

Israel rejection of two-state solution unacceptable: UN AFP | United Nations

Israel's rejection of the idea of a two-state solution with the Palestinians is unacceptable and could prolong the conflict in Gaza, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said yesterday.

"Last week's clear and repeated rejection of the twostate solution at the highest levels of the Israeli government is unacceptable," Guterres said in a speech to the Security Council.

"The entire population of Gaza is enduring destruction at a scale and speed without parallel in recent history," he noted. "Nothing can justify the collective punishment of the Palestinian people."

Arab League Secretary General arrives in Bahrain **TDT** | Manama

Arab League Secretary General Ahmed Aboul Gheit arrived yesterday on an official visit to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Upon arrival at the Bahrain International Airport, Gheit was welcomed by His Excellency Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Political Affairs, in addition to several Foreign Affairs Ministry's officials.

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday sent cables of congratulations to Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El Sisi following the commencement of the building foundation of the Power Unit 4 at the Dabaa Nuclear Power Plant

HM the King and HRH Prince this great achievement and vital way that consolidates its lead-Sisi on this occasion, praising ful use of nuclear energy, in a development process.



HM the King



Bahrain hails Egypt on vital nuclear energy project

HRH Prince Salman

Salman expressed their sincere project, which paves the way for ership and position on the inter- ment process, vital projects, and congratulations to President El Egypt to enter the era of peace- national arena and enhances its achievements under President ilar cable to the Prime Minister,



President El Sisi

They praised Egypt's develop-El Sisi's leadership.

HM the King and His Royal Highness emphasised Egypt's effective, pivotal role in the Middle East, describing it as the cornerstone of security and stability in the region.

They expressed Bahrain's pride in its deep-rooted robust fraternal ties with Egypt, which are built upon solid foundations and enjoy the unwavering support of both countries' leadership, and growing steadily across various fields.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister also sent a sim-HE Dr. Mostafa Madbouly.



The Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday awarded 18 government service providers a gold classification for their excellence in service delivery under the fourth edition of the "Taqyeem" evaluation program, at Gudaibiya Palace. Present in the ceremony were His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa and a number of senior officials. (Full report on Page 2)

Asian found dead **TDT** | Manama

The CID found a body of an Asian, 47, in his flat in Maghaba.

Initial details indicate criminal suspicions. Legal proceedings are being taken and the Public Prosecution was notified.

Measles cases soar in Europe

AFP | Copenhagen

Measles cases soared in Europe in 2023 to 42.200. a nearly 45-fold increase over the previous year, the UN health agency said yesterday, calling for urgent vaccination efforts to halt the spread.

220 fils (includes VAT)



Effectiveness, fairness must be top priority

TDT | Manama

7esterday's Parliamentary session in Bahrain ignited a fiery debate on a proposed law that would impose taxes and regulate Zakat on commercial companies.

While the committee endorsed the proposal, sparks flew when MP Zainab Abdulamir, head of the Finance Committee, unexpectedly requested its withdrawal for further study, citing the lack of government feedback.

"If you demand the withdrawal," thundered MP Mohammed Al Husseini, his voice pointed at Abdulamir, "then you are ac-



"This matter requires thorough study, including consulting government entities and examining similar proposals like the corporate tax."

- HIS EXCELLENCY AHMED BIN SALMAN AL MUSALLAM, COUNCIL OF REPRESEN-TATIVES SPEAKER

"If you demand the withdrawal, then you are accountable to God for that." - MP MOHAMMED AL HUSSEINI

countable to God for that."



Representatives Speaker, His Excellency Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam. Recognizing the tiveness and fairness. Others, need for deeper analysis, he urged caution: "This matter requires thorough study, including consulting government entities and examining similar proposals like the corporate tax."

He further added that imposing Zakat on non-Muslim com- will it spark further controversy The heated exchange prompt- panies wouldn't be appropriate, in the months to come? Only ed intervention from Council of reminding Al Husseini, "We're time will tell.

not in a religious debate. And what did you mean by saying Zainab is accountable to God? Is she the only one?"

The proposed law details the calculation of Zakat for companies, setting it at 25% of the tenth of their net Zakat assets for the Hijri year budget or 2.577% for the Gregorian year budget.

While the law ultimately passed, the fiery debate exposed lingering concerns. Some, like Abdulamir, advocate for more time to ensure the law's effeclike Al Husseini, prioritize swift implementation, even if it means sacrificing further scrutiny.

With the law now in place, the question remains: will it effectively balance fiscal objectives with ethical considerations, or

news of bahrain metribune **Technology, digital solutions 'vital'**

HRH Deputy King awards 18 government service providers gold classification under the Tagyeem program

TDT | Manama

he Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, emphasised the importance of advancements in government services, embracing technology, and deploying digital solutions.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister noted that these highest standards of quality and efficiency.

The overarching goal is to



HRH Prince Salman with senior officials and representatives of government service centres at the ceremony

Khalifa.

at Gudaibiya Palace.

HRH Prince Salman was speak- His Highness Shaikh Moham- strength and determination to emphasising creativity and inno- government service providers Khalifa and a number of senior the Kingdom and its people. His vice centres: vation, to effectively contribute a gold classification for their officials attended the ceremony. Royal Highness highlighted that Entities affiliated with the ment Authority.

are a source of pride, instilling ernment initiatives.

efforts aim to deliver exception- to the Kingdom's comprehensive excellence in service delivery HRH the Crown Prince and Bahrainis remain at the core of al services that adhere to the development goals, led by His under the fourth edition of the Prime Minister affirmed that the development efforts and form Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al "Taqyeem" evaluation program, successes of Bahraini citizens the cornerstone of various gov-

HRH the Deputy King awarded foster a culture of excellence, ing as he awarded yesterday 18 med bin Salman bin Hamad Al bolster development efforts for the following government ser-

Ministry of Interior: Customs Clearance Service's Centre, Sea Port Customs Directorate - Customs Affairs; Comprehensive Air Freight Service Centre - Customs Affairs; Land Ports Customs Directorate - Customs Affairs; Driver's Licenses at the Driving School Services - General Directorate of Traffic; General Directorate of Civil Defence (Muharraq Security Complex Branch); Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (Isa Town Branch); Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (Muharrag Branch); The Identity Card Centre branch in Isa Town – The Information and e-Govern-

Unlocking Bahrain's MICE potential

Inside the groundbreaking ICCA workshop and strategic alliances

TDT | Manama

proudly hosted the prestigious potential. International Congress and

Workshop.

This first-ever event for Bah- high-impact events, and lever-Marking a landmark mo- rain brought together industry aging diverse perspectives to ment for the Kingdom's leaders from across the globe to propel Bahrain's MICE sector to burgeoning MICE industry, Ex- explore strategies for unlocking new heights. hibition World Bahrain (EWB) the Kingdom's immense MICE

Convention Association (ICCA) sightful panel discussions on bition Bureau, Gulf Air Group, and

navigating trends, attracting

Experts from Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA), The workshop featured in- Abu Dhabi Convention and Exhi-



Influential global figures share industry insights, enlightening attendees during a panel discussion

other notable organizations shared their knowledge and expertise, creating a platform for dynamic collaboration and idea exchange.

EWB didn't just host the Exhibition World Bahrain workshop - they seized the opportunity to solidify their ings to Bahrain. position as a leading MICE destination.

Two key partnerships



Partnerships

EWB General Manager Dr. were inked on the sidelines Debbie Kristiansen emphasized of the meet - between EWB the significance of these partand ICCA and EWB and MIC nerships: "We are committed Middle East. The strategic to continuous growth and inalliance between EWB and novation in the MICE industry. ICCA will see ICCA providing Collaboration, dedication to CICS training for EWB staff, sustainability, and a focus on hosting the annual ICCA Mid- attracting events across diverse dle East Summit and Interna- sectors are key to our success." Dr. Senthil Gopinath, CEO of at EWB, further elevating the ICCA, lauded Bahrain's rapid venue's profile and expertise. rise in the MICE arena: "We are The collaboration between delighted to partner with EWB a focus on knowledge sharing, EWB and MCI Middle East fo- and witness their dedication to and a commitment to innovacuses on attracting high-im- excellence. This workshop was tion, Exhibition World Bahrain pact events, particularly in a testament to Bahrain's poten- is charting a course to become the healthcare sector, lever- tial, and we are confident that a global MICE powerhouse, putaging MCI's regional network with continued collaboration, ting the Kingdom firmly on the and expertise to bring pres- the Kingdom will be a leading map for international events of tigious international gather- MICE hub in the years to come." all sizes and sectors.



The workshop included informative panel conversations on steering through trends, drawing influential events, and harnessing varied viewpoints to drive Bahrain's **MICE** industry to greater



1		-
	Trusted Health Care — for life —	
• 24 X 7 Emergency	Neurology & Neurosurgery	Pulmonology
General & Family Medicine	Obstetrics & Gynecology	• Ophthalmology
Internal Medicine	Pediatrics	Psychiatry
 Nephrology & Dialysis 	 Dermatology & Cosmetology 	• Ear, Nose & Throat
General Surgery	Plastic Surgery	• Urology
 Laparoscopic & Bariatric Surgery 	• Cardiology	• Ayurveda
Advanced Dentistry	• Oncology	 Physiotherapy
Orthopedics	 Gastroenterology 	 Anesthesia & Pain Clinic
• Laboratory	 Radiology & Imaging 	• Pharmacy



HIDD **SALMABAD** SEGAYA **(9)** 1736 2233 **O** 1746 4848 **O** 1721 6056

tional Destination Workshop

success.

With strategic partnerships,





Tamkeen's executive management met with AI Zayani Investments Group as part of the ongoing visits to introduce the new enhanced programs to private sector enterprises and highlight ways to benefit from them to employ and upskill Bahraini talent.

news of bahrain

Cold store owner brutally attacked over BD2; Succumbs to injuries

TDT| Manama

refused to pay for items totalling out paying. less than BD2.

managed the business alone. On Thursday morning, at him.

seemingly trivial dispute around 8.30 am, a nearby resiover a small purchase dent came to shop. After taking Basheer fell unconscious, and Lurned deadly in Riffa, a beverage and a small snack, a crowd began to gather, and as a cold store owner was alleg- which cost less than BD2, the the customer allegedly left the edly attacked by a customer who man allegedly walked out with-

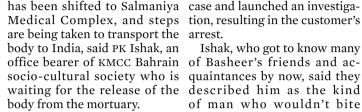
Basheer Koyambrath, a na- customer and allegedly asked monary resuscitation. tive of Kakkodi near Kozhikode him to return the goods if he in India, had been running the couldn't pay. When the custom- in the ICU since then, Basheer small cold store at Al Hajiyat in er refused, Basheer tried to get succumbed to the injuries Riffa for more than 25 years and the goods from his hand, and yesterday morning. His body Basheer Koyambrath

the customer allegedly attacked

Within seconds of the attack, scene. An ambulance was summoned, and Basheer was rushed Basheer went out after the to BDF Hospital after cardiopul-

Remaining under treatment





Necessary support

He added that officials of the Embassy of India in Bahrain pro- winner of his family, which invided the necessary support and cluded three children, who were that the police have registered a students, and his wife.

has been shifted to Salmaniya case and launched an investiga-Medical Complex, and steps tion, resulting in the customer's

> Ishak, who got to know many of man who wouldn't bite if you put your fingers in his mouth.

Basheer was the sole bread-

Top Bahrain technology companies not immune to cyber attacks: experts



Ahmed Albalooshi Zahra Ayaz TDT | Manama

 ${
m A}^{
m significant}_{
m raised}$ concerns about the $\,$ cybersecurity standards, and sored cyber threats and the deemed crucial in maintainsecurity of major tech companies.

In a recent cyber security breach, the systems of Micro- and swift breach identification soft, one of the largest technology companies in the world, were emphasized as essential were hacked by a Russian components of Bahrain's cyber state-sponsored group known defense strategy as "Midnight Blizzard," according to a report by The Sun.

The Daily Tribune reached vulnerabilities



Dr. Jassim Haji

high-priority areas due to their importance and the valuable data they possess. Internationsignificant breach has al collaboration, adherence to sophistication of state-spon- awareness campaigns were ing a strong cybersecurity posture," he added.

Additionally, response plans and mitigation capabilities

Data breaches and

out to AI experts to gather Meanwhile, Dr. Jassim Haji, their opinions on the matter an AI expert, provided a comand to assess the potential for prehensive analysis to The a similar incident to occur in Daily Tribune, citing several high-profile Microsoft data Ahmed Albalooshi, CEO breaches and vulnerabilities of Fintech IT Consultations reported in the past 24 months. These incidents have af-Technologies, highlighted the fected millions of users and challenges faced by even the organisations, raising further largest technology companies concerns about the security of Dr. Haji highlighted a Mi-He explained that crosoft data breach by the state-sponsored actors like Lapsus\$ group in March 2022, Midnight Blizzard employ ad- which compromised Cortana vanced and stealthy hacking and Bing. In another incident, techniques to remain unde- the misconfiguration of Mitected, making it difficult to crosoft Power apps led to a anticipate and guard against massive data leak, exposing approximately 38 million re-Albalooshi emphasised the cords from over 47 companies need for continuous vigilance, that had stored their data on advanced threat detection ca- publicly accessible platforms. Dr. Jassim says because of curity posture to mitigate such recent incidents it raises concerns over security of outlook He stressed that Bahrain is mailboxes in the Kingdom. Cybersecurity experts warn threats and must embrace dig- that Bahrain faces similar risks ital transformation cautiously, and must prioritize cybersecuimplementing robust cyberse- rity preparedness, infrastruccurity measures and continu- ture resilience, and effective incident response. Continuous "Sectors such as govern- improvement in cybersecurity ment, finance, and telecom- practices is crucial in address-

Support deal for foreigners a 'lifeline' for house rental sector

TDT | Manama

n owner of a local real es-Atate company stressed the significance of the agreement reached by the members of the Parliament and Shura Council regarding housing allowances and the support of electricity and water bills for foreigners.

Sayed Sharaf Sayed Jaffar, the owner of Sayed Sahraf Sayed Jaffar Real Estate company, believes that these agreements can serve as a lifeline for the rental sector, which has been experiencing a slump, calling for the swift adoption and implementation of these agreements to revitalise the vital sector.

His remarks were made on the recent parliamentary agreements reached regarding redirecting subsidies and the expected amendments to them.

Among the proposed measures are reducing the waiting period for housing allowances to three years from the date of members suggested significant marriage and increasing the al- changes to the housing accounts lowance to BD200 instead of for foreigners, lowering the valthe current BD100. Additionally, ue of the consumption unit from housing allowances would be 750 fils (as currently applied) to provided to widows and those 50 fils for the first category.



Image used for illustrative purposes only



"The significant increase in electricity and water bills imposed a few years ago contributed to the decline in rental activity, especially among foreigners. This, in turn, resulted in an oversupply of unoccupied apartments."

- SAYED SHARAF SAYED JAFFAR, REAL

were filled with tenants, especially in vibrant areas. However, this reality has changed to the extent that the occupancy levels in his buildings are now below 50%. He pointed out that furnished one-bedroom apartments, for example, are now being offered for as low as BD220.

He stated that implementing these proposals would increase occupancy levels and help attract many investors and foreigners who would find that housing costs have significantly decreased. He also called for listening to the voices of real estate owners in the vital sector, which contributes significantly to the gross domestic product.

Excessively high

In the same context, he criticised the electricity fees, which currently stand at 10%, stating that this percentage is excessively high and does not correspond to the services provided by the Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture. He mentioned that their noticeable services are limited to garbage disposal and street cleaning.

He asked, "Imagine how

Bahrain.

and Certified in Industry 4.0 in dealing with cyber security major tech companies. threats.

every possible attack vector.

pabilities, and a proactive sebreaches.

not immune to cyber security ous monitoring.

munications were identified as ing the threat landscape.

with specific demands.

The parliament members also proposed reducing the housing

category up to 3,000 units.

Significant increase

fils for the lowest consumption phasised that the significant in- pied apartments. crease in electricity and water

ESTATE COMPANY OWNER

The real estate expert, who rental activity, especially among ipal fees?" account tariff for foreigners by has been working in the rental foreigners. This, in turn, resultmore than 35%, ranging from 13 market for four decades, em- ed in an oversupply of unoccu-

Regarding the reduction bills imposed a few years ago that prior to the hike in electric- ment returns due to the scarcity of water bills, the parliament contributed to the decline in ity and water prices, buildings of tenants.

much a building owner with 800 apartments pays in munic-

He underlined the importance of reviewing this percentage, especially considering the Sayed Sharaf further noted significant decrease in apart-

Restoring monthly allowances for employees with academic degrees

TDT | Manama

The Parliament passed a pro-posal for a law that requires the restoration of monthly allowances for employees with academic degrees working in the government sector.

The law specifies that a fixed allowance should be disbursed, amounting to BD20 for those holding a higher diploma or bachelor's degree, BD40 for those with a master's degree, and BD60 for individuals who hold a doctoral degree.

The proposal aims, as stated The Parliament in session in its explanatory memoran- bursement of the educational on a monthly basis. dum, to provide budget relief qualification allowance. This for government scholarships allowance serves as a form of and replace them with the dis- financial appreciation provided



Academic qualifications

the concept of the "Educational Qualification Allowance," which will be granted to Bahraini emplovees who have obtained academic qualifications from recognized universities, in accordance with the law.

The allowance amount varies based on the level of qualification: BD20 for higher diploma or bachelor's degree holders, BD40 for master's degree holders, and BD60 for individuals with a doctoral degree.

The allowance mentioned above cannot be combined with any other educational qualification allowance, and it does not apply to positions that require an academic qualification for

The proposed law introduces employment or promotion.

news of bahrain

THE tribune

Mind Matters

Understanding and supporting kids with ADHD: Important tips for parents and teachers



ANEESA MOIDOO, PSYCHOLOGIST

n today's busy world, some kids face challenges because of something called Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, or ADHD. It's important for parents and teachers to know what signs to look for and how to support these kids for their success in school and in life.

When parents often claim, "My child is intelligent and capable of studying, but he does not sit concentrated, does not want to study, is sluggish, and so on," it's essential to understand that this might not be the case. Your youngster wants to do what is asked of him, but he also does not understand why he is unable to. Being screamed at by teachers or nagged by parents is sometimes unpleasant for your youngster as well.

Kids with ADHD can show different signs. Some may have trouble paying attention, make small mistakes, and forget things easily. Others might be very active, have a hard time waiting their turn, or talk a lot, even when they shouldn't. Some kids might have a mix of these behaviors.

To help kids with ADHD, parents can create a steady routine at home. This means having a schedule for homework, meals, and bedtime. This helps kids know what to expect each day. Teachers can also make a regular routine in the classroom so kids feel comfortable and safe.

Clear communication is crucial. Parents can break down tasks into smaller steps and use pictures or lists to help kids understand what to do. Teachers can give clear instructions, use pictures, and let kids take short breaks during the day to help them stay focused.

Praising effort and celebrating small victories is a great way to motivate kids with ADHD. Parents can encourage their kids and make them feel good about their achievements. Teachers can use rewards and say nice things to create a positive learning environment.

It's super important for parents and teachers to

"It's super important for parents and teachers to talk to each other about the child's progress. Sharing information helps everyone understand what works best for the child."



talk to each other about the child's progress. Sharing information helps everyone understand what works best for the child. Teamwork between parents and teachers creates a friendly and supportive community for every child, no matter how

Taqyeem Triumph

Gold rush in government service excellence

TDT | Manama

Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA) Chief Executive and Taqyeem Committee Chairman, Mohammed Ali Al Qaed highlighted the ongoing commitment to improving the performance of government service centers and enhancing the quality of services through initiatives aimed at achieving objectives. He noted their contributions to the Kingdom's development goals, an effort led efforts, fostering a creative enviby His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, with follow-up by His Royal Highness Prince Minister. The Government Ser-



iGA Chief Executive and Tagyeem Committee Chairman, Mohammed Ali Al Qaed

ronment and helping to enhance a customer services culture.

Al Qaed said that the recog-Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, nition of gold category service it with the government's aspirathe Crown Prince and Prime centers in the 'Taqyeem 4' program by HRH the Crown Prince tion of the program introduced (Taqyeem 4) is a key part of these to the program's success and its standards, reflecting ongoing centers that were evaluated.

effectiveness in meeting its objec- improvement in customer sertives. The current edition of the vice, including a comprehensive

program heightened the competition among the centers, demonstrating their dedication to the delivery of high-quality services in line with the expectations of citizens and residents. A total of

in the Gold category and 6 in the Silver.

He expressed his pride in the continuous support received from HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, which positively impacted the program, aligning tions and vision. The fourth edivice Centers Evaluation Program and Prime Minister is a testament new evaluation mechanisms and high standard out of the 71

framework for evaluating remote customer

service centers. Al Oaed congratulated Gold shield recipients on their achievements and commit-

ment to fulfilling the 18 service centers were classified directives of HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister in enhancing service center efficiency. He highlighted the centers' achievement of more than 90% compliance with the basic evaluation standards, a 34% increase from the previous edition, with 53 government service centers from various governorates achieving this

Phone scam justice

Fraudsters sentenced to three years in jail, fined BD3,000 for swindling Arab doctor

TDT | Manama

he High Criminal Court has brought two fraudsters to justice, sentencing them to three years behind bars and imposing a hefty fine of BD3,000 on each perpetrator.

Their crime? Swindling a prominent Arab doctor out of BD2,700 through an elaborate phone scam.

The intricate web of deception began when one of the fraudsters, posing as a financial company employee, contacted the unsuspecting doctor and cunningly convinced him to update his financial data.

Falling victim to the ruse, the doctor innocently provided his culprits themselves were the information via an electronic link, oblivious to the malicious intent behind the call. To his ered that these two individuals utilising the victim's electrondismay, the doctor soon received a text message containing a verification code. It was then that he discov- anonymous recipients by exered the shocking truth – his ploiting exchange companies hard-earned money had been and electronic applications. siphoned off in multiple transactions, amounting to a total loss were driven by the lure of hard-earned cash. of BD2,700. Following extensive substantial commissions. The investigations conducted by the weight of the evidence present-



Image used for illustrative purposes only

Crimes Investigation Department, the court to charge the defendants with multiple offenses. startling revelations emerged. It became evident that the Secret code

Notably, they were found to beneficiaries of the illicit trans- have conspired in 2023 with fers. Furthermore, it was uncov- an unidentified accomplice, operated as part of a sophisticat- ic signature - specifically, the to unlawfully seize the victim's ed fraud network specialising secret code associated with his funds, employing deceptive tac-



The two fraudsters operated as part of a sophisticated fraud network specialising in diverting financial funds to anonymous recipients by exploiting exchange companies and electronic applications.

in diverting financial funds to bank card issued by a reputable tics that included sending a deceptive text message requesting a data update. Through this deceitful maneuver, they gained access to the victim's personal informa-Additionally, the defendants tion, which was subsequently



they learn.

In the end, helping kids with ADHD is all about understanding and supporting them. By working together, parents and teachers can make sure these kids feel confident and do well in school and life.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

financial institution.

Their motive was clear: to orchestrate a fraudulent scheme Their nefarious activities aimed at pilfering the doctor's

faced charges of colluding with input into a sophisticated infordedicated team at the Economic ed by the prosecution prompted the same unknown accomplice mation technology system.

Labour Court rejects unfair dismissal case against commercial company

TDT | Manama

L rejected an unfair dismiss- absence. al lawsuit filed by a Bahraini employee against a commercial consultant.

fits, and annual leave.

absence from work, subsequent a year.

The High Labour Court has ee concerning his unexplained employer, issued after the em- for his absence. Subsequently,

ployer is within their rights to second case. company where he served as a terminate an employment contract without notice or compen-The employee had sought sation under specific circumcompensation for arbitrary ter- stances. These circumstances gued in favour of her client's mination, end-of-service bene- include when an employee is ab- actions, asserting the validity ferring to Article 107, paragraph sent from work without a valid of the termination based on the 4 of the Labour Law. The court's decision came reason for more than twenty employee's extended absence

after the employee was termi- consecutive intermittent days of 64 days. nated following a two-month or ten continuous days within

The company had issued two the termination is preceded opportunity to either return to warning letters to the employ- by a written warning from the work or provide justifications ployee's absence for ten days in a second warning was issued According to the court, an em- the first case or five days in the when the employee failed to at-

Validity of the termination

The company's lawyer ar- legality of her client's decision

The lawyer stated that the ment contract without notice company had issued a warning or compensation in several sitto six months of employment. However, it is essential that to the plaintiff, giving him the uations.

tend work or provide a valid excuse for his prolonged absence. The lawyer emphasised the

to terminate the employee, re-

This article permits an employer to terminate an employ-

Oil Minister inaugurates 10th BBTC MENA 2024

TDT | Manama

is Excellency Mohammed bin Mubarak Bin Daina, Minister of Oil and Environ- dress topics related to raising ment and Special Envoy for the level of fuel oil utilisation Climate Affairs, inaugurated based on global trends, chalthe 10th edition of the Bottom lenges, and requirements. of the Barrel Technology Conference (BBTC MENA).

sultants (EPC), in cooperation cooperation with specialised Environment and Bapco En- investments. ergies.

panies specialised in aspects of improvement of technologies.

the local, regional, and global oil industry participated in the conference.

The conference will ad-

Bin Daina said that the kingdom's hosting of the confer-The conference was organ- ence reflects its international ised by Euro Petroleum Con- reputation for strengthening with the Ministry of Oil and entities and attracting more

The minister added the con-A group of experts, engi- ference seeks to provide disneers, and officials from com- tinct visions and ideas for the

THE tribune

Reboot01 Becomes Kingdom's Go-To Source for Future Leaders

TDT | Manama

eboot Coding Institute, the first of its kind on-campus coding institute in the Kingdom of Bahrain, part of the 01Edu global network of coding schools made waves in 2023, cementing its position as a pioneer in nurturing the Kingdom's next generation of tech talent. In 2023 alone, Reboot01 received 3,000+ applications reflecting the growing demand for its innovative curriculum and industry-aligned approach.

Reboot01 has established itself as a vibrant hub for tech empowerment, fostering a community of passionate enthusiasts through knowledge shar- Binance, Bahrain FinTech Bay, earned credits towards a Bach-The coding institute hosted 20+ providing students with valu-International Cybersecurity Technologies Middle East and talent in Bahrain but also con- source for tech leaders. tributing to a dynamic regional tech ecosystem.



ing and industry engagement. Spring Studios, and others elor's Degree at AUBH. tech-centric workshops over able internship opportunities, sion for technology for the the year in collaboration with mentorship and job opportuni- youth, Reboot01 hosted bespoke industry leaders. The coding ties, bridging the gap between workshops for 300+ high school institute took center stage in the academia and the real world. students throughout the year, community chat - a dedicated local and regional tech scene, Additional leading corpora- signing high-level partnerships space where the community participating in major events tions such as Al Salam Bank, with educational and govern- can connect, collaborate, and including GITEX 2023, Global YK Almoavyed, Mannai Tech, mental institutions in the King-Entrepreneurship Week, Arab Flooss, Hope Talents, Codebase dom. Conference and Exhibition several others joined Reboot01, tor at Reboot Coding Institute selection pool on February 18th, 2023 and more. Reboot01 is not as Hiring Partners, solidifying stated, "Hand-in-hand with key only shaping the future of tech Reboot01's position as the go-to stakeholders and government,

Building on its commitment ecosystem that ignites success tion. Apply online here. to Bahraini education, Reboot01 from day one. With Tamkeen's Fueling progress through a and the American University of invaluable support, approxi- ment, Reboot01 is undoubtedly shared vision, Reboot01 forged Bahrain (AUBH) joined forces mately 280 students are already a catalyst for progress, propelalliances with key industry play- in July 2023 enabling Reboot01 enrolled in our transformative ling the Kingdom towards a ers including BENEFIT, BIBF, graduates to seamlessly transfer 2-year program. Our unparal- brighter, tech-driven future.

leled focus on top-tier training and industry partnerships will create a talent pool like no other inline with Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030 and digital transformation goals."

Reboot01 will host two upcoming events titled 'An international career in Data Science and Machine learning' taking place on Wednesday, January 31st which will highlight the fundamentals of Data Science, in-demand key skill sets and expertise required, and the exciting potential of a data science career. The 2nd event titled "A Career in Cybersecurity," will take place on Tuesday, February 6th highlighting the field of Cybersecurity, exploring career paths, industry insights, and its future trajectory. Participants will engage in hands-on Critical Infrastructure protection activities, culminating in the launch of a Reboot Cyber Security stay updated.

Reboot is currently accepting Yanal Jallad, Managing Direc- applications for its upcoming 2024. Students can apply online and test their logic and memory we're building a tech talent through a unique game applica-

From education to empower-

ila Bank raises the bar: prizes totaling US\$2,670,000 in 2024

TDT | Manama

la Bank, Bahrain's leading digital, mobile only bank, has announced a new and exciting schedule of cash prizes to be won through its prize account, Al Kanz, in 2024. This year, Al Kanz will give away a total value of US\$2.67 million as cash prizes.



a total of US\$2.25 million as out of five lucky winners will each month for a period of one deposit must remain in the acmonthly and bumper bi-annual win a prize of US\$120,000 in year. The stakes will be the count until the end of the reten-

in each of the months of Febru- said, "We are delighted to be ary, April and June will win an able to give our customers the outright sum of US\$250,000, opportunity to win bigger and while the remaining four win- more exciting prizes in 2024 ners for these months will win through our innovative saving US\$10,000 each.

Focused on nurturing a pas-

The months of July - October All customers need to do will each see one winner be- is deposit into their Al Kanz ing rewarded with US\$50,000. account before the specified In November 2024, one lucky cut-off dates each month. Every winner will win US\$120,000 as BHD50 in the account is one Last year, ila customers won March and May, one customer monthly Salary of US\$10,000 chance to enter the draw. The

solution, Al Kanz."

Bapco Energies becomes region's first national energy company to publish transition finance framework



From left, Sunil Kaushal, CEO of Standard Chartered Africa and Middle East; Bill Winters, Group CEO of Standard Chartered; HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy; and Mark Thomas of Group CEO of Bapco Energies.

TDT | Manama

in Bahrain, has launched its porate Solutions. Bapco En-Framework will allow the Sustainability-Linked Financclimate action as pledged by advisor on. His Royal Highness Prince Bahrain, at COP26.

will also allow Bapco Ener- Framework here." gies to raise financing geared amongst others.

with Standard Chartered, across the region."

which acted as the Company's ESG advisor in the process. With Standard Chartered's ${f B}_{
m grated}$ energy company ceived a favourable Second leading the energy transition Party Opinion from ISS Cor-Transition Finance Frame- ergies was the first National work ("Framework"). The Energy Company to publish a Company to further its goals ing Framework launched in in line with Bahrain's com- July 2023, which Standard mitment to sustainability and Chartered also served as an

Mark Thomas, Group Chief Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Executive Officer, Bapco Enerthe Crown Prince and Prime gies said, "Every conversation Minister of the Kingdom of I've had so far at the World Economic Forum has included The Framework, published the need for urgent climate on the side lines of the World action, so it is fitting that we Economic Forum in Davos, launch our Transition Finance

Sunil Kaushal, Standard towards its transition pro- Chartered CEO, Africa and the jects for certain categories as Middle East said: "At Standard it endeavours to implement Chartered, we are commitits transition strategy. These ted to supporting our clients categories include Renewable across our dynamic footprint Energy, Carbon Capture and as they venture into the sus-Storage, No/Low Emissions tainable finance market to Fuels, and Energy Efficiency meet their ESG ambitions, and we hope this is the first The Framework was devel- of many similar frameworks oped in close collaboration that we support our clients on

Nissan Bahrain offers a diverse range of accessories for the Nissan Patrol



cash rewards.

2024; i.e., from January – June US\$10,000 each. 2024. In the months of January,

In an interesting twist, ila US\$10,000 for a period of one Prize for December, wherein after the last day to deposit. The Bank will reward not one, but year. The rest of the four win- one fortunate winner will win prize money will be credited five winners with cash prizes ners in these months will be a life changing amount of US\$ into the winners' accounts. The every month in the first half of awarded a one-time prize of 1 million.

the form of monthly Salary of highest for the Al Kanz Grand tion period, which is one month

Nada Tarada, Head of Busi- for deposits are available on ila-One mega prize winner picked ness & Customer at ila Bank bank.com/AlKanz.

prize schedule and cut-off dates

NBB Achieves Gold Accreditation from Investors in People

TDT | Manama

The National Balls of Fain (NBB) has successfully The National Bank of Bahachieved its Gold Accreditation from Investors in People (IIP) for the third consecutive year. The prestigious accreditation reflects the Bank's commitment to excellence in people management practices, and solidifies its position as a leading workplace.

Commenting on the occasion, Group Chief Human Resources Officer, Sarah Abdulaziz Jamal said: "We recognise the importance of investing in our human capital, and we strive to nurture the talent of our teams by driving their professional development and individual growth journeys."

Since receiving the accred-



itation, NBB has witnessed an ment and productivity, along- as an employer to recruit and increase in employee engage- side strengthening its position retain future industry leaders.

TDT | Manama

 $\mathbf{Y}^{ ext{.K. Almoayyed \& Sons, the}}_{ ext{sole distributor of Nissan}}$ Nissan Patrol comes in 2 engine types V6 4L 275HP and V8 ences of SUV enthusiasts.

door mirror cover, there is a enjoyable.

wide range of options available to cater to every individual's needs.

Vehicles in the Kingdom of 5.6L 400HP, both coming with Bahrain, is delighted to an- 7 Speed Automatic transmisnounce the availability of an sion. The high-quality mateextensive selection of captivat- rials used in these accessories ing genuine accessories that not only ensure durability but elevate both the aesthetics also contribute to the overall and performance of the Nissan sophistication of the vehicle. Patrol. From stylish exterior Some more accessories availupgrades to practical interior able for Nissan Patrol are iladditions, the Nissan Patrol luminated seat belt buckles, Genuine Accessories cater to moon roof, side window dethe diverse needs and prefer- flectors and 8inch Rear entertainment screen.

The accessories that are Furthermore, advanced available include rear mud- technology features integrate guards, bumper protectors and with the Nissan Patrol, making cargo organizers to chrome journeys more convenient and

QUOTE OF THE Day

AS MY KNOWLEDGE OF THINGS GREW I FELT MORE AND MORE THE DELIGHT OF THE WORLD I WAS IN HELEN KELLER

News in brief

 US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin yesterday made his first appearance since being hospitalised for complications from cancer treatment -- a stay he concealed from both the White House and Congress for several days. Austin, who was admitted to Walter Reed on January 1 and spent two weeks in the military

hospital, spoke via videolink from his residence at the opening of a meeting on aid for Ukraine's fight against invading Russian forces. "The security of the entire international community is on the line in Ukraine's fight. I am more determined than ever to **since secret** work with our allies and partners to support Ukraine hospitalisation and to get the job done." Austin said in front of a

Defense Department seal and small American and Ukrainian flags. He highlighted a \$250 million military assistance package that Washington announced last Republicans refusing to authorize more until President Joe Biden bows to their

UK's Sunak warns Huthis of more attacks



• Prime Minister Rishi Sunak warned Iranbacked Huthis that Britain would stage new military action if the Yemeni rebels keep attacking shipping in the Red Sea. "We are not seeking a confrontation," he told parliament hours after a second round of US-UK strikes. "We urge the Huthis and those who enable them to stop these illegal and unacceptable attacks. "But necessary, the United Kingdom will not hesitate to

Chinese

found in a grave in a small

cemeterv east of Odense, in

The inscription is a "note

"It gives us the opportunity

est known language in Scandi-

was, or wanted to be, some

discovered in 1865 and in-

to around the same period as

from the past", Bonde said.

research ship to

espond in self-defence. We cannot stand by and allow these attacks to go unchallenged," Sunak added. Royal Air Force jets struck two military sites just north of the Yemeni capital Sanaa,

"each containing multiple specific targets, which the Huthis used to support their attacks on shipping," Sunak said. He informed MPs that the government's initial evidence was that "all intended targets were destroyed".

The Maldives has granted permission for a make Maldives controversial Chinese vessel to make a resupply call **resupply call** but it will not undertake any "research", the Indian Ocean archipelago nation's foreign ministry said Tuesday. China's Xiang Yang Hong 3, which has been reportedly turned down port entry by Sri Lanka. is due to call at Male in early

February, according to ship monitoring website MarineTraffic. The vessel will "not be conducting any research while in the Maldivian waters", the foreign ministry said, following media reports from neighbouring India accusing Beijing of using the ship for "surveillance". The Maldives said the vessel would stop only for "a port call, for rotation of personnel and replenishment".

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Denmark's oldest writing found on 2,000-year-old knife



years AD, the iron knife was

AFP | Copenhagen, Denmark

 Λ rchaeologists in Denmark central Denmark. Ahave found a small knife The five runic letters spell inscribed with runic letters out the word "hirila", which in dating back almost 2,000 the Proto-Norse language spoyears, the oldest trace of writ- ken at the time means "small ing found in the country, the sword". Museum Odense said on Tues-

Runic letters, called runes, are the oldest alphabet known to look more into how the oldin Scandinavia.

They were in use from the navia developed ... (and) how first or second century AD in people interacted with each northern Europe until being other." replaced by the Latin alphabet Bonde said "the person who amid christianisation in the owned it wanted to show he 10th century.

"The knife itself is not re- kind of warrior." markable but on the blade The first traces of human there are five runes -- which settlements in what is now is extraordinary in itself -- but Denmark date back to the the age of the runes is even Stone Age, around 4,000 BC, more extraordinary because but there are no traces of any they actually are the oldest writing before the Roman Iron we have from Denmark," ar- Age (0 to 400 AD). chaeologist Jakob Bonde told A small comb made of bone AFP.

"We don't have any writing scribed with runes dates back before this," he said. Dating back to around 150 the knife, Bonde said.



US defence chief makes first appearance

month, but did not detail any new American aid, with funding having dried up and demands for measures to curb migration over the Mexican border.

immediately respond when asked centre of fighting between Hamas West Bank

operations" on Monday.

AFP | Palestinian Territories

he health ministry in Ha-

directly at a hospital in the south-

ern city of Khan Yunis, where

civilians are caught amid heavy

on the upper floors of the spe-

cialised surgery building and

the emergency building of Nas-

ser hospital, dozens expected

wounded," a ministry statement

said. The Israeli military did not

"Israeli tanks are firing heavily

fighting.

mas-run Gaza said vester-

L day the Israeli army fired

Pakistani father kills son over political party flag

AFP | Peshawar, Pakistan

A father killed his son after the pair disagreed about which political party flag to

The argument broke out Naseer Farid. at the family home on the out- the hospital. skirts of Peshawar in Khyber Police are searching for the Pakhtunkhwa province.

at home, but the son refused played their flag.

PTI," said district police official

Norway's King Harald, 86, rules out abdication

AFP | Oslo, Norway

Norway's frail 86-year-old King Harald has no plans to abdicate, he reiterated yesterday in his first public remarks since the surprise decision by Denmark's Queen Margrethe to stand down.

"I stick by what I've always said, that I swore an oath to the Storting (parliament) and it is for life," said Harald, Europe's oldest monarch, quoted by Norwegian media.

He was speaking at a visit to a Norwegian press centre in King Harald Oslo, accompanied by his son Danes when she announced Crown Prince Haakon.

The king, who has been on that she would abdicate in fathe throne for 33 years, will vour of her eldest son Fredturn 87 on February 21.

and advanced age have led crutches, has in recent years commentators to speculate undergone heart surgery and about the possibility that Har- been hospitalised for respiraald may follow in the footsteps tory issues and infections. Harof his 83-year-old distant cous- ald, who walks with crutches, in Margrethe.

that she would never step talised for respiratory issues down, Margrethe stunned and infections.



in her New Year's Eve address erik

His mounting health issues Harald, who walks with has in recent years undergone After repeatedly insisting heart surgery and been hospi-



by AFP about firing at the hospital. Mohammed Husseti (R) looks on as relatives and friends gather around the body of Khan Yunis has become the epi- his son 16-year-old Yamen is laid for ahead of his funeral in Arraba in the occupied

and Israeli soldiers, who have injured during intense fighting terday the "indescribable pain" in pressed south over nearly three around our the shelter," UNRWA Gaza where the death toll "climbs months of their ground offensive. chief Philippe Lazzarini wrote relentlessly".

The United Nations agency for Tuesday on X, formerly Twitter. "In Khan Yunis, fighting es-Palestinian refugees said one of its As Israeli troops press on, more calates, destroying civilian ar-Khan Yunis, which abuts the OCHA wrote on X.

overshoots India runwav

12 injured as Myanmar military plane

Indian security personnel inspecting a Burmese Army plane after it skidded

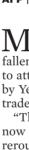
Netanyahu under pressure over Israel troop losses, hostages

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Drime Minister Benjamin Ne- diers were trying to blow up, was L tanyahu faces a mounting deemed a "disaster" by Netancrisis after Israel's worst day of yahu. troop losses in the Gaza war as Emmanuel Navon, a lecturer at well as growing protests over his Tel Aviv University, told AFP the failure to bring hostages back. troop losses "affect everybody, The military's strategy in the because almost everybody in the Palestinian territory is under country has a son or brother or a ntense scrutiny following the relative (fighting in Gaza)".

death of 24 troops on Monday, Israelis would now be increas-Israel's biggest one-day loss ingly asking "what is the stratsince its ground offensive in Gaza egy... Do we really keep going started in late October. until we finish Hamas?", he add-Among those killed were 21 ed. "The current mood in the reservists, who died in a single war cabinet is very bad," said Julia Elad-Strenger, a lecturer at incident. The incident, which saw rock- Bar-Ilan University near Tel Aviv.

Khan Yunis shelters for displaced than a million people are now eas and claiming lives. Attacks Gaza, mostly women and chil- October 7 attacks, which resulted people "was hit during military crammed into Rafah, south of on health care continue to rise," dren, according to the latest in the deaths of about 1,140 people toll from the Hamas-run Gaza's in Israel, mostly civilians, accord-"At least six displaced peo- Egyptian frontier. The UN hu- At least 25,490 people have health ministry. The war broke ing to an AFP tally based on Israeli ple were killed and many more manitarian agency described ves- been killed during hostilities in out with Hamas's upprecedented official figures.



off the runway at Lengpui Airport in India's northeastern state of Mizoram. injured, "four are stated to be serious," added the official, welve people were injured who requested anonymity as **L** Tuesday when a Myan- they were not authorised to mar military plane overshot speak to the media. Footage of the crash's after-

dia to collect soldiers who had math aired by local broadcastfled armed insurgents fighting ers showed the bent fuselage of the transport plane, which The Chinese-made Shaanxi had cut a swath through tall Y-8 turboprop skidded off the grass after sliding down an emtarmac shortly before midday bankment.

at Lengpui, the main airport of The crash was caused by India's Mizoram state. An Air- "sudden engine failure" while port Authority of India (AAI) landing at the airport, Myanofficial at Lengpui told AFP mar's junta said in a statement. that the flight was collecting It said eight crew members 92 soldiers who had crossed were injured and receiving into India from neighbouring medical treatment, without Myanmar last week. Of the 12 giving details.

Around 245,000 Holocaust survivors alive: study

ulation"

ference said.

AFP | Berlin, Germany

AFP | Guwahati, India

their country's junta.

a runway while landing in In-

N early 80 years after the end of World War II, there are still about 245,000 Holocaust survivors alive across more than 90 countries, a study showed yesterday.

According to the Claims Conference, an organisation that seeks damages for Holocaust survivors, 119,300 of them live in Israel, 38,400 in the United States, 21,900 in France and 14,200 in Germany.

"Nearly all of the current population of survivors were children at the time of Nazi persecution, having survived camps, ghettos, flight and living in hiding," said Holocaust survivor Margot Friedlander takes a seat for a memorial event to honour dren had the "slimmest chances Bundestag in Berlin



the report, underlining that chil-the late politician Wolfgang Schaeuble at the German lower house of parliament



display in the lead-up to Pakistan's general election, police to take it down and abandon said

"The father prohibited his the nationalist Awami National son from hoisting the PTI flag Party and had previously dis-

when the son, who recently "The argument escalated returned from working in Qa- and in a fit of anger, the father tar, hoisted the flag of former fired a pistol at his 31-year-old prime minister Imran Khan's son, before fleeing the house." Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party The son died on the way to

father, who was affiliated with

TODAY IN HISTORY



James Marshall finds gold in Sut-

ter's Mill in Coloma, California

University of Calcutta founded as the first full-fledged university in South Asia

Rubber heel for boots or shoes patented by American Humphrey

O'Sullivan

Israeli tanks fire on Gaza hospital

et-propelled grenade fire hit a tank and two buildings the sol-

EU says Huthi attacks cause 22% drop in Red Sea traffic

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

aritime traffic through the Martine traine t fallen by 22 percent in a month due to attacks on international vessels by Yemen's Huthi rebels, the EU's trade commissioner said yesterday. "That decrease should be bigger now that shipping companies are rerouting their vessels around the Cape of Good Hope," Valdis Dombrovskis told journalists.

The Red Sea is vital for international, and particularly European, trade, with Dombrovskis saving that up to 15 percent of global maritime traffic usually passes through the route.

"The broader economic impact, impact on consumer prices and the EU economy in general, will depend very much on the length of this crisis," Dombrovskis said.

The United States and Britain have launched repeated strikes against the Huthi's capabilities in Yemen, but so far the rebels have retained the ability to hit

vessels.

EU top diplomat says Israel can't 'have veto' on Palestinian state

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

T U foreign affairs chief Josep **E**Borrell yesterday said that Israel cannot be allowed to unilaterally block the creation of a Palestinian state after the war in Gaza.

"One thing is clear -- Israel cannot have the veto right to the self-determination of the Palestinian people," Borrell told a Brussels press conference with his Egyptian counterpart.

"The United Nations recognises and has recognised many times the self-determination right of the Palestinian people. Nobody can veto it."

The comments come after Borrell on Monday chaired Authority and key Arab states. "imposed" on Israel. Borrell has floated a roadmap



Security officers look at red paint spiled on the road by protestors to symbolise the blood of the Israeli hostages held in Gaza

talks between the EU's 27 for- involving an international con- Sameh Shoukry said there is tance is not allowed in. eign ministers and the top diplo- ference on a two-state solution "an international consensus on mats from Israel, the Palestinian and has said peace needs to be the necessity of resolving the Gaza unliveable in itself will conflict on the basis of a two induce displacements," he Egyptian Foreign Minister state solution"

NATO signs \$1.2-bn

artillery shell deal

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

"It is time to implement it and he international community has the means, has the resources, has the mechanisms to do so." he said

Israeli Prime Minister Benamin Netanyahu has drawn condemnation from the United Nations and defied key backer the United States by rejecting calls for a Palestinian state.

Israel insists it is focused on its military operation in Gaza aimed at destroying Islamist movement Hamas and freeing hostages captured in the October 7 attack.

Shoukry warned that displacement of Gaza's population from the territory "will occur" if adequate humanitarian assis-

"Making the conditions in warned

3 dead, dozens injured in major earthquake on China-Kyrgyzstan

border AFP | Almaty, Kazakhstan

Three people were killed **L** and dozens injured after a 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck along the mountainous China-Kyrgyzstan border yesterday, authorities said.

The major quake was registered just after 2:00 am (1800 GMT Monday) at a depth of 13 kilometres in China's Xinjiang region, about 140 kilometres (85 miles) west of the city of Aksu.

Local authorities dispatched a team to the quake's epicentre, Beijing's Xinhua state news agency said, while around 800 people were on standby for any large disaster relief mission. The earthquake caused three deaths, while five other people sustained injuries, Chinese state broadcaster CCTV reported Tuesday evening.

CCTV added that "12,426 people in the disaster area have been relocated" as rescue and relief efforts continue.

The health ministry in Kazakhstan said earlier that 44 people suffering "various" injuries had sought medical help in Almaty, the country's largest city.

Images posted on social media and by local news outlets showed citizens streaming outside following the quake. Video circulating on Chinese social media showed household appliances crashing to the floor as wild shaking rocked homes

Local TV channels in the Indian capital New Delhi reported strong tremors in the city, about 1,400 kilometres away.



Government of India has decided to confer the Bharat Ratna on the beacon of social justice, the great Jan Nayak Karpoori Thakur Ji and that too at a time when we are marking his birth centenary. This prestigious recognition is a testament to his enduring efforts as a champion for the marginalized and a stalwart of equality and empowerment. @narendramodi



Dr Saia Ma'u Piuka-la, congratulations on your appointment as @WHOWPRO Regional Director. This is a great privilege, but at the same time, a very great responsibility.





We cannot stand by and allow unacceptable and illegal attacks in the Red Sea to go unchallenged. I urge the Houthis to stop such attacks. The UK will not hesitate to respond again to protect innocent lives and preserve the freedom of navigation. **@**RishiSunak



Droductive meeting **L** today with President @AOuattara_PRCI and Foreign Minister Adom to discuss how the U.S. is delivering on commitments made during the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit and advancing our growing partnership. @SecBlinken

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

Famine risk rising in Gaza: UN



A Palestinian youth uses alcohol gel as fuel to prepare food in Gaza City **AFP** | Geneva, Switzerland insecurity

The population of the Gaza since, said Etefa, speaking by L Strip faces an increasing video link froom Cairo. risk of famine as the Isra- "More than half a million el-Hamas war drags on, the people in Gaza are facing cata-UN's World Food Programme strophic food insecurity levels

warned vesterday and the risk of famine increas-"The situation in Gaza is es each day." of course slipping every day Etefa said that even with the into a much more catastroph- long years of conflict in places ic situation," with "a looming like Syria, Yemen and Sudan, threat of famine", Abeer Ete- "we haven't seen that high a fa. the WFP's senior Middle level of the number of people East spokeswoman told a press in these conditions in such a short span of time".

briefing A study conducted between She recalled that Gaza now November 24 and December 7 has "the largest concentration found that all 2.2 million peo- of people in what looks like ple in the Palestinian territory famine-like conditions anywere in a crisis level of food where in the world".

of surviving". With a median age

of 86 now, they are "at a period

of life where their need for care

and services is growing," said

Gideon Taylor, president of the

Claims Conference, adding that

it was "time to double down on

our attention to this waning pop-

The report is the most compre-

hensive in recent years, drawing

on "an unprecedented worldwide

database of survivors", the con-

Founded in 1951, the Claims

Conference has been the main

organisation seeking damages

or Holocaust survivors, and was

a signatory to the Luxembourg

Agreement under which West

Germany assumed responsibility

(0)

The Holocaust was the genocide of European Jews during World War II. Between 1941 and 1945, Nazi Germany and its collaborators systematically murdered some six million Jews across German-occupied Europe, around two-thirds of Eu-

Holocaust.

group. rope's Jewish population.

for Nazi atrocities and paid rep-

Since then, Germany has paid

Some survivors -- such as those pavouts.

N contracts worth \$1.2 billion to acquire over 200,000 155-millimetre artillery shells in the face of Russia's invasion on Ukraine. Members of the Western military alliance have

TATO yesterday signed

drained their stocks sending shipments of heavy ammunition to help Ukraine's forces battle Russia.

defence production and has since inked joint procure-

arations The signing of the accord by

West Germany was widely seen as its first major step back into the community of nations after World War II in which six million Jews were murdered in the

more than \$90 billion as a result of negotiations with the Claims Conference, according to the

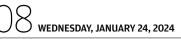
incarcerated in concentration camps -- remain eligible for ongoing payments, while others -including those who fled from the Nazi regime -- get one-off

The picture has deteriorated

with French firm Nexter and Germany's Junghans Microtec -- are estimated to cover around 220,000 shells and deliveries to NATO members will start at the end of 2025. "It is important that our allies refill their own stocks as we continue to support Ukraine," NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg said. The US-led alliance last year launched a plan to bolster

ment contracts for ammunition worth some \$10 billion.

The latest deals -- signed



Jay-Z open to Super Bowl gig in future



Jay-Z **Celebretainment** | Los Angeles

Jay-Z is open to headlin-ing the Super Bowl halftime show in the future.

The '99 Problems' hitmaker and his company Roc Nation became the NFL's live music entertainment strategists in 2019 but he admitted he thought it would be "selfish" to book himself as one of the acts performing during the showpiece game, though enough time has now passed that he'd consider taking the prestigious gig.

He told 'Entertainment Tonight': "To get on stage for the Super Bowl halftime show? I don't know. I thought it would be selfish to pick myself too early, but maybe one year."

Next month, Usher will headline the segment and Jay is confident the 'Confessions' hitmaker has what it takes to pull off a great show.

He said: "He gonna take his rightful place. He's one of the greatest performers that we've seen in our time and I think he'll take his rightful place."

Usher - who joined Black Eyed Peas on stage during their 2011 Super Bowl gig previously admitted he had been waiting some time to get the call to headline the sporting show.

Jamie Foxx 'looks fantastic' after returning to movie set

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

 $\mathbf{J}_{ ext{fantastic"}}^{ ext{amie Foxx "looks and feels}}$ health scare in 2023.

The 56-year-old actor recently returned to filming 'Back in Action', his upcoming Netflix ject completed. movie, and Jamie is now said to be doing "so well".

A source told PEOPLE: "Jamie and loves his is indeed back on set and shoot- work. He will ing through February. He looks finish this and feels fantastic."

Jamie is fully committed to the new film, which also fea- 2 0 2 3, tures Cameron Diaz.

The insider added: "They daughter tried to finish the movie with a Corinne stunt double but it didn't come announced out right so Jamie is going to do that her all of the parts now.

"He is doing so well." Despite his high-profile a medical

Despite his high-profile health struggles, Jamie has always been determined to complete 'Back in Action'

health struggles, Jamie has al- my father, Jamie Foxx, experiways been determined to complete 'Back in Action'.

Another source said: "For Jamie, the show must go on and he has always been eager to see this pro-

"Jamie is super talented film.

In April Jamie's dad was suffering from complica-

tion. In a statement written on behalf of her family, Corinne explained: "We wanted to share that Jamie Foxx

enced a medical complication yesterday.

"Luckily, due to quick action and great care, he is already on his way to recovery. We know how beloved he is and appreciate your prayers. The family asks for privacy during this time." Meanwhile,

in May 2023, Jamie took to social media to thank his fans for their support.

The Hollywood star wrote on Instagram: "Appreciate all the love!!! Feeling blessed [prayer and heart emojis] (sic)"

Corinne, 29, also shared the message on her own Instagram page.

She captioned the post: "Thanks for the love!"

Tom Holland and Zendaya love 'reliving' their youth' with old Spider-Man screenings

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

om Holland and Zendaya love watching their younger selves in 'Spider-Man: Homecoming'.

xxxxxx The 27-year-old actor and his girlfriend enjoy taking a trip down memory lane to marvel at their "youth" in the 2017 blockbuster, but he admitted he has to ration how often he screens his superhero shenanegans because he enjoys them so much.

He told 'Extra': "Zendaya and I will, every now and then,

And though Tom hasn't seen 'The Crowded Room' since it aired on AppleTV+ last year, he was thankful Zendaya offered him so much support while he was working on the show.

He said: "She watched this series with me while we were editing it – I would send her episodes and asked her what she thought, so she definitely has seen it more times than I would have expected her to see it... When it aired, I was proud of the show... I didn't watch it."

The British actor

Ryan Gosling hasn't let his daughters watch Barbie yet

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Ryan Gosling still hasn't saying at first, 'Hey, can we go let his daughters watch to Target?' 'Barbie'

played Ken in the blockbuster Barbie aisle. And my wife and I which starred Margot Robbie as the iconic Mattel doll - admitted he isn't sure when he and his wife Eva Mendes will let Esmerelda, nine, and Amada, seven, watch the hit film.

Speaking to E! News, he said: "I don't know if you should watch your father as Ken.

"I don't know what age is a good age to see your father do that. It gets pretty crazy."

His daughters did get a peak at the movie when they visited him on set during filming though.

He added: "They've seen little parts of it and they came to set one day when I did a big musical number."

Ryan was actually inspired by his young girls to take on the role, seeing then movie as "a way to sort of make something both for and with them".

He explained: "I knew that they loved it because they kept

"And we go to Target, and The 43-year-old actor - who then they'd slowly go by the sort of realised, 'OK, I think it's time to let them have Barbies. "And no interest in Ken, which was pretty interesting,

too.' Despite his kids' keen interest, Ryan previously admitted he actually had some concerns

over taking the role. However, he ultimately trusted in the vision Margot

and director Greta Gerwig had for the picture.

Speaking last summer, he told The New York Times newspaper: "I mean, in fairness, I doubted what I've come to understand as 'Ken-

ergy.' "But at the

end of the day, I trust Margot and Greta. They have such a clear vision for this that I decided to just Ken as hard as I could."

Ryan Gosling

Dua Lipa reveals she has quit smoking for good

Celebretainment | Los Angeles from laryngitis in December

ua Lipa has quit smoking. The 27-year-old pop star had only initially managed to kick the habit for her 'Future Nostalgia' tour in 2022

2021, she felt the need to quit for the sake of her tour and later gushed about how much "confidence" quitting had given her

Speaking on her 'At Your in order to make sure her Service' podcast, she revealed: vocal health was at its best "I had laryngitis in December but has now revealed that and that kind of kickstarted she has stopped alto- me quitting smoking a month earlier than I was supposed to. Speaking on 'Late But I did it and I have stuck to Night With Seth it. I feel so excited and there is -Meyers', she said: "I a lot of adrenaline – and somewas smoking -ciga- times I don't feel confident



He told Zane Lowe on Apple Music 1: "I think being able to see performances from artists like Michael [Jackson], you know, eventually Prince, and then even more modern-day artists... I was like, 'Man, at some point I need to get a call with what's going on now.'

"But I'm really happy that I'm joining that short list of legacy artists from my genre who deserve this moment.

watch 'Spider-Man 1' and remimovies, and I love savouring those moments, so I try not to watch them as often as I would

special. It's such a luxury, such a gift to be able to sit down and sort of relive your youth.

"I wouldn't be the man I am today without that job."

Tom believes he is his own "best critic" but though he will

9

pty boxes in such s, each column are contains all

Tom Holland and Zendava

nisce about being 19 and making watch himself back and think Best Actor in a Limthose movies again. I love those he could have done better, the ited Series or Movie Crowded Room' actor doens't worry too much.

He said: "I definitely watch Choice Awards on maybe like to because it's so my stuff. I sometimes think I am my best critic. I really, like, though he lost out to know what it is that I can do, and sometimes I will see something and go, 'Damn! I could to make the shortlist. have pushed more there.' Really, once something has come out, I kind of leave it to bed.

was nominated for Made for Television at the Critics Sunday (14.01.24) and 'Beef' star Steven Yeun,

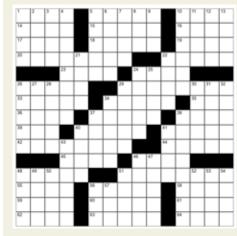
Tom was just "honoured" He said: "I feel great. I feel honoured to represent the show."

gether.

rettes at the time... at all. But I've stopped.

"There are moments when I've quit, guys." I am on stage every night and, It is not clear yeah I am quite exposed, and exactly when the I am dancing and performing 'Houdini' hit- and I feel like I have to work maker began out and stay really healthy in smoking but order to feel good about myafter suffering self. Dua Lipa

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Down

1 Frat party purchases; 2- Monogram Itr.; 3- Book before Nehemiah; 4- Like some ash; 5- Herring type; 6- Track tipsters; 7- Estimator's phrase; 8- Authorizes; 9- Bleaching agent; 10- Conductor Toscanini; 11- Actor Connery; 12- Cozy; 13- Carry; 21- Pull an all-nighter; 22- Fine and delicate; 24- Fads; 25- Energy units; 26- Allow to enter; 27- Get to; 28- Result: 29- Atari founder Bushnell; 30- Mortise insert; 31- Dome home; 32- In a shy way; 34- Capital city of Yemen; 37- Split; 38- Pertaining to birds; 40- __ arms (angry); 41- "James and the Giant Peach" author; 43- Dark suit; 46- Pluck; 47- Lets up; 48- School orgs; 49- Psyche's love; 50- Hustles; 51- Complain; 52- Emilia's husband; 53- Queue before Q; 54- I could __ horse!; Downcast; 57- Guido's high note;

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Brilliant Embiid scores 70 as Sixers down Spurs



Messi, Miami beaten by Dallas in pre-season friendly

AFP | Miami

ionel Messi and Inter Mi-⊿ami slumped to a 1-0 defeat against FC Dallas in a pre-season friendly on Monday before the team set off on a hectic international tour.



shot into the bottom corner past goalkeeper Drake Callender.

Monday's game was the second in a globe-trotting schedule of pre-season friendlies for Miami as they prepare to kick off the new MLS season against Real Salt Lake on February 21. Following Monday's game, the Florida club head to Saudi Arabia for a fixture against Al-Hilal on January 29, and then face Al-Nassr on February 1 -- a game that should see Messi line up against old rival Cristiano Ronaldo once more. Miami then travel to Asia to play friendlies against a Hong Kong select team in the Chinese territory on February 4, before taking on Japanese side Vissel Kobe in Tokyo three days later. The Herons return to the United States for a final pre-season game against Argentine

Philadelphia 76ers Joel Embiid shields the ball from San Antonio players

AFP | Los Angeles

Joel Emblid became only more period. The ninth player in NBA joining Wilt Chamberlain, Dahistory to score 70 points or vid Robinson, David Thompmore in a single game as the son, Elgin Baylor, Kobe Bry-Philadelphia 76ers defeated ant, Donovan Mitchell, Devin the San Antonio Spurs 133-123 Booker and Damian Lillard. on Monday.

formance from the reigning to his "extremely unselfish" NBA Most Valuable Player led team-mates." I was hot and the way to victory for the Six- they just gave me the ball and ers and upstaged an impressive made sure they put me in the 33-point showing from Spurs best positions. rookie Victor Wembanyama.

Embiid finished with 70 points, 18 rebounds and five amazing people." assists, shooting 24-of-41 from the field and making 21-of-23 free throws.

franchise-record effort vaulted players to crack double figures.

him into an elite band of NBA stars who have posted 70 or oel Embiid became only more points in a single game,

"It feels good," Embiid said A sensational individual per- after the win, paying tribute

"Credit to the coaching staff too - I'm just surrounded by

Tyrese Maxey added 18 points for the Sixers while Tobias Harris finished with 14 The Cameroonian star's -- the only other Philadelphia

After a lacklustre 0-0 draw against El Salvador on Friday, Miami delivered another performance to forget in wet, cold conditions at the Cotton Bowl Stadium.

Argentine superstar Messi and former Barcelona teammates Luis Suarez and Sergio Busquets were all substituted after 64 minutes with Miami trailing 1-0.

Messi created a handful of openings during his stint on ond half.

Lionel Messi #10 of Inter Miami CF battles against Paul Arriola #7 of FC Dallas

The World Cup-winner althe pitch, with his best effort a most created an opening goal lead through Jesus Ferreira afrasping 30-yard volley that was for Suarez in the first half, but ter just three minutes, the US parried by Dallas goalkeeper the Uruguayan's volley with the international striker holding Maarten Paes early in the sec- outside of his right boot rolled off Miami defender Noah Al- squad Newell's Old Boys on wide.

Dallas, meanwhile, took the len before drilling a low angled February 15.

Maxwell under investigation by Cricket Australia

AFP | Adelaide

▶ lenn Maxwell is being inves-Utigated by Cricket Australia, hospital, after attending a cona spokesperson said yesterday, cert last Friday of the band Six & after the star allrounder was re- Out, made up of former cricket portedly hospitalised following greats including Brett Lee. a night out.

The governing body wants of an incident involving Glenn to quiz the 35-year-old about a Maxwell in Adelaide at the Glenn Maxwell reacts during a match

recent incident in Adelaide. According to Australian media outlets, Maxwell was taken to

"Cricket Australia is aware

weekend and is seeking further information," said a spokesperson

Maxwell has been stood down for the upcoming 50-overs series against the West Indies early next month, but Cricket Australia insist the decision is not linked to the incident in Adelaide.

HH Shaikh Isa visits coaches' training programme

TDT | Manama

≺abinet Affairs undersecretary and Bahrain Olympic Commit- cussed all aspects of the programme, tee (BOC) vice-president His High- which includes coaches who have ness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa passed the first three levels. Al Khalifa attended the fourth level course of the National Coaches Pro- keenness to attract top-level coaches gramme-the highest organised by from around the world and develthe Bahrain Olympic Academy (BOA) op technical sporting professionals in cooperation with the Coaching while benefiting from advanced ex-Association of Canada.

HH Shaikh Isa met with lectur- experience. er Garrett Blakey, who is the head [^] HH Shaikh Isa also met with othstrength coach of the Canadian men's er lecturers and the students and national basketball team and advisor wished everyone further progress to several National Basketball Asso- and success.

ciation teams, in the presence of BOA director Dr Nabeel Taha.

HH Shaikh Isa and Blakey dis-

HH Shaikh Isa stressed the BOC's periences, including the Canadian



HH Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa with lecturers and coaches at a session

Ettihad edge past Hala

Cleanthony Early scores 29 points to lift victors in Top Six game of 2023/2024 Zain Bahrain Basketball League

Mohammed **Kowaved contributes** 18 points coming off the bench for Ettihad

Alex Young pours in game-high 30, with four triples, for Hala in losing effort

TDT | Manama

l Ettihad posted a hardearned 94-88 victory over Al Hala last night to make a winning start to the Top Six round in the 2023/2024 Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

Ettihad made the key plays down the stretch to help lift them in the tightly contested affair. Cleanthony Early came up big in that period, breaking a late deadlock from the charity stripe to give his team the lead for good. The American profes-29 points while also grabbing 12 to make a block





Cleanthony Early made some key plays down the stretch, including sinking two free-throws that gave Ettihad the lead for good and an ensuing steal and lay-up for a four-point cushion

rebounds and registering four steals in the full 40 minutes of work

Both teams headed into yesterday's fixture amongst the top clubs during the regular season, with each finishing on identical 7-3 win-loss records.

nama had beaten Al Naima 96-78 a free-throw to tie the proceedvictory

sors and took a 25-19 lead at the remaining. end of the first quarter. Hala kept things close before the half, but a Mohammed Kowayed layup put Ettihad up 48-42 heading to get them back to within two. into the interval.

Unanswered

In the third the two sides Abbas turnover that virtually continued to trade jabs and sealed the contest, and then Ku-Hala were able to get to within a single point, but Ettihad replied with eight unanswered five seconds on the clock. points for 67-58 advantage, although Hala reduced the deficit to 65-70 heading into the final and also had five assists, while stanza

and Alex Young gave them a one-point lead, 76-75, with just lay 10 with seven assists in the over seven minutes to play. Tyrone Nash then scored in the With the result, Ettihad joined paint to extend their cushion game-high 30, including four defending champions Manama to three, but Ettihad eventually three-pointers, in the losing efand Muharraq as winners of came alive in the closing min- fort. Nash added 15 points and 14 game day one in this stage. Ma- utes. After Ahmed Khalifa sank boards, while Khalifa scored 14.

in their game, while Muharraq ings at 83-all, Early sank his goovercame a tough challenge ahead charity shots and then had from Al Ahli in a narrow 92-88 a steal right after, resulting in a lay-up that put Ettihad ahead 87-Ettihad were the early aggres- 83 with a little over two minutes

Jordan Washington later had a three-point play that made it 90-86, but Hala's Nash replied

But Mohammed Buallay scored on with a fast-break layup following a crucial Hassan wayed pegged the final score with two more free-throws and

Kowayed contributed 18 points coming off the bench Washington scored 15 and took There, Hala did not go away down 13 rebounds. Hussain Mohammed added 12 and Bualwin.

Young finished with a

Djokovic, Sabalenka make Australian Open semis in title defence

AFP | Melbourne

op seed Novak Djokovic bat-T tled past Taylor Fritz into an 11th Australian Open semi-final and a record-extending 48th at Grand Slams yesterday, but a rampant Aryna Sabalenka had a much easier ride.

The Serbian superstar came through a probing test on Rod Laver Arena against the 12th-seeded American 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 to keep his bid for an unprecedented 25th major crown on track.

Djokovic almost always gets the evening slot on centre court, but was bumped to the afternoon on a day on which temperatures soared to 32 degrees probably midway through the fellow defending champion Saand the world number one admitted it was tough going.

adding that he "suffered a lot" in the first two sets.

court," he said.

"I think I upped my game



Serbia's Novak Djokovic (L) shakes hands with USA's Taylor Fritz

Celsius (90 degrees Fahrenheit) third set all the way to the end." balenka was off court in just 71

ther Italian fourth seed Jannik Barbora Krejcikova 6-2, 6-3 with en of her previous Grand Slam "Physically and emotionally Sinner or Russian fifth seed minimum fuss. very draining," he said after the Andrey Rublev next, with the three hour and 45 minute epic, omens not good for either man. Coco Gauff next in a replay of Krejcikova, the 2021 French ous semi-finals he has played at the American teenager won in "He was serving well, staying Melbourne Park, stretching back three sets. close to the line and kind of suf- to his first title in 2008 and is on focating me from the back of the a 33-match unbeaten streak on be the underdog after taking the blue hardcourts.

The 36-year-old will face ei- minutes, crushing ninth seed

Djokovic has won all 10 previ- last year's US Open final that Open champion.

On current form, Gauff will strokes unstoppable.

Physically and emotionally very draining. He was serving well, staying close to the line and kind of suffocating me from the back of the court. I think I upped my game probably midway through the third set all the way to the end

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

styuk 7-6 (8/6), 6-7 (3/7), 6-2 in a scrappy affair.

Great tennis

Sabalenka had won all sevatmosphere. I have the best support here." quarter-finals, and wasted little She will face fourth seed timelaying down the law against par against Kostyuk, giving her- more agitated in the deciding self only a 'C' rating.

set, with her booming ground- even better," she said.

more than three hours to down I just hope I can keep playing ican, who had never progressed title-winning exploits at Flush-In contrast to his long slog, unseeded Ukrainian Marta Ko- this way," said the 25-year-old beyond the fourth round at Mel- ing Meadows.



"Hopefully got the bad match

Sabalenka.

bourne Park in four previous attempts.

The low standard was not confined to Gauff, with the pair making a staggering 107 unforced errors between them - there were 16 service breaks.

Kostyuk rued missing her chances, letting slip a 5-1 lead and squandering set points in the first set, but said she was proud of how she fought.

"Very proud of myself. I won for myself today, and I think it's the most important thing," said the 21-year-old, who has been vocal at the tournament about keeping people's focus on the conflict in her homeland.

Gauff also faltered at crunch "I mean, it's all because of the moments, broken when serving for the match in the ninth game of the second set, before keep-Gauff admitted she was below ing her cool as Kostyuk became set.

It extended her winning She broke three times in each out of the way and I can play streak this year to 10 matches after she won at Auckland in the "Really proud of the fight I lead-up, and her unbeaten run "I played really great tennis, showed today," added the Amer- at Grand Slams to 12 after her

THE **TRIBUM**

Bahrain fall to Japan

Kingdom's senior men's national handball team to play for bronze medals in 21st Asian Men's Handball Championship

Asumi Kitazume scores go-ahead goal for 18-17 lead and five minutes to play

Title-holders Qatar book seventh straight final berth with 33-26 win over Kuwait

Saudi Arabia win Martyr Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah Cup after beating China

TDT | Manama

ahrain's quest to capture their first-ever senior Continental title came to a screeching halt last night, bowing to Japan 17-20 in the currently being hosted by the Kingdom.

The nationals had a narrow were held to just six goals in Japanese defence.

then Taiga Tsutaya had back-to- free of charge. Today is a rest back conversions to peg the final day. score and book Japan's berth in the gold medal game.



Bahrain's Hussain Al Sayyad is stopped by Japan's Asumi Kitazume during their ame last night

semi-finals of the 21st Asian time defending champions Qa-Men's Handball Championship, tar, who defeated Gulf rivals Ku-vice-president His Highness wait 33-26 in yesterday's other contest in the last four.

The Bahrainis will face off two-goal lead at the break, but with the Kuwaitis for the bronze. Askar, and Bahrain Handball the second half by a suffocating place at 6.30pm tomorrow at member Ali Issa. Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa A goal from Asumi Kitazume Town. The bronze medal clash much of the opening half but

There, they will take on five- Affairs undersecretary and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, General Sports Authority CEO Dr Abdulrahman The final is scheduled to take Association president and BOC

Bahrain were in control for Abdulhussain helped them preserve a four-goal cushion early In attendance in Bahrain's on with successive saves, but the tied the game at 17-all with just match last night were Cabinet nationals could not take advan- under 10 minutes to play.



Saudi Arabia players with the Martyr Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah Cup

tage and extend their lead. deficit

11-apiece. Things stayed close and later two penalties from Moanother conversion from skipper Hussain Al Sayyad, put the Bahrainis up 16-14.

Fightback

effort from the seven-metre line, followed by a Shin Izumoto goal,

Following an Ali Mirza strike, Conversions from Mujtaba Al Bahrain's Ahmed Almaqabi suf-Zaimour and Ahmed Kadhem on fered a knock and needed to be a fast-break put them ahead 11-7, taken off the court on a stretcher. but the Japanese scored twice Mirza then had his shot saved before the interval to reduce the on a golden opportunity to take the lead on a fast-break, and the After the restart, Japan were Japanese made the hosts pay as

quick to tie the proceedings at Kitazume converted on the other end with the go-ahead goal. Sakai made another save, hammed Habib Ahmed, plus this time on Al Sayyad, and the Bahrainis were unable to add to their score the rest of the way, setting the stage for Tsutaya's

game-ending conversion. In Qatar's win last night, they Japan then fought back and began to pull away in the latter broke a 17-all deadlock with just will be held at 4pm. All are wel- only took an 11-9 lead at the in- a key save by Japan goalkeeper part of the first half, going up over five minutes remaining, and come to attend with entrance terval. Goalkeeper Mohammed Motoki Sakai on another Ahmed 14-9 on a Zarko Markovic effort. The Qataris led 17-11 at the half. They maintained their fine play over the final 30 minutes, when they stretched their advantage the Best Player of the Game.



Japan and Qatar face off for the gold medals tomorrow at 6.30pm at Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town. Bahrain will take on Kuwait for the bronze medals at 4pm

to as many as eight goals.

Frankis Marzo finished as the leading scorer for the victors with seven goals and was later named Best Player of the Game. Ahmad Madadi added five, while four players finished with

three goals each, including Rafael Capote, Abdulrazzag Murad. Amine Guehis and Moustafa Heiba

Saleh Ali had seven for the Kuwaitis, while Abdulaziz Salmeen and Abdulaziz Alshammari each finished with four goals.

Also yesterday, Saudi Arabia beat China 25-21 to claim the Martyr Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah Cup-the prize for the ninth-placed squad overall in the tournament. The Saudis led 14-12 at the half.

Mojtaba Al Salem was named

Dar Kulaib claim comeback victory

• Defending league champions overcome two-set deficit for hardearned five-set win against Nabih Saleh



Kanoo Motors Rolling Drag Night to light up the strip this Thursday evening at BIC

TDT | Manama

 $B_{\rm (BIC)}^{\rm ahrain\,International\,Circuit}$ day evening packed with thrills with the Kanoo Motors Rolling Drag Night hitting the strip at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East".



ar Kulaib claimed a stun-Dar Kulaio come-from-behind, five-set victory against Nabih Saleh last night in the Top Six round of the 2023/2024 Isa League.

impressive win with a 3-2 (19-25, 17-25, 25-20, 25-23, 15-9) score line.

The victors were spearheaded by their top players Mohammed Yaqoob, Ali Mohammed, Hassan Alaiwi, Ali Habib, Hassan Al Warqa, Abdulla Moham- their hopes of qualifying for the from further title contention med, Mahmoud Abdulwahed Golden Square. and Brazilian import Caio Oliveira.

Nabih Saleh's top performers hammed Jassim and Hussain professional Oyewale Oyedepo. and Ahmed Issa.

With the result, Dar Kulaib

bin Rashid Bahrain Volleyball Dar Kulaib's Mohammed Yaqoob receives against Nabih Saleh during their match

sets, the defending champions this phase. Nabih Saleh suffered Khaled, Mohammed Omar, but roared back and pulled off the their sixth loss to go with three it wasn't enough to claim the wins, and are on the verge of be-victory. ing eliminated from contention for a place in the Golden Square fourth win to go with five losssemi-finals.

to a 3-0 (25-22, 25-23, 25-23) loss to go with just two wins, result against Al Nasser to boost as they have been eliminated

Majeed Mohammed had 15 on the standings. points to pace the winners, who also relied on the play of in a double round-robin to dewere Sayed Hashem Isa, Mo- Mahmood Al Afia, Abbas Al termine the cast for the semis. Khabbaz, Ali Al Sairafi, Hussain Action continues with the final Ashoor, along with Nigerian Ehsan, Sayed Ali Mohammed matchdays of this stage next

Recently signed import Pe- Najma and Muharraq take on maintained their hold on first legrin Vargas from Puerto Rico Nabih Saleh, followed on Monplace on the Top Six standings led Nasser with 18 points. They day by Ahli and Dar Kulaib and improved to an 8-1 win-loss also got contributions from locking horns.

After losing the first two record with one game to play in Ebrahim Mohammed, Yousef

Muharraq claimed their es in the Top Six round, while Meanwhile, Muharraq swept Nasser suffered their seventh and are currently in last place

The Top Six is being played week. On Sunday, Nasser play

Speed enthusiasts can get a taste of motor racing adrenaline in this unique drag racing event, scheduled to take place from 7pm to midnight.

Kanoo Motors Rolling Drag Night offers participants the chance to bring their very own cars or motorbikes and go one-on-one down the circuit's quarter-mile drag strip, which is a member of the prestigious NHRA Worldwide Network of the U.S.-based National Hot Rod Association Action from a previous event at BIC (NHRA).

This activity is similar to BIC's ment at BIC. Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights, with the only dif- BD22 for each driver or rider. Experience. ference being at the start, which Spectators can watch from is done with a rolling speed of 80kph.

to invite a fellow-motorsport for all is paramount, cars and enthusiast or thrill-seeker for motorbikes must go through a competitive—but friendly— scrutineering before being able challenge. Both participants to take part. will be able to push their vehicles to their very limit within Motors Rolling Drag Night, the safe and controlled environ- also available on Thursday can get 50 per cent off.

The cost to participate is the grandstands for a nominal entry fee of BD2. Just as in all It is the perfect opportunity activities at BIC, where safety

In addition to the Kanoo

is BIC's most mind-boggling passenger ride: the Dragster

Known as "the Fastest Ride on Earth", fans will have a chance to get a taste of pure speed as they are taken from zero to 100kph in just one second while in the cockpit of a 10,500cc Top Dragster. The Dragster Experience is available at BD44 for the first passenger while a second passenger

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