Jordan by the Bahrain Red Crescent.

Upon completion of the course, individuals will receive a certification valid for two years, a well-equipped first aid kit and a sticker for their vehicle to inform people they are trained in first aid. Each course will be divided into four sections, which cover four of the common situations faced in the likelihood of an accident. An hour will be dedicated to each section with more emphasis on practical coaching rather than lectures. “The first part will include educating them on the first aid kit's contents and uses. In the second part, the practical focus will be given on how to manage injuries such as cuts, bruises and compression of bleeding, dealing with fractures will be covered in the third part and the last part will include the treatment of burns,” revealed Dr. Amin.

“There are people who experience burns, cuts or bruises from an accident and don't seek medical help rather they resort to home remedies, this may put them in risk of infection. This course is tailored to help them attend to injuries initially so that medical professionals can take over,” he added. Each course will accommodate a maximum of 20 trainees to ensure individual attention. The course has been tailored keeping in mind the schedules and diversity of those attending the program. “Training will take place during the daytime such as early mornings when they are least busy and options for split sessions will be available. We want to design the course according to their situation,” said Dr Amin. “We are coordinating with Red Cross

Societies across the world, especially Asia, to provide the application forms and theoretical information in languages most of the expatriates understand,” he added. The project is set to commence post-Ramadan and is currently collaborating with restaurants and cafeterias to work out a schedule. “Evaluation will not be conducted, as this is a basic course concentrating on first-hand attention. Plans for a refresher course will be considered at the end of the certificate validity,” revealed Dr Amin. “When we hear that a life has been saved because of this training we will know our mission is fulfilled,” he added.

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Under the supervision of trained professionals, the course will take place in tents situated in highly populated areas of the country.

DR AMIN

DID YOU KNOW

Bahrain Red Crescent Society is a volunteer charity founded in 1971. It has been recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva since 14 September 1972 and joined the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the same year.

business



The reforms are expected to boost foreign direct investments into UAE, attract professionals, and increase inflows into the property market. Photo- Pawan Singh / The National

UAE on 7th spot in competitiveness

72pc of survey respondents believe the most appealing trait of Dubai economy is its business friendly environment

The National | Dubai

The UAE rose three places in a global competitiveness ranking as the country pressed on with reforms and benefited from increased trade and investment.

The UAE clinched the seventh spot out of 63 ranked countries, the highest of any Arab state, moving up three places from last year, according to Swiss business school IMD's World Competitiveness Yearbook released on Wednesday. Underpinning the country's leap are improvements in

The UAE has benefitted tremendously from the increase in global trade and also in the increase in international investment, which strengthened its position. It has a very efficient government and business sector. It has also a business friendly environment

CHRISTOS CABOLIS

the export of commercial services and goods, employment, the current account balance, higher education achievement and business expenditure on research and development, according to the report.

"The UAE has benefitted tremendously from the increase in the international trade and also in the increase in international investment, which strengthened its position," Christos Cabolis, chief economist and head of operations at the IMD's World Competitiveness Centre told The National. "It has a very efficient government and business sector. It has also a business friendly environment."

The Arab world's second largest economy is undertaking wide-ranging reforms to become more competitive, streamlining the process of setting up a business to attract more foreign investors. The country is also relaxing regulations aimed at boosting non-oil growth and contribution to the gross domestic product to 80 per cent by 2021 from 70 per cent now. Foreign direct investment increased 6.7 per cent to \$10.3 billion in 2017, according to government data and the country is keen to woo international money.

This week, the government announced plans to grant up to 10-year visas to certain professionals compared with the current maximum of three years. It also plans to relax investment regulations that will allow 100 per cent foreign ownership of a business outside freezones from the current limit of 49 per cent.

Electricity Minister receives delegation from energy firms

TDT | Manama

Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr. Abdulhussain Mirza yesterday received a delegation from a consortium of companies specialised in lighting and energy, led by Al-Ansari Company for Lighting and Energy Solutions General Manager Abdulkarim Al-Ansari and Azalea Consulting Company Managing Director Dr. Raed Sarhan.

The minister was briefed on their activities and projects in various fields, in particular the rationalization of consumption and energy-saving techniques in the LED system as well as their investments in solar energy.



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr. Abdulhussain Mirza with the delegation

The visitors expressed their desire to open areas of joint co-operation with the Electricity and Water Authority and the Sustainable Energy Unit. The

minister welcomed the cooperation from local and international companies specialised in these areas and to study their offers for possible cooperation with

them. He provided a detailed account on the projects of the Electricity and Water Authority and its sustainable energy projects.

Aramco IPO likely in 2019

Timing of world's largest IPO will depend on readiness of market: Saudi Minister

For almost two years, Saudi officials said repeatedly the IPO was "on track, on time" for the second half of 2018

But for the first time in March they suggested it could be delayed until 2019, pushing back a plan to modernise Saudi economy

Bloomberg | London

The initial public offering (IPO) of Saudi Aramco will "most likely" happen in 2019, the Kingdom's oil minister said yesterday, confirming a delay for what's likely to be the world's largest ever share sale.

"The timing, I think, will depend on the readiness of the market, rather than the readiness of the company or the readiness of Saudi Arabia,"



Saudi Aramco is valued more than \$2 trillion

Khalid Al-Falih, who's also the company's chairman, said at the St Petersburg International Economic Forum in Russia on Friday.

"We are ready, the company, essentially, has ticked all the boxes," he said. "We're simply waiting for a market readiness for the IPO."

For almost two years, Saudi officials said repeatedly the IPO

\$100 billion is expected to be raised through the IPO by selling a 5 per cent stake in the company. The IPO would be a once-in-a-generation event for markets

was "on track, on time" for the second half of 2018.

But for the first time in March they suggested it could be delayed until 2019, pushing back a central plank of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's plan to modernise the economy.

"Most likely it will be in 2019 but we will not know until the announcement has been made," Al-Falih said. "All I can say is stay tuned."

The Aramco IPO would be a once-in-a-generation event for financial markets. Saudi officials said they hope to raise a record \$100 billion by selling a 5pc stake, valuing the company at more than \$2-trillion and dwarfing the \$25 billion raised by Chinese retailer Alibaba Group in 2014.

Others have poured cold water on the valuation, suggesting a figure much closer to \$1-trillion, basing their calculations in part on the first set of company accounts revealed earlier this year by Bloomberg News.

Alizz Islamic Bank and Oman Arab Bank in merger talks

Several banks in Gulf are exploring merger possibilities and collaborations as low oil prices squeeze profit margins

The chairman of Alizz Islamic has received a letter from the chairman of Oman Arab Bank requesting to explore the possibility of a strategic alliance

The National | Muscat

Muscat-listed Alizz Islamic Bank and Oman Arab Bank, a subsidiary of Omani conglomerate Ominvest, said they



Oman Arab Bank is a unit of Ominvest. Jochen Tack/arabianEye/Corbis

are exploring the possibility of a merger, as an increasing number of regional banks opt to consolidate their operations.

The chairman of Alizz Islamic received a letter from the chairman of Oman Arab Bank requesting that the two banks "explore the possibility of a strategic collaboration that may lead to an eventual merger of the two entities", the bank said in a statement to the Muscat Securities Market on Thursday.

The deal is subject to final approvals from the respective boards, shareholders and reg-

ulators, the statement added. Alizz, which has a market capitalisation of \$200 million, said its board has agreed to proceed and explore the opportunity.

Banks in the Arabian Gulf are increasingly looking at mergers and collaborations as low oil prices in the past three years have squeezed their profit margins. Regional banks are set to see a stronger performance in the coming year as macroeconomic conditions improve, according to reports by rating agencies including Moody's and Standard & Poor's, but banks are still seeking

cost efficiencies to drive growth. The announcement of a possible merger between the two Omani banks comes one week after subsidiaries of HSBC and Royal Bank of Scotland in Saudi Arabia reached an initial agreement on the terms of a possible merger.

The two banks, Alawwal Bank, which is 40 per cent owned by RBS, and Saudi British Bank, said in a statement to the Tadawul stock exchange on May 16 that merger discussions were in an "advanced" stage and both lenders had reached a "preliminary, non-binding agreement".

Tesla settles class action lawsuit over 'dangerous' Autopilot system



The compensation would be offered to customers worldwide

● The lawsuit was filed against the company's 'dangerous' assisted-driving Autopilot system

● Tesla said in a statement it wanted to do right by its customers as part of the proposed deal

Reuters | New York

Tesla has reached an agreement to settle a class action lawsuit with buyers of its Model S and Model X cars who alleged that the company's assisted-driving Autopilot system was "essentially unusable and demonstrably dangerous."

The agreement, announced in a filing in San Jose federal court late Thursday, still has to be approved by U.S. District Judge Beth Labson Freeman.

Tesla said in a statement it wanted to do right by its customers and, as part of the proposed deal, agreed to compensate car owners who purchased the 2.0 version of Autopilot and had to wait longer than expected for the driving features to become active.

"Since rolling out our second generation of Autopilot hardware in October 2016, we have continued to provide software updates that have led to a major improvement in Autopilot functionality," the company said, adding that the settlement would be offered to customers worldwide.

Class members, who paid an extra \$5,000 to get the Autopilot upgrade between 2016 and 2017, will receive between \$20 and \$280 in compensation. Tesla has agreed to place more than \$5 million into a settlement fund, which will also cover attorney costs and other fees.

Steve Berman, a lawyer for the car owners, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The case was closely watched in the automotive and legal communities, as it was the only known court challenge Tesla faced with regard to its assisted-driving technology.

The company has come under increased scrutiny over its Autopilot system in recent months after two Tesla drivers died in crashes in which Autopilot was engaged. The most recent crash, in March, is being investigated by safety regulators.

Apple awarded \$539m in US patent case against Samsung

Company penalised for copying patented smartphone features of Apple

● The world's top smartphone rivals have been in court over patents since 2011

● Samsung was found liable in a 2012 trial, but a disagreement over the amount to be paid led to the retrial

● Samsung previously paid Apple \$399 million to compensate Apple for infringement of some of the patents at issue in the case

Reuters | California

After nearly five days of deliberations, a US jury yesterday said Samsung Electronics Co should pay \$539 million to Apple for copying patented smartphone features, according to court documents, bringing a years-long feud between the technology companies into its final stages.

The world's top smartphone rivals have been in court over patents since 2011, when Apple filed a lawsuit alleging Samsung's smartphones and tablets "slavishly" copied its products. Samsung was found liable in a 2012 trial, but a disagreement over the amount to be paid led to the current retrial over damages where arguments ended on May 18.

Samsung previously paid Ap-



Apple said it was pleased that the members of the jury "agree that Samsung should pay for copying our products."

ple \$399 million to compensate Apple for infringement of some of the patents at issue in the case. The jury has been deliberating the case since last week.

Because of that credit, if the verdict is upheld on appeal it will result in Samsung making an additional payment to Apple of nearly \$140 million.

In a statement, Apple said it was pleased that the members of the jury "agree that Samsung should pay for copying our products."

"We believe deeply in the value of design," Apple said in its statement. "This case has always been about more than money."

Samsung did not immediately say whether it planned to appeal the verdict but said it was retaining "all options" to contest it.

"Today's decision flies in the face of a unanimous Supreme Court ruling in favour of Samsung on the scope of design pat-

ent damages," Samsung said in a statement. "We will consider all options to obtain an outcome that does not hinder creativity and fair competition for all companies and consumers."

The new jury verdict followed a trial in San Jose, California, before Judge Lucy Koh that focused on how much Samsung should pay for infringing Apple patents covering aspects of the iPhone's design. The jury awarded Apple \$533.3 million for Samsung's violation of so-called design patents and \$5.3 million (roughly Rs. 36 crores) for the violation of so-called utility patents.

Apple this year told jurors it was entitled to \$1 billion in profits Samsung made from selling infringing phones, saying the iPhone's design was crucial to their success.

Samsung sought to limit damages to about \$28 million, saying it should only pay for profits attributable to the components

of its phones that infringed Apple patents. Jurors in the earlier trial awarded \$1.05 billion to Apple, which was later reduced.

Samsung paid \$548 million to Apple in December 2015, including \$399 million for infringement of some of the patents at issue in this week's trial.

Apple's case against Samsung raised the question of whether the total profits from a product that infringes a design patent should be awarded if the patent applies only to a component of the product, said Sarah Burstein, a professor of patent law at the University of Oklahoma.

The verdict appears to be a compromise between Apple and Samsung's positions and does not offer much clarity on that question, said Burstein, who predicted Samsung would appeal it to the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

"This decision just means we are going to have more uncertainty," Burstein said.



Apple told jurors it was entitled to \$1 billion in profits Samsung made from selling infringing phones, saying the iPhone's design was crucial to their success

India's state-controlled banks' bailout plan stumbles as losses mount

● Thirteen state banks have reported combined losses of \$8.6 billion for the year to March - including \$6.5 billion in the last quarter

● 21 state lenders hold two-thirds of India's banking assets, accounted for the bulk of record \$150 billion of soured loans

Reuters | Mumbai

When the Indian government announced a surprise \$32 billion bailout plan for the nation's state-controlled banks last October, credit rating firms and the nation's central bank saw it as a huge step to getting the industry back to robust health - and lending more to businesses and consumers.

But their optimism may have been majorly misplaced judging



The State Bank of India (SBI) office building in Kolkata, India

by the latest numbers coming out of the banks. And that may in turn crimp economic growth in Asia's third-largest economy.

Thirteen state banks have reported combined losses of \$8.6 billion for the year to March - including \$6.5 billion in the last quarter - and their non-performing loans have surged nearly a fifth from end-December levels. Two state banks have reported modest profits and six are still to report. While many of

the banks, including top lender State Bank of India (SBI), have said the worst is probably over, they still see one or two more quarters of pain. That means more bad loans getting disclosed and loss provisions shooting up as a central bank order will cause more debt defaulters to be dragged into bankruptcy.

"The government capital is only going to just plug the hole, there is definitely no growth capital," said Udit Kariwala, an

analyst at Fitch Ratings' India Ratings & Research. He said smaller state lenders with limited ability to raise capital from the market will have to curtail their lending. The 21 state lenders hold two-thirds of India's banking assets, and accounted for the bulk of the record \$150 billion of soured loans in the banking sector last year. The banks, which have been blamed for indiscriminate lending to sectors such as metals and power that turned sour, can still be held responsible for much of the balance sheet carnage.

A more than \$2 billion fraud at India's second-biggest state lender, Punjab National Bank (PNB) disclosed less than four months ago, not only left a hole but also underlined how weak the banks' grip on risk is.

Exacerbating the problems is a move in February by the Reserve Bank of India, the nation's central bank, to withdraw half a dozen loan restructuring schemes that banking experts said were helping banks to avoid disclosing dud loans. It also tightened other rules governing

\$2 billion

fraud unearthed at India's second-biggest state lender, Punjab National Bank, less than four months ago, not only left a hole but also underlined poor risk management

bad loan accounting.

In addition, the RBI this month banned Dena Bank, a loss-making smaller state-run lender, from making any new loans. Days later, Allahabad Bank, another smaller state-run lender, said it had been asked by the regulator not to increase the number of risky loans and costly deposits on its books due to its capital and leverage position.

Bank analysts say more state banks could come under similar restrictions aimed at conserving limited capital. The RBI already has 11 state lenders under its "prompt corrective action" framework that restricts them from expanding.

ICICI Bank chief receive SEBI notice over Videocon loans

Mumbai



Chanda Kochhar

India's ICICI Bank Ltd said yesterday the lender and its chief executive, Chanda Kochhar, had received a notice from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) seeking responses over alleged non-compliance with certain rules.

The bank said it would respond to the SEBI, adding that the notice received on Thursday was based on information given by the bank and its CEO on earlier queries over their dealings with the Videocon conglomerate.

ICICI, India's third-biggest lender by assets, is battling allegations that Kochhar allegedly favoured Videocon Group in its lending practices.

Opec, Russia set to hike output

Final decision on output increase at Opec and non-Opec ministers meeting in Vienna from June 22-23

- Upping production would ease 17 months of strict supply curbs amid concerns that a price rally has gone too far, with oil having
- 2 OPEC began a discussion about easing production cuts following a critical tweet from Trump, OPEC’s Secretary-

Reuters | St Petersburg/Dubai

Saudi Arabia and Russia are discussing raising Opec and non-Opec oil production by some 1 million barrels a day, sources said, while OPEC’s chief said a complaint from U.S. President Donald Trump over high prices had triggered the idea of upping output. Riyadh and Moscow are prepared to ease output cuts to calm consumer worries about supply adequacy, their energy ministers said on Friday, with Saudi Arabia’s Khalid al-Falih adding that any easing would be gradual so as not to shock the market. Upping production would ease



Increasing production by Opec and Russia would ease 17 months of strict supply curbs

17 months of strict supply curbs amid concerns that a price rally has gone too far, with oil having hit its highest since late 2014 at \$80.50 a barrel this month. OPEC began a discussion about easing production cuts following a critical tweet from Trump, OPEC’s Secretary-General Mohammad Barkindo said. Trump tweeted last month that OPEC had “artificially” boosted oil prices. “We pride ourselves as friends of the United States,” Barkindo told a panel with the Saudi and

Russian energy ministers in St. Petersburg at Russia’s main economic forum. The Organization of the Pe-



troleum Exporting Countries and allies led by Russia have agreed to curb output by about 1.8 million barrels per day (bpd) through 2018 to reduce global stocks, but the inventory overhang is now near OPEC’s target. Sources familiar with the matter said an increase of 1 million bpd would bring compliance with agreed supply curbs down to 100 percent from April’s level of around 152 percent. Barkindo also said it was not unusual for the United States to put pressure on OPEC as some



”
Riyadh and Moscow are prepared to ease output cuts to calm consumer worries about supply adequacy and any easing would be gradual so as not to shock the oil market

KHALID AL-FALIH,
SAUDI ENERGY MINISTER

U.S. energy secretaries had asked the producer group to help lower prices in the past. Oil prices fell more than 2 percent towards \$77 a barrel yesterday as Saudi Arabia and Russia said they were ready to ease supply curbs.

Near target

Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said current cuts were in reality 2.7 million bpd due to a drop in Venezuelan production - somewhere around 1 million bpd higher than the initially agreed cuts of 1.8 million bpd. Novak declined to say, however, whether OPEC and Russia would decide to boost output by 1 million bpd at their next meeting in June. Initial talks are being led by the energy ministers of Saudi Arabia and Russia at St. Petersburg this week along with their counterpart from the United Arab Emirates, which holds the OPEC presidency this year, the sources said. OPEC and non-OPEC ministers meet in Vienna on June 22-23, and the final decision will be taken there. Current discussions are aimed at relaxing record-high compliance with the production cuts, the sources said, in an effort to cool the market after oil hit \$80 a barrel on concerns over a supply shortage. China has also raised concerns about whether enough oil is being pumped, according to a Saudi statement issued after Saudi Energy Minister Falih called China’s energy chief on Friday to discuss cooperation between their countries.

German carmakers dismayed as US weighs tariffs

AFP | Frankfurt

German automakers reacted with dismay yesterday as the US Commerce Department said tariffs on car imports could be on the horizon, potentially opening a new front in a burgeoning transatlantic trade conflict. “One-sided protectionism has never helped anyone in the long term. Only free and fair trade secures increased prosperity,” a spokesman for industry behemoth Volkswagen told AFP. American Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross had announced Wednesday he had initiated a so-called Section 232 investigation on auto trade — which would provide the legal basis to impose tariffs, if his department finds imports threaten US national security — after speaking with President Donald Trump on the matter. Ross promised “a thorough,



Tariffs on car imports would potentially open a new front in trade conflict

fair, and transparent investigation into whether (auto) imports are weakening our internal economy and may impair the national security.” The move comes as a June 1 deadline approaches for the White House to decide whether

imports from the EU will remain exempt from border taxes slapped on steel and aluminum. Trump’s recourse to national security arguments for potential tariffs echoes his justification for the metals duties. In a separate statement released by the



German carmakers employ some 36,500 people in the US and car parts producers 80,000 more. Germany exported 494,000 vehicles to US last year

White House, the president said “core industries such as automobiles and automotive parts are critical to our strength as a nation.” Germany’s Federation of the Automotive Industry (VDA) noted that German carmakers employ some 36,500 people in the US and car parts producers

80,000 more. And it highlighted German firms’ “significant contribution to the American balance of trade in cars” with their exports to third countries. “An increase in tariff barriers should be avoided,” the body said, saying it had “always spoken out in favor of mutual reductions in tariffs and for free-trade agreements.” German carmakers exported 494,000 vehicles to the US last year, the VDA said, while the Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK) calculated autos and parts accounted for 28.6 billion (\$33.6 billion) of Germany’s 111.5 billion in exports to the US. Shares in Volkswagen, high-end BMW and Mercedes-Benz maker Daimler were among the worst performers in the DAX index of blue-chip German shares just before midday (1100 GMT) Thursday.

Saudi starts withdrawing 1 Riyal notes from market

Saudi Gazette | Riyadh

The Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) will start withdrawing SR1 banknotes from the market from Thursday, SAMA announced on its website on Wednesday. The SR1 banknotes will be replaced with one-riyal coins. The SR1 banknotes will, however, remain in circulation until these are withdrawn from trading in accordance with a specific time plan, the SAMA announcement said. The SR1 banknote accounts for 49 percent of the volume of traded cash, as it is often dealt between people and rarely deposited into banks, a section of the Arabic media quoted an official as saying.

US pricing pressure to hit profit: Sun Pharma

Reuters | Mumbai

India’s largest drugmaker Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd said yesterday it expects its 2019 revenue to come in short of analysts’ expectations due to pricing pressure in its main market, the United States. Makers of generic drugs have seen poor sales as uncertainty grows in the global market for copycat drugs due to rising competition and pricing scrutiny in the world’s largest healthcare market. The warning compounds problems



at Sun, which has been struggling to get clearance for its factories that are under U.S. supply bans due to quality control failures. It now plans to reduce its research spend on some generic drug projects that have become “unviable”.

Argentines brace for crisis as nation seeks aid

Reuters | Buenos Aires

Maria Florencia Humano opened a clothing store in 2016, convinced that Argentina’s long history of economic crises had ended under pro-business President Mauricio Macri. She will shutter it later this month, unable to make rent or loan payments. Soaring interest rates and a plunging currency have upended her dream and returned Argentina to a familiar place: asking the International Monetary Fund for a lifeline. Humano’s decision comes just weeks after a somber Macri announced in a televised May 8



Argentina has approached International Monetary Fund for a credit line

speech that Argentina would start talks with the IMF. He is seeking a credit line

worth at least \$19.7 billion to fund the government through the end of his first term in late

2019. The unexpected move surprised investors and stoked Argentines’ fears of a repeat of the nation’s devastating 2001-2002 economic collapse. Many people here blame IMF-imposed austerity measures for worsening that crisis, which impoverished millions and turned Argentina into a global pariah after the government defaulted on a record \$100 billion in debt. Word of a potential bailout sent thousands of angry Argentines into the streets this month, some with signs declaring “enough of the IMF.”

SOCI

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Al Ayam Press, Publishing and Distributing director Rashid Al Hamer hosted a ghabga for members of the press and media at his residence. The gathering highlighted issues related to journalists and the role media can play in the overall progress of the country. bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Adviser to His Majesty the King for Media Affairs Nabil Al Hamer and the Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for International Affairs Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa.



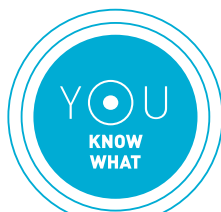
In celebration of the holy month of Ramadan and in recognition of the continuous support and efforts made by media members and digital influencers, VIVA Bahrain hosted its annual Ramadan Media ghabga at the Ritz Carlton hotel Ramadan Tent. The event was attended by the company's senior management and representatives from Bahrain's media organisations and social media influencers who have contributed to the growth and success of the company.



Bahrain Polytechnic hosted its first Negotiation Competition at the campus where students participated in teams of two to negotiate complex contractual agreements. As negotiation is one of the top employability skills required in all industries, the competition was open to all Polytechnic degree students to register, especially since the disputes varied in scope to encompass different abilities and degree programmes.



14 of NMS-DPS students qualified JEE Mains (entrance exam for Indian Institute of Technologies) in 2018.



Atma Jashanmal was the first chairman of Indian School board of governors.



The Indian School Bahrain (ISB) Riffa campus held the Awards Ceremony felicitating around 600 students for exemplary performance in the academic year 2017-2018. Chief Guest Dr. Shaikha Yousif AlJeeb, Assistant Undersecretary for Educational Services and Students Activities, MoE distributed the awards in the presence of ISB Chairman Prince S Natarajan, Secretary Saji Antony and EC Members.

Society



The event was attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaikh Khalid



It was attended by VIVA chief executive officer Ulayyan Al Wetaid, the



Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company managing director Ibrahim Mohammed Al Musaitir has congratulated the company management on winning the prestigious Responsible Care Award for Health and Occupational Safety. GPIC President Dr Abdulrahman Jawahery presented the award to the managing director in recognition of his keenness to contribute to the company. Separately, Mr Al Musaitir congratulated Arab Bowling Championship Gold Medal winner Noora Majid Sultan, who achieved the distinction at the event held recently in Muscat, Oman. He praised her outstanding achievement and for hoisting Bahrain's flag at several regional tournaments.



The institute was established by His Majesty King Hamad by Royal Decree No.65 for the year 2008.



New Millennium School-DPS organised an award ceremony for grades I to VII to honour the students for session 2017-18. Chief Guest Dr. Ravi Pillai appreciated the meticulous efforts of outstanding students and teachers, which yielded the best results.



Bahrain Meditation Centre organised a free session on Inner Personality Development in English for children aged 7-14 years . Around 100 children attended the session.



On the occasion of Labour Day, students and staff members of Bahrain Indian School(BIS) got together and donated funds for a noble cause. The collected amount of BD 350 was donated to Migrant Workers Protection Society (MWPS).

2014
is the year in which the school began its operations.



Pakistan School hosted an Inter-school Urdu Debate competition in the Jinnah Hall of the school in Isa Town. Pakistan School's Hafsa Akbar clinched the first position, followed by Muhammad Ali Moazzam of Pakistan Urdu school. The third position was bagged by Mumtaz Fatima of the Indian School.

world

Australia builds world's longest cat-proof fence



Australia's native wildlife has been affected by habitat loss as well as introduced creatures such as cats, foxes and rabbits going feral and killing native species

AFP | Sydney

A conservation agency has constructed what is believed to be the world's longest cat-proof fence in central Australia to save native wildlife and vegetation ravaged by the feline predators.

Australia has the highest extinction rate in the world, while declining populations are affected by habitat loss as well as introduced creatures such as cats, foxes and rabbits going feral and killing native species across the vast continent.

The Australian Wildlife Conservancy this month finished building and electrifying the 44-kilometre (27-mile) long fence to create a predator-free area of almost 9,400 hectares (23,200 acres) some 350 kilometres northwest of Alice Springs.

"Australia does not have an effective strategy for controlling cats," AWC chief Attius Fleming told AFP.

"The only way we can save Australia's most endangered



For biosecurity reasons any cats that are imported into Australia must meet conditions set by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

animals is by establishing these massive feral cat-free areas using conservation fencing."

Fleming said as part of the project -- which is funded by public and government donations -- cats and other feral animals were being removed from the area, with threatened native mammals to be reintroduced next year.

Police find \$28m cash in Malaysia's ex-PM's bags

● Najib's home, and the apartments of a son and a daughter were among a dozen properties searched since May 18

AP | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Malaysian police said yesterday the cash stashed in bags at an apartment linked to former Prime Minister Najib Razak and seized in a money-laundering investigation amounted to 114 million ringgit (\$28.6 million).

Police seized 284 boxes of expensive designer handbags and 72 pieces of luggage stuffed with cash, jewellery and watches from an unoccupied apartment at a high-end Kuala Lumpur condominium on May 18. Allegations of corruption at the 1MDB state investment fund that Najib set up led to his shocking defeat and the end of his coalition's 60-year unbroken rule in May 9 elections. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Najib's United Malays National Organization, which is the main party in the former ruling coalition, said in a statement that the cash seized by police was donations to the party, partly for the recent elections.

Najib has stepped down as party president after the election loss and hasn't yet transferred the money to the new leadership, the statement said.



Former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak, centre, speaks to media as he leaves the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Office yesterday

It called for the money to be returned to the party once the investigation is completed.

Commercial crime investigations chief Amar Singh said 35 of the 72 pieces of luggage contained cash in 26 denominations, largely the Malaysian and Singapore currencies, amounting to 114 million ringgit. Singh said police are still assessing the value of jewellery and watches in the other 37 items of luggage.

He declined to say who the apartment belongs to, saying the investigation is ongoing.



In total, Singh said police raided 12 locations as part of the probe into a criminal breach

of trust involving the 1MDB fund.

He said police also seized 500,000 ringgit (\$126,000) in cash and an unidentified amount of foreign currencies, as well as more handbags and valuables from Najib's family home. Police also separately took 150 handbags and valuables from an apartment occupied by Najib's daughter, he said.

Najib and his wife have been barred from leaving the country. Najib was grilled for more than 10 hours over two days this week by the anti-graft agency.

Child dies from mother's 'snake bite' breast milk

AFP | New Delhi

An Indian woman who was bitten by a snake in her sleep and unknowingly breastfed poisoned milk to her daughter has died along with the child, police said yesterday.

The 35-year-old woman from Uttar Pradesh state did not realise she had been bitten when she woke and breastfed her

daughter.

The three-year-old girl and the mother fell ill on Thursday and both died before they could reach hospital, police inspector Vijay Singh told AFP.

The family spotted the snake in another room but the creature escaped.

A post-mortem is to be carried out but police have registered a case of accidental death,

the officer added.

India is home to some 300 snake species and 60 are highly venomous, including the Indian cobra, krait, Russell's viper and saw-scaled viper.

India accounts for 46,000 of the 100,000 snakebite deaths around the world each year, according to a 2011 study by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

China to create 3D digital version of terracotta army



Terracotta warriors and horses stand in partially unearthed pits at the Museum of Qin Terracotta Warriors and Horses, in Xi'an



3D modelling techniques will be used to reproduce thousands of terracotta soldiers and horses

IANs | Beijing

The conservation authorities of Emperor Qin Shi Huang's mausoleum in central China announced yesterday that they would digitize the museum's collections, including the famous Terracotta Army guarding the emperor's tomb.

Three-dimensional modelling techniques and panorama photos will be used to digitally

reproduce 20,000 square metres of the pits at the site, which contain thousands of soldiers and horses, Efe news agency reported.

The digitization will be carried out jointly by the museum and Northwestern University, China.

The construction of the Terracotta Army -- composed of over 8,000 figures -- was ordered by Emperor Qin, the

founder of the first dynasty of the eastern civilization, who ruled between 221-210 BC.

The Terracotta Army was discovered by chance in 1974 by farmers and is considered to be one of the most important archaeological finds of the 20th century.

It symbolically guards the emperor's tomb and has never been opened for fear its interior may get damaged.

Woman fights off grizzly bear

BBC | Washington

A 28-year-old woman walked away with a fractured skull after managing to fight off a grizzly bear in the US state of Montana.

Amber Kornak had just started her dream job researching the fearsome animals when she was mauled by one on a remote mountain range this month.

She managed to fend off the creature using Mace-like bear spray, then walked nearly two miles to her vehicle.

Kornak is in a stable condition in hospital, a friend said.

Kornak accepted a seasonal



Grizzly bears are some of the largest carnivores on Earth

Kornak was able to reach a canister of bear spray, but accidentally sprayed it on herself before she was able to use it to ward off the animal. The repellent is made from the same ingredient as pepper spray.



Grizzly bears are considered a threatened species in the US, and are under federal protection

According to a GoFundMe page set up by her friend, Kornak was able to drive away and find help.

Tarred Russian dog, rescued

AFP | Moscow

Animal shelter volunteers have rescued a dog trapped in a tar pit for two days at a construction site outside Moscow and are now looking for a home for the stray.

"Although the hole wasn't deep it couldn't get out, but it survived as it was able to keep its nose out to breathe," Oleg Larchenko of the Forest Shelter told *AFP* yesterday.

The young stray which the volunteers named Oreshek (Little Nut) took three hours to clean using chemicals and lots of shampoo, and is now recovering at the shelter.

"I'm confident Oreshek will find a home as the story has attracted lots of attention," said Larchenko.

Oreshek has a better chance than strays in the 11 Russian



A happy ending for dog trapped in tar for two days. The rescuers now hope to find him a good home

cities hosting the World Cup next month as authorities increasingly put down dogs running loose so as to get them out of the way of the thousands of expected fans.

15 hurt in blast at Indian restaurant in Canada

● **Two suspects wearing hoodies detonated the explosive device**

AP | Toronto

An explosion caused by a homemade bomb ripped through an Indian restaurant where children were present for family parties at a mall in the Toronto suburb of Mississauga, wounding 15 people, Canadian police said.

Police said yesterday two suspects with their faces covered to conceal their identity entered the Bombay Bhel restaurant late Thursday, dropped the improvised explosive device and fled. Peel Regional Sergeant Matt Bertram said an object resembling a pail or paint can was carried into the restaurant by one of the suspects in his hand.

"There is no indication that this is a terrorism act. There is no indication that this is a hate crime at this time. We haven't ruled anything out as we start our investigation," said Peel Regional Police Chief Jennifer



Police stand outside the Bombay Bhel restaurant in Mississauga, Canada

Evans.

"Every police resource is being used right now to locate the people responsible for this horrendous act."

Officials said three Indian-Canadians suffered critical injuries and were taken to the hospital while the remaining 12 victims suffered what Evans described as minor and superficial injuries. Police later updated the condition of the three critically injured patients to stable. The ages of the injured range from 23 to 69. Children under the age of 10 were present but were not hurt.

The explosion happened just after 10:30 p.m. on Thursday, and the plaza where the restaurant is located was still sealed off yesterday. Television footage showed an injured woman limping away from the restaurant.

"Nothing was said by these individuals," Bertram said. "It appears they just went in, dropped off this device and took off right away."

Rafael Conceicao, a student from Sao Paulo, Brazil, was near the restaurant when the explosion occurred. He said there was a child's birthday party inside the restaurant at the time.



There is no indication that this is a terrorism act. There is no indication that this is a hate crime

JENNIFER EVANS

"Glass was broken in the street ... Everything was destroyed. Lots of blood in the floor. Many people were screaming. They were trying to run out from the restaurant," he said.

Evans said there were two separate family parties happening at the time.

Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie said she was thankful there were no fatalities.

"I would call it a very heinous, reprehensible act committed by cowards who came into a restaurant where people are vulnerable, celebrating with their families and where children are present," she said.

"This is certainly not anything you would expect to happen in Mississauga, not my Mississauga. This is not the Mississauga I know."

At least seven killed by car bomb in Benghazi

Reuters | Benghazi, Libya

At least seven people were killed and 10 wounded when a car bomb exploded on a busy street in the centre of the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi on Thursday night, a hospital medic said.

The bomb exploded behind

the Tibesti hotel, the city's biggest, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, on a street where people were taking a stroll after a day of fasting until sunset in the holy Muslim month of Ramadan.

No more details on the bombing were immediately available.

Security forces on US nuclear missile base took drugs

● **Records show that Air Force members distributed and used the hallucinogen LSD**

AP | Washington

One airman said he felt paranoia. Another marvelled at the vibrant colours. A third admitted he "felt more alive".

Air Force records show US service members entrusted with guarding nuclear missiles that are among the most powerful in America's arsenal bought, distributed and used the hallucinogen LSD and other illegal drugs as part of a ring that operated undetected for months on a highly secure military base in Wyoming.



The entrance to FE Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming

"Although this sounds like something from a movie, it isn't," said Captain Charles Grimsley, the lead prosecutor of one of several courts martial.

A slip-up on social media by one airman enabled investigators to crack the drug ring at FE Warren Air Force Base in March 2016. Fourteen airmen were dis-



FE Warren Air Force Base is the oldest continuously active military installation within the Air Force, established in 1867 by the US Army

Yet it is another blow to the reputation of the Air Force's nuclear missile corps, which is capable of unleashing hell in the form of Minuteman 3 intercontinental ballistic missiles, or ICBMs.

The service members accused of involvement in the LSD ring were from the 90th Missile Wing, which operates one-third of the 400 Minuteman 3 missiles that stand "on alert" 24/7 in underground silos scattered across the northern Great Plains.

An Air Force spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Uriah Orland, said the drug activity took place during off-duty hours.

"There are multiple checks to ensure airmen who report for duty are not under the influence of alcohol or drugs and are able to execute the mission safely, securely and effectively," he said.

ciplined. Six of them were convicted of LSD use or distribution or both.

None of the airmen was accused of using drugs on duty.

49 dead after boat capsizes in Congo

AP | Kinshasa, Congo

Congolese officials say at least 49 people have died after a boat tipped over on the Momboyo River, a tributary of the Congo River in the country's northwest region.

The vice governor of Tshuapa province, Richard Mboyo Iluka, says the boat was taking people from Monkoto to Mbandaka city on Thursday but capsized just outside Wafania.

He tells The Associated Press that a team has been dispatched to investigate and get a more realistic death toll.

He says he doesn't know how many people were on the boat or how many are thought to have survived.

Two hurt in Indiana middle school shooting; suspect in custody

AP | Noblesville, Ind.

A male student opened fire at a suburban Indianapolis middle school yesterday morning, wounding another student and a teacher before being taken into custody, authorities said.

The attack at Noblesville West Middle School happened around 9 am, police Chief Kevin Jowitt said at a news conference. He said investigators believe the suspect acted alone, but didn't detail what happened or the severity of the injuries to the victims, who were taken to hospitals in Indianapolis. The identities of those involved weren't immediately released.

Indiana University Health spokeswoman Danielle Sirilla said the teacher was taken to IU



Empty school buses leave after a shooting at Noblesville West Middle School



Noblesville, which is about 20 miles (32 kilometres) north-east of Indianapolis, is home to about 50,000 people. The middle school has about 1,300 students from grades 6-8

Health Methodist Hospital and the wounded student was taken to Riley Hospital for Children. She didn't know the seriousness of their injuries.

After the attack, students were bussed to the Noblesville High School gym, where hundreds of parents and other family members arrived to retrieve them.

Eighth-grader Chris Navarro said he was inside an auditorium when he counted hearing 16 gunshots about a minute before the bell rang for change in class.

"The speaker came on and said we were on lockdown and people rushed in and we went to the back of the room. I went into this little room in the back with three other people," he said calmly standing between his parents as they picked him up.

Erica Higgins, who was among the worried parents who rushed to get their kids, said that she learned of the shooting from a relative who called her at home.

"I just want to get my arms around my boy," she said.

Higgins said her son was shaken up but knew little about what happened.

"I got a 'Mom, I'm scared' text message and other than that, it was 'come get me at the high school,'" Higgins said.

Gov. Eric Holcomb, who was returning from a trip to Europe yesterday, issued a statement saying he and other state leaders were getting updates about the situation and that 100 state police officers had been made available to work with local law enforcement.

features

In Moroccan desert, meteorite hunters seek to strike it rich

The desert landscapes of Erfoud, Tata and Zagora in southern Morocco are rich hunting grounds for meteorites, as the wind uncovers them and their black hue is easy to spot against the pale sand

AFP | Zagora, Morocco

They roam Morocco's southern desert, braving the searing heat to scour the undulating sands for bounty fallen from the sky.

These celestial treasure hunters are searching for meteorites to sell on a burgeoning international market.

Equipped with a "very strong" magnet and magnifying glass, retired physical education teacher Mohamed Bouzgarine says that discoveries "can be more valuable than gold".

The price "depends on the rock's rarity, its shape and its condition", the 59-year old adds, sporting a dark blue tracksuit, lighter blue scarf and sunglasses.

"Rocks coming from Mars are very expensive, sometimes as much as 10,000 dirhams (around \$1,000, 900 euros) per gram," he says.

Bouzgarine stops in front of a hollow, hoping it could be a crater formed "very long ago" by extraterrestrial matter.

"It's a first sign," he says, ready to get down to work, in the township of M'Hamid el Ghizlane.

For four years now, he's been sifting rocks in the sand, inspecting them for telltale signs of burn incurred during fiery journeys through the atmosphere. And while he is yet to strike it lucky, the success of some of his hundreds of peers provides the stamina to plod on.

Rich hunting grounds

Likewise Abderrahmane, a 48-year-old paramedic who is spending his vacation searching for meteorites.

Others "have made a lot of money... one meteorite hunter found and sold 600 grams for 7,500 dirhams (660 euros, \$780) per gram," Abderrahmane says, dressed in a blue safari suit.

"From the 2000s, all the nomads started to look for rocks," he says.

A few foreign specialists are



A meteorite hunter searches for rocks near the town of M'hamid el-Ghizlane, in southern Morocco



The Tissint meteorite was ejected from the surface of Mars between 700,000 and 574 million years ago. The rock appears to be derived from a deep mantle source region that was unlike any of the other known Martian shergottite meteorites

also drawn to the quest for extraterrestrial fragments in the desert landscapes of Erfoud, Tata and Zagora.

These parts of southern Morocco are rich hunting grounds, as the wind uncovers meteorites and their black hue is easy to spot against the near-white sand.

"At least half the scientific publications on the subject are made on the basis of meteorites collected in Morocco," geochemist Hasnaa Chennaoui Aoudjehane tells *AFP*.

Desert zones are "favourable to the accumulation of meteorites, there is no vegetation... (and) ... the risk of alteration is low," adds Aoudjehane, who teaches at Casablanca's Hassan II university.

For scientists, these rocks harbour valuable information about the formation of the solar sys-

tem 4.5 billion years ago, as well as the planets and their internal composition. One in every five meteorites is valuable.

Demand from scientists and specialist brokers has raised prices and inspired meteorite hunters.

Unlike other countries, where the state stakes a claim, there is no legal framework governing discoveries in Morocco, so it's a case of "finders keepers".

While several meteor showers have occurred in Morocco in recent years, a bonanza known as the "black beauty" was the most lucrative.

'Like playing the lottery'

In 2011, fragments of this Martian landing fell in southern Morocco's Tata region, setting in motion a scramble that saw seven kilograms of fragments recovered.

The haul fetched prices of between \$500 and \$1,000 per gram.

Back on the desert plains, it can be frustrating work, requiring a lot of patience.

Twenty days into his "holiday", paramedic Abderrahmane has been "searching for fragments" without finding anything of note, he says.

But he remains undeterred. "It is a question of luck -- it's like playing the lottery," he smiles.

And he knows how he will handle a major find.

"The sale is made discreetly -- it is necessary to get the vendor's confidence," he says.

Transactions are also made online, in specialist forums and even on classified advertising sites. The most valuable finds are sold at auction in Paris or New York.

The internet: a dangerous place for wildlife

The online market for protected wildlife is booming, according to International Fund for Animal Welfare

AFP | Paris

From ivory baubles and leopard coats to rare turtles and live bears, the online market for protected wildlife is booming, according to an International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) investigation released Wednesday.

Experts from the NGO spent six weeks last year combing the Internet in four countries -- Rus-



A trafficked red panda found and rescued in Laos



The internet has transformed the global economy, and illegal wildlife trade has transformed with it

RIKKERT REIJNEN

sia, France, Germany and Britain -- for advertisements hawking endangered animals, whether dead or alive, in pieces or whole.

The haul was impressive: 11,772 individual articles or animals in 5,381 ads spread across 106 websites and social media platforms.

Total asking-price value? Just shy of \$4 million (3.2 million euros).

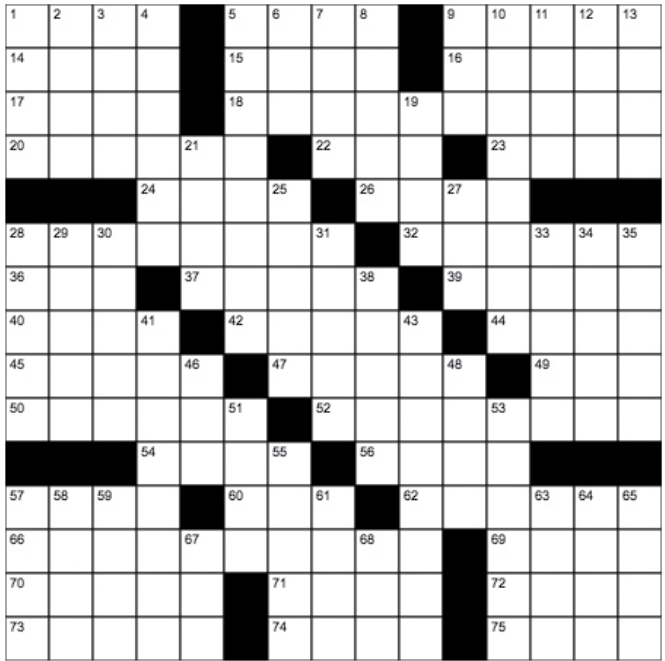
More than four-fifths of the items were live animals, includ-

ing a large share of marine and fresh-water turtles (45 percent), birds (24 percent) and mammals (5 percent), the report said.

And while it is possible to sell and buy certain endangered species with permits under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), 80-90 percent of the transactions proposed were probably illegal, said Celine Sissler-Bienvenu, IFAW's director for France and francophone Africa.

entertainment

CROSSWORD



Across

1- In vogue; 5- First man; 9- Stingy one; 14- In ___ land; 15- Currency of Turkey, and formerly of Italy; 16- Slender part of the leg; 17- Actor Ken; 18- Offensive action; 20- Kind of license or justice; 22- Mined mineral; 23- ___ account (never); 24- Expose; 26- Primordial substance; 28- Complaint; 32- Over there; 36- ___ glance; 37- Baffled; 39- Bridget Fonda, to Jane; 40- Mend socks; 42- Gossipmonger; 44- At the apex of; 45- Fencing blades; 47- ___ evil...; 49- Compass point opposite WSW; 50- Pertaining to the skin; 52- Streamer; 54-

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



Rent-___; 56- Implement; 57- I'd hate to break up ___; 60- Sprechen ___ Deutsch?; 62- Swaps; 66- Fear of heights; 69- London art gallery; 70- Accord maker; 71- Jog; 72- ___'acte; 73- Like Georgia Brown; 74- Unit of loudness; 75- Paint crudely;

Down

1- Hoof sound; 2- Light ring; 3- Would ___ to you?; 4- No way!; 5- Liveliness; 6- Excavate; 7- Jason's ship; 8- Join in wedlock; 9- Barker and Bell; 10- Inability to sleep; 11- Pelt; 12- North Carolina university; 13- "All The Way To ___", song by REM; 19- Hard to hold; 21- ___ Camera; 25- Relaxes; 27- Ages; 28- World-weary; 29- Military camp; 30- Harder to find; 31- Brightest star in Cygnus; 33- Discourage; 34- Low-budget prefix; 35- Beat back; 38- Bothered; 41- Roundworm; 43- Comment upon in notes; 46- Anatomical pouch; 48- Smell or fragrance; 51- Whip; 53- Overjoyed; 55- Mob scenes; 57- Sounds of relief; 58- Garbage boat; 59- Sea-going eagle; 61- Spanish river; 63- Comic Carvey; 64- Words to Brutus; 65- Balkan native; 67- Bit of butter; 68- Charged atom;

BEETLE BAILEY



WORD OF THE DAY

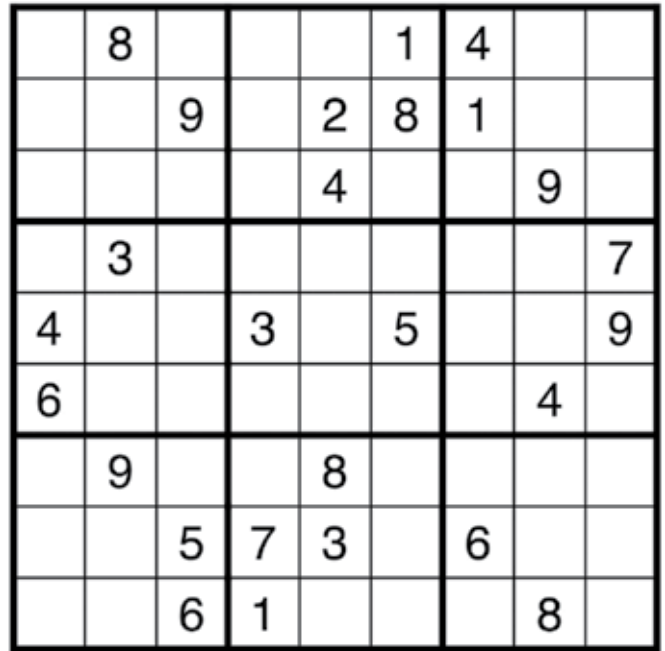
Homogeneous

Definition
1 - of the same or a similar kind or nature
2 - of uniform structure or composition throughout

Did You Know?
Homogeneous, which derives from the Greek roots homos, meaning "same," and genos, meaning "kind," has been used in English since the early 1600s. The similar word homogenous (originally created for the science of genetics and used with the

meaning "of, relating to, or derived from another individual of the same species") can also be a synonym of homogeneous. The words need not be used exclusively in scientific contexts—one can speak of, for example, "a homogenous/homogeneous community."

SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



How to play

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

LAND FOR SALE

THREE LAND FOR SALE OR RENT IN HAMALA, SIZE 1600sq mtr. Good for garage or storage purpose. Please contact 33054525. (adv.)

YOUR STAR TODAY



Aries

Things are apt to get intense for you today. There will be a lot of information coming your way, but it all won't necessarily be great. It seems that someone is putting a roadblock in your path, making it difficult for you to pass. Don't let this stop you.



Taurus

Your head may be buzzing with activity. It seems like the spotlight suddenly has been turned on. Your mind is on stage and your brainpower is being tested. Are you prepared for the challenge? Whether you're ready or not, it's here. Remember the importance of individuality.



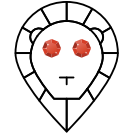
Gemini

Focus on the simple pleasures today. Don't feel like you have to search in far-off lands or engage in expensive recreational activities to find happiness and peace. Realize that everything you need is all inside you. Find your happiness in delighting in nature. Smile at the Sun, the Moon, and the trees.



Cancer

Focus on your creative mind. This is a very fertile time for planting hearty seeds that will be sure to grow up healthy and strong. You have the ability to be very prosperous, but it certainly won't come easily. The key for you is to maintain your cool. Don't overreact to the little annoyances that come your way.



Leo

Motivation must come from within. The only thing that can pull you out of bed is your inner drive and determination. Too much partying could leave you drained to the point that you don't want to move. Remember moderation. Be good to your body. Go outside and let your thoughts radiate outward like rays of sunshine. Feel the ground beneath your feet.



Virgo

Your mind should be quite clear today, and communication will go extremely well for you. You'll find that you'll need very few words to get your point across. You'll connect to people on many levels. Realize that you have important information to share with those around you.



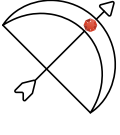
Libra

Strong forces may be acting up and asking you to stand up a little straighter than usual. Keep your shoulders back and be proud. Don't think of yourself as any less of a person just because there is disagreement between you and the people around you. Maintain respect for yourself and your opinions.



Scorpio

Feel free to take the lazy route today. Don't lift a finger if you don't really have to. It may be hard to get others moving as well. You can prod all you want, but, ultimately, if people don't want to go, they aren't going to. Your flexible nature might be put to the test. More than likely, you'll find that you need to adapt to the whims of others rather than the other way around.



Sagittarius

Your thinking is steady and reserved today. You'll find that your mind is right in line with your ego, and you'll be able to accurately verbalize what's going on inside. You might be guarded about how much you tell people.



Capricorn

Today is an excellent day for you to say exactly how you feel. Your thinking is sharp and clear. You'll find that once you start talking, you may never stop. People will listen extra carefully to your words. You have a great deal of influence on others.



Aquarius

You might find that your brain is chugging along in the slow lane today. It could even be gradually creeping over to the breakdown lane! It may be more difficult to come up with your quick, witty rebuttals in conversations. Take your time and make sure you choose your words very carefully.



Pisces

You might find that words aren't the best way to communicate today. Body language and the sense of touch and taste are much more effective. You'll find that your senses will be heightened overall. The smell of the restaurant several blocks away could make your taste buds water. Give in to your senses and let your feet follow your nose. Go enjoy a good meal tonight with someone special.

May	Ramadan	Day	Imsak	Fajr	Sunrise	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
26	10	Sat	03:06 am	03:16 am	4:47 am	11:35 am	03:02 pm	06:23 pm	07:53 pm

رمضان كريم
Ramadan Kareem

THE DAILY **tribune**

Iftar with cab drivers across Bahrain



Sheraton Bahrain Team



The Westin and Le Meridien City Centre Bahrain Team



Sheraton Bahrain GM Thomas Flindt



Sheraton Bahrain Deputy GM Mamdouh El Gohary



Cristalyn Pastrana, Cluster Director of Marketing

Manama

As part of its ongoing commitment to the Holy Month of Ramadan, Marriott International celebrated the ninth annual ‘Iftar for Cabs’ initiative at participating Marriott hotels in the Middle East, including

three in Bahrain. During the hour of Iftar on Wednesday cab drivers who drove through the main entrance of Sheraton Bahrain Hotel, The Westin & Le Meridien City Centre Bahrain received complimentary Iftar packs to break their fast.

Catering teams at each hotel pre-

pared Iftar packs which included a diverse selection of food and beverage items. Associates from across various departments within the hotels, including Catering, Administration and Guest Services joined forces to bring the ‘Iftar for Cabs’ initiative to life.

Launched in 2010, the ‘Iftar for Cabs’ initiative has turned into an annual tradition for many cab drivers throughout the region. The initiative has been widely appreciated by hotel owners, local communities and transport authorities.

“We thank the cab drivers who sup-

port our hotels throughout the year. Iftar for Cabs embodies the spirit of Ramadan and we are extremely proud of our hotel teams as they unite to give back and recognise important members of our community,” said Guido De Wilde, Chief Operating Officer, Middle East, Marriott International.

Best Ramadan destinations

Here is a carefully collated list of Ramadan-friendly cities to visit during the month of fasting. Vacationing in these destinations will offer you the opportunity to explore each city’s uniquely local Ramadan practices and customs, while being fully immersed in the essence of Ramadan. We spoke to travel app Wego who gave us their list of the top 5 places to visit.



Compared to European countries and other northern destinations, Malaysia has fewer daylight hours during this time of the year, which will be great for those fasting from dawn till sunset.



Zanzibar, Tanzania

Escape the summer heat by heading to the Zanzibar Archipelagos that boast crystal blue waters of the Indian Ocean and unspoilt white beaches. Also not to be missed are the beautiful mosques in the historical Stone Town, on this island paradise getaway. Alternatively, just opt for a relaxing sail on a traditional local dhow.



Baku, Azerbaijan

The capital city of Baku is prized for its picture-perfect scenery as well as its delightful old-world charm. If you love architecture, get ready to experience a cityscape that has the best of Paris and Dubai. And once you are done sight-seeing, pick from the city’s wide range of restaurants that serve special iftar menus.



Amman, Jordan

This cosmopolitan and young metropolis offers a halal-friendly and quiet vacation spot; loaded to the brim with cultural gems such as historical ruins, museums, souks and mosques. It also forms a great base for exploring highlights of Jordan, such as Petra and Wadi Rum.



Almaty, Kazakhstan

Visit Almaty for its great weather and luxurious hammams. You could also catch world-class ballet and opera at strikingly low prices. And if you want to experience a bit of snow in the peak on the Middle Eastern summer, head to the popular Medeu outdoor ice skating rink, situated at an altitude of almost 1,700 metres.



Alexandria, Egypt

Give the tourist-traps of Cairo a miss, and head over to the port city of Alexandria. Bibliophiles can read to their hearts’ content at the famous Library of Alexandria, where a copy of every book published in the world is kept. To soak in some history you could also visit some interesting Roman catacombs, the site of the Pharos (the great lighthouse) and a stunning Roman amphitheater.

show

PARMANU
(HINDI / ACTION/ DRAMA/ HISTORY) ⊛ John Abraham, Boman Irani, Diana Penty
DANA CINEMA 10:45,13:15,15:45,18:15,20:45,23:15
Cineco (20) 12.45, 3.30, 6.15, 9.00, 11.45 Pm
Seef (I) 12.30, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45, 11.30 Pm
Saar 8.30, 11.15 Pm
Wadi Al Sail 8.15, 11.00 Pm
KAALI
(TAMIL / ACTION) ⊛ Vijay Antony, Sunaina, Anjali
DANA CINEMA 10:30,15:45,21:00
NADIGAIYAR THILAGAM
(TAMIL/BIOGRAPHY/DRAMA) ⊛ Keerthi Suresh, Dulquer Salmaan, Samantha Ruth Prabhu
DANA CINEMA 12:45,18:00,23:15
Seef (Ii) 11.00 Am, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00 Pm
ARAVINDANTE
(MALAYALAM / DRAMA) ⊛ Vineeth Sreenivasan, Sreenivasan, Nikhila, Urvasi
DANA CINEMA 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30
Seef (I) 11.15 Am, 1.45, 4.15, 6.45, 9.15, 11.45 Pm
Al Hamra On Thursday 24Th: 3.00, 6.00 Pm, 12.00 Mn From Friday 25Th: 6.00 Pm, (12.00 Mn Fri)
SOLO: STAR WARS STORY: 3D
(ACTION/ADVENTURE/FANTASY) ⊛ Alden Ehrenreich, Woody Harrelson, Emilia Clarke
DANA CINEMA 11:00,13:30,16:00,18:30,21:00,23:30
DEADPOOL 2:
2D (ACTION/ADVENTURE /COMEDY) ⊛ Josh Brolin, Morena Baccarin, Zazie Beetz
DANA CINEMA 10:45,13:00,15:15,17:30,19:45,22:00, 00:15
Cineco (20) 11.00 Am, 11.30 Am, 1.30, 2.00, 4.00, 4.30, 6.30, 7.00, 9.00, 9.30, 11.30 Pm, 12.00 Mn Daily At (Vip Ii): 10.30 Am, 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 11.00 Pm
Seef (I) 10.30 Am, 11.30 Am, 1.00, 2.00, 3.30, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00, 8.30, 9.30, 11.00 Pm, 12.00 Mn
Saar 9.00, 11.30 Pm
Wadi Al Sail 8.30, 11.00 Pm
SOLO: STAR WARS STORY: 2D
(ACTION/ADVENTURE/FANTASY) ⊛ Alden Ehrenreich, Woody Harrelson, Emilia Clarke
DANA CINEMA 10:45,13:15,15:45,18:15,20:45,23:15
Cineco (20) Daily At (Imax 3D): 12.30, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45, 11.30 Pm Daily At (Atmos): 10.30 Am, 1.00, 3.45, 6.30, 9.15 Pm, 12.00 Mn Daily At (Vip Ii): 12.00, 2.45, 5.30, 8.15, 11.00 Pm
Seef (Ii) 10.30 Am, 12.30, 1.00, 3.15, 3.45, 6.00, 6.30, 8.45, 9.15, 11.30 Pm, 12.00 Mn Daily At (3D): 12.00, 2.45, 5.30, 8.15, 11.00 Pm
Saar 8.45, 11.30 Pm



For Barrymore, dark circles are a problem

Actress Drew Barrymore feels dark circles under her eyes make her look like a “ghoul you came from the graveyard”. Posting a photograph of her serums of choice on Instagram, Barrymore wrote, “I have really dark circles. That’s my problem. I do not have lines as much as I look the crypt keeper. I love laugh lines. Can’t wait for more. “But dark circles are a problem because it looks like instead of being impossibly happy throughout my life, I look more and more like a ghou! who came from the graveyard!” The ‘Never Been Kissed Before’ actress uses products

which work for her and says she goes for formulas with a “light pearl or pinky tone” because it helps create a flawless canvass for her make-up.

“I have really dark circles. That’s my problem. I do not have lines as much as I look the crypt keeper. I love laugh lines. Can’t wait for more”
DREW BARRYMORE

Boyle to direct next Bond film with Craig

Oscar-winning director Danny Boyle is to reunite with his “Trainspotting” actor Daniel Craig for the 25th Bond film. Boyle will also reunite with “Train-spotting” writer John Hodge, who is creating an original screenplay. Production is set to begin on December 3 at the UK’s Pinewood Studios. Craig and Boyle will be working together after they made a short film for the 2012 London Olympics.

MGM will release the film theatrically in the US on November 8, 2019, through its new joint venture for domestic theatrical distribution with Annapurna Pictures. Universal will release internationally commencing with a traditional earlier release in the UK on October 25, 2019. Under this arrangement, MGM will retain digital and worldwide television distribution rights. Universal will also handle physical home entertainment distribution.



Daniel Craig

Cineco (20) 10.30, 12.45, 3.00, 5.15, 7.30, 9.45, 12.00 Mn
A Wrinkle In Time
(Pg-13) (Adventure/Fantasy) ⊛ Storm Reid, Oprah Winfrey, Reese Witherspoon
Cineco (20) 12.00, 2.15, 4.30, 6.45, 9.00, 11.15
Life Of The Party
(15+) (Comedy) ⊛ Melissa Mccarthy, Gillian Jacobs, Julie Bowen
Cineco (20) 12.15, 2.30, 4.45, 7.00, 9.15, 11.30
Breaking In
(Pg-15) (Thriller/Crime) ⊛ Gabrielle Union, Billy Burke, Richard Cabral
Cineco (20) 11.00 Am, 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00, 11.00
A Quiet Place
(15+) (Thriller/Horror/Drama) ⊛ Emily Blunt, John Krasinski, Noah Jupe
Cineco (20) 11.30 Am, 1.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30, 11.30
Peter Rabbit
(Pg) (Adventure/Comedy/Family) ⊛ Rose Byrne, Domhnall Gleeson, Sam Neill
Cineco (20) 10.45 Am, 12.45, 5.15, 9.45 Pm
Tomb Raider
(Action/Adventure) ⊛ Alicia Vikander, Hannah John-Kamen, Walton Goggins
Cineco (20) 11.45 Am, 4.15, 8.45 Pm
Masha & The Bear
(G) (Animation/Adventure/Comedy/Family) ⊛ Angelica Keamy, Boris Kutnevich
Cineco (20) 1.15, 5.30, 9.45 Pm
Overboard
(Pg-15) (Comedy/Romantic) ⊛ Anna Faris, Eva Longoria, Eugenio Derbez
Cineco (20) 11.00 Am, 3.15, 7.30, 11.45 Pm
The Commuter
(Pg-15) (Thriller/Crime) ⊛ Liam Neeson, Vera Farmiga, Patrick Wilson
Cineco (20) 2.15, 6.45, 11.15 Pm
Black Panther
(Pg-15) (Action/Adventure/Thriller) ⊛ Chadwick Boseman, Michael B. Jordan, Lupita Nyong'o
Cineco (20) 2.45, 7.15, 11.45 Pm
102 Not Out
(Pg) (Hindi/Comedy/Drama) ⊛ Amitabh Bachchan, Rishi Kapoor, Jimit Trivedi
Seef (Ii) 11.15 Am, 1.15, 3.15, 5.15, 7.15, 9.15, 11.15
Uncle
(Malayalam) New ⊛ Mammooty, Karthika, Jot Mathew, Muthumani
Seef (I) 12.30, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45, 11.30

Weinstein charged with rape in US

Former Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein has been charged in New York with rape and several counts of sexual abuse stemming from two separate accusers. Mr Weinstein turned himself in to police in the city earlier in the day. Dozens of women have made allegations against the 66 year old, including rape and sexual assault, and giving rise to the #MeToo movement. Mr Weinstein has denied committing any non-consensual sex acts. He is now out on bail, wearing a monitoring device. He arrived at the police station in lower Manhattan at 07:30 (12:30 BST), carrying three books. He was later was photographed smiling as he was escorted out the station in handcuffs. A statement from the New York Police Department said Mr Weinstein



Harvey Weinstein

“was arrested, processed and charged with rape, criminal sex act, sex abuse and sexual misconduct for incidents involving two separate women”. The statement thanked “these brave survivors for their courage to come forward and seek justice.”

Emilia Clarke plans GoT tattoo



Actress Emilia Clarke is planning to commemorate the end of “Game of Thrones” with a tattoo of a dragon on her wrist. Clarke told “LIVE With Kelly and Ryan” host Ryan Seacrest: “I was in a tattoo parlour the other day trying to get an appointment and they said that they were full because you’re coming in to get a tattoo of a dragon?” Co-host Kelly Ripa asked: “Are you really doing it?” Clarke replied: “Yes! Sorry, mum! I’m going to get a dragon right here kind of flying away. So I think that’s cool. A little kind of peace out.” But Clarke joked she could have gone bigger, reports femalefirst.co.uk. When Ripa teased she thought she would have gone for a “big back tattoo”, the actress replied: “Yeah exactly! They’ve cleared the schedule.”

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SPORTS

Pakistan lead by 166 runs in first Test



Pakistan's Babar Azam crunches a pull

● **Babar Azam, Azhar Ali, Asad Shafiq and Shadab Khan made half-centuries to help Pakistan to 350-8, a lead of 166**

BBC | Lords

Pakistan patiently took a firm grip on the first Test against England on the second day at Lord's.

Babar Azam, Azhar Ali, Asad Shafiq and Shadab Khan made

half-centuries to help the tourists to 350-8, a lead of 166.

They gave England, a lesson in the discipline, diligence and control required to make runs in Test cricket.

In improved batting conditions, England's bowling was adequate but lacking the penetration demonstrated Pakistan, perhaps leaving captain Joe Root rueing his decision to bat first.

The home side also did not help themselves by dropping three catches and missing another, to go with a Ben Stokes drop from the first evening.

Daniel Ricciardo looking for Monaco GP payback

● **Ricciardo's lap in 1:11.841 set a new outright lap record for the Monte Carlo circuit**

AFP | Monaco

Daniel Ricciardo hides a streak of raw determination behind his sunny smile and he is looking for 'payback' in Sunday's Monaco Grand Prix after missing out on a merited win in 2016.

After demonstrating his and Red Bull's superiority in Thursday's practice sessions, he believes he has the car to deliver pole in Saturday's qualifying showdown. And from that, a chance to win.

Two years ago, in a dramatic finale, the big-smiling Australian's Red Bull team bungled a late pit-stop which handed victory to Briton Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes -- an experience that still irks and motivates Ricciardo.

"I haven't forgotten it for sure and it is still there to motivate



Red Bull Racing's Australian driver Daniel Ricciardo reacts in the pits after the first practice session at the Monaco street circuit

me," he said. "It's the one that got away and I am still looking for some payback on that."

After dominating opening practice on Thursday ahead of his Red Bull team-mate Dutchman Max Verstappen, Ricciardo was keen to ensure his team remained clear and realistic about their goals.

"I definitely expect all three big teams to be below 1min

12sec (in official qualifying) on Saturday -- we set a benchmark and we have stated our intentions. We are here to try and win this race and to be the dominant team," he said.

Ricciardo's lap in 1:11.841 set a new outright lap record for the Monte Carlo circuit, which appears to suit perfectly Red Bull's chassis and the pink-walled new 'hyper-soft' tyres.

That car advantage, he believes, could be enough to give them an advantage over both Ferrari and Mercedes when they turn up their engine modes to 'qualifying' levels on Saturday.

"Our gap from practice to qualifying isn't normally as big as Ferrari and Mercedes. They will close that gap, definitely. But I feel that if we can put together a really good lap again, we have a chance for pole. And that's my job for Saturday."

Thirty years on from the weekend of Ayrton Senna's celebrated 1988 pole lap for McLaren and 10 years on from Hamilton's first victory in the Mediterranean principality, Red Bull appeared to be in the mood to smash records as the teams and drivers relaxed on Monaco's traditional F1 'rest' day on Friday.

Verstappen will be bidding to out-pace his team-mate and the rest to become the youngest pole-sitter in F1 history, a record currently held by four-time champion Sebastian Vettel, who was third for Ferrari on Thursday.

Liverpool's Mane donates 300 jerseys to supporters in home village of Bambali

Reuters | Liverpool

Liverpool forward Sadio Mane has despatched 300 club jerseys to supporters in his home village of Bambali in Senegal ahead of Saturday's Champions League final against Real Madrid.

Mane's family still live in the village of 2,000 inhabitants, which is expected to come to a standstill as their favourite son looks to help the Premier League club claim a sixth European Cup in Kiev's Olympic Stadium.

The 26-year-old has ensured the village can cheer his team in style as they look to beat 12-times champions Real.

"There are 2,000 in the village. I bought 300 Liverpool



Sadio Mane

jerseys to send to the people in the village, so the fans can wear to watch the final," Mane told

the British media.

The Senegalese international is not expected to return home



Liverpool forward Sadio Mane's family still live in the village of 2,000 inhabitants

until after next month's World Cup in Russia but is hopeful he can further reward fans for their continued support.

"Nobody in the village will work this day (Saturday). I will be going back in the summer after the World Cup."

Rory McIlroy sets the pace with brilliant putting display

AFP | Wentworth

Northern Irish golf star Rory McIlroy played such a sublime second round of golf at the PGA Championship yesterday he had defending champion Alex Noren quipping he thought about quitting.

The 29-year-old quadruple major winner carded a bogey free seven-under par 65 to move to 12 under and a three-shot lead over Englishman Sam Horsfield.

Noren -- who played in the same group as the Ulsterman and like him and playing partner Lee Westwood also didn't record a bogey -- may have been joking about retiring but he was in awe of McIlroy's round.

"That's the best round I've ever seen. I'm about to quit golf I think," said Noren.



Rory McIlroy

Noren sits five shots off McIlroy but the Swede will be well aware that after his stunning 62 last year which saw him come from way off the pace to seal victory anything is possible.

McIlroy, though, likes being out in front going into the weekend even if he like Noren staged a last-round blitz to come from seven shots off the lead to win in 2014.

Klopp praises "brilliant fighter" Zidane for supreme record

Reuters | Kiev

Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp called opposite number Zinedine Zidane "a fighter" before the Champions League final against Real Madrid and praised the Frenchman for his supreme record in Europe's elite competition despite his short coaching career.

Zidane took the leap from coaching Madrid's reserve team to the top job at the Spanish giants in January 2016 and so far



Juergen Klopp

“Zidane has been a fighter his entire life, when you grow up where he did in Marseille and had the career you have, you need to be

JUERGEN KLOPP

has won nine trophies, including back-to-back Champions League wins.

"Zidane has been a fighter his entire life, when you grow up where he did in Marseille and had the career you have, you need to be," Klopp told a news conference on Friday.

"He was one of the best five players ever, he was such a good player that it looked like he didn't need to fight but he did. "I've been at Liverpool longer

than he has been a coach and he could win the Champions League three times in a row, that's never happened before so either he's lucky or he's brilliant, I prefer to think he's brilliant, like he was as a player."

Madrid have had an enthralling run to the final, squeezing through their quarter-final tie with Juventus 4-3 on aggregate with a last-gasp penalty from Cristiano Ronaldo. They also survived attacking

onslaughts in both legs of their semi-final against Bayern Munich. "I've seen his team playing, I think it's fantastic football, it's organised when it needs to be, it's chaos when it needs to be and when you have all those world class players I think that's a good idea," Klopp said of Zidane's Madrid.

The ever-jovial German coach's news conference was peppered with outbursts of laughter.

Norrie beaten by Simon in semi-final



Gilles Simon hits a return

● Gilles Simon will face Serbia's Dusan Lajovic or top seed Dominic Thiem in the final

● Cameron Norrie had never played a professional match on red clay until he faced in the Davis Cup

● James ward enters semi-finals of the ATP Challenger Tour in Loughborough

BBC | Lyon

Britain's Cameron Norrie failed to make the final of the Lyon Open after a 6-1 7-6 (8-6) defeat by experienced

75

is the ATP World Tour official ranking of Gilles Simon

Frenchman Gilles Simon. Norrie, 22, had claimed the biggest win of his career by beating world number 10 John Isner in the quarter-finals. But the world number 102 was beaten in straight sets on the clay-court by 75th-ranked Simon.

Norrie struggled with his serve in the first, but took the second to a tie-break before blowing two set points. Simon will face Serbia's Dusan Lajovic or top seed Dominic Thiem in the final.

British number three Norrie is expected to rise up the rankings after a positive week in France, reach a ranking of 85 as he enters the French Open next week. He had never played a professional match on red clay until he featured in the Davis Cup in February.

But after a first set in which he lost his serve three times, the left-hander fought his way back into the semi-final.

The second set played out without a single break of serve as Norrie matched home favourite Simon, before the match slipped away in the tie-break.

Elsewhere, James Ward is through to the semi-finals of the ATP Challenger Tour in Loughborough after Russia's Teymuraz Gabashvili retired.

Roland Garros 2018: Women's preview

Pictures: Getty Images

Simona Halep Garbine Muguruza Jelena Ostapenko Petra Kvitova

Two-time finalist seeking elusive first Slam title after emotional third major final defeat in Australia

2016 winner has endured frustrating year with streak of early exits and injury

Defending champion at career-high rank, aged 20 – poor clay court season to date

Back in top ten after resurgent season, including clay court wins in Prague and Madrid

PLAYER RECORD*	Halep	Muguruza	Ostapenko	Kvitova
2018 win-loss	28-6	15-9	12-11	30-6
2018 titles	1	1	0	4
Career titles (total)	16	6	2	24
Career titles (clay)	6	1	1	4
Grand Slams	0	2	1	2

RECENT FINALS: With six different champions in previous nine Grand Slam tournaments – and five maiden winners – expectation is high for another first-time champion to be crowned in Roland Garros

2017	Jelena Ostapenko LAT	4-6, 6-4, 6-3	Simona Halep ROM
2016	Garbine Muguruza ESP	7-5, 6-4	Serena Williams USA
2015	Serena Williams USA	6-3, 6-7, 6-2	Lucie Safarova CZE
2014	Maria Sharapova RUS	6-4, 6-7, 6-4	Simona Halep ROM
2013	Serena Williams USA	6-4, 6-4	Maria Sharapova RUS

Source: WTA *Data correct as of May 21 © GRAPHIC NEWS



Froome takes Giro overall lead from Simon Yates

Simon Yates finished almost 39 minutes behind Team Sky's Chris Froome

BBC | Bardonecchia

Chris Froome launched a devastating attack to win stage 19 of the Giro d'Italia and take the leader's pink jersey from fellow Briton Simon Yates.

Yates finished almost 39 minutes behind Team Sky's Froome, who attacked 80km from the finish in Bardonecchia.

Froome, 33, was fourth prior to Friday's 184km run from Venaria Reale.

But, with two days remaining, he now has a 40-second lead over Tom Dumoulin as he attempts to become the first British man to win the Giro d'Italia.

The four-time Tour de France champion is also attempting to become only the seventh man to win all three Grand Tours, and just the third to win three in succession.

"I don't think I've ever attacked like that before on my own," he said.



Chris Froome celebrates on the podium

"The team did such a fantastic job to set it up for me.

"It was going to take something really special to get rid of Simon and get away from Dumoulin. It was now or never. I just had to try."

Froome is involved in an ongoing anti-doping case after

being found to have double the allowed level of a legal asthma drug in his urine after a test at last year's Vuelta a Espana.

Had it slipped to the back of his mind, he was reminded during Friday's stage as a spectator ran alongside him holding a giant inhaler.



The four-time Tour de France champion Chris Froome is also attempting to become only the seventh man to win all three Grand Tours, and just the third to win three in succession

Mitchelton-Scott's Yates had his lead halved on Thursday, losing 28 seconds to Team Sunweb's Dumoulin. It was the first time he had struggled since first taking the race lead in stage six.

The Giro finishes on Sunday with a flat 115km route into Rome.

Al-Hidd wins Elite Football Cup

TDT | Manama

The Al-Hidd Football Club has clinched the first edition of the Elite Football Cup.

Al-Hidd beat Al-Malkiya 2-1 in the final match which was held at the Bahrain National Stadium to clinch the 2017-2018 trophy.

Al-Malkiya opened the scoring in the title clash at Bahrain National Stadium in Isa Town when Isra Amer struck just one minute from the start.

Mohammed Al Tayyeb scored two goals as Al Hidd beat Malkiya 2-1 in the final last night to claim the first Elite Football Cup.

Bahrain Football Association vice-president Shaikh Khalid bin Salman Al Khalifa presented the silver medals to Malkiya team members and the cup, along with the gold medals, to Al Hidd players.

Petra Kvitova 'happy' to see knife attack suspect

AFP | London

Petra Kvitova admitted yesterday that she was happy that the knife-wielding burglar who slashed her hands in a terrifying home attack was finally behind bars.

The 28-year-old two-time Wimbledon champion missed six months of the tour last year to recover from her injuries and only returned to action at the 2017 French Open.

Now, almost 18 months after the violent break-in, Czech police have arrested a man, described as a 54-year-old drug addict, in connection with the attack.

"It's great news for me to hear that. It's great that they have him in custody. But probably the happiest I will be is when the story will end, when everything will be done and finished"



“It’s great news for me to hear that. It’s great that they have him in custody. But probably the happiest I will be is when the story will end, when everything will be done and finished”

PETRA KVITOVA

ished," Kvitova told reporters at Roland Garros on Friday.

Kvitova, the world number eight, suffered career-threatening injuries to her playing left hand as she fought off the intruder at her home in the eastern Czech town of Prostějov in December 2016.

Despite grim forecasts by doctors, who even warned she might lose her fingers, the 2011 and 2014 Wimbledon champion returned to the sport in time for last year's French Open.

Kvitova sank from 11th in the world when the crime occurred to 29th at the turn of 2017 and 2018, but she has since climbed back into the top ten, also owing to back-to-back wins at Prague and Madrid this spring.

"I was focusing on the hand and I was really trying hard to be back or focusing on the rehab," she added.

Serena return will keep us on our toes

AFP | London

Australian Open champion Caroline Wozniacki says that Serena Williams' comeback will force the current top-ranked players to raise their games at the French Open.

The former world number one will be looking to build on her long-awaited maiden Grand Slam triumph in Melbourne, but she has never reached the semi-finals at Roland Garros.

Despite being in the opposite half of the draw to three-time champion Williams, Wozniacki knows that Serena's presence as an unseeded player will put pressure on her rivals.

"I think it's always great to have the best players play, and it



“You have to play your best level, and I think having someone like Serena back, it’s keeping us all on our toes and we have to keep improving all the time”

CAROLINE WOZNIACKI

raises your level," said the Dane.

"You have to play your best level, and I think having someone like Serena back, it's keep-



Caroline Wozniacki

ing us all on our toes and we have to keep improving all the time."

Wozniacki finally claimed her first major title this year, and admitted that it has lifted a weight off her shoulders.

"I think the biggest difference is really when I'm in here in the press conferences," she said.

"I think that's the biggest difference, because I'm not getting asked anymore, you know, what it takes to be a Grand Slam champion, why I haven't gotten there yet. "It feels amazing to have that with me now, and hopefully I can build on that.

"We have three more Grand Slams left this year, and this is the first one after Australia and I'm going to try and do my best."

Tite experiments with Brazil's trio

- Willian played with the two star strikers for about one hour on Thursday
- Tite used defenders Marquinhos and Miranda during the entire hour, suggesting former captain Thiago Silva will be on the bench for the moment

Independent | Rio de Janeiro

Brazil's second pre-World Cup training session featured Willian in attack alongside Neymar and Gabriel Jesus, a hint that coach Tite might change his starting line-up.

Willian played with the two star strikers for about one hour on Thursday at the Granja Comary ground in Teresopolis, outside Rio de Janeiro.

Tite did not use his starting midfield to play with the trio. He also used defenders Marquinhos and Miranda during the entire hour, suggesting former



Brazil's Neymar and teammates during the warmup

captain Thiago Silva will be on the bench for the moment.

If Willian is brought in to the team, Tite could remove midfielder Renato Augusto from the starting line-up, put Philippe Coutinho in his place, and open a gap up for Willian.

Since last year, Tite has said he needs a "pacemaker," and considers Coutinho one of his main options for the role.

Beijing Guoan's Augusto is under pressure after unconvincing performances in Brazil's midfield.

Augusto's spot is also eyed by Fred, one of the surprise inclusions of Tite's squad.

The midfielder said he admired Brazil players who began a World Cup on the bench and later became starters, such as Mazinho (1994) and Kleberson (2002).

"We can get inspiration from them, these players worked very hard to get their spot," Fred said. "But if I have to be out I will keep working hard."

Fred also said he was torn between a transfer to Manchester



United or Manchester City.

Fred, who has said he believes his future is outside Ukraine, admitted he received an offer from City in January. It's understood both United and City are now in talks with Shakhtar Donetsk over a summer transfer.

"Maybe after the World Cup I will make the choice," the midfielder said. "Now I am only thinking about the World Cup."

Tite currently has 18 out of his 23 players available to him for Brazil's pre-World Cup training.

Winger Douglas Costa and Fagner are still recovering from injury while Liverpool's Roberto Firmino and Real Madrid's Casemiro and Marcelo will join on Monday after the Champions League final.

FIFA World Cup 2018 official song released

Espn | London

FIFA has revealed their official tournament song that they hope will go on to help define the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

"Live It Up" is a collaboration between Nicky Jam, Era Istrefi and the Fresh Prince himself, Will Smith -- who features for roughly 30 seconds of the entire anthem.



"Live It Up" is a collaboration between Jam, Istrefi and Smith



"One life, live it up" seems to be the central theme, though Will Smith does actually mention a "team" at one point

Without wishing to sound overly snobby, it's quite repetitive and... bad.

"One life, live it up" seems to be the central theme, though Smith does actually mention a "team" at one point -- perhaps the only semi-direct reference to football in the whole song.

In short, The Toe Poke forgot absolutely everything about the song already and we only heard it a minute or two ago. "Live it Up?" Turn it down, more like.

Pogba only cares about haircuts: Demark Coach

AFP | Stockholm

Denmark coach Age Hareide gave a withering assessment of his World Cup first-round rivals France on Thursday claiming they have no real leader and have little chance in Russia.

"I don't believe in this team," Hareide told Danish daily Jyllands-Posten, a month ahead of their 26 June game in Russia.

"They are nothing special," he said.

"They don't have a leader such as Zinedine Zidane to lead them, someone who knew how to galvanise them," said the Norwegian who has been Denmark coach for three years.

"They need to play as a team."

The 64-year-old singled out Manchester United's Paul Pogba for criticism -- over his flashy haircuts.

"He played against Manchester City with his hair dyed blue and white, maybe he'll have it red and white to play us." "Good grief, does he only think about his haircuts?" asked the coach.

Hareide said he hoped to lead Denmark on a fine campaign.



Paul Pogba

PLAYER OF THE DAY



James Rodriguez

The adidas Golden Boot winner at Brazil 2014 Rodriguez will hope to provide more goals for Colombia at Russia 2018. Currently on loan at Bayern Munich, the Cafeteros star won two FIFA Club World Cup titles with Real Madrid.



Carlos Vela

Mexico can beat Germany in opener

Espn | London

Mexico's Carlos Vela believes that on his national team's best day they can beat anyone in the world, even prohibitive Group F favorites Germany.

Vela, 29, chose not to play for El Tri at the World Cup four years ago, but says he is determined to make Russia 2018 count if he makes the cut for Juan Carlos Osorio's final 23-man squad.

The LAFC striker rejoined the national team fold in November 2014 and has been in solid form of late, netting seven goals in his first 11 games since joining MLS from Real Sociedad.

Vela told reporters: "[Germany] is one of the best teams in the world, but Mexico has the chance to win that game. We have to play like [we can win] against any opponent. It doesn't matter if it is Germany, Haiti or Portugal, we want to win."

The History Makers exhibit to open June 9 in Moscow



Hyundai teams with FIFA World Football Museum for 'History Makers' exhibition at Hyundai Motorstudio

- The exhibition will focus on the history of the tournament and the fan cultures that make the event unique
- The ground floor of the exhibition will be devoted to messages from fans from as well as a growing collection of the official match balls

FIFA | Moscow

The budget beleaguered FIFA World Football Museum that has been a major casualty under FIFA president Gianni Infantino's sweeping cost cuts, has phoenix-like re-emerged for the Russian World Cup to

host major exhibition at Hyundai Motorstudio Moscow.

Titled 'The History Makers', the exhibition will open June 9, and will focus on the history of the tournament and the fan cultures that make the event unique.

"Central to the whole experience is a giant circular LED screen, showing highlights and memorable moments from past finals and some of the greatest players to have featured in them," said a FIFA press release.

Two World Cup trophies will be displayed. The FIFA World Cup Winner's Trophy will be exhibited on the June 9 opening day, while the Jules Rimet Cup will be brought from the FIFA Museum in Zurich and be on display for the duration of the exhibition.

The facade of the Hyundai Motorstudio Moscow will be

transformed into a giant World Cup scoreboard, allowing fans in the street to follow the progress of the tournament.

Wonhong Cho, chief marketing officer of Hyundai Motor, a FIFA partner, said: "We are committed to supporting and furthering the development of world football by providing fans with unique and enjoyable experiences like this."

The ground floor of the exhibition will be devoted to messages from fans from as well as a growing collection of the adidas Telstar official match balls. After each of the 64 matches in the competition the ball used for the kick-off will be added to the exhibition.

The upstairs exhibition area will showcase the stories of the 20 World Cups so far and the playing legends that shaped them.