

Former champ Luan Miao takes on Issa Isakov in Brazil

The former BRAVE CF Lightweight world champion Luan "Miao" Santiago is scheduled to make his comeback at home in March, when the promotion returns to Brazil for a record-tying fifth time. **P16**

OP-ED 8 Oman is on track for a prosperous future

THE DAILY **tribune**

Empowering students to be the masters of destiny 14 DRIVING EXCELLENCE

WORLD 10 Malaysia in turmoil as Mahathir, Anwar vie for power

Iraq, Lebanon flights suspended
 Manama

The Civil Aviation Affairs (CAA) in the Kingdom has announced the suspension of all flights to and from the Republic of Iraq and the Lebanese Republic until further notice, effective immediately.

The CAA earlier announced that, effective immediately, it has reduced the number of incoming regional flights and has extended the suspension of all flights arriving from Dubai International Airport and Sharjah International Airport for an additional 48 hours.

This decision has been taken in order to safeguard the health of the Kingdom's citizens and residents.

The CAA urged all Bahraini citizens and residents who are currently in areas affected by the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and who were planning to return to the Kingdom to call the following number: +973 17227555.

The CAA affirmed that it is co-operating with all relevant authorities to take the necessary measures to contain and combat the spread of COVID-19.

HAVE A MILLION IDEAS?
 Realise them with MyHassad

Annual Prize **US\$ 2 million**
 21 Weekly Prizes **US\$ 1,000**

2 Quarterly Prizes **US\$ 1 million**
 Eid Al Adha Prize **US\$ 500,000**

Call 17 22 1 999 now

ahliunited.com
 @aubahrain

ahli united bank
 Licensed as a Conventional Retail Bank by the CBB

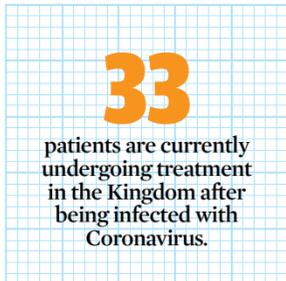
Seven new Corona cases registered

TDI | Manama

The Ministry of Health last night announced that it has registered seven new confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the Kingdom, increasing the total confirmed cases to 33.

Infected individuals were immediately transferred to Ebrahim Khalil Kanoo Community Medical Centre for isolation and treatment following tests that confirmed they were carrying COVID-19, upon arrival at Bahrain International Airport via indirect flights from Iran, the ministry said in a statement issued.

All individuals in contact



with the infected patients have also been quarantined as per preventive efforts, the statement added.

The ministry also noted that one of the newly-recorded cases is of a Bahraini citizen who had returned from Iran before the country announced the pandemic.

Public Awareness Campaign to Combat Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Coronavirus (COVID-19) updates:

Number of infected cases: 33

Infected individuals returning from Iran are showing signs of recovery

Measures taken:

- Calling on all citizens and residents who have visited Iran during February to self-isolate and immediately call 444 to schedule medical examination
- Reducing the number of incoming regional flights
- Extension of the suspension of all flights arriving from Dubai International Airport and Sharjah International Airport for an additional 48 hours

Latest update: 11:00 PM
 26 February 2020

Travel agencies shut down

TDI | Manama

Two travel agencies were closed down yesterday by the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority for advertising promotional offers for Iranian destinations.

The decision was taken for violating government guidelines in light of Coronavirus threat, the authority said.



02 Rights strides stressed

Key workshop puts focus on latest IT procurement policies, standards

04

'1,000 Bahraini citizens stranded' in Iranian city of Mashhad alone

05

210 fils (includes VAT)



HRH the Crown Prince chairs the meeting.

HRH the Crown Prince stressed that through the comprehensive co-ordination of the Executive Authority, Legislative Authority, the private sector, citizens and residents the Kingdom's health system will prevail in the face of Corona threat.

TDI | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander, and First Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday visited the National Task Force for Combating the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Operation Room at the Crown Prince Centre for Training and



HRH the Crown Prince being briefed on the situation at the National Task Force Operation Room to Combat COVID-19.

Medical Research.

HRH the Crown Prince noted that the active support of HM King Hamad has ensured that Bahrain's health sector is able to deliver innovative solutions to global challenges.

HRH the Crown Prince expressed his appreciation and support for the ongoing collective efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19, and for ensuring citizens and residents safety.

United action call

HRH the Crown Prince calls for united efforts to confront Corona threat



We need to act unitedly as COVID-19 does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, religion or social class.

HRH THE CROWN PRINCE

HRH the Crown Prince affirmed that Bahrain will continue to modify its public health

prevention measures to keep abreast with international developments, while intensifying efforts to maintain low infection rates.

In this regard, HRH the Crown Prince underlined that a strong international response to the spread of COVID-19 forms the foundation of all preventive measures.

Furthermore, HRH stressed that COVID-19 does not discrim-

inate based on race, ethnicity, religion or social class, calling for united efforts to confront the illness.

HRH the Crown Prince stressed that through the comprehensive co-ordination of the Executive Authority, Legislative Authority, the private sector, citizens and residents, which together form Team Bahrain, the Kingdom's health system will prevail in the face of the threat posed by COVID-19.

Meanwhile, Dr Safa Al Khawaja, Infectious Diseases Consultant and Head of Infection Control at the Ministry of Health, confirmed that Coronavirus (COVID-19) infected returnees from Iran are benefiting from the care they receive while in isolation, and are showing signs of recovery.

Dr Safa went on to note that all COVID-19 patients at Ebrahim Khalil Kanoo Community Medical Centre are receiving individual care from a specialised medical team, in line with established global medical protocols.

Geneva

Rights strides stressed

Minister highlights Kingdom's consistent stances in line with UN goals

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Abdullahatif Al Zayani, has affirmed Bahrain's commitment to continuing its efforts to attain many pioneering achievements and initiatives to protect and promote human rights at all levels, within the framework of an effective partnership between its official governmental institutions and civil society, and in constructive co-operation with the United Nations Human Rights Council and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on basis of transparency, openness and objectivity.

This came in the speech delivered yesterday by the Minister of Foreign Affairs before the high-level conference of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, with the participation of the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdulla Al Doseri, the Ambassador of the permanent mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations Office and other international organisations, Dr Yusuf Bucheeri, and the delegation accompanying the minister.

In his speech, the Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed his pride that the first year of the membership of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the Human Rights Council coincides with the continuous momentum of the Kingdom's achievements in many areas of human rights, as these achievements are based on constitutional and legislative foundations that reflect the respect of the Kingdom of Bahrain and its international obli-



Dr Al Zayani speaks at the session.



Dr Al Zayani with Mrs Bachelet.

gations to protect human rights, it is embodied in initiatives and policies that are implemented from the perspective of the comprehensive vision of respecting political, civil, economic, social and cultural human rights, and achieving security, welfare and development for all, which was affirmed by the National Action Charter that was approved in February 2001.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed the Kingdom of Bahrain's pride in its consistent stances and policies that are committed to the principles and goals of the United Nations in the field of human rights protection, which are represented in the pioneering civilisational initiatives adopted by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, noting in this regard the courageous ini-

ted to announcing the report of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, without being aware of the findings and recommendations of the report alongside His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, he noted.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs added that the committee presented its report and recommendations in an official meeting in which more than 600 local, regional and international personalities participated and in the presence of the international media, noting that His Majesty the King announced without hesitation and with full confidence that the Kingdom of Bahrain accepted all the committee's recommendations and issued his high orders to implement them.

Separately, Dr Al Zayani met with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mrs Michelle Bachelet, on the sidelines of the meetings of the 43rd session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

During the meeting, the Minister of Foreign Affairs affirmed the keenness of the Kingdom to respect human rights principles and abide by international agreements in accordance with the National Action Charter and the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain and its national legislation.



The first year of membership of the Kingdom in the Human Rights Council coincides with the continuous momentum of the nation's achievements in many areas of human rights.

DR AL ZAYANI

tiative adopted by His Majesty in July 2011 when he commissioned an international legal fact-finding committee on the events in the Kingdom

of Bahrain, which was chaired by an internationally respected legal personality, Professor Mahmoud Cherif Bassiouni, and including prominent international jurists known for their integrity and professionalism as members.

Dr Al Zayani stated that it is an affirmation by His Majesty the King to implement the principles of transparency and justice, as he granted the committee, by royal order, full access to government entities, officials and documents, in addition to meet with those seen fit according to the requirements of the legal procedures.

In addition, His Majesty the King attended the session de-




Antenatal & Maternity Packages

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| ANTENATAL PACKAGE | - | BD 220 |
| 1st Trimester (Upto 12 Weeks) | - | BD 80 |
| 2nd Trimester (13-28 Weeks) | - | BD 60 |
| 3rd Trimester (29-40 Weeks) | - | BD 80 |
| NORMAL DELIVERY PACKAGE | - | BD 600 |
| CAESAREAN DELIVERY PACKAGE | - | BD 950 |



DR. MAIMOONA LIAQAT
MBBS, FCPS
Consultant - Obs & Gyne



DR. YOGITA MUSALE
MBBS, MD, DGO
Specialist - Obs & Gyne



DR. SURAYA HAMEED
MBBS
GP - Obs & Gyne

FOR APPOINTMENTS ☎ 1736 2233

مستشفى ومراكز الشرق الأوسط الطبية
MIDDLE EAST HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTERS

SEGAYA ☎ 1736 2233

HIDD ☎ 1746 4848

SALMABAD ☎ 1721 6056

BIW ☎ 7746 4848

www.memh.com | www.mehospital.com | mehospitalth | mehgroup | A venture of VKL Holdings & Al Namal Group



The first-ever Ethiopian Business and Cultural Week was inaugurated at the LuLu Hypermarket in Juffair Mall in a sunny display of colour, culinary flavours and a showcasing of entrepreneurship. Inaugurated in the presence of the Ethiopian Minister of State for Culture and Tourism, Ms Bizunesh Meseret, the show gave over 100 guests a glimpse of Ethiopia's emerging image as an entrepreneurial powerhouse and a peek into its culture and heritage. With kiosks serving specially brewed Ethiopian coffee which affirmed the country's status as the 'birthplace of coffee', the culinary journey extended to a lively cookery demo by celebrity Ethiopian chef Yohanis Gebreyesus. LuLu Regional Director Mohammed Kaleem attended the event along with many dignitaries.



As part of its ongoing World Cuisine Food Festival, LuLu Hypermarket welcomed visitors to the "Sri Lankan Produce and Food Mart" at the Dana Mall. The cultural and culinary festival will feature promotions on Sri Lankan vegetables, exotic fruits and unique processed foods. It will run till 29th Feb 2020. The festival will feature culinary by Sri Lankan chef Samitha Pathmakumara, a Senior Sous Chef at the Gulf Hotel. He will also be one of the celebrity chefs to be featured at the LuLu Hypermarket's food promotion outlet at the BTEA Bahrain Food Festival in Bahrain Bay. It was inaugurated by Sri Lanka Ambassador Pradeepa Saram in the presence of LuLu Group director Juzer Rupawala and other dignitaries.



Public Awareness
Campaign
to Combat
Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

**To all citizens and residents
If you have visited Iran during the
month of February**

**Schedule your medical examination
to ensure your safety**

Please follow these instructions:

- 1. Quarantine yourself at home, in a separate room**
- 2. Call 444 to schedule your medical test**
- 3. Follow the instructions given by the medical team**
- 4. Avoid close contact with others**

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Exposure Prevention Instructions



Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly using soap and water. Use alcohol-based sanitizers



Clean and disinfect frequently used objects and surfaces such as door handles



Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and dispose of used wipes properly



Avoid contact with people experiencing a fever or suffering from a cough

Farmers market opens



Oasis Mall, Riffa is hosting this season's Bahraini Farmers Market. The market was inaugurated under the patronage of Shaikha Hind bint Salman Al Khalifa, Board of Directors of Al Rashid Group on Sunday the 23rd of February 2020. The farmers market was created as a concept to encourage the local farmers and create a sense of community awareness towards agriculture. This market was planned in line with the objectives of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development. Oasis Mall has taken up this exceptional initiative to support and provide an opportunity to local farmers to help them make farming profitable. The farmers market will be held every week on Saturday and Sunday between 8 am to 12:30 pm up till the 29th of March 2020.

Key workshop puts focus on latest IT procurement policies, standards

More than 80 financial and IT experts attend the workshop



Dr Almutawah speaks at the workshop.



A segment of the audience at the workshop.

TDT | Manama

The Information and eGovernment Authority (iGA), in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance & National Economy, organised a workshop entitled IT Procurement Procedures, and Updated Policies and Standards.

The workshop was attended by more than 80 finance and IT employees involved in the preparation and review of IT procurement transactions for the government sector.

iGA Director of Governance and Enterprise Architecture, Dr Khalid Almutawah said: "This workshop is in line with the iGA's efforts to execute government projects as per the policies and standards of the Ministerial Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs and Financial Balance, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa.

"We aim to implement the

Committee's decisions in accordance with best practices and at the lowest possible cost, to support the government's goal to optimise operational expenses and raise the efficiency of government sector performance."

The workshop outlined updated IT procurement procedures, which include a streamlining of government procurement request and approval mechanisms, and a standardisation of classifications related to IT expenses in accordance with a framework approved by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy. This includes updated procedures for all request prerequisites.

The workshop also shed light on the work of the ICT Governance Committee, showcasing its duties and main responsibilities, as well as the procedures followed by IT and financial resource specialists which offer faster reviews and approvals.



We aim to implement the committee's decisions in accordance with best practices and at the lowest possible cost.

DR ALMUTAWAH

It showcased the updated version of the project document used to communicate details required for the evaluation of government technical projects. These details cover total investment and operation costs, and include a comparison of long term implementation options.

The iGA also covered important computer procurement standards and technical specifications that are updated periodically, and which aim to direct investment towards devices with suitable specifications and prices to ensure that they match

capacity requirements.

These standards are also aimed at extending the periods of the products' usefulness to government departments and reducing technical problems, as per a recommendation by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy to implement multi-factor authentication techniques.

The workshop highlighted policies related to the purchase and usage of printing devices at government entities, which aim to reduce printing and operational expenses by determining the required number of devices, paper sheets, and consumables.

This is in support of efforts to encourage 'green environment' practices, including alternative methods to gaining access to devices such as renting, leasing, contracting printing companies to maintain low printing costs, and adopting a system that matches paper purchases with usage.

Investment Dar Bank B.S.C. (c)

Consolidated Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2019

| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 31 December 2019 | 31-Dec-19 | 31-Dec-18 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assets | US \$ | US \$ |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2,557,652 | 3,388,914 |
| Prepayments and other assets | 96,138 | 118,000 |
| Short-term investments | 10,000,000 | 10,000,000 |
| Investment Securities | 8,908,208 | 13,038,500 |
| Investment in real estate held-for-use | 45,871,083 | 46,113,346 |
| Property and equipment | 17,193,841 | 17,213,497 |
| Total assets | 84,626,922 | 89,872,257 |
| Liabilities and Equity | | |
| Liabilities | | |
| Accruals and other Payables | 2,601,404 | 2,832,009 |
| Total liabilities | 2,601,404 | 2,832,009 |
| Equity | | |
| Share capital | 200,000,000 | 200,000,000 |
| Statutory reserve | 1,686,626 | 1,686,626 |
| Property Fair value reserve | 1,239,929 | 1,487,699 |
| Investment Fair value reserve | (3,221,930) | 910,413 |
| Unrealised foreign currency translation losses on net investment in foreign operations | (589,832) | (588,352) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve | (337,525) | (339,816) |
| Accumulated losses | (119,247,898) | (118,612,470) |
| Non-controlling interest | 79,529,370 | 84,544,100 |
| | 2,496,148 | 2,496,148 |
| | 82,025,518 | 87,040,248 |
| Total liabilities and equity | 84,626,922 | 89,872,257 |
| Off-statement of financial position items: | | |
| Restricted investment accounts | | |
| - Others | 477,307,508 | 481,102,675 |
| - Financial Institutions | - | - |

| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME for the year ended 31 December 2019 | Year ended 31-Dec-19 | Year ended 31-Dec-18 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Income | US \$ | US \$ |
| Other income | 1,759,809 | 763,940 |
| Total income | 1,759,809 | 763,940 |
| Expenses | | |
| Staff costs | (1,439,826) | (1,426,250) |
| Other operating expenses | (955,411) | (936,336) |
| Total expenses | (2,395,237) | (2,362,586) |
| Net loss for the year | (635,428) | (1,598,646) |
| Losses per share (US cents) | | |
| Basic and diluted losses per share | (0.32) | (0.80) |

| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the year ended 31 December 2019 | Year ended 31-Dec-19 | Year ended 31-Dec-18 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Operating activities | US \$ | US \$ |
| Net loss for the year | (635,428) | (1,598,646) |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Depreciation | 21,956 | 21,994 |
| Foreign exchange movement | 3,724 | (58,778) |
| Reversal of provision on Murabaha settlement | (1,129,043) | - |
| Reversal of provision for Wakala fees receivable | (16,193) | - |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Prepayments and other assets | 21,808 | (34,241) |
| Accruals and other liabilities | (241,022) | (158,689) |
| Net cash used in operating activities | (1,974,198) | (1,828,360) |
| Investing activities | | |
| Additions of short-term investments | - | (5,000,000) |
| Proceeds on settlement of Murabaha | 1,129,043 | - |
| Wakala fees received | 16,193 | - |
| Purchase of property & equipment | (2,300) | - |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities | 1,142,936 | (5,000,000) |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | (831,262) | (6,828,360) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | 3,388,914 | 10,217,274 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | 2,557,652 | 3,388,914 |

| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN OWNERS' EQUITY for the year ended 31 December 2019 | Share capital | Statutory reserve | Property fair value reserve | Investment fair value reserve | Unrealised foreign currency translation reserve | Foreign currency translation reserve | Accumulated losses | Total | Non-controlling interest | Total |
|---|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| At 31 December 2017 | 200,000,000 | 1,686,626 | 1,487,699 | 824,442 | - | (361,818) | (117,013,824) | 86,623,125 | 2,496,148 | 89,119,273 |
| Net loss for the year | - | - | - | - | - | - | (1,598,646) | (1,598,646) | - | (1,598,646) |
| Unrealised foreign currency translation losses on net investment in foreign operations | - | - | - | - | (588,352) | - | - | (588,352) | - | (588,352) |
| Unrealised fair value gain on investment securities | - | - | - | 85,971 | - | - | - | 85,971 | - | 85,971 |
| Foreign currency translation gain on investment securities | - | - | - | - | - | 22,002 | - | 22,002 | - | 22,002 |
| At 31 December 2018 | 200,000,000 | 1,686,626 | 1,487,699 | 910,413 | (588,352) | (339,816) | (118,612,470) | 84,544,100 | 2,496,148 | 87,040,248 |
| Net loss for the year | - | - | - | - | - | - | (635,428) | (635,428) | - | (635,428) |
| Unrealised foreign currency translation losses on net investment in foreign operations | - | - | - | - | (1,480) | - | - | (1,480) | - | (1,480) |
| Unrealised fair value loss on investment in real estate held-for-use | - | - | (247,770) | - | - | - | - | (247,770) | - | (247,770) |
| Unrealised fair value loss on investment securities | - | - | - | (4,132,343) | - | - | - | (4,132,343) | - | (4,132,343) |
| Foreign currency translation gain on investment securities | - | - | - | - | - | 2,291 | - | 2,291 | - | 2,291 |
| At 31 December 2019 | 200,000,000 | 1,686,626 | 1,239,929 | (3,221,930) | (589,832) | (337,525) | (119,247,898) | 79,529,370 | 2,496,148 | 82,025,518 |

The above position and results are extracted from the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 which was audited by BDO. The auditors have expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. Investment Dar Bank is licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a wholesale bank "Islamic" website: www.inv-darbank.com. This information was approved by the Board of Directors and signed on their behalf on 23 February 2020, by:

'1,000 Bahraini citizens stranded' in Iranian city of Mashhad alone

Lawmakers rap Iran for concealing Coronavirus infection and death numbers

● **MPs said that Iran is deceiving the world community as part of their biological warfare against countries in the region.**

● **All cases of coronavirus in the Kingdom involve individuals who have returned from Iran.**

TDI | Manama

There are at least 1,000 Bahrainis stranded in the Iranian city of Mashhad alone, according to a Bahraini lawmaker.

MP Khalid Buanq said there would be a higher number of Bahrainis in the country when other cities are as well considered.

This came as the lawmakers discussed a proposal to restrict Bahrainis who are infected

with Coronavirus from entering the Kingdom.

Some lawmakers even opined that infected Bahrainis should be asked to wait until they recover before being allowed to enter the Kingdom.

MP Mohammed Al Sisi said that those infected that are returning from Iran pose a threat to the health of those living in the Kingdom.

MPs also suggested that Iran is withholding real numbers of coronavirus and deceiving other countries as part of their biological warfare against countries in the region.

Tribune yesterday reported a prominent Bahraini analyst group suggesting that Iran's covering up of the real number of cases of coronavirus in the country contributed to the spread of the disease regionally.

Iran's assertion that it only has less than a 100 cases of coronavirus is misleading and gave pilgrims and visitors from the region a false sense of security, according to Bahraini



The House in session.

analyst group Citizens For Bahrain.

"The excessive secrecy and deliberate hiding of data from international health officials has allowed rates of infection to spiral out of control," the group stated.

"Iran's Health Ministry on 24 February claimed that the

Compulsory medical checks

The Ministry of Health has announced it will arrange medical examinations for all citizens and residents who have visited the Islamic Republic of Iran during the month of February, as part of comprehensive precautionary measures that have been activated in light of the spread of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in line with the National Campaign to Combat Covid-19. The Ministry of Health urged all returning citizens and residents to call 444 to schedule medical examination dates as soon as possible.

total number of infections was 61, with 12 deaths. However, a Qom deputy asserted that the death toll was at least 50.

Experts point out that such a death toll in reality probably means that thousands of people are already affected; hence the numbers of foreign pilgrims returning from Qom to their home countries and spreading the disease further afield.

"There are reportedly also growing numbers of cases in other cities across Iran, suggesting that the disease is al-

ready way out of control," it stated.

Iran's deputy health minister, Iraj Harirchi, who spearheaded the country's efforts to contain the coronavirus, has contracted the illness, the Health Ministry said on Tuesday, renewing concerns about the spread of the virus in the country.

Iran is one of the five countries that Bahrain has placed a travel ban on. All cases of coronavirus in the Kingdom involve individuals who have returned from Iran.

There would be a higher number of Bahrainis in the country when other Iranian cities are as well considered.

MR BUANQ

NASS CORPORATION BSC



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

| | Bahraini Dinars '000 | |
|--|----------------------|----------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| ASSETS | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 26,311 | 27,436 |
| Right of use assets | 6,433 | - |
| Investment properties | 2,022 | 2,100 |
| Equity accounted investees | 1,550 | 1,592 |
| Other assets | 629 | 982 |
| Total non-current assets | 36,945 | 32,110 |
| Inventories | 9,400 | 9,622 |
| Trade and other receivables | 64,916 | 70,780 |
| Contract assets | 37,666 | 31,208 |
| Due from related parties | 3,933 | 4,126 |
| Deposits with banks | 504 | 366 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 13,431 | 10,417 |
| Total current assets | 129,850 | 126,519 |
| Total assets | 166,795 | 158,629 |
| EQUITY | | |
| Share capital | 22,000 | 22,000 |
| Treasury shares | (1,597) | (1,597) |
| Statutory reserve | 8,767 | 8,767 |
| Retained earnings | 27,523 | 31,960 |
| Donations and charity reserve | 64 | 43 |
| Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent | 56,757 | 61,173 |
| Non-controlling interest | 2,280 | 3,170 |
| Total equity | 59,037 | 64,343 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Lease liabilities | 4,108 | - |
| Bank loans | 3,715 | 3,668 |
| Employee benefits | 7,668 | 7,627 |
| Total non-current liabilities | 15,491 | 11,295 |
| Trade and other payables | 38,712 | 40,988 |
| Lease liabilities | 2,324 | - |
| Contract liabilities | 13,482 | 8,570 |
| Employee benefits | 3,076 | 3,799 |
| Due to related parties | 10,268 | 9,505 |
| Bills payable | 2,735 | 1,236 |
| Bank loans | 2,298 | 981 |
| Bank overdrafts | 19,372 | 17,912 |
| Total current liabilities | 92,267 | 82,991 |
| Total liabilities | 107,758 | 94,286 |
| Total equity and liabilities | 166,795 | 158,629 |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

| | Bahraini Dinars '000 | |
|---|----------------------|---------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| Revenue | 153,484 | 182,770 |
| Cost of sales | (143,553) | (163,994) |
| Gross profit | 9,931 | 18,776 |
| Other income | 1,040 | 857 |
| General and administrative expenses | (12,986) | (13,686) |
| Impairment losses on trade and other receivables and contract assets | (93) | (1,016) |
| Finance income | 154 | 67 |
| Finance cost | (1,278) | (950) |
| Share of profit from equity accounted investees, net | 260 | 1,130 |
| (Loss) / Profit for the year | (2,972) | 5,178 |
| Other comprehensive income | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | (2,972) | 5,178 |
| (Loss) / Profit and total comprehensive income for the year attributable to: | | |
| Equity holders of the parent | (3,285) | 4,262 |
| Non-controlling interest | 313 | 916 |
| | (2,972) | 5,178 |
| Earnings per share | | |
| Basic and diluted earnings per share (Fils) | (15.27) | 19.81 |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

| | Bahraini Dinars '000 | |
|--|----------------------|----------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| Cash flows from operating activities (Loss) / Profit for the year | (2,972) | 5,178 |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Depreciation of property, plant and equipment | 6,524 | 5,931 |
| Depreciation on right of use assets | 2,313 | - |
| Depreciation of investment property | 78 | 78 |
| Impairment of investment property | - | 169 |
| Write off / Impairment of trade receivables (net) | 753 | 393 |
| Impairment reversal on contract assets | (17) | 1,400 |
| Impairment on goodwill | 350 | - |
| Amortization of held to maturity investment | 3 | - |
| Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment | (89) | (100) |
| Share of profit from joint ventures, net | (161) | (1,088) |
| Share of (profit) / loss from associate | (99) | (42) |
| Employee benefits | 41 | 556 |
| Changes in: | | |
| Inventories | 222 | 5,084 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5,111 | (8,312) |
| Contract assets | (6,446) | (2,840) |
| Due from related parties | 198 | 238 |
| Trade and other payables | (2,948) | (2,464) |
| Contract liabilities | 4,912 | (7,162) |
| Employee benefits | (723) | 534 |
| Due to related parties | 763 | 1,477 |
| Bills payable | 1,499 | (1,239) |
| | 9,312 | (2,209) |
| Net cash used in operating activities | | |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment | (5,541) | (4,288) |
| Proceeds on sale of property, plant and equipment | 231 | 356 |
| Acquisition of subsidiary | - | (1,000) |
| Dividend from equity accounted investees | 302 | 531 |
| Movement on deposits with banks | (138) | 243 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (5,146) | (4,158) |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | |
| Proceeds from bank loans | 2,614 | 4,463 |
| Repayment of bank loans | (1,250) | (1,715) |
| Payment of lease liabilities | (1,640) | - |
| Dividends paid to equity shareholders of the parent | (1,077) | (1,043) |
| Dividends paid to non-controlling shareholders | (1,250) | (940) |
| Donations paid | (9) | (10) |
| Net cash from / (used) in financing activities | (2,612) | 755 |
| Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 1,554 | (5,612) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January | (7,495) | (1,883) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December | (5,941) | (7,495) |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

| | Bahraini Dinars '000 | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | Attributable to equity holders of the parent | | | | | | Non-controlling interest | Total equity |
| 2019 | Share capital | Treasury shares | Statutory reserve | Retained earnings | Donations and charity reserve | Total | | |
| At 1 January 2019 | 22,000 | (1,597) | 8,767 | 31,960 | 43 | 61,173 | 3,170 | 64,343 |
| Loss and total comprehensive income for the year | - | - | - | (3,285) | - | (3,285) | 313 | (2,972) |
| Dividend for 2018 declared (5 %) | - | - | - | (1,075) | - | (1,075) | (1,250) | (2,325) |
| Donations and charity reserve | - | - | - | (30) | 30 | - | - | - |
| Acquisition of balance NCI in a subsidiary | - | - | - | (47) | - | (47) | 47 | - |
| Utilization of donation and charity reserve approved | - | - | - | - | (9) | (9) | - | (9) |
| At 31 December 2019 | 22,000 | (1,597) | 8,767 | 27,523 | 64 | 56,757 | 2,280 | 59,037 |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (CONTINUED)

| | Bahraini Dinars '000 | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | Attributable to equity holders of the parent | | | | | | Non-controlling interest | Total equity |
| 2018 | Share capital | Treasury shares | Statutory reserve | Retained earnings | Donations and charity reserve | Total | | |
| At 1 January 2018 (as previously reported) | 22,000 | (1,597) | 8,341 | 31,495 | 23 | 60,262 | 2,722 | 62,984 |
| Impact of adopting IFRS 9 | - | - | - | (2,466) | - | (2,466) | (186) | (2,652) |
| Impact of adopting IFRS 15 | - | - | - | 200 | - | 200 | - | 200 |
| Balance as at 1 January 2018 (restated) | 22,000 | (1,597) | 8,341 | 29,229 | 23 | 57,996 | 2,536 | 60,532 |
| Profit and total comprehensive income for the year | - | - | - | 4,262 | - | 4,262 | 916 | 5,178 |
| Transfer to statutory reserve for 2018 | - | - | 426 | (426) | - | - | - | - |
| Acquisition of subsidiary | - | - | - | - | - | - | 658 | 658 |
| 2017 Appropriations approved: | | | | | | | | |
| Dividend (5 %) | - | - | - | (1,075) | - | (1,075) | (940) | (2,015) |
| Donations and charity reserve | - | - | - | (30) | 30 | - | - | - |
| Utilization of donation and charity reserve | - | - | - | - | (10) | (10) | - | (10) |
| At 31 December 2018 | 22,000 | (1,597) | 8,767 | 31,960 | 43 | 61,173 | 3,170 | 64,343 |

The above statements have been extracted from the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2019 which has been audited by KPMG Fakhro.

Date : 26 February 2020

The consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 26 February 2020 and signed on its behalf by :

Sameer Abdulla Nass
Chairman

Sami Abdulla Nass
Deputy Chairman & Managing Director

Sentence reduced for Gulf national in 'fake note case'

Defendant now needs to spend one year behind prison; was earlier sentenced to five years

TDT | Manama

A Gulf national, who was earlier convicted of using a fake note at a mall in Muharraq, got his five years imprisonment sentence reduced by the Supreme Criminal Court of Appeal to one year.

The defendant was arrested after trying to use a fake SR500 note inside the mall.

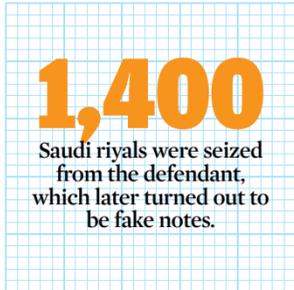
He apparently wanted to buy a lighter but the cashier inside the shop discovered that the

currency note wasn't genuine, therefore he refused to sell it.

With the GCC man insisting to have the lighter using the fake cash note, the cashier called the mall security to deal with the defendant, who fled the spot after losing hope that his attempt will succeed.

It's said that the GCC man, along with a fellow national, entered the toilet after the mall's security men chased him.

He flushed the money but the security men managed to recover



it from the drainage. Meanwhile, police officers

arrived and arrested the defendant who was found to be in possession of fake money worth SR1400.

He was tried before the High Criminal Court which sentenced him to five years behind bars.

However, the plaintiff went to the court and waived his right to sue the defendant.

Forensic examination of the note proved that it was forged using a normal scanner and a colour printer.

Gulf Air suspends Dubai flights for another 48 hours

The Gulf Air Contact Centre will be contacting affected passengers and assisting them accordingly.

TDT | Manama

Gulf Air yesterday confirmed that it is complying with the Civil Aviation Affairs (CAA) in the Kingdom order to temporarily suspend flights to and from Dubai International Airport for an additional 48 hours.

The decision has been taken in order to safeguard the health and welfare of the Kingdom's citizens and residents from the current Coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak.

Passengers are advised to visit gulfair.com for a list of the affected flights along with rebooking and refund instructions.

The Gulf Air Contact Centre will be contacting affected passengers and assisting them accordingly; Passengers who have made their bookings through a travel agent are advised to get in touch with the agents directly regarding their rebooking and refund options. Furthermore, passengers

The decision has been taken in order to safeguard the health and welfare of citizens and residents from Coronavirus outbreak.

GULF AIR

should check the airline's website before traveling or to call the Gulf Air Contact Centre for more information on +97317373737.

The airline is experiencing higher than usual call volumes due to passenger queries about the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 and may take more time than usual to answer customer calls, it said in a statement issued last night.

Gulf Air apologises to its affected passengers for any inconvenience that this may have caused and is working closely with the concerned authorities in the Kingdom and to take all precautionary and preventive measures in order to ensure the safety and security of the citizens and residents of the Kingdom along with its passengers and crew, the statement added.

The airlines has already suspended flights to many destinations, where Corona outbreak has been reported.

Bahrain International Garden Show postponed

Manama

Bahrain International Garden Show (BIGS) has been postponed to next year, the National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD) has announced.

BIGS was scheduled for March 2020, but the decision to postpone was taken based on Bahrain's deep sense of responsibility in dealing with the fast-

paced developments and the Kingdom's particular keenness on the health and wellbeing of citizens and residents amid the efforts to tackle the coronavirus (Covid-19) across the globe, the NIAD said yesterday in a statement issued.

The decision is also in line with the instructions of the National Disaster Management Committee to postpone activities and events in order to sup-



port the Kingdom's efforts in this regard.

Bahrain genuinely cares about the health and wellbeing of the participants and visitors from Bahrain and abroad and the National Initiative for Agricultural Development is committed to supporting the government's efforts in dealing efficiently with the unexpected and temporary circumstances, a statement by the organisers said.

Bahrain pays homage to late former Egyptian President

Manama

The Undersecretary of Regional and GCC Affairs, Ambassador Wahid Mubarak Sayyar, conveyed sincere condolences and sympathy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Abdullah Al Zayani, to the government and people of the brotherly Arab Republic of Egypt, upon the death of former Egyptian President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak.

This came during the visit of the Ambassador Wahid Mubarak Sayyar, to the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Kingdom of Bahrain, to

offer condolences for the death of the late Egyptian President.

He expressed his deepest condolences and sincere sympathy to the family of the late President and the brotherly people of the Arab Republic of Egypt, recalling the important role of the late President in strengthening relations between the Kingdom and the Arab Republic of Egypt in various fields, praising his untiring efforts in serving the issues of the Arab and Islamic nations.

Egypt held a full-honours military funeral Wednesday for the country's former autocratic President Hosni Mubarak, who ruled for decades before he was



Hosni Mubarak

ousted in the 2011 Arab Spring uprising that swept much of the region.

The funeral, replete with cannon fire and a horse-drawn carriage carrying his

coffin, highlighted the wartime achievements of Mubarak. It comes as part of a government effort to make Mubarak's military career his legacy, rather than his time in office.

Egypt's current President Abdel Fattah El Sisi, attended briefly, offering condolences and shaking hands with Mubarak's two sons, Alaa and Gamal, and his wife Suzanne.

Mubarak's body was later placed in a tomb a few kilometers away at his family's cemetery in Heliopolis, an upscale Cairo district that was Mubarak's home for most of his rule and where he lived quietly until his death.

The country's state television channel, meanwhile, maintained live coverage and played footage of Mubarak in his younger, pre-office days, lauding him for his role as commander of the air force during the country's 1973 war with Israel. As president, Mubarak would later solidify peace with their onetime enemy.

On Wednesday, a few dozen Mubarak supporters, clad in black and carrying posters of the former president, had gathered since morning hours at a mosque complex in an eastern New Cairo neighborhood, where Mubarak's body was brought for the funeral service.

BDF graduation ceremony



Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Dhiyab Al Nuaimi attended the graduation ceremony of officers who participated in an advanced infantry course. The ceremony was held under the patronage of BDF Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa. The Chief of Staff presented certificates to the graduating officers and appreciation awards to the outstanding participants. He congratulated them on successfully completing the course and fulfilling the graduation requirements.

business

Climate change gets top priority in ICCUS 2020

Invest more in oil, environmental projects: Bahrain's Minister tells top oil executives

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's oil minister yesterday called for enhancing investment in 'vital' projects that would boost oil production and strengthen the national economy.

The minister also reminded top oil honchos on the need to come up with projects that would preserve the environment in line with the provisions of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

"Preserving climate has become important for all countries of the world," said Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

"International companies are doing a commendable job in this aspect by enhancing the technical and technological services in these vital areas," the minister said.

The Minister of Oil was meeting with top oil executives from around the globe on the sidelines of the International Conference



Bahrain's Minister of oil Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa with top officials during the International Conference and Exhibition of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (ICCUS 2020) in Riyadh

and Exhibition of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (ICCUS 2020) in Riyadh. Chief executives of oil companies (Schlumberger- Air Productions - GX) as well as officials of the National Oil and Gas Authority

(NOGA) and its oil companies were present.

800 dignitaries, ministers of oil and energy from various countries of the world and the CEO's of companies specialized in the oil sector and technicians

and academics participated in the event.

ICCUS 2020 provided the participants with a platform to exchange positive information and experiences to find appropriate and realistic solutions,

in addition to discussing the international efforts to reduce greenhouse gases emissions, as well as implementing a range of voluntary projects and initiatives to reduce the negative impacts of climate change.

The minister said that the patronage of the conference by Bahrain and Saudi Arabia reflects the importance of enhancing flexibility and reducing the negative effects of climate change.

Shaikh Mohammed discussed with the chief executives' key oil-related topics and ways to enhance the sector in Bahrain.

The minister also discussed with CEOs of Bahraini oil companies projects implemented by the Kingdom to preserve the environment, wishing them continued success in their work.

Shaikh Mohammed toured the exhibition accompanying the conference, where he was briefed on the latest technologies and expertise related to environmental matters.

The first edition of the International Conference and Exhibition of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (ICCUS 2020) concluded yesterday.

Obstetrics & Gynecology team expands at RBH

Manama

Royal Bahrain Hospital announced the joining of Dr Bhanu Handa - Specialist, Obstetrics & Gynecology from India.

Dr Bhanu has more than 22 years of experience in the field of Obstetrics & Gynecology. She is Indian board certified in Obstetrics & Gynecology after completing her residency training in New Delhi at Lady Hardinge Medical Complex. Dr Bhanu is also a certified member of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Ireland, and has various publications in local and international peer-reviewed journals in this field.

Dr Bhanu is experienced in the diagnosis, treatment and management of various OBGYN conditions such as pregnancy, antenatal & delivery care (normal & cesarean sections), gynaecology procedures such as smears, colposcopy, hys-



Dr Bhanu Handa - Specialist, Obstetrics & Gynecology

terectomy, hysterectomy and ovarian cystectomy, management of miscarriages and family planning.

To book an appointment with Dr Bhanu Handa, call 17246800 or book online through www.royalbahrainhospital.com. Also, download the Royal Bahrain Hospital Mobile Application to book appointments on iOS and Android devices.

Isuzu trucks drive Mohammed Al-Ojaimi group's expansion plans



General Manager of Motorcity Commercial Arun Kumar handed over the fleet to Movement & Maintenance Manager at Mohammed Al-Ojaimi Group Hussam M. Dalal at the Motorcity showroom in Nuwaidrat

Manama

Motorcity, the exclusive distributor of Isuzu vehicles in Bahrain has delivered a fleet of Isuzu trucks to the Mohammed Al-Ojaimi Group, a leading Saudi-based company serving different industries within Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

The group is currently executing the second phase of the

Electricity and Water Authority's (EWA) transmission development project.

General Manager of Motorcity Commercial, Arun Kumar highlighted the demand for reliable vehicles that support the growth of businesses, stating, "Isuzu trucks are built to provide sustainable and efficient transportation solutions. The trucks come with

high cargo capacity, advanced safety features and turbo inter-cooled diesel engines, which effectively reduce their fuel consumption."

Movement & Maintenance Manager at Mohammed Al-Ojaimi Group, Hussam M. Dalal believes that upgrading the fleet with Isuzu trucks is a significant step, stating, "We wanted to strengthen our pres-

ence in the Bahrain market, and adding four Isuzu D-Max pick-ups and three Isuzu NPR crew cabs to our existing fleet is part of a strategic plan."

Arun Kumar handed over the fleet to Hussam M. Dalal at the Motorcity showroom in Nuwaidrat. The full range of Isuzu vehicles is available at the Motorcity showroom.

New Chinese billionaires outpace US by 3 to 1: Hurun

● **Technology was followed by property, manufacturing, capital and retail as a major source of wealth in the past year.**

Reuters | Beijing

China minted three times as many new billionaires than the United States in the past year, with fortunes made



The financial district in Shanghai, China

in drugs and online entertainment after a mini-boom from the

coronavirus outbreak, a ranking of the world's wealthiest people shows.

The Greater China region, including Hong Kong and Taiwan, created 182 new billionaires in the year to Jan. 31, taking its total to 799, according to the 2020 Hurun Global Rich List released yesterday. That compares with 59 new US billionaires.

While the outbreak of a new coronavirus in China has hammered the world's second-biggest economy, it has also driven up stock valuations of Chinese

companies in online education, online games and vaccinations, the report said.

With much of China stuck at home due to quarantines and travel restrictions, demand for online services has surged, lining the pockets of billionaire founders such as Robin Li of Baidu, owner of popular online video platform iQiyi.

Healthcare entrepreneurs specializing in vaccinations did well, including An Kang of Hualan Biological Engineering and Jiang Rensheng of Zhifei

Biological Products.

"China today has more billionaires than the US and India combined," said Rupert Hoogewerf, founder and chairman of the Hurun Report, which counted 629 US billionaires and 137 in India.

New Chinese entrants include Cheng Xianfeng of drug maker Yifan Xinfu Pharmaceutical and Shen Ya of online discount retailer Vipshop.

In the past year to end-January, tech stocks in China .CSI-INT surged 77 per cent and Chi-

nese pharma companies gained 37pc, beating a 16pc rise in world stocks.

US tycoons still led the list, with Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos retaining the top spot for a third year with a \$140 billion fortune.

Jack Ma of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group topped China's billionaires with \$45 billion and came in No. 21 overall, but he was overtaken by Elon Musk from Tesla due to soaring shares in the US electric carmaker.

Oman is on track for a prosperous future

The late Sultan Qaboos believed that his successor would add a new dimension to Oman's development journey

MOHAMMED MAHFOODH AL ARDHI

On January 10, 2020, Oman's 79-year-old ruler, Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said, passed away, leaving behind a great legacy built over a period of five eventful decades. During his reign, the seasoned politician and celebrated global peacemaker used his wisdom and vast knowledge to build the foundations of progress across Oman and improve the lives of its people, while offering valuable support to the country's allies from the region and beyond.

The late Sultan Qaboos followed a wise neutral policy and often played the role of mediator between countries. This was a tactical approach in a fast-changing world, where conflicts can lead to tensions and have a long-term detrimental impact on all nations involved.

The late Sultan Qaboos was deeply interested in the Omani, Arab and religious heritage, as well as Arabic language, literature and history. During his lifetime, he supported multiple cultural projects launched or executed by regional and global organisations.

His contributions in this arena include the Sultan Qaboos Encyclopedia of Arab Names and Quran memorisation projects across the Arab region. He also founded the Sultan Qaboos Prize



Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq made the televised address on Sunday.

for Environmental Preservation – a biennial award sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) – and contributed to the UNESCO initiative 'Integral Study of the Silk Roads: Roads of Dialogue'.

The late Sultan firmly believed in dialogue and peace-

ful solutions. In this context, he launched the Sultan Qaboos Declaration Project on United Human Values that aims to promote understanding and friendly relations among the people of the world.

Developing local talent and equipping Omani citizens with the tools to build a better future

was always a top priority for him. Leaving behind a capable, peaceful, stable and flourishing nation that will continue his legacy, the late ruler chose Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said as the new Sultan of Oman. He firmly believed that his successor would add a new dimension to our nation's development jour-

World's largest artificial coral reef is an important

MUSTAFA AL RAWI

From the Great Barrier Reef to the Arabian Gulf and beyond, protecting the seas and oceans – and the life that teems within them – is about as urgent an issue as you could hope to find

More than a decade ago, the rise of social media, mobile connectivity and a growing awareness of the crisis of the natural world helped conservationists, scientists and environmental activists begin to work together in real time to monitor and respond to the damage that human activity was doing to plant and animal life across continents.

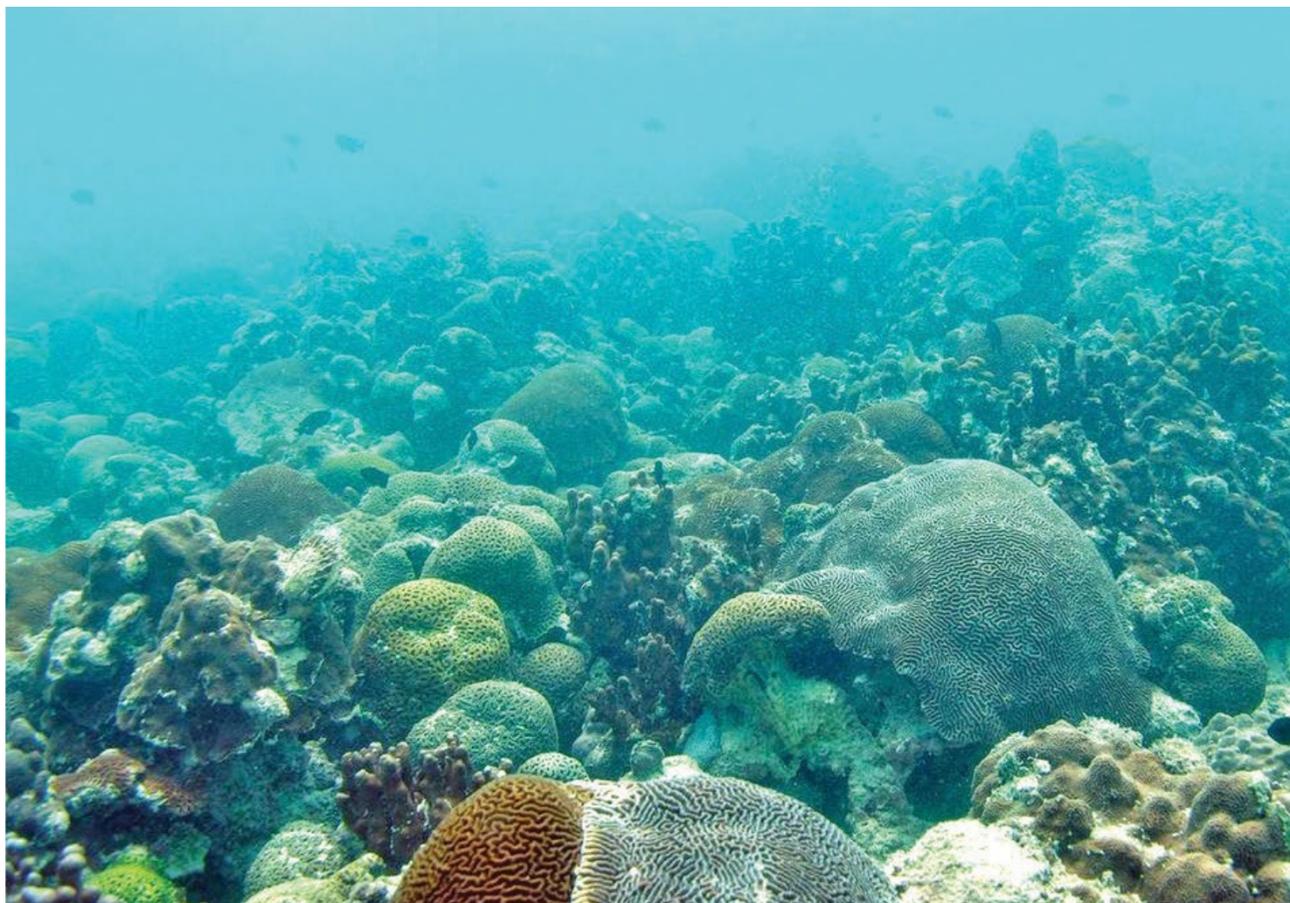
At the government level, simultaneously, an increasing focus on the risks of climate change resulted in more resources being put into the research needed to shape more sustainable policies.

There was a time when both these trends seemed to be moving in lockstep. The momentum resulted in almost all countries agreeing on taking action and setting targets.

Since the financial crisis erupted in 2007 and with a job market disrupted by faster technological change, priorities for many governments shifted. However, individuals who had been working in labs and organisations, and who have led the fight against the impact of climate change, have not slowed their efforts. Rather it has been the opposite. Meanwhile, some both national and local governments have stayed focused on what is now a climate emergency.

It is worth putting a spotlight on these efforts.

For example, the UAE is to create the world's largest artificial coral reef off the east coast of Fujairah, including about 300,000



Ras Ghanada coral reef off the coast of Abu Dhabi. The UAE is to create the world's largest artificial coral reef off the east coast of Fujairah.

mature adult colonies – about the size of three football pitches – in a single location.

The Fujairah Cultured Coral Reef Gardens is an ambitious undertaking, and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment says it is part of its efforts

to protect the UAE's biodiversity and champion sustainability.

There are food security implications, too. The gardens will be a haven for a large number of local fish species, including the hammour and sheri, which are over-exploited, threatening their

long-term survival. It is a project that requires collaboration beyond borders. Conservationists from the Florida Keys in the US will help local marine biologists to grow coral.

The impact of climate change on the natural habitats in the

waters around the UAE and its neighbours has been seen most starkly during a record hot summer three years ago that left almost all of Abu Dhabi's coral coverbleached and struggling to survive.

From the Great Barrier Reef

1976

The formerly Spanish territory of **Western Sahara**, under the auspices of the Polisario Front declares independence as the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic.

1988

Sumgait pogrom: The Armenian community in Sumgait, Azerbaijan is targeted in a violent pogrom.

1991

Gulf War: U.S. President **George H. W. Bush** announces that "Kuwait is liberated".



2002

Ryanair Flight 296 catches fire at London Stansted Airport. Subsequent investigations criticize Ryanair's handling of the evacuation.



Sultan Haitham addressed the nation and reassured us of his and his team's commitment to carrying on the vision of the late Sultan Qaboos. Omanis across the country felt a deep sense of pride as our new leader outlined his priorities for the coming months.

General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Special Envoy of the late Sultan Qaboos. He also headed the main committee of the Oman Vision 2040, where he gained insight into the country's past, present and future, as well as a thorough understanding of its citizens' needs and the importance of national capacity-building and international dialogue.

Sultan Haitham has always supported the principles that governed Oman's international relations under his predecessor, such as non-interference in other countries' affairs, being a good neighbour, peaceful conflict resolution and promoting security and stability around the world.

On February 23, Sultan Haitham addressed the nation and reassured us of his and his

team's commitment to carrying on the vision of the late Sultan Qaboos. Omanis across the country felt a deep sense of pride as our new leader outlined his priorities for the coming months and years that are poised to usher in a new era of prosperity for our nation.

He stressed the importance of reviewing public finances and using them for the benefit of all Omanis. He expressed his intention to reduce public debt, which rose by almost a staggering 60 percent last year, compared to 15 percent in 2015.

Furthermore, Sultan Haitham announced his plans to restructure government-owned companies and public sector entities with the aim of maximising their ability to serve the people of Oman and drive socio-economic growth.

He promised to tackle the challenges related to youth unemployment, and noted that the education, research and development sectors will be among the focus areas of the government's improvement efforts.

We are confident that Sultan Haitham will succeed in leading Oman's sustainable development journey that builds on our illustrious history. We convey to him our best wishes and high hopes as he assumes his strategic role to steer Oman and the wider Arab region towards a prosperous future.

nt step in reviving ecosystems



There will be more negotiations this year at the multilateral level for nations to agree on new targets for the next decade. However, this formal process does feel a little like we are carrying on as usual given the seepage of the will to act by some governments.

than previously estimated. That is why countries such as the UAE have been taking the lead and there are partners ready to support its own efforts.

Globally, however, we need to do more. We have already fallen behind in our globally set targets to halt the decline of plant and animal species and to help ecosystems recover.

As Razan Al Mubarak, managing director of the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, warned this month, "business cannot carry on as usual. We all need to act. This includes politicians, scientists, environmentalists, everyone must make a difference in our day-to-day lives".

There will be more negotiations this year at the multilateral level for nations to agree on new targets for the next decade. However, this formal process does feel a little like we are carrying on as usual given the seepage of the will to act by some govern-

ments. Luckily, a change is likely to come at the both the local level and on a more bilateral basis. Cities, for example, are taking on more of a leadership role in the absence of faster action from national governments.

On an individual level, too, there is more commitment than ever before. It is hard to imagine who would actually want landmark deals such as the 2015 Paris Agreement to limit global warming to fail. Perhaps it is those people who believe that shorter-term developments are worth more of our time, such as those related to migration or economy. They should know that these problems are all connected in some way to the world around us and the consequences of how the planet is changing as a result of climate change, including food shortages and extreme weather.

While I may not fully grasp the mechanics of how climate change can have such an immediate impact on my day-to-day life, I am willing to take the short leap of faith that it does, and respond in the right way. This is much like how I do not quite understand how electricity actually works but am still willing to switch on the lights when I enter a dark room.

At local, national and global levels, there will continue to be those great people who take the necessary and collaborative action needed, no matter what doubts they may have, about the proximity of the threat we face. They deserve our support.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Consignment (15 tonnes) of Indian medical relief for #COVID19 lands in Wuhan. Strong expression of our solidarity with the Chinese people at this difficult time. Thank you @IAF_MCC and @EOI Beijing for your efforts.

@DrSJaishankar

02



Hats off to the hardworking and talented Chinese nation: your commitment to exterminate even the reasons of #CoronavirusOutbreak are unparalleled and efforts you've made are unfounded in the history. God helps those who help themselves. You are born to succeed in every bitterness

@asimnyazee

03



If a coronavirus outbreak occurs, it'll first hit poor, hard working Americans in big cities who use subways, buses, and other crowded public transportation networks to go to work. We're all in this together, which is why universal healthcare is so important. #CoronavirusOutbreak

@eugenegu

04



U.S. intelligence officials are concerned that their latest findings about Russian election interference are being distorted and weaponized for political gain by both sides, current and former officials told NBC News.

@NBCNightlyNews

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

The Covid-19 saga



YENUS S

The appearance of Coronavirus (Covid-19) in various Middle East countries including the GCC countries indicate that no country can be immune to the disease and that it is only through co-operation that the virus can be contained. Governments need to be transparent and intensify awareness campaigns regarding the methods of prevention and the precautions required that people should take.

Lately, people returning from Iran rather than China have become the centres of interest when it comes to screening arrivals in the GCC countries, after several passengers proved positive for the virus among those coming from the secretive state.

Two professionals are working round the clock, who are receiving public attention. First, the health officials are devising ways of prevention, disseminate awareness campaigns and treat patients at clinics and hospitals. Second, the economist, sitting behind their computers are calculate the economic repercussions of the spread of the disease and devise ways of mitigating the effects.

However, politicians are spoiling the good works of the two professionals by deliberating denying the existence of the virus in their respective countries and thus delaying the response to such a pandemic. What is required at this critical time is to formulate policy of transparency, inform the public of the reality on the ground, and take the necessary measures to contain the virus.

Rogue politicians consider the existence of the virus in their respective countries as a political embarrassment, while it is a public health issue, which must be confronted head on, inform the public and request assistance from the international organizations for expert advice and material support. Because at the end of the day, the disease is going to affect virtually all countries in the world and no one is safe.

Opacity rather than transparency is one of the reasons for the spread of the virus in Iran. The Iranian regime under reported the morbidity and mortality rates due to the coronavirus.

Iran is accused of underreporting cases. Last week, an Iranian MP, Ahmad Amirabadi Farhani has come forward and claimed that the coronavirus has killed at

least 50 people in the city of Qom and 250 patients quarantined. If these figures are correct, Iran has the highest proportion of deaths to confirmed cases. It would be 10 times than China where the disease was first reported. (Arab News, Feb 25, 2020). However, Iran seems to have denied or deliberately hidden the figures. This opaque policy aggravates the spread of the disease.

Containment of the virus and treatment of patients requires advanced equipment and excellent health services. Countries with poor health service delivery systems need international support. In Iran where the country is under economic sanctions, enough budget may not be available to diagnose and treat patients. The government need to be transparent in dealing with the virus and openly request international assistance.

For the GCC countries, Iran's epidemiological status of the virus is important. Above all, we have people who travel to Iran for religious purposes who can be both the victims and the vectors of the virus when they come back home.

Bahrain is mobilizing all its efforts to contain the spread of the virus. The setting up of a quarantine (isolation quarters), the extensive and intensive awareness campaigns it is promoting, announcing the number of patients tested positive, all conform to international standards, which deserves appreciation.

The main segment in the campaign to contain the virus, which plays key role, is the public. All the pieces of advice given by the health ministry, strictly followed and suspected family members that show early signs of the disease should be reported to the Health ministry's call centres as soon as possible. Travellers and businesspeople should limit or postponing travels to countries considered new epicentres of the virus including Iran, Italy and South Korea.

WORLD

Malaysia in turmoil as Mahathir, Anwar vie for power

● Mahathir quit Monday as premier

● Anwar said he had received backing from three parties in the "Pact of Hope" coalition

● Officially the king appoints the prime minister

● A candidate must have the backing of at least 112 MPs

AFP | Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia was plunged into a bitter power struggle Wednesday as Mahathir Mohamad sought to form a unity government following his shock resignation, but old foe Anwar Ibrahim also pushed to become premier.

The developments deepened a crisis that began when the ruling coalition -- which included both men when it stormed to a historic poll victory in 2018 -- fell apart after a failed bid to establish a new government without Anwar.

Anwar was Mahathir's designated successor, but he would likely have been pushed out and blocked from becoming leader if the weekend bid had succeeded.

Their notoriously stormy relationship has shaped Malaysian politics ever since Mahathir -- during a first stint in office in the 1990s -- sacked Anwar as his deputy, and he was jailed on dubious sodomy and corruption



Anwar Ibrahim waves in Kuala Lumpur before announcing he was the preferred candidate of a parliamentary coalition

“If allowed, I will try to form an inclusive government, not siding with any political parties. If I still have the support I will return. If not I will accept whoever is chosen”

MAHATHIR MOHAMAD

charges.

They reconciled ahead of the 2018 polls to oust a corruption-plagued coalition led by Najib Razak, but many were sceptical Mahathir -- at 94, the world's oldest leader -- would stick to a vow to hand power to Anwar.

Mahathir quit Monday as premier but it remains unclear whether he had a hand in the plot to topple the government, although analysts suspect he at least gave it his blessing. He has been named interim leader and initially appeared to have strong support to remain as premier.

But backing fell away early Wednesday and rumours swirled Anwar had garnered enough support from MPs for the top job, fuelling expectations

that Mahathir might finally cede power.

The elderly leader, however, announced in a televised address to the nation that he wished to establish a unity government, and was willing to return as premier.

“Party politics must be put aside for now,” said Mahathir. “If allowed, I will try to form an inclusive government, not siding with any political parties.”

“If I still have the support I will return. If not I will accept whoever is chosen,” he added.

Jockeying for support

Moments later at a press conference at his party headquarters, Anwar said he had received backing from three parties in the “Pact of Hope” coalition --

the grouping in power until Mahathir quit -- to become premier.

Anwar, 72, said the coalition had invited Mahathir to a meeting on Tuesday evening aimed at reviving the coalition, but after he failed to show they decided to put him forward as their candidate.

“Since the attempt to topple the government last week we have remained steadfast in defending the mandate of the Malaysian people,” he said.

After reading a statement, he added: “We leave it to the palace to decide”.

Officially the king appoints the prime minister, and he has been interviewing all the country's MPs since Monday to work out who they support.

A candidate must have the backing of at least 112 MPs -- but it was not clear whether Anwar or Mahathir would achieve that, and there are likely to be days of political horse-trading ahead.

Reports say that Mahathir had already proposed a unity government to leaders across the

political spectrum Tuesday, but they rejected the idea.

James Chin, a Malaysia expert from the University of Tasmania, said he believed Mahathir, who had a first stint as premier from 1981 to 2003, would likely prevail in the power struggle.

“The best thing is to hold a general election, but both sides don't want it -- they are afraid people will punish them,” he added.

The victory of the “Pact of Hope” alliance in 2018 was initially greeted with euphoria as it ended the six-decade rule of the notoriously corrupt Barisan Nasional coalition and prime minister Najib.

Najib was accused of involvement in stealing billions of dollars from state fund 1MDB, and is now on trial.

But the alliance's popularity quickly fell amid bitter infighting over who would succeed Mahathir, and it faced accusations of failing to protect the rights of the multi-ethnic country's Muslim majority.



Malaysia's King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah hands out packages of fast food to reporters camped outside the National Palace. The king is currently meeting members of parliament to ask who they support as premier

Trial opens for US students over Italy police death

AFP | Rome

Two US students are expected to appear in an Italian court on Wednesday on the first day of their trial over the fatal stabbing last year of a policeman during a botched drugs bust.

Finnegan Lee Elder and Gabriel Natale-Hjorth have been charged with killing newlywed Mario Cerciello Rega, 35, who was stabbed 11 times during the attack last July.

The Californians, who had been on holiday in Rome and were teenagers at the time, face a life sentence if convicted.

In Italy, the slaying aroused an outpouring of public sympathy for Cerciello, who had just returned from his honeymoon when he was killed. Huge crowds attended his funeral, which was broadcast live on television, where he was hailed as a hero.

“His murder cannot and must not go unpunished,” his wife, Maria Rosaria Esilio, said in a statement on the eve of the trial.

“My family has ended with Mario's death, because our unborn children and dreams were buried with him,” she said.

But the case has been marked by major blunders -- espe-



Carabinieri officer Mario Cerciello Rega was killed last July in an altercation with two American students

cially the blindfolding of Natale-Hjorth during his police interrogation -- and contradictory statements made by the key prosecution witness, Cerciello's partner Andrea Varriale.

In the aftermath, Varriale said he and Cerciello had been attacked by men of North African descent. He also initially claimed he had been armed. Both officers were in fact unarmed and acted without backup, in violation of police procedure.

Amid the intense media focus in the case, comparisons have

been made to the high-profile trial of Amanda Knox, a US student convicted and later acquitted of a 2007 murder in Italy.

32-second attack

Elder has admitted to stabbing Cerciello with a 7-inch (18 cm) serrated-edge combat knife he had stashed in his sweatshirt but told investigators he thought he and his friend were being set upon by drug dealers.

The young men and Varriale have given opposing versions of what happened during the



The funeral of the slain Carabinieri officer Mario Cerciello Rega drew a huge crowd and was shown live on television

32-second attack in the early hours of the morning, which followed a drug deal gone wrong.

Hours earlier, the young men from the San Francisco Bay Area had gone looking for cocaine in the popular night-life area of Trastevere. Intermediary Sergio Brugiattelli introduced them to a dealer who sold them aspirin instead.

In retaliation, the teens stole Brugiattelli's bag, before demanding money and drugs to return it.

Cerciello and Varriale went

in Brugiattelli's place to the designated exchange point in an upscale neighbourhood near the teenagers' hotel but the handover never took place.

Elder, now age 20, told police they were jumped from behind by the officers and believed they were thugs sent by Brugiattelli.

Varriale has said he and Cerciello, both in plain clothes and unarmed, told the young men they were police, but that Elder pulled out a knife and attacked Cerciello, while Natale-Hjorth wrestled with Varriale.

The teens then fled to their nearby hotel, where police later found the military knife hidden behind a ceiling panel.

Under Italian law, Natale-Hjorth, who was 18 years old last July, faces the same charge of “voluntary homicide” with a special circumstance of killing a police officer, even though he did not stab Cerciello.

Both young men are also charged with attempted extortion. They face a maximum penalty of life imprisonment in isolation.

Egypt buries Mubarak with military honours

● Sisi led the military procession, flanked by the state's top religious and political figures.

● The funeral was carried live on local television channels

AFP | Cairo

Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi paid his respects yesterday at the military funeral of former leader Hosni Mubarak, whose three decades of strong-arm rule ended in 2011.

The presidential office declared three days of mourning for the veteran head of state dubbed a modern-day "pharaoh", who died aged 91 in a Cairo military hospital Tuesday after years spent in relative seclusion.

Mubarak's mixed legacy is that of an autocrat who ran a police state, employed emergency powers and rigged elections, and of a guarantor of stability who battled Islamist militants and kept close ties with Western powers.

The funeral focused not on Mubarak's political legacy but on the military career of the Soviet-trained fighter pilot who commanded Egypt's air force during the 1973 war with Israel.

A military helicopter delivered Mubarak's coffin, which was draped in an Egyptian flag and then mounted on horse-drawn carriage at Cairo's Mosheer Tantawi mosque.

Sisi led the military procession, flanked by the state's top religious and political figures.

Officers carried Mubarak's war medals and cannons fired a 21-shot salute before the coffin was later lowered into the ground in the family cemetery in Heliopolis in east Cairo.

Sisi, who did not address the ceremony, shook hands with Mubarak's mournful sons Alaa and Gamal, who were recently cleared of corruption charges.

Dozens of Mubarak supporters came to mourn, among them Tharwat Hassan, 59, an office manager from Menufiyah, the governorate Mubarak hailed



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi (C) and the sons of former president Hosni Mubarak, Alaa (2nd R) and Gamal (R), attend Mubarak's funeral ceremony. Inset, Hosni Mubarak

you can agree or disagree with the departed president, but one thing is for sure: Mubarak never betrayed his country

MOHAMED AMIN, A COLUMNIST FOR THE BIGGEST PRIVATELY OWNED DAILY, AL MASRY YOUNM

bodiment of the state."

'Dignity and arrogance'

"Mubarak in God's hands," read the front-page headline of state newspaper *Al-Ahram*, with a black stripe cutting across a photograph of the veteran ruler.

The funeral was carried live on local television channels, where prominent commentators praised Mubarak's legacy in glowing tones.

The former air force chief and vice president became head of state in 1981 after Islamist militants assassinated his predecessor Anwar Sadat during a military parade.

Mubarak, who was sitting next to him, was wounded. He would survive several more attempts on his life, including in 1995 when militants sprayed his motorcade with bullets at a roadblock in Ethiopia.

As Mubarak went on to lead the North African country, he relied heavily on the armed forces and security services to ensure stability and security, while promoting close ties with the United States and keeping Egypt's

peace with Israel.

The mass protests that eventually brought down Mubarak were an explosion of popular anger against his police state

and the corruption and nepotism that to many marked his rule.

Mubarak then spent years in detention for his role in the deaths of hundreds of protesters



Egyptian honour guards carry the coffin of former president Hosni Mubarak before his funeral ceremony at Cairo's Mosheer Tantawy mosque in Cairo.

but was freed in 2017 after the convictions were overturned.

In the post-Mubarak years, Egypt was torn by political turmoil -- bloody unrest in the streets, the short-lived rule of Islamist president Mohamed Morsi, and his 2013 ouster by Sisi, another military man, who reimposed strict police powers.

Mubarak's full-honours military funeral contrasted with the low-key burial of Morsi, the Muslim Brotherhood president.

Morsi died last year after a heart attack and was buried quietly at night with no fanfare, as Egyptian media derided his single year in office.

Mohamed Amin, a columnist for the biggest privately owned daily, *Al Masry Youm*, wrote that "you can agree or disagree with the departed president, but one thing is for sure: Mubarak never betrayed his country".

He compared Mubarak's fate with those of other autocratic Arab rulers in Libya, Yemen, Iraq and Tunisia, writing that "his end was unlike Kadhafi, Ali Abdullah Saleh or Saddam Hussein. He didn't seek asylum like Ben Ali.

"He said he would live here and die here. He pushed on with his dignity and his arrogance."

Just call me Harry, prince says as royal exit looms

Edinburgh

Prince Harry asked to be introduced as just "Harry" at an event on Wednesday, kicking off a final round of public engagements before he and wife Meghan step back from their royal duties.

The Duke of Sussex, a grandson of Queen Elizabeth II, will stop using "His Royal Highness" from the end of March when the couple stop being working royals.

But at a conference in Edinburgh for his sustainable tourism project Travalyst, it emerged he was already adopting a more informal approach.

"He's made it clear that we are all just to call him Harry, so ladies and gentlemen -- please give a big, warm Scottish welcome to Harry," host Ayesha Hazarika said in her introduction.

The 35-year-old prince has faced accusations of hypocrisy for using private planes while



Harry used his remarks in Edinburgh to warn of the risks of huge increases in tourists at key locations

The Duke of Sussex, a grandson of Queen Elizabeth II, will stop using "His Royal Highness" from the end of March when the couple stop being working royals.

advocating action to combat global warming but he insists he mostly travels via commercial flights.

He used his remarks in Edinburgh to warn of the risks of huge increases in tourists at key locations, which he said could cause pollution, overwhelm local communities and drive out wildlife.

As sixth in line to the throne, Harry's announcement in January that he and his wife wanted to step back from their royal positions rocked the monarchy.

The pair revealed plans to split their time between Britain and Canada, after complaining about media intrusion and expressing a desire to be financially independent.

Harry arrived in Edinburgh by train on Tuesday evening without Meghan or their baby son Archie.

On Friday, he will be in Lon-

don to meet US rock singer Jon Bon Jovi, who is recording a special song for the prince's Invictus Game Foundation for military veterans.

They will meet at Abbey Road Studios, where The Beatles recorded most of their albums and where Bon Jovi is also recording his song with a choir made up of wounded veterans and serving personnel.

In a BBC interview this week about the event, the singer quipped that following his exit from frontline royal life, Harry should be known as "the artist formerly known as Prince".

The musician Prince took this title after eschewing his name in favour of a symbol.

Harry and Meghan will join the queen on March 9 for a Commonwealth Day service at Westminster Abbey, which is expected to be their last official appearance as working royals.

Can Sanders beat Trump?

A growing number of Democratic voters say yes

● Sanders' electability was a prime topic at Tuesday's Democratic presidential debate

Reuters | New York

Bernie Sanders' Democratic presidential rivals warn that nominating the self-described democratic socialist will ensure President Donald Trump's re-election, but a growing number of the party's voters see the senator as their best chance of winning in November.

Sanders' dominating performance in last week's Nevada caucuses, powered by growing support across age, race and ideology, has set off alarm bells among Democratic Party officials who believe putting the progressive stalwart at the top of the ticket will harm the party's chances up and down the ballot.

Sanders' electability was a prime topic at Tuesday's Democratic presidential debate in South Carolina. Rivals contended his ambitious liberal policy ideas, such as Medicare for All, which would replace private health insurance, would be an electoral "catastrophe," costing the party the White House and control of Congress.

But the latest Reuters/Ipsos polling shows Sanders' rising momentum in the race - a near win in Iowa, a narrow victory in New Hampshire and a decisive



Democratic US presidential candidate Senator Bernie Sanders speaks with voters at the First in the South Dinner in Charleston, South Carolina, US

win in Nevada - has given him more credibility with Democratic voters.

Some 26 per cent of Democrats and independents polled Feb. 17-25 said they believed Sanders was the strongest Democrat in a head-to-head matchup with Trump, compared with 20pc who picked billionaire businessman Michael Bloomberg and 17pc who named former Vice President Joe Biden.

That was a big change from a month earlier, when 27pc of respondents gave Biden the edge, and just 17pc thought Sanders could beat Trump.

In the Nevada caucuses,

Sanders won the support of a majority of Latino voters and led among most demographic groups broken out by gender, income and political leanings in Nevada. Notable exceptions were those aged 65 years and older, as well as black voters, more of whom supported Biden.

That too could be changing. The same Reuters/Ipsos polling showed that Sanders had overtaken Biden in support among black voters nationally for the first time.

Saturday's South Carolina primary will be the first major test of Sanders' appeal among African-American voters, who represent about 60pc of that

state's Democratic electorate.

Three days later, 14 states will cast ballots on Super Tuesday, when Sanders could build an overwhelming advantage if he captures the lion's share of the available delegates.

His path has been smoothed by the fragmentation among the moderate candidates. Biden, former South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Senator Amy Klobuchar - all of whom say Sanders' policies are too radical to win in November, have each recorded at least one top-three finish thus far, while Bloomberg's name will appear on ballots for the first time on Super Tuesday.

Body cam captures 6-year-old's tearful pleas during arrest



Turner was fired shortly after the arrest. Orlando Police Chief Orlando Rolon said at the time that Turner, a reserve officer, didn't follow department policy of getting the approval of a watch commander to arrest someone younger than 12.

AP | Orlando, Fla.

"What are those for?" Kaia asks about the zip ties in the video. "They're for you," Officer Dennis Turner says before another officer tightens them around her wrists and Kaia begins weeping.

A police body camera shows a 6-year-old Florida girl crying and begging officers

not to arrest her as one fastens zip ties around her wrists at a charter school. The video that Kaia Rolle's family shared with the Orlando Sentinel and other media outlets Monday shows the girl being arrested in September for kicking and punching staff members at her Orlando charter school.

"What are those for?" Kaia asks about the zip ties in the video.

"They're for you," Officer Dennis Turner says before another officer tightens them around her wrists and Kaia begins weeping.

Turner was fired shortly after the arrest. Orlando Police Chief Orlando Rolon said at the time that Turner, a reserve officer, didn't follow department policy of getting the approval of a watch commander to arrest someone younger than 12.

"Help me. Help me, please!" Kaia pleads through tears.

As she is being walked to the vehicle, she cries, "I don't want to go in a police car."

The second officer, who has not been identified, responds, "You don't want to? ... You have to."

"Please, give me a second chance," Kaia says.

The video shows the officer lifting the sobbing girl into the back seat of the police vehicle and putting a seat belt around her.

A short time later, Turner returns to the office to talk to Lucious & Emma Nixon Academy administrators, who appear dismayed by what they have witnessed in the school office.

The officer tells them that the juvenile detention center where Kaia was headed is "not like you think." Turner tells the administrators he has made 6,000 arrests, including a 7-year-old.

When school employees tell the officer that Kaia is 6, not 8 like he thought, he replies, "Now she has broken the record."

Turner had worked in the police agency's reserve unit, which is mostly made up of

retired officers who pick up extra-duty jobs for pay. Because he was a reserve officer, he was not a mem-

ber of the collective bargaining unit, and the police union didn't represent him, Shawn Dunlap of the Fraternal Order of Police Orlando Lodge 25, said in an email Tuesday.

School resource officers came under close scrutiny in Florida after former Broward Deputy Scot Peterson failed to engage a shooter at a Parkland high school in 2018. He was charged last year with child neglect, culpable negligence and perjury. That case is ongoing.

The Orlando case drew yet more attention to the role of police in schools.

Jeff Kaye, president of California-based School Safety Operations Inc., said in an email that the officer would not only have been fired in some other states but possibly charged with a crime, such as oppression under color of authority.

School administrators might have been better served by contacting the child's parents and working with a counselor, rather than calling police, Kaye said.

"As long as everyone is safe, take a deep breath, slow things down, and make good commonsense decisions," Kaye said. "I can't think of any reason to ever arrest a 6-year-old child, but I say that based on my training and experience and not that of others."

Kaye said he's had several school districts contact him since the video's release saying they want to re-examine their school resource officer programs, because they don't want something similar to happen in their schools.

Officials have said that Turner also arrested a 6-year-old boy at another school on the same day as Kaia's arrest for misdemeanor battery in an unrelated incident. However, the boy's arrest was halted by superiors before the child made it through the full arrest process.

State Attorney Aramis Ayala said last September that she was dismissing misdemeanor battery charges against both children.

Remains of teenager found in lion enclosure at Pak safari park



Representative picture

● The skull and bones of 18-year-old Muhammad Bilal were discovered when staff went to feed the animals on Wednesday, Chaudhry Shafqat, deputy director general of Lahore Safari Park, said

Reuters | Lahore, Pakistan

The remains of a teenager who had been missing for two days have found in the lions' enclosure at a safari park in Pakistan, officials said.

The skull and bones of 18-year-old Muhammad Bilal

were discovered when staff went to feed the animals on Wednesday, Chaudhry Shafqat, deputy director general of Lahore Safari Park, said.

His family later ransacked parts of the attraction to protest at what they said was incompetence by park authorities, police said.

Members of Bilal's family declined to comment to Reuters at the park, too upset to speak to reporters.

Shafqat said the park had "more than enough safety measures in place", and questioned whether Bilal had been killed before his body ended up in the enclosure.

"We are still wondering how he crossed the protective fence which is quite high and entered the lions' field," he said, adding

the young man had been missing for the past two days.

"I think the police will also investigate whether the man himself climbed the fence and went inside or someone threw his dead body inside for the lions to eat."

He said Bilal's family told him and the police he had gone to the park to see one of his uncles who worked there.

Police official Najeeb Awan said they were investigating the incident. Awan said Bilal's family and neighbours attacked offices at the attraction, smashed windows and damaged vehicles.

They also blocked a main highway and demanded the government initiate criminal proceedings against the park's management, Awan said.

Five dead, three missing after Jakarta floods

Jakarta

Five people were killed, three more are missing and thousands are unable to return to their waterlogged homes after floods submerged parts of Indonesia's capital, officials said yesterday.

The muddy deluge inundated the presidential palace, a major hospital and entire neighbourhoods across Jakarta on Tuesday, only weeks after 70 residents of the low-lying megacity died in some of the deadliest flooding in memory.

Two teenagers were among the five people drowned or electrocuted in hard-hit parts of the city, Indonesia's national disaster agency said.

"The joint rescue team is still searching" for three other possible victims, agency spokesman Agus Wibowo told AFP, adding that nearly 20,000 people were staying in emergency shelters.

Floodwaters reached more than a metre (three feet) in some parts of the capital but were receding by Wednesday, a day after rescuers combed drenched districts in pontoon boats to locate vulnerable residents.

Empowering students to be the masters of destiny

American University of Bahrain offers a unique educational journey for students, going beyond classrooms

American University of Bahrain (AUBH) is an educational institution par excellence, which offers an impetus to the Kingdom's great goal to emerge as an education hub of the region. The university is the first comprehensive, purpose-built, American-style university in the Kingdom, which was opened in September 2019. In an exclusive interview with The Daily Tribune, its Founding President Dr Susan E Saxton says that AUBH curriculum focuses on supporting students to discover their true passion while pursuing its dynamic programmes. Excerpts:

TDT | Manama
Abhitab Kumar

1- What makes your university unique?

We are creating an unprecedented culture of teaching and learning in the Kingdom of Bahrain. It begins with the structure of our programs, and is carried throughout everything we do, from our teaching style to extra-curricular activities. The American University of Bahrain (AUBH) offers an American-style education, which fosters interaction and collaboration among students, faculty and the professional community. This results in a unique educational journey for students, going beyond what's learned in the classroom. We know that today's challenging job market calls for critical thinking, teamwork, analysis, leadership, entrepreneurship and generally "learning to learn."

We go beyond textbook knowledge acquisition to create tools and real-world situations, where critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving are tested, and put into practice. A one-size-fits-all approach does not create an extraordinary graduate. Our students are introduced to non-traditional educational settings such as workshops, studios, internships, and real-world case studies that allow them to observe, model, apply, and master what they are being taught. Our curriculum is also very flexible, so if a student discovers new interests in the first two years at our University, they will be supported to find their true passion within our dynamic programs.

On an experiential level, we know that the learning environment can influence creativity and positive student outcomes. With this in mind, our oasis-like, modern, technologically enhanced campus was born. AUBH's 75,000 square meter purpose-built Cam-

pus in Riffa, is a masterpiece of form and function - designed by U.S.-based consultants and architects, Ayers Saint Gross (ASG), specialists in designing educational spaces. Our Campus features 9 purpose-built buildings, the Welcome Center, the Auditorium, the Academic Quad consisting of four academic buildings, the Students Common, the Library, the Soccer Field and the Sports Center. It also features three water features, collaborative lab and smart classroom technology with Clever-touch Technology screens, Google's Alexa enabled-classrooms. The thoughtful and aesthetically pleasing designs, inside and outside, offer a unique educational venue where students, staff and faculty can thrive.

2- Students, who pursue courses offered by foreign universities, here often face accreditation issues from the part of the Ministry of Education. Has your university taken up this issue with the Ministry of Education?

AUBH is proud to be licensed by the Higher Education Council (HEC) of the Ministry of Education of Bahrain. Of course, we aim to fulfill the requirements of HEC, and have received constant advice that allows AUBH to understand and comply with the spirit of the regulatory guidelines. We are also in the process of applying for U.S. accreditation with one of the six U.S. regional accreditors recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), holding the highest level of quality assurance at the institutional level. Having said that, our Students will own locally recognized degrees, with global mobility, and the AUBH quality mark for which we will become renowned.

3- Every University faces shortage of qualified/efficient facul-



ty members. How is your university tackling the issue?

For recruitment of our faculty and staff, we collaborated with global education recruitment firms. They have very specific criteria on credentials and experience in American-style education. For us, it is about finding experts who not only meet our academic credentials requirements, but are also problem-solvers, and self-starters who are passionate, and want to make a difference in the world of global education. They are willing to go the extra mile to ensure AUBH Students are learning and applying the soft skills that are at the heart of our approach. These skills include creativity, critical thinking, constructive inquiry, problem-solving, decision-making, entrepreneurship, and digital literacy to name a few. Supported by the Kingdom's visionary plan on education and Bahrain's key position as the "Best Place for Expatriates" (2019 InterNations Expat Survey), international faculty will seek out roles at AUBH. I look forward to working with some of the best educators in the world on our state-of-the-art, innovative Campus.

4- Could you tell us about the admission process/ qualifying exams and scores?

We accept students from various local and international edu-

cation systems, giving AUBH a diverse and multicultural student body. The admissions requirements are an overall GPA of 75% or equivalent, and an IELTS score of 6 or equivalent. There is great emphasis on the personal interview element of the admissions process, as motivation is important to be successful at AUBH and thereafter in the employment market. So, in the interview process, we look for creative and talented young people with an entrepreneurial spirit, and most important an enthusiasm for their education and what it will allow them to do with the rest of their lives - this defines the perfect AUBH candidate.

5- Does the university offer scholarships to meritorious Bahraini students?

Yes. We have scholarship support from the Ministry of Education, the Bahrain Defense Force, and other local sources. We look forward to corporate and additional governmental scholarships in the next year as well. For our inaugural class of 2023, we have already granted scholarships to students who I believe embody the AUBH mission, vision, and passion. They went through a rigorous evaluation process, comprised of faculty, administrators and our Provost. The Students were selected based on their exemplary academic performance, personal achievements, and motivation to succeed in an American-style environment.

6- What are the research facilities offered by the university in various disciplines?

We presently have a dual-floor library at the heart of the Campus. It can accommodate over 200 simultaneous users in both shared and private study spaces and meeting rooms. As well as being an e-resource center, it houses text and reference books, and periodicals in individual sections. Faculty, Students, and Staff can access over 170,000 of the latest international e-books,

research papers and more than 25,000 e-journals in different languages as part of AUBH's ProQuest offering. There are also several study areas with computers for downloading research papers, e-journals, e-books, and other reading material.

We have labs for chemistry, physics, and biology, plus a well-equipped IT lab to support research. In the planning stages are a media lab for AV and production work, a mechanical engineering lab, and a space built specifically for students of architecture. We also have several hundred square meters planned as an Innovation Hub that can be utilised for any business partner relationships that we may develop over the next several years. Our programs contain elements in which research will be key, and students will manage their own research projects independently.

7- Looking forward, what are the university's future plans?

We plan to continue to support the Kingdom's 2030 vision by maintaining quality in our educational programs with a strong emphasis on soft skills and a replication of an American-style experience. This provides an option for students who finish secondary education and would normally look to continue learning in the United States or the UK or elsewhere. AUBH provides a viable and accessible alternative to moving to another country where students get the highest quality education and academic credits that are mobile, preparing them to work around the globe or in Bahrain, whatever their choice. This approach allows AUBH to graduate employment-ready students and positively impact local and regional economies. To further demonstrate our commitment to quality education and student experience, we are currently seeking U.S. regional accreditation, and are exploring affiliations with U.S.-based academic institutions.

Dr Susan E Saxton



The university's 75,000 square meter purpose-built Campus in Riffa, is a masterpiece of form and function - designed by U.S.-based consultants and architects, Ayers Saint Gross (ASG), specialists in designing educational spaces.

SPORTS

sports

Maria Sharapova announces retirement

AFP | London

Five-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova, one of the world's most recognisable and highest-paid sportswomen, on Wednesday announced her retirement at the age of 32.

"Tennis — I'm saying goodbye," Sharapova said in an article for Vogue and Vanity Fair magazines.

"After 28 years and five Grand Slam titles, though, I'm ready to scale another mountain — to compete on a different type of terrain."

Sharapova burst onto the scene as a supremely gifted teenager and won her Grand Slams before serving a 15-month ban for failing a drugs test at the 2016 Australian Open.

The Russian former world number one's ranking is currently 373rd.

Sharapova has hardly played in the past year because of long-standing shoulder problems.

When she did feature she lost as many matches as she won and was dumped out in the first



Maria Sharapova with the trophy after winning the French Open in 2014 (file photo)

rounds at Wimbledon, the US Open and, most recently, the Australian Open in Melbourne.

Siberia-born Sharapova first picked up a racquet at the age of four in Sochi, where her Bela-



Maria Sharapova's most recent Grand Slam victory was at the French Open in 2014

rus-born parents had settled after escaping the deadly clutches of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster.

She shot to fame as a giggly 17-year-old Wimbledon winner in 2004, the third-youngest player to conquer the All England Club's hallowed grass courts.

'Tennis gave me life'

She became world number one in 2005, at the age of 18, and won the US Open the next year.

"One of the keys to my success was that I never looked back and I never looked forward," Sharapova said on Wednesday.

"I believed that if I kept grinding and grinding, I could push myself to an incredible place."

But in 2007 Sharapova began her long on-off battle with shoulder trouble.

She would win the 2008 Australian Open before a second shoulder injury kept her off tour for the second half of the season, missing the US Open and Beijing Olympics.

In 2012, the Siberian-born Sharapova captured the French Open to become the 10th woman to complete a career Grand Slam. She added Olympic silver to her resume that year.

Her 2014 French Open title was another high after a dispiriting injury low.

More fitness troubles followed before the bombshell announcement of her positive test for the banned heart drug meldonium.

Always a fighter

Always a fighter -- the seven-year-old Maria and father Yuri left for the US in 1994 with just a borrowed \$700 to their names -- Sharapova returned to the sport in 2017.

"In giving my life to tennis, tennis gave me a life," Sharapova said in her retirement missive.

"I'll miss it everyday. I'll miss

the training and my daily routine: Waking up at dawn, lacing my left shoe before my right, and closing the court's gate before I hit my first ball of the day.

"I'll miss my team, my coaches. I'll miss the moments sitting with my father on the practice court bench. The handshakes — win or lose — and the athletes, whether they knew it or not, who pushed me to be my best.

"Looking back now, I realize that tennis has been my mountain. My path has been filled with valleys and detours, but the views from its peak were incredible."

Sharapova had been the highest-paid female athlete in the world in the 11 years up to 2016, according to Forbes business magazine.

She netted prize money alone of \$38.8 million (35.7m euros) in a career during which she won 36 singles titles. Forbes, in its 2016 article, said the Florida-based Russian had banked nearly \$300m from prize money, appearances and endorsements since she turned professional in 2001.

BIC Chief Executive treats karting team members to appreciation breakfast



BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa with the team members

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa treated the BIC staff members who competed in the 24-hour final round of the 2019/2020 Bahrain Karting Enduro Championship (BKEC) to a hearty breakfast.

BIC COO Fayeze Ramzy Fayeze was also on hand, along with a majority of the group that competed in the race, which was held recently at Bahrain International Karting Circuit

(BIKC) in Sakhr.

Shaikh Salman thanked the staff members who took the time and effort to take part in the day-long event, which is one of the toughest challenges at the grassroots level of motor racing. He also praised them for their bravery and wished them all the best in any future races they may compete in.

BIC entered two squads in the meeting, with many of the drivers racing at this level of motorsport for the first time.

The BIC Nation team included Jassim Marhoon, Mohamed

Juma, Sara Kanian, Salman Kanian, Mohamed Isa, Ali Abdulnabi, Khalid Al Hubaishi and Ahmed Falmarzi. They completed 1,067 laps in the race.

The BIC Corporate squad featured Royden Giles, Faten Amin, Nigel Dias, Riyanna D'Souza, Amal Moosa, Sunil Chadhuray, Phani Shanker, Mecwyan Castelino and Donald Castelino. They finished the event with a total of 1,009 laps.

All the action took place along BIKC's 1.414-kilometre Commission Internationale de Karting (CIK) Track at BIKC.

BIC hosts exciting Open Track Day and passenger experiences on Saturday

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) hosts an Open Track Day on Saturday, giving motorsport fans a chance to satisfy their need for speed.

Open Track is a non-competitive event that allows drivers to explore their very own vehicle's performance within a safe and controlled environment.

Driver etiquette is of ultimate importance, so there is no close or aggressive overtaking. Overtaking is by invitation between corners and driving is monitored, with poor or dangerous driving dealt with swiftly by officials.

Saturday's Open Track is scheduled from 12noon until 7pm and it will take place along BIC's 5.412-kilometre Grand Prix track—the same that will be raced on in next month's Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2020. The cost to take part is BD89,500 for the full day and BD63 for a half day. There is also



A car on the track at BIC

an option of a single session for BD26,500.

Also set to be held as part of Open Track Day are the Jaguar Experience and passenger experiences in a Clio Cup car and a Radical SR3 prototype.

Delivered through a unique and tailored drive, the Jaguar Experience has been designed to ensure that all guests are given a dynamic, hands-on and memorable time in a Jaguar F-Type. The cost for the Jaguar Experience is BD63.

The Clio Cup car is a Renault-manufactured racing machine that features a 1.6-litre Turbocharged engine that can generate up to 220bhp and 6,000rpm. The passenger experience can be bought for BD26,500.

The Radical SR3 boasts an RPE-Suzuki Generation 1,340 DOHC engine. It can go from zero to 100kph in 3.4 seconds, and it has a six-speed sequential gearbox and paddle gearshift system. The SR3 passenger ride costs BD37.

Rafael Nadal off the mark in Acapulco

AFP | Acapulco, Mexico

Rafael Nadal marked his return to action with a straight-sets victory over Pablo Andujar on Tuesday as he launched his bid to reclaim the world number one ranking at the Mexico Open in Acapulco.

The 33-year-old Spaniard, playing for the first time since



Rafael Nadal hits a return

his quarter-final exit to Dominic Thiem at the Australian Open last month, claimed a 6-3, 6-2 victory over compatriot Andujar in 1hr 30min.

"The most important thing when you have not competed for a while is to win, I needed a match like today to get in rhythm and gain some confidence," Nadal said.

FOR RENT

MAHOZ, FF 1BR Flat BD 275 near Nafees Hospital, inclusive Electricity, call 34234813

CLASSIFIEDS

WHAT TO DO AFTER EXAMS ???

KEY to success is Keep Educating Yourself
FIITJEE Offers BRIDGE COURSE for

Students Moving to Class X

Refresh Class IX Concepts

Intro to Class X Boards

Orientation for Competitive Exams

Last Date For Registration



Students Moving to Class XII

Refresh Class XI Concepts

Intro to Class XII Boards

SAT Subjects

Explore IIT - JEE

29th Classes Begin From
FEBRUARY 2020

FIITJEE

Please Call / WhatsApp: +973 33784481, 33911860
E-mail: bahrain.classes@fiitjee.com | Log on: www.fiitjeebahrain.com

BAHRAIN CENTER

11701 Bahrain Centre Office 11, Bldg 807, Road 3026, Adhya, Kingdom of Bahrain, Tel: 7715325



Hague secures maiden pro title

Englishman wins US\$75,000 Royal Golf Club Bahrain Open



Hague in action during yesterday's final round

TDT | Manama

All the days of self-doubting are over for England's David Hague as he put together a brilliant back nine on another very windy day yesterday to secure his maiden professional win at the \$75,000 Royal Golf Club Bahrain Open, in only his fourth start in the paid ranks. The 24-year-old from Malton and Norton Golf Club, who rose

to number 76 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking and turned pro earlier this year only after securing his card through the MENA Tour Qualifying School, knuckled down on the back nine and shot a one-under par 71 to tally nine-under par 207 for the three days.

In the end, that proved to be one better than former European Tour star Victor Riu (70) of France.

The Scottish pair of Ryan

Lumsden (71) and Callum Fyfe (70) were tied third at seven-under par 209 alongside England's Ben Hutchinson (67) and Sweden's Henric Sturehed (68) – the two best cards on a day when players had to battle through occasional drizzle and steady high wind at the Colin Montgomerie-designed Royal Golf Club.

Saud Al Sharif, a member of the Saudi national team and of The Royal Golf Club, could not replicate the stunning performance from the second round and slipped down the leaderboard with an 81 in his first experience of playing in the leader group of a professional event. However, his two-over par total was still good enough to win him the Low Amateur of the Tournament prize.

Hague, who recently finished runner-up at the NEWGIZA Open in Cairo, started the final round as leader by one shot, but was trailing at the turn after making a double bogey on the seventh hole and Lumsden surging ahead with an eagle on the par-5 ninth hole. At that stage, Hague was seven-under.

But the champion made three birdies on the back nine as against a solitary bogey on the 12th hole, including a crucial one on the par-4 15th hole, which was playing very tough into the headwind. It was a two-shot swing against both Lums-



Hague, left, and Al Sharif, right, with Royal Golf Club General Manager Chris Garrity

den and Riu, his closest rivals, who dropped shots on the same hole.

"This is amazing and very satisfying. I have been thinking of turning professional for more than a year now and always had my doubts about it. I felt I was on a good run when I played the MENA Tour Qualifying School, and thought it was a good time to make the decision. This win definitely validates it," said Hague, a member of the Great Britain and Ireland Walker Cup

team.

"I drove consistently well this whole week and that really was the key to my winning. I struggled with my putter from inside six feet and made several three-putts – something I need to work on.

"When I was trailing at the turn, I knew I needed to be patient because the back nine of this golf course has been pretty good to me. And yes, that birdie on the 15th was a key moment for me."

Al Sharif was disappointed with his round, but not disheartened with his effort.

"It was a tough day on the golf course, but I wanted to do better than what I did. However, this is my first time in a situation like this and I am sure I have learned a lot on how to handle things in the future. This experience will make me a better player," said the 19-year-old.

The MENA Tour travels to Aqaba, Jordan, for the \$75,000 Journey to Jordan next week.

Former champ Luan Miao takes on Issa Isakov in Brazil

TDT | Manama

The former BRAVE CF Lightweight world champion Luan "Miao" Santiago is scheduled to make his comeback at home in March, when the promotion returns to Brazil for a record-tying fifth time. Santiago will face tough competition in his homecoming bout, as he takes on the Belgian's prospect Issa Isakov.

One of the most active athletes in the entire BRAVE CF roster, Luan Miao is going for his eighth bout under the Middle East premier promotion's banner. Coming of a win over Gadzhimusa Gaziev last November in Bahrain, Santiago boasts a professional record of 15 wins and only 4 losses.

Coincidentally, Issa Isakov made his professional debut just a couple of months before Miao's last bout but that doesn't mean the Belgian striking artist didn't manage to keep up, with a 5-1 record against high-level competition, including an impressive submission win over Rami Hamed in his BRAVE CF debut.

In addition, Isakov was one of the most accomplished amateur athletes in recent IMMAF history, with several medals won in continental and World Championships, alongside an impres-



sive 15-4 amateur record.

Luan Santiago vs Issa Isakov will take place at BRAVE CF 35, on March 28th, 2020 in Balneário Camboriú, an event marking the fifth time the fastest-growing MMA organization in the world hosts an event in Brazil. The country will become the number one home of BRAVE

Combat Federation alongside the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The show, the first promoted by the Bahrain-based promotion outside of Curitiba and Belo Horizonte in Brazil, is headlined by Cleiton "Predator" making the first defense of his Lightweight title against Sweden's Guram Kutateladze.

Fernando and Mendis power Sri Lanka to 345-8 against West Indies

AFP | Hambantota, Sri Lanka

Avishka Fernando and Kusal Mendis both hit centuries to take Sri Lanka to an imposing 345 for eight in the second one-day international against West Indies on Wednesday.

Fernando, who blasted 127, and Mendis, who made 119, put on 239 runs in Sri Lanka's highest third-wicket stand

West Indies won the toss and elected to bowl in their bid to square the three-match series, and paceman Sheldon Cottrell did not disappoint with twin strikes on successive balls in the fourth over.

Skipper Dimuth Karunaratne went for one and Kusal Perera fell for nought in his 100th ODI before Mendis denied Cottrell a hat-trick and combined with Fernando to thwart the opposition bowling.

Mendis got one reprieve on



Sri Lanka's Kusal Mendis (L) and Avishka Fernando run between the wickets

two when West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard dropped a simple chance at first slip off Jason Holder. He went on to score his second one-day hundred.

Mendis and Fernando, who hit his career-best ODI score

in 123 balls, smashed 22 fours between them.

Fast bowler Alzarri Joseph finally claimed the centuries in the space of 14 deliveries, and then bowled former captain Angelo Mathews for one.

Lampard concerned by 'sobering' night for Chelsea

AFP | London

Chelsea manager Frank Lampard admitted a 3-0 thrashing at home to Bayern Munich in the first leg of their Champions League last 16 tie was a reality check for how far

behind the European elite the Blues now find themselves.

Lampard captained the Chelsea side that beat Bayern on home soil in the 2012 final, but the gulf between the teams that has emerged in recent years was in full evidence at Stamford

Bridge. Serge Gnabry's quickfire double early in the second half

was just reward for Bayern's dominance of the first 45 minutes when only some poor finishing and Chelsea goalkeeper Willy Caballero kept the hosts in the game.