

Real, Atletico warm up for derby

Vinicius Junior scored his first goal under Zinedine Zidane as Real Madrid beat Osasuna | P12

OPED 6 For Kurdish women entrepreneurs, persistence pays off

THE DAILY **tribune**



Lindsay Lohan releases music video of first single 10 CELEBS

WORLD 5 Former French president Jacques Chirac dies at 86

US to deploy Patriot battery, 200 support personnel to Saudi Arabia

Al Arabiya

The United States will be deploying a Patriot battery, four Sentinel RADARS, and nearly 200 support personnel to Saudi Arabia in response to the recent attack on Saudi Aramco oil facilities, the US Department of Defense confirmed in a statement.

"In light of recent attacks on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and at their invitation, Secretary of Defence Mark T. Esper announced yesterday that the US would deploy the following equipment to the kingdom: One Patriot Battery, Four Sentinel RADARS, and approximately 200 support personnel," Chief Pentagon Spokesperson Jonathan Hoffman said in a statement.

"This deployment will augment the kingdom's air and missile defence of critical military and civilian infrastructure. This deployment augments an already significant presence of US forces in the region," the spokesperson added.

The statement said Esper also approved placing additional forces on Prepare To Deploy Orders (PTDO).

"While no decision has been made to deploy these additional forces, they will maintain a heightened state of readiness," Hoffman said.

Those PTDO orders will include two Patriot batteries and one Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system (THAAD).

BRAVE CF announces five more events

Philippines, Bahrain, India, South Africa, and Saudi Arabia are expected to host events

BRAVE CF is expected to return to its home in Bahrain after its second trip to the Philippines

TDT | Manama



His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee

BRAVE Combat Federation has announced its calendar for the rest of 2019 as the fastest-growing MMA promotion in the world gears up for another explosive end to the year.

Five more shows have been added, with BRAVE CF going back to some of its most celebrated territories.

Philippines, Bahrain, India, South Africa, and Saudi Arabia are all expected to host events before the end of the year, with

the announcement coming eight days before BRAVE CF 27, which takes place on 4th October in Abu Dhabi.

BRAVE CF is expected to return to its home in Bahrain after its second trip to the Philippines in 2019 (on 25th October), as the promotion will host once again the largest combat sports festival in Asia.

The BRAVE International Combat Week will feature the

biggest edition of the IMMAF World Championships, with 500+ athletes from 60+ nations travelling to Bahrain for the Olympics of mixed martial arts.

After the BICW, BRAVE Combat Federation will travel to India for the third time, and will most likely end the year with trips to Saudi Arabia and South Africa, reinforcing their stand as the number one MMA promotion in those territories.

In the coming weeks, BRAVE Nation can expect further announcements such as which fighters from its ever-growing roster will feature in the five events announced.

President of BRAVE Combat Federation, Mohammed Shahid made the special announcement in a press conference held in Bahrain as he celebrated yet another milestone for the organisation, who will once again host events in four continents in a calendar year.

Shahid hasn't ruled out other events taking place around the world before the end of 2019.



Heaviest prize in sports

TDT | Manama

6.2kg Gold

BRAVE Combat Federation will crown a very special champion on 15 November with a newly-minted KHK World Championship Belt in Bahrain.

Heaviest prize in sports, the belt (6.2 kg of solid gold) will be on the line in a one-night, four-men open-weight tournament, that will crown the best fighter on the planet, regardless of weight-classes.

The four fighters (plus one alternate) will be chosen through an open application, as fighters from around the world will have the chance to sign up to win a huge cash prize of US\$ 100,000, as well as make history by becoming the first-ever KHK World Championship belt holder.

Fighters signing up must have at least one professional win on their records. The grand-prix will not be restricted to BRAVE CF fighters. Free agents, as well as athletes from other promotions, are welcome to join the race for the belt as long as these fighters get a temporary release from their employers.

Applications will be accepted from 27 September to 10 October. KHK MMA and BRAVE will announce the ten fighters that made the first cut three days later, and the four men will be chosen on October 15th.

Adorned with 6.2kg of solid gold, the KHK World Championship belt is the biggest prize in sports today, surpassing the World Cup trophy, the Larry O'Brien trophy for the NBA champions, the Vince Lombardi trophy for the NFL champions in its weight in gold.

The tournament takes place at BRAVE 30, on 15 November, during the biggest-ever edition of the BRAVE International Combat Week, which is already the largest combat sports festival in Asia.

During the week, the IMMAF World Championships will take place in Bahrain, as 500+ athletes from 60+ countries travel to the Kingdom for the Olympics of mixed martial arts.



President of BRAVE Combat Federation, Mohammed Shahid, during the press conference yesterday

Donald Trump deals another blow to Iran

New sanctions bar senior Iranian officials, immediate family from entering the US

Reuters | Washington

President Donald Trump took steps to bar senior Iranian officials and their immediate family from entering the US as immigrants or non-immigrants, the White House said in a proclamation.

The proclamation repeated US accusations that Iran sponsors terrorism, arbitrarily detains American citizens, threatens its neighbours and carries out cyber attacks.

The move also follows Wednesday's announcement banning Chinese companies that have purchased Iranian oil.

"Given that this behaviour threatens peace and stability in the Middle East and beyond, I

have determined that it is in the interest of the United States to take action to restrict and suspend the entry into the United States, as immigrants or non-immigrants, of senior government officials of Iran, and their immediate family members," Trump said in the proclamation.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani earlier said the US would have to "pay more" if it wanted a wider deal and rejected meeting with the US president for now.

Trump has pursued a policy of "maximum pressure" against Iran to try to force Tehran to change its policies, and a senior US official said it would continue to "increase pressure on the Iranian regime ... until it



Given that this behaviour threatens peace and stability in the Middle East and beyond, I have determined that it is in the interest of the United States to take action to restrict and suspend the entry into the United States

DONALD TRUMP

abandons its outlaw behavior."

"For years, the Iranian regime has attacked, criticised, and aggressively worked against the United States," said the official. "Meanwhile, hypocritical regime leaders and their family members have been exploiting our freedom and prosperity."

"They come to America to go to our schools, seek jobs, enjoy our entertainment, and take in our culture," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, adding such "officials and their families don't deserve the privilege and luxury of coming to the United States."

Trump gave the authority to decide who would be covered by the proclamation to the secretary of state.

Libyan strongman Haftar says open to dialogue



Strongman Khalifa Haftar

Tripoli

Libyan strongman Khalifa Haftar, whose forces have been battling to capture the seat of the UN-recognised government in Tripoli since April, has said he is open to dialogue after repeatedly rejecting UN calls for talks.

"When all is said and done, we need dialogue and we need to sit down" at the negotiating table, Haftar said in a statement issued on Wednesday night on the eve of a special session on Libya on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.



03 The salt in your bread

04 'Dangerous dimensions' of Iranian terrorist network

08 Aramco picks SMBC Nikko Securities as first Japanese bookrunner

210 fils (includes VAT)



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BDF Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa during an inspection visit to one of the BDF units yesterday. The commander-in-chief reviewed the units' administrative and combat readiness, as well as their military preparations and work progress. He was briefed about the military preparations, the work progress, and development in these units. He expressed his deep appreciation and pride of the outstanding efforts exerted by the BDF staff and their ability to assume their national responsibility

BDF live ammunition exercise next week

Manama

The General Command of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) will carry out a joint tactical live ammunition firing exercise (Somoom 4) from Sunday morning till Thursday evening.

the BDF's shooting fields, the southwestern region and western coasts, more specifically from the Matallah to Ras Al-Barr regions, five kilometres from the coasts of the same region.

Those concerned were advised to avoid the designated firing zone for safety reasons.



Southern Governor, HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, received officials, security personnel, media persons and citizens at the Governorate's weekly Majlis yesterday. HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali stressed the Governorate's keenness to communicate with the citizens, identify their needs and listen to their suggestions.

Bahrain, Indonesia ink visa exemption deal

TDT | New York

Bahrain yesterday signed agreements with Indonesia for establishing a joint commission to further enhance the friendly cooperation and enforce mutual visa exemption.

Foreign Affairs Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Retno Marsudi signed the deals at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The joint commission will serve as a mechanism to review all aspects of bilateral relations and exchange views on international issues of common concern. The visa mutual exemption deal is valid for holders of diplomatic, special and service passports.

Separately, the minister held discussions with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ire-



Foreign Affairs Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Retno Marsudi



Shaikh Khalid during a High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development (FfD) in New York. The meeting, attended by heads of State and Government, examined ideal means to strengthen the partnerships necessary to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

land, Simon Coveney, on the sidelines of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on enhancing bilateral cooperation.

Discussions to boost trade ties were also held with Norway's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ine Eriksen Soreide, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, John Silk, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus, Nikos Christodoulides and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Elmar Mammadyarov.

Deal with Kenya

Shaikh Khalid signed a deal to establish a Joint Committee for Bilateral Cooperation with the Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya, Monica Juma.

A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed to enhance friendly relations and cooperation between the two sides.

Kingdom, San Marino establish diplomatic ties

New York

Bahrain yesterday announced establishing diplomatic relations with the Republic of San Marino following a deal signed at the United Nations Headquarters

in New York City.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa and Minister of Foreign of the Republic of San Marino Nicola Renzi signed the deal as per the provisions of

the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

Shaikh Khalid said the deal would push bilateral cooperation ties forward at all levels and enhance coordination on issues of mutual concern.

Premier thanked by UAE leadership

HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday received a cable of thanks from UAE President Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed

Al Nahyan, in reply to HRH's condolences over the martyrdom of six servicemen in a vehicle collision while performing their duty in operations.



The Bahrain British Business Forum (BBBF) hosted a members' business networking event at the Capital Club to welcome the newly-appointed British Ambassador Roddy Drummond, who began his term as British ambassador to Bahrain in August. Khalid Al Zayani OBE, Chairman of the Bahrain British Business Forum, the BBBF executive committee, and forum members gathered to meet Drummond. Louis Taylor, Chief Executive of UK Export Finance (UKEF) and the Director-General in the Department for International Trade, also attended the event. Above, Roddy Drummond, the British Ambassador (5th from left), BBBF Chairman Khalid Al Zayani OBE (6th from left), and Louis Taylor, Chief Executive of UK Export Finance (UKEF) (7th from left) with the BBBF executive committee members



Mazhar Hussain, MD IRIC arranged a reception dinner in honour of Mahmood Akhtae, MO Education, Pakistan at Jasra Villa. Prominent Business community members took part

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big story

WHO calls for a 30pc reduction in salt intake by 2025 with an eventual target of 5 g per day for adults and lower levels for children based on calorie intake to bring down cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, diabetes and obesity. Bahrain is on its way to achieving that by introducing measures to reduce salt and trans-fat in bakery products in line with vision 2030



TDT | Manama



The SALT hiding in your bread



A pack of potato chips or a slice of bread. Which one you think has more salt?

Experts say it depends. But warns, the answer may surprise you in some cases.

Some of the products analysed, the researchers say, were "saltier than seawater" with fingers pointed several times at cereal products likes 'bread'.

Tests conducted earlier in Bahrain by the Nutrition section of the Ministry of Health (MoH) in association with WHO's Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) almost returned similar results.

An EMRO pilot study, which collected twenty samples of bread from bakeries here, found the average salt content as approximately 90,000 ppm- much higher than what WHO recommends.

The data available through PubMed Central (PMC) says that there were 8.92 grams of salt in per kilogram of bread here. Salt intake of a person based on a 300 g daily bread intake was found to be 2.7 g.

The data also reveals that the daily salt intake per person was a staggering 13.5g, which WHO says is higher than in most other regions in the world.

According to the biomedical and life sciences journal at the US National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine, what made the mat-

ter worse here was the higher consumption of bread as a staple food.

The study in fact acted as an urgent trigger for Bahrain to jump into action.

The 3-year plan

Sodium is necessary for our normal nerve and muscle function. However, scientists have demonstrated that people who consumed more than 7 grams per day were at higher risk of heart disease and early death than those who consumed 3 to 6 grams daily.

It is thus clear why the health ministry here aims to reduce salt content in flatbread or Khubz Arabi to 0.5 per cent in the next three years.

In going forward, there can be only 5 grams of salt per kilo of bread.

Measures are also being introduced to reduce trans-fat and oil content in baked goods to 5pc and 2pc, respectively.

Bahrain is also implementing a national action plan that sets out different programmes encouraging the population to follow a healthy lifestyle in line with Vision 2030.

Objectives include reducing salt in bakery products, enforcing food labelling to include salt content and developing legislation and monitoring its implementation.

NCDs, a concern

In a related study, a global team of researchers, after analysing salt contents in over 2,000 bread varieties sold in around 32 countries, found that more than a third of the loaves exceeds the maximum salt target of 1.13g of salt per 100g.

All this tells us why there is a steady increase of non-communicable diseases or NCDs like cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, diabetes and obesity in the region.

However, despite its continued vilification, salt alone is not the villain here.

There are other contributing factors too. But for some people, salt turns out to be more sensitive.

Nevertheless, researchers agree that most people should

aim to eat no more than one teaspoon of salt per day.

The obstacles

Some argue that reducing salt might take away the charm from bread. But that is grossly inaccurate as there is already a broad range of salt levels across similar products in the GCC countries.

Jordan and Egypt are producing flatbreads with salt levels as low as 0.4 per cent on a wet basis and without compromising the taste.

In the UK, the salt content of processed foods sold in supermarkets was initially reduced by 20-30 per cent over 3 years without affecting consumer preference or sales.

It is thus technically feasible and has started here with the government setting a target for salt content in the bread of up to 0.5pc (5.0 g/kg bread).

Bahrain has also revised its existing legislation to develop benchmarks for salt content in bread.

In a recent meeting held at Bait Al Tijjar by the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, these decisions were explained in detail to the bread makers here.

The meeting on "measures to reduce salt and trans fat in bakery products" highlighted WHO's recommendation to reduce salt in food as one of the cost-effective interventions to control and prevent NCDs.

Speaking at the event, the Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health of the Ministry of Health Dr Mariam Al Hajri highlighted the need to meet the standards and recommendations of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

In a report by *Food Navigator-Asia*, Dr Buthaina Ajnan, the head of nutrition and public health consultant at the Ministry of Health, outlined the adverse effects of high salt intake.

The practice of putting more salts, sugars and trans-fat in food products had led to a "noticeable increase in non-communicable chronic diseases," the report quoted her as saying.

"We urgently want to take ac-

tion to control these diseases by controlling the diet risk factors."

Highlighting reluctance of merchants themselves as the main challenge, Dr Ajnan wanted them to "believe in the benefits of these reductions."

They have the technology to make the replacements for trans-fats which are there and can be cheap, Dr Anjan told *Food navigator*.

These changes "would not lead to an increase in prices" and in fact would reduce the costs as "fewer artificial ingredients would be used," she said.

Highest in Tunisia

As per the findings of WHO, the average salt intake of > 12 g/day per person in the Eastern Mediterranean Region is higher than in most other regions of the world.

The highest salt content was found in Tunisia and Kuwait and the lowest in Egypt and Jordan.

Salt content per kilogram of bread in Oman was 9.5g, Egypt (4.57g), Kuwait (10.97g), Tunisia (12.41g), Qatar (5.25g), Jordan (4.28g) and Lebanon (5.57g).

The study conducted from 1 November to 15 December 2013 collected one hundred and five bread samples from Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Lebanon and Tunisia.

The original samples were all flatbread or Khubz Arabi now widely known as pita bread.

WHO recommends

WHO recommends GCC member states to take immediate actions in salt intake to reduce premature mortality from NCDs by 25 per cent by 2025.

For this, the WHO recommended a 30pc reduction in salt intake by 2025 with an eventual target of 5 g per day for adults and lower levels for children based on calorie intake.

Currently, 39 million people die each year from NCDs, principally, cardiovascular disease (CVD), cancers, chronic respiratory disease, and diabetes.

Researchers say, what people often don't recognise is the fact that before they "add any salt to their food, they may have actually consumed up to five times this amount without even tasting it".

- Sodium is essential for the maintenance of plasma volume, acid-base balance, transmission of nerve impulses and normal cell function. However, in excess, it causes body fluid imbalance and presents a challenge for excretion by the kidneys, which potentially affects blood pressure and increases the risk of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)

- NCDs are the leading cause of death in the Region; 2.2 m lives are lost to NCDs annually, of which 51pc are premature and occur among people aged < 70 years

- Projections indicate that there will be an alarming increase in their prevalence, with the 4 main NCDs causing 2.4 million deaths in 2025, unless serious action is taken

- Studies conducted in the USA indicated that a 3 g reduction in daily salt intake was associated with a significant decrease in the annual incidence of coronary heart disease, stroke, myocardial infarction, and all-cause mortality



Realise the 'dangerous dimensions' of Iranian terrorist network: top official

Bahrain Ambassador to the United States takes part in the United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI) event

● Warned international community on the implications of Iran's nuclear programme

● Stressed Bahrain's pivotal role as a strategic ally of the US

● Bahrain will hold Maritime and Air Navigation Security Conference in October

TDI | New York

A top Bahraini official yesterday called on the international community to realise the 'dangerous dimensions' of the terrorist network Iran has created in the Middle East to threaten Arab countries.

By focusing only on Iran's "nuclear and ballistic programmes", Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa said, the world nations have avoided confronting this threat and the Iranian regime.



Bahrain Ambassador to the United States, Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa, during the United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI) event held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York

The international community has failed to realise the "dangerous strategic dimension of such a terrorist network that seeks to marginalise the existing regional order," Bahrain Ambassador to the United States told partici-

pants including US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo at the United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI) event.

Bahrain, he said, over the past four decades has combated its deceptive method, false allega-

tions and interferences through extremist and terrorist organisations.

"It's now the time for the international community to put an end to it," Shaikh Abdullah said during the event held on

” Iranian nuclear programme, even if its safety was guaranteed, still poses a grave environmental security threat to the Arabian Gulf region as the technologies used are backward and outdated

BAHRAIN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, SHAIKH ABDULLAH BIN RASHID AL KHALIFA

ronmental threat to the Arabian Gulf region as the technologies used are outdated."

Threats posed by the Iranian regime's arsenal of missiles, as evidenced by its reckless arming of Houthis, is also capable of carrying nuclear warheads, he warned.

The ambassador stressed Bahrain's pivotal role as a strategic ally of the US to counter the Iranian attempts to destabilise regional and international security and stability.

Shaikh Abdullah said the Kingdom is not only participating in the seven US-led Warsaw Process but will also host a meeting of the Maritime and Air Navigation Security Conference in October.

Bahrain, he said, is also the first country in the region to participate in the International Alliance for Security.

Shaikh Abdullah stressed that Bahrain has always been proactive in engaging the United States in its fight against terrorism, as the Kingdom was the first country to engage with the United States in its operations against Da'esh.

the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York.

Warning about the severe strategic and geopolitical implications of Iran's nuclear programme, Shaikh Abdullah said: "Even if its safety was guaranteed, it still poses a grave envi-

Maldives, Bahrain announce air travel deal



Minister Kamal Ahmed and Aishath Nahula after the deal signing

Canada

Maldives and Bahrain signed an air travel agreement on Wednesday in Montreal, Canada, said a report by Avias.

Transport Minister Aishath Nahula and Transportation and Telecommunication Minister of Bahrain Kamal bin Ahmed Mohamed signed the deal. The signing took place on the sidelines of the International Civil Aviation Organi-

sation (ICAO)'s General Assembly currently ongoing.

The deal follows a Memorandum of Understanding established between the two countries on January 18, 1995.

Gulf Air, the report said, has requested for approval to begin operation to the Maldives.

The airline will begin flights between the two countries on October 28 this year, with six weekly flights operating via Male'-Bahrain and Male'-Colombo-Bahrain route.



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdulhussain Mirza with Al-Fateh Group Chief Executive Officer Jassim Mohammed Al-Moussawi. He said as the authority seeks to attract international expertise, it also seeks to benefit from local talent. Al-Moussawi praised the efforts of the minister and officials in providing facilities to companies and investors.

Global warming: Bahrain calls for practical solutions



Foreign Ministry Undersecretary meets Undersecretary-General of UN-OHRLS

New York

The world today needs practical and binding mechanisms to reduce the adverse effects of climate change, said a top Bahraini official.

There needs to be an "integrated approach" to address the loss of biodiversity, said Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa highlighting the challenges faced by small island states from climate change and global warming.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry Undersecretary for International Affairs was discussing with Undersecretary-General and High Representative of the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Devel-

oped Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Fekitamoeloa Utoikamanu.

The meeting held on the sidelines of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 74) in New York viewed that the solutions should be in line with the sustainable development goals for 2030.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah said Bahrain achieved tangible results in protecting the environment and cutting pollution by relying on renewable energy resources.

"Bahrain pays special attention to the environment thanks to the support of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa," said Dr Shaikh Abdullah.

He also highlighted the role of the Supreme Council for Environment, chaired by HH the King's Personal Representative, in this regard.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah expressed hope that the Kingdom would benefit from the initiatives launched by international organisations for island countries, including that of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) entitled "Blue Growth" to optimise the utilisation of water resources.

Utoikamanu praised Bahrain's efforts in environmental protection, hailing Bahrain's successful march in achieving the sustainable development goals 2030 and reinforcing renewable energy resources.

MKF launches "AlRaya Award"

● The award will be announced during the National Day celebrations

Manama

AlMabarrah AlKhalifa Foundation (MKF) yesterday announced the launch of "AlRaya Award" aimed at motivating students to achieve excellence.

"AlRaya Award aims to motivate students towards attaining excellence, encouraging them to commit to the programme, as well as enhancing their skills and helping them expand their horizons," said Her Highness Shaikha Zain bint Khalid Al Khalifa, Chairman of MKF Board of Trustees.

The award will be announced during the National Day celebrations organised by MKF and is an initiative dedicated to the Foundation's distinguished and committed students who showed utmost compliance with its rules and regulations.

The winner will enjoy a trip to Masdar City in Abu Dhabi, main attractions in Abu Dhabi and will attend sessions and workshops at the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW), a global platform for accelerating the world's sustainable development.

WORLD
world

Former French president Jacques Chirac dies at 86

AFP | Paris

Former French president Jacques Chirac, a colossal figure in France's politics for three decades, has died at the age of 86, his family said yesterday.

The centre-right Chirac rose to prominence as mayor of Paris before becoming prime minister and then serving as head of state from 1995-2007.

"President Jacques Chirac died this morning surrounded by his family, peacefully," his son-in-law Frederic Salat-Baroux said.

His time at the Elysee saw France adopt the euro single currency and, in a landmark moment for relations with Washington, loudly oppose the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003.

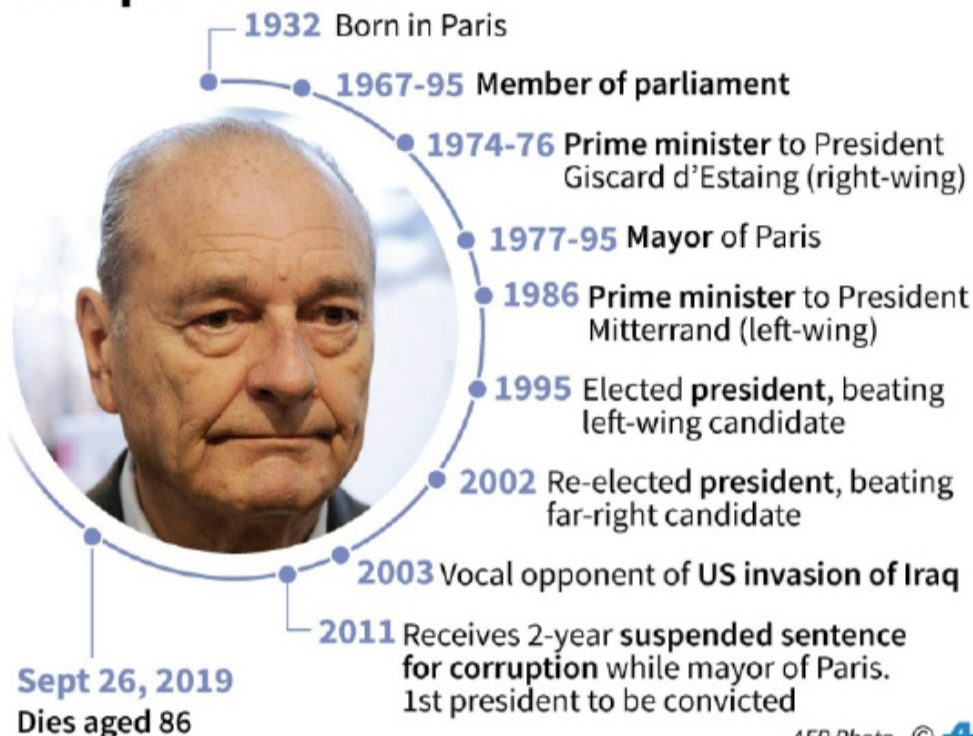
A born political fighter, he bounced back from defeats in the 1981 and 1988 presidential elections to finally claim the Elysee in 1995.

His legacy is overshadowed by a conviction for graft dating to his time as mayor of Paris which saw him handed a suspended jail term. But this did little to dent his popularity among supporters.

'Made history'

First elected head of state in 1995 and then re-elected in 2002, Chirac's 12 years in the Elysee Palace made him

Jacques Chirac



France's second longest-serving post-war president after his Socialist predecessor Francois Mitterrand.

"Jacques Chirac is part of the history of France," said parliament speaker Richard Ferrand from the ruling centrist party of President Emmanuel Macron.

He said Chirac left behind a "a France that was like him -- complex, sometimes crossed

by contradictions and always motivated by an unbridled Republican passion."

Both chambers of France's parliament -- the lower House National Assembly and the upper house Senate -- observed a minute of silence after the news was announced.

Macron cancelled a planned trip to the south of France to discuss pension reform and will

address the nation at 1800 GMT, his office said.

Macron's predecessor Francois Hollande praised Chirac as a "fighter" who had "known how to establish a personal link with the French".

And Chirac's successor Nicolas Sarkozy, who regarded the former president as a mentor, said: "A part of my life has disappeared today."

AFP Photo © AFP

Heavy rains kill 17 in western India



Twelve people including a nine-year-old boy were killed in flash floods

Mumbai

Seventeen people were killed yesterday in flooding caused by torrential rains in western India including five who were sleeping in a mosque, officials said.

Twelve people including a nine-year-old boy were killed in flash floods and as walls collapsed in various parts of Pune district in Maharashtra state,

police said.

The mosque was washed away in a rural part of the state, police official Sandip Patil said.

"We have recovered five bodies and are still looking for two missing people. Rescue operations are ongoing," he said. The state's chief minister Devendra Fadnis tweeted his condolences and said 15,000 people had been evacuated in the city of Baramati.

Infant among at least 20 killed in Indonesian quake: officials



A woman injured in Ambon

Ambon City | Indonesia

At least 20 people were killed and dozens injured yesterday in a strong earthquake that rocked Indonesia's remote Maluku islands, triggering landslides that buried at least one of the victims, the disaster agency said.

Terrified residents ran into the streets as buildings fell in around them when the 6.5-magnitude quake hit in the morning.

"At least 100 people were injured and more than 2,000 evacuated," said national disaster mitigation spokesman Agus Wibowo who gave the latest death toll in statement.

Among those killed was an infant, he said.

Earlier, local disaster agency officials said some victims had been killed by falling debris while one person was buried in a landslide.

Another victim died of a heart attack as the tremor hit, while one woman died after falling off her motorbike while fleeing to higher ground, officials said.

Residents of Ambon, a city of about 400,000 people,

were seen helping injured residents in blood-stained clothes, while images showed wrecked homes with collapsed walls and rubble strewn on the ground.

Some patients fled a local hospital as the quake hit, prompting officials to set up makeshift shelters outside the building, an official said.

"The impact was felt across Ambon city and surrounding areas," said Rahmat Triyono, head of the earthquake and tsunami division at Indonesia's Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysical Agency (BMKG).

"Many people were woken up by the shaking... it felt like a truck was passing by."

The US Geological Survey said the quake struck about 37 kilometres (23 miles) north-east of Ambon in Maluku province at a depth of 29 kilometres.

The area was hit by at least two dozen aftershocks including one that measured 5.6 magnitude, Triyono said.

Initial reports said the quake struck offshore, but later analysis found it hit onshore, raising the potential for damage, according to Indonesia's national disaster mitigation agency.

Hong Kong leader endures barrage of anger at town hall meeting

Hong Kong

Hong Kong's embattled leader endured a barrage of criticism at a town hall meeting yesterday night that laid bare anger coursing through the city after months of huge, sometimes violent pro-democracy protests.

Chief Executive Carrie Lam faced more than two hours of grilling at a public "dialogue session", the first time her pro-Beijing administration has sat down with its critics in 16 consecutive weeks of unrest.

Millions have hit the streets while hardcore activists have clashed repeatedly with police in the biggest challenge to China's rule since the city's handover from Britain in 1997.

During the evening Lam dismissed accusations that the meeting was a public-relations exercise, saying she was there to listen as she admitted trust in her government had "fallen off a cliff".

"The biggest responsibility lies with myself, I won't shirk the responsibility," she said.

More than 20,000 people applied to attend yesterday's meeting, with authorities picking 150 people in a lottery.



Thousands gathered outside the venue to chant slogans

Questions were chosen at random and, compared to the angry demonstrations on Hong Kong's streets this summer, the atmosphere remained cordial inside the sports stadium where the gathering took place.

But thousands massed outside the venue to chant slogans.

Lam received little sympathy from audience members who rounded on her with speech after speech highlighting a litany of complaints towards her administration.

Most called on her to launch an independent commission of inquiry into allegations of police

brutality and how the protests have been handled.

'Political blackmail'

Of the 30 people chosen to speak throughout the evening, 24 openly criticised the government, two made neutral comments while four expressed sympathy for Lam's administration.

Both she and Beijing have ruled out any further concessions to protesters, whose five demands include an independent inquiry into police conduct, an amnesty for more than 1,500 people arrested and fully free



Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam

elections.

On Wednesday, a top Chinese envoy in the city described those demands as "political blackmail", raising concerns that Lam has been given little wiggle room to de-escalate simmering public anger towards her administration and the police.

Throughout her appearance yesterday Lam resisted making concrete commitments beyond continuing to listen to people and holding more town halls.

Lam currently has the lowest approval ratings of any post-handover leader.

EMPOWERMENT

For Kurdish women entrepreneurs

Lingering societal prejudice, family pressures and an under-developed private sector have constrained women from breaking into the Iraqi workforce

AFP | Irbil, Iraq

Smiling proudly, Zilan Serwud welcomed hungry customers swarming her newly opened food truck in Kurdish Iraq. But launching the venture required more than just permits and loans: Serwud needed family approval.

Lingering societal prejudice, family pressures and an under-developed private sector have constrained women from breaking into the Iraqi workforce, including in Kurdistan.

That didn't stop 22-year-old Serwud.

She launched Zee Burger in the regional capital Irbil last month, offering no-fuss fare of burgers, fries and onion rings served at small wooden tables.

The journey to get there was nowhere near as simple.

The first step to any female-run business, said Serwud, was convincing relatives the venture would not be looked down on by the Muslim-majority, conservative society.

"I heard some people say: 'she has a father and brother, why should she run the restaurant?'" Serwud said.

"But if you have an idea or want to develop yourself, you should not listen to hearsay."

Her family gave its approval, and she received funding from the German development agency (GIZ) to purchase mobile kitchen equipment.

Serwud's father helped pick out the kitchenware and her brother Bayad even flips burgers part-time in the yellow-and-purple food truck.

"I am super happy now that I have my own business. I feel I've obtained my freedom and am showing everyone, this is what I am capable of," said Serwud.

In Iraq, only 15 percent of working-age women



Zilan Serwud sweeps up the area around her truck in Irbil

are in the labour force, one of the lowest rates in the world, according to a 2018 demographic survey by the regional government.

Among employed women in Kurdistan, up to 75 percent work in the public sector, making female entrepreneurs an especially rare breed.

The biggest obstacle is defamation by conservative elements of Iraqi society who see economically-autonomous women as too liberal or even promiscuous.

"What actually destroys women in our soci-

ety is the word 'shameful'," said Diman Fatah, 59, who opened Irbil's first female-run plant nursery and chairs a botanical club with 450 members, including 25 women.

"Women are afraid to innovate or develop themselves because of what other people might say about them," said Fatah.

Some recent comments on the Facebook pages of female-led businesses described the owners as "silly" and insisted that "women are responsible for work at home."

In Iraq, only 15 per women are in the lowest rates in the 2018 demographic government. Among Kurdistan, up to 75 sector, making fem especially

But through solid gradual shift has become

Besides caring for our society, she does helps women-led ven aging owners to "be c

"Don't give up and c rights," she urges peer

"When a woman st our society, she does raises awareness abo way for other women obtain their freedom,"

A 2013 United Na 66 percent of Iraqi yo women to work, com among the elderly — improvement.

Avan Jaff, a female who publishes onlin entrepreneurs, said sh

"It is not becaus open-minded all of a s

"Yes, some have be the rest realized that do not give up in pur think their comments so they don't engage,"

EXPRE

Dubai's 'Second Hand' art show

18 local, regional and international artists and collectives challenge traditional approaches to creating thought-provoking art



A work by Adel Abdessamed

Arab News | Dubai

The Dubai-based Jameel Arts Centre unveiled a new program in summer, including a diverse exhibition titled "Second Hand," which is set to run until November 23.

The exhibition explores divergent takes on materiality and features works by 18 artists and collectives from the Art Jameel Collection. It includes commissions, performances, workshops, talks and film screenings.

The 18 local, regional and international artists and collectives involved in "Second Hand" employ traditional and non-traditional approaches to creating thought-provoking art work, from man-made to machine made pieces that often incorporate everyday, humdrum items.

"Through divergent modes of expression — sculpture, installation, assemblage, drawing, photography, painting and performance — together the artworks in 'Second Hand'

highlight a broad approach to object-based practices that challenge the way we perceive material and our understanding of what the material represents," the exhibition space said in a released statement.

Drawn primarily from the Art Jameel Collection, "Second Hand" includes works by Adel Abdessamed, Haig Aivazian, Abbas Akhavan, Diana Al-Hadid, Doa Aly, Fayçal Baghrich, Walead Beshty, Vikram Divecha, Jason Dodge, Zahrah Al-Ghamdi, Bita Ghezelayagh, Mohammed Kazem, Azade Köker, Cynthia Marcelle, Keita Miyazaki, Slavs and Tatars, Moffat Takadiwa and Mario García Torres.

The exhibition's title references Zimbabwean artist Moffat Takadiwa's "Second Hand Information" (2014), created from repurposed computer keys and alluding to how, as information is passed on from one person to the next, the meaning of material changes over time.

Several of the featured artworks feature material that has been repur-



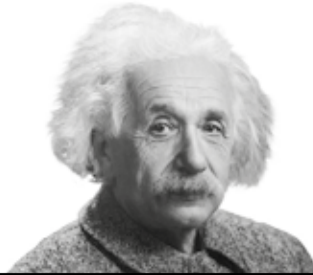
Moffat Takadiwa's 'Second Hand Information'

1066

William the Conqueror's troops set sail for England

1290

Earthquake in the Gulf of Chihli (Bohai Sea) near China, reportedly kills 100,000 people



1905

The physics journal Annalen der Physik publishes Albert Einstein's paper "Does the Inertia of a Body Depend Upon Its Energy Content?", introducing the equation $E=mc^2$

1908

Henry Ford's first Ford Model T automobile leaves the Piquette Plant in Detroit, Michigan

...ers, persistence pays off

cent of working-age labour force, one of the world, according to a survey by the regional g employed women in pc work in the public ale entrepreneurs an y rare breed

arity and persistence, a me noticeable.

lital buds, Fatah's club tures flourish by encour- onfident."

don't be silent about your rs.

arts her own business in ot only earn money. She ut equality and paves the to enter the market and ' she said.

tions survey found that outh support the right of pared to just 42 percent - a marked generational

Kurdish labour activist e testimonies of women e had noticed a shift, too. e society has become sudden," said Jaff.

come more tolerant, but women are resilient and suing their passion. They are not effective anymore, she explained.

Still, a host of challenges remain.

In practice, some Iraqi laws prohibit women from working in particular industries that require physical labor or overnight work.

Women workers who go on maternity leave in Kurdistan are not guaranteed their positions when they return, and many who do start ventures are pressured to cede some decision-making to their male relatives.

"It is the family who decides how to spend the profit or where they should invest, not the women," said Jaff.

About 100 kilometres (60 miles) east in the city of Rania, Shawnem Hussein's Sky Fitness

health centre boasts 150 female subscribers.

Members dance Zumba and share stories. "These women are not coming only to work out, but also to mingle, chat with other women and talk about their problems," said Hussein.

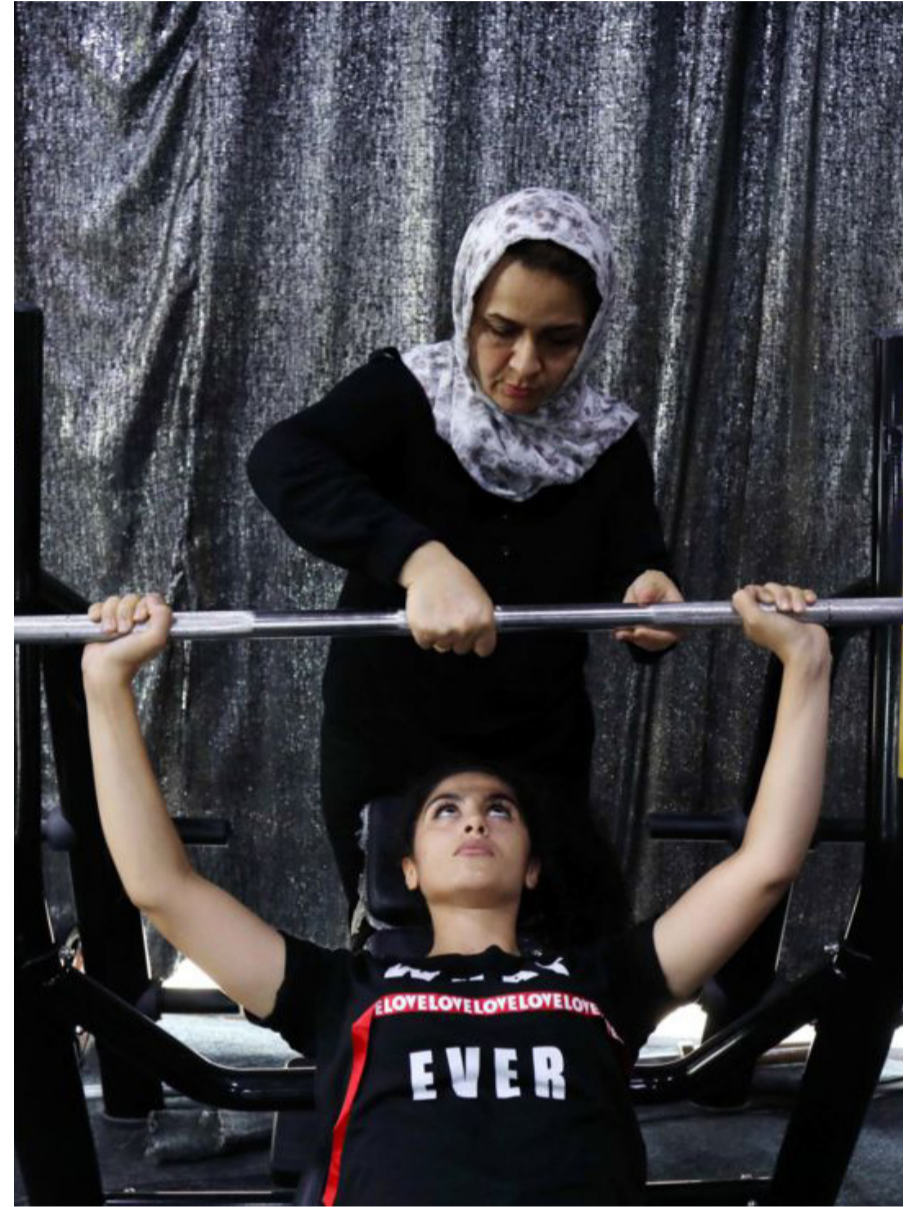
One of them, a gym member who asked to remain anonymous, said seeing the success of Sky Fitness had fed her own dreams of opening a restaurant in her hometown.

But, in a sign of the enduring conservatism in some parts of Kurdistan, her husband swiftly shattered her hopes.

"He told me, the day you open the restaurant will be the last day you come home," she said.



Diman Fatah, the 59-year-old owner of Arbil's first female-run plant nursery, tends to her plants at her nursery



Shawnem Hussein (R), 42-year-old owner of Sky Fitness health centre, helps women train at the first fitness center for women

SSIONS

...w explores morphing materials

lectives who employ traditional and non- ng art work are involved in "Second Hand"



posed, transformed or reworked, reflecting how different environments can change the meaning and purpose of certain materials.

Other pieces in the show explore how objects and artworks are made — creating art out of the process itself.

Haig Aivazian painstakingly draws realistic marble tiles with graphite, while a meticulously crafted, site-specific commission by Zahrah Al-Ghamdi sees leather forms spill out across the gallery and into the adjacent courtyard.

Meanwhile, artists such as Mohammed Kazem, Slavs and Tatars and Vikram Divecha consider the relationship between time and production, through mapping and the use of audio elements.

"Second Hand" is accompanied by a limited-edition catalogue designed by Kemistry, as well as a series of public programs, featuring site-specific commissions, performances, workshops, talks and film screenings.



Moffat Takadiwa works on a project

The exhibition's title references Zimbabwean artist Moffat Takadiwa's "Second Hand Information" (2014), created from repurposed computer keys and alluding to how, as information is passed on from one person to the next, the meaning of material changes over time

business



The Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) sponsored the participation of a group of employees of the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning to attend the 10th Gulf Petrochemical and Chemicals Association (GPCA) Fertiliser conference in Muscat, Oman. A large number of representatives of fertiliser companies from the region and beyond, in addition to prominent figures in the strategic industry, attended. In a statement, company President Dr Abdulrahman Jawahery said GPIC is keen to encourage Bahrainis to benefit from conferences, seminars and workshops, whether organised by the company or others

Batelco receives Innovation Award



Batelco CEO Mikkel Vinter

TDI | Manama

Samsung to offer financing to help boost India smartphone sales

Reuters | Mumbai

Samsung Electronics is to provide finance to potential smartphone buyers, a company executive said yesterday, in a bid to boost smartphone sales in India where it faces fierce competition from rivals such as China's Xiaomi.

The financing product, for which Samsung has tied up with a local shadow banking firm, will help the South Korean tech group offer quick and easy loans to all prospective smartphone customers, Mohandeep Singh, Samsung India's senior vice president for mobile business told Reuters in

a telephone interview. "We are giving finance to consumers who have not been served consumer finance in the past," Singh said. He said the company would launch the product in 5,000 stores in 30 cities, and by the end of the year it wants to be in 10,000 stores in 100 cities.



The award ceremony at The Conrad Hotel, Dubai.

Batelco yesterday announced receiving "The Innovation Award - Operator" at the Telecoms World Middle East 2019 Awards on Tuesday at The Conrad Hotel, Dubai.

The award for Global zone recognises Batelco's achievement in setting a new benchmark for the carrier-neutral digital business platform based on a highly secure Tier III Data Centre.

Batelco CEO Mikkel Vinter

said the award reflects Batelco's efforts in the field of innovation and "recognises the company's continuous enhancement of the experience provided to our customer." Telecoms World Middle East is a prestigious event held annually for telecoms industry operators.

Egyptian market extends gains

● 27 of 30 stocks gain on EGX 30 index

● Egypt's CIRA sees biggest rise in over 8 years

● Petchems weak in Saudi Arabia

● Most property shares slide in Dubai

● Saudi Arabia's key stock index gave up early gains

● Dubai's index closed 0.2pc lower

Reuters

Egyptian stocks yesterday extended gains from the previous session offsetting some of its wide losses incurred in the first three sessions of the week. Egypt's blue-chip index rebounded for a second day, gaining 1.9 per cent with 27 of 30 stocks rising on the index.

The country's largest lender Commercial International Bank jumped 4.1pc and Cairo for Investment and Real Estate Development (CIRA) surged 10pc, its biggest since April 2011.

Exchange data showed foreign investors were net buyers of the stocks.

The index had lost over 10pc



An investor watching stock movements at the Saudi Stock Market (AFP)

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ at 8,028 pts
ABU DHABI	▼ 0.4pc to 5,069 pts
DUBAI	▼ 0.2pc to 2,798 pts
QATAR	▼ 0.2pc to 10,420 pts
EGYPT	▲ 1.9pc to 13,857 pts
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.1pc to 1,521 pts
OMAN	▼ 0.1pc to 4,016 pts
KUWAIT	▼ 0.7pc at 6,223 pts

in first three sessions of the week in what the bourse's chairman Mohamed Farid said was an 'unjustified' reaction.

"Earlier this week, retail investors (with long memories of the events in 2011) were unnerved by the protests on Friday. The EGX lost more than

10pc between Sunday-Tuesday and so it is not surprising that we are seeing a bounce back," said Vrajesh Bhandari, senior portfolio manager at Al Mal Capital.

"Our channel checks suggest margin calls on retail investors are mostly done and we expect the market to recover next week supported by the large caps," he added.

However, markets elsewhere in the region were mostly subdued in lacklustre trade.

Saudi Arabia's key stock index gave up early gains to end flat. Banque Saudi Fransi declined 0.9pc, while Sahara International Petrochemical (Sipchem) advanced 2.8pc after its board approved a higher first-half dividend compared to a year earlier.

In Abu Dhabi, the index lost 0.4pc, with market heavyweight First Abu Dhabi Bank slipping 0.4pc, while Emirates Telecommunications Group was down 0.7pc.

Dubai's index closed 0.2pc lower with most property stocks drifting into negative territory. Blue-chip developer Emaar Properties dropping 1.7pc and unit Emaar Development shedding 0.7pc.

A weakening property market in the United Arab Emirates is likely to put more pressure on the asset quality of the banking sector, Fitch Ratings agency said.

Qatar's index also slid 0.2pc with Gulf's biggest lender Qatar National Bank declining 1pc and Masraf Al Rayan decreasing 0.6pc.

Aramco picks SMBC Nikko Securities as first Japanese bookrunner



Aramco has hired over a dozen banks including US and European banks to manage its IPO

Reuters | Dubai

Saudi Aramco has chosen SMBC Nikko Securities as a bookrunner for its initial public offering (IPO), the first Japanese financial firm to grab a role in the mega deal, three sources familiar with the matter said.

Aramco has hired over a dozen banks including US and European banks to manage its IPO as it seeks to tap a wider global investor base for a potential \$20 billion local listing in Riyadh of around 1 per cent of the company's shares.

The selection of a Japanese financial player comes amid speculation about Tokyo being a possible overseas destination for the Aramco listing.

Japan Exchange Group, owner of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, has contacted Saudi Aramco for a possible meeting with company officials, who are planning to visit Japan in October, Japan's Jiji Press

quoted CEO Akira Kiyota as saying.

A spokesman at SMBC Nikko Securities, the brokerage unit of Japanese lender Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group declined to comment. Aramco did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Saudi officials have not chosen an overseas destination for the listing, which is expected to be the next phase of the \$100 billion share sale after the domestic leg on Tadawul bourse.

The listing is the centerpiece of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's plan to diversify the Saudi economy away from oil, attract foreign investments and create jobs.

Reuters earlier reported that Aramco has approached Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), Singapore's GIC and other sovereign wealth funds to invest in the domestic leg of the oil giant's listing at it seeks to achieve a \$2 trillion valuation.

show



ABOMINABLE (PG)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
 OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA) :11.45 AM + 4.15 + 6.30 + 11.00 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA) : (ARABIC DUBBED) :2.00 + 8.45 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (3D) :12.45 + 9.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE :12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE : (ARABIC DUBBED) :11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE : (3D) :12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (I) :11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM
 SEEF (II) : (ARABIC DUBBED) :12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
 WADI AL SAIL :11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 SAAR :12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 8.45 + (11.00 PM THURS./FRI)
 CHLOE BENNET, TENZING NORGYA TRAINOR, ALBERT TSAI

THE INFORMER (15+)(CRIME/DRAMA)
 OASIS JUFFAIR : 2.15 + 7.00 + 11.45 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP) :11.15 AM + 4.00 + 8.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE :11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS./FRI)
 CITY CENTRE VIP (I) :11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I) :11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II) : (1.00 AM THURS./FRI)
 WADI AL SAIL :11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN
 SAAR :11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 9.00 + (11.30 PM THURS./FRI)
 JOEL KINNAMAN, ROSAMUND PIKE, CLIVE OWEN



BORN A KING (PG)(DRAMA/HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.00 + 4.45 + 9.30 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP) :1.45 + 6.30 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE :12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I) :11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 WADI AL SAIL :12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 SAAR :12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + (11.15 PM THURS./FRI)
 ABDULLAH ALI, RAWKAN BINBELLA, ED SKREIN

LITTLE MONSTERS (15+)(COMEDY/HORROR)
 CITY CENTRE :12.00 + 4.45 + 9.30 PM
 SEEF (I) :10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL :2.30 + 7.15 + 12.00 MN
 LUPITA NYONG'O, ALEXANDER ENGLAND, JOSH GAD

THE WEDDING YEAR (15+)(ROMANTIC/COMEDY)
 CITY CENTRE :11.00 AM + 1.00 + 6.30 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (I) :12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 + 12.00 MN
 SAAR :1.00 + 5.15 + 9.30 PM
 SARAH HYLAND, JENNA DEWAN, ANNA CAMP

THE ROOKIES (PG-15)(ACTION/COMEDY)
 CITY CENTRE : 2.15 + 7.00 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (I) :11.00 AM + 3.15 + 7.30 + 11.45 PM
 TALU WANG, SANDRINE PINNA, MILLA JOVOVICH

COLD BLOOD LEGACY (PG-15)(CRIME/THRILLER)
 SEEF (I) :1.15 + 5.30 + 9.45 PM
 JEAN RENO, SARAH LIND, JOE ANDERSON
 PREY (15+)(THRILLER/HORROR)
 SEEF (II) :12.00 + 4.45 + 9.30 PM
 JOEY ADANALIAN, JOLENE ANDERSON, VELA CLUFF

RAMBO: LAST BLOOD (15+)(ACTION/CRIME)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.45 + 6.15 + 11.45 PM

CITY CENTRE : 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS./FRI)
 CITY CENTRE VIP (I) :11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (I) :10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL :12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 SAAR :10.45 AM + 3.00 + 7.15 + (11.30 PM THURS./FRI)
 SYLVESTER STALLONE, PAZ VEGA, SERGIO PERIS-MENCHETA

ANGEL HAS FALLEN (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER)
 CITY CENTRE :11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM + (12.30 MN THURS./FRI)
 SEEF (I) :11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 GERARD BUTLER, MORGAN FREEMAN, JADA PINKETT SMITH

AD ASTRA (PG-13)(DRAMA/THRILLER)
 CITY CENTRE : 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX 2D) :10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.15 PM
 SEEF (I) :12.00 + 5.45 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL :12.00 + 4.45 + 9.30 PM
 BRAD PITT, TOMMY LEE JONES, RUTH NEGGA

KHAYAL MAATA (PG)(COMEDY/DRAMA)
 CITY CENTRE :11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM + (12.30 MN THURS./FRI)
 SEEF (I) :10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM
 AHMAD HELMY, MINNA SHALABI, HASSAN HOSNEY



DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD (PG)(ADVENTURE)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :10.30 AM + 5.00 + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE :11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM
 SEEF (I) :11.15 AM + 4.00 + 8.45 PM
 ISABELA MONER, Q'ORIANKA KILCHER, BENICIO DEL TORO

FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW (PG-15)
 CITY CENTRE :12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX 2D) :1.00 + 6.30 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (I) :2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM
 DWAYNE JOHNSON, JASON STATHAM, IDRIS ELBA

THE LION KING (PG)(ADVENTURE)
 CITY CENTRE :12.00 + 2.30 + 5.00 + 7.30 + 10.00 PM
 SEEF (I) :1.30 + 6.15 + 11.00 PM
 DONALD GLOVER, SETH ROGEN, CHIWETEL EJIOFOR

IT CHAPTER TWO (15+)(HORROR)
 CITY CENTRE :3.00 + 8.30 PM
 JAMES MCAVOY, JESSICA CHASTAIN, BILL HADER

DREAM GIRL (PG-15)(HINDI/COMEDY)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE :1.00 + 6.30 + 12.00 MN
 AYUSHMANN KHURRANA, NUSHRAT BHARUCHA, ABHISHEK BANERJEE

THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE 2 (PG)(ANIMATION)
 OASIS JUFFAIR : (3D) 3.00 + 7.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE :11.00 AM + 3.30 + 8.00 PM
 SUDEIKIS, JOSH GAD, AWK WAFINA

TOY STORY 4 (G)(ANIMATION)
 CITY CENTRE :1.15 + 5.45 + 10.15 PM
 TOM HANKS, TIM ALLEN, JOAN CUSACK

47 METERS DOWN : UNCAGED (15+)
 CITY CENTRE :12.00 + 4.00 + 8.00 + 12.00 MN
 SOPHIE NELISSE, CORINNE FOX, BRIANNE TJIU

READY OR NOT (18+)(THRILLER)
 CITY CENTRE :2.00 + 6.00 + 10.00 PM
 SAMARA WEAVING, ADAM BRODY, MARK O'BRIEN (IX)

ALADDIN (PG)(ADVENTURE)
 CITY CENTRE :10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.15 PM
 WILL SMITH, NAOMI SCOTT, MENA MASSOUD

CHHICHHORE (PG-15)(HINDI)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 SUSHANT SINGH RAJPUT, SHRADDHA KAPOOR, VARUN SHARMA

KAAPPAAAN (PG-15)(TAMIL)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :3.00 + 8.30 PM
 SEEF (I) :2.30 + 8.15 PM
 AL HAMRA : (12.00 MN THURS./FRI)
 MOHANLAL, SURYA, BOMAN IRANI, ARYA, SAYYESHAA SAIGAL, PRAKASH RAJ

LOVE ACTION DRAMA (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 NIVIN PAULY, NAYANTHARA, AJU VARGHESE

GANAGANDHARVAN (PG)(MALAYALAM)
 STARTING FRIDAY 27th ONWARDS
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I) :10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL :2.45 + 8.30 PM
 AL HAMRA :12.00 + 6.00 PM
 MAMMOOTTY, SIDDIQUE, SNEHA BABU

NAMMA VEETTU PILLAI (PG)(TAMIL)
 STARTING FRIDAY 27th ONWARDS
 OASIS JUFFAIR :11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (I) :11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL :11.45 AM + 5.30 + 11.15 PM
 AL HAMRA :3.00 + 9.00 PM
 SIVAKARTHIKEYAN, AISWARYA RAJESH, ANU EMMANUEL

MOVIE REVIEW

The Informer: the bare bones of an action thriller

- Joel Kinnaman stars in a sharp, cunning crime thriller
- The Informer is a gripping tale of brawn and bloodshed behind bars
- Old-school twisty thriller holds its best tricks until the end

The Informer is a 2019 British crime thriller film directed by Andrea Di Stefano and written by Matt Cook, based on the novel Three Seconds by Roslund/Hellström. It stars Joel Kinnaman as the title character, alongside Rosamund Pike, Common, Ana de Armas, and Clive Owen. The film was released on 30 August 2019 in the United Kingdom by Warner Bros. and is due to be released on 10 January 2020 in the United States by Aviron Pictures.



Joel Kinnaman (right) in The Informer

Pete Koslow, a reformed criminal and former special operations soldier, is working undercover for crooked FBI handlers to infiltrate the Polish mob's drug trade in New York. In a final step toward freedom, Koslow must return to the one place he's fought so hard to

leave, Bale Hill Prison, where his mission becomes a race against time when a drug deal goes wrong and threatens to identify him as a mole.

On discovering one of his handlers, Montgomery intends to let him and his family die in order to use their homi-

cides as hard evidence to ensure con-

his cover eventually gets conveniently blown.

On Rotten Tomatoes the film has an approval rating of 45% based on reviews from 20 critics, with an average rating of 5.56/10.

Peter Bradshaw of The Guardian gives the film 3 out of 5 stars, and wrote: "It might have made better sense as an episodic drama on television but it is brash and watchable, its world reeking with cynicism and fear."

Tim Robey of The Telegraph gave the film 4 out of 5 stars, and wrote: "The Informer is one of the year's more pleasant genre surprises: a clenched fist of a crime thriller in the mode of The Departed or The Town, in which every element is just a notch smarter than you'd expect."



Joel Kinnaman stars as an ex-convict who is sent back to prison to bring down a drug lord

celebs



Brad Pitt

Brad Pitt is single despite rumours!

ANI | Los Angeles

Brad Pitt is very much single despite recent reports suggesting that he is dating Sat Hari Khalsa, holistic healer, and jewellery designer.

Despite recent reports, the actor is not dating Khalsa. Rather, a source told E! News that any rumour of a romantic relationship brewing between the two is "entirely false."

Instead, Pitt and Khalsa are simply friends, which they proved while celebrating his new film 'Ad Astra' last week. So singletons, rejoice, Pitt is still on the market!

At the movie's after-party, "she was with another girlfriend and was talking to Brad," a second insider shared with E!. "But, at no point during the party did there appear to be an obvious PDA or any indication that they were romantic," the insider added.

"Brad didn't really talk to her much, he was talking to different groups of people. It was just friendly and not romantic," continued the source.

It's not the first time that the duo has been spotted together. Last year, they were seen having a conversation at the Red Hot Chili Pepper Annual Benefit Gala.

"They seemed to know a lot of the same people and enjoyed themselves. They had a

lot to talk about," an onlooker explained at that time.

Indeed, Khalsa has been visiting Pitt's L.A. home to help him on his spiritual journey.

"She's providing him with some guidance and has been a welcome breath of fresh air and spirituality in his life. He feels like he has a lot to learn to better himself," a source told E! News.

As the insider explained, "They are close friends."

This certainly isn't the first time that superstar's dating life has made headlines. Since his divorce from Angelina Jolie, he's been linked to everyone from Kate Hudson to Sienna Miller to Charlize Theron and MIT professor Neri Oxman.

Recently, Pitt opened up about his romantic history while chatting with Ellen DeGeneres on The Ellen DeGeneres Show.

Looking back on their first meeting at Melissa Etheridge's pool party years ago, Pitt recalled DeGeneres hitting on his girlfriend at that time.

"I actually, since then, have dated another one of your girlfriends. We'll talk about that later," the host revealed to Pitt.

The 55-year old actor was earlier married to 'Friends' star Jennifer Aniston from 2000-05 and then walked down the aisle with Angelina Jolie in 2014 and separated two years after in 2016.

Lindsay Lohan releases music video of first single

ANI | Los Angeles

Actor-singer Lindsay Lohan after a hiatus of 11 years released a music video on Tuesday.

'Xanax' is an EDM track. The song features Finnish pop star Alma and was released exclusively on IGTV.

This is the first song Lohan has dropped since her 2008 single 'Bossy.'

"I don't like the parties in L.A., I go home, in a bad mood, pass out, wake up alone, just to do it all over again," Lohan begins the track.

Lohan opens up about anxiety

as she sings, "I can't be in this club, it's too crowded and I'm f-ked," she sings. "Ain't nobody here for love. Ain't nobody care about us. I got social anxiety, but you're like Xanax to me. Yeah, social anxiety, when you kiss me, I can't breathe."

The video shows the 'Mean Girls' actress posing in front of a mirror, attending a charity function and learning dance. The video also shows her brother Cody Lohan skateboarding.

Her first album, 'Speak,' was released in 2004 and eventually certified platinum. The next year she quickly followed up with

her second and last album, 'A Little More Personal (Raw),' in 2005.

The singer since then had been hinting about her return to music through social media for some time now. In June, she had shared an Instagram picture of herself in a recording studio and mysteriously captioned it with a headphones emoji.



Lindsay Lohan

Baldwin and Bieber's wedding preparations in full swing!

ANI | Los Angeles

It's almost time for singer Justin Bieber and model Hailey Baldwin's big day!

The much-in-love couple, who secretly tied the knot last year, will be getting hitched once again in an extravagant ceremony, which is scheduled to take place at the end of this month. And with the wedding date approaching closer, the preparations are in full swing.

After months of planning, the duo chose the perfect location to say 'I Do' for the second time. A source told E! News that Bieber and Baldwin intended to get married in front of their friends and family at the Montage Hotel's Palmetto Bluff location.

"They love the Montage brand and visited the property and fell in love with Palmetto Bluff and the area," the source said.

Although a source shared that "they changed their minds so many times," it seemed like there was no going back, especially because they'd sent out the save the date cards, according to TMZ.

With time ticking away, the couple decided to go with South Carolina. With the major details squared away, Hailey and Justin are really excited about the big day but



Justin Bieber and Hailey Baldwin

are hoping that hurricane does not play spoilsport.

"The countdown is on and they are really looking forward to it," the insider revealed.

"Justin and Hailey are devastated about the hurricane and have decided that, if it destroys their wedding venue, they are delaying the wedding to a later date," an insider told E! News.

"They are also looking into having a ceremony in California as a last-minute alternative. They really want to have the ceremony at their favourite hotel in South Carolina, but are really in limbo with any decision-making until they figure out the storm situation," the insider added.

According to the source,

the power couple is looking forward to getting married outdoors, amidst nature.

Speaking about the decor, the source shared, "It will be partially tented, but they want to get married out in nature. The decor is going to be very chic and neutral. Hailey wants all white and champagne-colored decor with beautiful green foliage. It's going to be classy."

As for the guests, the couple is planning to invite a few of their celebrity pals, including Kourtney Kardashian and Kendall Jenner.

"Kourtney Kardashian and Kendall Jenner are planning on attending the wedding, and they have invited several key members of their church," the source said.

How Zellweger fell in love with Garland for 'Judy'

Reuters | Los Angeles

How do you play a Hollywood icon like Judy Garland? For Renee Zellweger, getting under her skin was like falling in love.

Zellweger, 50, has won rave reviews for her heart-breaking portrait of Garland in "Judy," out in U.S. movie theaters on Friday, and awards pundits are already predicting a fourth Oscar nomination.

"Judy" focuses on the period when Garland struggled with alcohol, prescription drug use and her broken finances on a trip to London in late 1968 for a series of concerts. The "Wizard of Oz" star died at age 47 of an accidental drug overdose in June 1969.

Zellweger took voice lessons for a year before filming started and worked with a choreographer to capture Garland's mannerisms in final year of her life.

"I put the music on and then I started digging for the books and I ordered the books and then I dug around on the Internet every day and I just took in very greedily everything I could find. I was just in love and I got more and more greedy," Zellweger told Reuters Television.

"I didn't want to be away from it," she added.

Zellweger's transformation from the blond actress who played British singleton "Bridget Jones," sang in movie musical "Chicago" and won a supporting actress Oscar for drama "Cold Mountain" has been called a career best performance by critics.

While the actress "hardly seems like a natural doppelganger for Garland, she subsumes herself completely in the role, without ever tipping over into some kind of gestural Judy drag," wrote Entertainment Weekly.

Sick Kylie Jenner pulls out of Paris fashion week

Reuters | Los Angeles

Makeup mogul Kylie Jenner on Wednesday pulled out of Paris Fashion Week where she was due to launch a new cosmetics line with French luxury brand Balmain.

Jenner, 22, said on Twitter

that she was sick and unable to travel to Paris to launch the collection as planned on Friday with Balmain Creative Director Olivier Rousteing.

The "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" star did not give details of her illness but celebrity website TMZ.com said she was admitted to a Los Angeles area hospital earlier this week with what an unidentified source described as severe flu-like symptoms, including nausea and dizziness.

Jenner's representatives did not return a request for comment on Wednesday.

"Unfortunately I'm really sick and unable to travel. I'm heartbroken to be missing this show ... Creating this collection with Olivier has been a dream," she said on Twitter.

Jenner, whose lip gloss kits and other cosmetics have made her a billionaire, was due to launch the Kylie X Balmain line of eye-shadows, lip liner and lip gloss

on Friday at the Paris fashion show. The line is to be worn by Balmain models walking the runway for the Spring Summer 2020 collection.

Jenner was also absent from the Emmy awards show in Los Angeles on Sunday where she was due to present an award with Kim Kardashian and her model sister Kendall.



Kylie Jenner



Renee Zellweger

SPORTS

sports

Barcelona confirm Messi thigh strain

AFP | Madrid

Lionel Messi has sustained a strain in his left thigh, Barcelona confirmed on Wednesday.

Messi was substituted at half-time of Barca's 2-1 win over Villarreal on Tuesday in what was the striker's first start of the season.

He had previously been out with a calf injury sustained on August 5 and Barcelona have not indicated when they expect their captain to return from his latest setback.

"First team player Leo Messi has a strain in the adductor of his left thigh," a club statement read. "He is out and his recovery will dictate his availability."

Messi is expected to miss his team's visit to Getafe in La Liga on Saturday.

Barcelona then play at home to Inter Milan in the Champions League next Wednesday before hosting Sevilla in the league four days later.

They will hope to have the 32-year-old back as soon as possible, particularly after a rocky opening to the season that has included only three wins from seven matches in all competitions.

After recovering from his calf problem, Messi made substitute appearances against Borussia Dortmund and Granada before being deemed ready to start against Villarreal.

Lionel Messi



United survive League Cup shoot-out

Daniel James gives nervy Manchester United shootout win against Rochdale

● Oxford United humiliate West Ham in shock Carabao Cup thrashing

● Hudson-Odoi scores on return to round off Chelsea's 7-1 romp against Grimsby

● Liverpool youngsters shine but James Milner steers them past MK Dons

AFP | London

Manchester United survived a League Cup scare against third tier Rochdale as they won 5-3 on penalties, while West Ham suffered a shock 4-0 defeat at Oxford on Wednesday.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's struggling side were held to a 1-1 draw at Old Trafford after 16-year-old Luke Matheson scored a 76th minute equaliser following Mason Greenwood's opener for United eight minutes earlier.

With United in danger of a humiliating exit, they held their nerve in the shoot-out, winning 5-3 as Daniel James converted the decisive kick after Sergio Romero saved Rochdale's second penalty from Jimmy



Manchester United's Welsh midfielder Daniel James takes the winning penalty in the penalty shoot-out

Keohane.

Although United avoided the embarrassment of losing to a team 17th in League One, the sloppy manner of their performance will raise fresh questions about Solskjaer's ability to inspire his side.

United are languishing in eighth place in the Premier League after Saturday's dismal 2-0 defeat at West Ham left them with just two wins from six games.

"We go 1-0 up and you think 'come on, get a second'. It's a learning curve," Solskjaer said.

"At this club we don't sit back and think that's good enough. That's not what we want here."

Liverpool eased to a 2-0 victory at third tier MK Dons as Harvey Elliott became the youngest player to start a competitive

match for the club.

The 16-year-old put in an accomplished display and twice hit the crossbar as James Milner profited from terrible goalkeeping from Stuart Moore to put the Reds in front before Ki-Jana Hoever wrapped up the win.

Frank Lampard got a first home win as Chelsea boss under his belt as his youthful side thumped fourth division Grimsby 7-1. Ross Barkley opened the floodgates and Michy Batshuayi struck twice.

Chelsea kids shine

There were also goals for Pedro, Kurt Zouma, Reece James and Callum Hudson-Odoi -- the England winger making his first appearance since suffering an Achilles injury in April.

Lampard handed debuts to

four academy graduates as well as a first start for Billy Gilmour.

Gilmour was a stand-out performer in midfield and fellow rookies James and Marc Guehi also impressed.

"I'm pleased, some debuts and the young lads who came on improved the team which was nice. It's nice to get that first home win," Lampard said.

"I thought Gilmour ran the game from midfield. It says a lot about the academy, and nights like this give the opportunity to mix the team up and give them a chance."

At the Kassam Stadium, third tier Oxford reached the fourth round for the first time in 22 years thanks to a stunning victory against West Ham.

Second-half goals by Elliott Moore, Matty Taylor, Tariqe



United are languishing in eighth place in the Premier League after Saturday's dismal 2-0 defeat at West Ham left them with just two wins from six games

Fosu and Shandon Baptiste left West Ham shell-shocked.

Hammers boss Manuel Pellegrini made nine changes and handed a full debut to academy graduate Nathan Holland, but the understudies weren't up to the task.

Max Power's superb 25-yard strike in the ninth minute fired third tier Sunderland to a surprise 1-0 win at Premier League side Sheffield United.

Bournemouth were the third Premier League club to crash out as third tier Burton -- semi-finalists last season -- won 2-0 in a match delayed three times by floodlight failure at the Pirelli Stadium.

Wolves beat second tier Reading 4-2 on penalties after a dramatic 1-1 draw.

Debutant Bruno Jordao put Wolves ahead but Lucas Boye headed Reading level in the ninth minute of stoppage-time, setting up a shoot-out that the Premier League team won comfortably.

Aston Villa cruised to a 3-1 win at Brighton thanks to goals from Jota, Conor Hourihane and Jack Grealish.

Inter Milan maintain perfect record

● Atalanta condemn Roma to first league defeat of season

AFP | Rome

Inter Milan made it five wins from five games with a 1-0 victory over Lazio on Wednesday as Antonio Conte's men reclaimed top spot in Serie A.

However, they needed goalkeeper Samir Handanovic, on the occasion of his 300th game for Inter, to pull off a series of fine saves to ensure a win which allowed his team to restore their two-point lead over champions Juventus.

The only goal of the game at the San Siro came in the 23rd minute when Italian international full-back Danilo D'Ambrosio headed in from close range off a cross from Cristiano Biraghi.

At the other end, Handanovic made sure that Inter's miserly defensive record this season, which has seen just one goal



Danilo D'Ambrosio of Inter Milan competes for the ball with Luis Alberto of SS Lazio

conceded, remained intact as he denied Felipe Caicedo and Bastos before he thwarted Tucu Correa with a spectacular one-handed save.

Inter summer signing Romelu Lukaku was unable to add to his three goals in four Serie A games having earlier been denied the

chance to play against younger brother Jordan who was sidelined with a knee injury.

Lazio, meanwhile, went into the game with a touchline row with coach Simone Inzaghi in last week's 2-0 win over Parma.

Duvan Zapata and Marten de Roon scored second-half goals as Atalanta condemned Roma to a first league defeat of the season, dashing England international defender Chris Smalling's hopes of a winning debut.

The win at the Stadio Olimpico allowed Atalanta to climb into third place in the table.

Paulo Fonseca's Roma, meanwhile, are in sixth spot, seven points off Inter Milan's pace.

Atalanta opened the scoring in the 71st minute when Colombian international Zapata, on as a second-half substitute, tucked the ball away from close range.

Dutch midfielder De Roon made sure of the victory with a last-minute, close-range header after Roma goalkeeper Pau Lopez failed to collect a cross.

It was a disappointing night for Smalling as the 31-time capped defender finally made his Roma debut after moving on loan to Italy from Manchester United in the summer.

Napoli lost ground after a 1-0 defeat against Cagliari in Sardinia.

ISB faculty participates in international badminton event

TDI | Manama

Representing the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Indian School senior Physical Education teacher CM Junith has participated in the 2019 BWF Senior World Badminton Championships held from August at Spodek in Katowice, Poland.

A total of 1436 players from 55 nations had participated in the 9th edition of World Senior Badminton Championships organized by World Badminton Federation (BWF) once in two years. Junith had also participated in the previous Senior World Badminton Championships which was held in Kochi, India in 2017.

Junith has been working in Indian School Bahrain (ISB) since 2006. The Indian School Bahrain students coached by CM Junith have been winning the CBSE National Badminton championships for the past three years.

ISB Chairman Prince S Narayan, Secretary Saji Antony,



CM Junith at the venue

EC Member-Sports Rajesh MN and Principal VR Palaniswamy congratulated Junith on his consistent performance and dedication to the sports.

The Indian School has won the CBSE cluster badminton championships for the past 12 years. The Physical Education department along with the entire Indian School fraternity feel proud of him, said HoD Saikat Sarkar. CM Junith who hails from Kerala, is a Head teacher of activity for junior sections in the Indian School.

Real, Atletico warm up for derby

Vinicius Junior scored his first goal under Zinedine Zidane as Real Madrid beat Osasuna

Costa and Felix score as Atletico Madrid ends winless streak

AFP | Madrid

Real Madrid's crisis has been averted for the time being at least after they beat Osasuna 2-0 on Wednesday without Eden Hazard and Gareth Bale to go top of La Liga.

Hazard and Bale were among a number of players rested by coach Zinedine Zidane, with Real facing seven games in 21 days, the next of them against city rivals Atletico Madrid on Saturday.

Vinicius Junior, who has endured a difficult few months, filled the void, bending a shot into the top corner before crying tears of what presumably were a mixture of joy and relief.

This time last year the 19-year-old exploded onto the scene but injury and then a dip in form saw



Real Madrid's Brazilian forward Vinicius Junior shoots the ball

him drift, with this a chance to reassert himself in a much-rotated line-up.

If Vinicius was Madrid's Brazilian sensation 12 months ago,

Rodrygo might be one for the present.

The 18-year-old, who was bought from Santos in 2018 but joined last summer, added a su-



I'm glad for them. Sometimes we forget they are 18 [and 19] years old. We have seen the emotion they felt about scoring at the Bernabeu. I liked Rodrygo's goal but I liked the control even more

ZINEDINE ZIDANE

perb second goal, and his first for the club, just one minute after coming off the bench for a remarkable debut.

"I'm glad for them," said Zidane. "Sometimes we forget they are 18 (and 19) years old. We have seen the emotion they felt about scoring at the Bernabeu. I liked Rodrygo's goal but I liked the control even more."

Earlier, Atletico's Alvaro Mor-

ata made a swift impact too but with less positive results after he was sent off eight minutes after being introduced as a substitute against Real Mallorca.

Atletico were already 2-0 up thanks to goals from Diego Costa and Joao Felix but Morata will now be suspended for the derby at the Wanda Metropolitano.

The Spaniard's dreadful night got worse as he also appeared to engage in a heated exchange with a fan as he later left the stadium.

A week ago it would have been almost unthinkable that Atletico would play their rivals in a contest of first against second in La Liga but that could now be the setting this weekend, depending on Sevilla and Real Sociedad's results.

La Real beat Atletico, who were then held to a goalless draw by Celta Vigo, but by far the deeper sense of gloom had engulfed Zidane's side, after they were humbled 3-0 by Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League.

That was Real's worst defeat under Zidane as coach and prompted questions about the Frenchman's future, with Jose Mourinho available and seemingly waiting in the wings.

Instead, back-to-back victories for the first time since Zidane came back in March have lifted the malaise and offered hope there is still life in this Madrid squad, despite the lack of change since the summer.

Atletico's players might have been keeping tabs on their way home from Mallorca but their job was already done after Costa and Felix finally got the goals to suggest they might form a potent partnership together.

Costa's was simple, as Mallorca failed to clear Koke's cross and the striker nipped in to head past goalkeeper Manolo Reina.

Felix's was more complex but owed something to fortune too. The Portuguese did brilliantly to bring a looping ball down but his finish on the turn took a cruel deflection before spinning up and into the far corner.

ATP hands Kyrgios suspended 16-week ban for poor behaviour



Nick Kyrgios of Australia carries his towel in his mouth while playing Andrey Rublev of Russia

AFP | Paris

Australian tennis star Nick Kyrgios received a suspended 16-week ban from the ATP yesterday and was placed on probation for six months for "aggravated behaviour" following a number of on-court outbursts over the past year.

The suspension is deferred pending Kyrgios' compliance with several conditions mandated by the ATP, which include seeking additional support from a specialist in behavioural management during the off-season.

"The suspension will be lifted at the end of the six-month probationary period provided that the above conditions are met," the ATP said in a statement.

Tour organisers opened an inquiry into Kyrgios, the world number 27, following an explosive meltdown during a second-round match at last month's Cincinnati Masters.

He had already been fined \$113,000 for ball abuse, leaving the court without permission, an audible obscenity and unsportsmanlike conduct during his loss to Russia's Karen Khachanov.

Injury-hit PSG slump to shock home defeat by Reims

AFP | Paris

Paris Saint-Germain fell to a shock 2-0 loss to Reims at the Parc des Princes on Wednesday as headers from Hassane Kamara and Boulaye Dia gave the visitors a famous win.

The Ligue 1 champions, depleted by a spate of injuries, remain top of the table after seven games, but have already lost twice this season after defeat at Rennes last month.

It was PSG's first home loss in the league since a 2-0 reverse at the hands of Rennes in May 2018, ending an unbeaten run of 22 matches at the Parc.

PSG only lead second-placed Angers on goal difference, after Rachid Alioui's late double grabbed Stephane Moulin's side a 2-0 win at Toulouse.

"I'm disappointed with our performance. The first 10, maybe 15, minutes went well but then every minute that passed was worse and worse," said PSG coach Thomas Tuchel.

"We did not show what we are capable of doing -- so defeat is deserved."

Neymar, who had scored late winners in each of his previous two Ligue 1 games, started alongside Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting and Pablo Sarabia up front, with Edinson Cavani, Kylian Mbappe and Mauro Icardi all still injured.

But the Brazilian, who failed to force through a return to Barcelona in the close-season, was a peripheral figure and was guilty of gifting Reims possession on numerous occasions.

Tuchel was also forced to play a makeshift midfield featuring full-back Juan Bernat, with Marco Verratti suspended.

The hosts made a slow start, despite Neymar going close with a free-kick, and fell behind just before the half-hour mark.



Paris Saint-Germain's Argentine midfielder Angel Di Maria (C) kicks the ball past Reims' French defender Axel Disasi



PSG's Edinson Cavani, Kylian Mbappe and Mauro Icardi are all still out with injury

Reims, who also beat PSG 3-1 on the final day of last season, launched a rare attack and Hassane Kamara rose to powerfully head home Zimbabwean Marshall Munetsi's right-wing cross.

PSG's injury woes intensified further shortly before half-time as Choupo-Moting hobbled off to be replaced by Angel Di Maria, who had originally been rested and named as a substitute.

Lille's Osimhen scores again

Earlier on Wednesday, Nigerian striker Victor Osimhen scored as Lille moved into third with a 2-0 victory over Strasbourg, while Lyon were held by Brest.

Last season's runners-up Lille have now won all four of their

home league games this term and sit two points adrift of PSG.

The 20-year-old Osimhen put Christophe Galtier's Lille into a 43rd-minute lead at the Stade Pierre-Mauroy by lashing home after some slack Strasbourg defending to net his sixth goal in seven games this season.

The three points were secured 19 minutes into the second half as Osimhen turned provider for former Chelsea and Marseille forward Loic Remy to slide in his first goal of the campaign.

Elsewhere, Lyon saw their winless streak extended to six matches in all competitions with a 2-2 draw at promoted Brest.

Moussa Dembele moved joint-top of the Ligue 1 goalscoring charts on six strikes with Osimhen by giving Lyon a 28th-minute advantage, but Yoann Court equalised for Brest less than 60 seconds later.

Maxwel Cornet appeared to have eased some of the pressure on Lyon coach Sylvainho by netting in the 69th minute, but Court completed his double to snatch Brest a point with five minutes remaining.

Lyon, widely considered PSG's likeliest title challengers ahead of this season, slipped to 11th, already six points off the pace.

Barty in party mood after epic Wuhan win



Ashleigh Barty of Australia hits a return against Petra Martic of Croatia

AFP | Wuhan, China

Ashleigh Barty marched into her sixth semi-final of the season yesterday, describing her victory over Petra Martic in Wuhan as one of the best matches she's played in recent times.

The world number one impressed in a highly-entertaining quarter-final that saw her fire 39 winners en route to a 7-6 (8/6), 3-6, 6-3 win against Martic.

Barty now gets a shot at revenge when she takes on powerful Belarusian Aryna Sabalenka on Friday in a rematch of their Wuhan semi-final last year.

Against Martic, Barty fell behind early in the first and third sets, but retaliated with some creative shot-making to reach the last four for a third year in a row.

"I think that was a very, very high-quality match. I think that was probably one of the better matches that I've played in recent times," said the reigning French Open champion.

"It could have gone either way. I was happy how I was able to fight in the end, put a lot of pressure on her in a lot of those service games in the

27

wins have been earned by Aryna Sabalenka to improved her strong career record on Chinese courts

third."

Martic, the world number 22 from Croatia, had not lost a three-setter since March, but saw her streak of 16 on the trot snapped by the relentless Barty.

"She's one of the best movers on the tour," Barty said of Martic. "That (streak) doesn't surprise me."

Sabalenka, the defending champion and seeded nine this week, overcame a second-set dip to halt the inspired run of Kazakh wildcard Elena Rybakina 6-3, 1-6, 6-1 yesterday.

The 21-year-old is tied at 2-2 head-to-head with Barty.

Sabalenka improved her strong career record on Chinese courts to 27 wins against just six losses -- including 10 victories in a row in Wuhan.