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SPORTS Italy, Bulgaria, Iran in semis

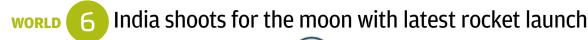
THURSDAY

JULY, 2023

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220 FILS

Brazil and Argentina to battle for final spot in final four in 2023 FIVB Men's U21 World Championship | P12





Clean-tech minerals market surges to USD320 bn: IEA



BUSINESS

Fitch affirms Bank ABC's IDR at BB+ with a stable outlook



Kuwait finance minister steps down in latest political turmoil

AFP | Kuwait City

The finance minister of Kuwait has resigned only three months after his appointment by the prime minister, state media said yesterday.

Manaf Al Hajeri's resignation comes against a backdrop of perpetual political turmoil in the only Gulf Arab state with a fully elected parliament.

The official KUNA news agency did not specify a reason for the resignation, and Al Hajeri was not immediately available to comment.

"A decree was issued in Kuwait accepting the resignation of Minister of Finance," the official Kuna news agency said.

UK Minister: Britain 'not Amazon' for **Ukraine weapons**

AFP | Vilnius, Lithuania

U^K Defence Secretary Ben Wallace sounded an off note in London's normally harmonious relationship with Kyiv yesterday, suggesting Ukraine should show more gratitude to its allies and griping Britain is not an "Amazon" for military supplies.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak denied that London was annoyed by President Volodymyr Zelensky's lobbying at the NATO summit for more Western support.

220 fils (includes VAT)







His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, visited the General Command of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF). Upon arrival, HM the King was received by Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Commander-in-Chief of BDF, Lieutenant General His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the National Security Advisor and Royal Guard Commander, Colonel His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Commander of the Royal Guard's Special Force, Lieutenant-General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi, Minister of Defence Affairs and senior BDF staff. HM the King praised the continuous development of the BDF in various disciplines and the high efficiency of its staff. He expressed his confidence and appreciation to BDF's staff, wishing them further success in performing their duties.

Zelensky praises 'security victory'

Declaration of support as G7 vows long-term arms supplies to help Ukraine defeat Russia

AFP | Vilnius, Lithuania

krainian President Volodymyr Zelensky yesterday welcomed a commitment by G7 nations to support Ukraine for as long it takes to defeat Russia, insisting it was a step on the road to Kyiv eventually joining NATO.

"We will not waver," US President Joe Biden said in a speech in Vilnius aimed at showing resolve to Russia's President Vladimir Putin after meeting Zelensky at a NATO summit.

"Putin still doubts our staying power. He's still making a bad bet that the conviction and the unity among the United States and our allies and partners will break down."

Zelensky insisted that the promises from the Western leaders amounted to a "significant security victory" that he feated and peace restored. could take home to Kyiv.

Russian invasion has been de- NATO, but as security guarantees protect democracy and the rule Kyiv must still pass were simply joins the alliance," he tweeted.



Ukrainian President Zelensky, third, with, US President Joe Biden, left, Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, and Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, right, at the event yesterday. (AFP)

on our way to integration."

"The best guarantee for On Tuesday, the NATO leadferred the 31-member Atlantic that once the war is over Ukraine conditions are met, and US and ring to the reforms. alliance to have agreed a firm would be welcomed, but warn- German officials in Vilnius made timetable for Ukraine to join ing that the G7 commitments it clear that these would include who insisted Ukraine's undering. But then it will be for our its ranks once the 16-month old should be seen "not instead of Kyiv carrying out reforms to standing was that the tests that common strength when Ukraine

of law.

But he did not disguise the Ukraine is to be in NATO," Zelen- ers agreed that Ukraine could them," Germany's Chancellor sian aggression ended. fact that he would have pre- sky said, expressing confidence join the alliance once certain Olaf Scholz told reporters refer-

"security conditions", that peace "No country is exempt from must be restored and the Rus-

"We understand that Ukraine cannot become a member of This could frustrate Zelensky, NATO while the war is ongo-

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Kingdom's hospitality boosts tourism sector

TDT | Manama

edia Affairs Advisor to His Majesty the King Nabil bin Yaqub Al Hamar visited the Vatel Hospitality and Tourism Business School in Al Jasra, and discussed the rich history of hospitality in the Kingdom and its significant role in nurturing competencies across Gulf countries.

presence Tourism Minister Fatima bint Jaffar Al Sairafi, Bahrain Tourism, Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Nasser Qaedi, and Shaikh Khalid Khalifa Al Khalifa, Vatel Bahrain Director General.

Touring the establishment, Vatel's curricula, programmes, and accomplishments in terms of education and scientific research were highlighted.

Al Hamar engaged with the foundation year students at the school, actively listening to their experiences and opinions regarding the educational programs provided by the college.

He emphasised that Kinging that the values of hospital- traditions among all Bahrainis.



The visit took place in the Al Hamar with Al Sairafi, along with Tourism Ministry, BTEA and Vatel Bahrain officials

"The Kingdom's legacy of hospitality dates back numerous centuries, and the values of hospitality and generosity are deeply cherished national customs and traditions among all Bahrainis."

- NABIL BIN YAQUB AL HAMAR, MEDIA AFFAIRS ADVISOR TO HIS MAJESTY THE

dom's legacy of hospitality dates ity and generosity are deeply back numerous centuries, not- cherished national customs and

that this cultural aspect serves al professionals in accordance as a crucial factor in attracting with the highest international tourists to the Kingdom, and standards upheld within the enhancing the hospitality and hospitality and tourism sector. tourism sector.

capitalis on their academic journey at the college and strive for exceptional outcomes in their pivotal role played by the nastudies.

advice and guidance on how to succeed in their future careers, emphasising the significance of hard work, diligence, and acquiring the necessary skills to excel in their respective fields of study.

played by Vatel Hospitality and Bahrain's hospitality and tour-Tourism Business School in

HM the King's Advisor added training and preparing nation-

He encouraged students to Media promotes tourism

Al Sairafi commended the tional media in promoting the Al Hamar offered valuable achievements of the tourism sector, including the dedicated professionals working within the industry.

She highlighted the contribution of Vatel Bahrain to honing students' skills and expertise, He commended the role effectively integrating them into

Support for sports



His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS), General Sports Authority (GSA) Chairman and Bahrain Olympic Committee President, received the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, at Al Wadi Palace yesterday. HH Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, GSA Deputy Chairman, Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture Ministry's Undersecretary, Khalid Ahmed Hassan, Undersecretary for Agriculture and Marine Resources at the same ministry, and Dr. Abdulrahman Sadiq Askar, GSA's CEO, were present. HH Shaikh Khalid was briefed about the development projects the Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture Ministry is planning to implement to support the sports system in the kingdom, as part of the integrated efforts of various government entities to serve the sports movement in the kingdom.

Bahrain-US relations



Foreign Affairs Minister, Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, received yesterday a delegation from the US-based Council for a Secure America (CSA), led by Fred Zeidman, currently on a visit to the kingdom. They discussed aspects of the deep-rooted Bahrain-US relations and strategic partnership, praising the steady growth of bilateral ties thanks to the two countries' keenness to strengthen them in various fields, particularly energy, economy and investment. They also reviewed ways to enhance bilateral relations further to benefit the two countries and serve their interests.

Advance military and combat systems



Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) Commander-in-Chief chaired the first meeting of the Military Institution for the Development of Warfare Industries. Present were Lieutenant General His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa. National Security Advisor. Secretary General of the Supreme Defence Council, and Royal Guard Commander, and Lieutenant General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi, Defence Affairs Minister.



Bahrain shows the way in women empowerment



H.E. Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid Al



Bahrain can be named as a leading country in terms of women's empowerment and inclusion in the country's workforce, H.E. Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the US, said yesterday.

Addressing the Atlantic Council's WIn Fellowship workshop via online, the Ambassador said that today the Kingdom to boost the economy.

The WIn Fellowship is led by with support from the US Em- in the Shura Council. bassy in Manama.

Female leadership in Bahsustainability were discussed Arab region. during the meeting held at Fintech Bay premises yesterday.



David Brownstein



Amjad Ahmad



Participants at the event

is moving fast to include Bah- er linked institutions, according gender equity and equality," raini women in the workforce to information shared during Deputy Chief of Mission at the the meeting.

In the private sector, more the Atlantic Council's Empow- than 35% of the workforce are erME Initiative in cooperation occupied by women. The Counwith Georgetown University's cil of Representatives consist of future challenges in the region," McDonough School of Business 20% women, and 25% women

der Gap report 2023, Bahrain is Center for the Middle East, said rain, progress, potential and second best country among the

hold executive positions in oth- Bahrain's national strategy on people to people.

US Embassy in Manama, David Brownstein told The Daily Tribune.

"Still we are working on the Amiad Ahmad, Chairman of EmpowermentME at the At-According to the Global Gen- lantic Council's Rafik Hariri in the meeting.

The year-long program from "This program goes beyond June 2023 to March 2024 will our Free Trade Agreement and enable 22 Bahraini women en-Bahrain has more than 54% takes it to the next level. We trepreneurs to enhance their female participation in the pub- are investing in Bahraini wom- networks, gain practical knowllic sector, and 45% of women en. We are proudly supporting edge, and develop US-Bahrain

Health Ministry issues warning against scam calls and messages

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Health raised concerns over suspicious WhatsApp calls and messages using its logo to trick vulnerable people and steal sensitive and private informa-

Internet users in Bahrain have been warned of falling prey to scam messages that use disguises to mislead victims into stealing sensitive information.

The Ministry of Health warned of phone calls and messages via WhatsApp bearing its logo or the logo of the applica-



Beware of dubious Whatsapp calls and messages. (Image used for illustrative

side and outside the Kingdom of behalf of the Ministry of Health about vaccination doses against cilitate and speed up additional with the Anti-Cybercrime De-ment concluded.

Suspicious communications are requesting people to download a fake app that allegedly collects information about COVID-19 vaccination doses, to facilitate and speed up additional dose registration. This allows the fake app to access mobile information, bank account information, and accounts linked to the device.

the coronavirus (COVID-19)," said the statement on the Ministry's official Instagram page.

The statement further said that suspicious communications are requesting people to download a fake app that allegedly munications are fraudulent, the matically and programmed to collects information about COV- Ministry stressed that the matter maintain the highest levels of tion BeAware from numbers in- Bahrain, as these calls speak on and collect special information ID-19 vaccination doses, to fa- is being handled in coordination security and privacy," the state-

dose registration. This allows partment. the fake app to access mobile information, bank account in- only app approved in Bahrain for formation, and accounts linked Coronavirus vaccination doses is to the device.

"We are confirming that the the BeAware App. The app has Confirming that these combeen designed to update auto-

Islam advocates for tolerance, coexistence and respect for all



Dr. Bucheeri TDT | Manama

Tolerance, production **¬**olerance, brotherhood among the core values and messages of the Holy Quran, and the Islamic religion advocates for coexistence and respect for others.

This was emphasised by Ambassador Dr. Yusuf Abdulkarim Bucheeri, Director-General for Legal Affairs and Human Rights at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as he took part in the United Nations Human Rights Council's urgent de-

The debate was convened by an urgent request from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to discuss the alarming rise in premeditated and public acts of religious hatred as manifested by the recurrent desecration of the Holy Quran in some European and other countries, on the sidelines of the 53rd session of the Human Rights Council.

Dr. Bucheeri also underscored that these repeated incidents of burning copies of the Holy Quran are unacceptable attacks and reprehensible practices that constitute an insult to Islam and Muslims.

He stressed that such incidents are inconsistent with religious freedom and the values of tolerance and human coexistence, and generate hatred, extremism, and violence, in addition to being inconsistent with international charters and laws.

Bahrain, Finland keen to bolster cooperation

TDT | Manama

The steady growth of Bah-The steady grown of a rain-Finland bilateral ties over the past four decades reflects the two countries' keenness to bolster their cooperation and partnership across political, economic and cultural fields, as well as support global efforts to consolidate security, stability and peace in the Middle East and the world.

This was emphasised by Dr.



Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed with From-Emmesberger

Khalifa, Political Affairs Un- land relations, stressing that dersecretary at the Ministry of both countries are committed Foreign Affairs, as he held talks to strengthening them. with Sofie From-Emmesberger, Director General of the Depart- pressed her country's pride in ment for Africa and the Middle the progress made in its political East at the Finnish Foreign Af- and economic partnership with

round of political consultations peace and tolerance culture, meeting between Bahrain and in addition to encouraging di-Finland, which the Kingdom alogue among countries and hosted yesterday.

lauded the solid Bahrain-Fin- prosperity.

From-Emmesberger ex-Bahrain, as well as appreciation They co-chaired the third for its initiatives to promote the peoples. She wished the king-Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed dom continued progress and

Disabled woman to testify against alleged rapist at Appeals Court

TDT | Manama

disabled woman who was Aallegedly sexually assaulted will testify at the High Appeals Court in on August 7, 2023, in the presence of the man accused of raping her.

The defendant had been acquitted by the Court of First Instance, but the Public Prosecution challenged the ver- disability, which places her referred to the High Appeals of 14.



dict, leading to the case being mental cognition below the age

In the initial trial, the court condition was a specialised one dropped the charges against that only experts could diagpresented indicating that he sexually assaulting the victim, tion between the ages of 8 to was not aware of the victim's who is mentally under-aged, 10 years.

following a report from the victim and her attorney. She stated that she became acquainted with the defendant and that he assaulted her several times.

The defendant acknowledged his relationship with the victim but claimed to have been unaware of her medical condition since she did not inform him or display any signs of being mentally disabled.

During the trial, the court heard a statement from a psy-The reports revealed that her chiatrist and reviewed additional medical reports that indicated that the victim has a the defendant, a Bahraini man, nose. The Public Prosecution permanent mental disability after medical reports were had charged the defendant with that places her mental cogni-

Bahrain to host first-ever **SDMX Global Conference** in Middle East in October

TDT | Manama

 ${f B}^{
m ahrain}$ will be hosting the ninth SDMX Global Conference on Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange from October 29 to November 2 on the theme of Empowering Data Communities.

The event is co-organised by the SDMX Sponsors and the Bahrain Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA) with support of ESCWA and Banca d'Italia, and will bring together a broad range of official statistics compilers and users from national, regional and international agencies, academia and the private sector.

The Global Conference is a bi-annual event for the official statistics community worldwide to share information on recent and upcoming SDMX cally enhance the process of SDMX tools and technologies dicators, and SDMX metadata. for enhanced collaboration and knowledge sharing.

of statisticians, SDMX experts, general discussions. and data professionals, the conference is a major glob- sdmx2023.org to attend event. al event in the statistics field, Call for presentations to submit providing an opportunity to at the conference is available discuss the latest internation- till July 31 via its website or via



The first edition of this conference was held in 2007 in the US, with subsequent events hosted by France, the US, Thailand, Ethiopia, and Hungary. The eighth edition was organised remotely in Mexico due to the COV-ID-19 pandemic.

developments leveraging exchanging statistical data, in-

It will also enable participants to stay up to date with It will include three days of the latest developments replenary sessions followed by lated to national data and intwo days of statistical capac- formation exchanges and enity building for statisticians at hance the capabilities of those beginner and advanced levels. working in the field through It is set to attract various levels specialized workshops and

Registration via www. al developments and specifi- email: sdmx2023@sdmx.org.

Asian drug smuggler trial postponed to hear witnesses

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court ness requested proof of adjourned the case of an identity from the ac-Asian drug trafficker until July cused to complete 18, 2023 to hear the prosecution the parcel's ship-

The defendant allegedly at- but he claimed not tempted to smuggle drugs in to have the neceschildren's toy boxes. According sary documents at to a parcel company employee, the time. the accused brought a box conropean country and was asked causing the crystalline subto pay 150 Bahraini dinars.

and he claimed it contained authorities. toys for children. The witping procedures,

The employee grew sustaining drugs to be sent to a Eupicious and cut the box open, rested at his residence. stance to spill out. He then charged the defendant with The employee asked the ac- informed his supervisor, who drug trafficking and possession cused about the box's contents, reported the incident to the of narcotics for personal use.

Subsequently, a criminal investigation was launched into the matter, and it was discovered that the accused had intended to traffic drugs outside the country and was in possession of narcotics and drug paraphernalia when ar-

The Public Prosecution has

news of bahrain

Bahrain Polytechnic launches first set of masters degree programmes

Boost for labour market

TDT | Manama

he Minister of Municipalities and Agricultural Affairs, Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, announced the launch of the first set of masters degree programmes offered by the Bahrain Polytechnic ever since its establishment in 2008.

At Bahrain Polytechnic's press conference, Al Mubarak, who is also Chairman of Bahrain Polytechnic's Board of Trustees, said were launched to meet the rethat the programmes include the Master of Science in Engineer- and to achieve the Polytechnic's ing (Applied) in Sustainable En-strategic plan 2023-26, which ergy Systems; Master of Science is in line with Bahrain's Ecoin Artificial Intelligence, and the nomic Vision 2030, which seeks Master in International Trade to further enhance educational and Strategy.



"The masters programmes quirements of the labour market, deliverables to contribute to the

"The masters programmes were launched to meet the requirements of the labour market. and to achieve the Polytechnic's strategic plan 2023-26, which is in line with Bahrain's **Economic Vision 2030,** which seeks to further enhance educational deliverables to contribute to the comprehensive and sustainable development process."

- WAEL BIN NASSER AL MUBARAK, MINIS-

comprehensive and sustainable development process," Al Mubarak said.

The programmes were launched to further strengthen efforts to develop human capital, in line with the approach of the Government of Bahrain and are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in today's rapidly evolving job market, he added.

"The programme has been designed in collaboration with industry experts to ensure that graduates have the knowledge and skills required to succeed said.

Professor Ciarán O Cathain, that the Polytechnic aimed international trade in the region. to launch these master programmes to meet the emerg- masters' programmes will start research students looking for



in the workforce," the minister of the labour market. He added that the programmes enhance the image of the Kingdom as a Bahrain Polytechnic CEO, said leading hub for technology and

He said that admission for the

"The Polytechnic aimed to launch these master programmes to meet the emerging needs for qualified **Bahraini** employees in different sectors of the labour market. He added that the programmes enhance the image of the Kingdom as a leading hub for technology and international trade in the region."

- PROFESSOR CIAR`N O CATHAIN, BAH-RAIN POLYTECHNIC CEO

ing needs for qualified Bahraini in August, emphasising that the excellence, creativity, and a employees in different sectors Polytechnic aspires to receive modern international education.

Speaker affirms support for national press

TDT | Manama

ouncil of Representa-Ctives Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam lauded the role played by the Bahrain press, citing its contributions to highlighting parliamentary achievements in the kingdom.

Al Musallam was speaking as he received yesterday Al-Ayam newspaper Editor-in-Chief, the Bahrain Journalists Association (BJA) Chairman, Isa Al

The Speaker highlighted the commitment of the Bahraini press to undertaking its national responsibility by adopting issues that serve the kingdom and its citizens and raising public

He affirmed parliamentary support for the work of the national press.

Bahrain, Kuwait expand security cooperation

inistries of Interior in the Minsules of Internal Ringdom of Bahrain and the State of Kuwait have agreed to form joint executive working teams to discuss a number of areas of security cooperation and coordination, including criminal security, cybersecurity, and combating terrorism, in addition to issues of traffic, operations, electronic connectivity, passports, visas, and ports.

The work teams shall submit reports on the results of their work to the Joint Security Com-

meeting of the committee, which was held in the Kingdom of Bahrain over two days, chaired by Chief of Public Se-Anwar Abdullatif Al Barjas.



The meeting in progress

This came during the first and the accompanying delega- Assembly elections. tion, expressing his pride in the

the Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior process for the recent National meeting of the joint security

distinguished relations between pressed his appreciation for to confirm the Gulf Cooperation the two brotherly countries, and the support of Interior Minis- Council (GCC) countries' coheextending sincere congratula- ter General Shaikh Rashid bin sion, and strengthen the historcurity Lieutenant-General Tariq tions to Shaikh Talal Khaled Al Abdulla Al Khalifa to all public ical fraternity ties that unite the bin Hasan Al Hasan, and Under- Ahmad Al Sabah on the occasion security fields, which contrib- GCC states, explaining that the secretary of Ministry of Interior of renewing his appointment uted to the development of se-security and regional data and in Kuwait Lieutenant-General as First Deputy Prime Minis- curity cooperation regionally the accelerating challenges in nwar Abdullatif Al Barjas. ter and Minister of Interior. and internationally through the the Gulf region, impose the con-Chief of Public Security de- He praised the success of the activation of agreements and tinuation of the joint approach

welcomed Undersecretary of in organising the democratic He also pointed out that the enhance public safety.

committee came within the Lt. Gen. Tariq bin Hasan ex- framework of the joint approach livered a speech in which he Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior memoranda of understanding. to protect security, stability and

Lanes set for closure today

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Works, in coordination with the General Directorate of Traffic at the Ministry of Interior, announces that the development works of Al Fateh Street at the intersection necessitate the closure of some lanes, according to the following details:

1. Closing the right turn lane from Al Fateh Street to Juffair Street towards Juffair and diverting traffic to the surrounding roads (Al Ghuraifa and Awal Street entrances).

2. Closing the left turn from Al Mahooz Street to Al Fateh Street towards Manama and diverting traffic right towards Mina Salman for a reverse turn towards Manama.

Work will take place at the aforementioned site starting from today and run for a period of two months.

Traffic signs and poles installation and maintenance completed

The Ministry of Works has Completed the installation and maintenance of 312 traffic signs and 202 iron and concrete poles from January to June this vear, which aims to raise the level of traffic safety and improve

Engineer Maha Khalifa Hamada, Director of the Roads Planning and Design Department at the Works Ministry, said that the ministry periodically conducts a comprehensive survey of the traffic signs, poles and land lines on the road network in the Kingdom.

reduce speed.

Eng. Hamada noted that dur-



The Works Ministry regularly conducts maintenance of traffic signs for public

sidewalks were painted.

She added that the ministry installation and maintenance requests regarding traffic signs prepares an annual program of 64 reflective mirrors was and land lines from members for the maintenance of traffic completed; 470 speed-reducing of the Municipal Council, citisigns and poles, and repaints ramps were repainted; and 189 zens and residents through the the land lines and heights to km of land lines and 67 km of national system for complaints and suggestions, Tawasul, or the level of safety on the road She pointed out that the min-through direct contact, during network to preserve the lives ing the first half of this year, the istry has received about 1,625 the first half of 2023, which con- and property of road users.



Eng. Maha Khalifa Hamada

tributed to the speed Monitor damaged traffic signs and poles and maintain them as soon as

The Director affirmed that the ministry will spare no effort in carrying out its role to raise

LMRA conducts five joint inspection campaigns



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) conducted five joint inspection campaigns in coordination with the Ministry of Interior and the Social Insurance Organization (SIO) in the Capital and Muharraq Governorates. The inspection campaigns included visits to a number of shops and work sites, to determine the extent of compliance with laws and regulations in order to preserve the competitiveness, stability and productivity of the labour Market. The campaigns resulted in reporting violations related to the Labour Market and Residency laws. The cases were referred for legal action. LMRA renewed its call to all members of the society to report violations via the electronic form on the authority's website www. Imra.gov.bh or by calling the authority's call centre on 17506055.

Fitch affirms Bank ABC's IDR at BB+ with a stable outlook

TDT | Manama

▼itch Ratings has affirmed Bank ABC's Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BB+' with a 'Stable Outlook' in addition to its Viability Rating at 'bb+' driven by the Bank's standalone strength.

The rating reaffirmation is underpinned by Bank ABC's 'adequate regional corporate franchise, geographical diversification, solid management, quidity and stable funding' ac- noted that Bank ABC's risk ap- posure to volatile markets is adequate capitalisation, healthy cording to Fitch Ratings. asset quality, well-managed li-



The reaffirmation by Fitch Ratings reflects Bank ABC's strengthened profitability, driven by the strong fundamentals that underpin our operations and the accelerated performance across our global network

SAEL AL WAARY

petite is reasonable across its well-managed. With prudent fundamentals that underpin our ing profile and strong liquidity Announcing the rating, Fitch diversified markets and its ex- underwriting standards, the operations and the accelerated position.

Bank continues to focus on performance across our global high-quality borrowers and network." short-term lending. The Bank's strengths are also reflected in Ratings observed that Bank ABC its well-defined risk controls has adequate capital ratio with and healthy asset quality, with a common equity Tier 1 ratio of its stabilised loan quality across 13.7% at the end of first quarter most of its operating environ- 2023, which is well above the

Bank ABC, remarked: "The reper cent of the capital base as of affirmation by Fitch Ratings re- end O1 2023. flects Bank ABC's strengthened profitability, driven by the strong the Bank include stable fund-

In other highlights, Fitch regulatory minimum. Core capi-Sael Al Waary, Group CEO of tal accounted for a significant 84

Other notable strengths of

Zain Bahrain Q2 profit rises 3.2 %

Ouarterly net profit was BD 1.32 million

H1 revenue increased 10.5%.

TDT | Manama

Zain Bahrain, a telecommunications industry innovator in the Kingdom, yesterday reported a net profit that grew 3.2% in the second quarter of 2023, as revenues rose thanks to a 12.5% growth in customers.

The company said it added 127 thousand customers to serve a total of 1.14 million, a 12.5% Year on Year growth.

Quarterly results

Second quarter net profit rose

Zain Bahrain remains committed to staying at the forefront of the telecommunications industry, delivering innovative solutions and exceptional services to its customers while upholding our responsibilities towards sustainability

SHAIKH AHMED BIN ALI AL KHALIFA

Earnings per share remained by 8.6% compared to Q2 2022. stable at 4 fils.

EBITDA increased by 1.7% reaching BD 5.44 m compared to BD 5.35 m in Q2 2022.



in the same-quarter a year ago. Q2 2022. Data Revenue was up

H1 Results

Revenue increased 15.7% to crease from BD 2.85 m in the ings, contributing to our sus-3.2% to BD 1.32 m from BD 1.28 m BD 18.95 m from BD 16.39 m in same period as in 2022. Earn-tainable business practices."

ings per share were breakeven

Revenue reached BD 37.12 m. an increase of 10.5% compared to BD 33.59 m for the same period in 2022. Data Revenue increased 7.0% compared to the same period in 2022.

Commenting, Zain Bahrain Chairman, Shaikh Ahmed bin Ali Al Khalifa, said, "Our second quarter results demonstrate the resilience and the success of Zain Bahrain as we continue the expansion of our network, including in seven new areas in Bahrain, allowing residents to enjoy the best 5G and 4G mobile experience."

He added, "Our investments in renewable energy and green technologies have reduced our For the first six months, net environmental impact and reprofit was BD 2.75 m, a 3.6% de-sulted in substantial cost sav-

Pakistan gets \$1 bn boost from **UAE** ahead of IMF decision



The deposit comes a day after Saudi Arabia transferred \$2 billion to Islamabad, and brings the state's foreign reserves to \$7.5 billion -- more than double last week's account balance.

Islamabad

terday by a \$1 billion deposit for Pakistan worth \$3 billion. from the United Arab Emir-Fund (IMF) board meeting to Washington this week. approve new funding.

stricken by a balance-of-pay- always come forward to supments crisis as it attempts port Pakistan," Prime Minister to service crippling external debt, while months of political Wednesday. chaos have scared off foreign investment.

rupee has plummeted, and the bilise the economy." Finance country is struggling to afford Minister Ishaq Dar said the imports, causing a severe de- UAE deposit would be reflected cline in industrial output.

Securing financial support from friendly nations has been Pakistan's state bank coffers a key condition of the IMF for were further boosted yes-

The package will be considates, officials said, ahead of a ered for approval by the IMF's key International Monetary executive board meeting in

"As a time-tested friend & The economy has been brotherly country, the UAE has Shehbaz Sharif tweeted late

"We deeply acknowledge this kind gesture & consider Inflation has rocketed, the it critical to our efforts to staon the books by Friday.

Alba joins forces with Nasser Artificial Intelligence



In pictures, the honouring ceremony held at Alba's premises

TDT | Manama

aluminium smelters, underlined cials. its commitment to advance in ment Centre.

achievement, an honouring cerproject, in the presence of the its unique projects and smart model that predicts green anode sired density of green anodes.

Centre's AI Executive Advisor, Dr Jassim Haji, as well as oth-Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), er Alba and Nasser Vocational one of the world's largest Training Centre (NVTC) offi-

Commenting, Alba's Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) with- Executive Officer, Ali Al Baqali, in its operations with the suc- said: "Artificial Intelligence is a cessful completion of "Green tool we want to adopt as without Anode Density Prediction" -- it, we won't be able to advance one of the many joint projects and disrupt the norms in our with Nasser Artificial Intelli- business. We believe that the gence Research and Develop- choices which we make today will simply give us more data To celebrate this remarkable about what to do next."

Adding Further, Nasser Arti-R&D Centre CEO, Dr Abdulla at becoming one of the main companies. Naser Al Noaimi, honoured the pillars of Artificial Intelligence



ises where Alba's Chief Execu- Development Centre CEO, Dr digital transformation initia- bles, in addition to a dashboard

emony was held at Alba's prem- ficial Intelligence Research & solutions that contribute to the density based on process variative Officer, Ali Al Baqali, and Abdulla Naser Al Noaimi, in-tives in both government and that allows users to enter the Nasser Artificial Intelligence dicated that the Centre aims private sector organizations and values of process parameters and get the predicted density, The completed project con- which helps users to optimise Centre's team involved in the system in the Kingdom through sists of an artificial intelligence the process and achieve the de-

UN chief blasts 'outdated' global financial structure

United Nations

global financial system where \$92 trillion last year, a fivenearly half the world's peofold increase on the year ple live in countries whose 2000. governments spend more on debt than education or nearly 30% of this debt, and

into a development disaster, in relation to their GDP, they fuelled by a crushing debt cri- are paying more interest, in sis," said the secretary-gen- part because of higher interest eral, presenting a United Na- rates, the report found. tions report on the state of the world's debt.

almost half of humanity -- live ble, Guterres noted. in countries that spend more on debt interest payments than heads the United Nations on education or health," he Conference on Trade and Delamented.

able debts are concentrated in changed. poor countries, they are not In 2010, private creditors

ple is more than a systemic grown to 62%.

risk. It is a systemic failure," he said. According to the report, U^N chief Antonio Guterres titled "A World of Debt", to-denounced yesterday a tal global public debt reached

Developing countries hold theirs is also growing faster. "Half our world is sinking Despite a lower level of debt

A total of 52 countries, almost 40% of the developing "Some 3.3 billion people -- world, are in serious debt trou-

Rebeca Grynspan, who velopment, pointed out that Guterres added that "be- the "composition" of develcause most of these unsustain- oping countries' debt had

judged to pose a systemic risk accounted for 47% of the to the global financial system. external debt of developing "This is a mirage. 3.3 bn peo-countries, but by 2021 that had

News in brief

♦ Damage from riots sparked by the police killing of a teenager in France has resulted in a \$715 million insurance bill, an industry body said Tuesday. The government battled days of unrest after a police officer shot dead 17-year-old Nahel M. during a traffic stop in a Paris suburb on June 27. Nahel had Algerian roots, and the killing rekindled long-standing accusations of systemic racism in France. There have been 11,300 claims linked to the riots, said the head of the France Assureurs federation Florence Lustman -- who put the

France riot damage racks up \$700 mn insurance bill: industry body

bill at 650 million euros. Last week, Lustman gave a figure of at least 280 million euros, stressing that many claims had yet to be made. Around a third of the damage being claimed for took place on local authority property, France Assureurs said. Earlier this month, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire urged insurers to extend the deadline for claims.

More than 3 million people have now fled their homes in Sudan due to the nearly three-month-old conflict between rival armed forces, the United Nations said yesterday. Figures from the UN's International Organization for

More than 3 million have fled Sudan unrest: UN

Migration (IOM) showed that more than 2.4 million people were now displaced within Sudan, while nearly 724,000 have escaped across the country's borders. The fighting in Sudan broke out on April 15. The army, led by Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, has been battling the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces commanded by his

former deputy Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, after the two fell out in a power struggle. "We have surpassed the 3 million figure of people displaced due to the conflict in Sudan," IOM spokeswoman Safa Msehli told AFP.

◆ Companies and individuals polluting Britain's rivers and other ecosystems will be liable for unlimited fines, the UK government announced

yesterday, with the nation's water firms in particular under fire. Environment Secretary Therese Coffey to face unlimited in April announced plans to allow unlimited fines fines: UK govt for polluting water companies but the policy has since been expanded to include other parties such as energy and waste operators. The current maximum fine stands at £250,000 (\$325,000), while the change allows environmental regulators to avoid lengthy criminal prosecutions. "Polluters must always pay," Conservative party MP Coffey said in a statement. "It builds on action being taken right across government to stand up for our environment -- tackling pollution,



Polluting firms

protecting delicate ecosystems and enhancing nature," she added. The move comes amid a long-running scandal over privatised water firms pumping raw sewage into waterways.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

France to pay bonus for shoe, clothes repairs to cut waste



Representative picture

AFP | Paris

From October, France will pay a bonus to encourage people to have their clothes and shoes repaired rather than of clothing, shoes and housethrowing them away, the government said.

on the 700,000 tonnes of structed by the government clothes thrown away by French to support a more sustainable people each year, two-thirds of which ends up in landfills.

"From October, consumers will be able to be supported said, referring to sewing workin the repair of their clothes and shoes," secretary of state for ecology Berangere Couillard said Tuesday during a visit to the Paris premises of La the aid is part of a vast reform Caserne, a hub for responsible of the textile sector, one of

workshops and shoemakers French government since the to join the system", to be la- end of 2022. Its objectives inbelled by eco- organisation clude forcing brands to have

euros (\$7.7) for mending a heel cycling clothing.

and 10-25 euros for clothing repairs from a 154 million euro fund set up to cover 2023-

In France, 3.3 billion pieces hold linen were put on the market in 2022, according to The move aims to cut down Refashion, which has been inindustry

> "The goal is to support those who do the repairs," Couillard shops but also those brands which offer repair services.

Modelled after the household appliance repair bonus. the most polluting industries She invited "all sewing on the planet, initiated by the more traceability and to finan-Under the scheme, custom- cially support organisations ers will be able to claim seven specialising in reusing and re-

NASA celebrates Webb telescope anniversary with stellar birth



A small star-forming region in the Rho Ophiuchi cloud complex, the closest star-forming region to Earth.

The picture is of the Rho Ophiuchi cloud complex

Webb's image shows around 50 young stars, of similar mass to our Sun or smaller

AFP | Washington

Jets of red gas bursting into the nature shadows of circumstellar cosmos, and a glowing cave of disks -- a sign that planets may dust: NASA marked a year of dis- eventually form around them. covery by the James Webb Space Telescope Wednesday with a horizontally in the upper third of spectacular new image of Sun- the image, and vertically on the like stars being born.

uchi cloud complex, the nearest lope of cosmic dust, shooting out stellar nursery to Earth, whose a pair of opposing jets into space proximity at 390 light-years allike a newborn first stretching her lows for a crisp close-up by the arms out into the world," the US most powerful orbital observa- space agency said in a statement. tory ever built. "In just one year,

ministrator Bill Nelson.

"Every new image is a new dis- told AFP. covery, empowering scientists around the globe to ask and an- tion of its light and a stellar wind this, long ago, and now we have swer questions they once could linked to it, she added. never dream of.'

Webb's image shows around 50 young stars, of similar mass to our Sun or smaller. Some have the sig-

Huge jets of hydrogen appear right. "These occur when a star The picture is of the Rho Ophi- first bursts through its natal enve-

"At the bottom of the image,

the James Webb Space Telescope you can see a young star that's has transformed humanity's view energetic enough that it's blowof the cosmos, peering into dust ing a bubble in the cloud of dust clouds and seeing light from far- and gas from which it was born," away corners of the universe for Christine Chen, an astronomer the very first time," said NASA Ad- at the Space Telescope Science Institute, which operates Webb,

It does so through a combina-



Webb was launched in December 2021 from French Guiana, on a 1.5 million kilometer (nearly one million mile) voyage to a region called the second Lagrange point.

Interstellar space is filled with gas and dust, which in turn serves as the raw material for new stars and planets.

Webb's image of Rho Ophiuchi allows us to witness a very brief period in the stellar life cycle with new clarity. Our own Sun experienced a phase like the technology to see the beginning of another star's story, said Webb project scientist Klaus Pontoppidan. Webb boasts a primary mirror measuring more than 21 feet (6.5 meters) that is made up of 18 hexagonal, gold-coated segments, as well as a five-layer sunshield the size of a tennis court. Unlike its predecessor Hubble, it operates primarily in the infrared spectrum, allowing it to look back nearer towards the start of time, and to better penetrate dust clouds where stars and planetary systems are being formed today. Webb has enough fuel for a 20-year mission, promising a new era of astronomy.

Iran summons Russian envoy ov

AFP | Tehran

ran yesterday summoned the Russian **⊥**ambassador in Tehran to protest a recent statement by Gulf countries and Moscow on three islands controlled by Iran but claimed by the United Arab

On Monday, foreign ministers from An aerial view of Abu Musa island



the Gulf Cooperation Council and Rus- The three strate sia held talks and called for "a peaceful solution" to the issue of the Greater and Lesser Tunb islands and Abu Musa.

They urged a resolution through "bilateral negotiations or the International Court of Justice, in accordance with the rules of international law and the United Nations Charter".

in the Gulf nea Strait of Horn fifth of world oil for years been a between t

On Wednesda istry said it sur Captain James Cook begins his second voyage to the South Seas aboard **HMS Resolution to search for Terra** Australis (Southern continent)



Source of Mississippi River discovered by American geographer Henry Schoolcraft

A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada founds the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (Hare Krishna

movement) in New York City

The Hollywood Sign is officially dedicated in the hills above Hollywood, Los Angeles. It originally reads "Hollywoodland" but the four last letters are dropped after renovation in 1949

India shoots for the moon with latest rocket launch

The latest iteration of the Chandrayaan ("Mooncraft") programme comes four years after an earlier attempt

AFP | Bengaluru

ndia tomorrow launches its latest attempt at an unmanned moon landing, the next frontier of a burgeoning, cut-price aerospace programme rapidly closing in on the milestones set by global superpow-

If successful, the mission would make the world's most populous nation only the fourth country after Russia, the United States and China to achieve a controlled landing on the lunar surface.

74.6 The 14-day mission comes with a price tag of \$74.6 million



An engineer works on a component at a Godrej Aerospace manufacturing plant, which manufacture various parts for the Vikas and cryogenic engines for the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) space missions, in Mumbai

The latest iteration of the Chandrayaan ("Mooncraft") programme comes four years after an earlier attempt ended in failure, with ground crew losing contact moments before landing.

"We're sure this one will be successful and will bring pride and recognition to everybody Verma of Godrej & Boyce, ISRO's principal engine and components supplier, told AFP.

The 14-day mission comes aims to successfully land a rover attempt, told AFP. to explore the lunar surface.

YOU

Chandrayaan-2, its previous attempt at a lunar landing in 2019, cost \$140 million -- nearly twice Friday's launch, but a much smaller price tag than similar ventures by other countries.

from the Satish Dhawan Space 2008. Centre north of Chennai.

"I am very happy and hopewith a price tag of \$74.6 million, ful," K. Sivan, the ISRO chief durlite into orbit around Mars, according to media reports, and ing India's last lunar landing and three years later, the ISRO

India's space programme has gle mission.

A huge crowd is expected to grown considerably in size and who has worked for it," Anil G. attend the launch, scheduled for momentum since it first sent 2:35 pm local time (0905 GMT) a probe to orbit the moon in

> In 2014, it became the first Asian nation to put a satellaunched 104 satellites in a sin-

Google AI health chatbot passes US medical exam: study

AFP | Paris, France

▼ oogle's artificial intel-Cligence-powered medical chatbot has achieved a passing grade on a tough US medical licensing exam, but it's answers still fall short of those from human doctors, a peer-reviewed study said yesterday.

Last year the release of ChatGPT -- whose developer OpenAI is backed by Google's rival Microsoft -kicked off a race between tech giants in the burgeoning field of AI.

While much has been made about the future possibilities -- and dangers -- of AI, health is one area where the technology had already shown tangible progress, with algorithms able to read certain medical scans as well as humans.

Google first unveiled its AI tool for answering medical questions, called Med-PaLM, in a preprint study in December. Unlike ChatGPT, it has not been released to

The US tech giant says Med-PaLM is the first large language model, an AI technique trained on vast amounts of human-produced text, to pass the US Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE).





wish a very happy birthday to our @UN Messenger of Peace, @ Malala! Thank you for your work and relentless commitment to girls' education worldwide, at a moment when they're needed more than ever.

@antonioguterres



Pleased to have met H.E. Sheikh @ MhmdAlissa, Secretary General of @MWLOrg and Chairman of the Organisation of Muslim Scholars. We had a great exchange of views on furthering inter-faith dialogue, countering extremist ideologies, promoting global peace, and deepening partnership between India and Saudi Arabia.

@narendramodi



ne year ago, NASA Oreleased an image from the James Webb Space Telescope that reminded us America can do big things. Today, they've done it again.

@POTUS



Nato is where Ukraine belongs.

Abbas vows to rebuild Jenin camp after Israeli raid

AFP | Jenin

Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas vowed Wednesday to rebuild the Jenin refugee camp during a rare visit that came a week after an Israeli raid left much of it destroyed. Abbas described the camp as

an "icon of struggle" during his first visit in over a decade to the camp in the northern West Bank city. Twelve Palestinians and one

Israeli soldier were killed last week in the two-day raid on Jenin, the largest in years by Israeli forces. The raid on the camp, which soon after the raid, only to be

hub", employed hundreds of residents. troops as well as drone strikes

Several top officials of Abdeputy chairman Mahmoud struggle", in a short address as it "to what it was or even



Abbas (2nd-R) recites a prayer as he lays a wreath of flowers by the graves of Palestinians killed in recent Israeli military raids

Israel views as a "terrorism heckled by crowds of angry are one authority, one state, one

and army bulldozers that tore pressed determination to back unity and security of our peoup streets and damaged scores Jenin's reconstruction and se- ple".

bas's Fatah party, including an "icon of steadfastness and camp and the city to restore Aloul, had visited the camp crowds of supporters cheered. better".

"We have come to say that we law," he said, warning against On Wednesday, Abbas ex- anyone who "tampers with the

He further vowed to over-He described the camp as see the reconstruction of the

ver statement on islands

r the entrance to the uz, through which a output passes -- have source of contention he UAE and Iran.

content of the statement".

It further "called for a correction of the Russian Federation's stance on this Nasser Kanani on Tuesday said the

y, Iran's foreign min- in the Gulf near the entrance to the friendly relations between Iran and its nmoned Russia's am- Strait of Hormuz, through which a neighbours".

egic islands -- located bassador Alexey Dedov and voiced the fifth of world oil output passes -- have Islamic republic's "objections on the for years been a source of contention between the UAE and Iran.

Iran's foreign ministry spokesman islands "belong to Iran forever and is-The three strategic islands -- located suing such statements goes against the

'Extremely angry' BBC star in scandal faces new claims



Representative picture AFP | London

 $oldsymbol{A}$ yesterday against a star $\,$ of the scandal as "extremely BBC presenter accused of pay- angry" over how the story had ing a teenager for sexually ex- unfolded. plicit pictures, as three more people came forward with senter at the heart of this is

urged the presenter to publici is convinced they're trying to ly identify himself to prevent dig and find new dirt," Sopel further reputational damage said on LBC Radio's The News to the broadcaster and false Agents podcast. accusations against others.

stinct has kicked in... but my in their 20s had come forward God look at the damage to to say they received "threatthe BBC, look at the damage ening messages from the unto his friends, to those falsely named high-profile figure".

Former BBC North America editor Jon Sopel, meanwhile, llegations mushroomed described the star at the centre

"It is fair to say that the prealso extremely angry over a Fellow BBC star Jeremy Vine lot of The Sun coverage and

The BBC itself reported on "I know his survival in- Tuesday that another person

accused -- and the longer he Hours later, The Sun daily -leaves it the worse it will be which broke the original story for him," the radio show host last Friday -- alleged he also said Wednesday on a televi- broke Covid lockdown rules to sion show he hosts for another meet another young person he met on a dating site.

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

Clean-tech minerals market surges to USD320 bn: IEA

Paris

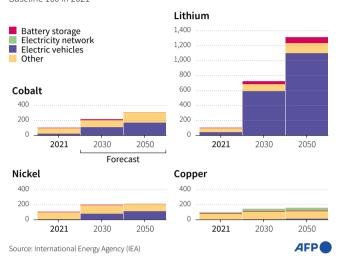
The market for the miner-transition soared to \$320 billion last year but faces challenges including volatile prices, supply chain snarls and geopolitical tensions, the International Energy Agency said.

The market for minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel and copper doubled between 2017 and 2022, fuelled by the record deployment of clean technologies such as solar panels and electric car batteries, according to the IEA.

"Rapid growth in demand is providing new opportunities for the industry," the Paris-based agency said in its first annual IEA Critical Minerals Market Review. "But a combination of volatile price movements, supply chain bottlenecks and geo-

Demand for strategic minerals

Change in the global demand for four minerals needed in the clean energy transition to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 Baseline 100 in 2021



political concerns has created added. The IEA, which advises a potent mix of risks for secure developed nations on energy

and speed of energy transitions" will depend on the availability of critical mineral supplies.

Prices rose in 2021 and early 2022 as the Covid pandemic caused bottlenecks across supply chains and Russia's invasion of Ukraine wreaked havoc in commodity markets.

Most prices began to moderate in the latter half of 2022 and into 2023, but they remain well above historical averages, the

"As things stand, 2023 could be a crucial year for clean energy technology prices," the report

"Whether and how quickly they resume a downward trajectory will depend on the speed of innovation and on the stability of mineral markets that witnessed significant volatility in 2022 after two years of pandemic-related supply chain disruptions followed by the onset of and rapid energy transitions," it policies, said the "affordability global geopolitical uncertainty."



A self-driving automobile is displayed at the booth of JD Cloud during the World Artificial Intelligence Conference (WAIC) in Shanghai



People look at an electric car displayed during the launch of VinFast electric



Hisashi Takeuchi, Managing Director and CEO of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, attends the launch of the new Maruti Suzuki Invicto SUV car in Gurugram,

Maruti Suzuki goes upmarket in India with new seven seater

Reuters | New Delhi

Maruti Suzuki, India s dig-gest automaker, is look-(\$30,000). ing to break into the premium car segment with its new seven seater, as a growing number of buyers opt for bigger, feature-packed cars.

Maruti, known for small and compact cars that are mostly priced below 1 million rupees (\$12,000), on Wednesday launched the In-

victo seven seater with a hvbrid powertrain starting from Taruti Suzuki, India's big- around 2.5 million rupees

> Maruti, majority owned by Japan's Suzuki Motor, made its name as a mass market car brand offering affordable prices and low maintenance costs. When it comes to premium cars, or those typically priced above 2 million rupees, buyers tend to turn to the likes of Toyota Motor or Volkswagen, say analysts.

Latest US Takata death prompts dire warning on some 2003 trucks

New York

Stellantis urged owners of thousands of 2003 Dodge Ram pickups to "immediately stop" driving the vehicles if their Takata airbags have not been replaced, the company

The "Do Not Drive" consumer alert follows a May 13 fatal accident involving one of the trucks that US regulators said constituted the 26th death in the United States tied to the defective as Chrysler, recalled 385,686 of the vehicles in 2015.

US regulators estimate that company said. roughly 84,000 of the vehicles remained unrepaired, according to The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. An estimated 29,000 are still on US roads, Stellantis said.

Stellantis sent six recall notices, but "all went unheeded," the



part. The company, then known A deployed airbag is seen in a 2001 Honda Accord at the LKQ Pick Your Part salvage yard in Medley, Florida

"NHTSA is urging ALL ve-

manufacturer."

The Takata brand disaphicle owners to immediately peared in 2018 following a bankcheck to see if their vehicle has an open Takata air bag recall," ruptcy in the wake of the airbag scandal, which affected almost the agency said. "If it does, own- every major global automaker, ers need to contact their dealer- including Toyota and General ship to schedule a FREE repair Motors, and triggered the auto as soon as possible and follow industry's biggest-ever safety metal shrapnel at the vehicle's any warnings from the vehicle recall.



The "Do Not Drive" consumer alert follows a May 13 fatal accident involving one of the trucks that US regulators said constituted the 26th death in the United States tied to the defective part.

The airbag defect was linked to ammonium nitrate, the chemical used as a propellant in Takata's airbag inflator canisters.

The chemical degraded, especially in humid conditions, meaning that in some cases the airbag did not inflate properly and sometimes ruptured, firing occupants.

Musk predicts self-driving Tesla cars later this year

AFP | Shanghai

 ${
m E}^{
m lectric}$ car giant Tesla is set to realise fully autonomous vehicles "later this year", CEO Elon Musk said, in the billionaire's latest forecast for the long-anticipated milestone.

"In terms of where Tesla is at this stage, I think we are very close to achieving full self-driving without human supervision," Musk said via video link at the opening ceremony of an artificial intelligence conference in Shanghai.

"This is only speculation, but I think we'll achieve full self-driv-



Rerpesentative picture

ing, maybe what you would call four or five, I think later this year," the billionaire added, referring to two of the most advanced levels of autonomous driving technology.

The mercurial entrepreneur and Twitter owner admitted that he had been wrong in previous predictions on this timeline, but added: "I feel like we're closer to it than we ever have been."

Musk has missed his own deadlines for a fully autonomous Musk sistance technology has pro-

United States. China is the world's biggest



vehicle -- and Tesla's driver- as- electric vehicle market and Tesla announced in April it would voked regulatory probes in the build a second massive factory in Shanghai.

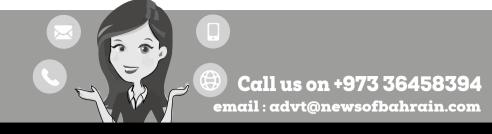
His appearance at the World tomakers.

ence in Shanghai marks his latest effort to maintain close links to China, following a visit to the country in May.

Electric vehicles make up a quarter of car sales in China, the world's largest car market, and dozens of new models from domestic and Western brands were unveiled in April at the country's first auto show since Covid restrictions were lifted.

Tesla reported a drop in first-quarter earnings this year, with the company undertaking a series of price cuts in the face of competition from other au-

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IDENTITY GBL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291951 or NEIL.G@ IDA-GLOBAL.COM

M U K INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER,

suitably qualified applicants can contact 39555789 or USMANAFZALCM@GMAIL.

Al amoor Middle East Cleaning Co.W.I.I. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36410050 or SAMEER.SAYED4U@ GMAIL COM

KARUNGAL ELECTRICAL TRADING & CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66671081 or SUNILSINGHKP2000@GMAIL.

BAJWA CLEANING SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34353600 or BAJWADOCUMENTS@YAHOO.COM

AL SULTAN REPAIR OF ELECTRONICS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66913415 or SULTANMALIK3379@ GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD BILAL SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33848723 or BA1030851@GMAIL.COM

RAJPUT FACILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34142118 or SABIRIMRAN48@GMAIL.COM

SAYED MOOSA ADNAN ALI / ALJAWADIN 6771 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17340010 or MFISHING@HOTMAIL.

COMMODITY CONTRACTS RATA BROKERAGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35097047 or AFTABKHAN234342@GMAIL.COM

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SAMPOO CONTRACTING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37447677 or BIG791642@GMAIL.COM

ASIF SUPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34354430 or SUBHANREJA@GMAIL.COM

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MOHAMMED ABDULLA **JABUR** ALMUSALAM has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39672444 or N ALMUSALLAM@ YAHOO.COM

MOHAMED ALI ABDULLA ALASHEERI / SAEED / 9871 has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32202880 or alsaeed4@aol.com NADEER AHMED ALI SALMAN / ALAAJ

- 5179 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39444963 or nadeer87@hotmail.com AL AMMAR CAMPAIGN has a vacancy for the occupation of RELIGIOUS MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17297754 or JAFARALMADHOOB@HOTMAIL.COM

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ALEZZ CONTRACTING MECHANICAL SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17258381 or admin@

GULF FENCING & SPECIALIST SURFACING EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17591197 or rasha@gfss.com.bh

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

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36988968 or MD@UNIONGROUP.CC ART'S CONSTRUCTION (ARTCON) W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730015 or binu@unitcogroup.com

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M K A MECHANICAL CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39611612 or MKA.MC.BAH@GMAIL.COM

RAHAN COLD STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39630305 or KHALIFA BBR@HOTMAIL.COM

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JARASH CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39663330 or MOHAMOODM@YAHOO.COM

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SAHARI STUDIO has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17276149 MOHAMED6@BATELCO.COM.BH

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36509129 or info@magicshinebh.com

LANJAT CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470885 or ADELALMUDAWIB@HOTMAIL.COM

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Bright Future Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33681568 or brightfuturecont@gmail.com

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BUSAITEEN CORNER TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66707072 or AHMED88BUSHAQUR@GMAIL.

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MARBLE RESTORATION CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39468574 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

Pearl Prestige Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000198 or PPCBAH@GMAIL.COM

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CALIBERBAH@GMAIL.COM The Arch Hotel W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17116611 or CORP@DADABAI.COM

ARATCO GLOBAL **BAHRAINI** PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17660141 or BNCONSTRUCTION.BH@GMAIL.COM

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YATHRIB GATE CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36663188 or YATHRIB.GATE@GMAIL.COM

Burj Mushraf Contracting Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36167111 or bmc.bahrain111@gmail.com

MONISH CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER. suitably qualified applicants can contact 33664969 or ANANTHMONISH@GMAIL.COM Bahrain Al Arabi International Decoration Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GYPSUM CARVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17715919 or daaii@

alarabi-bh.com MARBLE RESTORATION CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39468574 or ageel@basma.com.bh

ALAQREBA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33848421 or ABUISA.2014R@HOTMAIL.COM

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suitably qualified applicants can contact 39333528 or RASHID.FAQIH@GMAIL.COM ALGHALIA HOLDING B S C C has a vacancy for the occupation of SAFETY & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SPEC. suitably qualified applicants can contact 17710271 or hrvp@alghalia.com

JEEVAN SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33199200 or ENAS S@ MOF GOV BH

DYNAMICS SOLUTIONS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17295603 or KENNEDY@ DYNAMICSSOLUTIONSGROUP.COM

Fruit Paradise FOR Vegetables and fruit has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39699197 or MARIAM.ALDERAZI@GMAIL.

GUARDUS SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or HRD@ALMOAYYEDCG.



Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

Dessange Beauty Center WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17710271 or hrvp@alghalia.com

ALJALBOOT FISH RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36363936 or daytona@daytonabh.com

LILOU ARTISAN PATISSERIE has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17710271 or hrvp@ alghalia.com

MAMUSHKA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 13115222 or SHAHLEEN@LIVE.COM

Bahrain Public Transport Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36666039 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

Trans global contracting co. w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552307 or hnijamudeen@yahoo.com

BLUE SWIMMING CRAB FACTORY FOR PRESERVING FISH has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33660370 or hr@ jaradahfish.com

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39770606 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com MR AND MS MANPOWER AGENCY has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77003333 or AL-ENGINEER@HOTMAIL.COM MCDONALDMS has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17220000 or HR@FAKHRO.COM

SEVEN PATHS FOR CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33739999 or SJBREEL5@GMAIL.COM

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MARASSI AQUARIUM AND UNDERWATER ZOO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77488000 or HY@EAGLEHILLS.COM

ALHaddad Motors has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES COORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785999 or RASOOL@ ALHADDAD-MERCEDESBENZ.COM

OAK PIZZA AND PASTA has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39939921 or NAOMA11@HOTMAIL.COM

BDC MANPOWER SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CO-ORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17180530 or mona.alnokhedha@bas.

SMART VENDORS CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33558313 or ASIFBUTT888@GMAIL.COM

Dar SSH International Engineering Consultants - Foreign Branch has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32001141 or RASHED.JASIM@SSHIC.COM LAL HAWELI RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33006342 or NAIMASHAHID05@GMAIL.COM

Dr. Khaled Murad Dental Clinic has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17643737 or DRKMURADDC@HOTMAIL.COM

RESTAURANT **ARABELLA** AND CAFE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17692000 or LEXUS181614@GMAIL.COM

Professional Boxes Carpentry has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39633812 or YUSUF.BUTI@PROBOXES.BH

Mohammed Azam Zakaria Air Condition Spare Parts Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252889 or AZAMZAKARIA@HOTMAIL.COM

PARADISE FURNITURE has a vacancy

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KONEXUS ALUMINIUM INTERNATIONAL CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN. suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830456 or BRIJ.SINGH@CONEXUSRES.COM NAHR AL IRAQ JUICES AND FAST FOOD RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37377737 or LEEADEL.

BH@GMAIL.COM Versai AlAnsari Trading W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252707 or sales@versaisystems.com

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NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L) has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER. suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

Bahrain Al Arabi International Decoration Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17715919 or daaij@alarabi-bh.com

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GULF CITY CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39641612 or yousif@aanass.net

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BEAUTY BOUNTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38487070 or FAALNASSER@OUTLOOK.COM

ROSELANDE for clothes trading Bahraini partnership company has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39726505 or mkfavaz@

ALTAFF TRADING CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33823387 or ALTAFFTRADING@GMAIL.COM

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajilnath@urbaser.com

UMMAS FISH CORNER has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35135508 or

SDC442019@GMAIL.COM

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IKKAYEES RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17292393 or ALWALIOFC@ HOTMAIL.COM

Barbeer Green Contracting - Bahraini Partnership Co. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34384278 or n123. nawaz@gmail.com

MAHIN STAR FOODSTUFF CO. Bahraini partnership company has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39266601 or ABDULLAH33821112@GMAIL.COM

Blaire Executive Suites W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37351000 or SURENDER@EXPLOREMENA.COM

Relay Engineering Limited has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17213958 ANDREW.WRANKMORE@RELAY-**ENGINEERIN.COM**

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MERMAID BUTCHERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BUTCHER (ANIMALS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39297975 or MERMAID11.BH@GMAIL.COM NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@ aanass.net

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TIMELINE TRAVELS AND CLEARANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38713871 or naufaltimeline@gmail.

Top seed Alcaraz reaches first Wimbledon semi-final

AFP | London

┪arlos Alcaraz saw off Hol-Ger Rune in straight sets vesterday to stay on course for a Wimbledon title showdown against defending champion Novak Djokovic.

The top seed won the key moments during the quarter-final on Centre Court to progress 7-6 (7/3), 6-4, 6-4 and will play Russian third seed Daniil Medvedev in the semi-finals. The Spaniard faced just one break point in iard break point. the entire match, which he snuffed out, hitting 35 winners against 13 unforced errors.

"Honestly, it is amazing for me," said Alcaraz after beating his friend. "It's been a dream since I started playing tennis."

The US Open champion, on grass, was delighted with his performance against his fellow 20-year-old.

tight but Rune's double-fault gave Alcaraz a 4/3 lead and he won the next three points to take the first set.

It was a similar story in the second set until Rune dumped a forehand smash into the net in the ninth game to give the Span-



est semi-finalist at

Wimbledon since

Djokovic in 2007.

Alcaraz made no mistake, smoking a backhand down the line to break and holding with ease to move two sets up.

He broke again in the fifth game of the third set, giving Rune a mountain to climb.

The Danish star saved one who now has 10 straight wins match point on his own serve but was powerless to stem the tide as Alcaraz served out to reach the last four at the All The start of the breaker was England Club for the first time.

> The Serbian faces Italian eighth seed Jannik Sinner in Friday's other semi-final. Alcaraz is aiming to become the third-youngest player to win the Wimbledon men's singles crown in the Open Era. If he captures his second major at the All England Club, he is guaranteed to remain as world number one.

Ashwin's double strike puts West Indies in trouble

AFP | Roseau, Dominica

 ${f R}$ avichandran Ashwin made brilliantly caught by a leaping Mohammed Siraj at mid-off two wickets on his return to to the bowling of Ashwin's Test cricket as India reduced the West Indies to 68 for four in what proved to be the final at lunch on the first day of the ball before the interval. opening Test in Dominica yesterday.

openers Tagenarine Chanderpaul and Kraigg Brathwaite Rohit Sharma. having being brought into the attack after just 40 minutes' play on what looked a placid his decision to bat first at this pitch offering little assistance stage as the home side resumes for the faster bowlers.

caught behind in his first over Indian side.

while Jermaine Blackwood's luck ran out when he was spin partner Ravindra Jadeja

Blackwood was dropped first ball off Ashwin by wick-Omitted for the World Test etkeeper Ishan Kishan, one of Championship final against two debutants for the Indians, Australia a month earlier, the the other being 21-year-old 36-year-old spinner removed Yashasvi Jaiswal, selected to open the batting with captain

Sharma's opposite number, Brathwaite, will be regretting in the afternoon session with However seam bowling local boy and debutant, Alick all-rounder Shardul Thakur Athanaze (13 not out) seeking then had Raymon Reifer to impress against a confident



Ravichandran Ashwin (L) and Rohit Sharma (R), of India, celebrate the dismissal of Tagenarine Chanderpaul, of West Indies, during day one of the First Test between West Indies and India at Windsor Park in Roseau. Dominica

Messi mulls international retirement, but not quite yet

AFP | Buenos Aires

rgentina World Cup win-Argentina world Cup willning captain Lionel Messi to paper on a two-and-a-half says he has no idea when he year deal, reported to be worth will finally call time on his international career.

"Even I don't know when. It'll happen when it happens," the 36-year-old said in an interview broadcast on Argentine television on Wednesday.

"After winning everything I want to enjoy the moment and wait for time to tell me when it's the moment," said the seven-time Ballon d'Or winner.

"Logically, given my age, one would expect it to be soon, but I don't know for sure.

"Now that we are American champions (Argentina won the 2021 Copa America) and world champions we have to enjoy that."

He reiterated earlier comments that he was unlikely to be in Argentina's squad when they defend their World Cup title in 2026.

The interview was conducted in China last month, when Messi scored the quickest goal of his career after just 79 seconds in a 2-0 friendly win against Australia in Beijing.

On Tuesday, Messi arrived in Florida to put the final touches on his move to US Major

League Soccer club Inter Miami from Paris Saint-Germain. He is expected to put pen



Bahraini women capture table tennis gold

Marvam Al A'ali. Fatima Al A'ali, Phadke **Amruta and Rayan** Rashed win all four of their matches en route to securing title

TDT | Manama

 ${f B}$ ahrain's women's national table tennis team captured the gold medal in the teams' event at the 15th Arab Games in Algeria.

yam Al A'ali, Fatima Al A'ali, medals and nine bronze medals. Phadke Amruta and Rayan

to secure first place.

The nationals were awarded their gold medals at the podium ceremony by Bahrain Olympic Committee member and Bahrain Table Tennis Association (BTTA) president Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa. Also on hand was Bahrain's director at the Arab Games Noman Al Hassan, and BTTA vice-president Ali

The women's team's gold medal was Bahrain's first in the sport at the Arab Games, and it brought the delegation's tally to 36 in all sports so far. These The Bahrainis consist of Mar-include 17 gold medals, 10 silver

Two of the medals Bahrain have won were in athletics for They captured the title after people of determination. These winning all four of their match- were gold by Elias Alyassi and es, capping their unbeaten run silver by Amal Fardan. The with a 3-0 result against Syria. medals won in this sport are not They had earlier also triumphed counted on the overall table for against Iraq, Tunisia, and Jordan the nations' final classification.



Pizzi named new Bahrain coach

Argentinian tactician takes over helm of senior men's national football team

Juan Antonio Pizzi to arrive later this month to officially sign contract

BFA to sign national team technical staff based on Pizzi recommendations

TDT | Manama

head coach of the Kingdom's upon. senior men's national football team.

Rashid Al Zoubi. Al Zoubi said that the BFA's ex-

> Ali bin Khalifa bin mendations. Ahmed Al Khal-

ident His national team.

ahrain has named Ar- bin Isa Al Khalifa, prepared the choice to be the replacement gentinian tactician Juan contract with the Argentinian of departed Portuguese coach Antonio Pizzi as the new coach as per the terms agreed Helio Sousa. Negotiations were

will arrive in Bahrain later this down the BFA's offer. This was announced yester- month to officially sign his deal day by the Bahrain Football As- and to work on all arrangements to Pizzi. sociation (BFA) in a statement necessary for the national team's

riod. ecutive management, the squad's coaching staff, who began his coaching career in under the guidance of will be working under Pizzi, will 2005. BFA president Shaikh be selected based on his recom-

> ifa and BFA wishes to Pizzi for success in also in charge of the national vice-pres- his upcoming mission with the

Shaikh with Pizzi after talks broke of the 2017 FIFA Confederations Khalifa down with his countryman Ri- Cup. During his stint with Saudi,

Juan Antonio Pizzi during his time with Al Wasl

in the advanced stages with Al Zoubi added that Pizzi Gareca, but he eventually turned

The BFA then turned its focus

The 55-year-old is a forissued by BFA secretary general preparations in the coming pe- mer player, born in Argentina but represented Spain Al Zoubi noted that the rest of at the international level. He

Prior to joining Bahrain, Pizzi was the manager of UAE Pro Al Zoubi expressed his best League club Al Wasl. He was teams of Chile and Saudi Arabia in the past, during which he The BFA began its discussion guided the Chileans to the final bin Ali cardo Gareca, who was the first he was in charge of the team at the 2018 FIFA World Cup and the

Juan Antonio Pizzi will have big shoes to fill in Bahrain, with former coach Helio Sousa being one of the most successful head coaches in the history of the national football team. Sousa's four-year stint with the senior squad was highlighted by their victory in the 24th Gulf Cup in 2019

2019 AFC Asian Cup.

The BFA had also announced that the board of directors has approved the appointment of Rashid Al Zayani as the new national team manager. He will be assisted by Adel Al Saadoun and Yahya Buallay as administrators.

Pizzi will have big shoes to fill in Bahrain, with Sousa being one of the most successful head coaches in the history of the national football team.

The highlight of Sousa's fouryear stint with the senior squad was their victory in the 24th Gulf Cup in 2019—the first time Bahrain ever claimed the coveted trophy, ending a wait of nearly 50 years.

Sousa's contract with Bahrain ended in June and was not renewed by the BFA.

Bahrain Victorious' Bauhaus claims Tour de France stage podium

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Manama

¶eam Bahrain Victoum yesterday in the 2023 35th overall. Tour de France.

The German claimed classified 38th, third overall at the end of Fred Wright the 179.3-kilometre 11th 58th, and

He was amongst the 101st, while leaders on the furious completing sprint to the finish, but the team's had to settle for his fi- riders were nal classification behind Woet Poels winner Jasper Philipsen and Matej of Alpecin-Deceuninck Mohoric in and runner-up Dylan 140th and 141st,

Groenewegen respectively. of Team Jayco

ous rider to finish in the 1,971.7km complete. top 20 yesterday.

☐ rious rider Phil Bau- was Mikel Landa in 31st, covering haus returned to the podi- while Nikias Arndt came

> Pello Bilbao was Jack Haig

Following yesterday's hilly terrain. stage, Bilbao was fifth Bauhaus on the individual gener- France features a total of stage races. The first of the claimed his al classification. Bahrain 3,404km and over 55,000 season was the Giro d'Itathird podium Victorious, meanwhile, vertical meters of climb- lia held in May, and the on this year's tour. He was stayed first overall on the ing across 21 stages. The third, following the Tour the only Bahrain Victori- team's leaderboard with race is the second of three de France 2022, will be

His closest teammate tinues today with stage 12, ternationale (UCI) World Phil Bauhaus competes amongst

Grand Tour events on this the Vuelta a Espana from The Tour de France con-year's Union Cycliste In-August 26 to September 17.

168.8km over a generally event is a road cycling race that is one of the three ma-This year's Tour de jor European professional









Bulgaria players, led by star Aleksandar Nikolov, second from right, celebrate their win against Poland

Italy, Bulgaria, Iran in semis

Brazil and Argentina to battle for final spot in final four in 2023 FIVB Men's U21 World Championship

 Hosts Bahrain come up short against Tunisia in consolation pool

Canada, Egypt, and the Czech Republic all victorious vesterday

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efending champions Italy were joined by Bulgaria and Iran last night as teams to have punched their tickets to the semi-finals of the 2023 FIVB Men's U21 World Championship, currently being hosted by the Kingdom of

The trio secured their berths after each winning their second matches in the tournament's elite eight.

The Italians put in an impressive performance to take down previously unbeaten Brazil in four sets. Bulgaria, meanwhile, defeated Poland in straight sets and in the process eliminated their rivals from further title contention, with Iran doing the same against Thailand.

The last spot in the semis will be decided tonight between just two teams: Brazil and Argentina. The Argentinians kept their hopes alive after winning a five-set

thriller over Belgium.

Today marks the conclusion of this second stage of the tournament, with action wrapping up in Pools E and F amongst the elite eight, as well as in Pools G and H in the consolation bracket. The games are being held between two arenas from 11am, with the last fixtures starting at 8pm. Entrance is free and all are invited to watch the action.

Italy showed their class in their 3-1 (25-23, 31-29, 18-25, 25-21) Pool F triumph over Brazil.

This is special revenge. This is a game we studied. The third set was not like we usually do, but we won and we are in the semi-finals. We are very happy and I can't wait for the final

four

ALESSANDRO ALBERTO BOVO-

GSenoh.

Bahrain's

Mohammed

Yaqoob in

yesterday

action against

the Philippines

It was a doubly sweet victory for spearhead the victors, while gians, outside hitter Pierre Perin da beat India 3-1 (25-22, 23-25, the Italians, who got their payback from a preliminary round block points. Aliaksei Nasevich Reggers scored 19. loss and ensured their place in scored 15 to pace Poland, who the final four.

"This is special revenge," said opposite spiker and Italy's star player Alessandro Alberto Bovolenta. "This is a game we studied. The third set was not like we usually do, but we won and we are in the semi-finals. We are players. We can do and we can Czech Republic were all winners very happy and I can't wait for master in this world champion- yesthe final four."

Bovolenta put on a fantastic display of his limitless potential by scoring 35 points to spearhead the Italians, while outside hitter Riccardo Iervolino addhad 14 to pace Brazil.

The Bulgarians secured their resounding 3-0 (25-18, 35-33, fiery Pool E contest.

Attack

Star skipper Aleksanpoints, all in attack, to

MIKASA

Bulgarian official Francesplayed better today. It was a very a win will put them through. strong and difficult match with ship. I can say good job to our team, and we are waiting for the final four."

Iran asserted themselves against Thailand in a convincing 3-0 (25-11, 25-16, 25-19) win ed 13 markers. Middle blocker in Pool E. Three players scored Thiery Fellipe Oliveira Morais nine points apiece for the Iranians, including outside hitters Mastanabad Mobin Nasri and berth in the final four with a Khanzadeh Firouzjah Poriya, along with middle blocker 25-18) win against Poland in a Fard Shayan Sepehri. Jakkrit Thanomnoi paced the Thais with 11 markers.

In Argentina's tight Pool F decision against the Belgians, they dar Nikolov battled back from a set down scored 18 twice in the game to eke out a 3-2 (21-25, 25-21, 23-25, 28-26, 15-

9) result. Opposite German Alfredo Gomez had 28 points for the victors, while middle blocker Imanol Salazar added 18. For the Bel-

Venislav Antov had 17, with four had 21, while team captain Ferre 25-12, 25-21) in the other Pool

co Cadeddu commented: "We Belgians play Italy, but not even

In the consolation pools, Tu-Poland. They have very good nisia, Canada, Egypt, and the today's concluding games of this

terday.

hosts Bahrain 3-2 (25-21, 21-25, 23 markers for

Cana-

Iran's

Khanzadeh

Firouzjah

in action

against

Thailand

G clash. Outside hitter Kaden Argentina face off with the Schmidt top scorer with 24 will now contest for fifth to eight Brazilians this evening at 8pm, points, while opposite Brendan with the winner booking the Mills added 20. Aman Kumar last ticket to the final four. The had 16 for the Indians in the

Canada move on to play for ninth to 12th place following second stage. Bahrain, Tunisia and India are vying for the other spot, with the bottom two in sians upset their group contesting for 13th

Egypt and Mexico played to a thrilling finish, with the Egyp-18-25, 25-19, tians taking a 3-1 (25-12, 25-15, 15-12) in a 22-25, 35-33) victory in Pool H. tight Pool Gen- Zyad Mohamed had 26 points counter. Middle and Hamza Awad 11, while Anblocker Tahar gel Ivan Dominguez Carrillo Mahdi Ben had scored 21 to lead Mexico.

In the other Pool H match, the Tunisia while Czech Republic outplayed the Bahraini op- US 3-0 (25-19, 25-16, 25-17) for posite Sayed their third successive win since H a s h e m the preliminaries. Opposite David Kollator had 14 points and outside hitter Jiri Benda had nine, while Dillon Klein scored 13, all in attack, for the US.

The Czechs and Egyptians will contest for ninth to 12th, while the Americans and Mexicans will play for 13th to 16th following this stage.

TODAY'S MATCHES

COURT A: 11am Tunisia India; 2pm Thailand vs Poland; 5pmIran vs Bulgaria; 8pm Bahrain vs Canada

COURT B: 11am Mexico vs USA: 2pm Egypt vs Czech Republic; 5pm Italy vs Belgium; 8pm Brazil vs Argentina

Bahrain cruise against the Philippines Bahrain breezed past the Philippines 3-0 (25-20, 25-17, 25-Bahrain breezed past Senior men's national the Philippines 3-0 25-23) yesterday to qualify for vollevball team claim the top six in the fourth AVC Men

straight-sets win

Bahrainis to next face Australia in tournament's round of six

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Challenger, currently being held in Chinese-Taipei.

The Bahrainis put in a class performance in the match to secure their place in the next elimination stage.

task ahead when they take today. on Australia in their follow-

(25-20, 25-17, 25-25-23) to qualify for the top six in the fourth AVC Men Challenger.

They will have a tough ing fixture, scheduled for

The Bahrain team in the tour-

nament includes Mohammed Yaqoob, Mahmood Al Afia, Ali Habib, Nasser Anan, Mahmood Abdulhussain, Mahmoud Abdulwahed, Ali Ebrahim, Ebrahim Mohammed, Abbas Al Khabbaz, Mohammed Jassim, Mohammed Omar, Hani Ali, Ayman Haroona and Abbas Sultan.

They are being guided by head coach Ruben Adrian Wolochin from Argentina.