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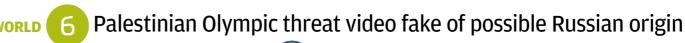
ISSUE NO.10000

220 FILS

Djokovic, Nadal set for Olympics secondround showdown

Legends drawn for potential second-round meeting in Paris, as both seek elusive gold | **P12**

SPORTS



Keanu Reeves 'didn't write' new novel

BUSINESS

US economy beats Q2 growth expectations

Paris holds breath for today's Olympics opening ceremony

AFP | Paris

Paris was yesterday counting down the hours to the most ambitious Olympics opening ceremony in history on the river Seine.

The show tonight will see up to 7,500 competitors sail down a six-kilometre stretch of the Seine on 85 boats, accompanied by a performance blending French culture and Olympic values that organisers promise will be spectacular.

The Paris Olympics, officially known as the Games of the XXXIII Olympiad, are scheduled to take place from July 26 to August 11, 2024.

HH Shaikh Khalid names Bahrain delegation head

TDT | Manama

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS), Chairman of the General Sports Authority (GSA), and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC), has assigned HH Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Vice President of BOC, to lead Bahrain's delegation at the 33rd Summer Olympics in Paris from 26 July to 11 August 2024.

HH Shaikh Isa bin Ali expressed his appreciation to HH Shaikh Khalid, noting that the assignment reflects his confidence in national capabilities to represent Bahrain.

Reckless truck driver arrested

TDT | Manama

The General Traffic Department has arrested a truck driver from a local company following the circulation of a video clip on social media showing him driving the truck in the wrong direction in the Ramli area.

The department reported that the driver's actions posed a significant risk to road users' safety.

In response, the General Traffic Department has initiated legal proceedings and impounded the vehicle involved.

220 fils (includes VAT)



Tense truce talks

Netanyahu, Biden discuss approach to ending nine-month Gaza fighting

AFP | Washington

sraeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday he was ready to work with Joe Biden for the rest of his presidency, as the two leaders met for the first time at the White House for talks on a Gaza ceasefire.

"I want to thank you for the 50 years of public service and 50 years of support for the state of Israel," Netanyahu said after they shook hands in the historic setting of the Oval Office.

"And I look forward to discussing with you today and working with you in the months ahead."

Biden stunned the world Sunday when he announced that he was bowing out of the US presidential election, with Vice President Kamala Harris now set to be the Democratic Party's candidate.

Netanyahu will also meet Harris separately at the White House, in a reflection of the new political reality that will see Biden as a lame duck president for his remaining six months in office.

The Harris meeting comes support. amid speculation that if she wins war in Gaza.

Netanyahu are tense over Isra-



Palestinian children receive treatment at the Nasser hospital following the Israeli military targeting of the southeastern district of Khan Yunis, in the southern Gaza Strip. (AFP)

ued strong military and political

They have met just three tages held in Gaza. in November it could herald a times during his presidency, tougher approach on Israel's once in September last year in New York, and then when Bid-

el's conduct in the war sparked tanyahu vowed "total victory"

Police presence

en traveled to Israel after the rounded by metal barriers and a election, Biden made clear that will meet Netanyahu at 4:30 pm attacks and hugged Netanyahu heavy police presence, after pro- resolving the conflict would re-Relations between Biden and on the airport tarmac at Tel Aviv. tests broke out near the Capitol main a top priority. The meetings come after Ne-following Netanyahu's speech.

but the US president has contin- Wednesday to the US Congress. ic" burning of an American flag peace and security to the Middle

Biden and Netanyahu will lat- by protesters, after attempts by er meet the families of US hos- Donald Trump's Republicans to paint Democrats as pro-Hamas.

In a primetime speech explaining his decision on Sunday The White House was surt to bow out of the US presidential

"I'm going to keep working Harris yesterday condemned to end the war on Gaza, bring today at his Mar-a-Lago resiby Hamas's October 7 attacks, against Hamas in a fiery speech the "despicable" and "unpatriot home all the hostages to bring dence in Florida.



The White House said yesterday US President Joe Biden will tell Israeli premier Beniamin Netanyahu a ceasefire in Gaza is needed "soon".

East and end this war," the US president said.

Negotiations

A senior US administration official said Wednesday that negotiations on a Gaza deal were in the "closing stages" and that Biden would try to close some 'final gaps" with Netanyahu.

Harris has previously been more outspoken about Israel's conduct of the war, prompting speculation she will shift her policy as presidential nominee.

The US official said there was "no daylight between the president and vice president", who (2030 GMT).

Netanyahu will meet Republican contender Donald Trump

Global finance meeting

US rejects plan for G20 deal to tax super-rich

AFP | Rio De Janeiro

♦ he United States sees no need to negotiate an international agreement on taxing the super-wealthy, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said yesterday, highlighting divisions on a plan that is top of the agenda at a G20 finance ministers' meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

Taxing the ultra-rich is a key priority of Brazil's leftist president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who this year heads the G20 grouping of the world's major economies, the European Union and African Union.

"Tax policy is very difficult to coordinate globally," Yellen told a press conference in Rio de Janeiro, ahead of an evening meeting between finance ministers to discuss the topic.

"We don't see a need or really think it's desirable to try to



negotiate a global agreement Image used for illustrative purposes only

YOU

The richest one percent of the world have earned more than \$40 trillion in a decade, but their taxation is at "historically" low rates, according to a study by the NGO Oxfam published yesterday.

on that. We think that all countries should make sure that their tive to fight world hunger, anprogressive."

Yellen said Washington was "strongly supportive of progressive taxation, and making sure that very wealthy, high-income individuals pay their fair share."

She highlighted policies proposed by US President Joe Biden, such as a billionaires' tax, which she described as "a very worthwhile initiative."

Progressive taxation

"It makes sense for most countries to take this approach of progressive taxation.

Brazil's search for a global agreement on taxing the richest of the rich is backed by France, Spain, South Africa, Colombia and the African Union.

"Some individuals control more resources than entire countries," Lula said Wednesday at the launch of an initiataxation systems are fair and other project topping his G20 agenda.